

Jacob Veaghn

From: Jacob Veaghn on behalf of Records Clerk
Sent: Friday, January 8, 2021 2:11 PM
To: 'Dennis Reiter'
Cc: Consumer Contact
Subject: RE: Docket 20200139-WS

Good afternoon, Dennis Reiter

We will be placing your comments below in consumer correspondence in Docket No. 20200139 and forwarding your comments to the Office of Consumer Assistance and Outreach.

Jacob Veaghn

Commission Deputy Clerk I
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399
Jacob.Veaghn@psc.state.fl.us
850.413.6656

From: Dennis Reiter <reiterdl71@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 7, 2021 2:58 PM
To: Records Clerk <CLERK@PSC.STATE.FL.US>
Subject: Docket 20200139-WS

Please see my subject attached comments.

Respectfully,

Dennis Reiter

January 7, 2021

RE: Docket 20200139-WS Comments - January 6, 2021 Meeting

Dear PSC Clerk,

I am submitting supporting comments on the above docket meeting held January 6, 2021. During this meeting a number of individuals from Cross Creek Golf and Country Club of Fort Myers (Cross Creek), Florida spoke against the proposed fee increases. I fully agree and support their comments which I listened to live during the hearing.

I am president of one of the 18 associations that comprise Cross Creek. My association is comprised of 42 condominium units. Currently, 6 of them are occupied year round. Approximately 15 of them are owned by single women, with the majority of them being senior citizens and widowed. Obviously, the proposed increase will have an especially negative financial impact on them as well as the rest of the association.

While I will not repeat comments made by other community members, I add 3 comments that I did not specifically hear. First, the magnitude of the proposed increase is likely related to poor management practices. I'm not exactly sure why the proposed increase is needed other than to fund employee bonuses and Christmas parties. Assume it is related to aging equipment. If that is the case, management should have been budgeting for periodic replacement. For example, as association president, I am required by Florida statute to have reserve funding for roof replacement, building painting, pavement resurfacing and any other item that has a maintenance expense or replacement cost exceeding \$10,000. This is to prevent massive fee increases or a special assessment when maintenance or replacement is required. To do otherwise is poor management. The PSC should not reward bad behavior for utility management's failure to properly budget and or maintain equipment.

The second specific comment I make is related to the PSC approving a flat rate user fee structure. This just doesn't make sense. Besides the comments made at the live meeting regarding it being unfair, regressive, and especially punitive to seasonal residents, it does nothing to promote conservation of resources. The flat rate fee structure offers no incentive to conserve water usage and related energy usage. There is no incentive to turn off the faucet versus letting it run for example. This is appalling and again rewards bad behavior. I find it very difficult to believe the PSC isn't interested in conservation of resources for the public good. Isn't the "P" in PSC "Public"?

The third specific comment I have relates to representation. For example Cross Creek has an elected Master Board that represents all 18 individual associations and 904 residences. The Board speaks for the community. The PSC should not expect 904 Cross Creek residents to testify before the PSC to demonstrate "public interest". The Master Board is showing the public interest by its comment making for the Cross Creek community. The PSC should assume when the Master Board speaks it is hearing 904 commenters (assumes one voice per residence). So, that is nearly a thousand comments against the unreasonable proposed fee increase from the Cross Creek community alone.

Respectfully submitted,



Dennis Reiter, President Timberline Village I of Cross Creek Condominium Association, Inc.
13070 White Marsh Ln Apt 207
Fort Myers, FL 33912