

**WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES
SEMINOLE CITY COUNCIL
CITY HALL
9199 – 113TH STREET N
SEMINOLE, FL 33772
December 10, 2013**

Present were: Councilor John Counts Vice Mayor Thomas Barnhorn; Mayor Leslie Waters; Councilor Christopher Burke; Councilor Patricia Plantamura; Councilor James Quinn; Councilor Bob Matthews; City Attorney John Elias; City Manager Frank Edmunds and City Clerk Rose Benoit.

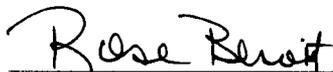
Mayor Waters called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

1. GREEN LIGHT PINELLAS:

- Steve Lange (No Tax For Tracks) representing the opposition. Mr. Lange provided a power point presentation. He said that (No Tax For Tracks) is a citizen group that has monitored all Pinellas County and MPO meetings for the last three years. No Tax For Tracks opposes raising taxes from 7% to 8% sales tax. He stated the increase in sales tax is to justify the expense of a competitive duplicative light rail system that will compete to some degree with PSTA. He said that the existing PSTA bus system is a flexible, reactive system that can go anywhere in Pinellas County. The proposed light rail system is a fixed one rail system that is not flexible and will cost approximately, by the first ten years, 2 billion dollars. He said it would serve the public to spend a few more million dollars on the existing bus system and expand it.
- Bob Lasher (External Affairs Officer – PSTA)
Mr. Lasher provided a power point presentation on the Green Light Plan. He provided details on how the plan would increase overall bus service by 65% throughout Pinellas County. Mr. Lasher stated that the plan is based on years of research and planning showing that an enhanced transit plan is necessary for the future growth and development of Pinellas County. PSTA will craft ballot language for a referendum asking voters to change transit funding in Pinellas County from its current .7305 mil property tax to a one percent sales tax.

ADJOURNMENT TIME: 8:30 P.M.

Date Approved: **January 14, 2014**



Minutes prepared by Rose Benoit, City Clerk



Leslie Waters, Mayor