VILLAGE OF ESTERO COUNCIL MEETING
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2026, 5:05 P.M.

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[SOUNDING GAVEL]
>>Mayor Ribble: GOOD EVENING, EVERYONE.
I WOULD LIKE TO CALL THE SEPTEMBER 9, 2026, 5:05 P.M.
VILLAGE COUNCIL BUDGET AND SPECIAL MEETING TO ORDER.
I WOULD LIKE TO REMIND EVERYONE TO PLEASE SILENCE YOUR CELL PHONES.
WHEN YOU COME UP TO SPEAK, PLEASE STAND CLOSE TO THE MIKE.
REMEMBER, IF YOU ARE SPEAKING, YOU ARE LIMITED TO THREE MINUTES.
THIS EVENING, WE HAVE WORSHIP LEADER DREW DIROMA FROM ESTERO CHURCH WHO WILL LEAD US IN THE INVOCATION.
DREW?
>> GOOD EVENING.
LET US PRAY.
GRACIOUS LOVING GOD, WE THANK YOU FOR THIS DAY, FOR EVERYTHING THAT IS BEFORE THIS COUNCIL AND THIS COMMITTEE.
WE PRAY THAT YOU WOULD GIVE WISDOM AND GUIDANCE.
WE PRAY FOR YOUR BLESSING.

WE PRAY FOR YOUR PROTECTION AS ALWAYS.
WE THANK YOU IN ALL THINGS IN JESUS NAME, AMEN.
>>Mayor Ribble: THANK YOU, DREW.
WOULD YOU PLEASE STAND FOR THE PLEDGE?
[PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE]
MADAM CLERK, WILL YOU PLEASE READ THE ROLL?
HERE.
>>Jeff Hunt: HERE.
>>Jon McLain: HERE.
>>Lori Fayhee: HERE.
>>Rafael Lopez: HERE.
>>Jim Ward: HERE.
>>Vice-Mayor Zalucki: HERE.
>>Mayor Ribble: THANK YOU.
WELCOME BACK, COUNCIL.
OUR FIRST ITEM IS THE FIRST PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING, RESOLUTION NUMBER 2026-18, ADOPTING THE TENTATIVE MILLAGE RATE.

MADAM CLERK, WILL YOU PLEASE READ THE RESOLUTION?
>>Carol Sacco: RESOLUTION 2026-18, A RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF ESTERO, LEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE TENTATIVE MILLAGE RATE AND TENTATIVE LEVYING OF AD VALOREM TAXES FOR THE VILLAGE OF ESTERO, LEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, FOR FISCAL YEAR 26-27, ESTABLISHING THE DATE, TIME AND PLACE FOR PUBLIC HEARING TO ADOPT THE FINAL

MILLAGE RATE AND FINAL LEVYING OF AD VALOREM TAXES FOR FISCAL YEAR 26-27 AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
>>Mayor Ribble: THANK YOU.
STEVE, WOULD YOU INTRODUCE THIS?
>>Steven Sarkozy: THANK YOU, MAYOR, MEMBERS OF COUNCIL.
WE HAVE A BRIEF PowerPoint TO GO THROUGH FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE COUNCIL AND THE PUBLIC.
ALSO, ON BEHALF OF ALL STAFF, WELCOME BACK FROM SUMMER VACATION.
IF WE CAN CALL UP THE OVERHEAD.
>>Carol Sacco: WE HAVE A PRESENTATION FOR THE BUDGET, NOT THE TENTATIVE MILLAGE RATE.
>>Steven Sarkozy: I STAND CORRECTED, YES.
THE TENTATIVE MILLAGE RATE IS PROPOSED TO STAY AT .73 MILLS.
THIS REMAINS THE LONGEST THAT WE ARE AWARE OF IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA.
WE'VE TAKEN GREAT STRIDES TO KEEP OUR OPERATING COSTS VERY LOW, AND THAT'S CONSISTENT THROUGH THIS ENTIRE BUDGET PROCESS, BUT WE'RE RECOMMENDING THAT WE KEEP IT AT THE SAME LEVEL.
I WOULD POINT OUT THAT SHOULD WE GO TO THE ROLLED-BACK RATE, THE ROLLED-BACK RATE IS ACTUALLY HIGHER THAN OUR CURRENT MILLAGE RATE.
SO THAT TELLS YOU SOMETHING ABOUT HOW WE'RE KEEPING OUR OPERATING COSTS VERY LOW.

>>Mayor Ribble: OKAY.
THANK YOU.
COUNCIL, ARE THERE ANY QUESTIONS OR DISCUSSION?
>>Jim Ward: STEVE, WE TOUCHED A LITTLE BIT ON THIS, BUT COULD YOU JUST GIVE US A LITTLE BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE IMPACT THAT WOULD HAPPEN IF THE HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION IS INCREASED, 26 AND 27?
>>Steven Sarkozy: YES, WE'VE INCLUDED THAT AS A DISCUSSION POINT IN THE BUDGET DISCUSSION AS WELL, BUT TO ANSWER YOUR QUESTION SPECIFICALLY, FOR NEXT YEAR'S BUDGET, THE IMPACT WOULD BE ABOUT $800,000 LOSS IN REVENUE.
AND FOR THE FOLLOWING YEAR, IT WOULD MOVE UP TO ABOUT 1.5 MILLION.
WE ARE SUGGESTING THAT WE WOULD INCUR THOSE CUT-BACKS

WITHOUT ANY INCREASE IN OUR MILLAGE.
OF COURSE, IT DOES AFFECT US IN TERMS OF MONIES AVAILABLE FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS.
IT'S A MAJOR CONSIDERATION FOR THE COMMUNITY.
>>Jim Ward: ESSENTIALLY, THE ANTICIPATION WOULD BE THAT IT WOULD COME OUT OF THE CAPITAL ACCOUNTS PRIMARILY.
>>Steven Sarkozy: YES.
>>Jim Ward: THANK YOU.
>>Mayor Ribble: ANY OTHER QUESTIONS?
MADAM CLERK, IS THERE ANY PUBLIC COMMENT?
>>Carol Sacco: WE HAVE NO PUBLIC COMMENT AND NO E-COMMENT.

>>Mayor Ribble: ALL RIGHT.
IF THERE'S NO FURTHER DISCUSSION, I WILL ENTERTAIN A MOTION REGARDING ADOPTING THE TENTATIVE RESOLUTION NUMBER 2026-18.
>> SO MOVED.
>>Mayor Ribble: AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN LOPEZ AND VICE-MAYOR ZALUCKI.
THANK YOU.
MADAM CLERK, WILL YOU PLEASE CALL THE ROLL?
>>Jeff Hunt: AYE.
>>Jon McLain: AYE.
>>Lori Fayhee: AYE.
>>Rafael Lopez: AYE.
>>Jim Ward: AYE.
>>Vice-Mayor Zalucki: AYE.
>>Mayor Ribble: AYE.
ITEM 8B, RESOLUTION 2026-19, ADOPTING THE TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027.
MADAM CLERK, WILL YOU PLEASE READ THE RESOLUTION?
>>Carol Sacco: RESOLUTION NUMBER 2026-19, A RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF ESTERO, LEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 26-27 AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
>>Mayor Ribble: THANK YOU.
STEVE, WOULD YOU INTRODUCE THIS?
>>Steven Sarkozy: THANK YOU, MAYOR, AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL.

NOW WE HAVE OUR PRESENTATION.
FAIRLY BRIEF WITH THIS.
TOTAL BUDGET IS PROPOSED AT $72,973,080.
THIS IS THE FIRST READING ON OUR BUDGET, AND THE FINAL BUDGET IS SCHEDULED TO BE ADOPTED BY COUNCIL ON SEPTEMBER 23rd, IN TWO WEEKS.
SO WITH THAT, MOVE FORWARD.
AGAIN, WE'RE STICKING WITH ALL OF THE FINANCIAL PRINCIPLES AND POLICIES THAT HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED BY THE COUNCIL OVER THE PAST MANY YEARS.

OUR STATED RESERVES REMAIN FULLY FUNDED UNDER THIS POLICY.
WE HAVE OPERATING REVENUES OF 30 MILLION, JUST ALMOST 31 MILLION, AND OUR OPERATING COSTS ARE SIGNIFICANTLY LESS AT 15.7 MILLION.
THAT GIVES US CONSIDERABLE OPPORTUNITIES TO TRANSFER MONIES TO CAPITAL PROGRAMS THAT ARE AVAILABLE FOR THE COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENTS.
WE ARE CONTINUING ON WITH OUR CAPITAL INVESTMENTS AS PREVIOUSLY MENTIONED.
THE CAPITAL BUDGET IS REVIEWED PERIODICALLY DURING THE YEAR AND WILL COME BACK TO YOU WITH MINOR MODIFICATIONS, CONSISTENT WITH WHAT WE'VE DISCUSSED IN THE PAST.
OUR RESERVES ARE A PARTICULAR STRONG POINT.
OVERALL, WE HAVE RESERVES IN EXCESS OF 100% OF OUR OPERATING FUNDS.

THE EMERGENCY RESERVE ITSELF, WHICH IS AVAILABLE IN THE EVENT OF A NATURAL DISASTER OR A CATASTROPHIC LOSS OF REVENUE AS A RESULT OF SOME TYPE OF NATIONAL EVENT IS AT 50% OF OUR GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES.
THE OPERATING RESERVE ITSELF IS 20% OF THE TOTAL BUDGET.
SO THAT REPRESENTS A SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF OUR RESERVES.
ALSO TO PROTECT US IN THE EVENT OF LITIGATION RISK, WE HAVE A DEDICATED LITIGATION RESERVE OF $750,000 THAT CAN BE USED IMMEDIATELY FOR LEGAL DEFENSE IN THE EVENT WE'RE EVER CHALLENGED ON AN ISSUE THAT WARRANTS A STRONG RESPONSE.
WE ALSO ARE LOOKING NOW IN THE COMING YEAR TO DO SOME GENERATIONAL PROJECTS TO THE TUNE OF $60 MILLION REVENUE BOND ACCOUNT THAT WILL BE ALSO LOOKED AT ON SEPTEMBER 23rd.
THAT BOND AMOUNT WOULD PRIMARILY PAY FOR PHASE TWO OF THE SPORTS PARK AS WELL AS THE ACQUISITION OF THE BERT RAIL LINE.
SO THOSE ARE IMPORTANT PIECES THAT WOULD COME FORWARD.
IN ADDITION, THEN, THE BUDGET ADDRESSES SOME OF THE INCREASE IN ADDITIONAL OPERATING COSTS AS A RESULT OF OUR CAPITAL FUND EXPENDITURES.
PRIMARILY THE MAJOR PROJECT THAT WE'VE HAD THIS PAST YEAR IS THE IMPROVEMENTS ON CORKSCREW ROAD.
ONCE CONSTRUCTED, WE'RE GOING TO BE MAINTAINING THAT AT A VERY HIGH STANDARD, MUCH LIKE WE'RE DOING WITH ESTERO

PARKWAY, BUT THAT 1.5 MILLION ANNUALLY FOR MAINTENANCE IS INCORPORATED IN THE BUDGET.
WE'RE SEEING HEALTH INSURANCE INCREASES OF ABOUT 10% PER YEAR, AND THEN BY FORMULA, WE'VE INCLUDED THE COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT AT 3.53% TO STAFF.
ORGANIZATIONALLY, WE HAVE TWO NEW PEOPLE.

THE DEPUTY VILLAGE MANAGER AND THE ASSISTANT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR THAT ARE ALSO INCLUDED IN THE BUDGET.
THEY HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED IN THE PAST YEARS, BUT THOSE FOLKS ARE NOW CURRENTLY ON BOARD AND WORKING FABULOUSLY FOR THE COMMUNITY AND FOR STAFF.
WE ALSO INCLUDED A NEW POSITION, PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER, THAT WE HAVE NOT REALLY HAD ON A FULL-TIME BASIS.
WE'VE BEEN HANDLING THAT ON A PART-TIME BASIS, BUT WITH ALL THE NEW ACTIVITY THAT WE HAVE, PARTICULARLY ON THE NEW CONSTRUCTION, WE THINK WE'RE GOING TO NEED MORE HELP IN THAT REGARD.
AGAIN, THIS SPEAKS TO THE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE INCREASE FOR 2027, 857,000 IS THE ESTIMATED COST OF THE EXEMPTION SHOULD IT BE PASSED BY THE VOTERS.
AND THEN 1.58 MILLION IN 2028.
SO THOSE ARE SIGNIFICANT.
NONETHELESS, WE FACTORED THOSE INTO THE BUDGET, AND WE'RE ABLE TO BUDGET THOSE SHORTFALLS IF VOTED ON BY THE PUBLIC WITH THE EXCEPTION THAT IT WILL CUT INTO THE AMOUNT THAT WE

HAVE AVAILABLE FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS.
THIS IS THE BREAKDOWN BY DEPARTMENT, AND WE'RE SPENDING ACROSS ALL LINES OF FUNCTIONAL RESPONSIBILITY.
WE'VE BEEN FOCUSING ON TRYING TO MAKE CAPITAL INVESTMENTS TO IMPROVE THE COMMUNITY THAT ARE AVAILABLE FOR ALL RESIDENTS AND VISITORS AND STRENGTHEN OUR COMMUNITY IN TERMS OF ITS IDENTITY FOR RESIDENTS AND COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES.
THIS IS ALL OUTLINED IN YOUR BUDGET.
THIS IS THE FIRST PUBLIC HEARING HERE ON THE 9th.
WE ACTUALLY STARTED BACK IN MARCH WITH OUR REVIEW OF THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.
OUR INTENT HERE IS TO BE TRANSPARENT AND JUST PLODDING FORWARD.
THE FINAL AND SECOND PUBLIC HEARING AND FINAL ACTION WOULD BE ON SEPTEMBER 23rd WITH A NEW FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1st.
SO THE BUDGET WILL BE POSTED ONLINE.
WE APPRECIATE AND WOULD RESPOND TO ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE BUDGET.
IF THERE ARE OPPORTUNITIES TO IMPROVE THE BUDGET DOCUMENT ITSELF, WE WOULD BE DELIGHTED TO HANDLE THOSE, AND THERE WILL BE INVARIABLY SOME MINOR CHANGES FOR CLARITY FOR THE SECOND READING OF THE BUDGET.
AND WE'LL GET THAT OUT TO YOU AS SOON AS WE CAN.
THAT'S IT FOR THE PRESENTATION.

WE'RE AVAILABLE FOR ANY QUESTIONS, BUT MORE THAN LIKELY WE WOULD SIMPLY FOLD A RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS IN THE UPDATE THAT

YOU WOULD GET FOR THE NEXT READING.
>>Mayor Ribble: AT THIS TIME, ARE THERE ANY QUESTIONS?
COUNCILMAN HUNT.
>>Jeff Hunt: STEVE, THE BRIEFING THE OTHER DAY, YOU PROVIDED A DETAIL RELATED TO HIGH PRIORITY PROJECTS, DOWN THE LINE. THESE NUMBERS ALSO THAT, IN THAT ORDER.
>>Steven Sarkozy: CORRECT.
>>Mayor Ribble: ANY OTHER QUESTIONS?
AGAIN, COUNCIL, DON'T HESITATE TO ENGAGE STAFF IF YOU HAVE FURTHER QUESTIONS BEFORE THE NEXT MEETING TO ADOPT THE BUDGET.
IS THERE ANY PUBLIC COMMENT?
>>Carol Sacco: YES, MAYOR, THERE IS.
WE HAVE MR. MARK NOVITSKI FROM BELLA TERRA REPRESENTING HIMSELF.
>>Mayor Ribble: GOOD EVENING, MARK.
>> GOOD EVENING.
HOW ARE WE ALL DOING TONIGHT?
AS A 40-YEAR PERSON WORKING ON BUDGETS, FEDERAL, STATE, LOCAL, THE WHOLE BIT, THE BUDGET IS A LITTLE CONFUSING.
SOMETIMES, I ACTUALLY HAD A VERY BRIGHT PERSON ASK ME WHY NOBODY SHOWS UP TO HEAR ABOUT THE BUDGET.
WELL, NOBODY UNDERSTANDS IT.

WHEN YOU'VE GOT A TON OF MONEY IN TRANSFERS, IT TOOK A COUPLE OF US TO TRY TO FIGURE OUT WHAT THAT IS.
I JUST GOT A FEW COMMENTS I'D LIKE TO READ.
THE BUDGET IS A POINT IN TIME ESTIMATE.
THAT'S SOMETHING THAT PEOPLE DON'T UNDERSTAND.
WE DON'T NECESSARILY LIVE TO IT BECAUSE IT CHANGES.
AND IT ESPECIALLY CHANGES IN THE TRANSFERS.
THERE WAS NO IDENTIFICATION OF ANY POTENTIAL GRANTS IN THERE.
SO THE INCOME WILL ACTUALLY PROBABLY GO UP.
OKAY.
OPERATING EXPENDITURES HAVE TO GO UP IN THE COMING YEARS BECAUSE WE'VE GOT THE ESTERO ON THE RIVER, ESTERO SPORTS PARK AND ESTERO OAKS.
IT HAS TO FOR COMMUNICATION, SECURITY, AND OTHER THINGS.
5:20:12PM OKAY.
5:20:12PM THE ANNUAL INCOME WILL CHANGE AS WE SUCK THE MONEY OUT OF
5:20:16PM THE BOND WE PUT OUT THERE.
5:20:18PM AND IT WILL BE REFLECTED IN A MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT.
5:20:23PM SO YOU'LL SEE THE BUDGET AND THEN YOU'LL SEE THE MONTHLY
5:20:26PM FINANCIAL REPORTS.
5:20:26PM THE TRANSFER BUDGET LINE SHOULD DECREASE AS THE COUNCIL
5:20:32PM DECIDES WE'RE GOING TO DO SOMETHING TO SEWER, GOING TO DO
5:20:36PM THIS, DO THAT.

5:20:37PM THAT WASN'T INTUITIVELY OBVIOUS TO MOST PEOPLE.

5:20:41PM I'M A LITTLE DISAPPOINTED THAT THE UTILITIES EXPANSION
5:20:44PM PROGRAM BUDGET WENT DOWN TO 400K OR SOMETHING.
5:20:47PM ARE WE EXPECTING GRANTS ON THAT OR ARE WE JUST NOT CONCERNED
5:20:51PM ABOUT CLEAN WATER?
5:20:53PM KIND OF MAKES YOU WONDER.
5:20:55PM NO MENTION OF INCOME FROM THE SPORTS PARK.
5:21:00PM SOME OF THE WHOLE CONCEPT ON THAT IS WE WERE GOING TO HAVE
5:21:04PM THOSE RESTAURANTS AND OTHER THINGS GIVE US INCOME.
5:21:06PM I KNOW WE'VE HAD CONCRETE BLOCKS STACKED FOR A WHILE OVER
5:21:10PM THERE.
5:21:11PM BUT HAVEN'T SEEN -- NO IDENTIFICATION OF BERT IN THE
5:21:15PM NUMBERS.
5:21:16PM 19 MILLION ACQUISITION.
5:21:17PM I'M PRETTY SURE THAT'S WHAT BERT IS, BUT TO THE PEOPLE THAT
5:21:20PM REALLY WANT BERT, IT WOULD BE NEAT TO SAY BERT BEHIND LAND
5:21:27PM ACQUISITION.
5:21:27PM AGAIN, THE VILLAGE EXPANDING CAPITAL PORTFOLIO IS PRODUCING
5:21:33PM HIGHER MANAGEMENT COMMUNICATION AND MAINTENANCE
5:21:36PM REQUIREMENTS.
5:21:37PM JUST SOME THINGS THAT I THINK WE COULD BE BETTER EXPLAINED
5:21:42PM SO THE AVERAGE PERSON WITHOUT 40 YEARS OF FINANCIAL
5:21:44PM MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE CAN UNDERSTAND SOME THINGS.
5:21:47PM >>Mayor Ribble: THANK YOU, MARK.
5:21:50PM >>Carol Sacco: THAT'S IT, MAYOR.
5:21:51PM >>Mayor Ribble: ALL RIGHT.

