

MAYOR/COMMISSION WORK SESSION

October 15, 2007

Room 519 – 10:14 a.m.

Present: Mayor Frankel, Commissioners Douglas [left at 11:01 a.m.], Moss, Muoio and Robinson Jr., City Administrator Mitchell, Deputy City Attorney Urcheck and Deputy City Clerk McDonald;
Absent: Commissioner Mitchell.

<p>1.</p>	<p><u>Fire Service Special Assessment</u> – Fire Chief Ridgeway [a] presented a fire protection special assessment fee for the Commissioners to consider adopting; [b] stated emergency medical services could not be included in the special assessment; [c] stated that to implement the special assessment fee would require a three step process consisting of cost apportionment, parcel apportionment and assessment calculations; [d] stated that property owners would have to be notified annually if their assessments are to be increased; [e] spoke of different methods of collecting the fees; and [f] explained the difference between the proposed fee and the Palm Beach County’s MST fee. Commissioner Moss [a] stated the importance of finding a way to continue building and maintaining fire stations so as to continue to provide a high level of service; [b] stated that implementing the fee could help in reducing the mileage and property insurance rates; and [c] requested a copy of the study on the intended assessment fees. Commissioner Muoio stated that she would only support the fee if it would mean a reduction in the mileage rate. Deputy City Attorney Urcheck stated that the fee would be based on usage as opposed to property value. It was the consensus of the Commission to bring forward a Resolution.</p>
<p>2.</p>	<p><u>Election Task Force Results</u> – Commissioner Douglas stated that action needs to be taken concerning the recommendations of the elections task force regarding term lengths for Commissioners. The Mayor directed staff to determine the cost of adding a City issue to the January</p>

	<p>2008 ballot. Commissioner Robinson and Muoio expressed their opinion that the question of extending Commissioners term lengths would not pass at this time and recommended posing it at a later date. The Mayor stated that the City should wait until the March 2008 ballot to pose the question of term lengths.</p>
3.	<p><u>Maintenance of Okeechobee Medians</u> – Commissioner Muoio [a] stated the medians on Okeechobee are not being maintained; [b] suggested that the City take over the maintenance of the medians; and [c] requested that Director of Public Works Alford give her the contact information of the person responsible for maintaining the medians at Palm Beach County. The Mayor suggested [a] calling the Department of Transportation to resolve the issue; and [b] assigning community leaders to monitor the situation and when incidents arise they should call Customer Relations Specialist Tagle. City Administrator Mitchell suggested obtaining the maintenance schedule. Commissioner Moss provided the contact information for the District Representative for the Department of Transportation.</p>
4.	<p><u>Review of Affordable Housing Proposals</u> – Commissioner Robinson suggested that the Housing and Community Development and Law Department review the affordable housing trust fund Resolution for the City. The Mayor directed the Housing and Community Development Department to review it.</p>
5.	<p><u>Review of General Alert of Property Taxes</u> – Commissioner Robinson [a] presented a copy of the review to City Administrator Mitchell and Director of Housing and Community Development Johnson; [b] requested that City Administrator Mitchell and Director of Housing and Community Development Johnson make recommendations on the review.</p>

7.	<p><u>Other</u> – Commissioner Moss [a] inquired about the status of the Transit Oriented Development (TOD); [b] expressed his wish for a RFP to go out; [c] stated he would bring the matter up at the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) meeting; and [d] asked that Redevelopment Manager Briesemeister contact Treasure Coast before October 18, 2007. Redevelopment Manager Briesemeister [a] provided an update on the TOD; [b] stated that the City could do a preliminary draft of the request for proposal and present it to Palm Beach County; [c] iterated the importance of working together in the drafting process with Palm Beach County; and [d] stated she would contact County Administrator Robert Weisman as to the Palm Beach County’s</p> <p>progress with the RFP. The Mayor [a] stated she would call County Commissioner Koons in an effort to move the request for proposal forward; [b] suggested Commissioner Moss bring the issue forward at the next Metropolitan Planning Organization meeting; [c] iterated the importance of resolving the TIFF issue before issuing a RFP; and [d] suggested that Treasure Coast could possibly draft the request for proposal if Palm Beach County is unable to so.</p> <p>Commissioner Douglas [a] asked City Administrator Mitchell as to the status of the issue regarding Ms. Bush; and [b] requested details on the matter.</p> <p>Commissioner Robinson [a] stated that he had been informed of an illegal search that was done at Clematis by Night on October 11, 2007; and [b] asked from City Administrator Mitchell to look into the matter.</p> <p>Deputy City Attorney Urcheck announced an attorney client session to discuss pending litigation in the case of Wright versus Frankel case number 4D063386 and 4D063697, the attorney client session will be conducted on</p>
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Tuesday October 16, 2007 at 3:00 p.m. or as soon there after as practical in room 519 in City Hall, 200 2nd Street, West Palm Beach pursuant to Florida statutes the attorney client session will be private and only the following persons may attend: Mayor Frankel, Commissioner Muoio, Commissioner Robinson, Commissioner Mitchell, Commissioner Moss, Commissioner Douglas, Dorritt Miller Deputy City Administrator, Nancy Urcheck Deputy City Attorney, Suzanne Payson Assistant City Attorney, Jane Walsh Esquire outside Council. The Mayor [a] stated that an hour might not be sufficient time to have the client session; [b] suggested scheduling the October 16, 2007 Workshop at a later date. It was the consensus of the commission to start the attorney client session at 3:30 p.m. and move the Workshop to a later date.

Commissioner Moss [a] discussed the City's yard waste code; and [b] expressed his opinion that if a lawn company follows the City's code regarding putting out lawn clippings then the City should pick up the clippings. The Mayor directed the Law Department to look at the City's code regarding this issue.

Commissioner Moss [a] stated he had received a letter from the Northshore Neighborhood Association regarding the widening of Australian Avenue, and [b] suggested taking the same stance as the City took with Roebuck Road. It was the consensus of the Commission to bring forward a Resolution to oppose the widening of the Australian Avenue.

Commissioner Moss [a] stating that the Photographic Center would like to open at the same time as the City Center Project; and [b] suggested monitoring the Photographic Center's benchmarks to see that it happens.

	<p>Assistant City Administrator Rearden [a] gave an update on the water issue; [b] stated that the free chlorination process will be extended until October 31, 2007; [c] stated that he is assembling a group of experts to review the water plan; and [d] stated he will be giving a review to the Water Committee. Commissioner Muoio requested to know the water conservation status. The Mayor [a] stated that the City should start telling the public immediately that water restrictions will be going back into effect as of October 30, 2007; and [b] requested that Assistant City Administrator Rearden work with Finance Director Sherman and come back with alternatives to see if projects can be separated so as to move forward. Commissioner Moss suggested asking the South Florida Water Management District if the City can allow it residents to water two days a week.</p>
15.	<p><u>Mayor's Matters</u> – This item was not discussed.</p>
17.	<p><u>Adjournment</u> – 11:08 a.m.</p>