# FORT LAUDERDALE CITY COMMISSION CONFERENCE MEETING NOVEMBER 15, 2011

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## CITY COMMISSION CONFERENCE MEETING 1:36 P.M. November 15, 2011

Present: Mayor John P. "Jack" Seiler, Commissioners Bruce G. Roberts, Charlotte E. Rodstrom, Bobby B. DuBose and Romney Rogers

Also Present: City Manager Lee R. Feldman City Auditor John Herbst City Clerk Jonda K. Joseph City Attorney Harry A. Stewart Sergeant At Arms Sergeant Joyce Fleming Sergeant Jerry Williams

## I-A – Broward League of Cities – Initiatives

Cooper City Mayor Debby Eisinger, president of the Broward League of Cities, quoted a statement from the first woman to be elected to the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate concerning public service. She set forth the League's role, mission and resources. In the coming year, the League will be focusing on cost-saving budget reduction strategies and maintaining quality of life and quality services. The League is exploring regionalization and consolidation. One example is the 911 dispatch system. Membership has been expanded this year to reach out to local realtor boards, chambers and Broward Days. The League is working on promoting the housing market and preserving property values, encouraging better code enforcement and finding solutions to handling abandoned property, union negotiations, pension costs and benefits, new growth management laws, research on going green, and quality public education including a student ambassador program for 11<sup>th</sup> grade students. She invited interested students in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade to apply by this Friday. Scholarships for government studies is another League program. She also mentioned the League's legislative advocacy plan. She invited staff and the Commission to attend a general membership meeting as well as educational workshops held throughout the year.

#### City Commission Reports

#### Andrews Avenue (Sunrise Boulevard to northern city limits)

Commissioner Rodstrom discussed her outreach efforts to Broward County concerning improvements to the Andrews Avenue corridor from Sunrise Boulevard to the northern city limits and indicated she with be working with the City Manager and County Administrator.

#### Sunrise Boulevard (Powerline Road to A-1-A)

Commissioner Rodstrom discussed her intention to work on securing grants for improvements to Sunrise Boulevard from Powerline Road to A-1-A.

#### 15<sup>th</sup> Street Roundabout

Commissioner Rodstrom indicated that she will be working with the City Manager on the 15<sup>th</sup> Street roundabout.

## City Hall, 100 North Andrews Avenue, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room and 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Chambers

## Recent Flooding

In response to Commissioner Rodstrom, the City Manager advised that an after-action report will be forthcoming on the recent flooding.

#### Business Corridors; Oakland Park and Commercial Boulevards

Commissioner Roberts felt that the City's business corridors need some maintenance and enhancement. He specifically mentioned Oakland Park and Commercial Boulevards, but wanted an action plan citywide for the main business corridors.

#### Redevelopment of City Facilities; Police Headquarters and City Hall

Commissioner Roberts pointed out the need to plan for redevelopment of City facilities such as the Police Headquarters and City Hall.

#### Transportation Corridors

Commissioner Rodstrom noted that Fort Lauderdale is the only city in the County with two representatives on the Broward County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). This is a good time to develop plans for transportation corridors so that the City could approach Broward County, the MPO and Florida Department of Transportation for funding opportunities.

#### E911 Call Taking and Dispatch Services

Commissioner Roberts indicated that he is serving as chair of the Governance Subcommittee and a member of the Funding Subcommittee of Broward County Consolidated Communications Committee. The subcommittees will meet for the first time this week. A draft report is to be submitted by January 16 and information to Broward County by March 1.

## Recent Flooding: Melrose Manor (SW 1 Street south to 7 Street and SW 29 Avenue east to 28 Avenue

Vice Mayor DuBose advised that there are no storm drains in this area consequently the flood conditions were extreme in that the water did not begin to recede for some five days. There was no mail for four days. It was a life/health issue. He asked the City Manager to include this area in his focus when preparing the after action report.

#### Speed Humps

Vice Mayor DuBose requested a status report on speed humps. There are areas that have been on the pending list for some time that qualify for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding. There is one street where only four of the original six speed humps were re-installed after WaterWorks 2011 work. He asked the City Manager to followup on this street in particular. Commissioner Roberts agreed that it would be helpful to use the CDBG funding where possible so as to free funding for other areas. The City Manager advised that a cursory review has shown there are nine or ten that would qualify for CDBG funding.

