West Melbourne-Brevard County Joint Community Redevelopment Agency

Agenda

March 3, 2020, 6:00 p.m.
City Council Chamber

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND MOMENT OF SILENT MEDITATION

3. ROLL CALL

4. APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 17, 2019 MINUTES

5. FY 2018-2019 COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY ANNUAL REPORT

Recommendation: Receive the annual report of the West Melbourne/Brevard County Joint Community Redevelopment Agency.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS

7. ADJOURNMENT

All persons wishing to be heard should appear in person at these hearings or send written comments to the City Clerk. All persons and parties are hereby advised that if they should decide to appeal any decision made by the City with respect to any matter considered at the public meeting or hearing described in this notice, they will need a record of the proceedings, and for such purpose, said person or party may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based (Chapter 286, Florida Statutes). In compliance with American with Disabilities Act (ADA), anyone who needs a special accommodation for this meeting should contact the City’s ADA coordinator at 837-7774 at least 48 hours in advance of this meeting.
1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Hal Rose called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND MOMENT OF SILENT MEDITATION**

Chairman Rose led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silent meditation.

3. **ROLL CALL**

Present: Chairman Hal Rose, Vice Chairman John Dittmore, and Board Members Daniel Batcheldor, Pat Bentley, Adam Gaffney, Barbara Smith, and Andrea Young.

Absent: Board Member Kristine Isnardi.

Also present: City Manager Scott Morgan, City Attorney Morris Richardson, Planning Director Christy Fischer, Information Technology Director Tom Bradford, and City Clerk Cynthia Hanscom.

4. **SELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN FOR 2020**

Vice-Chairman Dittmore moved to select Hal Rose as Chairman and John Dittmore as Vice Chairman. Board Member Young seconded the motion, which passed with a 7-0 vote.

5. **APPROVAL OF AUGUST 20, 2019 MINUTES**

Board Member Bentley moved to approve the minutes of August 20, 2019, as written. Board Member Young seconded the motion, which passed 7-0.

6. **PROPOSED 2020 BOARD MEETING DATES**

Planning Director Fischer presented a resolution to approve the 2020 meeting schedule for the West Melbourne-Brevard County Joint Community Redevelopment Agency. She noted...
that the meetings would be held at 6:00 p.m. on March 3, May 19, August 11, and December 15. An advertisement would be prepared to advertise the meetings. The start times may change depending on the subject matter and the meeting would be re-advertised.

Board Member Young moved to Adopt Resolution No. 2019-02 setting the 2020 meeting dates for the Community Redevelopment Agency. Vice-Chairman Dittmore seconded the motion.

Chairman Rose stated that the August 11 meeting was on the second Tuesday in August and was moved from the third Tuesday because of the Primary Election. He noted that the first Tuesday in August would be National Night Out.

The Board then voted on the motion to adopt Resolution No. 2019-02, which passed with a 7-0 vote.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS

City Manager Morgan commented that it was a low activity year as the Agency continued to pay down on the debt service for the streetlights on U.S. 192. Chairman Rose commented that the banners on the light poles had been changed from time to time and looked very nice.

Board Member Young moved to excuse Board Member Isnardi. There being no second, the motion failed.

8. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned a 6:07 p.m. The next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, March 3, 2020, at 6:00 p.m.

________________________________
Hal J. Rose, Chairman

________________________________
Cynthia Hanscom, City Clerk
FY 2018-2019 Annual Community Redevelopment Agency Annual Report

The Planning and Economic Development Department recommends that the CRA, by motion, approve the following:

Receive the annual report of the West Melbourne/Brevard County Joint Community Redevelopment Agency.

FISCAL IMPACT

There are minimal mailing costs related to the submittal of this report to the City, County, and State agencies as required by Florida Statutes.
DISCUSSION

Chapter 163, Section 163.356(3)(c) of the Florida Statutes requires that each redevelopment agency in the State of Florida file an annual report with the “governing body” (in this case the City Council) not later than March 31 of each year “a report of its activities for the preceding fiscal year, which report shall include a complete financial statement setting forth its assets, liabilities, income, and operating expenses as of the end of such fiscal year.”

“Attachment 1” is the annual report the West Melbourne/Brevard County Joint Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) has filed with the City Council.

Public Notice:
The annual report was advertised in the “Florida Today” newspaper as required by law. The report is also posted on the City’s web site.

Recommendation:
The City’s Planning and Economic Development Director recommends that the CRA approve the CRA annual report.

