

From: John Holic

Sent: Wednesday, September 06, 2017 6:53 PM

To: Mike Rafferty <mer112693@aol.com>; City Council <CityCouncil@Venicegov.com>

Subject: Re: Flow Chart for City of Venice Operations

Dear Mr. Rafferty,

On behalf of Venice City Council, thank you for your comments. Although I cannot speak for all of council, I can assure you that most, if not all, of council is aware of the enclosed organizational chart.

Sincerely,

John Holic

Mayor, City of Venice

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From: Mike Rafferty <mer112693@aol.com>

Sent: Wednesday, September 6, 2017 6:40 PM

Subject: Fwd: Flow Chart for City of Venice Operations

To: City Council <citycouncil@venicegov.com>

Mayor/Council,

A friend asked me to forward the attached to you to hi-lite the flow of responsibility of government from/to the citizens of the City.

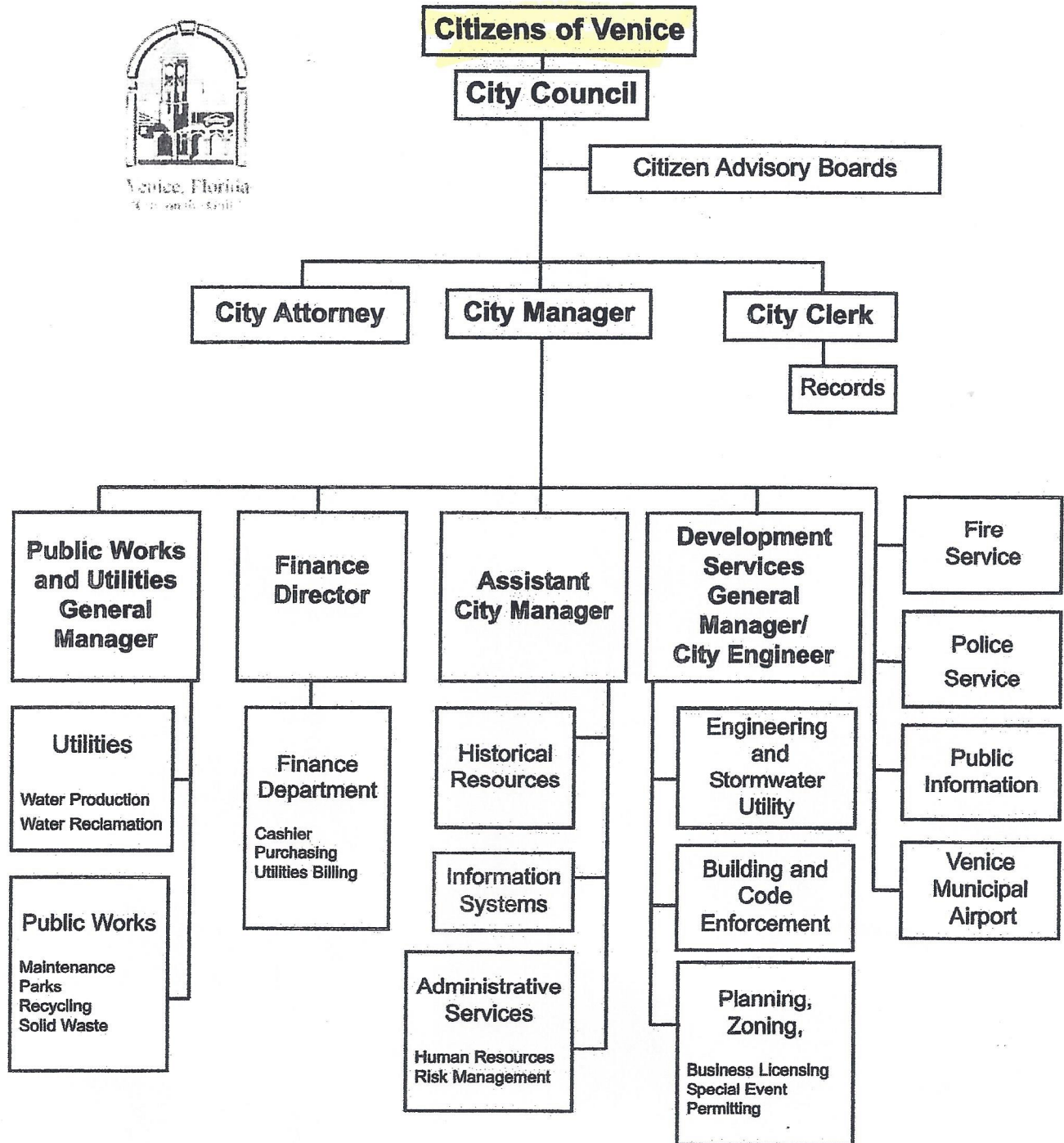
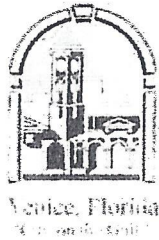
Looks like he wanted you folks to listen to all the NO's that have been registered on the Fire Fee proposal.

Regards,

Mike Rafferty

For Year 2008-2009

CITY OF VENICE ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



From: John Holic
Sent: Wednesday, September 06, 2017 7:42 PM
To: Red308 <red308@aol.com>; earle.kimel@heraldtribune.com
Cc: City Council <CityCouncil@Venicegov.com>; Shawn Carvey <SCarvey@Venicegov.com>
Subject: Re: Fire Dept.

