

**COMMISSION CONFERENCE MEETING AGENDA
DECEMBER 6, 2005**

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COMMISSION CONFERENCE MEETING 1:30 P.M. DECEMBER 6, 2005

Present: Mayor Naugle
Commissioners Trantalis, Moore and Hutchinson, and Vice Mayor Teel

Also Present: City Manager – George Gretsas
City Attorney - Harry Stewart
City Clerk - Jonda K. Joseph
Sergeant At Arms – Sergeant Frank Sebregandio

I-A – Evaluation and Appraisal Report – Comprehensive Plan – Discussion and Public Input

Mayor Naugle said that due to an error made by the Sun-Sentinel, the discussion of the Evaluation and Appraisal Report (EAR) would be postponed until December 20, 2005.

Commissioner Moore asked for further information regarding the delay and postponement.

Marc LaFerrier, Planning and Zoning Director, apologized and said there has been an error regarding the legal advertisement due to the fact that the newspaper has not published the ad as scheduled.

Commissioner Moore asked what other media could be used for advertisement purposes.

The City Attorney said any daily newspaper of general circulation in the City could be used. The Miami Herald and Broward Edition would also qualify.

Commissioner Moore recommended that other media be used in the future. Commissioner Hutchinson suggested that they switch on and off. Mayor Naugle thought that switching could cause confusion because citizens would not know which paper is going to be used when. Commissioner Moore disagreed. If it meets the letter of the law and either could be used, then he suggested that be done.

The City Attorney believed that the daily Business Review also qualifies.

Mayor Naugle asked if the Commission could be provided with a list of costs for each publication.

Vice Mayor Teel asked how often such problems occurred.

Mr. LaFerrier said that such problems has not occurred since he has been onboard with the City.

Vice Mayor Teel felt the Sun-Sentinel is the newspaper for Fort Lauderdale. She thought it is more read than the others. If such advertising problems have not occurred frequently, then possibly the City could just serve them notice about the problem. She also asked if rates for the others could be provided.

The City Attorney said that one of the main issues encountered by the City is the length of time it takes to have the advertisement placed in the newspaper. They are able to communicate with the Sun-Sentinel via computer and e-mail all information, but problems has been encountered with other newspapers. Their time line is better and that is one of the reasons used when selecting the newspaper, but a comparison could be made.

Action: Staff will provide comparison information of suitable newspapers.

I-B – Proposed Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan for 2006-1010

Commissioner Hutchinson asked about the improvements that are to be done on Eller Drive, page 8.

Albert Carbon, Director of Public Works, said that the amount is \$324,000 for the WaterWorks 2011 Program, and offered to obtain more detailed information and report back to the Commission.

Commissioner Hutchinson said that the Commission approved in concept the Las Olas traffic study, but it has not yet been included in the CIP. Mr. Carbon said that he would also check into the existing funded project; this report shows new funding. She also asked how much money has been allocated.

Vice Mayor Teel referred to an e-mail from residents in Twin Lakes North who are having flooding problems, and they asked when some storm drain improvements could be expected for their area. Mr. Carbon agreed to look into it.

Commissioner Trantalis said there has been some discussion regarding the rebuilding of bridges to some of the Isles on Las Olas Isles. He asked if that would be a capital expenditure that the City would incur or is it the State's responsibility.

Peter Partington, City Engineer, said that it is exclusively funded by the Florida Department of Transportation. He felt all capital funding, regardless of the source,, should be reflected in the Capital Improvement Plan. Mr. Carbon agreed to include it; he referred to the list of Bridges and Waterways on page 4 of the plan.

Commissioner Trantalis said that there has also been discussion regarding rehabilitation at the beach along Alhambra. Possibly some of the vacant land could be turned into a surface parking lot or a park. This matter has not been included in the plan.

Mr. Carbon said that on page 2, it is listed under Parks and Recreation, in the amount of \$30,000.

Phil Thornburg, Director of Parks and Recreation, said that the monies would go towards irrigation, soding and some greenery.

The City Manager said that the funds would not go toward a parking lot.

Commissioner Trantalis asked if funds are being committed to any type of shuttle service to and from the beach area.

Mr. Partington said that the City is not committing any funds, but has obtained an FTA appropriation characterized as the Beach Shuttle in the amount of \$1.5 Million, and along with matching funds from the Downtown Development Authority for a total of \$1.87 Million. They are discussing the issue currently with the Transportation Management Association and the Downtown Development Authority.

Commissioner Trantalis encouraged the City to meet with the Central Beach Alliance.