ATTACHMENT

1. FY 2018-2019 Annual CRA Report
West Melbourne/Brevard County Joint
Community Redevelopment Agency
Annual Report to Brevard County

Fiscal Year 2018-2019
Published March 3, 2020

Community Redevelopment Agency
City Hall – 2240 Minton Road, West Melbourne, FL 32904
Phone: 321-837-7771 Fax: 321-768-2390
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

ANNUAL COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY REPORT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I. INTRODUCTION</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Mission and Overview</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Transmittal Letter for Taxing Agencies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II. BOARD MEMBERS AND STAFF</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III. BOUNDARY LINES – MAP IS ATTACHED AS AN APPENDIX</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV. HISTORY</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Creation Date</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Plan Amendment Dates</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Applicable Resolution(s) and Ordinances</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V. PROJECTS OVERVIEW</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VI. FINANCIAL REPORTS</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Balance Sheet</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Statement of Revenues, Expenditures &amp; Changes in Fund Balances</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Summary of Projects, Grants &amp; Debt</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VII. PERFORMANCE INFORMATION</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Total projects started, completed and estimate cost for each project</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Number of jobs create and sector of the economy from which these jobs were created within the CRA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Number of jobs retained within the CRA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Assessed property values when CRA was enacted vs. current assessed property values</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Total amount expended for affordable housing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
VIII. ADDITIONAL ANNUAL REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

a. Provide the Board of County Commissioners the CRA’s proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year, 60 days prior to the beginning of the fiscal year

b. Provide the Board of County Commissioners any budget amendments to its operating budget within 10 days after the adoption by the CRA

IX. SUMMARY

Appendix – Joint West Melbourne-Brevard County Community Redevelopment Area map

Note for this report: CRA = Community Redevelopment Area

CRA ≠ Community Redevelopment Agency

The phrase Community Redevelopment Agency is spelled out in this report to distinguish the two terms.
SECTION I – INTRODUCTION

a. MISSION AND OVERVIEW

REQUIRED ANNUAL REPORT -

Chapter 163.356(3)(c), Florida Statutes, requires that community redevelopment agencies file an annual report of their financial activities with the taxing authorities by March 31st of each year for the preceding fiscal year. The details in this report comply with Brevard County and State of Florida requirements for annual reporting on this joint community redevelopment area. This annual report has been prepared and is filed for fiscal year 2018-2019.

This report is a retrospective review of the Community Redevelopment Agency’s efforts, the financial status of the trust fund, the beautification efforts near the interchange of I-95 and New Haven Avenue, and capital improvement programs as of the close of the 2018-2019 fiscal year on September 30, 2019.

WHEN WAS IT FORMED?

The unique West Melbourne/Brevard County Joint Community Redevelopment Agency was created in 2011. This redevelopment area encompasses two unincorporated areas and three areas in the West Melbourne city limits along three main corridors: the New Haven Corridor that stretches from the Intersection of I-95 to Dairy Road, the Wickham Road Mixed-Use Corridor that extends north from New Haven Ave to Emerald Drive, and the Ellis Industrial Corridor that extends west from Wickham Road to John Rodes Blvd (the following map shows the CRA boundaries).

Per the 2018 interlocal agreement between the City and County, the CRA will sunset on September 30, 2038 (five years earlier than the Statutorily allowed 30 year horizon).
2013 REDEVELOPMENT MASTER PLAN

The adopted Redevelopment Master Plan guides the redevelopment focus of the CRA. The three primary categories addressed in the Plan are:

1) Identification of primary redevelopment opportunity areas and corresponding infrastructure including sidewalks, bike paths, stormwater and utilities.
2) Identification of private investment opportunities as well as recommended programs for improvements including gateways, streetscape, wayfinding and branding.
3) Identification of governmental actions that can implement some of the 55 strategies listed in the Master Plan including updates to comprehensive plans, land development codes, proactive code enforcement, business development programs and incentives for business retention.
b. TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Date: March __, 2020

VIA CERTIFIED AND REGISTERED MAIL

Florida Auditor General;
Florida Department of Financial Services;
Florida Department of Economic Opportunity;
Brevard County Property Appraiser;
Joint West Melbourne-Brevard County Community Redevelopment Agency;
City Council; and
Brevard County Board of Commissioners (all); and County Manager

RE: West Melbourne/Brevard County Joint Community Redevelopment Agency Annual Financial Report

Ladies and Gentlemen,

City staff is pleased to submit the West Melbourne/Brevard County Joint Community Redevelopment Agency Annual Report for fiscal year 2019-2020. The Joint Community Redevelopment Agency Annual Report was filed with the City of West Melbourne and Brevard County on March ____, 2020. Under Florida law (Chapter 163, Part III), local governments are required to file a report of the activities of the previous fiscal year by March 31st of each year. This transparency supports the efficient utilization of resources when they are applied to the redevelopment of our business corridors.

