

**CITY OF RIVIERA BEACH
PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1, 2012 AT 6:30 P.M.
MUNICIPAL COMPLEX CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

(The following may contain inaudible or misunderstood words due to the recording quality.)

ANY PERSON WHO WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK ON AN AGENDA ITEM (NON-CONSENT ITEMS ONLY), PLEASE FILL OUT A PINK PUBLIC COMMENT CARD LOCATED IN THE BACK OF THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS AND GIVE IT TO THE LEGISLATIVE ASSISTANT PRIOR TO THE BEGINNING OF THE MEETING. IN NO EVENT WILL ANYONE BE ALLOWED TO SPEAK ON AN AGENDA ITEM AFTER THE RESOLUTION IS READ OR ITEM CONSIDERED.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. Nice to see you. Welcome to our regular meeting. We've been somewhat on a break during the month of July so now we're coming back all fresh and revived and ready to do business. Madam clerk, would you please, um, do roll call?

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Mayor Thomas Masters?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: He is going to be running late. He's at Stonybrook.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Chairperson Billie Brooks?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Here.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Chair Pro Tem Dawn Pardo?

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Present.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Judy Davis?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Here.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Cedrick Thomas?

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Here.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Shelby Lowe?

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Here.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: City Manager Ruth Jones?

CITY MANAGER JONES: Present.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Deputy City Clerk Claudene Anthony is present. City Attorney Pamala Ryan?

ASST. CITY ATTORNEY STUBBS: Valencia Stubbs, Assistant City Attorney.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. And we'll now stand for the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance, and we're going to ask our Assistant City Attorney to do the honors. (Everyone stood for a Moment of Silence with the Pledge of Allegiance being led by Assistant Attorney Stubbs). Okay. We'll now move into our agenda. We need a motion to approve the agenda.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: So moved.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Um, Madam -- Madam Clerk?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: I mean, Madam Chair?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Um, do we have any additions or deletions?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Oh, yeah. Do we -- yes. I'm looking at my new format here. Do we have any additions, deletions or substitutions, Miss City Manager?

CITY MANAGER JONES: Yes, Madam Chair. The, um -- the first item that I would like to remove from consideration tonight is item number 6.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. Item number 6. Uh-huh.

CITY MANAGER JONES: And the next item is item number 19.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Item number 6 --

CITY MANAGER JONES: That concludes --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. Item number 6 is in the consent agenda. Okay.

CITY MANAGER JONES: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yeah.

CITY MANAGER JONES: There was an issue with, uh, the contractor and in the final

discussions as to whether he could meet our expectations or not.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay.

CITY MANAGER JONES: And so we're removing it from consideration. You received, uh, e-mail, I believe, on the second item as it relates to the police pension board.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh. Item number 19.

CITY MANAGER JONES: And that was their request, that we remove that item.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. Very good. Thank you very much. Okay. Now we're ready to approve the agenda.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: So moved.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Second.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. Call, please.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Thomas?

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Lowe?

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Davis?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Pro Tem Pardo?

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Chair Brooks?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Unanimous vote.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. Is there any disclosure by counsel on any items here? Okay. Then we'll move -- none? We'll move forward, then, to the consent agenda. And, folks, I'm shuffling papers because we've got this new paperless agenda.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Madam Chair?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes, dear?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: I'd like to pull item 9.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. At -- item 9 --

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Yes, ma'am.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: -- be pulled. Okay. Then we can go for, um, a motion --

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Um, yeah. I'm sorry, Madam Chair. I'd like to pull item -- let me just see which one it was. I believe item 10.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. Item number 10. At our last meeting I shared with you, uh, what the Florida Municipal Officials' manual state when we are pulling items from the consent agenda, that they are to then be placed under the regular, uh, agenda. So in this instance, then, we will go over to the regular agenda and place item 9 and 10 as item 21A and B.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Okay.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: I will read to you what it says here, Miss Davis, if there's a --

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: No. No, no.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: No, that's okay.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: That's fine.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: All right. Because this allows, then, if the audience chooses to, uh, have a question, then they can certainly do a card and participate. Um, so this is -- this is something that we will practice as it is the correct manner in which to handle consent agenda items that are pulled. All right. Now, we need a motion on it just to approve the consent agenda.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Motion to approve consent.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Second.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Roll call, please.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Lowe?

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Thomas?

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Davis?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Pro Tem Pardo?

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Chair Brooks?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Unanimous vote.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: That's the end of our consent agenda. We will now move forward to Awards and Presentations. Item number 12. It is -- which is a -- it is about concerned mothers.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Where are we?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Item 12.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Item 12. Okay. Here. You must read one.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Yeah.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Oh, okay. I see what they did. Had so much stuff on consent. That's (inaudible). All right. Presentation about a concerned mother south side -- Mothers of South Side introducing the new basketball team, the George Street Chiefs.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: You were supposed to read it.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Let's come on up. Yeah, come on up, guys.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Our new neighborhood basketball team. How are you doing, Miss Dawson? Where's the rest of the crew, all the lovely ladies?

DELORES DAWSON: They're come -- it's kind of getting (inaudible). They're coming.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Mr. Lowe, are you going to stand with them?

DELORES DAWSON: Can he say -- can (inaudible) say something?

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Oh, yeah. Absolutely.

DELORES DAWSON: All right. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Oh, it's not being televised tonight?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No, there's something wrong with --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Oh, okay.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: -- (inaudible).

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: This is a hard working group and they're there in place --

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: I'm sorry. Do --

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: -- in the community all the time. And whatever I can do to help them, they've got my support 100 percent. So how was the camp, kids? You guys enjoy it?

DELORES DAWSON: Yes.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I didn't go.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: You didn't go?

DELORES DAWSON: Some of us -- all of us didn't go to the same camp.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Okay.

DELORES DAWSON: Some of them went to a different camp. And he has his shirt on. Come on -- come here, Warren [phonetic]. It's the camp that you helped pay -- that you (inaudible) paid for the --

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Oh, yeah. Yes. Yes. This is a group we -- we, uh, sponsored them to go to a training camp so they can develop some skills -- their skills so they can be the world champions of their neighborhood.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Ah.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: So I think it's a great program. It is all self-organized by the Concerned Mothers of the neighborhood and -- and we've helped them out with several different events. And this is another positive, uh, activity that we support and, uh, recommend continuous support for the Mothers and the group over in -- in that neighborhood. So thank you. And thank all the volunteers that help out. This -- you guys got a strong group. And like I said, whatever I can do to help, I'm there. So thank you for coming. You can say whatever you want.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Wonderful. Wonderful.

DELORES DAWSON: We -- we certainly wanna thank Mr. Lowe and to the council and city manager. We're so delightful to be here tonight. My name is Delores Dawson and I own a property at 669 W. Sixth and 664 W. Fifth Street. I've been in the city since -- well, in the business since 1984.

In our neighborhood we have noticed that over the years there's been lots of crime and people didn't want to live in our neighborhood. And they talked about our parks. They didn't want Fire House park and everything. So in -- in 2009 we decided we could do something. And I organized the Concerned Mothers of the South Side and I -- yours truly is the president and organizer. Martha Jones is our secretary. Um, Betty Matthews is our vice president. Clara Ogburn -- and they're not here, is our, uh, assistant secretary. Our coach is Coach Mike and all of these other ladies are members of our board that helps to make for a stronger community.

We're there to encourage and enhance our children and tell them that we love them and that they -- and every Thursday we have a word of God because our coach is also a minister, too. And we have -- we want these ladies to say what they really wanna say out of their hearts, if it's all right with you all?

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: I invite them all to come up.

DELORES DAWSON: We're so grateful. And Mr. Lowe, we're so grateful to you for allowing us to go -- because we stay -- the women stayed there. We was there with the children all day and we tried to -- you know, and we was a little bit too old.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Yeah. That's right.

DELORES DAWSON: But -- and we're grateful. And then we had a contribution from a Mr. Sherwood from Singer Island. And thanks to Mrs. Dozier. That he purchased the shirts for us.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Yeah. One of our residents on Singer Island --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Oh, wonderful.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: -- purchased --

DELORES DAWSON: Yeah, on Singer Island. So he purchased our shirts.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Wonderful.

DELORES DAWSON: So -- all right. So Mrs. Jones is going to give y'all a -- a view of what we have done and what we're going to do. All right?

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Okay.

DELORES DAWSON: So we thank you.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: And get close to the mike, Miss Jones.

MS. JONES: Mayor, City Council Members --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay.

MS. JONES: -- Concerned Mothers of Riviera Beach, South Side of Riviera Beach. We are excited about what's happening on Fifth Street. Our meetings are on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, at 5:30 -- 5:30 until 7:30.

On any -- any of those days, there are at least 30 to 50 males, many of them enjoying basketball. We now have an organized basketball team. Brother Mike Chambers is our coach and he has three assistants. Mr. Gerard of Singer Island purchased our first T-shirts. And recently Minister Chambers purchased jerseys for our team. The Fifth Street Chiefs, as we're known -- will you turn around, boys, so they can see our name?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: You can see the back

MS. JONES: -- we're known as the Fifth Street Chiefs.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: It's your time to shine.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

MS. JONES: We competed in a tournament at Salvation Army on Rosemary Avenue, the Roots Festival in Delray Beach. Our gratitude goes out to Councilman Lewis -- pardon me, Councilman Lowe, who made it possible for 16 boys to participate in the Bobby Shannon basketball clinic at Palm Beach Lakes High School in --

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Eddie Shannon.

MS. JONES: Eddie Shannon -- West Palm Beach. Our other activities include reading, coloring, arts, crafts, board games, Scrabble, Boggle, dominos, Monopoly. The children braided T-shirt fabric to make rugs and sleeping mats for the people of Haiti. Soon the supplies will be taken to Fort Pierce to the Missionary Flights International who will deliver them to the people of Haiti.

We mulched areas of the park, planted trees, painted the walls, swept the pavilion. On Thursday evening we serve our boys and girls a complete meal, including drink and dessert. Mrs. Porter, Mrs. Ellby -- Ellerby, and others are regular contributors.

Our problem is lack of tables and seating. We must carry tables back and forth to Mrs. Dawson's house. There's only one picnic table in our park. We had persons from Teen Town, as well as Mrs. Thomas from HIV Prevention Department to share healthy habits and precautionary measures. She will be with us every other week for a total of eight sessions.

Minister Chambers and his group come -- Minister Sapp and her group comes every other Tuesday. Minister Chambers and his group sing, pray and preach on Thursday. We consistently visit Mangonia residents in West Palm Beach to share gifts, cards, ice cream, cake, songs, prayer and inspiration. Mr. and Mrs. Grant are regular participants with us.

Vacation Bible school is held five nights during the summer. Mrs. Butler from Mount Olive, Mrs. Johnson from Allen Temple furnished materials. Helpers include Reverend and Mrs. Grant, Mrs. Albritton, Miss Thomas, Miss Davis, Miss Butler, Miss McDonald, Miss Ellerby, Christina, Brother Clifton, Brother Mike, Sister Lashaun [phonetic] and Kina [phonetic].

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And Brother Toots.

MS. JONES: And Brother Toots.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: And Brother Toots.

MS. JONES: Mrs. Bowers and Mrs. Burgess of Georgia donated two sewing machines. We also have a generous contributor who wished to remain anonymous. Mr. and Mrs. Porter are consistent. Mrs. Ellerby and Christina are consistent. Mrs. Lynn, also -- also James -- James McCray [phonetic].

We are still looking for a choir director and a karate instructor. We are pleased that seniors and others can enjoy the park on a daily basis. Miss Dawson, President; Miss Matthews, Vice President; Martha Jones, Secretary; Mrs. Albritton, Assistant Secretary; Miss Havener; Miss Thomas; Miss McDonald; Mr. and Mrs. Butler; Mr. and Mrs. Grant; Ellerby and Christina; Mrs. Davis. And I probably left off a few, but thank you.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Thank you, Mrs. Jones. You covered a lot of folks and I want to say, um, this group, the educators of this group, the women, the volunteers of this group has taught probably most of us in -- in Riviera Beach and Palm Beach County. And they work really hard. And we're just happy -- we're happy that you're over in that area. And that's the -- the start. We start with the kids and we'll build from

there.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh. That's true.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Oh, we got a –

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. Good evening.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Good evening.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Good evening.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Council members, so happy to be here. I am delighted to be here. Again also on behalf of the Concerned Mothers of Riviera Beach, I am one of the newest members from the local church Allen Temple AME Church, along with Sister Mildred Hicks.

I'm just here to back up everything Miss Jones just said and to let you know that the Concerned Mothers of Riviera Beach, we are a -- a worthwhile organization and we're hoping that next year -- I receive The Riviera that you guys send out to the, uh, residents of Riviera Beach. And I noticed the council awards grants for youth programs. And I said, "I wonder why our name is not in here?" So I'm hoping that next year or whenever you do this again, quarterly or whatever, that we can be considered for one of the grants that you offer youth organizations in our city.

Also, I'm just going to add real quick, yes, I agree with everything Miss Jones said. We are there to encourage the boys and girls. And just to let you know that the presence of the Concerned Mothers, I feel personally that it cuts down on a lot of crime in that immediate area.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Uh-huh.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Uh, sometimes you do have to defuse one or two incidents. But because those ladies are there –

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: -- those boys and girls feel a sense of safety and they're learning respect at the same time. And so without them, I feel like that park would just be in disarray completely.

But because of their presence, just sitting there, just watching out for them, feeding them -- and a lot of times feeding them out of their own pockets. And this is not once a month or once a week. This is all the time, every week. They're there to feed, to encourage and to protect our boys and girls. Even sometimes you have two-year-olds out there that they have to, uh, oversee.

Again, I do, uh, concur with her. We are a worthwhile organization. We are there to protect, to encourage, to be role models and to teach our boys and girls that they can be somebody.

Some of them sometimes they are not in school. They skip school. But because Miss Dawson is in that immediate area, she can ask them, "What are you doing out of school today?"

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: "Why are you -- what -- what happened? What's going on?"

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And you find out they've been dismissed, they've been, uh, out on detentions or whatever. I mean, it's little as fifth and fourth grade being put out of school because of behavior problems. So we're there to do our part to help. I am a lifetime resident of Riviera Beach. I still live in Riviera Beach, and I'm proud to say that I am a member of the Concerned Mothers and we are here to ask for your support and your help. And to let you know that we love our city. Thank you.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Would you like to introduce the members that are with you?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Um, they can stand. I may not --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: You wanna stand?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Stand, ladies. We have Miss Dawson who's the President. Actually, I'm gonna let Miss Dawson introduce the other members of the Concerned Mothers. I -- I know some of their first -- Miss Clementine Butler. And she can tell you what street she lives on.

CLEMENTINE BUTLER: Second Street.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second Street. I'm on Second Street, too, 817. Uh, Miss Mildred Hicks in Federal --

MILDRED HICKS: On 13th Street.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: -- Federal Garden.

MILDRED HICKS: In Federal Garden.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That's right.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: All right.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And Miss Bernice.

MS. BERNICE: Fifth Street right in front of George Street Park.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Okay.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: She's right in front of the park.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Uh-huh.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And Miss Jones –

MS. JONES: Downtown West Palm.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: -- downtown West Palm.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Oh.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And Miss McDonald? Just raise your hand, Miss McDonald.

MS. McDONALD: (Inaudible) 10th Street.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Tenth Street. And Brother Mike.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible) 28th Street.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: 28th Street. Okay.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Coach, where are you from, Coach?

MIKE CHAMBERS: Oh, I'm from West Palm.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That's all right. He belongs to us, so that's fine.

MIKE CHAMBERS: (Inaudible).

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That's our -- that's our George Street pastor right there.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Okay.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Amen?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We've got Mrs. Matthews is off of Seventh Street. She's absent.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah, she's absent. Yeah, she's absent.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And we have Mrs. Donald Riggs who's visiting her sick daughter in Georgia right now.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Thank you, guys.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Thanks, team.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Madam Chair?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Madam Chair? Um, Miss –

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: You had a question?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Um, yes, ma'am. Madam -- Mrs. Dawson?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Miss Dawson?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: I'm sorry.

DELORES DAWSON: Yes?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Are you -- are -- is the Concerned Mothers a nonprofit? Have you filed for your –

DELORES DAWSON: (Inaudible).

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: I would suggest if you're not, I would suggest you do that, because as you know, we have, uh -- each of us get dollars in our community benefits.

DELORES DAWSON: Uh-huh.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: And if you are a nonprofit –

DELORES DAWSON: Uh-huh.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: -- we're able to provide some support. As for the other, uh, grant fundings that the young lady talked about, um, you have to apply for those. And, uh, usually the City puts out a notification every year when that application period will start, and sometimes usually about two or three months before the summer starts. Okay?

DELORES DAWSON: Yeah. Uh, Mrs. Davis, uh, we are -- we are blessed that God has blessed us, too. For that reason, I have had a business and I'm not a good bookkeeper and I don't need to hire a bookkeeper 'cause we don't have the money. But we're -- we're blessed that me, along with the others, can afford to feed them on Thursday.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Okay.

DELORES DAWSON: And -- but if someone would just wanna give us some, we do have someone in here -- but I won't call a name who gives us money.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Okay.

DELORES DAWSON: And one of the things, too, uh, I volunteer at the Resource Depot out on Investment.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Uh-huh.

DELORES DAWSON: So the materials I get are free because I volunteer out there.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Okay. All right.

DELORES DAWSON: But I would like for our coach and our minister to say a word, too.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: All right.

MIKE CHAMBERS: Good evening, Council.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Good evening, sir.

MIKE CHAMBERS: She's always forcing me. I can't say no. But, um, it's just an honor to be working with the Mothers because there is a need, and sometime people don't step up to the -- to the platform to meet that need. But these women have been -- truly inspired me, you know, and encouraged me even more.

I met them when I was out canvassing, um, evangelizing the streets, and we connected. And as they were saying, I go out there and minister every Thursday night. And I was like, Lord, how can I reach the young men? And He was -- basketball.