## Mills Pond; (Emergency Vehicle Access) Parking

In response to Vice Mayor DuBose's question on the status of addressing the parking issue at Mills Pond, the City Manager indicated signage is being posted and during events, the police are people not to park in the neighborhoods. Vice Mayor DuBose requested a written update that could be provided to the homeowner association.

#### Beach Accessibility for Disabled

Vice Mayor DuBose asked the City Manager to look into removeable sidewalks available in Dania Beach for the disabled to have easier access to the beach. Mayor Seiler thought one area could be designated for such a feature.

#### Recent Flooding; Edgewood

Commissioner Rogers asked the City Manager to include this area in his focus when preparing the after action report.

#### Stop Sign Installations; Cooley Hammock; 15 Avenue and 13 Avenue at 2 Street

Commissioner Rogers questioned whether the recent stop sign installations are a good idea. 15 Avenue is a main artery between Las Olas and Broward Boulevards and there could be backup of traffic on Las Olas because of the stop sign. He felt there should be a comprehensive plan and will be looking into this.

#### Tunnel Top Park

Commissioner Rogers indicated that Rio Vista Civic Association has suggested naming this park, Stranahan Landing as it is in line with the area's history. Mayor Seiler wanted to be certain there is no confusion with the other park, Stranahan Park.

#### Fort Lauderdale 13.1 Marathon

Mayor Seiler clarified a news article that indicated that the City towed vehicles that were illegally parked. The City did not tow any vehicles. In the future, the event organizers should encourage people to park in City parking areas.

#### Events and Matters of Interest

Members of the Commission announced recent and upcoming events and matters of interest. Commissioner Rogers requested staff find a way to let people know in advance what topics will be covered in upcoming neighborhood police meetings.

#### IV – City Manager Reports

#### E911 Call Taking and Dispatch Services; Tri-Party Agreement

The City Manager advised that the proposal on the table at this time is the Sheriff would provide both police and fire dispatch services for roughly \$4.1 million; the City would have a \$1 million credit (911) and savings generated by not having fire dispatch which would mean a cost of approximately \$1.5 million annually. There would be an interim

period of moving from the Fort Lauderdale PSAP to the public safety building PSAP. During this period the Sheriff would be looking for about \$442,000 per month. The County would not participate in the cost. The Sheriff would pay for the Computer Automated Dispatch (CAD) equipment and upgrades. It has not been concluded that there are any over-funded E911 dollars, but potentially fifty-eight percent could be used to offset the transition costs. He could not advise that those dollars will be there. He has asked the County to notify the remaining municipalities that have not been charged for the same service that Fort Lauderdale would be charged, however the County has declined to do so. Their reason is the current efforts underway for a countywide solution. He was not able to secure a County commitment to do so if a countywide solution is not reached.

The City Manager advised that he has had discussions with the County also about the 311 System, which is a telephone number of municipal services. Years ago the Sheriff co-opted this number. While the Sheriff is not using it, he has allowed the County to use it for animal control and building inspection services. He informed the County of the City's desire to take over the number. Although the County did not believe this could be done, the City has confirmed with AT&T that it is possible. He did not think that the County would object.

The City Manager concluded that the Sheriff is continuing to provide services at the rate of \$440,000 per month. He requested Commission direction as to whether an interlocal agreement for services over the long-term is the acceptable course of action.

Vice Mayor DuBose asked for more clarity on the \$440,000. The City Manager advised that is the Sheriff's take it or leave it number. It represents about \$37 per call versus the County average of \$20 per call. The Sheriff has indicated that the bulk of this number is the 75 employees for the Fort Lauderdale PSAP. The City Manager provided some detail on Pompano Beach as a comparison. He confirmed for the Mayor that if the staffing was reduced the City would receive that benefit. In further response to Vice Mayor DuBose, the City Manager advised that the City is not being billed on a per call basis. The City Manager commented that he believes the Fort Lauderdale PSAP is overstaffed. The fact that the Sheriff has loaded the Fort Lauderdale PSAP to employ his employees creates an artificially high rate. Commissioner Rodstrom was concerned if staffing levels were reduced, Fort Lauderdale callers might have to wait longer. The City Manager advised that the Sheriff proposes that everything be moved to his public safety building operation. He was unaware of the Sheriff's staffing level proposal. Fort Lauderdale would have the same level of service as the other twenty some agencies. In response to Commissioner Rodstrom, the City Manager ventured to say that the level of service proposed will be the same as the City currently enjoys. In response to Vice Mayor DuBose, the City Manager commented for the short period of time he questioned delving into staffing levels and so forth. He indicated the \$440,000 is a fair assessment in regard to the level of service the City will be receiving (during the transition period). Commissioner Rogers asked about the extent of information provided by the Sheriff in order for the City to know that the \$1.5 million is accurate. The City Manager indicated that at this point it is the Sheriff's word. It has to do with staffing levels; he will not use all of the 75 employees. Commissioner Rogers indicated he would want detail on the numbers before committing to the long-term. Commissioner Roberts indicated that is the purpose of the Funding Subcommittee. He agreed with the City Manager that because it will be worked through by the subcommittees, it is not worth tackling the fairness issue for the short-term transition at this time. The City Manager indicated that