Dear Mr. Viverito,
Thank you for your comments.
Sincerely,
John Holic
Mayor, City of Venice

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From: Red308 <red308@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 6, 2017 7:18 PM
Subject: Re: Fire Dept.
To: John Holic <jholic@venicegov.com>, <earle.kimel@heraldtribune.com>

Dear Mr Mayor,
I am not sending this to the Council since as far as I am concerned this is strictly a personal issue between the two of us, if you wish to send it on to them be my guest and go right ahead.
My comment was in no way derogatory it was an observation and an assumption with a bit of humor (I guess being Mayor you loose your sense of humor) because I was curious as to why the trucks were parked where they were on Memorial Day.
AS A MATTER OF FACT THE TRUCKS LOOKED PRETTY GOOD, I SEE NO REASON FOR NEW ONES.
Strange,why are training sessions held on a holiday like Memorial Day when that is a time when the fireman are need most to be on call due to BBQs,accidents,etc. and they are not in the firehouse they are out on the Gulf?
Your comment regarding me being derogatory is unwarranted,uncalled for, incite full and an accusation by a POLITICIAN. There was nothing "DEROGATORY" about my comment.
Now I could make quite a few derogatory comments, remarks and probably accusations about you (the ex broker and financial analyst), the Council and the Fire Dept but I won't since I am too much of a gentleman.
I learned derogatory remarks serve no purpose other than to anger people and for you to send me that email which to me was a total accusation,inflammatory and incite full did nothing but angered me.
All your email had to say was I was mistaken because it was a training session, that is the politically correct way to handle that type of correspondence from a citizen of your City.
Yes, tell the chief I would be extremely happy to go on a tour during the next training session and I will be more than willing to teach seamanship to one of his crew since I have been boating for 45 years.
Now if we can stop trading barbs and get down to business we will all be better off for it and maybe solve the problem at hand.
Best Wishes
Gerard Viverito

-----Original Message-----

From: John **Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.** <JHolic@Venicegov.com>
To: Red308 <red308@aol.com>; **Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.** <**Error! Hyperlink reference**

not valid.<heraldtribune.com>

Cc: City Council <CityCouncil@Venicegov.com>; Edward **Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.**

<ELavallee@Venicegov.com>; Shawn **Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.**

<SCarvey@Venicegov.com>

Sent: Wed, Sep 6, 2017 5:42 **Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.**

Subject: Re: Fire Dept.

Dear Mr. **Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.**,

On behalf of Venice City Council, thank you for your comment. Perhaps you should research your derogatory comments to see what is really happening versus making unwarranted assumptions. I am sure the Fire Chief would be happy to arrange a tour during the next training session on the fire boat if you would like.

Sincerely,

John **Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.**

Mayor, City of Venice

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From: Red308 <red308@aol.com>

Sent: Wednesday, September 6, 2017 5:18 PM

Subject: Fire Dept.

To: John **Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.** <jhollic@venicegov.com>, <**Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.**<heraldtribune.com>

I guess as I stated that gorgeous boat is a perk for the fire dept. On Memorial Day I drove past**Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.** Park and there were two fire trucks parked there with no one in them and the boat was gone, who paid for the fuel?. GONE FISHING?

Gerard **Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.**

From: John Holic
Sent: Wednesday, September 06, 2017 10:46 AM
To: anndan970@aol.com
Cc: City Council <CityCouncil@Venicegov.com>
Subject: RE: Fire Fees

Dear Mr. Rogers,
On behalf of Venice City Council, thank you for your comments.
Sincerely,
John Holic
Mayor, City of Venice

From: anndan970@aol.com [<mailto:anndan970@aol.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, September 06, 2017 10:17 AM
To: John Holic <JHolic@Venicegov.com>
Subject: Fire Fees

Mr Mayor:

Rather than create another fiasco similar to the first try at increasing the water fees, it would be my suggestion that Council vote to postpone action on this matter this year. Create a stakeholders committee, come back next year with a solid, well researched, fair and equitable recommended course of action to present to the public and voted on by Council.

Thanking you in advance for your favorable consideration of this matter.

Dan Rogers
Bird Bay Village

From: John Holic

Sent: Wednesday, September 06, 2017 10:59 AM

To: Cos Mallozzi <cmm871@yahoo.com>; City Council <CityCouncil@Venicegov.com>

Subject: RE: Let Stakeholder Group Study Fire Fee; Let's Get It Right from the Get-Go!

Dear Cos Mallozzi,

On behalf of Venice City Council, thank you for your comments.

Sincerely,

John Holic

Mayor, City of Venice

From: Cos Mallozzi [<mailto:cmm871@yahoo.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, September 06, 2017 10:12 AM

To: City Council <CityCouncil@Venicegov.com>

Subject: Let Stakeholder Group Study Fire Fee; Let's Get It Right from the Get-Go!

Mayor and City Council Members,

I strongly urge the Council to establish a Stakeholders Group to independently look at how best to support our Fire department, be it via better use of and accountability of City funds without tapping our reserves, a fair and equitable fire fee and or possible merger with Sarasota County or other measures that serve the best interest of our City of "Paradise."

I attended the fire fee informational session held at the Community Center and it was abundantly clear to me and others in the audience that there remains far more unanswered questions than answers and frankly I was not impressed with the Consultants answer to many of the questions. I walked away from that meeting confused and bewildered. Subsequent meetings at City Hall only exacerbated the situation with more misunderstandings and misstatements.

One of the solutions you will be voting on tomorrow is to approve a reduced fire fee and then let the Stakeholders Group take a look at it. **Honestly, this is not the way to govern on this important matter. Let's get it right from the get-go; let the Stakeholder Group do its job,** vet all potential solutions and make its recommendation to the Council. Passing a reduced fire fee is nothing more than a band-aid. As I have already stated, let's get it right from the get go!