We also had a -- we was involved in a tournament at Inlet Grove last week. And, um -- and that involved the older kids, too. And since, you know, we've been out there, I mean, it's just been a -- a great experience. The atmosphere has truly cleared up. You got parents coming by and stopping and saying, "I would never have allowed my kid to come out here. But now since you guys are out here, you know, I feel comfortable now."

And I just seen a tremendous change since I've been there since, um, November. And I mean, it's just -- everybody is getting involved inside of what's going on around there. And you know -- and I just look inside of the arena of professional, um -- the professional, um, sports, and gift -- your gift can put you before men.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: That's right.

MIKE CHAMBERS: And you see a lot of that -- you know, a lot of them kids are talented. Those guys are talented but they have no discipline and no character. You can see it on the sports. We can see all the trouble. And that's what I'm trying to do with my -- with my group to try to instill character and discipline inside of these young men because without that you're not gonna go but so far. But I'm just blessed to be a part of what God is doing and -- and what He's going to continue to do. So I would just encourage that you -- you know, that -- 'cause we don't know how this will blossom, you know, and how -- what kind of effect that this can have.

You know, it just takes some concerned people just to connect and get involved and we can change the world around. So I just encourage you, if you can support in any kind of way that you can, it would be really appreciated, 'cause these women have labored and they have worked and toiled hard. And so I just ask, you know, just bless them. Bless them, bless them, bless them. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Thank you, sir. Thank you. Well, you all represent the village. It certainly takes a village to raise a child. And thank you for what you do. Uh, the next presentation is on the 2010/2011 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. Everybody has a report? All right, sir. We're ready. Would you state your name and --

RODERICK HARVEY: Good day. Roderick Harvey, partner with, uh, the audit firm of record, Harvey, Covington & Thomas. I also have with me today our audit director which is Mr. Dwayne Mathis, CPA. We will be spending some time this afternoon going through the financial statement audit and those results for the year ended September 30, 2011. We have on the screen -- and you also should have a handout -- of our PowerPoint presentation which will kind of enumerate the points. Uh, as an overview, what we will be discussing tonight is the audit opinion that was rendered by the CPA firm, a financial summary for the period ended September 30, 2011, a financial statement comparison where we will look at where did we end as of September 30, 2010, and compare that against where did we end September 30, 2011.

And then we will go through those management letter comments. We will look at prior year management letter comments, where they're implemented, and any current year management letter -- letter comments that we have included in our audit report.

For the year ending September 30, 2011, based on our audit and the findings

thereof, we issued an unqualified opinion, which means that in all material respects, the financial statements are in good order or materially correct. So in other words, you have a clean audit opinion for the period ended September 30, 2011.

Now we will look at, uh, a snapshot of the financial results for -- once again, roll back a little bit, to September 30, '11. Also in your (inaudible) books, which you should have received some time ago, uh, these page numbers will correspond to your financial statement booklet. Total fund balance, 15,754,000. Unassigned fund balance, 13.4 million. Total governmental funds, uh, total fund balance 57.3. And then proprietary or enterprise fund, net assets 54.1 million. And as you can see, that falls on page 19.

When we look at the statement of revenue expenditures and changes in fund balance, look at what came in, revenues, and then how did we expend those funds. The general fund, we brought in 50.3 million, which represents 78 percent of all governmental funds. We expended 47.3, which represents 74 percent. And we have a decrease in fund balance of 2.1 million, which includes other financial resources. When you look at all governmental funds, uh, for the year ending September 30, 2011, total revenue, 64.3 million, total expenses, 64.1. Change in fund balances, 25.8 million, which includes other financing sources.

The business type or proprietary funds. Once again, we're looking at revenues, money coming in, compared with or included against our expenses or expenditures. Operating revenues 26.8 or you can round it to 26.9 million. Operating expenses, 20.5, 20.6. Non-operating expenditures, 1.4, and a positive net change of 4.8 million in our proprietary funds.

Now the comparison. I always think it's good to do a comparison because we can see, against our benchmark year, how did we do the following year. Fund balance comparison, 31.4 for the period ended 2010 compared with 57.3 for the same period ended 2011.

Revenue comparison, 56.8 for 2010 compared to 64.3 for the same period ended 2011. Expenditure comparison for 2010, 69.4 as compared to our expenditures in 2011 of 64.1. When we look at our proprietary funds or our enterprise fund, net asset comparison for the period ended 2010, 49.2 as compared with the period ended 2011, 54.1. Uh, how did we do in income for the period ended September 30, 2010? 7.2 as compared to the same period ended 2011, 6.3 million.

Now we will discuss or look at our prior year management letter comment in the year ended or for the audit ended, uh, 2010, September 30, 2010. We had a finding dealing with user access and who should have full access or view-only access to different parts of our system. Our recommendation, the City should review the access controls of all employees to determine that employees only have access to functions as required and necessary, considered necessary to carry out their assigned functions. During this year, the audit period 2011, we noted that that management letter comment -- our recommendation was implemented by staff.

As you look at our next prior year management letter finding, we recommended the Finance Department consider implementing a process to present either monthly or quarterly financial statements to the city council during regular council -- council meetings. The report should include key performance measures to understand the financial condition of the City, uh, during the year 2011. That management or recommendation was implemented.

Now to our current year finding, um, as relates to account reconciliations. The City and the CRA engaged in a number of inter-agency transactions during the course of the year that require appropriate and consistent recording and the records of the City and the CRA.

We have noted that there are several such transactions that have been inconsistently recorded in the entities' books. As part of the year-end audit, the City -- the CRA -- I'm sorry -- has made an effort to formally document and communicate to the Finance Department such transactions so that the appropriate resolution can incur -- can occur. There has been insufficient follow-up on the part of the City Finance Department to ensure that inter-agency transactions are recorded and properly reported on a consistent basis.

We recommend that the City and the CRA schedule meetings during the course of the year, uh, as required to identify inter-agency accounting and report issues and develop a mutually agreed-upon method/time frame for handling such issues.

Management's response to our current year management finding. Management agrees with the management of the City and the CRA -- let me start over. Management agrees and the management of the City and CRA have agreed that both entities will reconcile the interfund receivables and payables balances on a quarterly basis. This concludes our overall presentation to you of the financial statement results for the year ended September 30, 2011.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Thank you, sir. Are there any questions from the, uh -- the council members? Well, if not, thank you so much for the presentation.

RODERICK HARVEY: Thank you for having us.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. Moving right along. Now we're at Public --

GERALD WARD: (Inaudible) you've got a public comment there.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Oh, do we?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Is that one up there?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: These are public comment. Okay. Public comment card.

GERALD WARD: That's not the card. I'd already turned it in to -- to, uh, A.C. Harris -- I mean, uh --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Oh, okay.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible) was on there.

GERALD WARD: There you go.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: All of them are (inaudible). (Inaudible).

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Oh, here it is. All right, sir.

GERALD WARD: Gerald Ward, 31 W. 20th Street. Obviously comprehensive annual financial reports were relatively timely produced and, uh, you heard that it's basically a clean report.

Uh, it's over 120 pages and I hope that each of you have read every one of the pages. But I thought it was pretty appropriate but it brings up about a half a dozen items that you -- you need to see. One thing is, the Seadek engineering expenditures are culled out on page 10. Uh, in part because that -- much of those expenditures that were a CCNA, competitive negotiation conflict, uh, were back in the prior year because State Road A1A got started back then. Uh, so there is data available that would flag you to that \$700,000 expenditures that is very questionable and is not yet closed.

Page 34 has a very important point about disallowing grants. You did take action tonight to spend, uh -- covered \$50,000, 25,000 new and 25,000 that's been spent on hiring Broussard to look after some of the grants that you already have a grants person for. That's item 5 that you just approved.

Page 65, uh, has -- calls attention to Solartron debts. And, uh, I would tell you that there is -- is certainly, uh, money and hopefully the -- the new utility department has some input into those debts that have not been recovered. Item E again in that page calls attention to disallowing grants, which is a particular problem that may be coming forth.

Page 118. Uh, well, actually, page 64 is -- let me go back to 118. CRA City problems. I've raised that issue. You finally had to, in the last month or two, uh, revise your budgets to say you weren't going to get the money from the CRA. But those types of expenditures need to be followed much more closely. And obviously the Ocean Mall in that the marina expenditures all need much more attention.

Lastly, you've got \$65 million worth of construction expenditures. You need to start publicizing that the City is spending big bucks. Much of it is outside our -- our, uh, operation budget. It's our construction budget for capital.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Thank you, Mr. Ward.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Madam Chair?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes, Miss --

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: All right. Just for the record --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: -- Pardo.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: -- Mr. Ward brought up, um, an item that was pulled. Item 5, the Broussard contract, was deleted from the agenda.

GERALD WARD: It has been deleted?

CITY MANAGER JONES: Uh-uh. No, it wasn't.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No, it wasn't.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Yes, it –

GERALD WARD: No, I don't think so.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: I thought you said we deleted it.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: You pulled -- you pulled it.

CITY MANAGER JONES: We removed item 6. We didn't remove item 5.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: I'm sorry. I'm sorry. It hasn't even come in front of us yet, so -- it's been pulled.

CITY MANAGER JONES: It was pulled, yeah.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: But –

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Are we -- any further comments or questions? If there'll be no comments or questions, uh, we will move on to Public Hearing.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: It's been pulled. Item 5 (inaudible).

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yeah, number 14, Public Hearing.

CITY MANAGER JONES: Number 5 has been removed.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Resolution number 90-12. A resolution of the City Council of the City of Riviera Beach, Palm Beach County, Florida, approving a special exception application from Fobbs Daycare to operate a large-family child care home located at 1358 W. 29th Street and providing for an effective date.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: So moved.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Need a second.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Second.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Is there a presentation on this?

MARY MCKINNEY: Right. I'm sorry. Mary McKinney, Director of Community

Development. And this is an application for a special exception approval from Tressy Victoria Latson for a daycare to operate the large-family –

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No, Fobbs.

MARY MCKINNEY: I'm sorry. I'm on the wrong one, I think. Sorry. Wrong daycare.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. (Inaudible).

MARY MCKINNEY: This is from Lisa's Lil' Wonders Child Care to operate the large-family child care home and it's located at 1551 W. 13th Street.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No. (Inaudible) Fobbs.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: No, no, no. We -- we on -- we on Fobbs on 29th Street.

MARY MCKINNEY: Okay. I'm –

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: That's okay.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: That's okay.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: It's the first meeting back.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: (Inaudible) we -- folks, I told you, we're getting (inaudible) it's paperless agenda.

MARY MCKINNEY: I don't know how my stuff got mixed up. But –

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Yeah.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. You got it now, Mary?

MARY MCKINNEY: Fobbs. This is an application from Fobbs Daycare to operate the large-family child care home at 1358 W. 29th Street. And staff has reviewed it. It's gone before the Planning & Zoning Board on June 14, 2012. They recommended approval of it. They meet all of our land development code and comp plan requirements and the applicant is here this evening if there are any questions. And like I said, it was approved -- recommended approval by staff and Planning & Zoning Board.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. Very good. There are no comment cards on this. Uh, any comment from the, uh –

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: I'll just make a quick comment. As I, um, promised

before, I always go out to visit them and speak with the neighbors. And I did in this case, as -- as well. And I'm happy to report that, um, there -- this particular, um, applicant is, you know, in a great standing. The property's being maintained great. I've also had a chance to talk to some of the parents and they're very excited about it. So I just want to report that they are in good standing.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Very good. Let's go for the vote, please.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Thomas?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Um, I -- I had a comment.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Oh, I'm sorry. Go ahead.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Yeah, just a question. Um, Miss Jones, has there been any -- and I'll just address all three of them so we won't have to -- I won't have to ask this question anymore. I was just wanting to know has there been any fire or police activity at any of the --

MARY MCKINNEY: The fire chief has informed me that there has been no fire activity.

CITY MANAGER JONES: Right. There has been no fire activity.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Okay. Any police activity?

DEPUTY CITY MANAGER JONES: A quick search -- Danny Jones, Interim Deputy City Manager. A quick search this afternoon revealed only two calls for item 14 in the last 24 months. One call for item 15 in the last 24 months. And one call for item 16 in the last 24 months. None of those, uh, developed into anything of great significance.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Okay.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Thank you. Any further questions? Let's vote, please.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Thomas?

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Lowe?

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Davis?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Pro Tem Pardo?

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Chair Brooks?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Unanimous vote.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Moving on to item 15.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: A resolution of the City Council of the City of Riviera Beach, Palm Beach County, Florida, approving a special exception application from Tressy Victoria Latson daycare to operate a large-family child care home located at 321 W. 19th Street and provide an effective date.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: So moved.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Need a second.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Second. Second.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. Thank you. It has been moved and seconded. Any comments? No comment cards. Ready for the vote.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: I just want to put comments on the record very quickly. Um, the same initiative was taken on this particular property, as well. I had an opportunity to talk to about seven or eight residents on this particular street. They all are embracing it. They're excited about it. This particular applicant, the -- the whole neighborhood was excited about it. So, um, I'm pleased to report that they're in good standing, as well.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Thank you. Any further comments? Roll call.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Lowe?

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Davis?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Thomas?

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Pro Tem Pardo?

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Chair Brooks?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Unanimous vote.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Number 16?

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: A resolution of the City Council of the City of Riviera Beach, Palm Beach County, Florida, approving a special exception application from Lisa's Lil' Wonders Child Care, to operate a large-family child care home located at 1551 W. 13th Street and provide an effective date.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: So moved.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Second.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: In fact, do we have a comment card? No comment card. Any comments from the –

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Same comments on this. Same comments.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. All right. Ready for the vote.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Davis?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Lowe?

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Thomas?

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Pro Tem Pardo?

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Chair Brooks?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Unanimous vote.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: All right. Item number 17.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: A resolution of the City Council of the City of Riviera Beach, Palm Beach County, Florida, approving a site plan application from Cummins Power South for the construction of a 19,444 square-foot auto repair and auto body shop facility on 3.26 acres located at the southeast corner of intersection of Interstate Parkway and Interstate Park Road W. and provide an effective date.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: So moved.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Second.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Do we have a card, comment card? No comment card? Any discussion by council?

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: I'd just like to make a comment. I think this is a great project. It's going to bring increased tax revenue to the city.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Uh-huh.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Additional jobs, and good luck to the applicant.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: And thanks to our staff for helping to make it happen.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Absolutely.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Um, ready for the vote.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Davis?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Lowe?

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Thomas?

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Pro Tem Pardo?

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Chair Brooks?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Unanimous vote.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Down now to ordinances on first reading.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: An ordinance of the City of Riviera Beach, Palm Beach County, Florida, amending Article III entitled Firefighters' Pension Plan, Chapter 14, entitled Board of Trustees created powers, duties, by amending Section 14-47 subsection (1) of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Riviera Beach providing for conflicts, severability and codification and provide an effective date.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: So moved.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Second.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Any comment cards? Okay. Any comments from the board? Questions? Let's call for the vote.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Lowe?

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Davis?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Thomas?

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Pro Tem Pardo?

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Chair Brooks?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Unanimous vote.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Moving on to Item number 20.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: An ordinance of the City of Riviera Beach, Palm Beach County, Florida, amending Article II entitled General Employees, Chapter 14 entitled Pensions and Retirement Programs by amending Section 14-24 entitled Retirement Benefits, subsection (D) (2) of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Riviera Beach relating to the retirement system for general employees, providing for conflicts, severability and codification and providing for an effective date.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: So moved.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Need a second.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Second. Second.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. Thank you, Councilman Lowe. Uh, comment card for -- on that one? Okay. Any comments from the board? Ready for the vote.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Davis?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Lowe?

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Thomas?

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Pro Tem Pardo?

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Chair Brooks?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Unanimous vote.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. We're moving right along here. Um --

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: 21.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yeah. Well, yeah. Item -- under Regular Business now we are adding the, uh, consent items that were -- were pulled and we have -- I know it was number 9 and 10. Was there another one? Okay. So that will be, uh -- number 9 will be 21A. Number 10 will be 21B so let's start with 21.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: A resolution of the City Council of the City of Riviera Beach, Palm Beach County, Florida, accepting reimbursement of grant funds from Palm Beach County 911 Emergency Management in the amount of \$83,524 for Public Safety Answering Point Operations, authorizing the interim finance director to increase the fiscal year 2012 911 grant budget for the same and provide an effective date.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: So moved.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Need a second.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Second.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. Any cards on this one? Okay. Uh, any comments from the board?

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Which one –

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Ready for the vote? We're ready.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Davis?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Lowe?

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Thomas?

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Pro Tem Pardo?

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Chair Brooks?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Unanimous vote.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: All right. And we will go to 21A, which will be Item number 9. Yes, would you please read –

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: A resolution of the City Council of the City of

Riviera Beach, Palm Beach County, Florida, approving the use of Boulevard Tire Center of Riviera Beach, Florida, and Martino Tire Company of West Palm Beach, Florida, for the purchase of vehicle and equipment tires by piggybacking off of -- on the State of Florida contract numbers 863000101, authorizing the interim finance director to make payment for same from account number 001112951905291 in an amount not to exceed \$150,000 and provide an effective date.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: So moved.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Second.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. Miss Jones, uh --

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: That was me that pulled that.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: -- you would like to have a question. Okay.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Um, I -- I'm -- I'm definitely gonna support this but I -- in my conversation with Mrs. Jones, um, I thought that we were missing out on a -- on an opportunity. Um, I think it was Suffolk Construction who came before us, uh, at our last meeting and spent about \$3 million in the City of Riviera Beach. And as we know, we have a 17 -- approximately a 17 percent, um, population of -- of industrial property.

And Riviera Beach can pretty much, uh, supply just about anything that's needed. And, um, you know, we had talked about sustainability at some point a couple years ago. And I think that this would be a -- a really good opportunity for us to start having conversations with, you know, persons in our business districts, the 13th Street corridor, the Gardens Road, um, corridor, to see if there is some way that we can, um, establish some agreements. You know, if there are products that we need from these particular businesses that, you know, we can work out some kind of agreement that's beneficial to -- to both parties, and try to keep the money flowing in Riviera Beach. And I think this is an opportunity for us to -- to think outside the box a little bit and, um, you know, make it happen.