using the Sheriff's public safety building per call cost of \$20.84 and the City's calls for service last year, it is \$4.1 million. In response to Mayor Seiler, Commissioner Roberts enumerated the membership composition for the three subcommittees and voting rules. Commissioner Roberts indicated that he would welcome a court decision on who is responsible for the funding long-term. Mayor Seiler asked the Vice Mayor to suggest to the League of Cities that they bring the matter before the court on behalf of the cities. He wanted assurance that if the Sheriff produces a more efficient operation with less employees, those savings are passed to the City and he was not certain that is the case. The City Manager explained that the problem is that Fort Lauderdale is the only entity that will continue to pay. All of the cities being served from the public safety building are being charged \$20.84 per call. However, after the transition Fort Lauderdale will be at \$4.1 million which translates to that per call rate also. The City Auditor indicated that the number of calls per dispatcher has not been discussed. The Sheriff is suggesting that Fort Lauderdale's productivity is lower than his staff or that Fort Lauderdale is overstaffed. If the Sheriff can handle more calls with fewer employees, the cost will be lower. The City is being charged at the Sheriff's rate and will reap the benefit because the Sheriff is not going to accept all seventy-five employees. It might be useful to see the experience of cities that handle 911 on their own. He guestioned if the County is willing to contribute any portion of the reserves. The City Manager advised County would consider allocating some of their reserve, if the County has over-funded their reserve which they do not believe is the case and City can demonstrate over-funding could be used for operations. If this is possible, the County would commit to fifty eight percent of the over-funding to offset the transition cost. The City Auditor explained that the County will contend that reserves are being accumulated for capital replacement and there is no over-funding. If it is not done voluntarily, he questioned whether the City could make that direction. In further response to Mayor Seiler, the City Auditor advised that the County Auditor has not weighed in on this. Mayor Seiler suggested that this request be posed to Broward County Mayor John Rodstrom. In response to Commissioner Rogers, the City Manager advised that Fort Lauderdale is in a unique position because it is the only city with its own department and being asked to pay. Commissioner Rogers agreed that a legal interpretation is needed. Mayor Seiler felt there is consensus on this point; inquiry will be made as to whether the League will take the lead on it. Commissioner Rodstrom felt there would be more strength with the League. The City Auditor thought the City could obtain information from the cities who provide the service on their own for a comparison on calls per call taker. Commissioner Rogers raised the issue of timing on securing a legal ruling. With an idea of the operational cost long-term, there could be discussion in terms of equity. The City Manager felt there are two points. One is whether the City could recoup the money if there is a ruling that it is the County's responsibility. The City Attorney felt starting a lawsuit now would be counter-productive to what the League is attempting to do. There is a question of who is responsible for 911 services according to the County and the Sheriff. His opinion on the matter is that the County is responsible. In further response to Commissioner Rogers, the City Attorney explained that the rule is that they must spend on operations at least seventy percent of the money from 911in any given year. He did not know is what they are putting away is thirty percent. The City Manager advised it is forty-four percent. That being the case, the City Attorney noted that is \$1.4 million too much. What is in dispute is the \$1.4 million and what they have accumulated every year that the \$1.4 million represents, that being the percentage over thirty percent it represents. He believed the law is clear that they cannot reserve more than thirty percent in any given year. Commissioner Rogers thought it would be in the City's best interest to get that accounting now and let the judge rule. In response to Mayor Seiler, the City Attorney doubted that an expedited ruling could be obtained. The City Manager advised that staff will continue to work with the County Manager on this point; it is just a matter of not having the answer at this point. Commissioner Rogers wanted the City and County auditors to meet and get the answers and if that is not an acceptable course, proceed with a lawsuit. Commissioner Rodstrom felt the request should first be made.

