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**HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL
COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
12th Session**

DATE: May 20, 2003 (Tuesday)
PLACE: Councilroom
TIME: 9:30 a.m.

(Note: Please turn cell phones, pagers and other mobile communication devices on silent mode.)

CALL TO ORDER

STATEMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

REFERRALS

Comm. 8.8: TRANSFER OF FUNDS - APRIL 1 - 15, 2003
Close file From Controller Deanna Sako, dated April 17, 2003, transmitting a Report of Transfers Authorized showing transfers made from April 1 through 15, 2003, and copies of the approved transfer forms.

Comm. 8.9: TRANSFER OF FUNDS - APRIL 16 - 30, 2003
Close file From Controller Deanna Sako, dated May 2, 2003, transmitting a Report of Transfers Authorized showing transfers made from April 16 through 30, 2003, and copies of the approved transfer forms.

Comm. 111.1: CAPITAL PROJECTS STATUS REPORT
Close file From Controller Deanna Sako, dated May 8, 2003, transmitting the Capital Projects Status Report as of March 31, 2003. The projects are grouped by Council District.

- Comm. 221:
(Bill 101) AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 19, OF THE HAWAI'I COUNTY CODE 1983 (1995 EDITION), RELATING TO REAL PROPERTY TAXES, BY CLARIFYING NATIVE FOREST DEDICATIONS
From Finance Director William Takaba, dated April 14, 2003, transmitting the above bill. The purpose of this measure is to align the native forest provisions of the real property tax code with the intent of the original law passed in 1996, which was to preserve and restore the County's watershed and ecosystems and encourage new native forest initiatives. Placing "native forests" in the same section as "agriculture" resulted in the native forest properties being able to receive the lower productivity assessments and participate year-to-year, without dedicating the land to native forest use. The proposed bill assigns the native forest dedication program to a unique section of Chapter 19 and clarifies that the benefits for the native forest program are available only under this section.
Recommend passage of Bill 101, as amended, on first reading
- Comm. 238:
Close file 2003-04 REAL PROPERTY ASSESSMENT CERTIFICATION REPORT
From Finance Director William Takaba, dated April 25, 2003, attaching the certificate of net taxable real property within the County of Hawai'i for the 2003-04 tax year, in compliance with Chapter 19, Article 11, §19-90 of the Hawai'i County Code, as amended. States the total value of net taxable real property is \$12,891,340,580, which is \$1,200,969,410 higher than the previous year, representing a 10.27 percent increase. Also attached are the Certification and Assessment List on Compact Disk.
- Comm. 244:
(Bill 107) AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE 24 OF THE HAWAI'I COUNTY CODE 1983 (1995 EDITION) RELATING TO THE SERVICE CHARGE ASSESSED FOR PAYMENT TO THE COUNTY THAT IS SUBSEQUENTLY DISHONORED
From Finance Director Bill Takaba, dated May 5, 2003, transmitting the above bill. Currently, the County charges \$7.50 for each check or other negotiable instrument returned by the bank for insufficient funds. This amendment removes all references of checks and negotiable instruments so that all dishonored payments will be assessed, and increases the service charge assessed to \$20.00.
Recommend passage of Bill 107 on first reading
- Comm. 245:
(Bill 108) AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE 18 OF THE HAWAI'I COUNTY CODE 1983 (1995 EDITION), RELATING TO UNCOLLECTIBLE ACCOUNTS (by removing the 2-year minimum requirement for which the county is required to keep accounts receivable on the books)
From Finance Director William Takaba, dated May 7, 2003, transmitting the above bill. Many of the accounts receivable are known to be uncollectible much sooner than two years. Removing the timeframe will allow the county to better reflect the true accounts receivable balances. Collection efforts will continue and will not be hampered.
Recommend passage of Bill 108 on first reading

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Comm. 230:
(Res. 68-03) RESOLUTION CREATING A MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION CLERK I POSITION, AN ACCOUNT CLERK POSITION, AND A CLERK III POSITION FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE, TREASURY DIVISION
From Finance Director William Takaba, dated April 23, 2003, transmitting the above resolution. The positions are necessary to bring the Treasury staffing to an adequate level which will allow the Division to meet the ever increasing demands of the public as well as continuing to service the fiscal needs of the County.
Recommend adoption of Res. 68-03
- Comm. 233:
(Res. 71-03) A RESOLUTION COMMITTING TO FUNDING THE COST ITEMS AWARDED TO THE HAWAI'I FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION BY ARBITRATION, AFFECTING FIRE FIGHTERS IN BARGAINING UNIT 11 FOR THE CONTRACT PERIOD JULY 1, 2003 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2005
From Mayor Harry Kim, dated April 24, 2003, transmitting the above resolution, in accordance with HRS §89-11(e) and (g), which authorizes the appropriation in future fiscal years of funds to cover the cost items awarded by the arbitration panel to resolve the impasse between the employers and the Hawai'i Fire Fighters Association (HFFA) for Bargaining Unit 11. The settlement covers the period from July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2005. Cost items presented for your consideration are across-the-board increases, step movements, increase in proficiency pay, and rank for rank recall - overtime. An exhibit to the resolution is attached which is a schedule showing the total cost of these various adjustments over the two years of the contract.
Recommend adoption of Res. 71-03

STATEMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC/ADJOURNMENT

The meeting place is accessible for persons with physical disabilities. Persons who need special accommodations to attend this meeting should call 961-8245 by **May 16, 2003**. Persons using TDDs may call 961-8521.

(Copies of this agenda and the communications are posted and filed at the County Clerk's Office, 25 Aupuni St., Hilo; the Office of the Mayor, 75-5706 Kuakini Highway, Suite 103, Kailua-Kona; and the Kona Councilmembers' Office, 77-6399 Nalani St., Suite 104, Kailua-Kona. For further information, please call 961-8245. Those wishing to testify, please register with the County Clerk's staff prior to the convening of the meeting. If possible, submit fifteen (15) written copies of the testimony to staff prior to the convening of the meeting.)

VIEWING OF MEETINGS ON GOVERNMENT ACCESS TELEVISION - Channel 52 (Hilo/Kona)
Finance Committee meeting - Tuesdays, May 27 and June 3, 2003, at 8:30 p.m.; Human Services & Economic Development Committee meeting - Thursdays, May 29 and June 5, 2003, at 8:30 p.m.; and both Committee meetings - Sunday, June 8, 2003, at 10:30 a.m.