Commissioner Trantalis said that previously the NW 7th and 9th Connector has been discussed, and it appears that large amounts of money are being committed to that project.

Mr. Partington said that only about \$1.5 Million is presently committed by the State to proceed with detailed design, and that would need a 12.5% match from the City and County.

Mayor Naugle explained there is a missing link 7th and 9th Avenues. An area would be cut across which involves some apartments and mostly industrial buildings in order to build a new road so there would be a continuous road on 9th Avenue where it ends at Sunrise Boulevard and 7th Avenue at 6th Street. It is a huge undertaking that requires condemnation of property. Approximately at Sistrunk Boulevard and Sunrise, they would cut across the land diagonally.

This is included on the first sheet as the unfunded portion..

Mayor Naugle said that State and Federal funds are also going to be used since this would serve all of Florida.

Commissioner Trantalis asked if this would help in the controversy regarding Sistrunk Boulevard with the County.

Commissioner Moore said that this project involves years of discussion. It would impact traffic on Sistrunk Boulevard. This has been initiated by the County and the City is assisting.

Commissioner Trantalis said that \$5 Million has been earmarked for 2007/2008 for a new City Hall.

The City Manager said that decisions regarding City Hall would not be made until they could figure out funding. Possibly a joint venture could be done with the County or some property in the downtown might be leveraged to help pay. This might not be a real dollar amount.

Mr. Carbon said that it is an earmark for the future so that if funding becomes available through other sources, they could move forward with external funding, grant opportunities.

Commissioner Moore asked why \$600,000 is listed for barns at Holiday Park.

Mr. Thornburg said that this is for the maintenance facility at Holiday Park. The present facility is inadequate. Equipment is stored outside, lack of running water and restroom facilities. This has been in the works for a few years.

Commissioner Moore suggested it be labeled, maintenance facility, instead of a barn.

Commissioner Moore liked how staff is dealing with the capital projects and thinking about how such things will be addressed in the future.

Action: Responses will be provided on December 20, 2005.

II-A – October 2005 Financial Report

Commissioner Moore asked why Fire Rescue has spent 20% of their budget, Police at 17% and Building at 21%.

The City Manager believed this involves pre-payment of the pension, but he would check and report back to the Commission.

Allyson Love, Director of Management and Budget, said the Police and Fire amounts involves the pension which is paid in October upfront. The true budget number in terms of pro-rating is about 4.2% of the budget. The Building Department has a change in their code and as a result, there have been a lot more permits issued than anticipated and overtime has been used.

Commissioner Moore asked what is being done to balance out and stay within budget.

Valerie Bohlander, Building Director, believed they would be fine and confirmed that there was a rise in permits, because of the new Code change, but they are now flattening out. There has also been some overtime due to Hurricane Wilma.

Commissioner Moore asked if there are any discretionary funds available if these issues are not met to bring the department back into line. He did not want the permitting process to slow down because of staff shortages.

The City Manager said that department heads have the charge to stay within their budgets. An expedited review concept would be provided to the Commission at their next meeting or the first meeting in January, 2006.

Stephen Scott, Assistant City Manager, said that it appears the Building Department is at 6.7% for their overall budget, they are only over in connection with overtime expenditures. In actuality, they are in good shape.

Commissioner Trantalis asked if any of the Fire and Police expenditures are due to the overtime expended for Hurricane Wilma. Ms. Love said that those expenditures are not yet reflected in the report.

III-B – Advisory Board and Committee Vacancies

Audit Committee

Commissioner Hutchinson recommended Norman Thabit for reappointment to the Audit Committee.

Vice Mayor Teel recommended Harry Sweeney for reappointment to the Audit Committee.

Commissioner Moore recommended Kevin Blair for reappointment to the Audit Committee.

Mayor Naugle recommended John Aurelius for reappointment to the Audit Committee.

Commissioner Trantalis recommended Mark LaFontaine for reappointment to the Audit Committee.

Action: Formal Action To Be Taken at Regular Meeting.

Board of Adjustment

There is a consensus of the Commission to reinstate Birch Willey to the Board of Adjustment.

It is announced that an alternate needed to be appointed to the Board of Adjustment.

Action: Formal Action To Be Taken at Regular Meeting.

Board of Trustees of General Employees' Retirement System

Action: Deferred.

Board of Trustees Police & Firefighters Retirement System

Mayor Naugle recommended Mark T. Burnam for reappointment to the Board of Trustees Police & Firefighters Retirement System.