The City Manager concluded staff will continue to work with the Sheriff on the short-term solution and prepare an interlocal agreement. He along with the City Auditor will meet with the County Manager and Auditor to address terms. Staff will also continue to support Commissioner Roberts and his work on the Governance and Funding subcommittees. Mayor Seiler also noted that the Vice Mayor will check with the League of Cities on whether they would be willing to bring the matter before the court. The City Auditor indicated that he will obtain information from other cities that are providing the service themselves. The City Manager pointed out that once a recommendation comes forward from the Consolidation Communications Committee, it must then be accepted by the County Commission.

## I-B – Full Sails in Fort Lauderdale Event

Phil Thornburg, Director of Parks and Recreation, indicated that he and Heather Bettner of Prince Media Development have been working on the idea of bringing public art quasi fundraiser to the City. Ms. Bettner has done this in Miami and South Miami.

Ms. Bettner reviewed slides on this topic that are attached to these minutes. She noted that Prince Media did the South Miami Manatee Fest. She elaborated upon various features that are positive and helpful to the community, its visitors, local artists and students. They would work with the Public Works Department on installation procedure. She explained how they would conduct the call to the artists and that their intention is to have one hundred in recognition of the City's centennial. Each artist will provide a sketch. The sponsor will review the sketches and pick an artist with whom to work.

Ms. Bettner responded to Mayor Seiler's guestion about the size of the boat and her experience with previous art work and sales. In response to Commissioner Rogers, Mr. Thornburg advised that there would not be any budgetary expenses. Staff would work through the permitting with Prince Media and present a resolution to the Commission with respect to public art. In response to the City Attorney's question, Ms. Bettner indicated that the only advertising on the art work is a plaque of 8" x 5", that would indicate the name of the piece, artist, sponsor and the Fort Lauderdale Full Sails 2012-2013 event. Logos are not permitted. The City Attorney anticipated there would be some type of an agreement as to placement and so forth. Ms. Bettner offered to include the City's logo on their promotional materials. For Commissioner Rogers' benefit, Ms. Bettner advised that sponsors are not guaranteed placement; the placement must be permitted. As to timing, Mr. Thornburg indicated the plan would be for a boat prototype to be on display at Winterfest for exposure. In response to Commissioner Rogers, Ms. Bettner advised that Prince Media has no involvement in the sponsorship funds. Artists are paid from the sponsorship fee that is estimated at \$3,500 per boat. Mr. Thornburg noted that the City receives the profit from the boat sales. Ms. Bettner explained that the sponsor gets the opportunity to be in the art work map and guide, for their name to be on the plaque on the boat and sometimes an event at their business and to say that they are a sponsor of Full Sails in Fort Lauderdale. In response to Commissioner Rogers, Ms. Bettner indicated there would be a close monitoring of hurricane season. Prince Media will be renting a warehouse for manufacturing and storage space. The total budget is about \$150,000 and all inclusive. The City Attorney concluded an agreement would be needed. In response to Mayor Seiler, Ms. Bettner indicated that there was no agreement used in South Miami that is still on display. Miami, South Miami and Pinecrest furnished a resolution.

Mayor Seiler requested all of the information be furnished to the City Attorney as quickly as possible so that it could be presented on December 6. Vice Mayor DuBose asked about permit fees. The City Auditor indicated it could be submitted from the proceeds to the Parks and Recreation Department. Ms. Bettner added that it could also be added to the sponsor cost.

## <u>I-C – Proposed Ordinance – Urban Agriculture – Community Gardens, Urban</u> Farms and Green Markets

Mayor Seiler and Commissioner Rogers did not recall speaking about domestic fowl at the public workshop. Mayor Seiler was not in favor of addressing domestic fowl at this time. He wanted to refer this matter to the advisory board. There was consensus agreement. He wanted staff to address points raised by Mara Shlackman in her email to him.

Jenni Morejon, Sustainable Development, indicated that although the code permits beekeeping, it has little if any regulation or definition as to what that means. Staff was thinking it would be helpful to add criteria.

Mayor Seiler opened the floor for public comment.