Um, I -- I -- I just think that it's something that would be really, really, um, you know, good for -- for both parties. I know businesses, particularly in these difficult times, you know, would look at something, you know, if it's a two- or three-year contract to provide or -- or sell products to -- and ensure a revenue stream.

You know, surely they would be interested in talking about, you know, maybe selling to us maybe differently than what they sell to -- to other people. So, um, that's just a -- an idea and a direction that I'm looking to go in. Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. Any response from staff? If not, we'll --

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Um, now she pulled it. \$150,000 worth of tires. Um, you buy them bulk and store them or are all of these tires needed at one time?

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR JOHNSON: No, we purchase -- some of them we have

on hand. We may have maybe a half dozen -- the police tires, the pursuit vehicles tires on hand. Most of the other tires we purchase as needed for all the equipment and all the standard tires.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Oh, okay. All right.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Any further questions?

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Thank you. No further questions.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: All right. Ready for the vote? Okay.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Davis?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Lowe?

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Yeah.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Thomas?

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: (No audible response).

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Pro Tem Pardo?

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Chair Brooks?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: That motion is approved with Councilperson Thomas out.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. Moving on to 21B.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: A resolution of the City Council of the City of Riviera Beach, Palm Beach County, Florida, approving a work order for Corzo Castella Carballo Thompson Salman, P.A., of Boca Raton, Florida, for civil engineering design services for the W. 13th Street roadway improvement project in the amount of \$97,225, authorizing the city manager to approve change orders up to 10 percent, authorizing the interim finance director to make payment for same from account number 303112754106351 and provide an effective date.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: So moved.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Second. Excuse me. Second.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: You -- thank you. Okay. Oh, Mr. --

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Okay, Madam Chair?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes?

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: I pulled this because I have a question. I believe this is the item that we pulled in June, correct?

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR JOHNSON: Yes, ma'am.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Okay. And, um, I see that a correction has been made. They took out that fragmented sentence. All right. Now, my question is, going through this package, there's no mention of Engenuity. In the previous package that we got in June, when the item came in front of us, it said that they were going to subcontract work to Engenuity Group. So my question is, what happened to that?

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR JOHNSON: Um, nothing has changed. Oh, for the record, Brynt Johnson, Director of Public Works. Um, nothing's changed. They had -- they just went through and -- and kind of cleaned it up because they don't normally put down the name of the subs on their proposals. But nothing's changed. They're still using Engenuity Group to provide the service.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Okay. My other question is, um, some of the businesses had an open house a couple weeks ago. And, um, they were saying that Engenuity has been doing work along 13th Street? Who -- has -- have we authorized that work?

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR JOHNSON: Well, Engenuity -- Engenuity did the work east of Dixie Highway. Or sorry --

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: And who paid them?

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR JOHNSON: -- east of -- east of Dixie on 13th, they did the original design for the part that was done by the port.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Okay. So they're getting paid by the port, not by the City of Riviera Beach?

CITY MANAGER JONES: For what they've done.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR JOHNSON: For -- that was -- yeah, they had done that work previously.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: But fairly recently.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR JOHNSON: Right. Well, what they were referring to at the meeting was that they did the work previously on the portion that's been redone, that's been reconstructed, uh, west of Dixie.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Okay.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR JOHNSON: However, C3TS has -- we did go ahead and initiate a P.O. for C3TS to go ahead and begin the survey portion because of the deadlines that have been imposed by D.O.T. So Engenuity has been doing some survey work out there just to get a jump start so that we can meet the deadlines for the project.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Okay. So has that already been approved by us or no?

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR JOHNSON: No. That was less than the threshold.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: That's all part of this?

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR JOHNSON: Yeah. That was less than the threshold that the city manager is allowed to approve.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Okay.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. Any further discussion or comments?

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: No.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: All right. Thank you much.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Um, no. I'll just pass. I'll pass. I -- I was gonna question their lobbyist. I know he's been lobbying some people but -- all right. I'm done. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Madam Chair?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes, Miss Davis?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: So, um, the money under your PIN, is that going to be -- is that in addition to the P.O.?

CITY MANAGER JONES: No. It cannot -- including that, it cannot exceed this number.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Including that. Okay. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. Any other -- no further questions, we'll go ahead on for the vote.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Thomas?

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Lowe?

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Davis?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Pro Tem Pardo?

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Chair Brooks?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Unanimous vote.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. Still not 8:00. We're down to --

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Let's get to work.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. We're down to, uh, Community Benefits Request. Item 22.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: (Inaudible) talking with the camera (inaudible) be able to do all that (inaudible).

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Request from Chairperson Brooks, Black Educators' Caucus of Palm Beach County, \$300.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Need a motion to approve.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: So moved.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Second.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. And I -- so what I'm doing here is, um, providing to the Black Educators' Caucus of Palm Beach monies to help with a, um -- they have a

mission and that is to work with the teachers in the various schools to provide them with equipment, supplies, that is not provided by the school. So that is essentially what it is. Okay. Uh, ready for the vote?

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Lowe?

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Davis?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Thomas?

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Pro Tem Pardo?

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Chair Brooks?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Unanimous vote.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: 23.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Request from Councilperson Brooks for Wave Runners, \$500.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: So moved.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Second.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: All right. Um, let's vote.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Thomas?

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Lowe?

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Davis?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Pro Tem Pardo?

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Chair Brooks?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Unanimous vote.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. Number 24.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Yes. 25, 26, 27, 28, 29.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: I wish we -- I wish we --

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Yes, yes, yes, yes.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: -- I wish we could do it in one -- one swoop. Actually, there's no opposition to any of these. Can we just vote --

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Um, this is St. George's in the amount of \$790 --

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: We need a motion.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: -- to provide field trips.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: We need a motion.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Yes.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: So moved.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Second.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: All right. Ready for the vote?

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Thomas?

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Lowe?

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Davis?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Pro Tem Pardo?

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Chair Brooks?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Unanimous vote.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: 25 is the same. St. George Center.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: So moved.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Second.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Okay.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. Ready for the vote.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Lowe?

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Thomas?

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Davis?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Pro Tem Pardo?

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Chair Brooks?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Unanimous vote.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. Item 26, Riviera Beach Fire Station.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: So moved.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Second.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: All right. I'd like to, uh, just mention this. I am giving, um, \$6,500 from the District 4 Community Benefit Funds to repaint the fire station and to add, um, landscaping to the fire station and to the utility building next door. And, uh, the City has already gone out for bid. And we're waiting for those bids to come back so we can proceed.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Wonderful. Thank you. Ready for the vote.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Thomas?

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Lowe?

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Davis?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Pro Tem Pardo?

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Chair Brooks?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Unanimous vote.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: 27, the Etiquette Touch Institute, Mr. Lowe?

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Yes. Etiquette Touch Institute, uh, \$650, provide 15 Riviera Beach students with a daylong etiquette class.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: So moved.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Second.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Ready for the vote.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Lowe?

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Davis?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Thomas?

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Pro Tem Pardo?

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Chair Brooks?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Unanimous vote.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: The Eddie Shannon Basketball Camp, number 28, Mr. Lowe?

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: So moved.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Thank you.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Second.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Ready for the vote?

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Davis?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Thomas?

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Lowe?

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Pro Tem Pardo?

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Chair Brooks?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Unanimous vote.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: And 29, Children of Purpose Christian Academy.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: So moved.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: So moved.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: So moved. Second.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. Are you ready for the vote?

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Yes.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Yeah.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Thomas?

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Davis?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Lowe?

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Pro Tem Pardo?

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Chair Brooks?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Unanimous vote.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Wow. It's not even 7:30 and here we are, uh -- let's see. Well, Public Comments at 8:00.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: We're done.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: So we -- we will continue until 8:00.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Uh-huh.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: I don't have any statements.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. Okay. All right. We --

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Man, that paperless agenda paid off.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: -- I know there's been some revision here. Let's see. I want to make sure I'm on the right part here. Okay. Do we have any Board appointments? No. Okay. We'll go with Discussion by the City Manager.

CITY MANAGER JONES: Thank you, Madam Chair. Just --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. Let me just add something because maybe not everyone got the revised agenda to show that on the last page, 'cause there was some categories missing. That, um, Discussion by the City Manager, Legal Discussion, City Council Committee Reports, Statements by the Mayor and City Council. So, okay, move on. City manager.

CITY MANAGER JONES: Thank you, Madam Chair. Um, the first item I wanted to talk about was our paperless agenda. Um, to ask you to continue to bear with us. This was our first time through. There were some items that were omitted from the public notice that you just stated. Um, it -- we will continue to work out the bugs this week so that for our meeting on the 15th, uh, we will be ready.

Um, it's an accomplishment to get to this point; however, you realize with technology there's always some things that, uh, you need to continue to work on. Um, but we are pleased that we were able to launch that officially at this meeting in order for us to be more efficient. If anyone printed this particular agenda book, you will

appreciate saving a tree or two for not having to use the paper.

Also, I would like to announce, um, periodically we hear from the residents about trucks parking along, um, MLK, waiting to enter the port in the morning and how unsafe that is. We have been working with the port. It's been one of the issues that, uh, we discussed in our regular scheduled meeting that, um, Miss Davis and the commission chair for the port has.

And I'm pleased to announce that the port has completed an area within their property, on the south side of their property, uh, that will allow trucks to enter their property. And that way they will not be parking on MLK. Uh, we have, um, worked with D.O. -- FDOT and they are willing, um, when they start working to put up the signs and our police will enforce that there will be no parking of trucks along MLK in anticipation of entering the port that morning. So I'm pleased to announce, uh, that to the residents.

Also, you have received the tentative budget for 2012/'13. I would like to announce that we will be having a budget workshop on Monday, August the 6th, at 5:00 here in the council chambers.

On August the 13th, we will be having a budget workshop that will, uh, be a discussion of the capital budget for 2012 and '13. Um, and lastly, um, just wanted to remind residents that early voting begins on Monday. Is it --

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Saturday.

CITY MANAGER JONES: Saturday. Saturday.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Uh-huh. Yeah.

CITY MANAGER JONES: Here in City Hall. And so we are hoping that those that feel this is an easier way to vote will take advantage here in the City of Riviera Beach. Thank you.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Madam Chair?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes?

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Uh, on that note, I -- I noticed we have, uh, a candidate in the audience who's also a Representative, State Rep, Mr. Jeff Kent -- Jeff Clemens. Uh, he's in the audience today and we just want to recognize him. He's running for State Senate, District 27, and he currently holds a seat in the State House. So we just want to recognize him and thank you for coming. And good luck.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: And you have another -- the City Manager --

CITY MANAGER JONES: Yes, thank you. Looked down at my notes and I -- I forgot about that. Um, we are having -- I wanted the public to know that we are having issues with Channel 18. Um, a piece of equipment that we have, we have to send it to them before they will send us a replacement. Uh, and we're in the process of doing that. But unfortunately, that means for about a week, um, airing of that and at least going to

Channel 18 and being able to see all of our programs, uh, will not be possible. But we're hoping that that's completed at least within a week.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Are we televised tonight?

CITY MANAGER JONES: It's being recorded tonight.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Oh, I see. Okay. Okay.

CITY MANAGER JONES: And so if anyone would like a copy of the DVD for tonight, um, please let us know since we're not airing this live.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Oh, okay. Okay.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: We're airing (inaudible).

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Madam Chair?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes.

CITY MANAGER JONES: It's being recorded.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Excuse me just one minute.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: All right. I have a question for –

CITY MANAGER JONES: okay.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: -- the city manager. When will we will be receiving the backup for the budget meeting on Monday?

CITY MANAGER JONES: What we'll be going through is the tentative budget that you received. So that really is the document that we will be going through. You will receive by tomorrow, um, for the two or three major departments that had reductions where they're taking those reductions. We only had about five departments that actually took budget reductions, but we'll be going through the, um, tentative budget that you received.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Okay. So -- and, you know, I don't recall it. So for the marina -- we're going through Enterprise funds so for the marina, are we going to have, um, pro formas? You know, are we going to be able to go through the marina and say, This is what we are expecting for the next year or two?

CITY MANAGER JONES: We will be able to get you the areas where we feel as though there's a revenue and what the revenue projections are for the next year. There will be -- there is not currently a pro forma for three to five years out developed at this

point.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: For the marina? Okay.

CITY MANAGER JONES: Uh-huh.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: But it's being worked on, I'm sure.

CITY MANAGER JONES: It is being worked on. Yes.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Okay. Thank you.

CITY MANAGER JONES: So hopefully by the time we get to September you'll be able to look at that.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. Anything from Legal?

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: Just a couple of things, Madam Chair.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Happy birthday, Legal.

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: Thank you.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Pam Ryan's birthday.

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: Um, I wanted to announce for the public and also for the council members who may not have read their e-mail, um, that GSF has taken over the management of the Ocean Mall. So the complaints that we've been getting should stop. Um, they went to court and the -- the court did, um award them management while the foreclosure is still in the process. They have, uh -- they will be contacting you. GSF wants to introduce themselves to city council members, so they will be contacting you to set up meetings, as I've stated privately. Um, I'm available.

The manager's available or anyone from CRA's available to meet with you if you desire but it's certainly not necessary. But we do need to discuss -- that's going to be coming up very soon. If you -- if you are going to meet with them, let's try to make it relatively soon because we want to bring it back for some kind of action. There were a couple of things that the city council needs to make a decision on. So, um, if you're going to meet with them, try to do so maybe in the next month so that we can bring this back in September.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Is it wise for us to meet without you? I mean, is it -- I mean --

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: It's -- the -- it's -- it's up to you. It -- they're --

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Or should we -- I mean, or should we be careful, is what I'm saying?

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: Well, I mean, you -- they're like anyone else. You can meet with whomever you want.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Uh-huh.

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: Um, my preference is that you have somebody from the -- either the city or the CRA Legal Department --

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Just checking (inaudible). Thank you.

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: -- would be great but it's -- it's entirely up to you.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Miss Ryan, I have a question regarding that. It looks like if you take a drive over to the Ocean Mall, on the -- not on the beach side, but where the stores are, it looks like the trees, the grass, the shrubs -- nothing has been cut for at least a month. So who's responsible for that right now?

CITY MANAGER JONES: They are.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: They are.

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: I think they -- they are responsible for that, so I'll make a note to --

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Okay. Yeah. And if you want photographs, I'm more than happy to give you photographs. I'm serious.

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: Okay.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: That area is going downhill quick. Very quickly.

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: Well, I will -- I will let them know. I -- I do know that they have hired a very reputable management company.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Okay.

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: To take over but this is a couple of weeks but --

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Okay.

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: -- I think a couple of weeks is long enough to have the grass cut.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Well, I can tell you, the management company already has their signs in all of the vacant windows. Right? It's Urban something?

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: Correct.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Correct.

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: Urban something. I don't know.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Okay. Right. It's -- right. Urban Plan?

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: I don't know.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: I -- I don't know. Well, anyway, regardless of that, um, they're not doing what they should be doing over there.

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: Okay.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: And the businesses have complained. As a matter of fact

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: Still?

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: -- I think I sent -- absolutely.

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: Okay.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: I drove through there again today to see if they cut anything. The shrubs are getting very high. The grass, everything. It looks awful.

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: I will mention it and let you --

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Awful.

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: -- about it first thing in the morning.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: I appreciate it. Thank you.

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: And the other thing is, um, as you know, we will be, uh, going to the Supreme Court of the United States in October. The actual date is October 1st. We will be the second case heard in the first, um -- on the first day of their session. Um, we -- our attorneys have decided that they want to come down and take a visit of the site. I heard from them today. They're going to be down August 22nd.

I would hope that, um, council members can try, if you're in town, to make some time to meet with them so that, um, we know who's representing us from Washington, D.C. and Texas. It's going to be a very interesting case. So I'm looking forward to it

and I'm sure you are, too.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: How -- excuse me, Madam Chair?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: So you're -- okay, yes?

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: How --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Mr. Lowe?

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: -- are we handling that? Who's -- who's going up for the case?

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: I've already put my name on the list.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Yeah, I have, also.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: I --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: (Inaudible) I have, too.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: -- I didn't know it was a list.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Well, I've -- I've made my -- my wishes known.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Oh, you made a list?

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: I made my wishes known.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Well, if there's an issue the --

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: To who?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: -- chair will be going.

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: I will say this: Anybody can go if you have the money in your budget.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Right.

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: It's -- it's -- it's a city -- it's not covered, so --

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Right. I do.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: The money in -- in our --

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: -- you have to have a --

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: -- budget? What do you -- what do you mean?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Your travel.

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: Your travel.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Your travels.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: How are we supposed to budget a Supreme Court, um --

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Well --

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: Well, if -- if that's --

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: I mean, how does that work?

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: -- if that's an issue --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Well, it's not the usual thing that we --

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: I mean, you guys --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: -- we -- we plan for in the order of business.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Just let me know what's going on. How's it working. I haven't spoken to the attorney.

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: There's no magic. Um, this -- I've sent out e-mails saying that, um, when it is and if you wanna go, you can. However, there's nothing -- there's no mechanism to pay for everyone. Um, unless the council wants us to put an agenda item together and we can get it out of contingency.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: I mean, what -- what type of contingency -- contingency are you sending up? I -- I understand you'll be going and then the attorneys are going.

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: Oh, I see. Correct.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Is the city manager going? I mean --

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: I -- the city manager has not stated that she's going. I've heard from several council members that they intend to go. I know Miss Pardo already made her plane reservation. I haven't even done that.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Right. And also remember, I was part of that whole thing.

I spent two days in, uh, federal court and testified. So I'd like to see this through.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: I would think in the order of priorities, certainly, you know, a chair would be considered –

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Uh-huh. And I do.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: -- yeah. And then you, of course.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Yeah. Yeah. And I have money in my budget.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: And she said if –

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible).

