

Item # 51

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL

Regular Meeting

MARCH 28, 2019

SUBMITTED AT THE REQUEST OF

COUNTY ADMINISTRATION



CITY COMMISSION

Rex Hardin, Mayor

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March 21, 2019

Commissioner Nan Rich
Broward County Governmental Center
115 South Andrews Ave., Room 414
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

Via Email: nrich@broward.org

Dear Commissioner Rich:

HURRICANE SHELTER STAFFING

Thank you for the opportunity to express our concern regarding the hurricane shelter staffing issue which is scheduled for discussion at the March 28, 2019 County Commission hearing. Pompano Beach is poised to be a constructive partner in meeting this important public safety need.

As you may know, Pompano has been specifically impacted by the County staff's initial approach to resolving this matter due to the fact that we had an applicant with a Land Use Plan Amendment (Hidden Harbour LUPA) going through the process when this issue came to light. County Planning staff's partial solution was to require the City to commit 19 staff members to work at the Pompano High School hurricane shelter for the foreseeable future as a condition of approval for that LUPA. There was no rational nexus presented between the shelter demand generated by the Hidden Harbour LUPA and the 19 City of Pompano Beach staff members being required to work at the shelter. Approval of the Hidden Harbour LUPA, therefore, should not be conditioned on the City providing hurricane shelter staff.

If the County has concerns about the current ability to staff emergency shelters, Pompano is willing to work towards a solution alongside all of the other cities (through such organizations as BCCMA) to address the issue before the next hurricane season, rather than have it imposed piecemeal, and only on coastal communities, through the Planning Council land use plan amendment process. This is an existing issue that came to light as a result of Hurricane Irma. It is not a problem being created incrementally by new growth. Tying the solution to new growth will not comprehensively address the existing problem, is not legally defensible and is not equitable.

On June 28, 2018, Mayor Furr sent a letter (email) to municipalities letting cities know that the County and School Board reached an Agreement on staffing the shelters. Any further agreement for shelter staffing to supplement County and School Board staff should include every city and require a consistent and reasonable staffing level such as that recommended in Mayor Furr's letter (email). The City of Pompano Beach responded in writing to Mayor Furr's request and that response is attached for your review. Pompano is comfortable with and committed to providing the hurricane shelter staffing level referenced in that attached letter.

Commissioner Nan Rich

March 21, 2019

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As I'm sure is your ultimate goal, the County should have a Comprehensive Shelter Plan. At the last monthly Emergency Coordinating Council (ECC) meeting, a group of Municipal Emergency Managers (MEMs) requested "in writing" that a sub-committee or ad-hoc group be created consisting of County, municipal, DOH and non-governmental organizations such as Red Cross and any other partners, to create the comprehensive shelter plan together. The MEM request was denied. The County should reconsider this position as this proposal is a constructive and mutually beneficial approach to achieve this important public safety objective. We all know this existing need is not limited to coastal cities so any solution should include participation from all cities.

Thank you again for the opportunity to weigh in on this urgent matter.

Sincerely,



Rex Hardin
City of Pompano Beach
Mayor



CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

Greg Harrison, City Manager

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July 6, 2018

Mayor Beam Furr
Broward County Governmental Center
115 South Andrews Ave., Room 412
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301
Via email: bfurr@broward.org

Dear Mayor Furr:

Thank you for writing to update the City of Pompano Beach on Broward County's efforts to ensure its hurricane evacuation shelters are adequately staffed with County and School Board personnel this hurricane season. We are extremely pleased that Broward County reached an agreement with the Broward County School Board regarding staffing of the shelters.

The City of Pompano Beach values its partnership with the County and will continue to work together for the benefit and safety of our residents. Per your request to Mayor Fisher on June 28th, the City of Pompano Beach will commit to having a representative at the shelter located in the City. The City has participated in the shelter support training provided by the County and is ready to provide this support at the Pompano Beach High School shelter during an evacuation plan B scenario.

Additionally, the City of Pompano Beach will continue to dedicate two law enforcement officers through the Broward Sheriff's Office and to having two fire rescue personnel assigned to the Pompano Beach shelter.

Lastly, the City's understanding is that the City's 12.5% cost share not covered by the State or FEMA will be reimbursed by Broward County.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,


Gregory Harrison
City Manager

Cc: Lamar Fisher, Mayor
Brian Donovan, Assistant City Manager
Mark Berman, City Attorney
John Jurgle, Fire Chief
Kimberly Spill-Cristiano, Emergency Manager
Henry Sniezek, Director of Environmental Protection and Growth Management
Barbara Blake Boy, Executive Director, Broward County Planning Council