Action: Formal Action To Be Taken at Regular Meeting.

Beach Redevelopment Advisory Board

Commissioner Trantalis recommended Shirley Smith for appointment to the Beach Redevelopment Advisory Board.

Action: Formal Action To Be Taken at Regular Meeting.

Charter Revision Board

Action: Deferred.

Citizen Board of Recognition

Mayor Naugle announced that there is a consensus to reappoint Genia Ellis and Birch Willey to the Citizen Board of Recognition.

Commissioner Hutchinson said that the ordinance has to be amended in order to permit Birch Willey to serve on this board once a year since he also serves on another of the City's boards. This really should be designated as a committee and not a board.

The City Attorney said that whatever necessary would be prepared to change this group from a board to a committee.

Action: Formal Action To Be Taken at Regular Meeting.

Citizens Police Review

Commissioner Hutchinson recommended Ron Wright for reappointment to the Citizens Police Review Board.

Vice Mayor Teel recommended Linda Shallenberger for reappointment to the Citizens Police Review Board.

Commissioner Moore recommended Roosevelt Walters for reappointment to the Citizens Police Review Board.

Mayor Naugle recommended George Trodella for reappointment to the Citizens Police Review Board.

Commissioner Trantalis recommended Stephen C. Muffler for reappointment to the Citizens Police Review Board.

Action: Formal Action To Be Taken At Regular Meeting.

Community Appearance Board

Commissioner Hutchinson recommended Marilyn Mammano, Cindy Wallick and Annette Ross for reappointment to the Community Appearance Board.

Mayor Naugle recommended Tom O'Loughlin, John Barranco, and Patrick McTigue for reappointment to the Community Appearance Board. He also recommended Michael Friedman for appointment to the Community Appearance Board.

Commissioner Trantalis recommended Bill Hahne, Dennis Cole, Ree Cole, and Greg Stuart for reappointment to the Community Appearance Board.

Action: Formal Action To Be Taken at Regular Meeting.

Community Services Board

Mayor Naugle recommended Fenel Antoine for appointment to the Community Services Board.

Action: Formal Action to be Taken at Regular Meeting.

Downtown Development Authority

Mayor Naugle said that there is a consensus to reappoint Charles B. Ladd, Jr. and Alan C. Hooper to the Downtown Development Authority.

Mayor Naugle said that Tom Vogel and Fred Tazio have expressed interest in serving on this board along with Helen Reefburger. However there is no consensus to make a change in the membership.

Action: Formal Action To Be Taken at Regular Meeting.

Economic Development Board

Vice Mayor Teel recommended Mark Budwig for reappointment to the Economic Development Board.

Mayor Naugle recommended Pat DuMont for reappointment to the Economic Development Board. He also recommended Adam Sanders for appointment to the Economic Development Board.

Commissioner Trantalis recommended Robert E. Boyd for reappointment to the Economic Development Board.

Action: Formal Action To Be Taken at Regular Meeting.

Fire-Rescue Facilities Bond Issue Blue Ribbon Committee

Action: Deferred.

Historic Preservation Board

Commissioner Trantalis recommended Susan Ryan Jordan for appointment to the Historic Preservation Board.

Action: Formal Action To Be Taken at Regular Meeting

Insurance Advisory Board

There is a consensus that the members of the Insurance Advisory Board be reappointed as follows: Christopher Prestera, Randall S. Swenson, Ted Hess, Roger G. Bond, Mark Schwartz, and Joseph Cobo.

Mayor Naugle noted that Joe Piechura, Sr. of Gateway Insurance would like to serve on this board. Vice Mayor Teel will contact Mr. Piechura.

Action: Formal Action To Be Taken at Regular Meeting.

Marine Advisory Board

Action: Deferred.

Northwest Progresso Flagler Heights Redevelopment Board

Commissioner Trantalis recommended Michael Ferber for appointment to the Northwest Progresso Flagler Heights Redevelopment Board.

Action: Formal Action To Be Taken at Regular Meeting.

Planning and Zoning Advisory Board

Commissioner Trantalis recommended Steven Glassman for reappointment to the Planning and Zoning Board.

Action: Formal Action To Be Taken at Regular Meeting.

Unsafe Structure and Housing Appeals

Mayor Naugle suggested that John Scherer be asked to serve on the Unsafe Structure and Housing Appeals Board. Vice Mayor Teel noted the opening is for an attorney. In response to Mayor Naugle, the City Attorney advised the individual would have to be a practicing attorney in order to fill the category of attorney on this board. Vice Mayor Teel will contact Mr. Scherer.