Hopefully, tomorrow, September 7, you will vote unanimously to establish a Stakeholders Group which will consist of homeowners affected in different ways by a Fee, be it those living in condos, mobile home parks, established neighborhoods such as those on the Island and in newer developments like those found in northeast Venice. **This is a good thing.** This Group NEEDS to have the latitude to look at how best to fund the fire department.

Thank you for your consideration.

From a very concerned resident of Venice....

Cos Mallozzi

941-486-1239

cmm871@yahoo.com

GOOD MORNING MAYOR HOLIC, CITY MANAGER LAVALLEE AND DISTINGUISHED MEMBERS OF COUNCIL- MY NAME IS CHARLES ALFANO, AND I AM PROUD TO CALL VENICE MY HOME FOR MANY YEARS.

AFTER ATTENDING SEVERAL INFORMATIONAL FORUMS AND PUBLIC HEARINGS, I FEEL COMPELLED TO ADDRESS COUNCIL WITH COMMENTS, REGARDING THE PROPOSED FIRE FEE ASSESSMENT. FIRST AND FORMOST, I APPLAUD OUR FIRE CHIEF AND SUPPORT HIS STAFF OF FIRST RESPONDERS, ON THE EXEMPLARLY JOB THEY DO, IN SPITE OF THE OBVIOUS RISKS.

HOWEVER; THE PROPOSED FIRE FEE, ON ITS INDIVIDUAL MERIT, IS SEVERELY FLAWED, ON MANY LEVELS; SOME OF WHICH HAVE BEEN ARTICULATED BY PARTICIPANTS, AT PREVIOUS FORUMS AND PUBLIC HEARINGS.

WITHOUT GOING INTO THE OBVIOUS SHORTCOMINGS AND THE INEPT CONCLUSIONS PROVIDED BY STANTEC CONSULTING, A REASONABLE PERSON MIGHT QUESTION THE RESULTS OF THEIR REVIEW AND WHETHER THE COST TO TAXPAYERS WAS IN LINE WITH THEIR PRODUCTIVITY.

THE METHODOLOGY IN CALCULATING THE FEE, BASED ON ASSESSED VALUATION, AS IT APPLIES TO CONDOMINIUM OWNERS, HAS BEEN IDENTIFYABLY DETERMINED TO BE INEQUITABLE AND INCONSISTENT. YOU HAVE HEARD FROM YOUR CONSTITUENTS, NEIGHBORS AND TAXPAYERS AS THEY HAVE QUATIFIED HOW ONEROUS THIS FEE WOULD BE, ESPECIALLY TO SOMEONE ON A FIXED INCOME. TO ADOPT THIS PROPOSAL IN ITS PRESENT FORMAT AND TWEAK IT LATER WILL ONLY LEAD TO FURTHER CONSTERNATION AND POSSIBLE LITIGATION. THE IDEA TO REFER THE FIRE FEE PROPOSAL TO A CITIZENS TASK FORCE OR STAKEHOLDERS GROUP IS APPROPRIATE, AND WILL PROVIDE TRANSPARANCY AND RESTORE CONFIDENCE, TRUST AND CREDIBILITY TO A CHALLENGED SYSTEM.

ON BEHALF OF THE TAXPAYERS OF VENICE AND MEMBERS OF THE VENICE CONDO & HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION I APPEAL TO YOUR GOOD JUDGEMENT AND DEDICATION TO YOUR CONSTITUENCY TO OPPOSE THIS PROPOSED SPECIAL ASSESSMENT IN ITS PRESENT FORM. PLEASE PONDER ALL THE FACTS AND CONTEMPLATE ALL THE DIRECT AND UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES.

I THINK BY NOW, YOU MUST REALIZE THAT THE CONSENSUS OF PUBLIC OPINION, IS TO FUND THE IMMEDIATE NEEDS OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT THROUGH BUDGETARY ADJUSTMENTS, INCLUDING THE USE OF RESERVES, AND THEN, REVIEW AND CONSIDER ALTERNATIVE FUNDING METHODS.

THE FINAL PROCESS SHOULD INCLUDE A PUBLIC REFERRENDUM IN WHICH THE TAXPAYERS ARE ABLE TO REVIEW ALL OPTIONS AND VOTE ACCORDINGLY.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME, SERVICE AND ATTENTION TO THE DETAILS SURROUNDING THIS MATTER.

CHARLES J. ALFANO, PRESIDENT (VENICE CONDO AND HOA)

From: John Holic

Sent: Wednesday, September 06, 2017 1:17 PM

To: James Gibson <galleon300@yahoo.com>; City Council <CityCouncil@Venicegov.com>

Subject: Re: fire assessment tax

Dear Mr. Gibson,

On behalf of Venice City Council, thank you for your comments.

