

**WEST VILLAGES IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
FISCAL YEAR 2023/2024 BUDGET WORKSHOP
JUNE 19, 2023**

A. CALL TO ORDER

The June 19, 2023, Fiscal Year 2023/2024 Budget Workshop of the West Villages Improvement District (“WVID” or the “District”) was called to order at 1:00 p.m. in the Training Room of the Public Safety Building located at 19955 Preto Boulevard, Venice, Florida 34293.

B. PROOF OF PUBLICATION

Proof of publication was presented which showed the notice of the Fiscal Year 2023/2024 Budget Workshop had been published in the *Sarasota Herald-Tribune* on June 9, 2023 as legally required.

C. ROLL CALL

The following Supervisors were present:

Chairman	John Luczynski	Present in person
Supervisor	John Meisel	Present in person

Staff members in attendance were:

District Manager	William Crosley	Special District Services, Inc.
District Manager	Todd Wodraska (via phone)	Special District Services, Inc.
District Manager	Michael McElligott (via phone)	Special District Services, Inc.
District Manager	Michelle Krizen	Special District Services, Inc.
District Counsel	Lindsay Whelan	Kutak Rock LLP

The following District residents were also present:

Rasha Buzan, Steve Glunt, Victor Dobrin, Mary Ellen Donner, Ghyll and Bruce Theurer

Mr. Crosley presented an overview of the current proposed fiscal year 2023/2024 budget by unit and explained line item revenue and expenses. Discussion topics with members of the public included the following:


- The Islandwalk outfall project and which Unit of Development should bear the costs. Staff explained that the proposed expense was split between Unit of Development No. 2 and Unit of Development No. 6. Mr. Meisel and Mr. Dobrin felt that the cost should instead be accounted for in Unit of Development No. 1 and Unit of Development No. 6. Board Members, staff, and members of the public had discussions about the rationale for which Units of Development benefit from this work. Staff indicated that it was willing to consider reallocating these costs in the final proposed budget presented to the Board at the June 27th Board of Supervisors’ meeting.

- The assessment for the Gran Paradiso Property Owners Association irrigation lawsuit expenses and where they should be applied. Staff explained that these costs are currently being incurred in Unit of Development No. 3 for FY 2023 since that is the development that filed the lawsuit against the District, but the current proposed budget includes a special assessment in Unit of Development No. 6 for litigation-associated costs. Staff explained that Unit of Development No. 6 is the utility enterprise fund set up for operation of the District’s irrigation utility program, and staff felt was the appropriate Unit of Development to assess for the defense of the lawsuit which is essentially an operating cost of the irrigation utility. However, it constitutes an extraordinary cost that was not anticipated in the ratemaking process so a special assessment was most appropriate. Staff explained that this is a similar process as the City or utility imposing a short-term tax or rate increase to fund hurricane-related expenses. Mr. Meisel inquired as to what would happen to the money collected by the special assessment for FY 2023 litigation expenses. Staff explained that the funds would be used to replenish the Unit of Development No. 3 operating account for FY 2023 litigation expenses incurred, and the remainder would stay in the Unit of Development No. 6 operating account to fund FY 2024 anticipated litigation expenses. Mr. Meisel stated that he believed the irrigation litigation costs should be included in Unit 3 until the sunshine claim was alleged.
- Unit of Development No. 3 road resurfacing assessments. Mr. Luczynski discussed the rationale of why the District includes costs for future road resurfacing in its budget on an annual basis. This is done so that when the resurfacing work is needed the District does not need to do a one-time assessment in a high amount. Staff indicated that this is prudent and a fiscally responsible budgeting practice for future capital repair and replacement activities. Staff and Mr. Luczynski answered resident questions as to the proposed timing, location, and cost of resurfacing activities.

No Board action was taken at this Workshop Meeting.

D. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to address, the Fiscal Year 2023/2024 Budget Workshop was adjourned at 2:50 p.m. There were no objections.


Secretary/Assistant Secretary


Chair/Vice Chair