Action: Deferred.

Utilities Advisory Committee

Mayor Naugle recommended Terry Murru for appointment to the Utilities Advisory Committee.

Action: Formal Action To Be Taken at Regular Meeting

IV – Commission Reports**Add to Staff and Code amendments; Historic Preservation**

Commissioner Hutchinson asked for an update regarding the hiring of new employee for historic preservation. She met with staff regarding historic ordinance changes and asked about their status.

Health Department; Old FDOT Building on State Road 84 – Traffic through Edgewood

Commissioner Hutchinson said that a closure was initiated regarding the FDOT building on State Road 84 when the Health Department purchased the building so it could be rehabilitated into offices. As part of the final DRC, there was a condition that the gate along SW 8th Avenue kept closed with a lock box but they are not complying. Because this is government, they can opt out of the City's process and refer back to their own. She said the City made a commitment to the citizens. She outlined the efforts that have been made to resolve this in terms of meetings.

Mayor Naugle offered to meet with the individuals in Tallahassee who have jurisdiction over this.

The City Attorney said that the best course of action is for Tallahassee to apply pressure. This condition was placed when they received a special exception for the zoning when they changed use of the site. Even though the State is exempt from the City's building regulations, they do have to comply with the City's zoning regulations.

Commission Consensus Items; Implementation

Commissioner Moore thought there was consensus for the Commission to have a workshop, yet a year has passed and still the workshop has not been held. If a decision is made by the Commission at the table, he asked if that is the decision. If it is the decision, then it should be done.

Mayor Naugle believed everyone agreed the workshop would be a good idea, but he believed there was some discussion as to who would conduct it. He did not think it made sense to do so now with elections approaching.

Commissioner Moore said his point is that once a decision has been made, it should be implemented. He agreed about not holding it at this time. He felt this is something of great importance. They should not come to a meeting to create policy that is not implemented.

Commissioner Trantalis believed there has been a scheduling problem. Commissioner Moore said if that is the case, then the matter should have been brought back to the Commission for further discussion. He felt such a workshop is very important because it could help everyone work better together.

Vice Mayor Teel said there has been a problem with scheduling. She asked if an RFP was put out as to who would conduct the workshop. Commissioner Moore believed that someone was selected.

Mayor Naugle did not think anyone was selected to facilitate the workshop. A recommendation was made but he was not in favor of the individual. If a date could be set and a facilitator chosen, he believed it would be a good idea.

Commissioner Moore reminded everyone that it is up to the majority to choose someone to conduct the workshop; not simply the Mayor. He believed that the Manager, who is authorized to enter into contracts under a certain dollar amount, would find a facilitator. He hoped that when the Commission makes a decision, one member detains it from being implemented.

Mayor Naugle understood that Commissioner Moore insisted that one individual be hired. Commissioner Moore did not recall any discussion taking place as to who should be selected. He realized things change, but they should be discussed by the Commission. In this case, there was no discussion by the Commission. When there is disagreement by one member of the Commission and they lose the vote, they lose the vote.

Vice Mayor Teel felt such a workshop should be held. A number of choices should be given to the Commission.

Mayor Naugle noted that there were conditions placed on the consensus that was reached. He indicated that generally he tries to be very accommodating when staff is trying to get a meeting date selected. Others are not as accommodating. He urged everyone to agree to as many dates as possible because all members of the Commission are busy.

FOCUS Newsletter

Commissioner Moore complimented the newsletter put out by the CRA. It does not profile any specific elected official. It provides the facts of what is being done in the CRA which the City's newsletter does not do. He wanted to have further discussion at the Commission's next meeting regarding the layout of the City's FOCUS newsletter, but he felt it profiles one elected official.

Mayor Naugle believed this was agreed upon in the past. He asked if the minutes could be reviewed regarding formatting for FOCUS. He does not include anything in association newsletters where Commissioners provide comments, and as an alternative, he provides comments for the FOCUS.

The City Manager said that the format changed from a larger one to a smaller one, but the process regarding the Mayor's column was set a long time ago.

Commissioner Moore was interested in reformatting FOCUS.

Commissioner Trantalis believed the County has a format where they have District Commissioners featured in their newsletter.

Water Taxi; Temporary Dockage at Colee's Landing

Commissioner Trantalis said that he was asked to raise the matter of dockage for the water taxi at Colee's Landing and the 7th Avenue Bridge until their position at the Port is available.