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: -- excuse me, if you've got money –

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Well, let -- let me -- let me -- let me just -- Madam Chair, if you don't mind?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Oh, yes. Mr. Thomas.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Um, this is not something that I think needs to be turned -- of course, no one budget -- no one knew that we would have a Supreme Court case. So whatever need -- whatever funding mechanism needs to be put in place for the elected leadership to go and be there for the City, I think it should just be put in place. So I don't know how that's gonna be done.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: That's what I -- that's what I was trying to do, trying to find out who's –

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: And –

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: -- going and if we could just pay for it.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: The cost.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Well -- well, of course. And I think that that should be done and -- and then that just should be the manager needs to take care of whatever needs to be done and coordinate it. That's -- it's a Supreme Court case and all 32,000 of our residents can't make it so the leadership that they've elected should definitely be there. So, um, I -- you know, I don't even think that we should even labor on that, you know? The manager needs to, uh, make sure that it's taken care of.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: I'm not laboring. I just wanna -- I wanna know who's going and if I want to go. I don't have any money in travel.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Well, let me just add this.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: But, you know, I -- I -- as a representative, I -- if I wanted to go, there should be some money made available to go.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Taking what Commissioner Thomas says --

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: You know? It's one of those circumstances, just -- the City just pay for it. We're -- we're taking people up there but this is a Supreme Court case. I mean --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: What we will do to everyone --

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Just find out who's going and --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: -- we will figure -- we'll figure out the cost.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Yeah.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: And then see where we have the monies.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: And just bring it back.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes. That's what we'll do. We don't have to argue about it.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Somebody has to go. So --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. We'll -- we'll -- we'll work it out.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Thank you.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Okay.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: We'll work it out.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: It's not -- it's not that hard.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: No. No. All right. Um, well, let's see.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: 'Cause I need some assistance.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Any other --

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: No, that's it. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Now, we -- we're a few minutes short of 8:00 but we have

15 -- 14 to 15 cards. If it's okay with you guys --

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Yeah, let's go.

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: Absolutely.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: I would like to go to Public Comments?

CITY MANAGER JONES: Uh-huh.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. And I have, um Simms, Golden Simms [phonetic] -- Golden Simms? Dr. Angela Wynn?

DR. WYNN: Yes? Okay.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: And after Dr. Wynn, Miss Shepherd, Margaret Shepherd. Are you Golden Simms?

GOLDEN SIMMS: Yes, ma'am. Okay.

DR. WYNN: First?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. Have -- yes.

GOLDEN SIMMS: I am?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes, ma'am.

DR. WYNN: Me first or her first?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: She was outside so she's coming in.

DR. WYNN: All right.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: And after that, Dr. Wynn, you would be next.

GOLDEN SIMMS: Good evening.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Just go ahead and state your name. And you do have three minutes. Everybody has three minutes.

GOLDEN SIMMS: My name is Golden Simms. Just state my name?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes, ma'am. Pull -- you know what? Pull the mike closer to your mouth, hon, so we can hear you.

GOLDEN SIMMS: Good evening. My name is Golden Simms. Um, I'm out here on today -- this evening in reference to speaking out about the issues that's going on in Stonybrooks in reference to the insects, the rodents, the mold, and the leaking. This is something that me personally has been complaining about -- I've been out there since November 2007. And these are complaints that I've been complaining about from then till now.

And they're actually getting worse. And the -- it seems as if the more we talk about it and come to them and confront it about the problem, the more they seem to shut us down and make us seem like we don't know what we're talking about. We can show them, Okay. This is the mold.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

GOLDEN SIMMS: They tell you, Oh, that's not mold, when we can see clear as day that it's mold. We can say, Okay. We're being invaded by rats. Okay? Put traps down and catch them. We're -- I have -- this one night I caught eight rats in one night. And maybe if I would have had more traps I probably could have caught more. I went -- one evening I went in to my oven. I cooked food for me and my sisters and my family that came.

I went in the oven. Me and my sister went in the oven to show her the meat that I cooked. It was a rat laying in my food. I reported that. It was a time when I reported that a rat had to go up in my oven and in my stove and died. And I told them every time we turn on my oven or my stove, you can smell the stench.

They came in, turned it on and smelled it and did nothing about it. They told me they couldn't change my stove, no nothing. I'm just sick and tired of the fact that every time -- not just me, but others, go to the management or whatever in the front office in reference to the problems that's going on in the apartments, they shut us down and close the door in our face like we're -- we don't have no voice.

And all I'm just -- I'm bringing this to your attention because how we're living, it's not normal. And it's not right. And I'm just speaking up on it on behalf of all the mothers in Stonybrooks.

There are some mothers out there that are afraid to even come and speak on something because they're afraid they're gonna get kicked out. But I'm to the point I'm tired. Because I have a three-month-old baby that came home sickly already and just getting worse behind -- me, I know. I feel it deep down in my heart that it gotta be behind the conditions of the apartments that we're living in.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh. Huh.

GOLDEN SIMMS: And we have some women out -- that's here, have proof of this -- these problems. Cockroach allergies, mold in the systems. And this is what's being brought up, paperwork and all, and door's been closed in our face and we're just tired. It hurts because the -- I'm pretty sure many of you are --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

GOLDEN SIMMS: -- many other people that's around us are not living like that. That's not normal. And we're just speaking out in behalf of that. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Well, thank you for coming and giving us that report. And I would just divert to the city manager or, um, deputy city manager. Where are the lines of authority that we have in complaints, legitimate complaints such as what we just heard?

CITY MANAGER JONES: We can go out and do inspections as a part of the responsibility for, uh, the City. I don't know, um, because some individuals -- well, because there has been a change in the management --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Management. Uh-huh.

CITY MANAGER JONES: -- and I realize that some of these issues, um, may be inherited issues, uh, it's upon us to make sure that whatever maintenance is done, renovations, um, are up to code, in compliance, and we do that through our inspections. As they go to do construction, particularly in fixing, um, the roof issue that was the one that was brought to our attention recently --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

CITY MANAGER JONES: -- um, our code enforcement, as well as our building inspectors have been out. The building inspectors every day. Because we want to make sure that the construction is done, the work is quality work before people move back into those units.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Um, it sounds as though you also have a health issue here, as well. Have you called the Health Department?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible) the Health Department, yeah.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: You've called the Health Department?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Who's doing the calling?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Some saying yeah and some saying no.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Madam Chair?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: What -- uh, yes.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: I have been -- and what we need to do is go ahead and just place it out. Some individuals, uh, have gone to some of these residents and the residents are being told different things. Uh, they -- they're -- they're being given information that's probably not necessarily true.

I've talked with the new owners of the -- the -- the property. Um, the ones that just purchased it over the past couple months, maybe two or three months.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Right.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Um, they do have some issues out there. Those issues, though, didn't just pop up yesterday.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: There have been a lot of issues. So, um, the past companies that have owned this particular property have left it in deplorable conditions. I've gone over. I was one of the last people to be called about it. I returned in town. I've gone over. I've looked at it. I've talked to several of these individuals. And I've been in constant contact with the, uh, management company over there.

This is not a -- it's not -- it's not gonna be something that's gonna be fixed overnight. Um, the company that now has it has been sending funds trying to fix the issues. The -- the -- the major thing that came out of this is when they had the heavy rains that came. One of the, uh, ceilings gave way and it damaged a -- a large amount of -- of, um -- of units.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: And with that exposure, uh, everyone started to see what all of the issues were in all of the other units, as well. So things are happening. I'm -- as I talked to a few of the residents -- I've not talked to all of them, but I've talked to a few of them over there. Things happening.

We are trying to assist you as much as possible. These are your -- these are your representatives here. And if we know what's going on, we can get you the proper chains to talk to. We have our building inspectors. We have everybody we need to try to help you and provide the service that you -- that you need to.

This is not a political issue. This is where you live. This is -- and we need to work together to help you. So I want to -- I want to speak to you all because it is my district and I -- I do understand that you have a candidate that's been trying to -- I'm sorry, a past candidate that's been trying to -- to -- to help you or whatever. But we're the ones who, uh, can help you get to the resources that you need. Um, I've already called for the owner of the property to come down and -- and to address some of these, um, issues and concerns.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: (Inaudible).

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: We will continue to -- you know, to work, you know, with

you as best we can but at -- you know, at this point it's not gonna be something that's -- that's done over -- overnight. But I -- I have been involved over about the past week.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Madam Chair?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: So -- yes, Miss --

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Yeah.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: -- Miss Pardo.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Um, you know, I think we need to remember when the new owner -- when the Reverend whatever his name is from Tennessee came in here, he came in here very quickly and said, "You need to sign these papers. We need to get moving." We asked if he met with the residents and he said, "Well, I had a meeting at -- I scheduled a meeting for 8:00 in the morning, like, on a Monday," and none of the residents showed up 'cause they were taking their kids to school or whatever.

But you know, if -- if he could make his way down here very quickly for -- to convince us to sign the papers so he could get that grant, then, you know, he can move quicker than he's moving. And, you know -- you know, look out here. You have young mothers out here. And if -- now their children are getting sick.

And I don't think we should say, you know, "You're gonna have to wait a couple of weeks until they get their act together." This is an emergency. And the -- the pastor claims that he has a management group living there or doing whatever they do there.

Well, if it's true, then they need to be working on those properties 24 hours a day. And I read in the newspaper the other day that some of the residents he put up over at the Travelodge.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: And then he's giving money to Youth Recreation and thank God for Youth Recreation. He's giving them monies so, um, Youth Recreation can feed the residents over there.

But still, that's not enough, to put people in a -- you know, in a one-bedroom apartment over at the Travelodge. And they have no idea how long they're gonna live there.

So, um, you know, I know this is your -- your district, Mr. Thomas, but I would hope that you really get on the phone with these guys tomorrow and tell them that it is a priority.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: I am on the phone with them daily about doing it.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Okay.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: And what -- I just wanna make sure so they understand.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Right. But to -- uh-huh.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: That if the City could do something about it, if it was the City's responsibility --

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Uh-huh.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: -- to do it, we will be doing it. But we -- we are working with the owners who have it. The City does not own Stonybrook. So we're working with them. We're working with them very hard to make sure that it happen.

And I -- I've already guaranteed a few of those individuals that the owner would be down here. As soon as I hear of an issue, we immediately work on it. But I'm asking -- I'm asking all of you, I am your representative for that area. If you give your complaints to our office, and don't let people in the street distort this -- it's a serious matter and -- and I -- I'm very disappointed with the way that this is going. We just want to provide answers to you. That's all we want to do. We want to get some resolution.

And this whole entire council is concerned about you. And we're moving toward it. But we need you to talk with us, to work with us. Not everybody who just pops up thinking that they can, uh, you know, do something. So I'm -- I'm -- I'm -- I'm asking you to talk with us, keep us involved. Everyone over there -- well, at least a few of them have my personal cell numbers and they know that I'm working on this. So we here, we -- we're fine with you coming in here and telling us your issues. This is what this meeting is for. We're working on it. We're definitely working on it.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: So I hope you will believe that we really are here to advocate for you and I'm glad that you did come, all of you, and -- and express your -- your concerns.

We hear you and we will try to link you with the proper resources. You heard Councilman Thomas say that he's in constant contact with the people and -- and not to take sides, but I'm sure they're feeling pretty bad that they ended up buying a mess and that things have happened that they had no idea, uh, would be happening. But please know that we're all going to try to work this matter out together. Please.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Madam Chair?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: The owners have a responsibility to them as --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: -- as tenants.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: To provide them with, um, housing and -- and shelter. So I'm -- I'm guessing we went in with the code enforcement after -- what's really going on over there?

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: (Inaudible) took the money and ran.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: The owners -- the owners were before us a couple weeks ago. We gave them -- we had them, but we let them slip through. That's water under the bridge. We had a chance to hold them accountable, but we know now that they're getting a large amount of money, so they need to start spending it.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. We will -- we will follow through on this.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: But our procedure will be to go out and look at the property. If we condemn it, then it's up to the -- the landlord to find proper, um, space for them in the interim --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Housing. Uh-huh.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: -- and all that. So have we done our part?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: We haven't been out to the site?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes, we've been out.

CITY MANAGER JONES: We have been out to the site. Um, there's -- building officials have been out there every day. You're talking about more than one issue. You're talking about a roof issue and getting that fixed so that people can get back into their places to live. But then what I hear here is a systemic issue that --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Uh-huh.

CITY MANAGER JONES: -- unless you getting in every unit and inspecting every unit - and the structure is all we can say is unsafe. So that would be a roof or a wall.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Right.

CITY MANAGER JONES: The health issues are the Health Department's, that they declare it unfit for living.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

CITY MANAGER JONES: So you -- you've got to work hand in hand with both -- all the

agencies –

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Right. Right.

CITY MANAGER JONES: -- in order to address the current roof issues, as well as the systemic issues, um –

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

CITY MANAGER JONES: -- that we're hearing about.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Madam -- Madam Chair?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes, Mr. Thomas.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Just so we understand, there are deplorable conditions there. And we understand that.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: But there have been deplorable conditions there for years. For years. So, yes, something needs to be done about it but we need to do it the -- the correct way, and just make sure that everybody's educated on what we're doing.

And that's all I'm trying to do is make sure that this does not turn into a political situation but make sure we get results for the residents who live there. I understand that. I've talked to several of them. I've been to the Travelodge, uh, to visit with them. I -- I -- I understand that. We're working on it. We are working, you know, on it.

As we get problems, we -- you know, we're -- we're -- we're working on it. As soon as I found out about it, we're -- we're working on it. So I need you to understand that we are working on it. We are working on it.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Thank you. Thank you so much. All right. Thank you.

ANGELA CHAVERS: Hi. Oh, my name is Angela Chavers.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Now, you didn't have a card?

ANGELA CHAVERS: Yes, I did.

CITY MANAGER JONES: See if it's one behind -- there might be several Stonybrooks together.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: How many of you -- would you raise your hand, how many

of you put in cards? Give me your name.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: All right.

KATRELL FULLMORE: My name is Katrell Fullmore [phonetic].

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Fuller?

KATTRELL FULLMORE: Fullmore.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Fullmore.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay, Miss Fullmore. What I'm going to suggest, if what you have to say is really what was already spoken, if you don't mind just -- you know, let us just receive everything that's been said, unless you have something that's different. Because you -- you're -- are you amen-ing, more or less, exactly what was just spoken by Miss Gilden [phonetic] or you have something different?

ANGELA CHAVERS: I have my own personal --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Okay.

ANGELA CHAVERS: -- it's not -- it's not based off of what anyone says. I -- my baby boy who he's now a year, he was sick. He had a very bad sinus infection. I first reported it to them in 2009 when my three-year-old was three months. I told them that there was mold in my apartment. First they came to me and told me that it was supposed to be there. Then they told me it was -- it was mildew. They tried to blame it on me. So what I did was took all four of my children to be tested and in all four of my children, there were -- there was mold found. In my one-year-old, he has two types. And he also has cockroach allergies.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Hmm.

ANGELA CHAVERS: I approached them with the letters because I have separate letters from the person who tested them. Gave this to Stonybrooks. Um, it's just -- it seems like the issue's just being handled this month -- well, July 18th. And that's because I had to go through Legal Aid, because the owners acted -- all my paperwork disappeared.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: I was gonna suggest Legal Aid. But you've already contacted them?

ANGELA CHAVERS: All of my paper -- they're still -- I'm still working with them but all my paperwork --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay.

ANGELA CHAVERS: -- to Stonybrook Apartments disappeared. I gave it to the previous owners and the new owners when they came in. All my paperwork disappeared.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: I hope you keep -- kept -- do you have copies?

ANGELA CHAVERS: Yes, I do. They're in my folder.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Okay.

ANGELA CHAVERS: I have -- I went to them. They acted like they didn't want to do anything. They blamed me. They told me that it was from the park that the children were playing at, which I didn't understand because my six-month-old could not walk, so he can't play at the park.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh. Well, you have documentation on what's going on?

ANGELA CHAVERS: Yes. And I also told them that, "Okay. If you're telling me that the park is hazardous, why haven't you closed it off or tried to clean it up? You still have the children playing at it." It's a park. The kids want to play. I can't stay in my apartment. I can't go outside. I'm pregnant with all of my children and I'm having these bad sinus headaches. I get headaches but the mold is making it worse so I had to leave my apartments for months at a time.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Is Legal Aid representing all of you? Because it seemed to me, for lack of a better term --

ANGELA CHAVERS: No.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: -- it might -- ought to be a class action kind of situation.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible).

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: And this -- this has been going on since 2009?

ANGELA CHAVERS: Yes. I reported it to them.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Wow.

ANGELA CHAVERS: I have, um, wrote down -- I have everything documented by date, what happened, what they did, what they didn't do. I have everything documented. And the pictures.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Okay.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Well, we will certainly, as I -- we were saying, we will definitely, you know, advocate for you, and Councilman Thomas has made a commitment to ensure that you do receive some -- that you get the truth and that there will be some resolution to this. And who's the next --

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Madam Chair, can we hear from --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: -- person?

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: -- can we hear from every -- everybody? We've got time. If they came up here, I'd like to hear them.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Where's the next person? Um, that was Miss Fullmore?

KATRELL FULLMORE: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: All right, dear. Thank you. All right. Yes, ma'am. Put your mouth to the, uh -- so we can hear you.

CRYSTAL LEWIS: My name, Crystal Lewis.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes, ma'am?

CRYSTAL LEWIS: Um, I have living mold in my apartment. Um, this young man took pictures offer it.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

CRYSTAL LEWIS: It's disgusting. I go through eight gallons of bleach every month just to clean my walls, clean my floors. It's over 200 kids out there in Stonybrooks and 90 percent of them is on breathing machines. What other neighborhood can you go to and know that many kids on breathing machines?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes.

CRYSTAL LEWIS: There's so many kids on breathing machines. I don't work. I don't collect Disability. My breathing's getting bad. Like she said, migraines. It's crazy. Um, just because of the way our homes look, our family members don't even wanna come to our house. It's -- it's disgusting. Um, maintenance people's -- every maintenance

person they hired out there, I documented it all. Uh, they'll tell you they'll come fix your stuff, but they also want to sleep with you to fix your apartment. It's so many females out there done slept with the maintenance mans and it's crazy.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Excuse me.