Sincerely,

John Holic

Mayor, City of Venice

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From: James Gibson <galleon300@yahoo.com>

Sent: Wednesday, September 6, 2017 11:33 AM

Subject: fire assessment tax

To: City Council <citycouncil@venicegov.com>

mayor and council members

I would like to protest to you in the strongest possible terms, the adoption of this fire assessment tax. and yes, it is a tax, you are using the Sarasota County Tax Collectors office to enforce the collection of this tax under penalty of a tax lien or loss of title if we cannot pay it. we have heard for a number of years that the fire dept. pension fund was underfunded and I believe that most of us thought that a modest millage increase would remedy this situation. but, to say that you need a tax increase of 4 million dollars a year, 50% of the fire dept. yearly budget, is way over the top. you are saying that you need this money for "other needed projects", "governmental activities" frankly, this sounds like typical politicians nonsense talk. just exactly what are you talking about, and why have we not heard EXACTLY what you are planning to do with these taxpayer funds. are we going to get more "free" trolley buses, maybe a few more electronic signs. your intentions are not supposed to be kept a secret among yourselves as of right now this assessment appears to be nothing more than a money grab by the mayor and council for whatever pet project that they may have in mind now and in the future. this is not like a bond issue that will eventually be paid off. this EXTRA TAX is going to go on forever, and this amount is not needed to shore up the pension fund and would be a shameful thing to pass on to the taxpayers of the city of Venice. James J. Gibson

From: Mike Rafferty [mailto:mer112693@aol.com]

Sent: Wednesday, September 06, 2017 12:49 PM

To: City Council <CityCouncil@Venicegov.com>

Cc: Lori Stelzer <LStelzer@Venicegov.com>; Edward Lavalley <ELavalley@Venicegov.com>

Subject: Who's Payroll is Atty Chris Roe on (Stantec or City)

Mayor,

I followed up on this question with Lori and she checked with Linda (Finance).....bottom line is that Chris is engaged by Stantec and billed out by Stantec.

The "Fox guarding the Hen House" scenario!

I have a public records request with Lori for any and all info on billings involving Chris Roe (asked Lori to provide a copy to the Mayor as well).

I have yet to shake out the authorship of the revised resolution included in the Agenda material for tomorrow's Hearing and if our City Lawyer had an opportunity to review..

I will check with Ed later today when I come down for your 2 pm meeting.

Regards,

Mike Rafferty

From: Mike Rafferty [mailto:mer112693@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, September 06, 2017 6:26 AM
To: City Council <CityCouncil@Venicegov.com>
Subject: Fwd: Stantec's 9/2017 Final Addendum Falls Short of being "Fair and Equitable"

Subject: Stantec's 9/2017 Final Addendum Falls Short of being "Fair and Equitable"

Mayor and Council,

I'm wading through the latest from Stantec....9/1/17 Revised Resolution (from 11 pages in the original resolution vetted at the 8/16 info sessions, presented at the 8/21 Hearing, and considered again at the 8/28 Special Council Meeting to the 23 page resolution now on the 9/7 Public Hearing agenda.....12 additional pages of legalize obviously in response to the public outcry and an obvious invitation to litigation)

and the 9/1/17 Final Addendum by Stantec (apparently augmenting the detailed memo of 8/25/2017 from Linda Senne thru the City Manager attempting to mitigate the objections of condominium owners who clearly have a legitimate claim that the current proposal does not stand the test of being "fairly and reasonably apportioned among the properties that receive the special benefit"; there is also another test that the process must also be "fair and equitable", which requirement is also not met.

In the "Final Addendum", it should be noted that the average value of residential property is \$14.54 per square foot. The concept of an "average value for Venice property is at best, an enormous stretch. Attached is a sort of the Stantec Table 1 showing a range in their data from \$4.35 per square foot to \$37.24 per square foot, from which an average of \$14.54 was derived and then used for land credit adjustments for the Tier 2 calculation for condominium. Stantec's data for single family land was expanded as shown on the attached with a resulting range of \$6.37 per square foot to \$69.98 per square foot.

The higher number within the added set represents beachfront property. Many of the condominium units in the City mix are high rise along the beach as well as the Mike Miller Complex on the Intracoastal.

Stantec claims "Such a revision to the treatment of condominium parcels in Tier 2 reflects a reasoned and logical approach to addressing the specific circumstances and parcel configuration present in the City based upon available data, and in our estimation, is reasonable in light of the specific circumstances and parcel configuration present in the City."

Reasonable it may or may not be, however the test is ***fair and equitable! Which it is not***

Is it fair and equitable to use an average land value of \$14.54 per square foot for a condominium unit located on the beach when beachfront property has a value of \$69.98 per square foot? Is it fair and equitable to use an average land value of \$14.54 per square foot for a condominium unit located in Mike Miller's High-Rise Complex on the Intracoastal when upscale property has a value of \$37.22 per square foot?

NO! It is not ***fair and equitable!***

The Final Addendum Fix as a last-minute effort to solve the fatal flaw identified by condominium owners does not solve the issue.

As we head into the 9/7 Final Hearing, it is clear that the ground for a class action has been set including the condominium owners, mobile home owners in resident owned parks, and commercial activities like the owners of the St Andrews Surgical Site Complex. These folks have made it clear they will take any and all necessary steps to protect their interest, including initiation of proper steps in a court of competent

jurisdiction to secure relief within twenty (20) days from the date of the City Council's adoption of this Final Assessment Resolution.

Please vote No on the Fire Fee Proposal and send the entire funding issue of the Fire Dept. to the Stakeholders Group

Thank you,

Mike Rafferty

Att.: Stantec Avg Land Value Calcs

Stantec FINAL ADDENDUM Sep 1, 2017 Table 1

(Sorted in asending order)

