FORT LAUDERDALE CITY COMMISSION CONFERENCE MEETING JANUARY 17, 2012

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CITY COMMISSION CONFERENCE MEETING 1:35 P.M. January 17, 2012

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
City Clerk
City Attorney
Sergeant At Arms
John Herbst
Jonda K. Joseph
Harry A. Stewart
Sergeant Joel Winfrey

<u>II-A – Committee Overview of 2011 Fort Lauderdale Centennial Celebration</u>

Congressman Clay Shaw, chair of the Centennial Celebration Committee, reviewed slides on this topic which are attached to these minutes. In response to Mayor Seiler, the City Manager confirmed that staff will examine the possibility of wrapping AT&T utility cabinets to display graphics depicting the city's history. Congressman Shaw presented commemorative framed list featuring the names of all original residents.

Note: The Commission briefly recessed from 1:43 p.m. to 1:47 p.m.

Chaz Adams, Public Information Specialist, pointed out a centennial time capsule project being produced in partnership with the Council of Fort Lauderdale Civic Associations. He confirmed for Mayor Seiler that the slides presented by Congressman Shaw, including the sponsors, could be displayed for a while on the City's government access television station. Mayor Seiler suggested using graphics from the centennial photomontage for each district for the utility cabinet wrappings. Commissioner Rodstrom thought AT&T may want to participate in funding this project.

Nuccia McCormick, member of the Centennial Celebration Committee, noted that embellishment of the 17th Street Causeway bridge, another centennial project, will continue.

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

No objection.

<u>I-B – Repeal of Early Cost Recovery Florida Statute Relating to Electric Utility Charges for Nuclear Power Plants</u>

Mayor Seiler opened the floor for public comment.

Steven D. Scroggs, Senior Director of Project Development, Florida Power and Light Company (FPL), noted his experience as director of the nuclear project at Turkey Point. He thought the proposed resolution is one-sided as it was created by those who oppose this project. In terms of long-term planning, it is important to balance the fuel supply in order to maintain low costs, lower greenhouse gas emissions and remove exposure to volatile natural gas prices. He requested a deferral of the associated regular meeting Agenda Item R-03 in order to allow him more time to provide a balanced view. In response to Mayor Seiler, he indicated that he was not asked to address the matter before the Sustainability Advisory Board (Board). Mayor Seiler expressed concern that only one side of the issue had been presented to the Board. Todd

Hiteshew, Sustainability Advisory Board Liaison, explained that this topic was raised by a board member who also presented the resolution. Mayor Seiler wanted the Board to hear both sides of the argument and from all possible stakeholders.

There was no one else wishing to speak.

There was consensus approval to schedule the item on the Sustainability Advisory Board agenda as soon as possible and defer the regular meeting Agenda Item R-03.

I-C - Destination Resort Casinos

Mayor Seiler indicated that he does not support turning the city's beach area into a casino destination. There are legitimate concerns about parking and traffic, as well as issues specific to casino gambling.

Commissioner Roberts suggested and Commissioner Rodstrom agreed that the word "downtown" be removed from the resolution's seventh whereas clause. Mayor Seiler noted the draft resolution is what was adopted by Miami Beach. He agreed with Vice Mayor DuBose that the resolution should place more emphasis on the city versus the state. Mayor Seiler suggested the resolution's title be amended by removing the language "any and all expansion of gambling, including" to reflect the following: "urging the Florida Legislature to reject legislation to legalize destination resort casinos in Fort Lauderdale, Florida". There was consensus approval, except Commissioner Rogers preferred the existing language. He did not object to tailoring the language to the City, but thought it is fitting to keep the term, expansion. Vice Mayor DuBose wanted the resolution to be strong in terms of representing Fort Lauderdale, and not speak for other cities. Commissioner Rodstrom agreed. Aside from this resolution, Commissioner Roberts expressed support in one of the original attempts to make an even playing field throughout and more regulation. He agreed that the City's resolution should be specific and especially with respect to the beach.