CRYSTAL LEWIS: Yeah. And, um, I had, uh -- I had a, um, oven in my home. It was so disgusting and I told them. I -- I turned the ovens on one day and my whole oven just caught on fire. And I -- I went to the, um, office to report it to Marilyn, and she told me, she was like, "Well, sweetheart, um, you don't work. What -- what do you expect?" And I told her, "I don't expect to get this." They took it out. They washed it down with a water hose and they brung it back to me.

I've, um -- I don't cook in my home. I have to go to my mom house and eat. Because there's so many peoples out there getting electric shock by their own appliances. Our tubs is very nasty and filthy. You could ask my mom. Um, I put bleach in a tub and stop it up. The paint falls off the tub.

We got -- they -- we have painted tubs. We have, um, sinks that don't even stand up. And by the cabinets being so old -- oh, yeah, roaches live behind the cabinets so either which way, I can't put food in my home because every time I go in my food, even the closed food, they eat their way through the food.

I just recently found snakes in my home because my windows don't close all the way. They don't. And my door, it doesn't shut. It shuts but, you know, I have lizards. We catch -- so much stuff we catch in our home, it's not right. It's not right at all. And --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: We really need to get the Health Department out there. This is a health issue and --

CRYSTAL LEWIS: And -- and when they do inspections, it's --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: -- it's -- uh-huh.

CRYSTAL LEWIS: -- out of -- out of 200 apartments out there, it's only 10 homes that look real nice. So they only inspect them 10 homes. They don't go to everybody houses.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Hmm.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Man.

CRYSTAL LEWIS: And I feel like y'all need to come out there and y'all need to see how we live.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes. Yes.

CRYSTAL LEWIS: 'Cause it ain't right.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes. Yes.

CRYSTAL LEWIS: And my baby got bad breathing problems. And I refuse to lose my baby 'cause y'all know mold is bad.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: It is bad, yes.

CRYSTAL LEWIS: Mold can kill you. I don't care what kind of mold it is.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes. Yes.

CRYSTAL LEWIS: It's nasty. I have walls -- I was showing him my walls. I will flick my walls. They will fall in. They want to charge me to seal my walls back up. How can I pay for the walls? I only get a \$60 utility check. And by my A/C unit being so old and tore down, my A/C bill be, like, \$300 and I barely run it.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes.

CRYSTAL LEWIS: It ain't right, man.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Excuse me. Ma'am?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Mr. Davis --

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Ma'am?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: -- uh, you -- you're really trying to help this group. I understand that you -- you --

CRYSTAL LEWIS: It's not right. And (inaudible) be --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: -- you collected all of this information and you -- you're helping them to document, helping them to keep records. I see you're taking pictures. That's great. Um, and -- and you know, just link -- we want to be linked with you on this. And whatever we can do --

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Excuse me, Madam Chair.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: He had a card.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Ma'am? The -- ma'am, the -- the lady who just finished speaking, um, you -- you said that someone charged you to do --

CRYSTAL LEWIS: They charged me, uh, \$15 to seal up the holes in my walls.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: The -- the --

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: How long -- about how long ago (inaudible)?

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: -- when -- how -- when did this -- when did this happen?

CRYSTAL LEWIS: (Inaudible).

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Because what we're trying do is make sure that we have a timeline.

CRYSTAL LEWIS: Well, that's when I -- that's when Marilyn was working there. She -- she charge everybody for everything.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: How long ago?

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: How -- how long ago?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: How long ago is this?

CRYSTAL LEWIS: Uh, about a couple months ago. A couple months ago before she got fired.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Okay.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Was she working for the new management?

CRYSTAL LEWIS: No. She was working for the, uh --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Oh, the old --

CRYSTAL LEWIS: -- last management.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. Okay.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Well, Madam -- Madam Chair?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes?

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Just so they know --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes. Yes.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: -- I mean, it's several individuals here and we're -- I'm fine with hearing what everybody has to say. But I will, um, open up the city chambers and have the management team and the owner, uh, come down to answer some of those, um, issues. If -- if you can, ma'am, um, Janie [phonetic], the young lady -- Janie,

would you raise your hand?

Every single individual who is standing in that line, we'd like to get your information so that we can correspond with you. So before leaving, if you give her your information, we will definitely make sure that you have the, um -- the time and date that we're going to meet and it will be quick. You know, it will be quick.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: So you want them to follow Janie out (inaudible) they --

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: If they can. As soon as they -- as soon as they can. Take your time.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yeah. As soon as you finish and --

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: It's no rush. Whatever you gotta say. But she will get everybody's information.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Any -- any -- yes.

CRYSTAL LEWIS: Can I say one more thing, ma'am?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes, ma'am.

CRYSTAL LEWIS: Um, they could do everything else, but when it was time for them to have that meeting out there, they document everything. Why they didn't document that? You know what they told us? They pulled us to the side. They threw a little party out there, told us, "Oh, y'all don't have to go to the meeting. We're gonna try to help y'all out." And, um, another thing, the dude told me if I come and protest, he gonna evict me.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Who said that, ma'am?

CRYSTAL LEWIS: A bunch of us got told that. The -- the -- the -- everybody in the office told us if we protest, we're gonna get evicted. So --

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Does -- does anybody have a name of who said that?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Well, they're not gonna say --

CRYSTAL LEWIS: The peoples that work in the office. We don't know their names by heart.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: And --

CRYSTAL LEWIS: And another thing, they talk Spanish around us when we get in the office. They don't speak English. When we walk in the office, they -- they -- they speaking -- they speaking Spanish, and I feel like they be talking about us, because for

one -- for one, if they -- they know they don't have no business doing that. And then everybody's sitting around like, What they saying? They just looking at us.

And you could tell by the tone of your voice that you're saying something you ain't got no business saying. And the last lady that they just fired, when I walked in the office, she was talking about the girl so bad. Like, she tried me one day, told me I had to put down a 471 deposit. How can I put down that and I don't have? So my mom said she'll help me out. So I put down a deposit and she told me to come back two weeks later, said, "I don't have your deposit. If you don't have your money, you're gonna get evicted." And I told her, "Well, you better find that deposit 'cause I'm not dumb and I keep all my receipts." And I took her my receipt. And then she claim, oh, yeah, she -- they was -- they steal money. They do all kind of crazy stuff. No new appliance -- they just recently started buying new appliances. Just recently.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Recently.

CRYSTAL LEWIS: Since we -- since I've been out there for two years, we haven't got nothing new. The sinks look so nasty. You -- it's -- it's ridiculous, ma'am. And somebody need to come out there and really invest and check all them apartments.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: We will.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: We --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: We will. We will. We will.

CRYSTAL LEWIS: Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Mr. Davis, did you --

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Ma'am, before you leave, please see Janie so we can get your information.

TERENCE DAVIS: Real -- real briefly. Um, councilmen, city --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes, Mr. --

TERENCE DAVIS: -- attorney, everyone, Riviera Beach residents, this was not a -- a political issue, first of all.

Um, Councilman Thomas, this is your district. I advised the ladies that this is not about politics. It's about a humane issue. I said, Once you go to the council and you talk with your representative, we're gonna make sure -- we as a community help these young ladies out. I came to them as a concerned resident. I have friends and family out there.

I wasn't seeking this as no political ploy. I love a -- I do a lot of work with a lot of the children. I seen the mold. I have pictures of the mold. I have some -- I have some pictures. If you -- if you look at these pictures -- I haven't slept in weeks. I have a team

of people. We've been trying to do certain things, but it's been really difficult to see how many children get on breathing machines. It's -- I mean, I seen children the last week come back and forth to the hospital.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

TERENCE DAVIS: I've seen a young lady, when she came out of the hospital -- um, and she's here right now -- when she came out of the hospital, they painted over the mold and treat it with a chemical. But it was so strong she could not go inside her apartment.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Hmm.

TERENCE DAVIS: She outside -- she sat outside for four hours in over 90-degree temperature waiting for that to clear out. Okay? All I'm saying is, if you got that kind of money -- and I'm pretty sure Councilman Thomas, like he gonna say -- I think that's a good idea that you get the people in here, the owner, property management, so we can get on one accord.

The money that you got, let's gut these buildings out and make them livable. Okay? Let's stop doing patch-up jobs. 'Cause when they got here they talked about exterior, if everybody remember. It's exterior and the plethora of programs. Councilman Lowe and Pardo stated, "No, it's a rush job. We gotta look into it more." I know everybody else had good intentions. I understand that. But a complete inspection of every entire unit must be done.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

TERENCE DAVIS: Not hand-picked, because when they did it, they told a few of the young ladies, "Don't y'all say nothing to them. Stay away from them when they come out here doing inspections." I got tired of waiting for seeing what was going on, so I went and I went door to door, went into each unit.

Then I started (inaudible) document everything. You know, I didn't come to this -- we ain't gotta talk about politics. It's humane. These are residents. These are young ladies. We all got the same issue: mold, rats, roaches, water damage in the -- in the walls, termites, snakes, bedbugs, lizard -- well, lizards, I think I got a few of those myself -- but you got mold in the A/C unit so when it's blowing out --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

TERENCE DAVIS: -- you're breathing this stuff in.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Right.

TERENCE DAVIS: Okay? That issue with the roof that collapsed, that's an isolated incident that was separate from a problem that was -- been going on for many years. But once this new management and this new property owner came in here, he should

have been more aggressive if he had inspected the units properly, say, Hey, I won't allow my grandchildren or my children to live like this.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

TERENCE DAVIS: That's why I got with these young ladies, because they felt like they didn't know how to fight this battle, but they do know how to document.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

TERENCE DAVIS: I give them a lot of credit and I applaud them for what they did with that.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Good.

TERENCE DAVIS: So as a community, we have some mothers that's going to need some furniture in the next few weeks. We'll move them out of the TraveLodge. Everybody has lost all of their beds.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay.

TERENCE DAVIS: All their clothing. Everything except for Social Security cards and birth certificates. So we have about nine -- eight or nine families who's going to need beds --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Well, Mr. --

TERENCE DAVIS: -- 'cause they're trying to put them out right back into the units in the next few days. But we're not too sure those are livable right now. So if we can get this guy down here and let him spend the money the right way, and as a community, they'll feel good about the community getting behind these young ladies.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: That's right.

TERENCE DAVIS: And that's what -- that was -- the effort was all about, getting the community behind them. That's why they came out. I said, "Listen, you're not gonna be heard by the people unless you tell them your story."

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Right.

TERENCE DAVIS: It is a private issue. But it's a city issue to take care of our village. Okay?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: That's right.

TERENCE DAVIS: And that's all I gotta say. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Thank you, sir. Anyone else would like to -- to speak?

KATRELL FULLMORE: My name is Katrell Fullmore and I'm a resident out there. I'm a resident out there in Stonybrook.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

KATRELL FULLMORE: I've been a resident since February 14, 2011. Since I've been living there, my oldest child, Trinity Fullmore, she has -- I took her to the doctor. She has .3 lead poisoning in her system. My child has eczema from the dirt. I have the medicine and when I -- I cleared it up when she -- once you go outside, the dirt gets in her -- her skin and brings it right back up. She's on breathing machines. Both of my children are.

It's not livable. I have growing mold outside my tub. My kids can't even sit in the tub because of the paint. If they sit in the tub and they get up, the paint is on them. It -- it's filthy. You have rats that's bigger -- that's the size of possums out there. You know, it's not -- it's not healthy at all. Our A/C units --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

KATRELL FULLMORE: -- we go three -- three -- two, three months without A/Cs. You know, it's not right. What are they doing with the money? Y'all are buying dirt and plywood with the money.

You cannot fix up the outside if the inside is not right. You have to gut these apartments and clean these apartments out and fix up the inside. Then you start on the outside. It's not right. It's not at all. And I'm -- I'm voicing my opinion and I'm -- I'm gonna fight my right. Because it's not right.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

KATRELL FULLMORE: My child -- nobody's children should be able to live -- should live in that. Nobody in this -- up here would let their children or their grandchildren live in that.

It's not right at all. I'm -- I'm here to voice my opinion and I need help. It's -- it's bad. It is bad. These apartments been up since the '70s. Great-grandmothers' great-grandmothers been living here in the same condition and it's getting no better. It's getting no better. I'm calling out for help.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

KATRELL FULLMORE: You know, I'm the youngest thing in this group. I'm -- I'm 20. I'm the youngest person up here fighting for my rights, too. Everybody else is older than me. I need help. We need help as a community. We're not fighting amongst each other. We're fighting -- we're fighting against these people.

We came together to voice our opinion so everybody in the City of Riviera Beach can hear us. This is what we're here for. We -- we need -- they just went up on my rent

now. They want me to pay \$56. I don't have a job. I have child support. Yeah, that's income.

How you gonna take -- I'm in school. I just started school on the 30th. How you gonna take half of my income? My child's five. She start school on the 20th. I have to buy her school supplies. I have to buy everything. Uniforms. I don't have that to give to y'all.

And when I give a work order, y'all don't even come -- y'all come two weeks or a month later to fix something. My toilet backed up. I'm the one unscrewed my toilet and fixed my toilet. My sink backed up. I'm the one unscrewed my sink, stuck a wire hanger in there and cleaned my sink. My tub backed up. I'm the one plunged my tub and cleaned my tub. They're not doing nothing.

And my biggest concern, y'all have all this money but y'all not doing nothing for the community yet. It's not right. It's not at all. And we need help as a community. We need help. It's not right.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: No, you're right. It's not right.

KATRELL FULLMORE: That's all I have to say.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: And Mr. Davis, what -- what I would need you to do is to try to come up with the -- the different needs that we've heard here tonight so that we can put them into categories of short-term or long-term that we can address them. You just mentioned about --

TERENCE DAVIS: Yes, I have a demand list, a prioritized list I can get to you. I'll e-mail it to you.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Good. But for instance, like, right now, they need furniture.

TERENCE DAVIS: Uh-huh. Okay.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: So if we're aware of what they need right now, to address some needs right now, then we can go to our community and -- and say, "This is what we need." So please do that for us and you can, you know, send it to my office and, um, send it to, uh, Councilman Thomas' office. But it's so important.

TERENCE DAVIS: Yes, ma'am.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: We just want to look at some real immediate needs right now. We can get them linked to the social service agencies and other agencies that can help them right now.

TERENCE DAVIS: Okay.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: And health issues are certainly very important. Anyone --

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Madam Chair?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Did anybody who didn't get a chance or didn't fill out a card, uh, please make sure that we -- we get your name. Uh, we'll have you some information by tomorrow on when we can set up a meeting for you. So you know, we're definitely here. We -- we -- we hear you, you know, but please give us -- get us your information so that we can correspond with you.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: All right. Thank you, much.

SHAQUALA REESE: I just want to say a couple of things. My name is Shaquala Reese [phonetic]. I've also had problems with my water heater. Y'all fire department done told me face-to-face that they're tired of coming out for the same unit, putting me in rooms over behind IHOP. They're tired of it. It catch on fire when I had my newborn. My newborn was hospitalized. Um, and about the meeting. I heard you say something about the meeting. It wasn't no 9:00 Monday morning meeting. It was in the evening time. And when this man came in, he said his words and he was gone. His people that he have working in the office were there. So a lot of us didn't really get to meet him because he was too -- he said his words and he was out of there.

He -- we ain't seen this man since he came in to work for us. We ain't seen him. All we know is the people in the office. That's all we know. And that hurts me because it's like, Yeah, everybody calling him to come down and meet one-on-one. If he had that much respect for us and really wanting to get to know his tenants -- he don't even know what's going on right now. He really don't. He don't know what's going on.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Well, I want you to believe that --

SHAQUALA REESE: They talking about fixing the outside. They talking about giving us --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

SHAQUALA REESE: -- basketball courts, parks. We don't care about that. We care about this mold our kids breathing in. I have a nine-month-old that was sick, hospitalized at three months.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

SHAQUALA REESE: My baby could have died. I could have died. And it's -- it's -- I understand y'all saying it's gonna take time. Yeah, it's gonna take time but how much time do we need? How much time? It could be the next week, you hear about four babies dying. It could be next week. You never know.

A lot of us are out here crying our hearts out. We done spoke to individuals like

you guys. We done spoke to other people that we know -- we know for a fact that could come in and help us. Yeah, it might not be city property. It may not but we live in this city. That's how I feel.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: We care.

SHAQUALA REESE: We live in this city.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: We care.

SHAQUALA REESE: We pay taxes just like everybody else do.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yeah.

SHAQUALA REESE: We pay rent. We pay water. We do what we got to do for us. You feel me? But at the same time, we not getting enough help. I'm just gonna put it out there. We're not really getting enough help.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

SHAQUALA REESE: Everybody keep saying the same thing, same thing, We trying, we trying, we trying. We tired of hearing trying. I've been here since '08, January '08. I've been complaining, putting in work orders since January '08. I still ain't got no new stove. Still don't have a refrigerator. I'm -- I'm -- I'm live -- I'm literally -- I'm literally eating out of a refrigerator that barely gets cold. Barely.

I've been complaining. My -- the inside of my oven, completely gone. Been -- been arguing about a stove since '08. So it's not -- it's not just the mold. It's not -- it's -- it's a lot of things. It's a lot of things. You have bathrooms flooding out your kids' room. My whole house lean so when my bathroom floods my house, everything goes towards the kids' room, towards my kitchen. My room and the living room never gets touched. It's always my kids' stuff. I'm working very hard right now to get all my kids' stuff back. And I'm not asking you to do that. I'm doing that.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

SHAQUALA REESE: All I ask is y'all help us out with these apartments. And I'm done.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes, ma'am. Thank you. You have a card in?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay.

LAWANDA McCOY: Hi. My name is Lawanda McCoy. I just want to say a few things.

It's sad because I have a seven-year-old, the rat chased us out of our apartment. And my baby don't even wanna stay in the apartment. She wanna stay with my momma. The rats is so big that my kids are terrified to stay in their own apartment. And I'm just getting sick and tired of this. Every night I have to put things under my door so the rat won't come in. And it's more than one. And it's just -- I'm just getting sick and tired of it. My child don't even wanna live with me anymore. She want to live with my momma. And I just -- that's -- that's all I want -- wanted to say.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: I know you're hurt. Yes, ma'am.