Bruce Larkin, Director of Business Enterprises, said they have explored the Las Olas Marina and withdrew the request to the Department of Environmental Protection for modifications to the Submerged Land Lease. In the meantime, the County Commission asked their staff to find a long-term solution. In the interim, which would be 3-6 months, there is a need to place some of the vessels. For a period of time until the hurricane, the water bus was placed in private docks at various locations throughout the City. Once the hurricane disrupted some of those facilities, a request was made to the City for interim assistance. Since mid-November some spots have been made available along the New River for which the going rates has been paid. There is space for about four vessels at Colee's Landing. Approval of the Commission is not required. The only wrinkle is that grant funds were received from the Broward Boating Improvement Fund to build the marina with the restriction that it be for recreational use. The County indicated that they would not enforce the grant provisions during the interim period until a long-term solution could be provided at the Port.

The City Manager said that would not be permitted until this Commission approves it.

Commissioner Hutchinson said that this issue should not be raised during Commission Reports. I It should be put on the agenda

The City Manager wanted to know if the Commission desires to hold such a discussion. Commissioner Trantalis asked that the issue be placed on the December 20, 2005 agenda.

Street Name Signs

Vice Mayor Teel said that inquiries are being made about street signs that have been missing due to the hurricanes. .

Mr. Partington noted that signage is a County responsibility. Because a number of signs have been damaged, they are prioritizing and concentrating on stop signs, then speed signs. There is no timetable regarding street signs.

Commissioner Hutchinson asked how the County is finding out where signs are down. Mr. Partington said that the County is checking locations, and making corrections. If a Commissioner knows of a stop sign that needs to be replaced, he asked it be brought to his attention and he will pass it along.

Mayor Naugle asked if cities are being treated equally. Mr. Partington said it is his understanding that all parts of the County are being treated equally, but they have not indicated a specific timetable.

Sunrise Boulevard Bridge

Vice Mayor Teel said that she met with FDOT and chose the paint color for the Sunrise Boulevard bridge. They are only painting the bridge tender's house at this point in time. Since the roof is a blue, she chose an antique white. FDOT is going to contact her about the Oakland Park bridge.

Sistrunk Boulevard

Commissioner Moore said that a request went to the County for discussion of the Sistrunk Corridor to be placed on their December 6, 2005 agenda. The County Mayor indicated to him that he was not up to speed with it sufficient to place it on that agenda. Commissioner Moore understood that both staffs are meeting tomorrow. He asked that another letter be sent, stating that the City has not received confirmation regarding the discussion date.

Mayor Naugle offered to write to the County Commissioner John Rodstrom since this is in his district. Commissioner Moore asked for a copy of such letter to be sent to the County Mayor also.

King Tut Exhibit, Banners

Mayor Naugle said that the Museum of Art is going to sponsor the King Tut Exhibit. A request has been made regarding placing a banner advertising the exhibition. He asked

if the Commission would agree to having the banner in place during the length of the exhibition which would be three months.

Vice Mayor Teel said that the City's logo has to be incorporated on the banner. The City Attorney confirmed that is correct.

Commissioner Moore said that a process should be in place, and exceptions only made for something of national recognition.

The City Attorney said that an amendment to the ordinance would be presented that would provide for such an exception. He explained that the more exceptions made, the weaker the ordinance becomes. Content cannot be regulated. Commissioner Hutchinson pointed out that the time could be regulated. The City Attorney explained it cannot be two weeks for one and three months for another, but the same for everyone.

V – City Manager Reports

Hurricane Cost

The City Manager said that on Thursday a report would be provided to the Commission regarding the cost of the hurricanes. The shortfall for Hurricane Katrina is anticipated to be about \$1 Million, and \$4 Million for Hurricane Wilma, plus an additional \$10 Million for trees. They are in the process of developing a strategy to have the State and Federal governments to increase their reimbursements.

Tree Planting

Mayor Naugle wanted the City to establish a Citywide program making it as easy as possible for individuals to plant trees in the future, and to select the right species. A lot of the City's canopy has been lost during the last hurricanes.

The City Manager said everyone is asking what lessons were learned from the hurricanes. The biggest lesson learned was fund balance, fund balance, fund balance. Also receiving additional reimbursements would be helpful.

Holiday Decorations

Commissioner Moore asked what would be done with Christmas decorations around City Hall since a lot of the canopy is now gone. The City Manager said they would look into how to remedy it.

The City Manager said that this Friday, the new decorations for the beach area will be turned on. The event would begin at 6:30 p.m. A donation was made by one of the property owners in the area.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:41 p.m.