

MAYOR/COMMISSION WORK SESSION

November 26, 2007

Room 519 – 10:11 a.m.

Present: Mayor Frankel, Commissioners Douglas, Moss, Muoio [arrived at 11:07 a.m.] and Robinson Jr., City Administrator Mitchell, City Attorney McKenna and City Clerk Kauthen; **Absent:** Commissioner Mitchell.

1.	<p><u>Update on TOD</u> – Redevelopment Manager Briesemeister [a] provided an update on the TOD; [b] stated that there is to be a meeting with Palm Beach County and the State on December 12th 2007 at 9:30 a.m. which the City and CRA staff will be attending; [c] expressed her opinion that the TOD request for proposal should be a priority; [d] explained the consensus scenarios for the TOD site plan area; [e] explained the two scenarios for the State block site of the project; [f] stated that the City and CRA will be funding and financing a new street for the project; and [g] stated that the tax increment issues has yet to be clarified by the Supreme Court. Commissioner Moss stated that he would be attending the meeting on December 12th 2007.</p>
2.	<p><u>Day Labor Regulations</u> – Deputy Planning Director Jones-Vann [a] updated the Commissioners on possible regulations allowing centers for hiring temporary and manual workers in industrial areas of the City; [b] explained what the proposed regulations would achieve; and [c] explained how the regulations would be implemented. The Mayor expressed the importance of [a] having amenities such as food on the premises; and [b] educating people as to the locations of the centers. Commissioner Douglas [a] stated that one of the centers are looking into offering classes such as English as a second language; and [b] expressed her concerns over the safety issues surrounding the current regulations for day laborers. Commissioner Robinson, raised concerns over current laborers not relocating to the new centers.</p>

3.	<p><u>Discussion Relative to Land Sales</u> – Director of Finance Sherman stated that [a] the City has four parcels in the West side of the City available to sell for capital projects; and [b] there has been some interest in one of the parcels however it has not been appraised and the City has not identified it as a surplus property. Deputy Planning Director Jones-Vann explained the different parcel’s usages. City Administrator Mitchell stated he [a] had met with the developers interested in purchasing one of the lots; and [b] would like the lot to be put out to bid. City Attorney McKenna explained the process and requirements for selling City land. Commissioner Moss stated [a] the land should be appraised; and [b] that any offers should be evaluated. The Mayor [a] inquired as to the cost of an appraisal; and [b] stated that an appraisal should only be requested if there is serious interest in a lot.</p>
4.	<p><u>Motels in the South End</u> – Commissioner Moss [a] stated that Police Chief Bush has been conducting proactive stings on motels in the South End of the City known for allowing drug trafficking and prostitution in their rooms; [b] stated that there is enough evidence to revoke two motels certificate of use; [c] inquired if there was a process to expedite the revoking of certificates of use; and [d] requested that City Attorney McKenna review the issue with Police Chief Bush.</p>
5.	<p><u>Hometown Democracy Initiative</u> – Commissioner Moss [a] stated that there should be educational material provided to the public regarding the Hometown Democracy Initiative; and [b] recommended adopting a resolution to educate citizens on the issue. City Attorney McKenna [a] stated that there are citizens currently gathering signatures to bring the issue to the November 2008 ballot; [b] stated that the City should try to prevent the issue from being put on the ballot; [c] stated that the initiative would be costly to the City; and [d] suggested implementing a Code Red. The Mayor [a] requested that the communication team work on the issue; [b] stated that once the resolution has been passed, information on the initiative should</p>

	<p>be included in the City's newsletter and broadcasted on Channel 18; [c] stated that should the initiative get on the ballot, public meetings to inform the public should be held; and [d] stated that a Code Red is not appropriate for this situation. Commissioner Robinson stated that this issue is on the agenda for the National League of Cities meeting on November 28, 2007. Planning Director Wu stated [a] there is an opposition petition to the initiative being conducted by the Florida Planning Association; and [b] that he has been asked by the local chapter of the Planning Association to be a spokesperson to inform the public on this issue.</p>
6.	<p><u>PETS Volunteer Program</u> – Commissioner Robinson [a] stated that the Education Advisory Committee recommends recommencing the PETS Volunteer Program; and [b] suggested allowing City employees to participate in the program. The Mayor suggested Commissioner Robinson contact Assistant Library Director Murray on this issue.</p>
7.	<p><u>Storm of 1928 Memorial</u> – T.R.U.T.H.S., INC. Executive Director Bennie L. Herring II [a] made a presentation for a memorial for the victims of the 1928 storm; [b] stated his organization would like to use Gaines Park as part of their memorial; and [c] stated they would like help from the City to raise twenty thousand Dollars. Commissioner Robinson [a] made suggestions on ways T.R.U.T.H.S., INC. could find additional funding opportunities; and [b] stated the City cannot donate twenty thousand Dollars at this time. Commissioner Douglas stated that the City needs to support the initiative however cannot support it financially.</p>
8.	<p><u>Forest Hill High School Land Exchange</u> – Commissioner Moss stated that school board have bought the majority of the houses across the street from the school in anticipation of turning the lots into a parking lot; [b] stated that the he is opposed to the school board turning the lots into a parking lot; [c] suggested the City swap the lower lot of the golf course, for the lot across</p>