5:21:52PM ANY FURTHER DISCUSSION?
5:21:53PM IN THAT CASE, I WILL ENTERTAIN A MOTION REGARDING THE
5:21:58PM ADOPTING OF THE TENTATIVE RESOLUTION NUMBER 2026-19.
5:22:04PM COUNCILMAN HUNT AND A SECOND COUNCILMAN LOPEZ.
5:22:10PM MADAM CLERK, WILL YOU PLEASE CALL THE ROLL?
5:22:13PM >>Jim Ward: AYE.
5:22:15PM >>Rafael Lopez: AYE.
5:22:16PM >>Lori Fayhee: AYE.
5:22:18PM >>Jon McLain: AYE.
5:22:19PM >>Jeff Hunt: AYE.
5:22:21PM >>Vice-Mayor Zalucki: AYE.
5:22:21PM >>Mayor Ribble: AYE.
5:22:23PM AT THIS TIME, IT IS MY HONOR TO PRESENT A PROCLAMATION TO
5:22:34PM DR. LAWRENCE ANTONUCCI.
5:22:36PM THIS IS A LONG ONE, LARRY.
5:22:54PM [LAUGHTER]
5:22:54PM WHEREAS, DR. LAWRENCE ANTONUCCI HAS DEVOTED HIS CAREER TO
5:23:06PM IMPROVING THE HEALTH, WELL-BEING, AND QUALITY OF LIFE OF THE
5:23:09PM RESIDENTS OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA THROUGH COMPASSIONATE
5:23:12PM LEADERSHIP AND AN UNWAVERING COMMITMENT TO HEALTH CARE

5:23:15PM EXCELLENCE; AND WHEREAS, DURING HIS TENURE AS PRESIDENT AND
5:23:19PM CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF LEE HEALTH, DR. ANTONUCCI
5:23:23PM PROVIDED VISIONARY LEADERSHIP THAT STRENGTHENED ONE OF THE
5:23:27PM REGION'S PREMIER HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS AND ENHANCED ACCESS TO
5:23:31PM EXCEPTIONAL MEDICAL CARE FOR RESIDENTS THROUGHOUT LEE

5:23:34PM COUNTY, INCLUDING THE VILLAGE OF ESTERO; AND WHEREAS, UNDER
5:23:38PM DR. ANTONUCCI'S LEADERSHIP, LEE HEALTH EXPANDED HEALTH CARE
5:23:42PM SERVICES, ADVANCED MEDICAL INNOVATION, SUPPORTED HEALTH CARE
5:23:47PM WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT, AND INVESTED IN FACILITIES AND
5:23:50PM TECHNOLOGIES THAT IMPROVED PATIENT CARE AND COMMUNITY HEALTH
5:23:54PM OUTCOMES; AND WHEREAS, DR. ANTONUCCI'S DEDICATION TO
5:23:59PM COLLABORATION FOSTERED STRONG PARTNERSHIPS AMONG HEALTH CARE
5:24:02PM PROVIDERS, LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS,
5:24:06PM BUSINESSES, AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS, CREATING A
5:24:10PM HEALTHIER AND MORE RESILIENT SOUTHWEST FLORIDA REGION; AND
5:24:19PM WHEREAS, THE RESIDENTS OF ESTERO HAVE BENEFITED GREATLY FROM
5:24:23PM HIS COMMITMENT TO ENSURING ACCESS TO HIGH-QUALITY HEALTH
5:24:26PM CARE SERVICES AND FROM HIS LEADERSHIP IN ADDRESSING THE
5:24:29PM EVOLVING HEALTH CARE NEEDS OF ONE OF FLORIDA'S
5:24:32PM FASTEST-GROWING COMMUNITIES; AND WHEREAS, THROUGHOUT TIMES
5:24:35PM OF GROWTH, CHALLENGE, AND CHANGE, DR. ANTONUCCI CONSISTENTLY
5:24:41PM DEMONSTRATED PROFESSIONALISM, INTEGRITY, COMPASSION, AND A
5:24:44PM STEADFAST FOCUS ON SERVING PATIENTS, FAMILIES, EMPLOYEES,
5:24:49PM AND THE BROADER COMMUNITY; AND WHEREAS, HIS LEGACY OF
5:24:53PM SERVICE WILL CONTINUE TO POSITIVELY INFLUENCE HEALTH CARE
5:24:57PM DELIVERY AND COMMUNITY WELL-BEING FOR YEARS TO COME, LEAVING
5:25:01PM AN ENDURING IMPACT ON THE LIVES OF COUNTLESS INDIVIDUALS
5:25:05PM THROUGHOUT ESTERO AND SOUTHWEST FLORIDA; AND WHEREAS, UPON
5:25:10PM THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT, IT IS FITTING THAT THE
5:25:15PM VILLAGE OF ESTERO RECOGNIZES HIS MANY ACHIEVEMENTS AND

5:25:17PM EXPRESSES ITS SINCERE GRATITUDE FOR HIS YEARS OF DEDICATED
5:25:22PM SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY.
5:25:24PM NOW, THEREFORE, I, MAYOR JOANNE RIBBLE OF THE VILLAGE OF
5:25:27PM ESTERO, LEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM THAT THE
5:25:31PM VILLAGE RECOGNIZES DR. LAWRENCE ANTONUCCI FOR HIS
5:25:35PM OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP, UNWAVERING DEDICATION TO HEALTH CARE
5:25:42PM EXCELLENCE, AND LASTING CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE RESIDENTS OF
5:25:58PM ESTERO, LEE COUNTY, AND SOUTHWEST FLORIDA, AND EXTENDS ITS
5:26:02PM DEEPEST APPRECIATION AND WARMEST WISHES FOR A HEALTHY,
5:26:06PM HAPPY, AND FULFILLING RETIREMENT.
5:26:08PM IN WITNESS THEREFORE, I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND CAUSED
5:26:15PM THE SEAL OF THE VILLAGE OF ESTERO TO BE AFFIXED THIS DAY,
5:26:17PM THE 9th DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2026.
5:26:20PM CONGRATULATIONS.
5:26:20PM [APPLAUSE]
5:26:29PM >> THIS IS TRULY AN HONOR.

5:26:31PM I'VE HAD THE PRIVILEGE OF SERVING THE COMMUNITY FOR MORE
5:26:33PM THAN 40 YEARS, FIRST AS OBSTETRICIAN GYNECOLOGIST, LAST 19
5:26:37PM YEARS ON THE LEADERSHIP TEAM AT LEE HEALTH AND NINE YEARS AS
5:26:40PM PRESIDENT AND CEO.
5:26:41PM LEE HEALTH'S MISSION IS TO BE A TRUSTED PARTNER EMPOWERING
5:26:45PM HEALTHIER LIVES.
5:26:46PM NOWHERE IS IT MORE MANIFESTED IN OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE
5:26:50PM VILLAGE.
5:26:51PM IT'S BEEN A TREMENDOUS RIDE FOR MANY, MANY, MANY YEARS.

5:26:54PM WE'RE SO PROUD OF THAT PARTNERSHIP AND THE THINGS WE'VE DONE
5:26:58PM AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO DOING A LOT MORE IN THIS COMMUNITY.
5:27:01PM THIS IS REALLY SOMETHING THAT I ACCEPT ON BEHALF OF EVERYONE
5:27:07PM IN THE ORGANIZATION.
5:27:10PM NO ACCOMPLISHMENT ATTRIBUTED DURING MY TENURE IS A RESULT OF
5:27:16PM ONE PERSON.
5:27:17PM IT'S THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE DOING AMAZING THINGS EVERY DAY AND
5:27:20PM NIGHT, SO I ACCEPT THIS WITH THEM IN MIND.
5:27:23PM SO THANK YOU.
5:27:25PM [APPLAUSE]
5:29:04PM >>Mayor Ribble: NEXT, ITEM NUMBER 4, WE HAVE THE APPROVAL OF
5:29:06PM THE AGENDA, ANY ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS.
5:29:10PM DOES ANYONE HAVE ANY ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA?
5:29:13PM MR. SARKOZY.
5:29:17PM >>Steven Sarkozy: THANK YOU, MADAM MAYOR.
5:29:19PM WE WOULD LIKE TO REMOVE THE AGREEMENT WITH THE ESTERO
5:29:23PM FOREVER FOUNDATION FROM THIS AGENDA.
5:29:26PM WE'LL PUT IT BACK ON A SUBSEQUENT AGENDA HERE IN THE COMING
5:29:29PM WEEKS.
5:29:30PM >>Mayor Ribble: ALL RIGHT.
5:29:30PM CAN I HAVE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE CHANGES?
5:29:34PM VICE-MAYOR AND SECOND, COUNCILWOMAN FAYHEE.
5:29:41PM MADAM CLERK, WOULD YOU PLEASE CALL THE ROLL?
5:29:43PM >>Jeff Hunt: AYE.
5:29:44PM >>Jon McLain: AYE.

5:29:45PM >>Lori Fayhee: AYE.
5:29:46PM >>Rafael Lopez: AYE.
5:29:48PM >>Jim Ward: AYE.
5:29:49PM >>Vice-Mayor Zalucki: AYE.
5:29:51PM >>Mayor Ribble: AYE.
5:29:52PM NEXT ON THE AGENDA WILL BE PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA
5:29:57PM ITEMS.
5:29:57PM MADAM CLERK, DO WE HAVE ANYONE?
5:29:59PM >>Carol Sacco: YES, MAYOR, WE DO.
5:30:02PM MARK NOVITSKI FROM BELLA TERRA REPRESENTING HIMSELF.
5:30:09PM >> A COUPLE OF THINGS.
5:30:11PM WE HAVEN'T HAD AN UPDATE ON SEPTIC TO SEWER LATELY,

5:30:15PM UTILITIES EXPANSION PROGRAM.
5:30:16PM WE HAD THE TWO MOBILE HOME COMMUNITIES THAT LOOKED LIKE ALL
5:30:18PM THE CONSTRUCTION IS DONE.
5:30:20PM TO ME, THIS IS A METRIC THAT WE SHOULD FOLLOW AND WE SHOULD
5:30:23PM BRAG ABOUT THAT WE GOT 800, A THOUSAND, WHATEVER THE NUMBER
5:30:27PM IS, OFF THE SEPTIC SYSTEM.
5:30:30PM PARKING SPOTS FOR THE VETERANS DAY EVENT, IT LOOKS LIKE THE
5:30:33PM SPORTS PARK PARKING LOT IS GOING TO BE READY TO GO.
5:30:37PM DO YOU THINK WE COULD PARK THERE INSTEAD OF ON THE GRASS ALL
5:30:40PM OVER THE ESTERO REC CENTER?
5:30:42PM IT LOOKS LIKE WE'RE PRETTY CLOSE TO DOING THAT.
5:30:46PM I UNDERSTAND THE GRAND OPENING FOR THE ESTERO ON THE RIVER
5:30:49PM IS 1 OCTOBER.

5:30:50PM WE'RE KIND OF RUNNING OUT OF AIR SPEED ALTITUDE IF WE'RE
5:30:53PM GOING TO ANNOUNCE THAT.
5:30:54PM IT WAS A RUMOR.
5:30:55PM STORMWATER ISSUES ON PRIVATE PROPERTY.
5:31:00PM OUR FAVORITE CORNER DEVELOPMENT THERE, THE LOWE'S.
5:31:04PM THERE IS A FOOT OF MULCH OVER BY THE STORM DRAINS.
5:31:07PM WHOEVER APPROVED THE STORM DRAIN SETUP FOR THE STARBUCKS, IT
5:31:14PM MUST HAVE WENT SO FAR AND STOPPED.
5:31:16PM BECAUSE THE RAIN WE HAD A COUPLE OF DAYS AGO, IT JUST WENT
5:31:19PM LIKE CRAZY.
5:31:20PM I TURNED IN A WORK REQUEST FOR THAT, BUT IT'S ON PRIVATE
5:31:23PM PROPERTY.
5:31:23PM SO I'M NOT SURE WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THAT.
5:31:26PM PUBLIC VERSUS PRIVATE ROADS.
5:31:30PM THIS IS FASCINATING TO ME.
5:31:32PM IF I GOT A POTHOLE IN BELLA TERRA, I CALLED THE CDD.
5:31:36PM BUT IN THE BUDGET, ONE OF THE QUICK WINS THAT WAS IDENTIFIED
5:31:39PM POTENTIALLY WAS A THIRD LANE COMING OUT OF STONEYBROOK.
5:31:42PM STONEYBROOK GOLF DRIVE IS OWNED BY THE CDD.
5:31:46PM WHY WOULD WE SPEND VILLAGE FUNDS ON THAT?
5:31:49PM I'M SURE IT'S A LEGAL ISSUE AND I'M SURE I'LL GET TOLD TO
5:31:54PM SIT DOWN -- BUT THE OTHER ONE IS SHERRILL LANE AND LEUTTICH.
5:31:59PM THAT'S DEFINITELY A PRIVATE ROAD, AND THE VILLAGE SPENT SOME
5:31:59PM MONEY PAVING THAT.
5:32:00PM I TRULY BELIEVE IT NEEDS TO BE PAVED.

5:32:03PM PAVE IT AND GET SEPTIC TO SEWER IN, THE LOTS WILL BE
5:32:06PM PRODUCING MORE TAXABLE INCOME.
5:32:08PM UNDERSTAND THAT.
5:32:10PM THE LAST ONE, HOPE TO SEE YOU ALL AT 6:40 FRIDAY MORNING AT
5:32:13PM THE ESTERO HIGH SCHOOL FOR THE 9/11 CEREMONY.
5:32:17PM I WILL BE ONE OF THE GUEST SPEAKERS.
5:32:19PM 6:40, NOT TOO BAD.
5:32:20PM THANKS.

5:32:23PM >>Mayor Ribble: THANK YOU, MARK.
5:32:24PM ANYONE ELSE?
5:32:25PM >>Carol Sacco: YES, MAYOR.
5:32:25PM DR. NORA DEMERS FROM 17493 LAUREL VALLEY ROAD.
5:32:33PM >> THANK YOU FOR ALLOWING ME TO SPEAK.
5:32:35PM MY NAME IS NORA DEMERS.
5:32:37PM I'M A BIOLOGIST AND PROFESSOR AT FLORIDA GULF COAST
5:32:39PM UNIVERSITY FOR NEARLY 30 YEARS.
5:32:41PM I'VE BEEN BRINGING MY STUDENTS TO WHAT IS NOW ESTERO
5:32:46PM RiverPark THERE.
5:32:47PM THE PAST TWO YEARS, I HAD THE PRIVILEGE OF WORKING WITH THE
5:32:50PM ESTERO FOREVER FOUNDATION AND SEEING THE EXCELLENT WORK THEY
5:32:52PM ARE DOING THERE.
5:32:53PM SO THIS I THOUGHT WAS AN AGENDA ITEM BUT NOW A NON-AGENDA
5:32:57PM ITEM.
5:32:58PM I STRONGLY SUPPORT THE VILLAGE'S AGREEMENT WITH EFF.
5:33:01PM I WANT TO COMMEND BOTH THE VILLAGE AND EFF FOR THE PROGRESS

5:33:04PM BEING MADE.
5:33:04PM RESCUING AND RESTORING THE HISTORIC HOUSE AND PAVILION AFTER
5:33:09PM SEVERAL YEARS OF NEGLECT.
5:33:11PM IT'S A TREMENDOUS ACCOMPLISHMENT.
5:33:13PM THE AGREEMENT WITH HAPPEHATCHEE CENTER LEADERSHIP WHERE THEY
5:33:16PM CONVEYED THE 4.5 ACRES OF LAND AND THE BUILDINGS ESTABLISHED
5:33:20PM AN EXPECTATION FOR FUTURE STEWARDSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND USE
5:33:24PM INCLUDING ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION, WELLNESS, NATURE, AND
5:33:27PM COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES.
5:33:27PM I'M VERY PLEASED TO SEE THAT THAT VISION IS COMING TO LIFE
5:33:32PM AND THAT THE LEGACY OF ELLEN PETERSON WILL CONTINUE AND
5:33:35PM ALLOW MORE PEOPLE TO BE ON THAT LAND.
5:33:37PM I ENCOURAGE THE VILLAGE TO ENTRUST AND EMPOWER AND SUPPORT
5:33:41PM AND HOLD THE FF RESPONSIBLE FOR CARRYING OUT THE VISION AND
5:33:45PM THE STEWARDSHIP.
5:33:46PM IT'S AN IMPORTANT INVESTMENT AND THE RESOURCES OUR RESIDENTS
5:33:49PM WANT AND WILL USE.
5:33:51PM BRING MORE PEOPLE ON TO THE LAND TO APPRECIATE THE NATURAL
5:33:54PM AND HISTORIC VALUE, CONNECT WITH THEIR COMMUNITY AND SPEND
5:33:56PM MEANINGFUL TIME AND NATURE AND INVESTMENT IN BOTH THE PARK
5:34:00PM AND THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF THE PEOPLE WHO USE IT.
5:34:02PM STRONGLY SUPPORT EFF'S CONTINUED ROLE AND ENCOURAGE THE
5:34:06PM VILLAGE TO PROVIDE CONTINUED AUTHORITY, RESOURCES, AND THE
5:34:08PM SUPPORT NEEDED FOR EFF TO BRING THE VISION TO LIFE AT THE
5:34:12PM ESTERO RIVER PARK.

5:34:13PM THANK YOU.
5:34:15PM >>Mayor Ribble: THANK YOU.
5:34:16PM >>Carol Sacco: THAT'S IT, MAYOR.
5:34:17PM THERE ARE NO E-COMMENTS EITHER.

5:34:19PM >>Mayor Ribble: NEXT, WE HAVE THE CONSENT AGENDA, WHICH IS
5:34:24PM THE JULY 2 VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES.
5:34:26PM AND THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE MONTH ENDING JUNE 2026.
5:34:32PM DOES ANYONE HAVE ANY QUESTIONS?
5:34:34PM IS THERE ANY PUBLIC COMMENT?
5:34:40PM >>Carol Sacco: THERE IS NO PUBLIC COMMENT AND NO E-COMMENTS.
5:34:43PM >>Mayor Ribble: IN THAT CASE, MAY I PLEASE HAVE A MOTION?
5:34:46PM COUNCILWOMAN FAYHEE AND COUNCILMAN LOPEZ.
5:34:52PM MADAM CLERK, WILL YOU PLEASE CALL THE ROLL.
5:34:55PM >>Jim Ward: AYE.
5:34:57PM >>Rafael Lopez: AYE.
5:34:59PM >>Lori Fayhee: AYE.
5:35:00PM >>Jon McLain: AYE.
5:35:01PM >>Jeff Hunt: AYE.
5:35:02PM >>Vice-Mayor Zalucki: AYE.
5:35:03PM >>Mayor Ribble: AYE.
5:35:13PM EVERYONE IS RUSHING TO MY AID HERE.
5:35:18PM OUR FIRST ACTION ITEM, ACTION ITEM 8A, RESOLUTION NUMBER
5:35:23PM 2026-20, AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE MANAGER OR DESIGNEE FOR THE
5:35:35PM CDBG-DR CONTRACTS.
5:35:37PM MADAM CLERK, WOULD YOU PLEASE READ THE RESOLUTION?