John MacDonald of 1008 West Las Olas Boulevard, was opposed to permitting domestic fowl. He was concerned about the size of community garden accessory structures and people who may carry things too far, such as dumping compost from the Pompano Harness Track. Mayor Seiler clarified that the topic will be vetted by City. He noted the chronology to date on this topic and that today is a preliminary step. Mr. MacDonald emphasized that the Code Enforcement staff should be watchful. Greg Brewton, Director of Sustainable Development, advised that Code Enforcement is involved.

Cara Campbell of 641 SW 6 Avenue, encouraged the Commission to not add to, or change the existing code concerning beekeeping. She was opposed to the language in the Commission Agenda Report (11-1685) providing for a minimum 25 foot setback and screening by a hedge or fence. She spoke of the importance of protecting feral bees. She went on to indicate her favor in permitting domestic fowl, except for roosters or slaughtering.

Leo Gosser, president of Broward Beekeepers Association and Broward County representative of the Farm Bureau Aviary Subcommittee, stressed that bees are an essential part of agricultural activity. Urban beekeeping has increased tremendously in the last five years. There are thirty-seven in their organization and thirty-six are urban beekeepers. It is not so much where the hives are placed, but rather how the beekeeper takes care of the bees and respects the neighbors. It is only necessary for the flight path to be up and away from one's neighbors. In response to Mayor Seiler, Dr. Gosser advised that he is working with Oakland Park on an ordinance at this time. He noted that the only city in Broward County that bans bees is Margate.

Valerie Amor, member of the Sustainability Advisory Board, indicated that chickens are very beneficial. She advocated against over-regulations. She cautioned against looking at ordinances not localized in Florida. She supported urban farms in residential areas. She suggested creation of a County food policy council. She believed information on this topic should be furnished to the Sustainability Advisory Board.

Michael Madfis of 1041 SW 17 Street, indicated with the proposed ordinance Fort Lauderdale would be a leader in the county. He felt attention should be given to industry self-regulations. He listed some of the benefits of urban farming. He supported including animals, but was happy to see something going forward as a starting point. Once something is in place, the industry will be present to help support moving forward with enhancements. Mayor Seiler suggested the City consider a resolution supporting the creation of a food policy council by Broward County and asked that Mr. Madfis furnish some suggested language.

Charles King of 105 North Victoria Park Road, was opposed to urban beekeeping because of allergies. He explained his understanding of why the State is recommending the elimination of feral bees.

In response to Mayor Seiler, Dr. Gosser advised that the Broward Beekeepers Association has several beekeepers that perform live removals. Most feral bees make excellent colonies. He disagreed with the idea that they are Africanized bees. The local population of bees keeps Africanized bees from becoming dominant.

There was no one else wishing to speak.

Mayor Seiler concluded there is no consensus to include permitting domestic fowl. The proposal should be vetted through the applicable advisory boards. Ms. Morejon indicated that the idea has been raised of selling surplus produce. Typically, zoning regulations and more importantly land use does not permit such commercial activity in residential areas where community gardens would likely be situated. However urban farms would occur in non-residential zoning districts. Inquiries have been made by churches about urban farming operations, but land use regulations prohibit retail activity on church sites. She mentioned the idea of a more coordinated effort and a single point of contact or clearing house so to speak where urban farms and community garden growers could go to sell their produce. This will not be part of the ordinance at this time but something to address in the eventual policy.

Vice Mayor DuBose suggested a public educational component.

In response to Commissioner Rogers, Mr. Brewton advised that there has not been any history of problems with bees and beekeeping.

## <u>I-D – Fort Lauderdale Stadiums and Vicinity – 72.6 Acre Site, East of Executive</u> <u>Airport – Comprehensive Plan – Land Use Plan Amendment to Broward County -</u> <u>Traffic Impact Analysis and Mitigation Strategy</u>

The City Manager provided a verbal status report. Staff is wrestling with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) on the appraisal. He has requested that they consider another extension to get the City through the next season. He went on to frame the subject of this item. The FAA requested the land use of this property be changed to

aviation. The process was started with the County. The County would like the City to make a voluntary donation for transportation mitigation of \$440,000 approximately. Because nothing is being added or modified, he did not think it seems logical to make any sort of transportation mitigation payment at this time. Without the contribution, the County may not approve the land use change. Vice Mayor DuBose indicated that this item came forward after the County staff assumed this function that was previously handled by the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The calculation changed with that transfer of responsibility. It would have previously been \$108,000. If the Schlitterbahn project is not built and the City makes some improvement, the cost would be on the City which was not the standard held to other cities. There was also discussion about the road. The County Commission must act on the Planning Council's recommendation and he believed the sticking point is the calculation, not the land use amendment. The City Manager pointed out that mitigation implies that there is something that has changed, but the stadiums have been on the site for forty years. Mayor Seiler understood that the cost is the same whether there is an improvement to a hanger at the airport or the Schlitterbahn development. The City Manager indicated that the Schlitterbahn traffic impact will be lower than the stadium. Because the road has been designated as Level of Service F (capacity) something needs to be done for the road regardless and it should be done now.

