

First Public Hearing on Budget
Downtown Development Authority
Wednesday, September 5, 2007
Broward Center for the Performing Arts
New River Room, West Side

ROLL CALL

BOARD PRESENT: Peter Feldman, Chair
Jack T. Loos, Vice Chair
Gale Butler, Secretary
D. Fredrico Fazio, Treasurer
Charles B. Ladd, Board Member
Alan Hooper, Board Member

NOT PRESENT: William R. Scherer, Board Member

ALSO PRESENT:

John M. Milledge, DDA Legal Counsel
Chris Wren, DDA Executive Director
Elizabeth Veliky, Planning & Design Manager
Marti Brown, Administrative Coordinator
Chadwick Blue, Urban Planner
Neil Sterling
Chuck Adams
Les Hollingsworth

PRESIDING: Peter Feldman, Chair

Chairman Feldman called the First Public Hearing on the Proposed Millage Rate and Tentative Budget for 2007-2008 to order at 5:01 p.m.

Chairman Feldman opened the Public Hearing on the Proposed Millage Rate for 2007-2008. Mr. Milledge made the announcement of the following: The name of the taxing authority, the rolled-back rate of .5086, the percentage increase which was -3% of the Proposed Millage Rate over the Rolled-back Rate, the Proposed Operating Millage Rate of .4933, the Proposed Debt Service Millage Rate of .4800 and the Proposed Total Millage Rate of .9733.

Mr. Milledge read Resolution 9-1-07 by title only adopting the Proposed Millage Rate for 2007-2008.

Chairman Feldman asked if there were any comments from the public. Hearing none, he closed the Public Hearing on the Proposed Millage Rate for the 2007-2008 Fiscal Year. Chairman Feldman asked if there were comments from the Board. There were none. Chairman Feldman asked if there was a Motion to Adopt the Resolution Adopting the Proposed Millage Rate for the 2007-2008 Fiscal Year. *Mr. Fazio made the motion and*

Mr. Hooper seconded. Roll call was taken and all approved.

Chairman Feldman opened the Public Hearing on the 2007-2008 Budget. Mr. Milledge read Resolution 9-2-07 by title only adopting the Tentative Budget for the 2007-2008 Fiscal Year.

Chairman Feldman asked if there were comments from the public. Hearing none, he closed the Public Hearing on the 2007-2008 Budget. Chairman Feldman asked if there were comments from the Board.

Mr. Ladd said that during the last budget discussion there were several items that needed to be addressed. He said he was disappointed that he did not get the budget information sooner. He said he is not happy with approving the budget by going into bond funds to cover a portion of the government liaison position. He feels there are other areas they could reduce. Mr. Wren discussed how he was proposing to make up the \$60,000 reduction and how it involved the government liaison position and marketing. **He suggested meeting with Mr. Ladd before the next budget hearing to talk about the budget and said he would call all the Board members as well.**

Mr. Loos said he sees other areas that could be reduced as well. The Board held discussion.

When asked about park maintenance, Mr. Wren said he is putting together specs on the park maintenance but it has to be finalized. Mr. Ladd said he does not have enough familiarity with the budget to know where to make reductions but he doesn't want to touch bond funds without knowing all the information. Mr. Loos asked about marketing and what they are doing with those monies. He added that transit is the most important thing right now. Mr. Ladd wanted clarification that Mr. Wren was looking to use \$30,000 of bond funds for the government liaison position and that marketing would be reduced by \$30,000. Mr. Hooper said it was just to cover the deficit. Mr. Hooper added that areas such as Marketing are important. Mr. Loos said he wasn't saying to get rid of marketing, he just meant to look at other areas that could be reduced.

Mr. Ladd stressed the importance of going through each line item again. Mr. Wren said that before the 2nd hearing, he will meet with him and then Mr. Ladd can make the recommendation on where to reduce the budget.

Mr. Hooper asked how much the cost was to maintain the park and Mrs. Butler said \$68,000. Mr. Hooper said that Mr. Wren, during his one on one's with the Board should ask them to go through all the line items. The Board continued discussion. Mr. Ladd said they should bid out the maintenance of the park and look at each line item again.

Chairman Feldman asked if there was a Motion to Adopt the Resolution Adopting the Tentative Budget for the 2007-2008 Fiscal Year. **Mr. Loos made the motion and Mr. Fazio seconded.** There was no discussion. Roll call was taken and all approved. Chairman Feldman closed the Public Hearing at 5:20 p.m.