5:35:39PM >>Carol Sacco: RESOLUTION 2026-20, RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE
5:35:44PM OF ESTERO -- RESOLUTION OF VILLAGE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF
5:35:46PM ESTERO, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE MANAGER OR DESIGNEE
5:35:50PM TO EXECUTE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT DISASTER
5:35:53PM RECOVERY, CDBG-DR, CONTRACTS, CONTRACT AMENDMENTS AND
5:35:57PM RELATED PROGRAM DOCUMENTATION, MAKING RELATED FINDINGS,
5:36:00PM PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
5:36:03PM >>Mayor Ribble: THANK YOU.
5:36:05PM STEVE, WOULD YOU INTRODUCE THIS, PLEASE?
5:36:06PM >>Steven Sarkozy: THANK YOU, MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL.
5:36:08PM WE'VE BEEN VERY FORTUNATE TO RECEIVE A SUBSTANTIAL GRANT
5:36:12PM THROUGH THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT DISASTER
5:36:15PM RECOVERY PROGRAM WITH THE COUNTY FOR OUR UTILITY EXTENSION
5:36:21PM PROGRAM.
5:36:21PM WHAT WE NEED IS TO FINALIZE THIS BEFORE GOING PUBLIC, BUT IT
5:36:26PM REALLY REPRESENTS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR US TO ADD THE
5:36:31PM CDBG-DR GRANT FUNDING TO FUNDS THAT WE ALREADY HAVE
5:36:36PM AVAILABLE THROUGH A COUPLE OF STATE GRANTS.
5:36:38PM THE MOTION BEFORE THE COUNCIL IS TO AUTHORIZE MYSELF OR
5:36:45PM DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE SOME OF THOSE AGREEMENTS SO THAT WE CAN
5:36:48PM BRING A FINAL GRANT AGREEMENT BEFORE COUNCIL AND THE FINAL
5:36:55PM PROJECT BUDGET BEFORE COUNCIL HERE IN THE NEXT, PROBABLY AT
5:36:59PM THE NEXT MEETING OR SOON THEREAFTER.
5:37:01PM THIS IS GREAT NEWS FOR US IN THE SENSE THAT WE'RE DOING
5:37:05PM SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT OF WORK ON SEPTIC TO SEWER PROGRAM AND

5:37:12PM DRAMATICALLY REDUCING THE COST TO OUR RESIDENTS AND
5:37:14PM COMMUNITY WHILE MAKING A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON WATER
5:37:17PM QUALITY.
5:37:17PM SO THIS COMES TO YOU WITH A RECOMMENDATION FOR APPROVAL.
5:37:22PM >>Mayor Ribble: ANY QUESTIONS, COUNCIL?
5:37:24PM ANY DISCUSSION?
5:37:28PM >>Carol Sacco: THERE IS NO PUBLIC COMMENT AND NO E-COMMENTS.
5:37:31PM >>Mayor Ribble: IN THAT CASE, MAY I HAVE A MOTION ON THE
5:37:34PM RESOLUTION NUMBER 2026-20?
5:37:36PM COUNCILMAN WARD, SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN McLAIN.
5:37:40PM WOULD YOU PLEASE CALL THE ROLL?
5:37:42PM >>Jeff Hunt: AYE.
5:37:44PM >>Jon McLain: AYE.
5:37:45PM >>Lori Fayhee: AYE.
5:37:46PM >>Rafael Lopez: AYE.
5:37:47PM >>Jim Ward: AYE.
5:37:49PM >>Vice-Mayor Zalucki: AYE.
5:37:50PM >>Mayor Ribble: AYE.
5:37:51PM ITEM 8B, RESOLUTION NUMBER 2026-21, AUTHORIZING EXERCISE OF
5:38:00PM EMINENT DOMAIN TO ALLOW WILLIAMS ROAD ROUNDABOUT.
5:38:05PM MADAM CLERK, WILL YOU PLEASE READ THE RESOLUTION?
5:38:07PM >>Carol Sacco: RESOLUTION 2026-21, A RESOLUTION OF THE
5:38:10PM VILLAGE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF ESTERO, FLORIDA,
5:38:12PM AUTHORIZING THE USE OF EMINENT DOMAIN FOR THE ACQUISITION OF
5:38:15PM CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY OF FOUNTAIN LAKES TO FACILITATE THE

5:38:19PM CONSTRUCTION OF THE WILLIAMS ROAD ROUNDABOUT PROJECT, MAKING
5:38:22PM RELATED FINDINGS, PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND FOR AN
5:38:25PM EFFECTIVE DATE.
5:38:26PM >>Mayor Ribble: THANK YOU.
5:38:26PM STEVE, WOULD YOU INTRODUCE THIS, PLEASE?
5:38:28PM >>Steven Sarkozy: THANK YOU, MAYOR, MEMBERS OF COUNCIL.
5:38:30PM THIS PROJECT THAT IS BEFORE US AND THE CONDEMNATION TO
5:38:35PM ACQUIRE PROPERTY IN ORDER TO BUILD THE ROUNDABOUT ON
5:38:39PM WILLIAMS IS PART OF THE ATLANTIC WILLIAMS EXPANSION PROJECT
5:38:45PM THAT HAS BEEN ON OUR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FOR, I
5:38:48PM THINK, THREE YEARS.
5:38:49PM WE'VE HAD SUCH DIFFICULTY IN GETTING THE NECESSARY
5:38:51PM RIGHT-OF-WAY AND MORE RECENTLY WE'VE HAD TO REDESIGN THIS
5:38:58PM ROAD AND THE ROUNDABOUT THAT REQUIRES THE TAKING OF SOME
5:39:03PM PROPERTY ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF WILLIAMS ROAD RIGHT ACROSS
5:39:08PM FROM THE SENIOR CARE CENTER, WEST OF 41.
5:39:13PM THIS IS A CONDEMNATION PROCEEDING, BUT IT SHOULD BE
5:39:17PM CONSIDERED A FRIENDLY CONDEMNATION.
5:39:20PM THE PARTY THAT OWNS THE PROPERTY IS THE FOUNTAIN LAKES
5:39:24PM ASSOCIATION, AND WE'VE BEEN WORKING WITH THEM TO TRY TO GAIN
5:39:29PM THE PROPERTY NECESSARY FOR A NEW ROUNDABOUT IN A LOCATION
5:39:33PM THAT POACHES INTO THEIR WETLAND.

5:39:37PM WHAT CAME BACK IS A COST OF ABOUT $40,000 FOR A RELATIVELY
5:39:44PM SMALL PARCEL OF PROPERTY.
5:39:48PM .28 ACRES.

5:39:49PM JUST SLIGHTLY OVER A QUARTER ACRE NECESSARY TO GET THIS FOR
5:39:54PM $40,000.
5:39:56PM WE'RE RECOMMENDING THAT WE PROCEED WITH THE ACQUISITION.
5:40:01PM WE COULD CONTEST THE HIGH COST OF THE PROPERTY, BUT THAT
5:40:04PM WOULD PUT US IN A POSITION WHERE WE'RE EXPENDING LEGAL
5:40:09PM MONIES, SO IS FOUNTAIN LAKES OVER A PROJECT THAT IS BADLY
5:40:14PM NEEDED, ONLY DELAYING THE PROJECT BY MANY MONTHS AND
5:40:19PM INCURRING THE COST OF LEGAL FEES AND SO FORTH AS WE GO
5:40:24PM THROUGH THE CONDEMNATION PROCESS.
5:40:26PM OUR RECOMMENDATION IS THAT WE BE AUTHORIZED TO SETTLE THIS
5:40:35PM AND BRING THIS TO CONCLUSION SO WE CAN GET THE PROJECT
5:40:38PM CONSTRUCTED AS WAS THE ORIGINAL INTENT BY THE VILLAGE
5:40:44PM COUNCIL.
5:40:44PM >>Mayor Ribble: THANK YOU.
5:40:45PM ANY QUESTIONS?
5:40:47PM >>Jon McLain: WHAT IS BEFORE US TODAY?
5:40:48PM JUST THE APPROVAL OF INITIATING THE EMINENT DOMAIN.
5:40:56PM >>Steven Sarkozy: YES.
5:40:57PM >>Jon McLain: NOT THE DOLLAR AMOUNT.
5:40:59PM >>Steven Sarkozy: THE DOLLAR AMOUNT WILL COME BACK --
5:41:01PM >>Jon McLain: WE'RE ONLY VOTING ON THE EMINENT DOMAIN
5:41:04PM PORTION?
5:41:05PM >>Steven Sarkozy: THIS WILL SOLVE IT.
5:41:07PM >>Robert Eschenfelder: DOLLAR AMOUNT WILL NOT COME BACK.
5:41:10PM WHAT YOU'RE DOING TODAY IS MAKING THE NECESSARY FINDINGS

5:41:14PM THAT WE NEED TO DO THIS BECAUSE FLORIDA LAW REQUIRES THAT
5:41:18PM THE GOVERNING BOARD FIND THIS IS A NECESSITY.
5:41:21PM WE'VE CONSIDERED ALL OTHER OPTIONS AND SO FORTH, SO THE
5:41:23PM RESOLUTION DOES THAT.
5:41:25PM YOU'RE AUTHORIZING ME TO FILE THE EMINENT DOMAIN ACTION.
5:41:29PM UNDER THE STATUTES, WHEN YOU FILE AN EMINENT DOMAIN ACTION,
5:41:32PM YOU'RE ALREADY REQUIRED TO HAVE DONE AN APPRAISAL.
5:41:34PM WE HAVE DONE AN APPRAISAL.
5:41:35PM IT CAME BACK AT 35,000.
5:41:39PM YOU HAVE TO PAY THE OTHER SIDES ALL THE OTHER FEES AS WELL,
5:41:43PM SO I'VE BEEN WORKING WITH THE FOUNTAIN LAKES ATTORNEY.
5:41:45PM THEY'LL PROBABLY SAY, OH, THAT'S GOING TO COST THOUSANDS OF
5:41:49PM DOLLARS.
5:41:50PM THAT'S WHY THE MANAGER SAID 40,000 BECAUSE WHEN YOU TAKE
5:41:53PM PROPERTY, YOU HAVE TO MAKE THE PERSON A HUNDRED PERCENT
5:41:56PM WHOLE.
5:41:56PM IT'S NOT JUST THE VALUE OF THE LAND BUT ANY OF THE OTHER
5:42:00PM EXPENSES.

5:42:00PM HOW IT THEN WORKS PROCEDURALLY IS THAT WE WOULD -- WE ARE
5:42:04PM REQUIRED TO PUT IN THE DEPOSIT OF THE COURT THE AMOUNT OF
5:42:10PM OUR APPRAISAL, THE GOOD-FAITH BELIEF IN WHAT WE FEEL IT IS.
5:42:16PM IF THE OTHER SIDE ACCEPTS THAT, THEN THAT'S FINE BECAUSE THE
5:42:20PM VERY FIRST STEP BEFORE WE EVEN FILE SUIT IS YOU HAVE TO MAKE
5:42:25PM A MARKET OFFER.
5:42:27PM THE DIFFICULTY, AS YOU KNOW FROM THE AGENDA MEMO, THEIR HOA

5:42:32PM DOCS HAS A PROVISION THAT SAYS THE BOARD CAN'T WILLINGLY
5:42:36PM SELL LAND WITHOUT A FULL VOTE OF THE MEMBERSHIP.
5:42:38PM THAT'S ALWAYS VERY HARD TO DO, BUT IT ALSO SAYS THAT THE
5:42:41PM BOARD CAN RESOLVE AN EMINENT DOMAIN ACTION.
5:42:45PM I'VE BEEN TRYING TO WORK WITH THE ATTORNEY AND STILL WAITING
5:42:48PM TO HEAR BACK FROM HIM.
5:42:49PM HOW FAR DO WE NEED TO GO?
5:42:50PM MY HOPE IS WE PASS THE RESOLUTION TONIGHT AND THAT GIVES YOU
5:42:54PM ENOUGH TO SAY THE VILLAGE IS MOVING FORWARD, CAN WE NOW
5:42:56PM PLEASE JUST WORK THIS OUT?
5:42:58PM THE ONLY FURTHER STEP THAT THEY MAY COME BACK AND SAY, NO,
5:43:03PM YOU ACTUALLY HAVE TO SUE US AND THEN WE'LL BE ABLE TO WORK
5:43:07PM THAT OUT.
5:43:07PM IF THAT IS THE CASE, THEN THAT IS THE CASE.
5:43:11PM NOT GOING TO BE MUCH MORE OF A DELAY.
5:43:13PM BOTTOM LINE IS, ONCE YOU ALL MAKE THE DECISION TO TAKE THE
5:43:18PM LAND, THEN WE'RE OBLIGATED TO PAY THE JUST VALUE OF THAT
5:43:22PM LAND.
5:43:23PM SO I'M NOT COMING BACK TO YOU WITH, OKAY, HERE IS THE BILL.
5:43:29PM WE HAVE OUR APPRAISAL.
5:43:32PM 35.
5:43:34PM THAT'S WHAT IT'S GOING TO COST.
5:43:38PM >>Mayor Ribble: ANY OTHER QUESTIONS?
5:43:41PM >>Vice-Mayor Zalucki: ROB, THANK YOU FOR THE EXPLANATION.
5:43:42PM I WAS A LITTLE BIT NOT UNDERSTANDING THE FRIENDLY

5:43:45PM ACQUISITION AS IT RELATES TO THE MECHANICS OF THE DEAL, IF
5:43:48PM I'M UNDERSTANDING YOU CORRECTLY, IT IS THE MECHANICS OF THE
5:43:51PM DEAL THAT WE HAVE TO GO THIS ROUTE.
5:43:53PM MY INITIAL THOUGHT WAS WHY CAN'T THE ATTORNEYS GET TOGETHER
5:43:56PM AND WRITE AN AGREEMENT AND FOREGO THE EMINENT DOMAIN MOVE,
5:44:01PM BUT IT'S MECHANICAL.
5:44:02PM WE HAVE TO DO THIS.
5:44:03PM >>Robert Eschenfelder: BECAUSE WE PULLED THEIR DOCS, AND
5:44:05PM THEIR DOCS HAS A PROVISION IN IT THAT SAYS THEIR GOVERNING
5:44:10PM BOARD CANNOT SELL COMMON AREA LAND WITHOUT A FULL VOTE OF
5:44:13PM THE MEMBERSHIP.
5:44:14PM SETTING ASIDE THE TIME IT WOULD TAKE TO GET A VOTE OF THE
5:44:18PM MEMBERSHIP, WHAT IF THE MEMBERSHIP VOTES NO JUST BECAUSE
5:44:21PM THEY WANT TO VOTE NO, WE STILL NEED THAT LAND.

5:44:25PM THE BOTTOM LINE IS, TO GIVE THEM WHAT THEIR GOVERNING BOARD
5:44:32PM NEEDS TO BE ABLE TO WORK WITH US, WE NEED TO MOVE FORWARD
5:44:34PM WITH EMINENT DOMAIN.
5:44:36PM IT ISN'T HOSTILE.
5:44:38PM I'VE BEEN TALKING TO THE ATTORNEY.
5:44:39PM I THINK MR. WILEY HAS BEEN TALKING TO THE BOARD FOR QUITE A
5:44:42PM WHILE.
5:44:42PM THEY ARE WILLING TO DO THE TRANSACTION.
5:44:44PM THEY JUST NEED TO SATISFY THEIR DOCS.
5:44:48PM >>Mayor Ribble: IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE?
5:44:49PM MADAM CLERK, IS THERE ANY PUBLIC COMMENT?

5:44:52PM >>Carol Sacco: THERE IS NO PUBLIC COMMENT AND NO E-COMMENTS.
5:44:54PM >>Mayor Ribble: THANK YOU.
5:44:55PM IN THAT CASE, I WILL ENTERTAIN A MOTION.
5:44:58PM COUNCILMAN McLAIN AND COUNCILWOMAN FAYHEE.
5:45:02PM WOULD YOU PLEASE READ THE ROLL.
5:45:05PM >>Jim Ward: AYE.
5:45:06PM >>Rafael Lopez: AYE.
5:45:08PM >>Lori Fayhee: AYE.
5:45:10PM >>Jon McLain: AYE.
5:45:11PM >>Jeff Hunt: AYE.
5:45:12PM >>Vice-Mayor Zalucki: AYE.
5:45:13PM >>Mayor Ribble: AYE.
5:45:14PM ITEM 8C, RESOLUTION NUMBER 2026-22.
5:45:21PM SUPPORTING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NOISE WALL AND ENHANCED
5:45:24PM LANDSCAPING BY F.D.O.T. RELATING TO INTERSTATE 75 EXPANSION.
5:45:30PM MADAM CLERK, WILL YOU PLEASE READ THE RESOLUTION?
5:45:33PM >>Carol Sacco: RESOLUTION NUMBER 2026-22, A RESOLUTION OF
5:45:36PM THE VILLAGE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF ESTERO, FLORIDA,
5:45:38PM SUPPORTING THE CONSTRUCTION BY THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
5:45:40PM TRANSPORTATION OF A NOISE WALL FOR THE BROOKS COMMUNITY,
5:45:44PM MAKING RELATED FINDINGS, PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, AND
5:45:47PM PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
5:45:49PM >>Mayor Ribble: THANK YOU.
5:45:50PM STEVE, AGAIN, WOULD YOU INTRODUCE THIS?
5:45:52PM >>Steven Sarkozy: THANK YOU, MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL.

5:45:54PM YOU HAVE THREE ITEMS IN YOUR DESK PACKET THAT RELATE TO THIS
5:46:01PM ISSUE.
5:46:02PM AS YOU ALL ARE AWARE, THERE IS A VERY SIGNIFICANT WIDENING
5:46:06PM OF I-75 FROM ALICO ROAD DOWN THROUGH COLLIER COUNTY.
5:46:11PM THERE HAS BEEN A REQUEST BY THE VILLAGE COUNCIL IN THE PAST
5:46:17PM WHEN THIS PROJECT WAS ANNOUNCED LAST YEAR TO PUT NOISE WALLS
5:46:21PM IN THROUGH THE SECTION OF THE VILLAGE THAT WAS AFFECTED BY
5:46:25PM THAT PROJECT.
5:46:27PM THIS IS A SIMILAR REQUEST COMING FROM THE COUNCIL TO THE
5:46:31PM STATE.

5:46:33PM AND WHAT I'D LIKE TO DO IS HAVE DAVID WILLEMS COME FORWARD
5:46:37PM AND TALK ABOUT THE DECISION CRITERIA THAT D.O.T. IS USING TO
5:46:42PM ESTABLISH THE NEED FOR A NOISE WALL.
5:46:44PM I WOULD ALSO NOTE WHILE DAVID IS COMING TO THE PODIUM THAT
5:46:49PM THERE IS CORRESPONDENCE IN YOUR PACKET FROM THE BROOKS.
5:46:53PM I BELIEVE THERE ARE TWO ITEMS HERE FROM THE BROOKS THAT
5:46:56PM DESCRIBE SOME OF THE ISSUES AS WELL.
5:47:00PM >>Mayor Ribble: WELCOME, DAVID.
5:47:01PM >>David Willems: GOOD AFTERNOON.
5:47:02PM MAYBE A WEEK AGO, THE D.O.T. HAD A MEETING OVER AT THE REC
5:47:07PM CENTER.
5:47:07PM THEY PRESENTED WHAT THE WIDENING PROJECT WAS GOING TO BE.
5:47:10PM IT'S A LITTLE BIT DIFFERENT FROM WHAT WAS ORIGINALLY
5:47:13PM PROPOSED, THROUGH THE VILLAGE OF ESTERO, SOUTH OF CORKSCREW,
5:47:15PM THEY ARE ACTUALLY ADDING THREE LANES IN EACH DIRECTION.

5:47:18PM AND THEN NORTH IT WILL BE TWO LANES IN EACH DIRECTION.
5:47:22PM AS YOU WOULD EXPECT, THERE WOULD BE MORE NOISE WITH THAT.
5:47:25PM AT THAT MEETING, THEY ALSO SHOWED WHICH PROPERTIES THEY WERE
5:47:29PM PROPOSING TO PUT IN SOUND WALLS.
5:47:31PM AND THAT'S WHAT I THINK YOU HAVE IN YOUR PACKET.
5:47:33PM THAT'S ALSO WHAT IS SHOWN HERE.
5:47:35PM YOU'LL NOTICE THERE ARE QUITE A FEW COMMUNITIES WITHIN THE
5:47:38PM VILLAGE THAT DO GET SOUND WALLS IN THE CURRENT PROPOSAL, AND
5:47:42PM THERE ARE A COUPLE OF GAPS ALONG STONEYBROOK AND THEN
5:47:45PM CORKSCREW, WOODLANDS THAT YOU DON'T SEE A WALL THERE, BUT
5:47:48PM THAT'S BECAUSE THERE ARE EXISTING WALLS THERE.
5:47:50PM THERE ACTUALLY ARE OTHER COMMUNITIES THAT DON'T HAVE A WALL
5:47:54PM AND THERE IS NO WALL PROPOSED.
5:47:56PM THE VERY SOUTHERN END OF THE BROOKS IS PROPOSED TO HAVE THE
5:48:00PM WALL BUT THE REST OF IT IS NOT CURRENTLY.
5:48:02PM AND THEN ALSO COPPER OAKS IS NOT PROPOSED TO HAVE A WALL AND
5:48:07PM NEITHER IS TIDEWATER.
5:48:08PM NOW, TIDEWATER MIGHT HAVE A BERM THAT ALREADY PROVIDES THE
5:48:13PM BENEFIT OF A SOUND WALL, BUT THAT IS WHAT SOME OF THE
5:48:15PM RESIDENTS HAVE COME TO THE VILLAGE WITH CONCERNS THAT THERE
5:48:18PM AREN'T SOUND WALLS EVERYWHERE.
5:48:20PM I THINK IN YOUR DESK PACKET, IT SHOWS KIND OF THE THOUGHT
5:48:25PM PROCESS THAT F.D.O.T. GOES THROUGH TO DETERMINE WHETHER A
5:48:30PM SOUND WALL IS NEEDED OR NOT.
5:48:32PM YOU CAN SEE THERE ARE A LOT OF STEPS THEY GO THROUGH.

5:48:34PM MOST OF THE STEPS LEAD TO NO SOUND WALL.
5:48:36PM THE MAIN TAKEAWAY IS THAT THEY ARE LOOKING AT AN INCREASE IN
5:48:42PM SOUND, NOT A TOTAL SOUND.
5:48:45PM IF YOU ARE IN A COMMUNITY THAT ALREADY HAS A LOT OF NOISE
5:48:48PM FROM I-75, WHAT THE STATE LOOKS AT IS HOW MUCH MORE NOISE
5:48:53PM WILL YOU HAVE.