	Square Feet (sf)	Land Value (\$)	Average/sf (\$/sf)	\$/acre
4 FAM & OTHER	55659	\$ 242,200.00	\$ 4.35	\$ 189,551.23
MF >100	633362	\$ 3,060,000.00	\$ 4.83	\$ 210,454.05
MF 50-99	647260	\$ 3,356,000.00	\$ 5.18	\$ 225,855.70
CCRC	2067650	\$ 12,428,700.00	\$ 6.01	\$ 261,840.34
3 FAM	214334	\$ 1,377,100.00	\$ 6.43	\$ 279,873.82
MULTIPLE SF	1443404	\$ 12,231,200.00	\$ 8.47	\$ 369,121.24
MF 20-49	136389	\$ 1,518,100.00	\$ 11.13	\$ 484,851.68
SF ATT END	1634790	\$ 22,118,900.00	\$ 13.53	\$ 589,371.90
S F DET	63922095	\$ 919,703,700.00	\$ 14.39	\$ 626,736.24
MF 5-9 UNITS	206742	\$ 3,850,600.00	\$ 18.63	\$ 811,311.37
3 FAM 7 OTHER	39485	\$ 781,900.00	\$ 19.80	\$ 862,595.01
MF 10-19	154894	\$ 3,165,400.00	\$ 20.44	\$ 890,188.28
2 FAM & OTHER	103576	\$ 2,146,600.00	\$ 20.72	\$ 902,775.70
2 FAM	836682	\$ 17,913,500.00	\$ 21.41	\$ 932,626.80
MULT 2 FAM	29994	\$ 667,600.00	\$ 22.26	\$ 969,549.11
SF OTHER	442350	\$ 10,004,400.00	\$ 22.62	\$ 985,173.88
4 FAM	72804	\$ 1,824,500.00	\$ 25.06	\$ 1,091,632.60
MF 20-49 MIX USE	18295	\$ 473,800.00	\$ 25.90	\$ 1,128,107.57
MFG RES	3243181	\$ 85,010,600.00	\$ 26.21	\$ 1,141,799.28
MU MIX	81926	\$ 2,406,800.00	\$ 29.38	\$ 1,279,693.97
SF ATT INSIDE	12582	\$ 468,600.00	\$ 37.24	\$ 1,622,334.76
				\$ -
	75,997,454	\$ 1,104,750,200.00	\$ 14.54	\$ 633,217.51

Expand Stantec Data Set to Consider range of Single Family Land

(Sorted in asending order)

	Square Feet (sf)	Land Value (\$)	Average/sf (\$/sf)	\$/acre
1239 Schooner Ln (1)	11200	\$ 71,300.00	\$ 6.37	\$ 277,306.07
1330 Berkshire Ct (2)	6343	\$ 42,599.00	\$ 6.72	\$ 292,544.92
501 Valencia Rd (3)	13500	\$ 265,600.00	\$ 19.67	\$ 857,002.67
745 Eagle Point Dr (4)	15507	\$ 577,200.00	\$ 37.22	\$ 1,621,385.95
711 Valencia Rd (5)	21955	\$ 1,536,500.00	\$ 69.98	\$ 3,048,505.58

Notes

- (1) Zoned PUD Res SF Use, Off Island
- (2) Zoned PUD Res SF Use, Off Island
- (3) Zoned RSF-3 SF Det Use, On Island
- (4) Zoned RMF-1 Res SF, Up scale comparable location to many high rise condo units
- (5) Zoned RSF-2 Res SF, Beachfront property comparable location to many condo units

From: Joe Terranova [mailto:jatnova@cox.net]

Sent: Wednesday, September 06, 2017 7:53 AM

To: City Council <CityCouncil@Venicegov.com>; John Holic <JHolic@Venicegov.com>; Kit McKeon <KMCKEON@venicegov.com>; Richard Cautero <RCautero@Venicegov.com>; Robert Daniels <RDaniels@Venicegov.com>; Fred Fraize <FFraize@Venicegov.com>; Jeanette Gates <JGates@Venicegov.com>; Deborah Anderson <DAnderson@Venicegov.com>; Edward Lavallee <ELavallee@Venicegov.com>; Lenox E. Bramble <LBramble@Venicegov.com>; Lorraine Anderson <LAnderson@Venicegov.com>; Linda Senne <LSenne@Venicegov.com>; Joe Welch <JWelch@Venicegov.com>

Cc: 'Joseph Terranova' <jatnova@cox.net>; 'Sally Terranova - Gmail' <swtnova@gmail.com>

Subject: Objection to City of Venice / Fire Protection Special Assessment - Ordinance 2017-23

Venice City Officials,

The purpose of this email is to reiterate our strong objection to the Fire Protection Special Assessment. As currently proposed, the fire assessment fee is unfair and not equitable to various property owners, i.e., condominium owners, mobile park residents and commercial property owners. Alternate methods of funding the fire department need to be developed that is fair to all property owners.

Thank you,

Joseph A. Terranova
Sarah W. Terranova

427 Nokomis Ave S
Venice, FL 34285

401 559-7964

-----Original Message-----

From: Fred Williamson [mailto:fwmsn1@verizon.net]

Sent: Tuesday, September 05, 2017 10:36 AM

To: City Council <CityCouncil@Venicegov.com>

Subject:

Mayor Holic and members of the council. I respectfully request that in your upcoming discussion of the "fire fee" you refer this issue to a citizen advisory group for further study. If done well such a group could do more than kick the can down the road and get some genuine citizen support. Thank you, Fred Williamson, Venice resident.

Sent from my iPhone

-----Original Message-----

From: Regina Freeburn [mailto:rbfreeburn@verizon.net]

Sent: Tuesday, September 05, 2017 1:05 PM

To: City Council <CityCouncil@Venicegov.com>

Subject: Fire Fee

As a condo owner in Bird Bay Village, I am writing in opposition to the current form of the proposed fire fee. My understanding is we will be assessed a fee equivalent to a single family home almost three times the size of our condo. On top of the recent bond issue this presents an onerous and unfair fee.

