



Broward County

Legislation Text

File #: 21-618, Version: 1

Broward County Commission Regular Meeting

Director's Name: Jonathan Daniels

Department: Port Everglades

Division: Business Administration

Information

Requested Action

MOTION TO ADOPT Resolution No. 2021-280 directing the County Administrator to publish Notice of Public Hearing to be held on Tuesday, June 1, 2021, at 10:00 a.m., in Room 422 of the Governmental Center, 115 South Andrews Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, Florida to consider the application of GAC Shipping (USA), Inc., d/b/a GAC North America, for the granting of a renewal of a nonexclusive franchise for a five-year term to provide steamship agent services at Port Everglades.

Why Action is Necessary

Pursuant to Section 32.22 of the Broward County Administrative Code ("Administrative Code"), Broward County (the "County") must hold a public hearing prior to granting, renewing, placing on probation, suspending, or revoking a franchise under Chapter 32 of the Administrative Code.

What Action Accomplishes

Enables the setting of a public hearing during which the Broward County Board of County Commissioners may consider the granting of a renewal of a nonexclusive franchise to GAC Shipping (USA), Inc., d/b/a GAC North America, for a five-year term to provide steamship agent services at Port Everglades.

Is this Action Goal Related

Yes

Previous Action Taken

None

Summary Explanation/Background

THE PORT EVERGLADES DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDS APPROVAL.

This action supports the Broward County Board of County Commissioners' ("Board") Value of "Ensuring economic opportunities for Broward's diverse population and businesses," and the Goal to "Increase the economic strength and impact of revenue-generating County enterprises balancing economic, environmental, and community needs."

GAC Shipping (USA), Inc., d/b/a GAC North America ("GAC"), has been providing steamship agent services at Port Everglades under a series of approved franchise agreements since 2010. On April 26, 2016 (Item No. 4-PH), the Board granted renewal of a nonexclusive franchise to GAC to provide steamship agent services at Port Everglades for a five-year term, from June 27, 2016, through June

26, 2021. GAC has applied for renewal of the franchise.

Staff reviewed the steamship agent franchise renewal application against the enumerated renewal criteria set forth in Chapter 32 of the Administrative Code. Staff's due diligence included corresponding with GAC's representative to clarify franchise requirements and reviewing GAC's corporate status, resumes of executive staff and list of managerial personnel, business history/experience, litigation history, insurance, financial documents and creditworthiness, discharge of previous financial obligations to the County, compliance with all franchise terms and conditions and established rules and regulations of the County, required licenses and certificates, company programs and policies, list of equipment to be used at Port Everglades, statement of activities and actions indicating that GAC has maintained a favorable service performance record in Port Everglades during the term of the franchise, and that it has promoted and developed growth in the business activities, projects, or facilities of Port Everglades. GAC's safety and environmental history was also reviewed, and no infractions were found.

No false or misleading information was submitted as part of the franchise renewal application. Through the submission of the signed franchise renewal application, GAC has agreed to comply with all franchise conditions set forth in Section 32.24 of the Administrative Code.

Based on the review of information provided in the franchise renewal application, staff recommends renewal of the steamship agent franchise. Steamship agent franchises may be granted for any period of time up to five years. Past practice has been for staff to recommend granting the renewal of a steamship agent franchise for a term of five years. Accordingly, staff is recommending that the franchise be renewed for a five-year term.

The complete application and supporting documents are on file in the Port Everglades Business Administration Division.

Source of Additional Information

Jorge Hernández, Director, Business Administration Division, Port Everglades Department, (954) 468-3501

Angela Osorno Belleme, Franchise Manager, Business Administration Division, Port Everglades Department, (954) 468-0112

Fiscal Impact

Fiscal Impact/Cost Summary

GAC has paid the required annual fee of \$2,250 and will pay an additional \$9,000 in annual franchise fees over the term of the franchise, for a total of \$11,250.