5:48:55PM IT'S A DIFFERENT THRESHOLD THAN I THINK WHAT PEOPLE WOULD
5:48:59PM WANT IT TO BE.
5:49:00PM IF YOU LOOK AT THE BOTTOM, THERE ACTUALLY IS ALSO A COST
5:49:04PM PART TO IT, THAT THEY HAVE TO GET SO MUCH IMPROVEMENT PER
5:49:08PM RESIDENT PER DOLLAR IN ORDER TO RECOMMEND THAT A SOUND WALL
5:49:13PM IS PROPOSED.
5:49:14PM IT IS A PRETTY HIGH THRESHOLD.
5:49:15PM THAT'S PROBABLY WHY THE VILLAGE DOESN'T HAVE SOUND WALLS THE
5:49:18PM WHOLE WAY.
5:49:19PM IT'S WHY I THINK SOME OF THE RESIDENTS WANT THE COUNCIL TO
5:49:23PM KIND OF DEMONSTRATE THAT THE COMMUNITY WOULD SUPPORT WALLS
5:49:26PM THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE VILLAGE TO PROTECT THE RESIDENTS.
5:49:30PM WITH THAT, I CAN ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS.
5:49:39PM >>Jeff Hunt: I WAS KIND OF SURPRISED THEY PULLED THE WALLS
5:49:42PM OUT AFTER SUGGESTING THEY WOULD MOVE IT FROM CORKSCREW ALL
5:49:44PM THE WAY TO ALICO.
5:49:46PM WHAT WAS THE REASON TO TAKE THESE SOUND WALLS OUT?
5:49:48PM WAS IT STRICTLY IT DOESN'T COMPLY WITH THE SOUND STANDARD OR
5:49:52PM --

5:49:52PM >>David Willems: I NEVER SAW ANYTHING THAT SHOWED THAT THERE
5:49:55PM WERE SOUND WALLS.
5:49:57PM >>Jeff Hunt: JUST DISCUSSION ABOUT IT.
5:49:58PM >>David Willems: THIS SHOWS MORE SOUND WALLS THAN I'VE SEEN
5:50:02PM PREVIOUSLY, BUT I THINK THAT'S BECAUSE THE PROJECT USED TO
5:50:04PM STOP AT CORKSCREW AND NOW IT EXTENDS NORTH.
5:50:08PM YOU CAN SEE ON HERE THERE ARE SEVERAL WALLS NORTH BECAUSE
5:50:10PM THEY DON'T HAVE WALLS RIGHT NOW.
5:50:13PM >>Jeff Hunt: DO WE KNOW WITHIN THE ESTERO BOUNDARIES ALONG
5:50:17PM 75 THAT THERE IS ENOUGH ROOM OR RIGHT-OF-WAY TO PUT A SOUND
5:50:20PM WALL BETWEEN EXISTING PROPERTIES.
5:50:22PM >>David Willems: THEY ALMOST TAKE UP NO SPACE.
5:50:25PM THEY ARE PRETTY NARROW.
5:50:26PM A LOT OF THE WIDENING IS INTERNAL TO THE ROADWAY.
5:50:28PM PRETTY GOOD MEDIAN THERE.
5:50:30PM THERE'S DEFINITELY SPACE FOR THEM.
5:50:35PM >>Jim Ward: YOU AND I TALKED ABOUT VIA E-MAIL WAS COMPUTER
5:50:38PM MODELING, WHICH IS WHAT F.D.O.T. IS USING VERSUS ACTUAL
5:50:43PM DECIBEL READINGS.
5:50:45PM GIVE ME SOME IDEAS AS TO WHAT THE DIFFERENCE WOULD BE.
5:50:49PM >>David Willems: I NEVER USED THE MODELING FOR THE ACOUSTIC
5:50:54PM STUDIES.
5:50:55PM I HOPE IT'S SOMEWHAT CLOSE TO REALITY.
5:50:57PM THEY DO TEST IT.
5:51:00PM THEY ARE TRYING TO PREDICT WHAT THE SOUND WILL BE, THAT'S

5:51:02PM WHY IT CAN'T JUST BE MEASURED.
5:51:04PM BECAUSE THEY ARE TRYING TO PREDICT WHAT THE INCREASE IS.

5:51:06PM >>Jim Ward: I THINK THE FRUSTRATION COMING OUT OF THE AUGUST
5:51:09PM 31st MEETING WAS THEY ACTUALLY TOOK OUT WALLS DESPITE THE
5:51:15PM FACT THAT THE BROOKS COMMUNITY HAD SUBMITTED SIGNIFICANT
5:51:19PM AMOUNT OF SUPPORT FROM LOCAL LEGISLATORS SUPPORTING THE
5:51:24PM CONTINUOUS WALL FROM MILE MARKER 120 TO 122, DESPITE THE
5:51:30PM BEST EFFORTS OF THE COMMUNITY, ACTUALLY TOOK TWO STEPS
5:51:35PM BACKWARDS.
5:51:36PM AND THAT'S, I THINK, THE REAL CONCERN OF THE BROOKS RIGHT
5:51:39PM NOW.
5:51:39PM THE REALITY, IT'S IMPACTING OTHER COMMUNITIES IN THE ESTERO
5:51:44PM REGION AS WELL.
5:51:44PM WE HAVE TO BE COGNIZANT OF THAT, BUT THE BROOKS DID A
5:51:49PM SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF WORK TO GET TO THIS POINT ONLY TO BE
5:51:53PM NOT TAKEN SERIOUSLY BY F.D.O.T.
5:51:56PM THAT'S A REAL CONCERN.
5:52:01PM >>Mayor Ribble: ANYTHING ELSE?
5:52:06PM >>Vice-Mayor Zalucki: I'M TOTALLY IN FAVOR OF THIS
5:52:08PM RESOLUTION.
5:52:08PM I UNDERSTAND THAT WE'RE URGING F.D.O.T. TO COMPLY OR
5:52:12PM CONSIDER THESE WALLS, AND THIS MAY BE A QUESTION FOR THE
5:52:15PM VILLAGE ATTORNEY.
5:52:16PM WHAT KIND OF CREDIBLE TEETH DOES A RESOLUTION LIKE THIS
5:52:19PM HAVE, ROB?

5:52:20PM AND WHAT WOULD OUR NEXT STEPS BE TO CONTINUE THE URGING
5:52:24PM PROCESS?
5:52:25PM >>Robert Eschenfelder: OBVIOUSLY, WE HAVE NO TEETH.
5:52:29PM IT'S THE STATE OF FLORIDA.
5:52:30PM IT'S BUDGET.
5:52:31PM IT'S ROAD.
5:52:32PM IT'S F.D.O.T.
5:52:35PM I THINK THAT THIS IS A COLLECTIVE EXPRESSION OF THE WILL OF
5:52:39PM THE COUNCIL AND WHAT YOUR POLICY IS.
5:52:41PM ONCE IT PASSES, ASSUMING IT PASSES, EACH OF YOU INDIVIDUALLY
5:52:46PM THEN CAN GO OUT AND LOBBY THOSE SAME LEGISLATORS, LOBBY THE
5:52:51PM ADMINISTRATION, CONTACT THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE AND SAY,
5:52:54PM LISTEN, MY GOVERNING BOARD PASSED THIS.
5:52:57PM I'M URGING YOU AS AN INDIVIDUAL COUNCIL MEMBER TO FUND IT.
5:53:02PM IT'S ALMOST AT THIS POINT, WE DON'T REALLY WANT TO DEBATE
5:53:05PM YOU OVER WHETHER DECIBELS WOULD INCREASE OR NOT.
5:53:09PM IT'S AT THIS POINT LESS ABOUT THE SCIENCE OF IT AND MORE
5:53:11PM ABOUT OUR COMMUNITY MEMBERS WHO PAY A LOT OF TAXES AT THE
5:53:17PM STATE AND FEDERAL LEVEL AND LOCAL LEVEL, FEEL THAT THIS IS A
5:53:20PM CONCERN OF THEIRS, AND WE WANT IT ADDRESSED.
5:53:23PM REALLY AT THE END OF THE DAY, IT'S A LOBBYING EFFORT.
5:53:27PM WE HAVE NO LEGAL --
5:53:32PM >>Mayor Ribble: I KNOW AT THE LAST MEETING, THERE WAS QUITE
5:53:34PM A BIT OF COMMENTARY FROM THE RESIDENTS.

5:53:38PM AT THE END OF THE MEETING THEY SAID THEY WILL TAKE THE

5:53:41PM COMMENTS, GO BACK, AND SEE WHAT ELSE THEY CAN DO WITH A
5:53:46PM FOLLOW-UP MEETING THAT WILL HAPPEN IN OCTOBER.
5:53:49PM I KNOW THAT IT HAS CAPTURED THE ATTENTION OF THE MEDIA.
5:53:53PM HOPEFULLY THAT MIGHT HAVE SOME KIND OF HELP.
5:53:55PM AND I KNOW REPRESENTATIVE BOTANA HAS REACHED OUT AND HAS
5:54:00PM OFFERED TO HELP ALSO.
5:54:03PM HOPEFULLY SOMEHOW THIS CAN MOVE FORWARD IN FAVOR OF THE
5:54:07PM PEOPLE OF THE BROOKS, GET SOME KIND OF RELIEF.
5:54:10PM IS THERE ANY OTHER COMMENT?
5:54:14PM >>Jon McLain: AS WE TALK THROUGH THIS, I'M JUST WONDERING,
5:54:20PM BOTANA FOR SURE, BUT I THINK WE NEED TO GO MAYBE HIGHER THAN
5:54:25PM THAT.
5:54:25PM ANY VALUE IN US THINKING ABOUT ENGAGING OUR LEGISLATIVE
5:54:29PM ATTORNEYS THAT WE'VE HAD AS WE MAKE REQUESTS FOR FUNDING?
5:54:32PM WOULD THEY BE ABLE TO MOVE THIS FORWARD BETTER THAN WE COULD
5:54:39PM DO INDIVIDUALLY?
5:54:40PM IS THAT WORTH THE EXPENSE?
5:54:44PM >>Steven Sarkozy: THE LOBBYISTS THAT WE HAVE HAVE BEEN
5:54:47PM UTILIZED EFFECTIVELY TO GET STATE FUNDING FOR CERTAIN
5:54:51PM PROJECTS.
5:54:52PM THE FUNDING COMING TO US DIRECTLY FROM VARIOUS STATE
5:54:55PM AGENCIES.
5:54:55PM WE COULD ASK THEM TO HELP.
5:54:57PM I THINK THE POINT WOULD BE THAT WE USE ANY AND ALL RESOURCES
5:55:00PM TO TRY TO APPEAL TO THE STATE HIERARCHY TO FUND THIS.

5:55:07PM >>Jon McLain: IT MIGHT BE WORTHWHILE, AT LEAST REACHING OUT
5:55:11PM TO THEM, DO YOU THINK YOU CAN ASSIST US IN THIS EFFORT?
5:55:14PM BECAUSE IF WE KEEP WRITING LETTERS, THE TECHNOCRATS WILL
5:55:20PM PROBABLY SAY NO.
5:55:21PM WE NEED SOMEBODY WHO MAYBE KNOWS THE LOOPHOLES MAYBE BETTER
5:55:24PM THAN US COLLECTIVELY IN HERE.
5:55:26PM >>Steven Sarkozy: WE'LL CERTAINLY TRY.
5:55:28PM >>Mayor Ribble: WE WILL CONTINUE TO URGE THIS ALONG ANY WAY
5:55:32PM WE CAN.
5:55:33PM ANYTHING ELSE?
5:55:33PM ANY PUBLIC COMMENT?
5:55:36PM >>Carol Sacco: YES, MAYOR, THERE ARE TWO.
5:55:38PM AND THERE WERE TWO HANDOUTS.
5:55:41PM THE FIRST ONE IS MR. STEVE CHAPEL FROM SHADOW WOOD AT THE
5:55:45PM BROOKS.
5:55:54PM >> FIRST, I WANT TO THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF THIS
5:55:58PM WALL.
5:55:59PM I'M STEVE CHAPEL.
5:56:00PM PRESIDENT OF SHADOW WOOD COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION.
5:56:02PM HERE WITH LYNN REED WHO IS PRESIDENT EMERITUS OF COPPERLEAF

5:56:06PM AND JIM WARD.
5:56:07PM AND AS JIM MENTIONED, WE'VE BEEN WORKING ON THIS FOR QUITE A
5:56:11PM WHILE.
5:56:12PM THE LAST TIME I WAS HERE, I HAD A FANCY MAP THAT I SHOWED
5:56:15PM YOU.

5:56:16PM I SAID, GEE, THIS DOESN'T MAKE ANY SENSE.
5:56:18PM WHY IN THE WORLD DO THEY HAVE A WALL HERE AND NONE HERE?
5:56:21PM IT'S IDENTICAL.
5:56:23PM F.D.O.T. FIXED IT.
5:56:24PM TOOK THE WALLS OUT.
5:56:28PM THAT WASN'T EXACTLY WHAT I HAD IN MIND.
5:56:30PM IN FACT, THEY TOOK OUT ABOUT 4,000 FEET OF WALL IN ESTERO
5:56:37PM FROM CORKSCREW DOWN.
5:56:38PM NOW, HOW COULD THIS HAPPEN?
5:56:41PM WELL, F.D.O.T. DECIDES, AS DAVID SAID, WHETHER TO BUILD A
5:56:46PM WALL OR NOT BASED ON THEIR COMPUTER MODELS.
5:56:51PM WHY DID IT CHANGE FROM LAST YEAR TO THIS YEAR?
5:56:53PM THE DRAFT THEY DID LAST YEAR TO THIS YEAR?
5:56:58PM WELL, IT CHANGED BECAUSE THEY TWEAKED SOMETHING.
5:57:01PM THEY ADDED BERMS.
5:57:03PM THEY ADDED PRIVACY WALLS.
5:57:05PM THEY ADDED WIND.
5:57:07PM I DON'T KNOW WHAT THEY ADDED, BUT THEY TWEAKED SOMETHING.
5:57:10PM HOW DO WE KNOW WHETHER LAST YEAR'S MODEL IS RIGHT OR THIS
5:57:14PM YEAR'S MODEL IS RIGHT OR SOME THIRD MODEL IS RIGHT.
5:57:19PM THERE IS A WAY TO FIND OUT.
5:57:22PM F.D.O.T. HAS TO COME OUT AND DO REAL PHYSICAL MEASUREMENTS.
5:57:26PM MR. REED IS GOING TO BE TALKING A LOT MORE ABOUT THAT IN A
5:57:31PM FEW MINUTES.
5:57:32PM NOW, THE OTHER THING SURPRISING ON THE NEW MAPS TO ME IS A

5:57:35PM DISCREPANCY IN THE WALLS BETWEEN COLLIER AND LEE COUNTY.
5:57:40PM IN COLLIER COUNTY, ABOUT 60% OF I-75 HAS WALLS.
5:57:45PM NOISE ABATEMENT WALLS.
5:57:48PM 60%.
5:57:50PM LEE COUNTY, 40%.
5:57:53PM ESTERO, 30%.
5:57:56PM THE BROOKS, 20%.
5:57:59PM NOW, THE PRECISE NUMBERS ARE IN THE PIECE OF PAPER THAT YOU
5:58:02PM HAVE.
5:58:03PM I KNOW HOW TO FIX -- WE CAN GET F.D.O.T. OUT TO HELP US WITH
5:58:10PM SOME MEASUREMENTS.
5:58:11PM MAKE SURE THE MODEL IS RIGHT.
5:58:12PM I GOT TO TELL YOU, I DON'T KNOW HOW TO GET AT THIS
5:58:16PM DISCREPANCY.
5:58:16PM I THINK IT GETS BACK TO ESCALATING IT.
5:58:20PM I THINK IT WILL PROBABLY HAVE TO GO UP TO OUR GOVERNOR, OUR

5:58:24PM PRESUMPTIVE GOVERNOR TO GET ANY MOVEMENT.
5:58:27PM F.D.O.T. IS NOT GOING TO DO IT.
5:58:29PM ANY QUESTIONS?
5:58:32PM THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.
5:58:34PM >>Mayor Ribble: THANK YOU, STEVE.
5:58:36PM >>Carol Sacco: NEXT IS MR. LEN REED FROM COPPERLEAF, THE
5:58:42PM BROOKS.
5:58:44PM >> GOOD EVENING, MAYOR RIBBLE AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL.
5:58:48PM FIRST, I WANT TO THANK MAYOR RIBBLE, COUNCILMAN JIM WARD AND

5:58:53PM THE ENTIRE COUNCIL FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT ON THIS
5:58:56PM PROJECT THAT'S VERY IMPORTANT TO US.
5:58:58PM ALSO LIKE TO RECOGNIZE ENGAGE ESTERO FOR ITS ONGOING
5:59:01PM ADVOCACY FOR SOUND MITIGATION.
5:59:03PM COMMISSIONER DAVID MULICKA AND MAYOR RIBBLE, ALONG WITH THE
5:59:05PM OTHER LEE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, FOR THEIR SUPPORT THAT
5:59:07PM HELPED US GET A RESOLUTION SIMILAR TO WHAT YOU PASSED IN
5:59:10PM SUPPORT OF THE WALL FROM THE MPO.
5:59:12PM WE HAVE STRONG SUPPORT FROM OUR LOCAL LEADERS.
5:59:16PM WHAT WE HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO GET FROM F.D.O.T. IS THE SAME
5:59:19PM LEVEL OF MEANINGFUL ENGAGEMENT.
5:59:21PM DESPITE REPEATED QUESTIONS, WE CONTINUE TO GET ANSWERS THAT,
5:59:25PM IN OUR VIEW, DO NOT ACTUALLY ANSWER THE QUESTIONS BEING
5:59:29PM ASKED.
5:59:30PM WE'VE ASKED F.D.O.T. SEVERAL TIMES ABOUT FIELD VISITS TO THE
5:59:33PM BROOKS AND WHAT ACTUAL FIELD DATA WAS COLLECTED.
5:59:36PM I HAVE NOT BEEN PROVIDED ANY FACTUAL DOCUMENTATION TO THOSE
5:59:40PM QUESTIONS AND THE QUESTIONS HAVE BEEN EVADED EVERY TIME I
5:59:43PM ASKED THEM.
5:59:43PM BUT THE MORE IMPORTANT ISSUE IS THE MODEL VALIDATION.
5:59:47PM AT THE AUGUST 31st MEETING, I MET WITH ONE OF THE
5:59:50PM MODELERS.
5:59:51PM I ASKED F.D.O.T.'S MODELER DIRECTLY WHETHER THE NOISE MODEL
5:59:55PM WAS EVALUATED BY THE BROOKS.
5:59:57PM LIKE A DEER STUCK IN HEADLIGHTS.

5:59:59PM WHEN I USED THE TERM MODEL VALIDATION, HE APPEARED
6:00:02PM UNFAMILIAR WITH WHAT I WAS ASKING.
6:00:03PM SO I EXPLAINED THAT I WAS TALKING ABOUT COMPARING THE
6:00:06PM MODEL'S PREDICTED RESULTS WITH ACTUAL REAL-WORLD NOISE
6:00:10PM MEASUREMENTS TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE MODEL IS ACTUALLY
6:00:13PM REPRESENTING THE REAL-LIFE CONDITIONS.
6:00:15PM I THEN ASKED A VERY SIMPLE QUESTION.
6:00:18PM HAS THAT VALIDATION BEEN DONE IN THE BROOKS?
6:00:20PM I COULD NOT GET AN ANSWER.
6:00:23PM THIS IS A SERIOUS PROBLEM TO US.
6:00:26PM F.D.O.T. TELLS US THAT IT MUST FOLLOW FEDERAL RULES, ITS OWN
6:00:30PM RULES AND REGULATIONS AND TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS.

