

**FORT LAUDERDALE CITY COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING**  
**MARCH 17, 2009**

**Agenda**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Resolution/Ordinance</b>	<b>Page(s)</b>
M-01	Election Results; Certificates of Broward County Canvassing Board	1
	Oath of Office to the Mayor and City commissioners	2

Present: Mayor Naugle  
Commissioners Lewis, Hutchinson and Vice Mayor Rodstrom

Absent: Commissioner Teel

Also Present: City Manager – George Gretsas  
City Attorney - Harry A. Stewart  
City Clerk - Jonda K. Joseph  
Sergeant At Arms – None

Everyone stood for the presentation of colors by the Fort Lauderdale Police Department, followed by the pledge of allegiance led by Divone Watson of the Boys & Girls Club, and the national anthem sung by Dwight Rogers.

An invocation and remarks about the significance of St. Patrick were given by Monsignor Vincent T. Kelly of Saint John The Baptist Catholic Church.

**Election Results; Certificates of Broward County  
Canvassing Board**

**(M-01)**

**Motion** made by Commissioner Hutchinson and seconded by Vice Mayor Rodstrom accepting certificates of Broward County Canvassing Board and declaring the results of the 2009 Triennial Municipal Primary and General Elections held February 10, 2009 and March 10, 2009, respectively. Roll call showed: YEAS: Commissioners Lewis and Hutchinson, Vice Mayor Rodstrom, and Mayor Naugle. NAYS: None.

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Vice Mayor Rodstrom was saddened to see her colleagues leave, but was pleased to see a new Commission stepping forward to serve. She remarked about the education provided to her by the outgoing Commission.

Commissioner Hutchinson wished the new Commission well and remarked about it being a tremendous honor to hold public office. She thanked everyone for re-electing her as commissioner three times. She also thanked the City's employees for their leadership and particularly thanked the Commission office staff.

Commissioner Lewis thanked everyone for the confidence placed in her to complete five months of Commissioner Moore's term. She enjoyed working with everyone and wished the new Commission well. She planned to continue working for her neighborhood.

Mayor Naugle thanked all of the City employees for their hard work, especially the Mayor's assistant, to whom he presented a token of his appreciation. He thanked all of the Charter officers and commented how the City Manager is the best because he loves his job. He gave the new mayor the messages he has received since becoming mayor not including the electronic messages. He emphasized the importance of respect for the taxpayers and the public dollars entrusted to public officials. He indicated that he has wonderful memories working for this city and its residents, and feels there is no higher office he could have held.

**RECESS WAS TAKEN AT 10:51 A.M.****MEETING RECONVENED AT 10:58 A.M.**

Present: Mayor Seiler  
Commissioners Roberts, DuBose, Rogers and Vice Mayor Rodstrom

Also Present: City Manager – George Gretsas  
City Attorney - Harry A. Stewart  
City Clerk - Jonda K. Joseph  
Sergeant At Arms – None

Judge Stacy M. Ross, County Court Judge, Seventeenth Judicial Circuit of Florida, administered the oath of office to the Mayor and City Commissioners.

Vice Mayor Rodstrom welcomed everyone and thanked everyone for the honor to serve this City and its citizens. There are hard issues in front of this Commission, but today is a day for rejoicing and a time to feel proud to serve the community.

Commissioner Rogers thanked everyone for being present today and for the work of the campaign. It has been fifty years since there were four new commissioners elected. He provided some history of the new Commission and remarked that this Commission has the community historical background to help steer the City in the future. It is a new day with a fresh start, and everyone is up for the challenge. He pledged his cooperation and civility and a culture of service. They must never should forget who put them in office. Customer service should be a main goal. He pledged to rid the them versus us attitude. Everyone should be brought together to forge solutions. They need to build consensus and political will of neighborhoods and the business community, along with the not for profit and faith-based communities. He wanted to foster a spirit of cooperation among all citizens. These are tough economic times. They need to learn to do more with less. He referred to President Kennedy, and said, ask not what your city can do for you, but ask what you can do for your city. He believed they can foster volunteerism. If the City prospers, they all will prosper. He believed this Commission is ready to lead in all of these areas. In 2011, they will celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this city. There is a need to preserve what makes this city great. He pledged to work cooperatively with his fellow commissioners and to serve the citizens. He thanked everyone who has participated in the city. He went on to thank his wife, family and everyone who helped with his campaign.

Commissioner Roberts said he is looking forward to working with everyone because it is an exciting time for the city. There will be some difficult times ahead, but he is confident that this Commission is up to the task. He believed in bringing back the voice of the citizens in participating in government decisions will make all the difference, as they re-establish priorities and budgets and move toward the new centennial. He thanked everyone for their support and recognized everyone who worked on his campaign and his family.

Commissioner DuBose said it is a humbling experience for people with whom he has grown up with asked him to serve. He agreed that civility is key. These are hard economic times and there is a need to tighten belts. He thanked his family, friends and fraternity. He reflected on the oath he was about to take today, along with other oaths he has taken during his life. Without the citizens, the Commission would not be here. The Commission needs to listen. He also reflected on his predecessors. He recognized Andrew DeGraffenreidt, who recently passed away, and he recognized Carlton Moore as well as Magdalene Lewis. As to governing moving forward, the Commission is only as strong as its weakest link. He thanked everyone for their support.

Mayor Seiler thanked everyone including his family for their help and support. The incoming Commission has large shoes to fill. He thanked the past Commission. These are tough economic times and there are challenges ahead that will result in great opportunities. He looked forward to serving with this Commission. He went on to comment on each of them. He recognized that certain areas of the city have been neglected and the Commission needs to make sure that does not happen again. District III needs to be given the time and resources it needs. He felt the Mayor needs to follow the lead of the Commissioners in order to make the city more successful.

Mayor Seiler commented about the diversity in this city. They will need to bring this community together. There are tremendous tasks ahead, including the budget. They need to make sure that taxes do not get raised, and find the necessary cuts but still provide services well. Public safety must be first and foremost. They need to also focus on getting the economy moving again. He elaborated upon Fort Lauderdale's success in the marine and tourism industries and that cannot be forgotten but rather enhanced. He anticipated the City will be hitting on all cylinders by their centennial. He felt they need to focus on being the greatest city they can be on their 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. He wanted to kick off a volunteer service project with a set goal of a certain amount of hours to be reached by the City's centennial because this is a city that loves to volunteer.

Mayor Seiler wanted to work with neighboring cities and the County. He felt the partnership with the County needs to be stronger and he pledged that the City will work with the County to get some things done for the community.

Mayor Seiler also recognized the Charter officers.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:41 a.m.

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John P. "Jack" Seiler  
Mayor

ATTEST:

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Jonda K. Joseph  
City Clerk