Please reconsider this flawed proposal. Fund it now through budgetary adjustments and reserves then refer it to a stakeholders group of Venice taxpayers for further analysis.

Sincerely

Barry Freeburn

736 White Pine Tree Road

Venice, FL

Sent from my iPad

From: John Holic

Sent: Tuesday, September 05, 2017 4:05 AM

To: Ad & Donna Boyer <aboyer9898@aol.com>; City Council <CityCouncil@Venicegov.com>

Subject: Re: City Fire Fee Public Hearing _ Sept 7,2017

Dear Ms. Boyer,

On behalf of Venice City Council, thank you for your comments.

Sincerely

John Holic

Mayor, City of Venice

From: Ad & Donna Boyer <aboyer9898@aol.com>

Sent: Monday, September 4, 2017 9:12:59 PM

To: City Council

Subject: City Fire Fee Public Hearing _ Sept 7,2017

Mayor & City Council Members:

Unfortunately I will be out of the country when the above captioned hearing is held so I am writing to provide my input. As I indicated at the initial public informational meeting that was held at the Venice Community Center, I support the Fire Department and want to ensure that they have the tools they need to provide the community with the vital and necessary services. However, I am also outraged at the attempt by the city to enact a City Fire Fee without concurrently disclosing this proposed fee at the time the City proposed the two bond referendums on the ballot last year. There is just no excuse for this lack of transparency. What is perhaps the most outrageous is that this has been a known issue, kicked around for years by prior councils and yet the public was not advised when they were voting to approve the bond issues that an even bigger financial impact was looming and would soon be imposed upon them.....and that this was one over which they would not opportunity to veto in a referendum. In addition, the methodology chosen to establish the fee is flawed in many ways, is inequitable and does not include a very important component: the input from the stakeholders, we the paying public.

Perhaps the most egregious aspect of the proposal, aside from the timing and lack of transparency is that while there has been a great deal of rationalization as to why the money is needed, I do not see where the council has done what every individual has to do regarding their own finances: sit down and decide what has to be cut to pay for this capital expenditure. In other words, as was asked at the forum, where are the proposed budget cuts to make the budget more revenue neutral? Yes, there are a lot of "needs" in the budget, but there are also a lot of "wants".....both need to be looked at and perhaps some hard choices made to see where they rank relative to the needs of the Fire Department. Why should the budget considerations that every citizen has to deal with on a personal level not be a consideration in this circumstance? When faced with financial challenges, as individuals, we don't have the luxury of just deciding that we need more moneyunless we're willing to go into debt..... which makes us think twice about whether the money is really needed now and re-evaluate our priorities and perhaps sacrifice our immediate needs or cut expenses elsewhere. Why should this issue be any different. Has the council looked at what can be cut from the budget to fund the Fire Department capital expenses? All of us individually have to find ways to live within our means.....nor should the city be exempt from having to do so as well. Yes, the financial situation may not be of the current council's making, but like everyone else who has ever worked in management, no one cares about what happened in the past because those people are long gone and it's now your responsibility to balance the budget and make it work.

It also did not go unnoticed by many of us that the building occupied by the police department which, ostensibly is in such deplorable condition and supposedly too expensive to fix, is now going to be occupied by the Public Works Department.....clearing the way for the city to sell between five and seven

acres in the Seaboard district for redevelopment. Why isn't the money from this sale used to fund the Fire Fee instead of the 1% sales tax that residents also generously agreed to extend and which will be in place for another 7 years? What happens at the end of the 7 years.....are we again going to be asked to extend the sales tax to fund an ever increasing budget? Why are the proceeds from the sale of that land not being used instead of, as was reported, to fund some other as yet unnamed project? One thing I know for sure is that there are few if any of us who thought these funds would be used to perpetuate an increasing and ballooning budget.

I respectfully ask the council to vote against imposing the City Fire Fee until such time as other alternatives, including but not limited to a re-examination of the budget to redirect existing funds is explored, a fairer and more equitable methodology is developed, total transparency, a more thorough and thoughtful plan that will not be unlimited and unending and one that more fairly spreads the financial burden. This is not a question of whether the needs of the Fire Department are justified.....we all know and want to support them. But we all also have to learn to live within our means and that includes our public entities.

Sincerely,

Donna L. Boyer

From: John Holic

Sent: Monday, September 04, 2017 8:28 PM

To: Thomas W Jones <twjonesy@icloud.com>; City Council <CityCouncil@Venicegov.com>

Subject: Re: Fire fee project

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Jones,

On behalf of Venice City Council, thank you for your comments.

Sincerely,

John Holic

Mayor, City of Venice

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From: Thomas W Jones <twjonesy@icloud.com>

Sent: Monday, September 4, 2017 5:20:29 PM

To: City Council

Subject: Fire fee project

Dear Mayor Holic and Council -

We would like to encourage you to put the Fire Fee project on hold. Establishing a stakeholder group is a good solution to step back and gather input from a full range of Venice residents. Making a hasty decision this month is not in the best interests of the City, and we urge you to find a better way to fund our fire department.

Thank you,

Tom & Pat Jones

North Venice

From: John Holic

Sent: Monday, September 04, 2017 3:22 PM

To: Carol Orenstein <corenstein@gmail.com>; City Council <CityCouncil@Venicegov.com>

Subject: Re: VOTE NO FOR THE FIRE FEE ON SEPTEMBER 7TH

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Orenstein,

On behalf of Venice City Council, thank you for your comments.