6:00:32PM I AGREE.
6:00:33PM IT SHOULD DO THAT.
6:00:35PM SO I WENT BACK AND I STARTED PULLING OFF SOME OF THE FEDERAL
6:00:38PM RULES AND REGULATIONS AND F.D.O.T.'S RULES.
6:00:41PM SO TODAY, EARLIER TODAY, I SUBMITTED A PUBLIC COMMENT TO
6:00:44PM F.D.O.T. BASED ON THAT RESEARCH THAT I'VE PROVIDED YOU ALL A
6:00:47PM COPY OF THAT TODAY.
6:00:48PM THE PURPOSE OF IT, IT WAS FILED WITH F.D.O.T. AND IT'S VERY
6:00:53PM SIMPLE.
6:00:53PM IT IDENTIFIES THE REQUIREMENTS THAT APPLY AND ASK F.D.O.T.
6:00:56PM TO SHOW US WHERE AND HOW THOSE REQUIREMENTS WERE FOLLOWED.
6:00:59PM THERE ARE LEGAL REQUIREMENTS.
6:01:01PM THEY HAVE TO VALIDATE THAT MODEL AND IT HAS TO BE DONE

6:01:04PM AGAINST REAL-LIFE SITUATIONS.
6:01:05PM IF THE MODEL WAS PROPERLY VALIDATED, THEN SHOW US THE
6:01:09PM VALIDATION PROCESS AND MEASUREMENTS.
6:01:11PM IF FIELD MEASUREMENTS WERE TAKEN, SHOW US THE LOCATIONS,
6:01:15PM DATES, TIMES, AND MEASUREMENTS.
6:01:17PM IF THE MODEL WAS CHANGED FROM THE PREVIOUS ANALYSIS, EXPLAIN
6:01:20PM WHY THOSE CHANGES WERE MADE AND DEMONSTRATE THAT THE CURRENT
6:01:23PM MODEL ACCURATELY REFLECTS ACTUAL CONDITIONS.
6:01:26PM WE ARE ASKING F.D.O.T. TO DEMONSTRATE THAT THE PROCESS USED
6:01:30PM TO REACH THE CONCLUSION IS TECHNICALLY SOUND AND HAS BEEN
6:01:33PM PROPERLY DOCUMENTED.
6:01:34PM ABSENT ANY SUCH DOCUMENTATION, IT'S HARD FOR US TO ACCEPT
6:01:37PM THE RESULTS OF DEMONSTRATING COMPLIANCE.
6:01:40PM WE HOPE THAT CHANGED.
6:01:43PM WITH THAT I'LL CLOSE BY THANKING YOU ALL ONCE AGAIN FOR ALL
6:01:46PM OF THE SUPPORT YOU HAVE GIVEN US.
6:01:48PM >>Mayor Ribble: THANK YOU, LEN.
6:01:51PM >>Carol Sacco: NO E-COMMENTS EITHER, FOR THE RECORD.
6:01:53PM >>Mayor Ribble: THANK YOU.
6:01:53PM ANY OTHER DISCUSSION?
6:01:54PM IN THAT CASE, MAY I HAVE A MOTION TO APPROVE THIS
6:01:58PM RESOLUTION?
6:01:58PM COUNCILMAN WARD, SECONDED BY COUNCILWOMAN FAYHEE.
6:02:04PM WILL YOU PLEASE CALL THE ROLL.
6:02:07PM >>Jeff Hunt: AYE.

6:02:08PM >>Jon McLain: AYE.
6:02:10PM >>Lori Fayhee: AYE.
6:02:11PM >>Rafael Lopez: AYE.
6:02:12PM >>Jim Ward: AYE.
6:02:14PM >>Vice-Mayor Zalucki: AYE.
6:02:14PM >>Mayor Ribble: AYE.
6:02:15PM ITEM 8D, ESTERO RiverPark PHASE 2 PATH CONSTRUCTION.
6:02:22PM STEVE, WOULD YOU INTRODUCE THIS ITEM?

6:02:26PM >>Steven Sarkozy: THANK YOU, MAYOR, MEMBERS OF COUNCIL, THIS
6:02:29PM ITEM IS ONE OF THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT ITEMS THAT GOES
6:02:34PM TOWARDS ENHANCING WHAT WE HAVE AVAILABLE AT THE ESTERO
6:02:40PM RiverPark.
6:02:40PM PROPOSED IS THE EXTENSION OF WHAT WE CALL PHASE TWO OF THE
6:02:43PM WALKWAY SYSTEM THROUGHOUT THE ESTERO RiverPark ON THE
6:02:49PM EASTERN-MOST SIDE OF THE PARK.
6:02:51PM THE PROPOSED ACTION BY COUNCIL IS TO APPROVE THE AWARD OF A
6:02:55PM CONTRACT TO HONC INDUSTRIES IN THE AMOUNT OF $244,075.
6:03:00PM FOR THE EXTENSION OF THE PATHWAYS.
6:03:06PM ALSO, THE RESOLUTION INCLUDES A CONTINGENT AMOUNT OF 10% AND
6:03:12PM AUTHORIZES STAFF TO SIGN CONTRACTS FOR THIS PURPOSE.
6:03:17PM THIS WILL BUILD OUT MOST OF THE REMAINING SECTIONS OF THE
6:03:21PM PATHWAY AT THE ESTERO RIVER PARK AND CAN BE DONE IN THE NEXT
6:03:27PM SEVERAL MONTHS BEFORE WHAT WE ANTICIPATE WOULD BE THE FORMAL
6:03:32PM OPENING OF THE ESTERO RiverPark SOMETIME AFTER THE FIRST
6:03:36PM OF THE YEAR.

6:03:36PM I WOULD NOTE THAT THE ESTERO RiverPark HAS BEEN OPEN SINCE
6:03:42PM OCTOBER -- SORRY, AUGUST 1st ON A LIMITED BASIS.
6:03:47PM IT'S OPEN FROM FRIDAY MORNING UNTIL SUNDAY NIGHT.
6:03:51PM AND THIS ALLOWS HEAVY CONSTRUCTION TO OCCUR DURING THE WEEK
6:03:57PM WITHOUT CONFLICTS WITH PEDESTRIANS AND USERS OF THE PARK.
6:04:01PM WE WOULD PROPOSE TO CONTINUE THAT OPENING PERIOD FRIDAY
6:04:06PM MORNING THROUGH THE END OF THE WEEKEND.
6:04:12PM AND ESTERO FOREVER FOUNDATION IS WORKING WITH US AS THE
6:04:16PM OPERATOR OF THE PARK UNTIL WE CAN COME UP WITH A LONG-TERM
6:04:19PM CONTRACT SOLUTION AFTER THE GRAND OPENING.
6:04:22PM SO THIS COMES TO YOU WITH A RECOMMENDATION FOR APPROVAL.
6:04:28PM THE CONTRACT WILL HAVE SUNSET TIME FOR THE CONTRACTOR TO
6:04:32PM COMPLETE THE WORK.
6:04:40PM >>Mayor Ribble: ANY QUESTIONS FROM COUNCIL?
6:04:42PM COUNCILMAN HUNT.
6:04:43PM >>Jeff Hunt: STEVE, THAT'S NOT GOING TO BE MANHATTAN,
6:04:46PM CORRECT?
6:04:47PM >>Steven Sarkozy: NO.
6:04:48PM >>Mayor Ribble: COUNCILMAN WARD.
6:04:51PM >>Jim Ward: THE TOURIST DEVELOPMENT GRANT THAT WE GOT.
6:04:54PM IS THAT PART OF WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN IN PHASE TWO OR IS
6:04:58PM THAT GOING TO BE LATER?
6:04:59PM >>Steven Sarkozy: THAT WILL BE PART OF THIS.
6:05:01PM PART OF THE IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE PARK, YES.
6:05:04PM >>Jim Ward: IS THE COST 244,000 LESS THE 163?

6:05:10PM >>Steven Sarkozy: I'M NOT SURE HOW WE'RE GOING TO BUDGET
6:05:12PM THAT, BUT WE'LL GIVE YOU A BUDGET WITH THE -- FINAL BUDGET
6:05:17PM NEXT WEEK WITH THE CIP THAT WILL INCLUDE THAT.
6:05:21PM >>Jim Ward: WHAT IS THE TIME FRAME?

6:05:23PM >>Steven Sarkozy: BY THE END OF THE YEAR.
6:05:28PM >>Rafael Lopez: MY WIFE AND I WENT THERE ON SUNDAY AFTER
6:05:32PM CHURCH.
6:05:33PM WE WALKED AROUND THE NORTH PART OF THE RIVER AND THE BRIDGE
6:05:37PM AND ALL THAT AREA.
6:05:38PM IT REALLY LOOKS REALLY NICE.
6:05:40PM JUST WANTED TO COMMEND YOU GUYS ON THAT.
6:05:43PM >>Steven Sarkozy: SHOULD GO TO THE ESTERO FOREVER
6:05:49PM FOUNDATION, DOING A GOOD JOB MAKING THE IMPROVEMENTS ON THE
6:05:52PM PARK.
6:05:52PM >>Rafael Lopez: NICE AND CLEAN, STILL NEW.
6:05:56PM >>Steven Sarkozy: ROME WASN'T BUILT IN A DAY.
6:05:58PM WE ARE GRADUALLY MAKING IMPROVEMENTS ALL THROUGH THE PARK.
6:06:01PM I WOULD NOTE AS WELL, WE HAVE REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS OUT TO
6:06:06PM THE DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY ON WHAT CAN OCCUR ON THE NORTH
6:06:11PM SIDE OF THE RIVER.
6:06:12PM SO THAT STILL REMAINS A QUESTION FOR THE COUNCIL TO ADDRESS,
6:06:18PM BUT THERE IS A SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF LAND, ABOUT 25 ACRES ON
6:06:21PM THE NORTH SIDE OF THE RIVER THAT COULD BE DEVELOPED TO HELP
6:06:26PM FINANCE OTHER IMPROVEMENTS ELSEWHERE IN THE PARK.
6:06:31PM >>Rafael Lopez: WE'RE ACTUALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO THE PATH

6:06:33PM ON THE SOUTH SIDE.
6:06:34PM WHEN WE GOT TO THE OTHER SIDE, WE SAW IT WAS A LITTLE
6:06:37PM OVERGROWN.
6:06:38PM STILL LOOKS GREAT.
6:06:39PM >>Steven Sarkozy: YOU CAN SEE THE POTENTIAL THERE.
6:06:40PM >>Rafael Lopez: YES, IT'S BEAUTIFUL.
6:06:42PM >>Mayor Ribble: COULD WE POSSIBLY GO BACK TO THE TOURIST
6:06:45PM DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL WITH ANOTHER REQUEST FOR A GRANT TO
6:06:50PM CONTINUE THE WORK THAT THEY --
6:06:53PM >>Steven Sarkozy: WE CAN TRY, YES.
6:06:54PM >>Mayor Ribble: LET'S TRY AND SEE IF WE CAN GET MORE MONEY.
6:06:57PM >>Jon McLain: WE NEED TO TRY THAT ALL THE TIME.
6:06:59PM >>Mayor Ribble: WE DO NOT DO IT ENOUGH.
6:07:01PM THIS IS THE FIRST IN EIGHT, TEN YEARS.
6:07:03PM VICE-MAYOR.
6:07:06PM >>Vice-Mayor Zalucki: THANK YOU, MAYOR.
6:07:08PM BASED ON WHAT COUNCILMAN LOPEZ SAID, I TOTALLY AGREE.
6:07:13PM I'VE BEEN OVER TO THE PARK.
6:07:14PM I ENCOURAGE ALL OF US TO STOP BY AND TAKE A WALK ON THE
6:07:18PM WEEKENDS.
6:07:18PM THE EFF, ESTERO FOREVER FOUNDATION, HAS DONE A REAL BANG-UP
6:07:23PM JOB OVER THERE.
6:07:24PM ACTUALLY, THE PERSON IN CHARGE OF THE PARK, I'D LIKE TO GIVE
6:07:27PM THEM A PUBLIC CALL-OUT.
6:07:28PM LUKE PILES IS HERE.

6:07:29PM LUKE, WAVE YOUR HAND.
6:07:31PM HE'S PART OF THE EFF.
6:07:32PM HE IS THE POINT PERSON FOR THE PARK RENOVATIONS.
6:07:35PM HE'S DONE AN EXCELLENT JOB WITH HIS TEAM.
6:07:37PM SO LET'S GET OVER THERE AND ENJOY IT ON THE WEEKENDS.
6:07:40PM LOOK FORWARD TO THE FIRST OF THE YEAR WHEN WE HAVE PHASE TWO
6:07:42PM COMPLETE.
6:07:44PM >>Mayor Ribble: FOR ANOTHER PERSON WHO HAS GONE THROUGH THE
6:07:46PM PARK, THE HERITAGE TREES IN THERE ARE ABSOLUTELY GORGEOUS.
6:07:49PM THEY ARE PHENOMENAL.
6:07:51PM SOME VERY UNUSUAL SPECIMENS.
6:07:52PM THEY NEED TO BE ENJOYED BY THE COMMUNITY.
6:07:57PM >>Jon McLain: JUST ONE COMMENT.
6:07:58PM OBVIOUSLY, EVERYBODY IS AWARE OF THE EAGLE.
6:08:00PM I'M NOT SURE, THAT COMES BACK IN NOVEMBER?
6:08:03PM IS THAT WHEN THE EAGLE COMES BACK OR IS IT EARLIER?
6:08:11PM >> OCTOBER 15.
6:08:14PM >>Mayor Ribble: AND ON THE 16th HE'S NOT ALLOWED IN.
6:08:17PM [LAUGHTER]
6:08:18PM >>Jon McLain: CONSTRUCTION PROJECT GOT TO BE AWARE OF THAT.
6:08:21PM >>David Willems: THE CONSTRUCTION PROJECT IS OUTSIDE OF THAT
6:08:24PM LOOP.
6:08:25PM >>Jon McLain: OKAY, GOOD.
6:08:27PM >>David Willems: 330 FEET AND WE'RE OUTSIDE OF THAT.
6:08:30PM BUT THE NEXT ITEM WE'LL HAVE TO GET DONE BEFORE THAT.

6:08:35PM >>Mayor Ribble: ANYTHING ELSE?
6:08:36PM ANY PUBLIC COMMENT?
6:08:37PM >>Carol Sacco: THERE IS.
6:08:38PM WE HAVE ONE PUBLIC COMMENT FROM DR. NORA DEMERS FROM FGCU.
6:08:45PM >> THANK YOU FOR ADDING THE DOCTOR PART.
6:08:47PM MAKES ME FEEL GOOD.
6:08:48PM I WORKED HARD FOR IT.
6:08:49PM THANK YOU AGAIN FOR LETTING ME SPEAK.
6:08:51PM I WANT TO THANK THE VILLAGE FOR THE STEWARDSHIP OF THE
6:08:53PM ESTERO RIVER PARK, THE IMPROVEMENTS AND TRAILS BEING
6:08:56PM DEVELOPED ARE A WONDERFUL ADDITION TO OUR COMMUNITY AND THEY
6:08:59PM ARE VERY BEAUTIFUL.
6:09:00PM I ENJOY GOING OUT THERE.
6:09:01PM I DID WANT TO IDENTIFY A DISCREPANCY IN THE CONTRACT WITH
6:09:07PM THE LANGUAGE ABOUT THE TRAIL PROJECT.
6:09:09PM IT DOESN'T CURRENTLY IDENTIFY THE APPROXIMATELY 4.5-ACRE
6:09:13PM PARCEL THAT'S BETWEEN THE TWO PROPERTIES THAT THE VILLAGE
6:09:17PM PURCHASED IN 2019.
6:09:18PM AND THAT PROPERTY, THREE OF THE TRAILS THAT ARE IN PHASE TWO
6:09:24PM PASS DIRECTLY THROUGH THAT PROPERTY, MAKING IT AN INTEGRAL
6:09:27PM PART OF THE UNIFIED ESTERO RiverPark THAT WE HAVE TODAY.
6:09:30PM THE LAND WAS FORMERLY ELLEN PETERSON'S HOME AND WAS

6:09:34PM GENEROUSLY GIFTED TO THE VILLAGE BY THE HAPPEHATCHEE CENTER
6:09:37PM IN 2019.
6:09:39PM WITHOUT THE GIFT, THE ESTERO RiverPark WOULD NOT BE THE

6:09:41PM UNIFIED PARK THAT IT IS TODAY.
6:09:43PM WHEN I SERVED ON THE HAPPEHATCHEE CENTER BOARD, WE DESCRIBED
6:09:46PM ELLEN'S LAND AS THE PARK IN THE HEART OF ESTERO.
6:09:49PM IT'S WONDERFUL TO SEE THAT VISION COMING TO LIFE AS HER
6:09:53PM PROPERTY BECOMES AN INTEGRAL PART OF THIS LARGER COMMUNITY
6:09:57PM PARK.
6:09:58PM ELLEN BELIEVED DEEPLY GETTING PEOPLE ON THE LAND AND I
6:10:01PM BELIEVE SHE WOULD BE VERY PLEASED TO SEE PHASE TWO AND THESE
6:10:04PM TRAILS COMPLETED.
6:10:05PM I DO RESPECTFULLY REQUEST THAT THE PUBLIC RECORD BE AMENDED
6:10:08PM TO DEMONSTRATE THE ROLE OF THAT GIFT FOR ACKNOWLEDGING IT.
6:10:16PM WHEN PEOPLE GENEROUSLY GIVE LANDS OR OTHER RESOURCES TO THE
6:10:19PM VILLAGE, THEY SHOULD KNOW THAT THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS WILL BE
6:10:22PM VALUED, CARED FOR AND REMEMBERED AS PART OF THE COLLECTIVE
6:10:25PM HISTORY AND KNOWLEDGE OF OUR COMMUNITY.
6:10:27PM IT'S AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO SEND TO THOSE OF US THAT HELPED
6:10:29PM WITH THAT GIFT AND TO POTENTIAL DONORS IN THE FUTURE.
6:10:33PM THANK YOU.
6:10:36PM >>Carol Sacco: THERE ARE NO E-COMMENTS AND NO OTHER PUBLIC
6:10:38PM COMMENT.
6:10:39PM >>Mayor Ribble: IF THERE'S NO MORE DISCUSSION, MAY I HAVE A
6:10:41PM MOTION?
6:10:41PM COUNCILMAN LOPEZ AND COUNCILMAN HUNT.
6:10:45PM WILL YOU PLEASE CALL THE ROLL?
6:10:47PM >>Jim Ward: AYE.

6:10:48PM >>Rafael Lopez: AYE.
6:10:50PM >>Lori Fayhee: AYE.
6:10:52PM >>Jon McLain: AYE.
6:10:52PM >>Jeff Hunt: AYE.
6:10:55PM >>Vice-Mayor Zalucki: AYE.
6:10:55PM >>Mayor Ribble: AYE.
6:10:56PM AGENDA ITEM 8E, RIVER PARK TRAILS NON-NATIVE PLANT
6:11:07PM TREATMENT.
6:11:08PM STEVE, WOULD YOU INTRODUCE THIS ITEM?
6:11:09PM >>Steven Sarkozy: THANK YOU, MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL.
6:11:11PM DAVID WILLEMS, OUR COMMUNITY -- OUR PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR
6:11:16PM ALLUDED TO THIS ISSUE.
6:11:17PM THIS IS THE INVASIVE PLANT REMOVAL THAT'S ONGOING AT THE
6:11:23PM ESTERO RiverPark.
6:11:25PM WHEN WE PURCHASED THE PROPERTY IN 2019 AND ACCEPTED THE
6:11:30PM DONATION FROM THE HAPPEHATCHEE BOARD, IT WAS CLEAR THAT THIS
6:11:37PM IS A BEAUTIFUL, NATURAL AREA THAT HAD NEVER BEEN CLEAR CUT.
6:11:41PM HOWEVER, THE PROPERTY HAS QUITE A BIT OF INVASIVE SPECIES

6:11:47PM INTRUDING INTO THE PROPERTY.
6:11:50PM WHEN THE COUNCIL DECIDED TO DEDICATE THE SOUTHERN PART OF
6:11:55PM THE PROPERTY AS A NATURE PRESERVE, HAND IN HAND WITH THAT
6:11:59PM DECISION WAS THE NEED TO REMOVE THE INVASIVE TREES TO ALLOW
6:12:04PM THE HERITAGE TREES TO REALLY TAKE OVER.
6:12:09PM THIS CONTRACT WITH THE FIRM OF EARTH BALANCE PROVIDES THAT
6:12:15PM ONGOING INVASIVE SPECIES REMOVAL OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS.