The timeline of the item going before the Planning Council and County Commission was noted. Some discussion followed on the debate of the issue by the Planning Council.

Jimmy Koeth, Sustainable Development, advised that because of a change in the roadway capacity, the calculation would change from \$108,000 to \$77,000 using the previous formula. There was consensus agreement to \$77,000. Mr. Koeth believed the \$440,000 was based on the new capacity.

Note: The Commission recessed the conference meeting at 4:01 p.m. and convened as the Community Redevelopment Agency Board of Commissioners until 5:03 p.m. The Commission then reconvened the conference meeting to address Agenda Item II-A.

#### II-A – Quarterly Investment Report for period ending September 30, 2011

The City Manager noted the City currently has two investment managers, PFM Asset Management, LLC and Cutwater Asset Management. Generally performance is consistent with the market. There are no aberrations.

Lynda Flynn, City Treasurer, and John Herbst, City Auditor, responded to Commissioner Rogers' question as to the types of investments in the 2005 timeframe. Commissioner Rogers noted the change in the last six to twelve months and questioned if the policy is too restrictive. He was looking for more return without too much risk. Ms. Flynn advised that when the investment policy was recently revised, each portfolio manager allocation was increased from \$50 million to \$100 million. A third money manager will be selected this fiscal year by RFP with a tiered approach so that the managers have a better grip on the City's cash flows. In response to Mayor Seiler, the City Manager explained each manager would be gauged and measured against market indicators and other benchmarks or their peer group. Commissioner Rogers asked what could be done to position the City to earn more return during the current market conditions. Mel Hamilton, Senior Managing Consultant of PFM Asset Management LLC, noted that the Federal Reserve has indicated that short term rates will be kept low for the next two years in order to provide stability to the market. He referred to a chart on page 6 of Exhibit 4 to Commission Agenda Report 11-1709 that shows returns on various asset classes. A copy of this page of the exhibit is attached to these minutes. The Federal Reserve has also implemented Operation Twist of selling short term securities (1-5 year) to buy longer term securities and drive the longer term rates down. However other factors are playing in, for example, Europe. If Europe was to stabilize there would be a sharp uptake in rates. With all of the uncertainty now, there is associated volatility.

Mr. Hamilton responded to Commissioner Rogers' question of how Fort Lauderdale compares with other municipalities of similar size in terms of risk tolerance, indicating the preponderance of investments are treasuries and agencies and maybe a twenty-five percent allocation to corporates and mortgage backed securities. With such low interest rates, there is discussion about changing strategy from 1-3 years to 1-5 years. In further response, Mr. Hamilton felt it would make sense for the City to move to 1-5 years for some portion of the allocation. The City Manager explained part of the problem is that the City has \$488 million and only \$100 million under professional fund management with the remainder being managed by staff. He felt that it should be reversed. Miriam Cleary, Regional Director of Cutwater Asset Management, advised that the City's investment policy must fall within the framework of Florida law so that is not a lot of leeway. As compared to other cities in Florida, she has not seen any other cities that are more risky; some cities are very risk averse. With the Federal Reserve placing certainty on how long the interests would remain low, it gave investors the ability to go out longer in duration. When you think interest rates are falling is the time to lock in. In response to Commissioner Rogers, Ms. Cleary indicated that she is not concerned about inflation in the next five years from the perspective of the City's portfolio. Also, care should be taken to consider the City's cash needs with investing for longer periods of time.

The City Manager advised that the increase to \$100 million for the investment managers will be occurring immediately. When the third manager is selected, there would be \$300 million under management. Perhaps in the following year, a fourth manager could be added.

## EXECUTIVE CLOSED DOOR SESSION WAS HELD AT 5:21 P.M.

The City Commission shall meet privately pursuant to Florida Statutes 768.28(16), 286.011(8) and 447.605 concerning

1. Maritime Petroleum Associates, LLC d/b/a Peterson Fuel Delivery v. City of Fort Lauderdale (Case 10-62463)

- 2. Byron Roundtree (Case WC-10-13990)
- 3. Collective bargaining.