There was consensus approval to revise the resolution as follows: 1) remove the word "always" from the fourth whereas; 2) include the word "may" to read "expanded gambling may promote corruption of the governmental process" and remove "immensely wealthy" from the fifth whereas; 3) replace the word "will" with "may" in the sixth whereas; 4) replace the word "will" with "may" and remove "of downtown neighborhoods" and "in our community" in the seventh whereas; 5) remove the entire eighth whereas; 6) add the wording "in the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida" after "destination resort casinos" in the ninth whereas; and 7) add the wording "the City of Fort Lauderdale" to Section 1.

<u>II-B - Citizens' Committee of Recognition - 2012 Recommendations - Distinguished Citizen, Citizen of the Year, Honored Founder, Exemplary Former City Employee</u>

There was consensus approval with the recommendations set forth in Exhibit 1 of Commission Agenda Report 12-0088.

<u>II-C – Geothermal Heating/Cooling System Repair – Aquatic Complex – Emergency Purchase</u>

Mayor Seiler noted communications he received from the public indicating that this transition was executed in a fair and prompt fashion. Commissioner Roberts agreed.

II-D – Emergency Notification System Service – Water Main Break – Emergency Purchase

Mayor Seiler wanted staff to explore a top-of-the-line notification system with a greater capacity. The lesson learned from the water line break on Christmas Eve is that the City must be able to get notice out via email, text message, and telephone, to all residents quickly. It is also necessary for the appropriate staff to have remote access to the City's government access television station and the website. The City Manager pointed out that the City currently offers two notification systems - through the police and public works departments. He is looking into migrating them into one system. Past practice was to use the police notification system to notify the public of traffic outages related to local events, but this was discontinued by the previous administration. He intends to reintroduce it and provide notification to residents at least 24 hours in advance. Commissioner Roberts agreed. It is also necessary to provide notification of road closures caused by emergency operations.

There was consensus agreement. The City Manager agreed to report back on this topic.

The City Manager introduced the newly hired Information Technology Services Director, Mike Maier. Mr. Maier provided some background information about himself.

III-A - Communication to City Commission and Minutes Circulated for Period ending January 12, 2012

Beach Business Improvement District Advisory Committee

Motion made by Vice Chair loannou, seconded by Mr. Yaari, to advise the City Commission that the Committee supports RDC's plan for the redevelopment of the Aquatic Complex, as well as the proposed development on the eastern parcel and the splash deck, public restrooms, and landscaping enhancements in D.C. Alexander Park. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

No discussion.

III-B – Board and Committee Vacancies

Beach Redevelopment Board Daniel S. Matchette (Mayor Seiler – Reappointment)

> Bradley Deckelbaum (Vice Mayor DuBose – Reappointment) Aiton J. Yaari (Commissioner Rogers – Reappointment)

Board of Adjustment Donna Guthrie (Consensus – Alternate - New)

Cemetery System Board

of Trustees

Larry M. Ott (Mayor Seiler - Reappointment)

Jonathan Pearson (Mayor Seiler - Reappointment) Delores Sallette (Vice Mayor DuBose - Reappointment) Jimmy Witherspoon (Vice Mayor DuBose - Reappointment) Damon R. Adams (Commissioner Roberts - Reappointment)

Community Appearance Board Carol Cappadona (Commissioner Roberts - New)

Fire-Rescue Facilities Bond Issue

Blue Ribbon Committee

Frederick H. Nesbitt (Commissioner Roberts - Reappointment)

June D. Page (Commissioner Roberts - Reappointment)

Frank B. Anderson, Jr. (Commissioner Rogers - Reappointment)

Historic Preservation Board Richard P. Schulze (Commissioner Roberts - New)

Nuisance Abatement Board Dale Hoover (Consensus - Reappointment)

D. Ryan Saunders (Consensus - Reappointment)
Cindy Smith (Consensus - Alternate - Reappointment)

Visioning Committee Dan Lindblade (Consensus - Reappointment)

Wiley D. Thompson, III (Commissioner Rogers - Reappointment)

Note: Please see regular meeting item R-04.