Sincerely,

John Holic

Mayor, City of Venice

From: Carol Orenstein <corenstein@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, September 4, 2017 10:39:00 AM

To: City Council

Subject: Fwd: VOTE NO FOR THE FIRE FEE ON SEPTEMBER 7TH

Mayor and City Council Members,

We are writing to you regarding our disapproval of the Fire Fee (even at a reduced fee assessment) and ask that you vote NO on September 7th.

We believe that 2 things are needed before measures are taken to pass any Fire Fee that would affect Venice residents

1. We would like to see Council establish a Stakeholders Group to consist of a representative sampling of those who might be affected by the Fee in the future, including those living in condos, mobile home parks, established communities, etc. This group should be charged with how to best fund the fire department.

2. We believe the Fire Fee Resolution as it is presently written needs to be thoroughly scrutinized before it is in ANY way imposed on the citizens of Venice. The Mayor and Members of the City Council need to be completely clear on all the details as to how this Fire Fee would affect our residents. Given the flaws that exist in the work done by the consultant, it is not reasonable that enforcing any Fire Fee at this time is prudent.

We ask that you take the time to get Stakeholder input and get the facts straight before enacting any Fire Fee. We believe that financing of the Fire Department should be done through General Funds for another year----- even if the millage rate remains at its current level of 3.6 mils.

We ask that you take these thoughts into consideration and Vote NO for the Fire Fee on September 7th.

Sincerely,

Harry and Carol Orenstein

153 Montelluna Drive

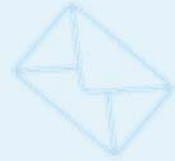
North Venice, FL 34275

From: John Holic
Sent: Monday, September 04, 2017 3:20 PM
To: thomaswdepper@att.net; City Council <CityCouncil@Venicegov.com>
Subject: Re: Fire Fees

Dear Mr. Depper,
On behalf of Venice City Council, thank you for your comments.
Sincerely,
John Holic
Mayor, City of Venice

From: thomaswdepper@att.net <thomaswdepper@att.net>
Sent: Monday, September 4, 2017 10:49:18 AM
To: City Council
Subject: Fire Fees

Dear Mr. Mayor and Council Members.
Can you explain to me why you should charge only \$2.64 year Fire Fee for a manufactured home in rental park and \$341.92 fire fee in a Resident Owned Community?
A manufactured will burn just as fast whether it is in a rental community or a ROC.
Regards.
Thomas W. Depper
106 First St.
Harbor Lights
617 Tamiami Tr. N.
Venice Fl. 34285



From: John Holic

Sent: Monday, September 04, 2017 4:53 AM

To: John Freedman <castputt@gmail.com>; City Council <CityCouncil@Venicegov.com>

Subject: Re: Fire Fee

Dear Dr. Freedman,

On behalf of Venice City Council, thank you for your comments.

Sincerely,

John Holic

Mayor, City of Venice

From: John Freedman <castputt@gmail.com>

Sent: Sunday, September 3, 2017 11:02:14 PM

To: City Council

Subject: Fire Fee

Dear City Council:

If indeed the City Council is elected to serve and also represent the citizens of Venice, then it must act to allow input from the people regarding the proposed Fire Fee.

It would be an error to pass any resolution before a committee of stakeholders is allowed to research and review the Fire Fee proposal and return any conclusions and recommendations to the City Council.

Let the people be heard.

Yours truly,

John T Freedman, DDS
282 Montelluna Drive
North Venice, FL

From: John Holic
Sent: Sunday, September 03, 2017 8:29 PM
To: Phil Chaput <phillipchaput@sbcglobal.net>
Cc: City Council <CityCouncil@Venicegov.com>; elavalee@venicegiv.com
Subject: Re: The Fire Fee.

Thank you.
John Holic

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From: Phil Chaput <phillipchaput@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Sunday, September 3, 2017 6:08:39 PM
To: John Holic
Cc: City Council; elavalee@Venicegiv.com
Subject: Re: The Fire Fee.

Signed: Phil and Leslie Chaput
157 Treviso Court, North Venice FL

LJC 860.463.3222. iPhone

On Sep 3, 2017, at 5:20 PM, John Holic <JHolic@Venicegov.com> wrote:

Dear Unsigned,
On behalf of Venice City Council, thank you for your comments.
Sincerely,
John Holic
Mayor, City of Venice

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From: Phil Chaput <phillipchaput@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Sunday, September 3, 2017 2:41:53 PM
To: City Council
Subject: The Fire Fee.

We believe that it is your fiduciary duty to make decisions on my tax obligations that are understandable. We have read the materials that were mailed and they are vague as to what the need is and what our obligation will be in the end. We can only surmise that it will be daunting. Before you go forward with your vote, we would hope that you would fulfill your obligation to make it clear what every citizen has an obligation for and that you do not add to the chaos with your vote. You will be held accountable.

LJC 860.463.3222. iPhone

From: Maureen Rogers [mailto:shingles1749@yahoo.com]

Sent: Sunday, September 03, 2017 7:36 PM

To: City Council <CityCouncil@Venicegov.com>

Subject: Fire fee

We strongly oppose a fire fee being imposed and would like a further investigation into this matter for other recommendations.

John and Maureen Rogers

194 Trevino CRT.

N.Venice,Florida

From: John Holic

Sent: Sunday, September 03, 2017 5:19 PM

To: John Michaelson <jdm3838@aol.com>; City Council <CityCouncil@Venicegov.com>

Subject: Re: Fire Fee

Dear Mr. Michaelson,

On behalf of Venice City Council, thank you for your comments.