6:12:19PM AND WHAT IT REQUIRES IS BOTH A CHEMICAL AND MANUAL REMOVAL
6:12:24PM OF THE INVASIVE SPECIES WITH A HEAVY AMOUNT OF WORK GOING IN
6:12:29PM IN THE FIRST FEW YEARS AND THEN DECLINING IN THE LATER YEARS
6:12:33PM OF A FIVE-YEAR AGREEMENT.
6:12:34PM THE TOTAL AMOUNT IS $90,895 OVER THE FIVE YEARS WITH A
6:12:40PM $9,000 CONTINGENT ACCOUNT.
6:12:43PM AGAIN, YOUR ACTION TODAY WOULD AUTHORIZE STAFF TO APPROVE
6:12:46PM THE CONTRACTS FOR THIS WORK.
6:12:49PM AS DAVID MENTIONED, THE WORK WILL BEGIN INITIALLY IN THAT
6:12:54PM AREA NEAREST WHERE THE EAGLE'S NEST HAS BEEN, TO GET THAT
6:12:59PM PORTION OF THE WORK DONE AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE AND GET OUT
6:13:04PM OF THE AREA AFTER THAT WINDOW OF TIME DEDICATED FOR THE
6:13:15PM EAGLES IS UPON US.
6:13:16PM WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO GET A LOT OF THAT DONE.
6:13:18PM MOST OF THAT WORK THAT WE TRY TO DO EARLY IS RIGHT AT THE
6:13:22PM CORNER OF CORKSCREW AND U.S. 41.
6:13:24PM SO WE ASK YOUR APPROVAL OF THE CONTRACT SO WE CAN BEGIN WORK
6:13:29PM IMMEDIATELY.
6:13:30PM >>Mayor Ribble: ANY QUESTIONS?
6:13:31PM >>Jon McLain: HOW WILL THEY REMOVE?
6:13:33PM SPRAY OR DIG THEM OUT?
6:13:35PM >>Steven Sarkozy: I THINK IT'S BOTH OF THOSE.
6:13:37PM DAVID, IF YOU WANT TO DESCRIBE THE WORK THAT HAS TO BE DONE.
6:13:41PM THERE WILL BE A LOT OF ACTIVITY IN THERE PROBABLY DURING
6:13:43PM MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, AND THURSDAY, SO WE AVOID

6:13:46PM CONFLICTS WITH THE PUBLIC ON THE TRAIL.
6:13:48PM >>David Willems: GENERALLY AT THIS POINT, IT WILL BE MORE
6:13:51PM SPRAY BECAUSE PREVIOUS YEARS WE DID TREAT THE FACILITY FOR
6:13:56PM EXOTICS, AND THAT WAS MORE OF THE REMOVING OF THE LARGER
6:14:00PM PLANTS.
6:14:00PM THERE USED TO BE A BUNCH OF THE SMALL BAMBOO THAT'S BEEN
6:14:03PM REMOVED.
6:14:04PM I THINK THERE WAS CARROT WOOD OUT THERE THAT'S BEEN REMOVED.
6:14:08PM IT'S GOING TO BE MUCH MORE TREATMENT NOW.
6:14:10PM THE REASON WE'RE DOING IT EARLY, SO AFTER THE FIRST TWO
6:14:14PM YEARS, WE SHOULD START TO GET THEM UNDER CONTROL SO WE CAN
6:14:17PM START DOING IT ONCE A YEAR AFTER THAT.
6:14:22PM >>Jon McLain: WE'VE GOT TO BE CAUTIOUS WITH THE RIVER THERE
6:14:24PM THAT WE'RE NOT USING SPRAYS THAT MIGHT CONTAMINATE THE

6:14:27PM RIVER, OBVIOUSLY.
6:14:28PM >>David Willems: YEAH.
6:14:29PM IT'S NOT A WIDESPREAD SPRAYING.
6:14:31PM IT'S MORE RIGHT ON THE VEGETATION THAT'S THERE.
6:14:35PM >>Jon McLain: ALL RIGHT.
6:14:36PM GOOD.
6:14:38PM >>Mayor Ribble: ANYONE ELSE?
6:14:40PM I THINK IT'S MENTIONED IN THE CONTRACT, JON, THAT THEY HAVE
6:14:43PM TO USE SPRAYS THAT ARE ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY.
6:14:47PM IS THERE ANY PUBLIC COMMENT?
6:14:49PM >>Carol Sacco: YES, MAYOR, THERE IS.

6:14:50PM DR. NORA DEMERS.
6:14:56PM >> NOW I'M A BIOLOGIST, AND I'VE BEEN DOING HABITAT
6:15:02PM RESTORATION PROJECTS THROUGHOUT SOUTHWEST FLORIDA FOR NEARLY
6:15:06PM 30 YEARS.
6:15:07PM AGAIN, COMMEND THE VILLAGE AND ESTERO FOREVER FOUNDATION FOR
6:15:10PM THE WORK BEING DONE.
6:15:11PM MY STUDENTS AND I HAVE PARTICIPATED IN INVASIVE EXOTIC
6:15:14PM REMOVAL AT WHAT WAS FORMERLY HAPPEHATCHEE AS WELL AS
6:15:18PM BAREFOOT BEACH AND OTHER PLACES.
6:15:20PM THE EFFORTS ARE VALUABLE AS EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE FOR THE
6:15:22PM STUDENTS, BUT THEY COULD NEVER KEEP PACE WITH THE CHANGES
6:15:26PM THAT HAVE OCCURRED BECAUSE OF THE PROPERTY, THE
6:15:28PM MODIFICATIONS THAT WE'VE HAD WITH DEVELOPMENT OVER TIME.
6:15:32PM I WAS UNABLE TO DETERMINE FROM THE CONTRACT LANGUAGE,
6:15:35PM HOWEVER, WHETHER THE WORK WILL ALSO INCLUDE TREATMENT
6:15:38PM DESIGNED TO ADDRESS THE ACCUMULATED FUEL LOAD, EITHER
6:15:42PM THROUGH PRESCRIBED FIRE OR APPROPRIATE MECHANICAL METHODS.
6:15:46PM I STRONGLY URGE THE VILLAGE TO PLAN FOLLOW-UP TREATMENTS FOR
6:15:51PM THAT, REDUCING THE FUEL LOAD IS IMPORTANT NOT ONLY FOR
6:15:55PM WILDFIRE PREVENTION AND SAFETY, BUT ALSO BECAUSE APPROPRIATE
6:15:59PM FIRE OR SIMULATED FIRE MANAGEMENT IS AN ESSENTIAL PART OF
6:16:03PM RESTORING MANY OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA'S NATIVE HABITATS AND
6:16:06PM MAINTAINING CONTROL OF THE INVASIVES.
6:16:09PM WITH CAREFUL SCIENCE-BASED MANAGEMENT, THESE AREAS CAN BE
6:16:13PM OPENED AND GRADUALLY RESTORED TO A CONDITION THAT MORE

6:16:19PM CLOSELY REFLECTS WHAT OLD FLORIDA LOOKED LIKE BEFORE DECADES
6:16:22PM OF DISTURBANCE AND INVASIVE GROWTH.
6:16:24PM I SUPPORT THE WORK BEING UNDERTAKEN THROUGH THIS CONTRACT,
6:16:25PM AND I ENCOURAGE THE VILLAGE TO CONTINUE THE LONG-TERM
6:16:28PM RESTORATION AND HOPEFULLY PUT SOME OF THAT SIMULATED FIRE
6:16:30PM INTO THE REGIME.
6:16:33PM APPRECIATE THE VILLAGE'S COMMITMENT TO THIS IMPORTANT
6:16:35PM PROPERTY AND LOOK FORWARD TO CONTINUING TO WORK WITH YOU AND
6:16:38PM MY STUDENTS AT ESTERO RiverPark.
6:16:41PM THANK YOU.

6:16:43PM >>Mayor Ribble: ANYTHING ELSE?
6:16:44PM >>Carol Sacco: THERE ARE NO E-COMMENTS FOR THE RECORD, AND
6:16:46PM THERE'S NO OTHER PUBLIC COMMENT.
6:16:48PM >>Mayor Ribble: THANK YOU.
6:16:48PM MAY I HAVE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE CONTRACT?
6:16:50PM COUNCILMAN HUNT AND VICE-MAYOR.
6:16:53PM PLEASE CALL THE ROLL.
6:16:56PM >>Jeff Hunt: AYE.
6:16:58PM >>Jon McLain: AYE.
6:17:00PM >>Lori Fayhee: AYE.
6:17:00PM >>Rafael Lopez: AYE.
6:17:02PM >>Jim Ward: AYE.
6:17:03PM >>Vice-Mayor Zalucki: AYE.
6:17:04PM >>Mayor Ribble: AYE.
6:17:05PM ITEM 8F, BROADWAY AVENUE WEST IMPROVEMENTS CHANGE ORDER

6:17:13PM NUMBER 1.
6:17:14PM STEVE, WOULD YOU INTRODUCE THIS, PLEASE?
6:17:15PM >>Steven Sarkozy: THANK YOU, MAYOR RIBBLE AND MEMBERS OF
6:17:18PM COUNCIL.
6:17:19PM AS A RESULT OF THE VILLAGE SUCCESSFULLY SECURING THE
6:17:26PM COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT DISASTER RECOVERY PROGRAM
6:17:32PM GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF $15 MILLION FOR THE WEST BROADWAY
6:17:37PM AREA, WE HAVE A SITUATION WHERE WE NEED TO CONSTRUCT THE
6:17:40PM IMPROVEMENTS IN WEST BROADWAY AND THE UTILITY EXTENSION
6:17:46PM PROJECTS IN THOSE NEIGHBORHOODS ADJOINING WEST BROADWAY IN A
6:17:49PM VERY SHORT PERIOD OF TIME.
6:17:52PM THE ACTION BEFORE THE COUNCIL HERE IS TO PROVIDE CW3
6:17:57PM ENGINEERING WITH ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR DESIGN AND PERMITTING
6:18:04PM OF THE UTILITY WORK IN THE AMOUNT OF $382,820 WITH, AGAIN, A
6:18:09PM 10% CONTINGENCY.
6:18:10PM I'D LIKE TO HAVE DAVID COME FORWARD AND JUST BRIEFLY
6:18:15PM DESCRIBE THE CHALLENGES WE HAVE.
6:18:17PM COUNCIL IS AWARE OF THIS, BUT WE HAVE A SIGNIFICANT
6:18:19PM CHALLENGE IN TERMS OF THE TIMELINE WORKING TO GET THIS
6:18:24PM PROJECT DONE TO MAXIMIZE OUR GRANT UTILIZATION.
6:18:31PM >>David Willems: DUE TO THE GRANT FUNDING, THIS IS A PROJECT
6:18:35PM GOING A LOT FASTER THAN MOST PROJECTS.
6:18:37PM NORMALLY IT WOULD BE A YEAR OR TWO IN PLANNING, AND WE DID
6:18:40PM THAT IN JUST A COUPLE OF MONTHS.
6:18:42PM SO WHAT THAT'S DONE IS REALLY TIGHTEN THE SCHEDULE FOR THE

6:18:47PM UTILITIES TO DO SOME OF THEIR WORK THAT THEY NEED TO DO TO
6:18:50PM GET OUT OF THE WAY FOR THE VILLAGE TO BE ABLE TO BUILD WHAT
6:18:53PM WE NEED TO.
6:18:54PM BECAUSE OF THE SHORT TIME FRAME, LEE COUNTY UTILITIES DID
6:18:58PM NOT BUDGET DOING THE DESIGN WORK OR THE CONSTRUCTION WORK
6:19:01PM FOR THIS PROJECT IN THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR.

6:19:05PM SO IF WE WANT TO KEEP MOVING FORWARD WITH THE PROJECT, WE'RE
6:19:07PM GOING TO HAVE TO HAVE CW3 DESIGN IT.
6:19:11PM ON A TYPICAL PROJECT LEE COUNTY UTILITIES WOULD HANDLE THAT
6:19:14PM DESIGN, BUT BECAUSE OF THE SHORT TIME FRAME AND THEY DON'T
6:19:17PM HAVE A BUDGET FOR IT, WE'RE PROPOSING THAT THE VILLAGE
6:19:20PM HANDLE THIS SO THAT THE WHOLE PROJECT CAN MOVE FORWARD AND
6:19:25PM THEN WE'LL CONTINUE TO WORK WITH LEE COUNTY UTILITIES,
6:19:28PM MAKING SURE IT'S UP TO THEIR STANDARDS, AND THEN WE'LL TRY
6:19:31PM TO FIGURE OUT ON THE BACK END WHETHER THE GRANT PAYS FOR
6:19:34PM THESE COSTS OR IF WE CAN FIGURE OUT A WAY FOR LEE COUNTY
6:19:37PM UTILITIES TO EVENTUALLY PAY FOR IT.
6:19:41PM >>Mayor Ribble: ANY QUESTIONS?
6:19:45PM >>Vice-Mayor Zalucki: DAVID, THANK YOU FOR THAT.
6:19:47PM SO WE'RE -- I SUPPORT THIS BECAUSE WE NEED TO KEEP MOVING
6:19:52PM FORWARD.
6:19:52PM I KNOW THIS IS AN EXPENSE PROBABLY WE DIDN'T EXPECT BECAUSE
6:19:55PM OF THE TIME FRAME.
6:19:56PM BUT YOU GAVE US SOME REASSURANCE THAT WE COULD GET
6:20:00PM REIMBURSED BY THE GRANT FOR THIS OUTPUT.

6:20:05PM >>David Willems: I BELIEVE SO.
6:20:06PM WE HAVEN'T WENT THROUGH ALL THE STEPS, BUT THIS IS SOMETHING
6:20:09PM REQUIRED TO DO THE ROADWAY PROJECT, WHICH IS WHAT WE HAVE
6:20:11PM THE GRANT FOR.
6:20:11PM >>Vice-Mayor Zalucki: THANK YOU.
6:20:13PM >>Mayor Ribble: ANYONE ELSE?
6:20:14PM IS THERE ANY PUBLIC COMMENT?
6:20:16PM >>Carol Sacco: NO E-COMMENTS AND NO PUBLIC COMMENT.
6:20:18PM >>Mayor Ribble: MAY I HAVE A MOTION, PLEASE TO ACCEPT THE
6:20:21PM CONTRACT?
6:20:21PM COUNCILMAN McLAIN AND A SECOND, COUNCILMAN HUNT.
6:20:26PM MADAM CLERK, WILL YOU PLEASE CALL THE ROLL?
6:20:32PM >>Jeff Hunt: AYE.
6:20:33PM >>Jon McLain: AYE.
6:20:34PM >>Lori Fayhee: AYE.
6:20:35PM >>Rafael Lopez: AYE.
6:20:36PM >>Jim Ward: AYE.
6:20:38PM >>Vice-Mayor Zalucki: AYE.
6:20:39PM >>Mayor Ribble: AYE.
6:20:41PM THE NEXT ITEM IS ORDINANCE NUMBER 2026-07, REQUIRING
6:20:48PM PAINTING PERMITS FOR CERTAIN NONRESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES.
6:20:53PM THIS IS THE SECOND READING.
6:20:57PM WAS THE ORDINANCE PROPERLY ADVERTISED?
6:20:59PM >>Carol Sacco: YES, MAYOR.
6:21:00PM >>Mayor Ribble: WILL YOU PLEASE READ THE ORDINANCE?

6:21:02PM >>Carol Sacco: ORDINANCE 2026-07, AN ORDINANCE OF THE
6:21:04PM VILLAGE OF ESTERO, FLORIDA, CREATING A NEW SECTION 7-7 OF

6:21:07PM THE VILLAGE CODE RELATED TO PAINTING PERMITS, MAKING RELATED
6:21:11PM FINDINGS, PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, AND PROVIDING FOR AN
6:21:14PM EFFECTIVE DATE.
6:21:14PM >>Mayor Ribble: THANK YOU.
6:21:15PM STEVE, WOULD YOU INTRODUCE THIS?
6:21:16PM >>Steven Sarkozy: THANK YOU, MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL.
6:21:18PM THIS COMES TO YOU WITH THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE COMMUNITY
6:21:20PM DEVELOPMENT STAFF AND OUR VILLAGE ATTORNEY.
6:21:23PM I'D LIKE TO TURN IT OVER TO ROB FOR A BRIEF EXPLANATION OF
6:21:27PM THE PROPOSED LANGUAGE.
6:21:28PM >>Robert Eschenfelder: I'LL BE VERY BRIEF BECAUSE WE TALKED
6:21:30PM ABOUT IT IN THE FIRST READING.
6:21:31PM WE HAVE LONG REQUIRED PEOPLE TO GET A PERMIT, BUT IT'S NOT
6:21:34PM IN OUR CODE.
6:21:36PM WE'RE PUTTING IT IN OUR CODE.
6:21:37PM IF SOMEBODY SAYS WHY DO I HAVE TO GET A PERMIT, WE CAN POINT
6:21:40PM TO LANGUAGE.
6:21:41PM THAT'S ALL IT IS.
6:21:43PM >>Mayor Ribble: ANY QUESTIONS?
6:21:46PM >>Jeff Hunt: HOW DOES THAT COMMUNICATE TO THE COMMUNITY?
6:21:50PM >>Robert Eschenfelder: IT'S LIKELY THAT THE COMMUNITY ISN'T
6:21:54PM EVEN REALLY AWARE BECAUSE WE HAVEN'T ACTUALLY BEEN
6:21:57PM CHALLENGED.

6:21:58PM SO I THINK MOST PEOPLE JUST ASSUME WHEN THEY COME IN TO OUR
6:22:02PM DEPARTMENT AND SAY I'M GOING TO PAINT, HERE'S MY PERMIT, IT
6:22:08PM ONLY CAME UP RECENTLY WITH THE PAINTING OF THE MALL.
6:22:13PM I WAS INVOLVED IN A LOT OF THAT BECAUSE THERE WAS SOME
6:22:16PM RESISTANCE ON THEIR PART TO COMPLY WITH THE COLORS AND SO
6:22:20PM FORTH.
6:22:20PM AS I GOT INTO THAT AND WORKED WITH DIRECTOR GIBBS AND
6:22:23PM STARTED LOOKING AT THE APPLICABLE CODE PROVISIONS, I JUST
6:22:26PM SORT OF IDENTIFIED THIS AS A WEAKNESS.
6:22:29PM I'M NOT ENTIRELY SURE IT NEEDS TO BE COMMUNICATED.
6:22:31PM WE ALREADY COMMUNICATE TO THEM THAT THERE IS A PERMIT FEE
6:22:34PM FOR PAINTING.
6:22:35PM IT'S ALREADY IN THE FEE SCHEDULE YOU ALL HAVE APPROVED
6:22:37PM ALREADY.
6:22:37PM AGAIN, THIS IS MORE JUST MAKING SURE THAT OUR CODE CONTAINS
6:22:41PM THE AFFIRMATIVE REQUIREMENT SO THAT THERE IS A LEGAL
6:22:44PM OBLIGATION TO GO WITH THE PRACTICE THAT WE'VE ALREADY BEEN
6:22:47PM DOING.
6:22:50PM >>Mayor Ribble: ANYTHING ELSE?
6:22:50PM IS THERE ANY PUBLIC COMMENT?
6:22:52PM >>Carol Sacco: NO PUBLIC COMMENT AND NO E-COMMENTS.
6:22:54PM >>Mayor Ribble: ALL RIGHT.
6:22:55PM DO I HAVE A MOTION TO PASS THE SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE
6:22:59PM 2026-07?

6:23:01PM COUNCILWOMAN FAYHEE, SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN LOPEZ.

6:23:06PM WILL YOU PLEASE CALL THE ROLL?
6:23:10PM >>Jeff Hunt: AYE.
6:23:12PM >>Jon McLain: AYE.
6:23:13PM >>Lori Fayhee: AYE.
6:23:14PM >>Rafael Lopez: AYE.
6:23:16PM >>Jim Ward: AYE.
6:23:17PM >>Vice-Mayor Zalucki: AYE.
6:23:18PM >>Mayor Ribble: AYE.
6:23:24PM THIS BRINGS US TO THE END OF OUR REGULAR MEETING BEFORE THE
6:23:27PM WORKSHOP.
6:23:28PM COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS?
6:23:28PM DOES ANY COUNCIL MEMBER HAVE ANYTHING FOR THE GOOD OF THE
6:23:31PM VILLAGE?
6:23:31PM COUNCILMAN McLAIN.
6:23:35PM >>Jon McLain: IT'S BEEN QUITE A LONG SUMMER, SO I WANT TO
6:23:39PM MAKE SURE WE COMMUNICATE THAT BERT, I THINK EVERYBODY
6:23:43PM PROBABLY KNOWS, WE HAD A POSITIVE ELECTION DOWN IN BONITA
6:23:48PM SPRINGS.
6:23:49PM 68.23 PERCENT OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT, WHICH BASICALLY TELLS
6:23:54PM US ALL THAT'S WELL SUPPORTED WITHIN ALL OF LEE COUNTY, THAT
6:23:59PM PEOPLE WANT THESE KIND OF BIKE TRAILS.
6:24:03PM THAT'S GREAT.
6:24:04PM ALSO, PART OF THE PURCHASE CONTRACT IS THAT WE'RE DOING DUE
6:24:08PM DILIGENCE.
6:24:09PM AND THAT DUE DILIGENCE IS ONGOING.

6:24:12PM THERE'S BEEN SOME ALREADY DONE.
6:24:13PM FINAL RESULTS ARE NOT IN YET, SO I THINK BY OUR NEXT
6:24:17PM MEETING, WE MAY -- MAY -- HAVE SOME MORE DEFINITIVE
6:24:23PM INFORMATION ON THAT.
6:24:24PM BUT I DON'T THINK THERE'S ANY BIG SURPRISES HOPEFULLY.
6:24:26PM BUT I DON'T HAVE ALL THE INFORMATION MYSELF EITHER.
6:24:28PM PROGRESS IS GOING.
6:24:33PM ALSO, WE HAVE THE VICE PRESIDENT, BETH CASTRO, FROM THE
6:24:42PM FRIENDS OF BERT, SHE IS THE VICE PRESIDENT.
6:24:45PM I WOULD LIKE TO RECOGNIZE HER THIS EVENING AND ALL THE
6:24:48PM FRIENDS OF BERT, SHE WAS A CHAMPION OF GETTING THEM.
6:24:53PM WITHOUT THEIR EFFORT, I'M NOT SURE WE WOULD BE SITTING HERE
6:24:56PM THIS EVENING SAYING "JOB WELL DONE."
6:24:59PM BECAUSE IT TOOK -- I CAN TELL YOU THE COFFERS OF THE FRIENDS
6:25:04PM OF BERT -- AND THEY HAD MONIES COMING IN -- I HAD A CALL
6:25:09PM WITH DEB ORTON.
6:25:11PM SHE CALLED ME UP AND SAID, WHAT DO YOU THINK WE SHOULD DO?
6:25:13PM I SAID YOU GOT TO FUND IT.
6:25:15PM IF YOU DON'T HAVE IT, THERE'S NO REASON FOR THE FRIENDS OF
6:25:18PM BERT IN THE FUTURE.