City Commission Reports

MPO (Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization) Transportation Enhancement Grant Program; Birch State Park Greenway

Commissioner Rodstrom pointed out that the MPO Transportation Enhancement Grant Program is now open and should be included as a conference agenda item. She expressed desire to resubmit for the Birch State Park greenway.

Reuse of Beach Street Light Poles

In light of a fee associated with making the beach street light poles reusable, Commissioner Rodstrom suggested the City provide them to desirous neighborhoods, and that those neighborhoods be responsible for the first \$5,000 cost to change out. The City Manager pointed out that the \$5,000 is the cost for determining what must be done to make the light poles reusable such as bringing them into compliance with the code. Staff's initial take was that all of the light poles were non-reusable; but staff has now determined that roughly thirty are reusable. The contractor has agreed not to take the light poles that the City wants to keep, provided the City stores them. It would be \$5,000 to evaluate the light poles in terms of potential reuse. In response to Mayor Seiler, Albert Carbon, Public Works Director, explained that a new light pole costs approximately \$5,000. Commissioner Rogers recalled that a neighborhood in District IV had a greenway lighting project involving approximately five lights, but the City would not power the lights unless the neighborhood opened a Florida Power and Light account. He questioned whether the City has a policy for such matters. He and Commissioner Rodstrom agreed that lighting is a municipal purpose. Mayor Seiler indicated that a policy decision would likely be necessary in that some neighborhoods would claim a greater need from a safety standpoint and some would or would not be able to pay for the electricity or the cost of the lights themselves. Commissioners Rogers and Rodstrom and Vice Mayor DuBose agreed that lighting is an important aspect of public safety and is worth \$5,000. Commissioner Roberts questioned the lifespan of a used light pole versus a new one. There was consensus approval to look into this further.

<u>Dan Marino Foundation Vocational College</u>

Commissioner Rodstrom noted the Dan Marino Foundation's request for the City to add to its legislative agenda support of the Foundation's vocational college efforts, and requesting the State's support. Mayor Seiler suggested this be included on the February 7 regular meeting agenda.

FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) Flood Zones; Insurance

Commissioner Rodstrom noted that Pompano Beach and Broward County are considering appealing the FEMA flood zone changes on behalf of some affected residents. She questioned whether the City would also consider appealing. Mayor Seiler questioned whether the City could be included under the County's appeal. Commissioner Roberts recalled raising this matter recently with respect to the Galt Mile. The City Manager advised that an effective appeal would cost several hundred thousand dollars as it must prove that, either, the FEMA elevations or the storm surge models are inaccurate. Highrise residents of the Galt Mile may have to purchase flood insurance because their mortgage contract requires it if they are in a particular zone. There was consensus approval to await a reply to the County's appeal. Mayor Seiler asked that this be brought back once the County's actions have been determined. Vice Mayor DuBose stressed the need for flood insurance for situations when streets are flooded because that condition would meet the definition of flood even should the property not be in a flood zone. The City should inform the residents that without flood insurance, there is no coverage if such a situation occurs.

School Resource Officers; Broward League of Cities Task Force

Vice Mayor DuBose advised that the Broward League of Cities has formed a task force on this topic.

South Federal Highway Repavement Project

Commissioner Rogers requested the City Manager inquire whether this project is on schedule and a completion date.

Events and Matters of Interest

Members of the Commission announced recent and upcoming events and matters of interest.

Note: The City Commission convened as the Community Redevelopment Agency Board of Commissioners from 3:00 p.m. to 3:05 p.m.

Note: The City Commission then recessed from 3:05 p.m. to 3:32 p.m.

City Manager Reports - none

EXECUTIVE CLOSED DOOR SESSION WAS HELD AT 3:32 P.M.

The City Commission shall meet privately pursuant to Florida Statute 768.28(16) regarding Maritime Petroleum Associates d/b/a Peterson Fuel Delivery v. City of Fort Lauderdale (Case 10-62463)

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 3:54 P.M.

There being no other matters to come before the City Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 3:54 p.m.