Sincerely,

John Holic

Mayor, City of Venice

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From: John Michaelson <jdm3838@aol.com>

Sent: Sunday, September 3, 2017 2:48 PM

Subject: Fire Fee

To: City Council <citycouncil@venicegov.com>

Please allow the stakeholder study to review the Fire Fee proposal which I do not support. Thank you

John Michaelson

130 Martellago drive

N. Venice, Fl.

Sent from my iPad

From: John Holic

Sent: Sunday, September 03, 2017 5:18 PM

To: john drish <winmodel21@aol.com>; City Council <CityCouncil@Venicegov.com>

Subject: Re: Fire Fee

Dear Mr. And Mrs. Drish,

On behalf of Venice City Council, thank you for your comments.

Sincerely,

John Holic

Mayor, City of Venice

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From: john drish <winmodel21@aol.com>

Sent: Sunday, September 3, 2017 2:54 PM

Subject: Fire Fee

To: City Council <citycouncil@venicegov.com>

Please move forward with the Citizens Stake-Holders group to form a plan in regard to the "Fire Fee"! Please put the existing Plan on hold for now.

Thank you. Jan & John Drish

241 Pesaro Dr

North Venice Florida

Sent from my iPad

From: John Holic

Sent: Sunday, September 03, 2017 10:36 AM

To: Mary Abbruzzese <maryabb113@comcast.net>; City Council <CityCouncil@Venicegov.com>

Subject: Re: Fire Fee

Dear Ms. Abbruzzese,

On behalf of Venice City Council, thank you for your comments.

Sincerely,

John Holic

Mayor, City of Venice

From: Mary Abbruzzese <maryabb113@comcast.net>

Sent: Sunday, September 3, 2017 10:06:21 AM

To: City Council

Subject: Fire Fee

Dear Council Members,

As a resident of Venice I ask that you delay the Fire Fee action until more studies can be put in place and reviewed. It is important to the citizens of our city to have a better understanding as to what the fee does and does not encompass. It is also imperative that we know how this will affect the many property owners of Venice and the types of housing involved.

I ask that you please take the time to study this resolution making sure there are no errors or omissions and that this is thoroughly reviewed before this is imposed on the residents of Venice.

*Cordially,
Mary Abbruzzese
113 Tiziano Way
North Venice 34275*

From: John Holic
Sent: Friday, September 01, 2017 5:17 PM
To: capt.joe33@gmail.com; City Council <CityCouncil@Venicegov.com>
Subject: Re: Proposed Venice "Fire Fee"

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Johnson,
On behalf of Venice City Council, thank you for your comments.
Sincerely,
John Holic
Mayor, City of Venice

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From: Joe Johnson <capt.joe33@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, September 1, 2017 3:46:50 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Fwd: Proposed Venice "Fire Fee"

Date: Fri, Sep 1, 2017 at 3:42 PM
Subject: Proposed Venice "Fire Fee"

At this point, we are adamantly opposed to the imposition of a "fire fee" on the taxpayers of Venice. We have, to this point, adequately funded Fire Department activities through existing taxation schemes and, if you really wanted to, could continue to do so. The "Fire Fee" is "the easy way out" of this perceived quagmire, but, is grossly unfair to the Tax Paying and **VOTING MEMBERS** of the community. We do not believe the issue was adequately vetted by all the stakeholders in this proposed action. Nor was there adequate time or resources allotted to the assembly, education and informed discussion by the voting stakeholders.

We believe the VOTERS would be best served by tabling any action regarding this matter until the whole community has had an opportunity to fully understand the current proposals (with their attendant ramifications), explore alternative ways to address the "perceived" funding shortfalls, and agree to support a fair and equitable solution for all stakeholders.

Sincerely,`

Joseph & Gloria Johnson
125 Bellini Ct.
North Venice, FL.

From: John Holic

Sent: Friday, September 01, 2017 5:16 PM

To: DIANE FITZGERALD <dianeflorida@msn.com>; City Council <CityCouncil@Venicegov.com>

Subject: Re: Fire fee

Dear Ms. Fitzgerald,

On behalf of Venice City Council, thank you for your comments.

Sincerely,

John Holic

Mayor, City of Venice

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From: DIANE FITZGERALD <dianeflorida@msn.com>

Sent: Friday, September 1, 2017 4:18:38 PM

To: City Council

Subject: Fire fee

Please do not implement a fire fee until there have been more hearings for the public. Our taxes are already high and this fee seems like gouging. The documents emailed out are very confusing and really provide no reasonable justification as to why this fee is even being imposed.

Diane Fitzgerald

125 Mestre Pl

Sent from my iPhone

From: John Holic
Sent: Friday, September 01, 2017 5:15 PM
To: candrews5643@comcast.net; City Council <CityCouncil@Venicegov.com>
Cc: Cindy Andrews <candrews5643@comcast.net>
Subject: Re: Proposed Fire Fee for Venice Residents

Dear Ms. Andrews,
On behalf of Venice City Council, thank you for your comments.
Sincerely,
John Holic
Mayor, City of Venice

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From: candrews5643@comcast.net
Sent: Friday, September 1, 2017 3:36 PM
Subject: Proposed Fire Fee for Venice Residents
To: City Council <citycouncil@venicegov.com>
Cc: Cindy Andrews <candrews5643@comcast.net>

Dear MAYOR AND city Council Members,
I am emailing youall to ask that you not vote for or against the proposed Venice fire Fee until the matter has been fully vetted by a citizens stakeholders group. This would be, I think, a very fair way to proceed on behalf of Venice residents especially given the magnitude and importance of such a matter.
Thank you for serving and for your consideration of my request,
Cynthia Andrews, Venice Resident

Sent from XFINITY Connect Mobile App