6:25:20PM SPEND EVERY NICKEL YOU HAVE.
6:25:22PM I'M NOT SURE THEY SPENT EVERY NICKEL, BUT THEY SPENT -- THEY
6:25:26PM DID A BIG PORTION OF THAT.
6:25:29PM I'M VERY THANKFUL FOR THEM.
6:25:32PM I THINK THE PEOPLE THAT VOTED FAVORABLY FOR IT ARE THANKFUL

6:25:35PM FOR THAT.
6:25:36PM BUT IT ALSO CONTINUES TO ILLUSTRATE TO ME HOW CITIZENS CAN
6:25:44PM GET TOGETHER AND MAKE SOMETHING HAPPEN LIKE THIS.
6:25:47PM I MEAN, OBVIOUSLY, WE WERE CONCERNED WITH IT, BUT WITHOUT
6:25:50PM THE CITIZENS BACKUP AND THEIR EFFORTS, WE WOULD NOT BE HERE
6:25:56PM WHERE WE ARE TODAY.
6:25:57PM I THINK THIS IS A LEGACY PROJECT THAT'S GOING TO BE SERVING
6:26:00PM ALL OF SOUTH LEE COUNTY FAVORABLY IN THE FUTURE AND
6:26:04PM ELIMINATE HOPEFULLY SOME DEATHS ON THE FREEWAY OF PEOPLE
6:26:09PM DRIVING.
6:26:09PM NOT GOING TO HAPPEN OVERNIGHT.
6:26:12PM IT WILL TAKE SOME MONEY AND TIME TO GET THIS THING DONE.
6:26:15PM I WANT TO JUST THANK BETH FOR HER SHOT.
6:26:20PM NOW, SHE DIDN'T GIVE YOU A CARD, I GUESS, FOR COMMENTS AT
6:26:22PM THE BEGINNING OF THE MEETING.
6:26:24PM SHE HAD SOME COMMENTS.
6:26:28PM THIS MAY BE A LITTLE OUT OF PROTOCOL IN HERE.
6:26:33PM >>Mayor Ribble: IS THAT OKAY WITH COUNCIL?
6:26:34PM GO AHEAD, BETH.
6:26:36PM DO GIVE CAROL A CARD WHEN YOU ARE DONE.
6:26:42PM >>Jon McLain: STILL HAVE TO HAVE YOU FILL OUT A CARD.
6:26:45PM WE'LL GIVE YOU THREE MINUTES AND THEN I'VE GOT MORE
6:26:48PM COMMENTS.
6:26:51PM >> FIRST OF ALL, GOOD EVENING.
6:26:52PM THANKS FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK.

6:26:54PM I'M BETH CASTRO, AS HE SAID, THE VICE PRESIDENT OF FRIENDS
6:26:57PM OF BERT.
6:26:57PM I WAS ALSO THE POLITICAL CHAIR FOR VOTE FOR BERT.
6:27:00PM I LIVED THE EXPERIENCE.
6:27:03PM I'M ALSO A VERY PROUD RESIDENT OF ESTERO.
6:27:07PM I'M HERE TODAY PREDOMINANTLY TO SAY THANK YOU.
6:27:11PM YOU'VE BEEN AN IMPORTANT LEADER AND PARTNER IN MOVING BERT
6:27:14PM FORWARD.
6:27:15PM I MEAN, YOU WERE THE FIRST TO THE TABLE APPROVING IT, AND WE
6:27:19PM TRULY APPRECIATE THAT STRONG COMMITMENT.
6:27:22PM HE JUST TOLD YOU THAT WE HAD AN OVERWHELMING FAVORABLE VOTE
6:27:26PM AUGUST 18 IN BONITA SPRINGS.
6:27:29PM 68%, AND THAT JUST REALLY SHOWS THE MANDATE FROM THE
6:27:32PM COMMUNITY THAT THEY WANT THIS PROJECT TO GO FORWARD.
6:27:35PM SO COMBINED WITH YOUR COMMITMENT, COLLIER COUNTY'S
6:27:38PM COMMITMENT AND NOW BONITA SPRINGS, WE'RE IN THE POSITION TO

6:27:41PM MOVE FORWARD WITH THE ENTIRE CORRIDOR.
6:27:43PM IT'S AN INCREDIBLY IMPORTANT MILESTONE BUT IT'S NOT THE
6:27:47PM FINISH LINE.
6:27:48PM IT IS ONLY THE BEGINNING OF THE NEXT PHASE.
6:27:50PM I HAD A FEW WEEKS TO REST, SO ON WE GO.
6:27:52PM IT MOVES FROM ACQUISITION TO PLANNING, DESIGN, AND
6:27:55PM CONSTRUCTION, WHICH THE MUNICIPALITIES WILL LEAD ALL OF
6:27:58PM THAT.
6:27:58PM OUR ROLE AT FRIENDS OF BERT WILL EVOLVE, BUT IT DOESN'T END.

6:28:02PM WE'LL CONTINUE TO KEEP THE COMMUNITY INFORMED AND ENGAGED.
6:28:06PM WE'LL GROW SUPPORT AND PARTICIPATION FROM THE CORRIDOR,
6:28:08PM ESPECIALLY HERE IN ESTERO BECAUSE I LIVE HERE.
6:28:12PM WE'LL WORK WITH RESIDENTS, HOAs, BUSINESSES, COMMUNITY
6:28:15PM ORGANIZATIONS.
6:28:16PM WE'LL HELP TO RAISE PRIVATE FUNDS TO HELP ADVANCE THE
6:28:19PM PROJECT AND WE'LL ADVOCATE FOR RESOURCES AT THE LOCAL,
6:28:22PM REGIONAL, STATE, AND FEDERAL LEVELS.
6:28:24PM MOST IMPORTANTLY, WE WANT TO BE A RESOURCE AND PARTNER WITH
6:28:28PM ESTERO AND THE THREE JURISDICTIONS GOING FORWARD.
6:28:30PM JUST SO YOU KNOW, WE ARE ABOUT GETTING COMMUNITY COMMITMENT.
6:28:34PM I THINK JON JUST ALLUDED TO THAT.
6:28:37PM WE CONTINUE TO GROW THAT.
6:28:39PM WE HAVE OVER 4500 FRIENDS OF BERT MEMBERS.
6:28:42PM WE HAVE OVER 35 HOAs AND COMMUNITY ENDORSEMENTS.
6:28:46PM WE HAVE STRONG GROWING RELATIONSHIPS WITH BUSINESSES,
6:28:49PM SPONSORS, AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS, AND WE SUPPORT
6:28:53PM THROUGHOUT THE CORRIDOR INCLUDING HERE IN ESTERO.
6:28:55PM OUR COMMITMENT REMAINS TO BE ONE CONNECTED BERT, NOT THREE
6:29:01PM SEPARATE MUNICIPAL PROJECTS.
6:29:04PM IT'S 11.4 MILES OF CONNECTING OUR COMMUNITIES FROM ESTERO TO
6:29:08PM BONITA TO COLLIER.
6:29:11PM THE GREATEST VALUE OF BERT WILL COME WHEN SOMEONE CAN ENTER
6:29:14PM THE TRAIL HERE AT ESTERO AND EXPERIENCE ONE CONTINUOUS,
6:29:17PM SAFE, AND WELCOMING CORRIDOR.

6:29:18PM THE REGIONAL VISION IS WHAT BROUGHT OUR COMMUNITIES TOGETHER
6:29:22PM AND FRIENDS OF BERT WILL CONTINUE TO ADVOCATE FOR THAT.
6:29:25PM SO IN CLOSING, WE HAVE REACHED AN EXTRAORDINARY MOMENT FOR
6:29:29PM THIS PROJECT.
6:29:31PM TAKE A DEEP BREATH, AND NOW WE'RE ON TO THE OPPORTUNITY THAT
6:29:34PM MOVES FORWARD TOGETHER.
6:29:35PM THANK YOU FOR YOUR LEADERSHIP, YOUR PARTNERSHIP, AND YOUR
6:29:38PM COMMITMENT TO BERT.
6:29:39PM WE LOOK FORWARD TO CONTINUING TO WORK BESIDE THE VILLAGE OF
6:29:42PM ESTERO AS WE TURN THIS VISION INTO A CONNECTED TRAIL OUR
6:29:46PM COMMUNITIES WILL ENJOY FOR GENERATIONS TO COME.
6:29:48PM THANK YOU.

6:29:51PM >>Vice-Mayor Zalucki: PERFECT TIMING.
6:29:53PM THREE MINUTES.
6:29:56PM >>Jon McLain: BERT IS GOING TO CONTINUE THEIR FUND-RAISING
6:29:58PM AND ALL THAT, AND I'M NOT SURE IF WE HAVE TO HAVE IT, BUT I
6:30:01PM WANT TO LET YOU KNOW, IN YOUR DESK PACKET, THERE IS A
6:30:07PM JERSEY.
6:30:07PM IT'S FOR BICYCLISTS, OBVIOUSLY.
6:30:10PM IF YOU'RE WALKING, YOU CAN DO THAT ALSO.
6:30:12PM I'D LIKE TO GET PERMISSION FROM THE COUNCIL.
6:30:17PM YOU CAN SEE THE JERSEY, IT IS REALLY ATTRACTIVE.
6:30:21PM ON THE BACK OF THE JERSEY, THEY ARE GOING TO PUT LOGOS FOR
6:30:26PM THE CITY OF BONITA SPRINGS, ESTERO, THE BERT, AND THE TRUST
6:30:35PM FOR PUBLIC LAND.

6:30:40PM TO HELP DEFRAY.
6:30:41PM THERE'S NO COST -- JUST THOSE FOUR.
6:30:43PM NO COST TO US FOR THIS, BUT WE NEED TO GIVE PERMISSION.
6:30:51PM ANYBODY HAVE A PROBLEM WITH PUTTING OUR LOGO ON THE BACK?
6:30:55PM WE'VE GOT ALL THE DETAILS ON THAT.
6:30:58PM WE'LL LET THOSE FOLKS KNOW.
6:31:00PM WHAT THESE JERSEYS ARE GOING TO BE USED FOR, I THINK THEY
6:31:06PM HAVE A BIKE RIDE.
6:31:06PM THEY HAD ONE LAST YEAR.
6:31:07PM THIS WILL BE THE FOURTH OR FIFTH.
6:31:13PM NOVEMBER 15 OUT OF COCONUT MALL, SO THE PEOPLE THAT SIGN UP
6:31:20PM FOR IT CAN GET ONE OF THESE.
6:31:22PM THERE ARE A VARIETY OF WAYS THAT THEY'LL GET THESE OUT TO
6:31:24PM THE PUBLIC.
6:31:25PM IT'S GOING TO BE A HELPFUL FUND-RAISER FOR THEM BUT NO COST
6:31:29PM TO THE VILLAGE.
6:31:30PM ANYBODY THINKING ABOUT RIDING A BIKE, GET TUNED UP FOR THE
6:31:34PM 30-MILE RIDE.
6:31:35PM THEY GOT A 15 ALSO.
6:31:38PM >> 15 AND 30.
6:31:39PM >>Jon McLain: THAT'S ALL I HAVE.
6:31:44PM >>Rafael Lopez: JUST A REMINDER TO EVERYBODY THAT OUR
6:31:45PM VETERANS DAY EVENT IS COMING UP ON NOVEMBER 14 FROM 10 TO
6:31:50PM 12, AND WE'RE GOING TO HAVE MILITARY VEHICLES.
6:31:55PM VICE-MAYOR ZALUCKI WILL DO HIS CLASSIC AMERICAN CAR SHOW.

6:32:02PM AND WE'RE GOING TO HAVE ANOTHER MEETING ON THE 18th,
6:32:07PM PLANNING MEETING, AND THEN BY THEN, EVEN BEFORE THEN, WE
6:32:11PM SHOULD HAVE THE FAR OUT.
6:32:13PM WE'RE WAITING FOR THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE APPROVAL OF FIRE.
6:32:16PM THEN WE'LL GET THAT OUT.
6:32:17PM SPEAKING OF VETERANS, AS YOU GUYS KNOW, I'M AN AMBASSADOR
6:32:22PM FOR THE COLLIER LEE HONOR FLIGHT.
6:32:25PM THERE IS A FLIGHT COMING ON OCTOBER 10, 2026.

6:32:29PM AND WE ALWAYS SEND OUT LETTERS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS TO A
6:32:34PM HUNDRED VETERANS THAT GO ON THESE FLIGHTS.
6:32:37PM I WOULD LIKE PERMISSION TO HAVE YOUR SIGNATURES ON THESE
6:32:40PM LETTERS.
6:32:42PM CAROL IS GOING TO HELP ME WITH THE PRINTING OF IT, BUT I
6:32:45PM WILL SUPPLY ALL THE ENVELOPES AND THE LETTERHEAD.
6:32:49PM WON'T BE ANY COST TO THE VILLAGE, AND I'LL STUFF THE
6:32:52PM ENVELOPES.
6:32:52PM I'LL GET MY GRANDDAUGHTER TO DO IT.
6:32:54PM STUFF THE ENVELOPES AND WE'LL GET THOSE LETTERS OUT.
6:32:58PM AND IT LOOKS GOOD WHEN THE WHOLE VILLAGE SIGNS IT AS OPPOSED
6:33:02PM TO JUST ME DOING IT, IF THE WHOLE VILLAGE COUNCIL SIGNS IT,
6:33:06PM IT LOOKS A LOT BETTER.
6:33:08PM THE VETERANS, BELIEVE IT OR NOT, THEY DON'T KNOW THAT THERE
6:33:10PM IS A MAIL CALL ON THE PLANE.
6:33:16PM WHEN THEY READ THE LETTERS FROM CONGRESSMEN, COMMISSIONERS,
6:33:20PM SENATORS, THESE VETERANS ARE IN TEARS, AND THEY ARE

6:33:23PM WONDERING HOW DID THEY GET OUR NAME?
6:33:26PM AND THE LITTLE HONOR FLIGHT ELVES ARE WORKING OVERTIME TO
6:33:31PM MAKE SURE THOSE LETTERS GET OUT.
6:33:33PM ANYWAY, I APPRECIATE EVERYBODY.
6:33:35PM I HOPE EVERYBODY AGREES TO SIGN THE LETTER AND WE'LL GET
6:33:39PM THOSE OUT.
6:33:40PM >>Mayor Ribble: AS IN THE PAST, COULD WE SEE THE LETTER THEN
6:33:43PM BEFORE YOU DO IT?
6:33:44PM I THINK EVERYBODY IS IN AGREEMENT WITH DOING THAT.
6:33:48PM >>Rafael Lopez: I'LL MAKE SURE CAROL GETS IT.
6:33:50PM IT IS USUALLY THE STANDARD LETTER WE SEND EVERY TIME.
6:33:52PM >>Mayor Ribble: ANYTHING ELSE?
6:33:53PM OKAY.
6:33:54PM MY TURN.
6:33:54PM IN CELEBRATION OF THE 250th BIRTHDAY OF THE COUNTRY, I WAS
6:34:00PM APPROACHED, AS WAS ALL THE CITIES IN LEE COUNTY, TO
6:34:03PM CONTRIBUTE TO A TIME CAPSULE THAT WILL BE OPENED 250 YEARS
6:34:08PM FROM NOW.
6:34:09PM WE WERE ASKED TO SUBMIT SOMETHING.
6:34:11PM SO WE SUBMITTED OUR CHARTER.
6:34:12PM AND WE ALSO SUBMITTED AN AERIAL VIEW OF THE BOUNDARIES AND
6:34:17PM WHAT THE VILLAGE LOOKS LIKE TODAY.
6:34:19PM SO IT WILL BE OPENED 250 YEARS FROM NOW.
6:34:22PM THOSE OF YOU THAT ARE HERE WILL BE ABLE TO SEE WHAT CHANGES
6:34:26PM HAVE BEEN BROUGHT UPON THE VILLAGE OR IF IT STILL EXISTS.

6:34:30PM WE'LL SEE.
6:34:31PM AS IN PAST, ESTERO WAS INCORPORATED ONE TIME BEFORE AND THEN
6:34:35PM WAS UNINCORPORATED.
6:34:36PM LET'S HOPE THAT NEVER HAPPENS.

6:34:38PM ALONG WITH THAT, A LOT OF US PARTICIPATED IN THE FIELD OF
6:34:42PM FLAGS, PLACING THE FLAGS AT THE HERTZ ARENA FOR THE 9/11
6:34:48PM COMMEMORATION.
6:34:49PM AND ALSO, THE JROTC AT THE HIGH SCHOOL IS HAVING A 9/11
6:34:56PM COMMEMORATION AT THE HIGH SCHOOL THIS FRIDAY.
6:35:00PM AS MARK NOVITSKI MENTIONED, 6:45, I WILL BE THERE IF ANY OF
6:35:06PM YOU CAN JOIN ME, THAT WOULD BE VERY, VERY NICE.
6:35:08PM THE SUMMER WAS A FLURRY OF NEW STORES OPENING AT THE MALL.
6:35:15PM IF YOU'VE JUST COME BACK, YOU WON'T BELIEVE THE CHANGES.
6:35:18PM THEY STARTED THEIR PAINTING PROJECT.
6:35:20PM IT LOOKS WONDERFUL.
6:35:22PM BUT QUITE A CHANGE TO THE STORES AND THE OCCUPANTS IN THERE.
6:35:28PM VERY NICE TO SEE.
6:35:29PM IT'S BECOMING EVEN MORE UPSCALE THAN IT WAS.
6:35:31PM THAT'S ALL I HAVE.
6:35:34PM IF NO ONE ELSE, MR. ESCHENFELDER, DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING?
6:35:40PM >>Robert Eschenfelder: NO, MA'AM.
6:35:41PM >>Mayor Ribble: MR. SARKOZY?
6:35:42PM >>Steven Sarkozy: NO THANK YOU.
6:35:43PM >>Mayor Ribble: IN THAT CASE, CAN I HAVE A MOTION TO
6:35:45PM ADJOURN?