TERENCE DAVIS: As you can hear, the -- the mothers just really want to express themselves right now and that's -- that's very important right now that --

MAYOR MASTERS: Madam Chair?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes. That's right. That's right. That's right.

TERENCE DAVIS: -- they be heard.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: That's right.

ELIZABETH SINGLETON: Hello. My name is Elizabeth Singleton. I live at 2547 Innisbrook. Um, I am not, of course, a resident in Stonybrooks, however, I want to assure you that this is not about politics today. This is about the mothers' of Stonybrooks outcry.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes.

ELIZABETH SINGLETON: Um, I would like to see as a taxpayer, as a woman, a single woman, um -- I am a sister of a resident, Katrell Fullmore. I would like to see this place tore down. I would like to see these, um, families get their HUD transferred out of there. I would like to see, yes, a instant plan immediately. This is an emergency, not politics. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: You're welcome. Thank you. Anyone else?

TANISHA CARTER STORY: Yes. Hello. My name's Tanisha Carter Story. And I've been a resident at Stonybrook since 2008. And since that time I've been dealing with mold. My three children and myself have mold in the bathroom and also in the hallway. Under Summit, which was the -- the previous owners, they were telling me that it's condensation or it's mildew. And if I clean my apartment, I wouldn't have the problem. Well, under the new management, the ones that, um, Mr. Thomas say that he's in contact with all the time, under their management, I also gave them documentation, let them know that we all have asthma.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

TANISHA CARTER STORY: That my children are allergic to mold. They're allergic to roaches, both German and American, and they're also allergic to rodents. Now, I was the person that Mr. Terence was talking about that had to be hospitalized because they came in four months later after I gave the, um -- the new work order -- when the new management came in, they had a meeting with us at 6 p.m. and asked us to, um, make a list. Reverend Masters, you were there.

MAYOR MASTERS: Uh-huh.

TANISHA CARTER STORY: And they asked us to make a list of everything that was going on in my apartment. I did that. They just came in Thursday to check it out. When they came in, the two maintenance men, one from before and one that MMI had brought in under, um, Global Ministries, they both came in and spray-painted over the mold in my apartment.

They told me that they were coming in to look at it. All I saw was a clipboard and two maintenance men. They went into my bathroom, closed the door and spray-painted. To this day you can go in my apartment tonight and look and see the spray paint on the wall. I had an asthma attack and I had a panic attack. When I came out of the hospital I went to the office and asked them, "Okay. What do you guys want to do?" I said, "Because had I known or had they gave me the information that they were gonna spray anything, I'd have left my house." I would have opened my windows. I would have taken precautions.

Thank God my children were not at home. So I -- I was the only one that had to go to the hospital that day. When I got back they told me, which was the Thursday -- they told me that they'll come in and give me a new tub and new tile. I said, "What are you gonna do about the mold?" They said, "No, ma'am, that's your fault. That's mildew."

Personally, I have never failed an inspection. Under the other management, I never failed. The only inspection I've ever failed was maintenance inspections. When I called and let them know that my A/C closet caught fire and was smoking in the middle of the night. They came in and put a plastic bag over my water heater, which I have documentation of that and it's still there. If you'd like to come, apartment A205. It's still a plastic bag over the water heater. It's exposed wires and the water is dripping.

MAYOR MASTERS: Who did that? Excuse me. Who?

TANISHA CARTER STORY: Excuse me?

MAYOR MASTERS: Who, maintenance?

TANISHA CARTER STORY: The -- the maintenance which is probably --

MAYOR MASTERS: Previous?

TANISHA CARTER STORY: -- the previous but the person who actually physically did

it, he's still employed.

MAYOR MASTERS: Okay.

TANISHA CARTER STORY: At our residence.

MAYOR MASTERS: Thank you.

TANISHA CARTER STORY: So that -- that's what's going on with me.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay, thank you.

TANISHA CARTER STORY: And even now when that happened on Thursday, they came in to give me a new tub and new tile, my bathroom is still not completed. There's still a hole in the wall. And when I went and spoke with the management, they told me, "Well, it's your fault because you wasn't home yesterday," but this happened Thursday. So they had Thursday, Friday. They said they was coming back on Saturday. No one showed up. Sunday, I don't expect anybody to work. On Monday, they came.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: I have to limit you to --

TANISHA CARTER STORY: It's not -- it's -- I -- I understand. But I've been living --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: -- to -- to three minutes.

TANISHA CARTER STORY: -- with this for four years.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes.

TANISHA CARTER STORY: So I need to just, like --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: And we want to hear you vent.

TANISHA CARTER STORY: -- just -- just --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: But we're trying to hear everyone.

TANISHA CARTER STORY: I understand that. But this is what we've been living --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yeah.

TANISHA CARTER STORY: -- through. And to tell us that it's our fault, that's not right.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: No. It's not.

TANISHA CARTER STORY: That's not right. Because all of us, whether they know

they pay rent or not, we all pay rent every month. Do you understand what I'm saying?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Oh, yes, I do.

TANISHA CARTER STORY: This -- this -- something has to happen. It has. And I feel like if it wasn't for me going to the emergency room, I still would have that moldy tub and I would still have those moldy tiles. And even when they pulled it out, there's mold in between the wall. I said, "Are you gonna do something about that?" "Oh, no. It's just mildew."

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Thank you. Okay.

KANISHA CHASTEEN: Good evening. My name is --

MAYOR MASTERS: Pull the mike down. There you go.

KANISHA CHASTEEN: -- good evening. My name is Kanisha Chasteen [phonetic] and I'm a resident out in Stonybrook. Um, I've been living there for three years. I can easily speak on all the situation that's -- that the lady have spoke about tonight. But the situation that concerns me the most or touches me the most is the, um, situation where I had a rat in my home. I've had several rats in my home.

But my daughter and my son are no -- they -- they're not comfortable anymore. Um, the rat chased them out of the bathroom while bathing. And they came out and, um, put a board up against my sink where there was a hole. They put a board up. And the rat tore it down, knocked it down, came out again and chased my kids out of their room.

MAYOR MASTERS: Huh.

KANISHA CHASTEEN: Um, I went to the office. They told me that they, um -- they didn't have enough -- they had enough funding to put everyone in a shelter for the rats, then there wouldn't be no need for Stonybrooks. So there was nothing they can do for me.

Um, my daughter, she's six so she's old enough to understand. My son, he -- he understands, but he really doesn't. He -- it's hard for him to go to the restroom because he's afraid that it's gonna be something coming after him, a rat or something. And my daughter, she doesn't want to live with me. She rather lives with her grandmother or, you know, other residents. She's afraid to sleep in her own room and that's the whole purpose of the housing. So the kids can have somewhere to lay, have somewhere to sleep. And I don't have to take and live from pillow to post. This is supposed to be our home. And that's all I have to say. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Thank you for sharing that, as well. Okay. I think that's it.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That's it?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: So Mr. Davis, you -- you'll do the follow-up and --

TERENCE DAVIS: We've got one -- one more. This one (inaudible) person.

GLENNIS SCOTT: Good evening.

MAYOR MASTERS: Good evening.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Good evening.

GLENNIS SCOTT: My name is Glennis Scott [phonetic]. And, um, the thing I wanna say is I have a bad seizure disorder. And, um, I had an MRI done and an EEG because I have migraines almost every day. But the doctor says -- he asked me, "Do you have mold in your house?" And he can't find anything on the MRI or EEG. So I told him, I said, "My bathroom does, and, um, the office told me to use bleach and water to spray it." And every time I do, it comes back. Then every night you sleeping, rats in the wall. You can hear them play in the wall.

I found two rats in my house because underneath my sink, it's, like -- it's down on the ground. Everything that I have falls down on the ground. And there are wall -- um, holes in the walls. So I had to block up some of the holes but I still have two, uh, rats in my house. And, um, I have some traps set and every time, like, I go in my house, I'm not -- I'm like, "What's that?" The smell -- stink.

So my kids are like, "Um, let's move all this stuff out the kitchen," 'cause that's where the scent coming from. So we did and we found the rats. Before the rats were, like, they -- they were so comfortable in my house. They look at both -- all my kids and be like, "Hey," because they're right there looking at us.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes. Yes.

GLENNIS SCOTT: My kids can't -- they wanna move.

MAYOR MASTERS: Huh.

GLENNIS SCOTT: And I've been living there for eight years. They wanna go.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Well, we certainly can understand that.

GLENNIS SCOTT: Everything -- I got shocked by the stove. My fridge is, like -- I got stuff spoiled. Just by putting it in there, like, two -- like a couple days. And Mr. Terence here came to my house, and he can tell you that I keep a clean house.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

GLENNIS SCOTT: But the stuff in my house, they are disgusting. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Thank you. And we do believe all the testimonies that

we've heard here tonight.

VINSA KENNEDY: Hello. Hello. My name Vinsa Kennedy [phonetic]. I ain't been there for a year yet and I know these ladies not lying. I -- in November make a year. I just moved there. My air condition leak water. It fit -- I got a mob bucket in the closet where the air conditioning at. Fill up to the top. It's running through my wall now. I got a -- I had a rat in my apartment the size of a baby. Shook my whole stove till the girl next door heard it. She thought I was over there fighting with a dude. But I don't have no dude come to my house 'cause I don't even have a boyfriend.

Shook my whole stove till one night me and my kids were scared and ran out the house. I say I know -- I thought it was -- my mind playing tricks on me. So I went in the kitchen, seen the rat tail sticking from under the stove. He was trying -- he was so big, he can't get from under there. He shook the whole stove. The whole stove rock like this. Kept -- kept rocking.

So I woke up the next morning, got the maintenance people and told them, There's a rat in my house. They're gonna tell me, "You lying. Ain't no rats in your house." I said, "You move that stove and you see turds about this big. You tell me what that is." I say, "Y'all ain't fixing to play with me and y'all ain't fixing to tell me what's in my house."

MAYOR MASTERS: Who told --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

VINSA KENNEDY: So one night it came again. It came from the girl apartment next door to me. Jump -- they go through the wall. There's a hole in that wall under the cabinet. They run from her house to my house, from her house to my house, playing tricks on us, jumping from the 'fridgerator to the stove, jumping from the 'fridgerator to the stove, playing with us. So one day I ran up out of the house butt naked, no clothes on. I just jumped out of the shower. A rat was in my bathroom.

MAYOR MASTERS: Huh.

VINSA KENNEDY: And I ranned [sic] out of there, left the kids in there. That's how scared I was. Told my sister to go get the maintenance people. The boy gonna come in there and, uh, he caught the rat and threw it in the field back there. I say, "What that gonna do? They're gonna come right back in your house again." And then I got these little things flying around in my kitchen that actually bite on your skin. These little gnat things.

And then my kitchen be -- stink so I was telling them it's something in my kitchen stink. And then the -- I would call the lady in the office. She had smelled it. So they gonna spray some stuff down talking about it'll kill the smell. The smell's still in my house. When you bust my door open, you smell nothing but dead rats. They in the walls. You bust them walls down, rats gonna run out of there like a, um -- like they running for food.

MAYOR MASTERS: Huh.

VINSA KENNEDY: I'm telling you, that place is infected [sic] and it's nowhere for people -- kids to be living and I know it's a fact, 'cause I ain't been there a year. And these ladies ain't lying. The stuff I'm seeing in my house, it's ridiculous. Them rats is ridiculous. They carry a lot of germs and diseases. And we shouldn't have to live like this.

And just like I told my sister, if I knew it was like that, I wouldn't have even got that place, but I know that's somewhere for me and my kids to live and I need my own space and my kids need they own space. My kids not even at my house as we speak right now.

I got a two-year-old. She curious. Kids like to play with animals. My baby see something like that, she probably gonna run down there and try to catch it because she think it's something to play with. But she don't know that that rat carry disease. They need to -- and then they'll tell us when you tell them it's stuff in your apartment, "Oh, we don't want to hear that. Oh, put a, uh, report in."

I started to -- excuse my language. I started to tell them, "Fuck a, um -- a, um, report 'cause that is, like, really pissing me off." When you go tell them stuff they don't want to listen to you. This new man, he's gonna shoot you out the office.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: The buzzer had sounded so we'll have to -- the buzzer has sounded now.

VINSA KENNEDY: He shoot you out the office and I ain't been there for a whole year. And it's, like, really, like, getting on my nerves. Like, water is, like --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: We understand.

VINSA KENNEDY: -- really coming through my wall. And I had called one of the maintenance boys in there --

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Okay. Madam Chair?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. We -- we -- we --

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Madam Chair?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: -- we really need to resume now. We've given everybody an opportunity. And what is happening, everyone is just really confirming the last person's testimony. So we -- we understand. We -- we understand -- we understand.

VINSA KENNEDY: But can I tell you about my -- this -- my electric --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: No, ma'am. We really -- we really, really, really need to move on.

VINSA KENNEDY: Okay.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Now, no one -- you know, we allowed you but you didn't have a card.

MAYOR MASTERS: Mr. Davis, don't leave. Just stay for a couple of minutes.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: So we, um --

MAYOR MASTERS: stay right there.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Madam Chair?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Um, and my comments are to Mrs. Jones. Uh, and I'm just blown away. And I -- I heard my colleagues say a little while ago, I know -- I know for a fact this problem couldn't have started, uh, just recently. But -- and it probably has been going on sometime. Um, but I'm -- I'm really just kind of blown away as to how, um -- how my residents can -- could just live and -- and -- and -- and -- and not --

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: In such a disgusting place.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: -- do something before now. You know, so, um, Mrs. Jones, um, I would suggest that we, uh, contact the Health Department ourselves and, um, have our -- you know, coordinate it with our police, send a team out to the Stonybrook apartments. And if -- if it is necessary, condemn it. You know, and, um --

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: And go after the owners.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: -- they'll go after the owners and, you know, they'll be responsible for helping -- they can transfer their, uh, housing vouchers. Um, because this is -- I -- I can't imagine people living like that. I mean, it just boggles my mind.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: And to -- to condemn it, we've gotta make sure you've got a place to relocate the people to. So --

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Well, the housing vouchers --

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Well, that's the owners' -- that's the owners' problem. They've been --

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: -- (inaudible) to them.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: -- they've been collecting rent all of this time. It's --

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Yeah.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: They -- it's time for them to step up to the plate. So we need to send our -- our agency out there to make sure the Health Department is on this and --

MAYOR MASTERS: The fire department. (Inaudible).

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Yeah. Health and fire.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: So -- so --

MAYOR MASTERS: Health and fire.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. Um --

MAYOR MASTERS: Madam Chair?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes.

MAYOR MASTERS: Hi. How are you?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Fine.

MAYOR MASTERS: Let me make a few -- few comment it is -- to the residents of Stonybrook and -- and to Terence. First of all, I -- I want to, um -- as you know, I've been out of town, but I want to thank you, Terence, for, um, bringing the group together. Thank you for your leadership. Thank you for, um, listening to their concerns.

And I haven't spoken to anybody else. I'm just talking to you. Everybody have their opinion. I got mine. And I'm gonna speak for me. But I want to personally thank you for listening and coming forth. There need to have been -- there need to have been leadership and need to have been a voice. And you gave presence. And you gave voice to it. So I'm -- I'm gonna thank you personally, one.

Two, everybody in Stonybrook ought to know that my heart has always been there with the people from day one. You know, it started years and years ago. There's -- there's no place in Riviera Beach that I feel more in tune to than -- than the residents of Stonybrook.

And history will say that. You know, the book bags, the bicycles, the, um -- whatever. You know, I've been there for years and years and years. Now, I have heard all the concerns and I believe every single one of them. Every single person that testified. For me, this is like a hearing. Everything they said, I believe it.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Uh-huh.

MAYOR MASTERS: And I want to just take -- take everybody back. Miss Ryan is

there and I'm -- I want her on the record. When they came, the new owners, I refused to sign the agreement. I stood up. I said, "It's too quick." And they're offering this. I refused to sign it because they said they had a meeting. I said, "No, you didn't." Did I not refuse to sign it, uh, Attorney Ryan?

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: You refused to sign it. That's correct.

MAYOR MASTERS: Okay. And I told the owners two things. First of all, I asked them, "Do you have an African-American or a minority on the board?" They said, "No." I asked the question. The second thing I asked them, I said, "Well, if you don't, you need to have one. If you don't have one, then you need to have an advisory committee from the Stonybrook residents to be in communication with the board members. I said it. I said it on the record.

So everybody in this city knows that is I've stood up for workers. I've stood up for tenants. I've stood up for students. I've stood up for seniors. I am ready -- while everybody else can do what they want to do. They can -- the Health Department is great, but it's time to protest.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Amen.

MAYOR MASTERS: It is time to protest this.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Amen.

MAYOR MASTERS: And if you want to call the protest, I'll be there. And I'll -- I'll lead it. I'll be one of them. Because the only way it's going to stop -- I want the roaches out now. I want the rats out now. Period. And I want you to know I'm ready to fight in a non-violent way. I'm ready to stand up with the tenants and not ask, but demand justice. And demand it now. That's number one.

Number two, I don't appreciate the fact that they fired Karen and the other young lady. I want them rehired. I want them back. I want them back now. And I will protest every single day. The only two African-American women in there, they got rid of them. And everybody else in there are foreigners, as far as I'm concerned. How in the world are you going to be able to communicate with people like that when you don't have anyone there of the people?

Karen had the heart of the people and they loved -- the residents loved her. And for them to get rid of her in this type of situation is wrong. It's immoral and I demand -- I demand they be put back. And I will protest every single day until justice prevail. Thank you. I'm through.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: As a health report (inaudible) --

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Mayor, I have to say that I agree with you and I was right there with you when he came, when the, uh -- the preacher from Tennessee came asking us to sign the \$14 million federal grant. And, uh, I believe Mr. Lowe was right there with us, also. And this is just the perfect example of why we should not let these

people come in and try to jam these resolutions down our throat. \$14 million this guy received from the federal government for property that's worth probably less than \$3 million.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Probably.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: And he came in here with a promise that he was going to help each and every one of you. And I just hope that he proves me wrong and some of the other members of this board. Um, Mayor, you want to protest, I'm right there with you.