Attachment
Who are the members of the Community Redevelopment Agency?

The activities and programs offered within a CRA are administered by the Community Redevelopment Agency. An eight-member Community Redevelopment Agency Board created by the City of West Melbourne and Brevard County in 2011. The Community Redevelopment Agency Board is served by the City of West Melbourne staff at no cost to the Agency. Community Redevelopment Agency members and staff at the close of the fiscal year on September 30, 2018, are listed in the table below.

WEST MELBOURNE/BREVARD COUNTY JOINT COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY
(As of October 1, 2020)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chairman</td>
<td>Hal Rose (West Melbourne Mayor)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice Chairman</td>
<td>Kristine Isnardi (District 5 County Commissioner)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRA Official</td>
<td>Daniel Batcheldor (West Melbourne Council)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRA Official</td>
<td>Barbara Smith (West Melbourne Deputy Mayor)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRA Official</td>
<td>John Dittmore (West Melbourne Council)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRA Official</td>
<td>Andrea Young (West Melbourne Council)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRA Official</td>
<td>Pat Bentley (West Melbourne Council)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRA Official</td>
<td>Adam Gaffney (West Melbourne Council)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registered Agent</td>
<td>Scott Morgan (West Melbourne City Manager)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRA Attorney</td>
<td>Morris Richardson (West Melbourne City Attorney)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive Director</td>
<td>Christy Fischer (West Melbourne Planning Director)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRA Clerk</td>
<td>Cynthia Hanscom (West Melbourne City Clerk)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Officer</td>
<td>Margi Starkey (West Melbourne Finance Director)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SECTION III – BOUNDARY LINES (see Appendix map for larger size)
SECTION IV – HISTORY

a. Creation Date:  
   \textit{July 12, 2012}

b. Plan Amendment Dates: \textit{None}

c. Applicable Resolution(s) and Ordinances:
   
   \textit{i. City Resolution No. 2011-22}
   \textit{ii. County Ordinance No. 2011-28}
   \textit{iii. City Ordinance No. 2012-19}
SECTION V – PROJECTS OVERVIEW

The Community Redevelopment Agency, in partnership with the community is spearheading redevelopment efforts to create an attractive business climate and promote commercial property improvements. This section lists some of the milestones and accomplishments.

CRA Milestones:

2011 Collaboration - West Melbourne and Brevard County began discussing embarking on a joint community redevelopment area since some of New Haven Avenue and Wickham Road are in unincorporated county areas. The two government entities collaborated for months about creating a community redevelopment area based on the following findings of blight:

- Business corridors with high vacancy rates
- Outdated building density/intensity patterns
- Inadequate transportation and parking facilities
- Faulty lot layouts and inadequate street layouts related to older subdivisions and road widenings

2013 Master Plan Adopted – All CRA’s must have a redevelopment plan and can only carry out tasks identified in the master plan. The adoption of a Community Redevelopment Plan for the West Melbourne/Brevard County Joint CRA occurred in March 2013 and the 55 identified strategies outline the main programs and results that the joint CRA is endeavoring to achieve during its 30 year tenure through the year 2043. The strategies were partially drawn from a series of workshops conducted with business owners along New Haven Avenue, Wickham Road and Ellis Road.

2013 Revenue Fund Initiated - The tax increment trust fund (revenue) was initiated in May of 2013, and the coding of the specific properties by the Brevard County Property Appraiser that were included in the CRA area occurred in the summer of 2013. The City and County trust fund is limited per Florida Statutes to 95% of the incremental increase of City and County general ad valorem taxes generated in the CRA boundaries over the 2011-2012 base year.

2013 First Budget and First Working Capital – The City of West Melbourne approved an interlocal agreement in September 2013 to extend administrative services to the Community Redevelopment Agency at no cost and to lend the working capital for the Agency for ten years. This working capital loan is a no-interest loan providing the capital required for the Agency start up.