## EXECUTIVE CLOSED DOOR SESSION ENDED AT 6:05 P.M.

Note: The Commission reconvened the conference meeting at 9:05 p.m. in the Chambers on the first floor of City Hall to address Agenda Item I-E.

## I-E – Federal Legislation Allowing Increased Weight of Trucks

Commissioner Roberts indicated that he originally raised this matter and supports opposing the legislation. Broward and Miami-Dade counties, several municipalities and public safety organizations have opposed the legislation. It would not impact commerce issues. It would protect infrastructure. There are associated safety issues. Commissioner Rogers noted that rail traffic is the highest of the country's history. He thought that may indicate a need for more trucking. Commissioner Rodstrom indicated that she had been concerned about the potential increase in the cost of goods. However, with the additional information provided, she noted that infrastructure improvements would increase taxes as well. She noted other agencies in support and her concurrence with adopting a resolution. Vice Mayor DuBose was also in favor of considering a resolution.

There was consensus approval to prepare a resolution for consideration at the December 6, 2011, regular meeting.

#### <u>I-F – Community Development Block Grant Application – Public Service Program</u> Criteria – Discussion with members of Community Services Advisory Board

This item was deferred to December 6, 2011.

#### I-G – Proposed Alarm Response Fee Settlements

No objection.

#### <u>I-H – Proposed Lien Settlements – Special Magistrate and Code Enforcement</u> Board Cases

No objection.

#### <u>III-A – Communications to City Commission and Minutes Circulated for Period</u> ending November 10, 2011

Beach Redevelopment Board

**The Beach Redevelopment Advisory Board feels** strongly that the redevelopment of the Swimming Hall of Fame and Fort Lauderdale Aquatics site is as important as any other function that the Board will undertake in our remaining eight years, and is committed to seeing that it is done right and benefits the City now and in the future.

The Board supported the original RDC proposal back in March. However, at the time, while the Board loved the design and the concept, the Board had some concerns with the other funding that was required to make the project feasible. At the CRA meetings, the CRA seemed to share these concerns, and instructed RDC to scale back the project in order to cut costs, and the Board has now seen the revised proposal. The Board finds the result to be inferior to the original one and insufficient for what the Board believes is necessary for the redevelopment of this site, while at the same time it does not substantially lessen the CRA's financial burden, reducing it only from \$25M to \$22.5M.

The reduction in scale of the project and the loss of many of the amenities which the Board thought worthwhile come from the disappearance of the other funds that were committed in the original proposal. With that in mind, the Board encourages the CRA to revisit the optimal use of that site and explore three options:

1. A new RFP in which the City indicates the willingness to explore CRA funding up to \$25M in order to attract a wider breadth of bidders.

2. Continue with the RDC proposal as presented and encourage them to work with staff to make it better if that is the avenue they want.

3. To explore the option of redevelopment of solely the Aquatic Center directed by the City and staff rather than outside contractors utilizing CRA funding.

**The Board is making this recommendation in the hopes** that the new Swimming Hall of Fame and Aquatic Complex will be not only financially self-sustaining and feasible, but also a key attraction for tourists and Fort Lauderdale residents in the near and distant future.

In a voice vote, the Communication to the City Commission passed unanimously.

Commissioner Rodstrom noted that Recreational Design and Construction, Inc.'s revised proposal will be presented to the Board on November 21, 2011. It was agreed to defer the communication until after November 21.

Fire-Rescue Facilities Bond Issue Blue Ribbon Committee

**Motion made by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr.** Kozich, to state the Committee's support for the City's proposal to obtain additional land from Antioch College to build Fire Station 13 and possibly a future Ocean Rescue headquarters. In a voice vote, motion passed unanimously.

There was general agreement expressed by Mayor Seiler and Commissioner Rodstrom.

#### Marine Advisory Board

Motion made by Mr. DiPietro, seconded by Mr. Guardabassi, to support Staff's recommendation not to

proceed with dredging Chula Vista's canals. In a roll call vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

There was general agreement expressed by Mayor Seiler and Commissioners Rodstrom and Rogers.

#### III-B – Board and Committee Vacancies

Note: Please see regular meeting item R-03.

There being no other matters to come before the City Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 9:11 p.m.