MAYOR MASTERS: I'm ready.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: But I can tell you, first thing tomorrow morning, I'll be on the phone with the guy. This is just deplorable.

MAYOR MASTERS: You call it. You call it and I'll be there. You call it.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: No, this is deplorable, because I'm putting myself in your position. And God forbid, all right -- thank God that I don't have to live like that. But that doesn't mean I'm going to let you live like that.

MAYOR MASTERS: Terence, you call it. I'll be right there.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Yeah, it's -- it's terrible. I had to deal with a rat last summer. And, boy --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Dr. Wynn? Okay, Dr. Wynn?

DR. WYNN: Dr. Angela Wynn, Riviera Beach. My heart wept. I just thought there were tears in my eyes and this is evil upon evil, wickedness upon wickedness. And, uh, Mr. Mayor and Miss Pardo, I'm there to protest myself.

And I just want to say this, that I do recommend, uh -- commend Miss Pardo on what you said before, that this is a thing that you do right now. Mr. Thomas said, you know, "Be patient." And I asked the lady over there, she said she's been there for nine years and the same things going on. So this preacher is a -- is -- is -- is a -- is a crook. He is a crook.

And I hope that, um, this council would ask the, uh -- what you call it? Uh, the guy that go out and check the houses.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: The inspector? The housing inspector?

DR. WYNN: No.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Code enforcement.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Code enforcement?

DR. WYNN: Go over there -- code enforcement. You know, we need code enforcement out there. And fine him \$10,000 a day. \$10,000 a day if they don't fix that building. And you don't pay that money -- use that same money to repair the building. \$10,000 a day. He'll answer quick.

And -- and -- and this is, you know -- this is disgraceful. Rats? Mr. Thomas, you said patient, but you -- this is more than Joe Patient right now. We can't wait. And said, "Hold on." I hear what you said, "Hold on." You know, you wouldn't live in that. I can't hold on for that when there's a rat running around the place. That's not right. Terrible. Abomination. We're gonna get this thing done and I'm gonna put on my sneakers and get this thing done.

Another thing I want to talk about -- I wanted to comment before, but being busy - - about this letter that (inaudible) the City's talking about, uh -- what do you call it? Service Line Warranties of America? That (inaudible) --

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Excuse me one second, Madam Chair. It --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: -- we -- we need to have some police officers or somebody respond to the outside. That's --

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: For real?

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: -- that's getting a little disturbing. So please have somebody respond to the outside.

DR. WYNN: Yes. I was saying that the letter from Service Line Warranties, I think this is a bogus thing. I -- I do believe. Because listen -- and the City should not sign their name on this because none of y'all up there need, uh, that warranty. Why sending these panic attack letters to the resident seeks (inaudible) out of their money.

I have to -- uh, I go in my -- in my neighborhood and I ask my neighbors, "How many times you have flood backup in your home?" A lady say she live there for 42 years and never have that. So I think this letter is saying how to people for, uh, release SLWA -- that -- that's -- that's robbing these residents. I'm gonna say it plain point-blank. It's just wrong. And -- and asking the resident not to pay these thing, not to -- not to sign up for these things. You know, I don't know who pass this but this is -- this is just downright wrong. We already poor in this -- in this slum already. He's trying to squeeze money out of us. That's wrong. This issue is -- shouldn't have signed that.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Um, Miss Angela Wynn?

DR. WYNN: Yes, dear.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: That is strictly voluntary. People don't have to sign up for

it if they don't want to. But I -- I understand what you're saying.

DR. WYNN: Yeah. People -- yes.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Uh, this was a -- an initiative that I brought back from -- from the League of Cities and thought it was a great idea. I've personally signed up for it myself in the event something happens. But if you don't want to sign up for it and anybody else in the City doesn't want to sign up for it, they don't have to at all.

DR. WYNN: But you see, somebody read the letter but they get panic, you know?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: They don't -- they don't -- I'm -- well, see, this is -- maybe we need to inform --

DR. WYNN: This is a -- this is a manipulation letter.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: -- people that they do not need to sign up for it if they don't want to.

DR. WYNN: Well, residents of Riviera Beach and Singer Island --

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Period.

DR. WYNN: -- and Riviera Beach, do not sign up for this -- this thing here because they're robbing us. Okay?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Okay.

DR. WYNN: They're robbing us. It's shameful (inaudible).

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Margaret Shepherd?

MAYOR MASTERS: That's one way of getting the message out.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Absolutely. You're walking awfully slow, Ruth.

MARGARET SHEPHERD: Mayor, Council.

MAYOR MASTERS: Miss Shepherd.

MARGARET SHEPHERD: Kind of cold in here tonight. But I want to go back.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Yeah, it is.

MARGARET SHEPHERD: Miss Jones, before I really forget, for the swim team Barracuda Bay, is there any way you can put us on the agenda for October/November,

so they can see the swimsuits and do a little disk? Because we're -- we're looking for a sponsor. I have somebody in mind that's been nestling in the city for years who's been a great champion in helping with -- helping me with the seniors. I really want to ask him but I need to get your approval and council approval so that we can take a step above. I appreciate you all because we raised 24 cases of water.

MAYOR MASTERS: Wow.

MARGARET SHEPHERD: Eight cases of Gatorade. And I think Brynt and his crew over at, uh, Public Works, I think they raised, really, the most money to buy the fruit and the little snacks and everything. So I thank you all for that. We have the best, uh, swim team in the world.

I want to go back, Mrs. Ryan, very quickly, because I think your mind is the best on the dais right now. When Ivy Green went into effect with HUD and the Federal Marshals came in, Michael Brown was the mayor. The very same thing happened.

And I think the storm came. And Michael Brown, he was very, very good in trying to explain to us that that is HUD property. The City really cannot really do anything. You're just nestling in the city. It took me a year and a half. And I mean, I have all my newspapers. And you have to go to the television stations. I mean, you have to get with the news people. You have to work with HUD. This is a HUD problem. We -- and I was a part of the team that had 50 people with me. When I looked back it was nobody but me.

MAYOR MASTERS: Huh.

MARGARET SHEPHERD: And Mayor -- Mayor Masters was out there.

MAYOR MASTERS: Uh-huh.

MARGARET SHEPHERD: I mean, and I think, uh, Mr. Thomas was there. A lot of people came out. They told us that there was not -- they were not gonna send anybody out there to pick us up if somebody got sick because the alarms was going off every day and they were gonna charge 99 days. Well, we panicked, just like you said. And we went to Chief Troy Perry at that time and Troy said, "Do not panic." And I -- I really think, uh, a lot of the guys came out. I won't go into their names. And they got us relief. That's how we got the vouchers during the storm. They needed vouchers to get out of there.

You're tearing down the walls. You're gonna shell it out. What -- no. Those buildings have been there for years and I was the one -- I have my newspapers. Stacks of them where the rat crawled over me. What those people are saying is the truth. So it's nothing political. It's just that this is a HUD problem. And you need to write Washington, D.C. You need to keep it up, keep it up, keep it up, keep it up, keep it up.

So they're gonna throw it on the City but you guys really can't do anything. Nothing but house them, clothe them, whatever. Miss Brooks, it's a HUD problem. And Stonybrook is there. The street is about to be widened pretty soon. It's not gonna get any better. I applaud you all for just listening to everybody. I cried because I went back

-- I think 2005 -- with the same problem. I thank you.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Thank you so much. Uh, Representative Jeff Clemens.

MAYOR MASTERS: Madam Chair, while Jeff is coming, I want to respond a little bit to Miss Shepherd. I understand it is a HUD problem but these are Riviera Beach residents and they live in our city. And we need as the city council and certainly as the mayor, use -- use this, um, position as elected officials to demand justice from HUD or whatever. So it's not just a HUD problem; it's our problem, too. And it's not gonna go away. And that's why I'm gonna fight for those residents. We cannot wait for HUD or anybody else to do what they have to do. They know what's right. They should have done it a long time ago.

But I agree with you. It is a HUD problem, but it's also they're residents and they're tenants, and no one has -- no one should have to live like that until HUD does what is right --

MARGARET SHEPHERD: But you are a great mayor and if you do that, you are a great mayor.

MAYOR MASTERS: Thank you.

MARGARET SHEPHERD: And I'll leave it like that.

MAYOR MASTERS: Thank you. Okay. I just wanted to say that, Madam Chair.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. Thank you.

MAYOR MASTERS: Jeff, how you doing?

JEFF CLEMENS: Uh, good evening, Mayor, Madam Chair, council members. I'm State Representative Jeff Clemens. I had come here tonight just to kind of introduce myself and get to know you a little bit better and let you get to know me. Um, there's a chance, a possibility that I may be representing Riviera Beach in the State Senate and thought it was important that you get a chance to -- to -- to know a little bit about me, but I -- it's been a tough night for everybody. Um, and none more so than the folks who had to come up here and tell you about the terrible situation in which they find themselves in.

I was a mayor, as well, of the City of Lake Worth and so I know how difficult local government is and -- and how much of a challenge it is. Um, you know, and it's heartbreaking to listen to those stories. And I know every member of the council is going to do their best to do something to make sure that you don't have to hear them again.

One thing I just wanted to point out, though, certainly we need to -- to contact the Health Department but what may have been glossed over, there was a group of women standing here that said that they had had to trade sexual favors to get maintenance done.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Uh-huh.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

JEFF CLEMENS: That's a felony.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

JEFF CLEMENS: And so I think you also need to involve your police department in this. Someone should go to jail and I think you need to all make sure that that happens, along with the Health Department issue. So I just wanted to make sure that that wasn't -- certainly the Health Department issues are serious. I just wanted to make sure that that wasn't glossed over.

MAYOR MASTERS: Thank you.

JEFF CLEMENS: You know, again, I served as the mayor of the City of Lake Worth. For those of you who don't know much about me, I was born in Detroit, Michigan, and found my way to Florida about 15 years ago. I served as the chair of the CRA in Lake Worth and then later the mayor. Had a chance to go to Haiti with --

MAYOR MASTERS: Yes.

JEFF CLEMENS: -- with the mayor and many other good local officials. And -- and look, I just want you to know that if I'm lucky enough to win this election, that I'll be here for you. I'm not here to politic in any way but that, uh -- that you know that you can call me any time. And certainly as it relates to the situation that you're dealing with tonight, um, and I used to work with Health Department officials all the time to deal with these kinds of issues. I've -- I've worked through them before. I've worked through the State Department (inaudible).

So I just want to offer myself up as someone who can be helpful if you need me. And not to know -- not -- you know, not that you don't have the connections, as well, to deal with it. I know that you do. But if there's anything that I can do, if there's pressure that can be put on anybody in order to be able to remedy the situation, you know, I'm here for you. Um, and it doesn't matter that even though right now I don't represent Riviera Beach, I represent Floridians and I represent all of Palm Beach County.

So I'm sure that, uh -- that anybody standing here in my shoes would -- would say the exact same thing. I'm here to help. Um, I'm going to give everybody my cell phone number in case they want it. It's 561-779-7997. You can call me night and day. I've been --

MAYOR MASTERS: How did you get all those 7s?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Repeat that number, please.

JEFF CLEMENS: Sure. 561-779-7997. Here's a little trick. When you go to the store to get your phone, tell them unless you get a really cool number you won't buy the phone. They'll give you (inaudible).

MAYOR MASTERS: I was curious.

JEFF CLEMENS: But you know, feel free to call me. I'm used to getting those 11:30-at-night phone calls wanting to know why my garbage wasn't picked up that day. I mean, those are the kind of phone calls that council members and mayors get.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: That's true.

JEFF CLEMENS: You know, we're here for the people. I know all of you know that and I am, as well. So thank you so much for everything you do and I'm looking forward to working with all of you.

MAYOR MASTERS: Thank you.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: And Madam Chair?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes?

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: I would just like to thank Mr. Clemens for –

MAYOR MASTERS: Just stay right there.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: -- I've been working with him on beach erosion issues. He put together the BMA group, you know, got DEP down here and we've been working. So, again, thank you. You understand the -- the need for a collaborative effort to tackle the erosion issue. It's not just a Riviera Beach issue or a Palm Beach. It affects the entire Florida coast, so thank you for that.

JEFF CLEMENS: You're welcome. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Thank you, sir.

MAYOR MASTERS: Madam Chair?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes, Mayor?

MAYOR MASTERS: Thank you. Um, I -- I also want to, uh, thank you for you were one of the few mayors that when I asked and made the call to -- for elected officials to, uh, accompany me on a -- a mission to Haiti to save lives, and, um, we were on the ground -- well, seven -- seven days after the earthquake but you went on a prior mission with us. You and Wayne Richards and -- and Mack Bernard. And I just want to thank you for being, um, one of the only mayors that went. And I think you -- you were one guy that kind of stood out. You looked different from all of us, but you were right with --

with us. I want to thank you for being that that one lonely guy. Thank you. Now you know what it means to be one in a crowd.

JEFF CLEMENS: Mr. Mayor, we live in a county of wonderful diversity and I think it's a fantastic –

MAYOR MASTERS: Thank you.

JEFF CLEMENS: -- strength we have.

MAYOR MASTERS: Well, you brought diversity to the group. Thank you.

JEFF CLEMENS: Yes, sir. Thank you. Thank you all so much. Appreciate it.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. Thank you. And Beth Kigel, our new president and CEO North Palm Beach County Chamber of Commerce.

BETH KIGEL: Good morning, Madam Chair. It feels like morning to me. I'll explain that in a minute.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay.

BETH KIGEL: Madam Chair, members of the council, Mr. Mayor, members of the administration, my name is Beth Kigel, and I'm the new president and CEO of the Northern Palm Beach County Chamber of Commerce.

MAYOR MASTERS: Yes.

BETH KIGEL: And first of all, I want to tell you it's an honor to be before you tonight and quite frankly a humbling experience after hearing from members of the community. Very glad to be here to hear about some of the activities that are happening in Riviera Beach.

But actually, uh, here for two reasons: One, to introduce myself to you. I think a couple of you already have met me or have known me for a few years. But so that those of you who don't can put the name with the face, know a little bit about me, but also to reiterate our chamber's support for the business community in Riviera Beach that we hope will continue and -- and thrive and prosper as we move forward.

I want to introduce a couple of folks that are here with me tonight. Mr. Nat Nason, who's a member of our executive committee who I'm enjoying getting to know and working with over the –

NAT NASON: And a new -- and a new resident of the City of Riviera Beach.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: That's right. He's a neighbor.

BETH KIGEL: I also want to introduce you to Noel Martinez. Noel is our director of

membership development. And the reason that Noel is here is he's going to be very active in -- in terms of what we do here in Riviera Beach. And I thought it would be very important for you to meet him and know him personally.

Just to let you know a little bit about -- about me, I was born and raised in Jacksonville, Florida. Some of you know me prior to this role, that I did quite a bit of work in government relations and then prior to that I was in the Fortune 500 world. But I did grow up in a small business in Jacksonville. So I am a Florida native. I'm a product of our Florida public school system and, uh, very proud Floridian.

I want to tell you, the last four weeks, which were my first four weeks, were quite a whirlwind. Uh, I've -- I've been talking with stakeholders, members, etc., and particularly with folks from Riviera Beach. I attended my first Riviera Beach Business Council meeting where I met Mr. Jones. I was very pleased to do that. We're already starting to collaborate a little bit. As well as, uh, I think we were at a ribbon cutting together, Madam Chair.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes.

BETH KIGEL: And we've also been having dialogue at League of Cities meetings. And I want to let you know Engenuity Group has already reached out to me in terms of ways that we can start collaborating and growing the business community here. And as we've heard tonight, jobs is pretty important.

MAYOR MASTERS: That's right.

BETH KIGEL: The job issue.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

BETH KIGEL: So whatever we can do to work synergistically with the City of Riviera Beach, that's what we're here to do. So I want to let you know that as the new CEO, my phone line is open. My door is open. Please feel free to contact me or a member of our staff or a member of our board. We -- we are here for you.

MAYOR MASTERS: Thank you so much.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Thank you so much.

MAYOR MASTERS: Happy to -- happy to have you.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: (Inaudible). Um, Madam Chair, Nat -- Nate -- Nat?

NAT NASON: Yes?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Would you please leave your phone number with, um, Mr. Jones there. I -- I know I have your card, but I -- I don't want to look for it. It's in my drawer with another stack of cards. Thank you very much.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: I was just gonna say, Beth, as long as I have known you, I don't know why I thought it was Segal. So when I saw K I was like, Kigel?

BETH KIGEL: It rhymes.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: It does. It really does. It really does. Anyway, thank you so much for coming and sharing and –

NAT NASON: And -- and let me just say before we go, um, speaking for the board of directors, we're very pleased to have Miss Kigel be our new CEO.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes.

NAT NASON: And we very much look forward to continue the good work that we've done with Riviera Beach to support your economic development. It is so important for our region and it is so important for your residents to continue that work. So we're going to be there with you in order to -- to help you with that.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Thank you so much.

MAYOR MASTERS: And I want -- I want to say to you that you -- excuse me, Madam Chair, if I can just -- one thing. That, um, you are a man of great wisdom for moving into Riviera Beach. It's the best waterfront city in which to live, work and play. So you're very wise to live here. Thank you very much.

NAT NASON: Thank you, Mayor. Appreciate it.

MAYOR MASTERS: Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Oh, you're welcome.

BETH KIGEL: Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Mr. Ward?

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: He's my neighbor. You met his wife.

GERALD WARD: Gerald Ward, 31 W. 20th Street, 3930 N. Ocean. You'll find out shortly why I have two addresses again. Uh, obviously I need to document that there was a dozen and a half, uh, residents of Stonybrook that came in the chambers. I went outside and counted it, and there was at least 20 more residents out there in the lobby. Now, uh, it -- it's -- it was a much more significant event than I've seen in Riviera Beach in a long time.

The mayor is obviously -- was perceptive when they came in in this hurried operation, and I suggested at one point that it ought to have been sent to the Planning

Board. We have a good code in Riviera Beach, a Waterfront Advisory Board. We have a Planning & Zoning Board, and they would have scoped out some of the problems. It's just like the car crusher came up and almost got through and took us two years to get that problem stopped.