6:35:45PM COUNCILMAN HUNT, COUNCILMAN McLAIN, AND THEN WE'LL MOVE ON
6:35:51PM TO OUR WORKSHOP.
6:36:05PM >>Tammy Duran: MICKEY, CAN YOU HEAR US?
6:36:14PM >> HELLO, CAN YOU HEAR ME?
6:36:16PM >>Mayor Ribble: YES, WE CAN.
6:36:18PM GOOD EVENING.
6:36:27PM >> I'M GOING TO SHARE MY SCREEN.
6:36:30PM WHENEVER EVERYBODY IS READY TO GET STARTED.
6:36:33PM I DON'T KNOW, STEVE, IF YOU ARE INTRODUCING THE TOPIC OR IF
6:36:35PM I JUMP IN.
6:36:37PM >>Jon McLain: CAN WE GET THE VOLUME UP SOMEHOW?
6:36:41PM >>Mayor Ribble: THERE YOU GO.
6:36:42PM THAT'S MUCH BETTER.
6:36:43PM STEVE, WILL YOU PLEASE INTRODUCE MICKEY JOHNSTON?
6:36:58PM >>Steven Sarkozy: WE HAVE ONE ITEM ON THE AGENDA AND THAT IS
6:37:01PM TO DISCUSS THE PROPOSED OBLIGATION REVENUE BONDS THAT ARE
6:37:05PM PROPOSED TO BE ISSUED WITH FINAL ACTION AT THE NEXT MEETING.
6:37:12PM THE PURPOSE OF THE BOND IS TO PROVIDE FINANCING FOR THE
6:37:18PM ACQUISITION OF THE BERT LINE THAT WAS PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED
6:37:21PM AS WELL AS PHASE TWO IMPROVEMENTS AT THE SPORTS PARK, PLUS
6:37:26PM SOME ADDITIONAL PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION, RECREATION, AND RAIL
6:37:30PM IMPROVEMENTS TO BE DETERMINED BY THE VILLAGE COUNCIL OVER
6:37:33PM THE NEXT SEVERAL YEARS.
6:37:34PM THESE ARE GENERATIONAL PROJECTS.
6:37:39PM THEY GO BEYOND OUR ABILITY TO PAY TO DO THESE AS A

6:37:43PM PAY-AS-YOU-GO PROJECT.
6:37:46PM THE IDEA IS TO FINANCE THESE OVER A 30-YEAR TERM TO REALLY
6:37:50PM REFLECT THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE PROJECTS AND THE
6:37:54PM GENERATIONAL NATURE THAT THEY PROVIDE IMPROVEMENT FOR THE
6:37:57PM COMMUNITY.
6:37:58PM WE'RE UTILIZING THE PUBLIC RESOURCE ADVISORY GROUP OUT OF
6:38:05PM ST. PETERSBURG AS OUR FINANCIAL ADVISOR IN THIS CASE.
6:38:08PM AND MICKEY JOHNSTON IS THE SENIOR MANAGING DIRECTOR OF PRAG
6:38:15PM AND HAS BEEN WORKING WITH US VERY CLOSELY, WORKING UP TO THE
6:38:18PM ISSUANCE OF THE REVENUE BOND.
6:38:20PM WITH THAT, I'LL TURN IT OVER TO MICKEY FOR A PRESENTATION
6:38:25PM AND TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS THAT THE COUNCIL MAY HAVE.
6:38:28PM MICKEY.
6:38:31PM >> THANKS, EVERYBODY.
6:38:32PM GOOD EVENING, MAYOR AND COUNCIL.
6:38:34PM MICKEY JOHNSTON WITH PUBLIC RESOURCES ADVISORY GROUP OR PRAG
6:38:39PM FOR SHORT.
6:38:39PM TODAY, I'LL WALK YOU THROUGH THE PROPOSED BOND FINANCING AND
6:38:42PM LET YOU KNOW WHERE WE ARE IN THE PROCESS.
6:38:44PM FIRST, I JUST WANTED TO LET YOU KNOW WHAT PRAG'S ROLE IS IN
6:38:47PM THE ISSUANCE PROCESS AS YOUR MUNICIPAL ADVISOR.
6:38:50PM WE WORK WITH THE VILLAGE TO DEVELOP THE PLAN OF FINANCE,
6:38:55PM HELP STRUCTURE THE DEBT, AND WE QUARTERBACK THE TRANSACTION,
6:38:58PM COORDINATING THE FINANCING TEAM AND THE RATING PROCESS.
6:39:00PM ULTIMATELY WE EVALUATE THE BIDS THAT WILL BE RECEIVED FROM

6:39:03PM THE INVESTMENT BANKS THAT ARE GOING TO BE LOOKING TO
6:39:06PM PURCHASE YOUR BONDS.
6:39:07PM WITH THAT BACKGROUND, I THOUGHT WE WOULD START BY ASKING A
6:39:11PM SIMPLE QUESTION.
6:39:11PM WHY WOULD A LOCAL GOVERNMENT ISSUE DEBT?
6:39:14PM STEVE KIND OF HIT ON SOME OF THESE POINTS ALREADY.
6:39:17PM MUNICIPALITIES GENERALLY ISSUE DEBT FOR LARGER CAPITAL
6:39:21PM PROJECTS WITH LONG, USEFUL LIVES.
6:39:22PM THERE'S TWO WAYS TO PAY FOR THESE PROJECTS.
6:39:25PM EITHER PAY AS YOU GO WITH CASH OR FINANCE SOME PORTION OVER
6:39:30PM TIME.
6:39:30PM PAY GO CAN MAKE A LOT OF SENSE FOR SMALL PROJECTS WITH SHORT
6:39:34PM USEFUL LIVES.
6:39:35PM FOR EXAMPLE, YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO ISSUE 30-YEAR DEBT FOR AN
6:39:38PM ASSET THAT YOU'RE GOING TO BE REPLACING IN FIVE YEARS.
6:39:41PM FOR AN ASSET THAT'S GOING TO BENEFIT THE COMMUNITY FOR
6:39:44PM DECADES, FINANCING LETS YOU MATCH THE REPAYMENT PERIOD TO
6:39:47PM THE USEFUL LIFE OF THE ASSET AND SPREAD THE COST OVER THE
6:39:51PM RESIDENTS WHO WILL BENEFIT FROM IT.
6:39:53PM ALSO ALLOWS THE VILLAGE TO MOVE FORWARD WITH MAJOR CAPITAL
6:39:56PM PROJECTS WITHOUT DEPLETING YOUR CASH OR RESERVES, WHICH
6:40:00PM COULD BE USED FOR OTHER NEEDS.

6:40:01PM THE TRADE-OFF, OF COURSE, IS THERE IS AN INTEREST COST TO
6:40:04PM ISSUING DEBT.
6:40:05PM IN TERMS OF THE VILLAGE'S EXISTING DEBT PROFILE, THE ONLY

6:40:11PM DEBT OUTSTANDING IS THE SYNOVUS LOAN THAT CLOSED IN JUNE.
6:40:16PM THIS REIMBURSED THE VILLAGE FOR A PORTION OF THE THREE OAKS
6:40:18PM PARKWAY PURCHASE.
6:40:20PM WHAT WE'RE TALKING ABOUT TODAY IS THE PROPOSED BOND ISSUE
6:40:23PM APPROXIMATELY $62 MILLION FOR CAPITAL PROJECTS, INCLUDING
6:40:26PM THE BERT ACQUISITION PHASE 2 IMPROVEMENTS TO THE SPORTS PARK
6:40:31PM AND OTHER RAIL OR PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS.
6:40:36PM THESE ARE LARGE INVESTMENTS, GENERATIONAL, LIKE STEVE SAID.
6:40:39PM SO THEY ARE GOING TO BENEFIT RESIDENTS FOR DECADES TO COME.
6:40:41PM HERE IS AN OVERVIEW OF THE BOND ISSUANCE PROCESS.
6:40:50PM THE VILLAGE HAS -- IT'S NEVER ISSUED BONDS.
6:40:54PM SO ON THE LEFT ARE THE PLANNING STEPS.
6:40:56PM AND WE LARGELY COMPLETED THOSE.
6:40:58PM WE HAVE REVIEWED THE PROJECT NEEDS.
6:41:00PM WE DEVELOPED A PLAN OF FINANCE, AND WE'VE GOTTEN THE
6:41:03PM FINANCING TEAM TOGETHER.
6:41:05PM PRAG, WE'RE SERVING AS YOUR MUNICIPAL ADVISOR.
6:41:08PM YOU ALSO HAVE NABORS GIBLIN NICKERSON AS BOND COUNSEL AND
6:41:12PM BRYANT MOORE OLIVE AS DISCLOSURE COUNSEL.
6:41:14PM BOND COUNSEL PREPARES THE BOND RESOLUTION AND WILL GIVE ITS
6:41:18PM LEGAL OPINION ON THE ISSUANCE.
6:41:20PM DISCLOSURE COUNSEL PREPARES WHAT WE CALL THE PRELIMINARY
6:41:22PM OFFICIAL STATEMENT, OR PLS, WHICH IS ESSENTIALLY THE
6:41:25PM VILLAGE'S DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT TO INVESTORS.
6:41:27PM AT THIS POINT IN THE PROCESS, WE'RE RIGHT THERE IN THE

6:41:30PM MIDDLE IN THE BOXED AREA.
6:41:33PM THE LEGAL AND DISCLOSURE DOCUMENTS ARE NEARLY FINALIZED, AND
6:41:36PM WE'RE PREPARING FOR THE S & P RATING PRESENTATION.
6:41:39PM THE OTHER MAJOR STEP IS COUNCIL AUTHORIZATION.
6:41:42PM THERE'S NO FORMAL ACTION REQUESTED TODAY.
6:41:46PM OF COURSE, WE'LL COME BACK SEPTEMBER 23rd WITH THE BOND
6:41:49PM RESOLUTION FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION.
6:41:50PM ADOPTING THE RESOLUTION IN TWO WEEKS WILL GIVE THE
6:41:52PM AUTHORIZATION TO CONTINUE MOVING THROUGH THE PROCESS AND
6:41:55PM ULTIMATELY BRING THE BONDS TO MARKET WHEN APPROPRIATE.
6:41:58PM ON THIS SLIDE, THERE'S KIND OF A LOT GOING ON, BUT WE WANT
6:42:05PM TO EMPHASIZE, FIRST, THIS IS THE TENTATIVE FINANCING
6:42:07PM TIMETABLE.
6:42:08PM THE DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AS WE WORK THROUGH THE
6:42:10PM PROCESS, BUT LIKE I MENTIONED, THE NEXT KEY DATE IS REALLY
6:42:14PM SEPTEMBER 23rd WHEN YOU CONSIDER THE BOND RESOLUTION.
6:42:17PM FROM THERE THE CURRENT SCHEDULE CONTEMPLATES A COMPETITIVE
6:42:21PM BOND SALE IN OCTOBER, AND CLOSING IN OCTOBER AS WELL FOR

6:42:24PM COMPETITIVE BOND SALE, WE'RE GOING TO DESIGNATE A DATE AND A
6:42:28PM TIME FOR INVESTMENT BANKS TO SUBMIT BIDS, AND WE'RE GOING TO
6:42:31PM EVALUATE THOSE BIDS BASED ON TRUE INTEREST COSTS.
6:42:35PM STAFF WILL AWARD THE BONDS TO THE LOWEST INTEREST COST
6:42:38PM BIDDER.
6:42:38PM WE'RE GOING TO CONTINUE WORKING WITH VILLAGE STAFF AND THE
6:42:41PM FINANCING TEAM TO ADDRESS THE SCHEDULE AS APPROPRIATE.

6:42:44PM ON THIS SLIDE, WE PUT SOME PRELIMINARY NUMBERS AROUND THE
6:42:50PM FINANCING.
6:42:50PM I JUST WANT TO EMPHASIZE HERE, THESE ARE ALSO PRELIMINARY
6:42:54PM BECAUSE WE HAVEN'T SOLD THE BONDS YET.
6:42:57PM THE RATES MOVE EVERY DAY, SO THE FINAL BORROWING COST AND
6:43:00PM DEBT SERVICE WON'T BE KNOWN UNTIL WE RECEIVE BIDS.
6:43:02PM BASED ON MARKET CONDITION, WHEN THE SLIDE WAS PUT TOGETHER,
6:43:06PM WE ESTIMATED $3.93 MILLION OF ANNUAL DEBT SERVICE, INCLUDING
6:43:11PM PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST OVER 30 YEARS BASED ON THE ESTIMATED
6:43:16PM TRUE INTEREST COST OF ABOUT 4.67%.
6:43:18PM YOU'LL NOTICE THAT THE DEBT WILL BE STRUCTURED WITH
6:43:21PM SUBSTANTIALLY LEVEL DEBT SERVICE.
6:43:23PM YOU CAN SEE THAT IT'S ALMOST THE SAME AMOUNT EVERY YEAR
6:43:26PM EXCEPT THE FIRST TRUNCATED YEAR.
6:43:28PM THIS PROVIDES REALLY A PREDICTABLE AND MANAGEABLE DEBT
6:43:32PM PROFILE FOR THE VILLAGE.
6:43:33PM ON THE RIGHT, WE'VE COMBINED THE ESTIMATED BOND NUMBERS WITH
6:43:37PM THE EXISTING SYNOVUS LOAN SO YOU CAN SEE THE VILLAGE'S
6:43:42PM OVERALL ESTIMATED DEBT SERVICE OBLIGATIONS WOULD BE AFTER
6:43:44PM THE BONDS ARE ISSUED.
6:43:45PM ON THE LOWER LEFT, WE SHOW THE SOURCE AND USES.
6:43:49PM HERE, WE'RE SHOWING ROUGHLY $62.6 MILLION OF TOTAL BOND
6:43:53PM PROCEEDS BEING GENERATED BY THE SALE.
6:43:56PM 62 MILLION WOULD GO TOWARD THE PROJECTS THAT WE DISCUSSED
6:43:59PM AND THE BALANCE WOULD COVER ANY FINANCING COSTS.

6:44:02PM AGAIN, ALL THESE NUMBERS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE, BUT WE THINK
6:44:05PM THIS GIVES YOU A REASONABLE ESTIMATE OF WHAT TO EXPECT.
6:44:08PM JUST TO WRAP UP, WE'RE WORKING THROUGH THE RATING AND
6:44:15PM DOCUMENTATION PROCESS NOW.
6:44:16PM THE NEXT MAJOR DECISION POINT IS SEPTEMBER 23rd WHEN STAFF
6:44:20PM BRINGS THE BOND RESOLUTION BACK TO COUNCIL.
6:44:23PM WE EXPECT TO GET THE BOND RATING THE NEXT DAY.
6:44:25PM FROM THERE WE'LL CONTINUE COORDINATING WITH STAFF ON TIMING
6:44:28PM AS WE MOVE TOWARD THE COMPETITIVE SALE.
6:44:30PM I'M AVAILABLE FOR QUESTIONS IF YOU HAVE ANY ON THE PROCESS.
6:44:35PM >>Mayor Ribble: COUNCIL, ANY QUESTIONS?
6:44:41PM >>Jeff Hunt: STEVE, ON THE SLIDE HERE, PRELIMINARY DEBT
6:44:44PM SERVICE, 2026 BONDS, THERE IS THE RAIL TRAIL PURCHASE, AND
6:44:49PM I'M ASSUMING, AND I WANT TO BE RIGHT ABOUT IT, RAIL, PUBLIC

6:44:53PM TRANSPORT AND OTHER INFRASTRUCTURE, THAT IS WHAT WILL BE
6:44:59PM USED FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE PROPERTY?
6:45:01PM >>Steven Sarkozy: YES, A BIG CHUNK OF THAT WOULD BE USED.
6:45:04PM WE'RE ESTIMATING APPROXIMATELY SIX TO EIGHT MILLION DOLLARS.
6:45:08PM WHAT WE WOULD LIKE TO DO IS BRING TO BEAR AS MANY STATE AND
6:45:12PM FEDERAL GRANTS AS WE CAN.
6:45:13PM SO THAT NUMBER IS A LITTLE BIT UNCERTAIN.
6:45:17PM WE THINK WE'LL BE ABLE TO GET PROBABLY 50% OF THE COST OF
6:45:21PM IMPROVING THE LINE FROM STATE OR FEDERAL GRANT SOURCES.
6:45:27PM BUT, OBVIOUSLY, YOU CAN'T APPLY FOR THE GRANTS UNTIL WE
6:45:30PM ACTUALLY OWN THE PROPERTY AND ARE MAKING SPECIFIC

6:45:34PM IMPROVEMENT REQUESTS.
6:45:36PM THAT WILL BE ALSO IMPACTED BY WHAT BONITA AND COLLIER DO
6:45:42PM WITH THE SAME GRANT AGENCIES.
6:45:44PM ARE WE GOING TO COMPETE TOGETHER OR AGAINST THEM?
6:45:48PM ALL TO BE DETERMINED.
6:45:51PM >>Jeff Hunt: MICKEY, THESE BONDS, CAN THEY BE I GUESS CALLED
6:45:55PM EARLY IN OUR 30-YEAR TENURE?
6:45:58PM >> YES, YES.
6:45:59PM THE COMMON CONVENTION IN THE MUNICIPAL BOND MARKET IS
6:46:03PM 10-YEAR PAR CALL.
6:46:05PM SO COME YEAR 10 OF THE 30 YEAR, YOU WOULD HAVE THE
6:46:08PM OPPORTUNITY EITHER TO PAY OFF THE BONDS WITH NO PENALTY OR
6:46:11PM YOU CAN REFINANCE AT LOWER INTEREST RATES, IF THE RATES ARE
6:46:15PM LOWER.
6:46:16PM IN TEN YEARS, YOU'RE MOVING DOWN THE YIELD CURVE.
6:46:19PM WHAT IS LEFT IS A 20 YEAR.
6:46:22PM IDEALLY, YOU'D HAVE LOWER RATES AT THAT POINT.
6:46:25PM >>Jeff Hunt: THANK YOU.
6:46:27PM >> YOU'RE WELCOME.
6:46:30PM >>Mayor Ribble: ANYTHING ELSE?
6:46:31PM ALL RIGHT.
6:46:34PM WELL, WE THANK YOU, MICKEY.
6:46:35PM THANK YOU FOR THE PRESENTATION.
6:46:38PM WILL WE SEE YOU BACK AGAIN THEN SEPTEMBER 23rd?
6:46:42PM >> THAT'S CORRECT.

6:46:43PM >>Mayor Ribble: ALL RIGHT.
6:46:43PM WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THEN.
6:46:45PM THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR JOINING US.
6:46:47PM >> THANK YOU.
6:46:47PM YOU BET.
6:46:50PM >>Jim Ward: I HAD A QUESTION FOR STEVE.
6:46:52PM ONE OF THE THINGS YOU RECOGNIZE HERE IS WE'VE GOT A $5
6:46:56PM MILLION DEBT SERVICE.
6:46:59PM SOME TIME AGO I HAD ASKED KEVIN TO PROVIDE ME WITH SOME
6:47:03PM INFORMATION OVER A LONG PERIOD OF TIME ASSURING COUNCIL THAT

6:47:07PM WE CAN, IN FACT, PROVIDE THAT DEBT SERVICE OVER TIME.
6:47:11PM IS THAT SOMETHING THAT WE COULD DO?
6:47:13PM >>Steven Sarkozy: YES.
6:47:14PM WE'RE CONSTANTLY LOOKING AT UPDATING THE CASH FLOW
6:47:18PM PROJECTIONS.
6:47:21PM IT GETS A LITTLE FUZZY AS YOU GO OUT IN OUT YEARS, OF
6:47:25PM COURSE, BECAUSE YOU DON'T HAVE CURRENT DATA.
6:47:27PM BUT, YES, THAT IS THE ISSUE WE'RE MOST CONCERNED WITH.
6:47:30PM CURRENTLY, THE NUMBER IS AROUND $6.5 MILLION AVAILABLE IN
6:47:35PM THE CAPITAL FUND.
6:47:38PM 5 MILLION STILL LEAVES US SOME MONEY TO DO OTHER PROJECTS.
6:47:43PM PART OF OUR OVERALL FINANCE PLAN INCLUDES A LOT OF THE P-3
6:47:49PM KIND OF THINGS THAT ARE MOVING ON THREE DIFFERENT SITES.
6:47:52PM THE SPORTS PARK, THE HERTZ ARENA SITE, AND THE NORTH SIDE OF
6:47:57PM ESTERO RIVER PARK.

6:48:00PM HOW THOSE FUNDS, WHETHER THEY ARE INCOME OVER EACH YEAR OR
6:48:03PM WHETHER THEY ARE LUMP SUM PAYMENTS IS A QUESTION OF HOW WE
6:48:09PM PUT ALL THIS TOGETHER.
6:48:10PM WE'LL SIMPLY -- IT WILL BE COMPLEX AS WE GO YEAR TO YEAR,
6:48:14PM BUT, YES, WE BELIEVE WE HAVE FUNDS AND WE'LL GET INFORMATION
6:48:17PM FOR YOU.
6:48:18PM >>Jim Ward: I JUST THINK WE NEED TO RECOGNIZE PARTICULARLY
6:48:20PM IN THE FACE OF THE FACT THAT WE MAY BE LOOKING AT THE --
6:48:27PM >>Mayor Ribble: AD VALOREM?
6:48:28PM REDUCED AD VALOREM?
6:48:30PM >>Jim Ward: YEAH, REDUCED AD VALOREM BASED ON IF THE VOTE
6:48:33PM GOES THROUGH IN NOVEMBER, AND WHAT WE CURRENTLY HAVE IS A
6:48:37PM NET PROFIT, IF YOU WILL, REVENUES LESS EXPENSES, AND WHETHER
6:48:42PM WE CAN ACTUALLY FUND THE FIVE MILLION.
6:48:45PM FIVE MILLION OVER 20 YEARS, FOUR MILLION OVER THE NEXT 10.
6:48:53PM >>Mayor Ribble: ALL RIGHT.
6:48:54PM I THINK WE CAN ADJOURN.
6:48:55PM >>Carol Sacco: FOR THE RECORD, WE DO NOT HAVE PUBLIC
6:48:58PM COMMENT.
6:48:58PM >>Mayor Ribble: THANK YOU.
6:48:58PM ALL RIGHT.
6:48:59PM WE'RE FINISHED.
6:49:00PM SAFE TRAVELS HOME, EVERYONE.
6:49:02PM THANK YOU AGAIN.
6:49:04PM >>Carol Sacco: ARE WE GOING TO GET A MOTION?
6:49:08PM >>Mayor Ribble: I MADE THE MOTION.
6:49:10PM COUNCILMAN LOPEZ SECONDED IT.
6:49:15PM >> UNANIMOUS CONSENT.
6:49:16PM >>Mayor Ribble: YES.
6:49:19PM >> GOOD NIGHT, EVERYBODY.

DISCLAIMER:

THIS FILE REPRESENTS AN UNEDITED VERSION OF REALTIME CAPTIONING WHICH SHOULD NEITHER BE RELIED UPON FOR COMPLETE ACCURACY NOR USED AS A VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT.
ANY PERSON WHO NEEDS A VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT OF THE PROCEEDINGS MAY NEED TO HIRE A COURT REPORTER.