	<p>from the school; [d] stated there is also a problem with the pick up and drop off procedure; [e] suggested creating a parking park across the street from the school which can be used by both the golf course and the school; and [f] stated that School Superintendent Dr. Art Johnson suggested a one day workshop. It was the consensus of the commission to have a one day workshop.</p>
9.	<p><u>Update on Temporary Closure on Winter Street</u>– Commissioner Moss [a] inquired as to when the permanent closure of Winter Street would occur; and [b] stated that this issue will be brought up at the one day workshop with the Palm Beach County School Board. Traffic Engineer Collins stated that it would be premature to make a final decision until the Palm Beach County School Board makes a final decision on their properties.</p>
10.	<p><u>Construction Services Task Force</u> – The Mayor stated that a workshop needed to be scheduled to discuss this issue. City Administrator Mitchell stated that a date for the workshop will be given once everyone involved has been contacted.</p>
11.	<p><u>Group Homes</u> – Commissioner Robinson stated [a] there have been problems with people living in group homes harassing women; [b] that the Special Master needs to be more forceful and not allow code violations to continue. Mr. Irvin [a] expressed his concerns with the group homes; and [b] stated that he has heard that the developers are planning to bypass the City and obtain a state license as a group home. The Mayor stated that the matter will be looked into. Deputy Planning Director Jones-Vann explained the option of issuing a cease and desist order.</p>
12.	<p><u>Roebuck Road: County’s Request for the City to Amend Interlocal Agreement</u> – Commissioner Moss [a] stated that the County would like to link interlocal agreement with Roebuck Road with a \$500,000 discretionary grant for Howard Park and Pineapple Park drainage; [b] stated that the County would like</p>

	<p>an extension on the interlocal agreement and needs a response within six weeks; [c] asked the Mayor to write a letter to the County with regards to the wet season environmental study. It was the consensus of the commission to deny the County an extension. City Attorney McKenna stated she will research issue and offer the best course of action.</p>
13.	<p><u>People Friendly Parks</u> – Commissioner Moss spoke of the Playful City USA program. Commissioner Robison stated [a] he had seen a presentation on the program at the National Leagues of Cities; and [b] he would relay the information from the meeting to Deputy City Administrator Miller.</p>
15.	<p><u>Other</u> – Commissioner Moss [a] stated he had received a complaint regarding criminal activities occurring in the City’s Parks and the lack of security; [b] stated he would like an evaluation from the Parks and Recreation Department to see if there is anything that can be done to increase security in the parks. The Mayor [a] stated most crimes are related to cars being broken into; [b] iterated the need to educate patrons so that they don’t become victims of crime. Ms. Levine [a] spoke of two crimes occurring at Phipps Park; and [b] inquired into the City installing telephones in the parks. Mr. Irvin raised his concerns of students smoking Marijuana in Melanie Jenkins Park. Commissioner Robinson [a] expressed his concern of the lack of signs stating the opening and closing hours of the parks; and [b] inquired as to the status of the lights in Gaines Park.</p> <p>City Attorney McKenna stated [a] there is going to be a request for proposal on the news racks; and [b] there is a need to do a competitive option due to the current vendor wanting a ten year contract, and the City is only offering a five year contract.</p>
14.	<p><u>Mayor’s Matters</u> – The Mayor announced [a] the Marathon of the Palm Beaches is happening December 2, 2007; [b] that on December 1, 2007 there will be a fundraiser and a concert at Gramercy Park; [c] that the 2nd Annual West Palm Beach</p>

	Mayor's Parade will be held on November 29, 2007; and [d] that on November 28, 2007 the first house in Pleasant City is to be built.
15.	<u>Other – Continued</u> - Commissioner Robinson [a] handed letters to City Administrator Mitchell on the façade improvements of Palm Beach Lakes Boulevard; and [b] stated that he has been appointed by the Governor to be on the Illicit Meth Laboratory in Florida Task Force.
17.	<u>Adjournment</u> – 11:32 a.m.