2014 Activities – The 2014 CRA work plan consisted of the initiation of the commercial façade loans, and providing funding for the lighting on New Haven Avenue near I-95. However, coordination with FDOT for its share of the road lighting took longer than initially expected and has continued into 2015 and 2016. The first façade redevelopment loan was approved and work on the façade of the business located along Wickham Road, Space Coast Massage, was completed in 2014.

In 2014-2015, as a separate activity since the interchange of I-95 and New Haven Avenue is not part of the CRA but is next to it, the City of West Melbourne with a grant from FDOT, planted hundreds of trees.
and a new fountain along the interchange and the State’s retention pond. The beautification of this interchange complements the public right of way improvement endeavors of the CRA, since the CRA boundaries end on New Haven Avenue before the interchange and the CRA embarked on a street lighting beautification program on New Haven Avenue, also known as US 192/State Road 500. The FDOT landscape grant was part of FDOT’s set aside when highway improvements are completed such as the bridge enhancements and 6-laning of the interstate.

2015 Activities – For the past several years, FDOT identified New Haven Avenue as too dark for motorists and FDOT’s typical illumination consists of installing wooden poles and cobra head style street lights. The City of West Melbourne and the Community Redevelopment Agency have joined forces to leverage funds from FDOT and to install decorative lighting on New Haven Avenue from west of I-95 near Columbia Lane to Pearl Street (next to Safelite Auto Glass). The CRA funded section of improvements starts at Dike Road and ends at Pearl Street (see map below). In the spring of 2015, the Community Redevelopment Agency chose the “Parkwood” style of street pole and lamp shown in the black and white drawing below as the enhanced lighting fixture to illuminate the almost one mile of the State road.
2016 Street lighting Activities – The predominant activity in 2016 was the lighting proposal for US 192 from the interstate to Pearl Street. One of the obstacles has been issues related to the design of the lighting plan in FDOT’s right of way. The City obtained on behalf of FDOT title to the turn lane in front of Sam’s Club by conducting new surveys and ensuring the street light design reflected the updates. The City sent the lighting construction drawings out to bid in 2017 and received the results of the contractor bids on March 21st, 2017 and the project was completed in 2017.

The Community Redevelopment Agency no longer engages in the façade loan program for commercial properties along New Haven Avenue, Ellis Road and Wickham Road. If businesses approach City of West Melbourne staff about using the loan program, it will be reconsidered, but there was no interest during the 2016-2017 fiscal year, nor in fiscal year 2017-2018. City staff continues to encourage redevelopment of existing commercial businesses in our three corridors of emphasis as evidenced by the City’s passage of collapsed zoning districts along US 192 and Wickham Road that allows property owners greater flexibility and a wider array of possible uses instead of the previous segregation into 4-5 zoning districts of commercial districts with specific differences between neighboring properties. Meaning that future redevelopment along these two roads will be more cohesive and less confusing to potential redevelopers.
The State of Florida in its 2019 legislation required that Community Redevelopment Agencies report on the total number of projects started and completed and the estimated cost for each project in that fiscal year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Projects started in FY 18-19</th>
<th>Total amount of affordable housing for low-income and middle-income*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The Joint County-City interlocal agreement in 2018 prohibits use of the tax increments funds for anything other than infrastructure

**2017-2018 Street lighting Activities –**

In 2017, City Council awarded the bid for the US 192 (New Haven Avenue) street lighting project to the company named PowerCore in the amount of $764,044.58. This amount excluded the poles and fixtures, which have been purchased directly by the City. The Notice to Proceed was issued with a start date of January 22, 2018. The contractor for the project finished the project in 2018 and not only were there lights illuminating both the sidewalk and US 192 during the holidays, but the City of West Melbourne hangs decorative banners for the holidays.

(Street lights installed in 2018 along US 192)
The “West Melbourne/Brevard County Joint Community Redevelopment Agency” was one of the first in Brevard County to update its web site to include an organized outline of the features of the special district new statutory requirements. The purpose of the new requirements by the State of Florida was to add transparency to a complex maze of special districts by having Community Redevelopment Agencies identify themselves as special districts, with listed purposes, establishment dates, and contact information. The State of Florida had conducted an exhaustive review of existing special districts in 2013 which included identification of all such taxing authorities like ports, inlet districts, airports and community redevelopment agencies and had determined that every special district should include basic information linking their taxing authority or tax source of revenue with a stated purpose.
SECTION VI – FINANCIAL REPORTS

a. Balance Sheet:

FY 2018-2019 Assets:

Cash and Investments $626,706

Total Assets $626,706

FY 2018-2019 Liabilities:

City Loan Debt Service – Long Term (operating and programs) $500,000

City Loan Debt Service – Current (annual repayment of CRA Plan) $100,000

Total Liabilities $600,000

b. Statement of Revenues, Expenditures & Changes in Fund Balances:

FY 2018-2019 Revenues:

FDOT US Highway 192 Lighting Grant $212,270

Increment Financing (County) $172,294

Increment Financing (City) $172,294

Total Revenue $556,858

FY 2018-2019 Expenditures:

Personnel costs $ -

Operating Expenditures $175

Total Expenditures $175

FY 2018-2019 Changes in Fund Balance

Fund Balance – Beginning of Year ($529,977)

Net Activity FY 2018-2019 $556,683

Fund Balance $26,706
c. Summary of Projects, Grants & Debt

The Community Redevelopment Agency no longer engages in the façade loan program for commercial properties along New Haven Avenue, Ellis Road and Wickham Road. If businesses approach City of West Melbourne staff about using the loan program, the City explains that per an Interlocal Agreement with Brevard County in 2018 CRA money spending is limited to these categories:

- Property acquisition
- Road improvements
- Stormwater improvements
- Stormwater facilities related to the widening of Ellis Road from John Rodes Boulevard to Wickham Road
- Sewer projects that serve commercial properties in the unincorporated portions of the CRA

City staff continues to encourage redevelopment of existing commercial businesses in our three corridors of emphasis as evidenced by the City’s passage of collapsed zoning districts along US 192 and Wickham Road that allows property owners greater flexibility and a wider array of possible uses instead of the previous segregation into 4-5 zoning districts of commercial districts with specific differences between neighboring properties. Meaning that future redevelopment along these two roads will be more cohesive and less confusing to potential redevelopers. Staff anticipates that when Brevard County and the Florida Department of Transportation have completed design plans for four-laning Ellis Road, that CRA funds can be used to supplement the drainage requirements of the project.
a. Total projects started, completed and estimate cost for each project: The Community Redevelopment Area (CRA) and its governing agency had no active projects for Fiscal Year 2018-2019, although the governing agency still has debt to pay off the original Community Redevelopment Report which established its mission.

b. Number of jobs created and sector of the economy from which these jobs were created within the CRA: There were no active CRA projects from which direct jobs would have been created and this is not one of the agreed upon uses of funds from the 2018 County-City interlocal agreement. However, the City has a list of properties developed or redeveloped in the CRA since the inception of the district, thus fulfilling its mission of redevelopment in the area.

c. Number of jobs retained within the CRA: There were no active CRA projects from which jobs would have directly been retained and this is not one of the agreed upon uses of funds from the 2018 County-City interlocal agreement. However, the City has created a list of properties developed or redeveloped in the CRA since the inception of the district.

d. Assessed property values when CRA was enacted vs. current assessed property values:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Base Year 2012</th>
<th>Taxable Year 2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>County</td>
<td>$219,775,470</td>
<td>$321,007,633</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City</td>
<td>$184,197,920</td>
<td>$270,454,313</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

e. Total amount expended for affordable housing: Pursuant to the 2018 County-City interlocal agreement this is not a category eligible for Community Redevelopment Tax Increment Financing.
a. Provide the Board of County Commissioners the Community Redevelopment Agency’s proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year, 60 days prior to the beginning of the fiscal year: The Community Redevelopment Agency prepares its budget in the spring and thus is compliant with the County’s 60 day requirement prior to September 30, 2020.

b. Provide the Board of County Commissioners any budget amendments to its operating budget within 10 days after the adoption by the Community Redevelopment Agency: The Community Redevelopment Agency has not had any budget amendments in FY 2018-2019 but will comply with the 10-day submittal requirement to the County’s.
SECTION IX – SUMMARY

The primary purpose of a community redevelopment area is to encourage property revitalization and redevelopment. It has been shown that public improvements, such as extension of sewer lines, continuation of sidewalks, street lighting, and other enhancements near undeveloped properties spur private investment in the area and ultimately add value to property values, franchise fees, sales taxes, local retail and housing investments. The West Melbourne/Brevard County Joint Community Redevelopment Agency is in its fifth year of operation and believes that the public improvements of street lighting, development code changes and gradual implementation of other strategies identified in the 2013 Redevelopment Master Plan yields the increased property values from redevelopment and new development and other benefits to an area that might otherwise continue further into blight conditions.
APPENDIX – COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MAP