Uh, we need to involve the citizens' boards in this town because they work and the citizens' Charrette of earlier this century was a great example of another type of citizen effort.

That's something that wasn't on my agenda. The agenda is the agenda. Obviously you have a new electronic agenda. We are two and a half years into -- I mean, two and a half, uh -- how -- let me put it this way: Twelve -- 12 years into this century and so now you finally come into the 21st century with the agenda.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: (Inaudible) ask a question first.

GERALD WARD: Did you -- did you read the 687 pages, though? And if you didn't, you found that the agenda item summaries need to be revised, Miss Jones, so that we get to every department head. Now, we may only have 10 plus functional department heads that will really take -- look at it. But some of them, you need another category.

Really, no impact to me. And not that I reviewed it all. Not that they're signing off. But there's no track record, although I hear that there may be an electronic track record that Mr. Jones has set up. But none of the council sees Miss Ryan's signature. And it -- it needs to get fine-tuned. The, uh -- you need to customize the review so that it is certainly comments from all the conscientious department heads we have.

I was going to comment -- Miss Stubbs, I think, was in to start with -- uh, that we needed the Ocean Mall report. And we did get one from Miss Ryan. But that needs to be front burner. Um, railroad update came out of June. We need another update on what's happening with the railroad. And lastly, yesterday the county published that they're coming this month to try and extort 20 percent of whatever costs they jet up on another beach project out of the city council. I may not be here to oppose it but remember, this is private property down to the -- either the erosion control line, and those folks have a responsibility. And I do own two parcels on the beachfront. And it's our responsibility to do maintenance, and the beach really hasn't changed since statehood. Just the dunes, which the owners are the maintainers of.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Ward. Next, Bonnie Larson. And after Larson, Bruce Guyton.

BONNIE LARSON: Well, since everybody's commenting on Stonybrook, I guess I will, too. I remember very well when that gentleman came here. And it was a rush-rush deal. And like Mr. Ward, I remember him saying it should go through the P & Z first. He was very, very rude to the council. I remember that. But for some reason the majority voted to give him permission so that he could somehow get that grant. I don't know what the position is now, if he got the grant money all at once or if he's getting it -- he did? Or if he's getting --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: (Inaudible).

BONNIE LARSON: Excuse me?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: I was asking. Somebody answered he got it all at once?

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: I don't know.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Oh, we don't know.

BONNIE LARSON: Oh, we don't know. I would certainly ask 'em. I mean, you're gonna have to say we were wrong to give our permission, but better than -- better late than never. And it was a very rush-rush -- so let's at least learn from this and not do that again. You know, they can't come in here, just put it on the agenda like that and boom, it's gone. Look into things before we do it, before we -- because it makes Riviera Beach look really bad. And I can't understand that Code Department and HUD hasn't looked at those properties in -- in the last five years. It's somebody's responsibility. It's not the council's responsibility but where is HUD? Where is our, um -- where is our Code Department. It didn't get like that overnight.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Sure didn't.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Sure didn't.

BONNIE LARSON: Um, the group that was in here tonight, the Concerned Mothers, there was a -- a question, were they a nonprofit, and they said, Not yet. They could possibly use some help from the City to become a nonprofit because that did sound like a good organization to try and help the kids get on the right path. And so let's help them out if we can because maybe they're good at keeping track of the kids, but they don't know how to do something like form a nonprofit. So I think that would be well worth the City giving them a little helping hand with that.

Um, we approved a couple more 12-children daycares tonight. And I'm wondering they're -- I hope they're certified. We check into that, that they're certified to be daycare centers?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Oh, yes.

BONNIE LARSON: I hope we do.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes.

BONNIE LARSON: My second question is have they been re-certified to now become 12-children centers? Because that's probably a different designation. So before -- again, before Riviera Beach gives the okay, let's make sure that the State also says they can do the 12-children thing.

Um, something that has slipped off our agenda was the paragraph about if anyone on the council has any relationships for any reason, they should not be voting on issues. They need to say that up front. That's some -- used to be on the agenda but it somehow slipped off of there.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: I believe we read that. We discussed --

BONNIE LARSON: Um, oh, there's some political signs on the City property, W. 22nd and Broadway. I reported it on Thursday. They're still there today. No signs should be on City property, political signs like that. They're those huge signs. They're, like, those seven- or eight-foot signs. They're still there today. I reported it Thursday.

Um, I asked -- well, I've asked several times about flooding on city streets. And the last time I brought it -- well, three years ago I brought it up because we had funding then. We hired a consultant. That the response was, It'll be done when Broadway's done. But my question is what has flooding on side streets got to do with Broadway? Rain comes down. It never hits Broadway. So I didn't understand the response to that, if someone could explain that. Thank you.

And also if someone could explain tonight, um, when is Broadway starting, where are they going to start, and if you could just give us a rundown on what's happening. I've just seen a sign. I saw the sign in Lake Park first, not from Riviera Beach. Now there's one in Riviera Beach but when is it going to start, where is it going to start, and just so we know what's going to happen. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Thank you, Miss Larson. Bruce Guyton, is he still here? Bruce Guyton, if he's still in the house. Okay. He's gone. Okay. Then we're finished with all of the public comments. We're down to Statements by the, uh -- oh, I'm sorry, City Council Committee Reports.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Uh, Madam Chair?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes, Miss Davis?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: MPO. All right. There's been a lot of talk, um, about the water taxi issue. Apparently there is a vendor out there who's interested in providing water taxi services. But everything is so kind of convoluted. You know, everything is not connected at this point.

So what the MPO -- well, the County officials decided is that, um, there has to be a -- a comprehensive plan put together at this point. And they've asked the League of Cities, as well as the Visitors and Convention Bureau to take part in this because we want to get the, um -- the restaurants involved, because possibly they could advertise on the water taxis.

But right now, um, we're in the process of putting those committees together. And I've indicated that I -- I intend to serve on, um, the committee. So that I believe from Boca Raton to Jupiter, there may be somewhere between 10, 12, maybe more, water taxi stops.

Um, so it's a matter of scheduling, you know, to see how far -- if -- if -- if -- if one

water taxi's going to service two or three stops, you know, as -- instead of the whole distance or part of the distance because it's really -- one person tried to do that. I think the, uh -- Captain Joe who's at our marina --

MAYOR MASTERS: Yeah, Captain --

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: -- um, tried from Riviera Beach to Jupiter, and it really wasn't cost-effective for him to do that. So it's just a matter of getting it all scheduled and everything. And I'll be bringing back more information on that as we move forward.

The other thing is, um, we still had some residents there from the State Road 710 concerns, um, from -- from that area, and -- who told the MPO Board that there were still -- there was still activity going on in the cemetery. Uh, there was a letter sent, um, to the City, even though it hasn't been made available to the individuals, but, um, the cemetery owner, um, due to the encroachment of the cemetery property on the County's property, they have to go through the process of, um, getting rid of the property. Or in other words, giving ownership to the cemetery owner now.

So the activity that they've been seeing out in the cemetery is simply, um, you know, making sure that the surveys are correct, so that the County knows exactly how much land they have to convey to the cemetery owner. There is absolutely nothing going -- going to be touched in the cemetery. The County is just going to give them the property.

So when -- we announced that while they were there, um, in that meeting, and, um -- but still, I think, you know, some people are concerned because there has not been anything publicly sent out for them to see in writing.

Also, what was talked about in MPO is that the permitting process for the water taxis needs to be the same for every municipality. And I've already -- already relayed that information to Mrs. Jones. Um, and in addition to that, there is the issue of, uh, transportation. Once a person travels by water taxi and comes to a destination, how do they get around? You know, um, being that they have left their vehicle, you know, at the, um, location where they got on the water taxi.

So the idea of trolley services, um, came up. So this would be a business opportunity for someone, you know, at a later date. And that's it, Madam Chair.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. Thank you so much, Miss Davis. Anyone else with committee reports?

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Yes, Madam Chair.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes, Miss Pardo?

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Um, I'd just briefly like to talk about the Port of Palm Beach. Port of Palm Beach had a meeting last week and they are, um -- in the meeting they -- they had a, um -- a discussion -- as a matter of fact, it was supposed to be a presentation -- about their master plan. I found out from the City the City was not made aware of it until after the fact.

And also, we had a couple of business owners who showed up at the meeting to

voice their opinion. And one owner was not allowed to speak.

MAYOR MASTERS: Wow.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Yes. And –

MAYOR MASTERS: Unbelievable.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: -- uh, Mr. Ward was there with his court reporter, and thank you very much for that, Mr. Ward, because all of that is on the record now. And –

GERALD WARD: (Inaudible) well.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Right. Sure does. And after the meeting I got a call from the Port saying that they were going to re-notice the meeting and have it again because they know that they, you know -- they were in, uh -- in error for not notifying the City, but also not letting the residents speak.

And if you go through the plan, there still is no mention about, um, you know, the easement property. Remember, there's the, uh -- the FPL easement at the south end of the port, which we allowed the port to –

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: -- you know, we signed off on them to allow them to use it for parking. But we said that before we would rezone it they needed to figure out how the businesses were going to be able to get boats and, you know, trailers through Riviera Beach. Right now they have to go through PGA.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Down PGA Boulevard because the turning radius isn't good and, you know, we all know about that. So anyway, um, that should be coming up again in the next couple weeks.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: And I think it's imperative that the City, um, either Miss McKinney or the CRA or Miss Jones, uh, be at the meeting to also voice the concerns for the residents. You know, we need to get that on the record. It's on the record here on the City, but it needs to be, um –

MAYOR MASTERS: On their record.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: -- on the record at the port, also.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: And then lastly, uh, FDOT, they were in here two weeks ago -- right, Mr. Jones? Two weeks ago. And again, we had a lot of the businesses along the Broadway corridor show up. They continued to voice their concerns about the medians. Um, it's the businesses from 24th Street down to 17th Street.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: And the concern is we will be moving the light on 20th Street down to 22nd Street but if a boat on a trailer wants to turn into, say, Sea Tow on 24th Street, they're not going to be able to.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Able to, yes.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: So what's going to happen, these trailers will have to go down and all through the neighborhoods to come around. So I think, you know, before we get any further into this, we really need to think about it, because I think once the residents in that area get wind of what's really going on, that these tractors and diesel trucks, you know, going down to New Port Cove will be going through their neighborhoods. I think it's going to be a concern. Um, the unfortunate thing was, we didn't have anyone from FDOT here. We had the contractors and all the representatives from the contractors.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: I know a couple of the businesses have been writing letters and e-mails back and forth to FDOT. So, um, I was going to get with the manager to see if, you know -- if we could have one last meeting with FDOT and these businesses and see if there is something we can do. If they want to either shorten the median or keep the median but get rid of the -- I don't know what the term is, it's like a concrete apron. You know, if maybe we could get rid of that, because at the end of the day, the businesses are affected but it's also those residents in there. And I still think the residents don't really know what's going on.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Madam Chair?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes, Miss Davis?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: A few meetings ago I brought this to this board's attention. Um, because MPO wanted to put it to rest. And, um, this board wanted to move forward with, um, Broadway as it was. And that is what I reported back to the MPO. And, um, if -- if, um, you were to remember, um, when we talked about this I think a year or so ago when, you know -- when -- when we first started talking about the medians, um, I believe you were chair then, Mrs. Pardo. And we really pushed the issue of -- of wanting to beautify Broadway. And, um, you know, we had been dealing with this for some time. And that was the reason that I brought it back to this board, so

you could make a final decision. And MPO doesn't -- they're done. The County is really done hearing this. So, you know, that -- that was the main reason I brought it back, so I could get clarity on what this board wanted to do.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Yeah. But I think at this point, um, FDOT is going to have the final say. And when this was in front of us a year ago or so when I was the chair, you need to remember, a lot of those businesses weren't there. You just had Sea Tow move in. There's other businesses there. At the time, um, where Sea Tow is --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: -- there was nothing. It was a vacant lot. All right? So now you have a business who makes their living off of these boats coming in on trailers.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: I believe Sea Tow was there.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: So I, you know -- I think it's worth having another meeting with FDOT and I'm more than happy to put it together and, you know, let the -- let FDOT hear one last time from the businesses.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: And the attendees from the City's side would be the city manager?

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: And maybe Miss McKinney.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. Well, Miss Jones, you have heard the suggestion, um, from the Vice Chair. And I know Miss McKinney is in the rear there so do we -- do you all have any input into this? We would like to have another meeting with FDOT with the --

CITY MANAGER JONES: By all means. If Miss -- we will assist Miss Pardo in -- in getting --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay.

CITY MANAGER JONES: -- any meeting set up. And we need to do it expeditiously because they're set to start work next week.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Absolutely.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: That's what I thought.

CITY MANAGER JONES: Yeah, so your plans --

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Right. Yeah. Right. I'm sorry.

CITY MANAGER JONES: -- yeah. Uh-huh.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: And we brought that up to the contractor. And Mr. Jones was there. And the contractor told us right now they're -- they're not working on the medians or anything. They're working on all the underground stuff. So there's still plenty of time to change that plan. And as far as I know, the City still has not received the final plans for the project. They're still in the works down at FDOT. I heard we should have those in the next couple of weeks. So --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: So there is an opportunity for reconsideration.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Absolutely. Absolutely.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. Well, hopefully y'all make it happen.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: We'll get rolling on that tomorrow.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Then Miss Jones said she will work with you on getting that -- that meeting together.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: You're -- you're welcome. Any other committee reports? If there be none, now we will --

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Oh, there's one. I'm sorry. The Dual Rail Project. Um, we met on July 5th --

CITY MANAGER JONES: 11th.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: -- July 11th, yeah, down at, uh, City of West Palm Beach. And West Palm Beach was brought in on this, um, due to the possibility that 49th Street might be impacted. Um, our next meeting is scheduled for next Tuesday, uh, in the Utility District at 8:30 in the morning.

Um, but we have made some significant progress. Also in attendance was the CEO from St. Mary's Hospital, um, because, you know, we want to make sure that, you know, getting people to the hospital from the 45th Street side, um, it wouldn't be problematic for that.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: It was a very, um -- I think we -- we -- we made a lot of progress and hopefully we're -- we'll get there soon. So that's it.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. Thank you. Well, moving on, now. Mr. Thomas, did you have any? Any Committee?

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Just for Committee? No. Not at this time.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yeah, well, that -- school was out so, yeah.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Yeah, not at this time.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. Uh, Statements by the Mayor and City Council, starting with the Mayor.

MAYOR MASTERS: Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: And welcome back.

MAYOR MASTERS: Thank you, Madam Chair. Glad to be here. It's always good to come back to the United States of America which is truly still, no matter what goes on, beyond, above everything else, it is still the best nation in the world.

I do want to have one disclaimer. On my trip to China, I want to make it absolutely clear I had nothing to do to inspire -- nothing to do with inspiring China to get all these gold medals in the Olympics. I had nothing to do with that, now. I just wanted to make sure.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: We got some, too.

MAYOR MASTERS: Yeah, we did. Um, I -- I, um, first of all want to publicly -- as I say, our attorney here so we'll make sure this is part of the record. And, uh, the disclosure that the, um, government of Chinese -- government of China took care of our -- my accommodations and transportation. Came down to about \$350 a night for three nights there. And, um, the travel part I took care of in my travel budget.

I also -- I want to publicly claim -- and I want to do it publicly -- the mayor of the City of Kunming, China, uh, gave me a gift after we had a, uh, meeting together. And I want to talk about it now because next council meeting we're going to publicly state what our understandings were. And it's going to benefit our city and the residents of -- of the county. But he gave me this gift. And I never opened it till I got here, so I don't know what it is. But whatever it is, it is.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Ooh, what's he doing?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Sake.

MAYOR MASTERS: I don't know what it is but I appreciate it. And I thank God --

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: What is it that he give you?

MAYOR MASTERS: Is it -- I don't know what it is. I'll let the manager open it, see whatever --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: (Inaudible) have to open that.

MAYOR MASTERS: Okay. And I also brought back the most economical souvenir/gift that I could find for my fellow colleagues. And, uh, since I didn't have a whole lot of money and didn't want to spend all my money on y'all since y'all didn't give me none to go. So here's yours. This is a book, uh, marker. That's yours. This is yours and yours, yours, yours and even, uh, Attorney Ryan, I didn't leave you out.

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: Wow.

MAYOR MASTERS: Didn't leave the, uh, city clerk out. It's a book thing.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Oh, it's cute.

MAYOR MASTERS: And, uh, I couldn't figure out what this is, Miss Manager, so this is yours. I'll let you figure it out.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: It needs a man.

MAYOR MASTERS: But, uh, it was a wonderful --

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: (Inaudible).

CITY MANAGER JONES: (Inaudible) so much.

MAYOR MASTERS: -- it was a wonderful trip and we're going to be documenting and putting together a documentary entitled "The Mayor goes to China," and we took a lot of video clips of the meetings that I was in. And I can tell you that I'm thankful that I was blessed to go. Um, they never heard of Riviera Beach but now China is talking about Riviera Beach. And, um, they're real excited about our city and our government. And there will be -- and we'll talk about it at the -- when I give the report. But I'm expecting and anticipating the delegation that will be coming from China here that are very much interested in investing. We've already talked to Mr. Brown and talked to him while I was in China with -- with a young man over there and they're interested in investing. And they just -- they're ready to come to Riviera Beach. So we'll be talking more about it.

But it was a very beneficial trip for the City. We also were able to open doors of tourism where the, uh, five-star hotel in Beijing has consented to give the residents of Riviera Beach a discount. If anyone wants to go to Beijing, you're -- you're going to get a wonderful discount. And we were able to accomplish a lot of other things as it relates to tourism and wonderful things. But it's going to be a part of -- of a published report and then you will see that this trip was well worth it.

And I'm looking forward to our new corporate citizens of Riviera Beach coming to our city. And, uh, whatever way they can help us in investments -- I didn't know that Mr. Ward was connected with the, uh, Chinese some kind of way and he showed me his

card. He said, "You didn't take me. You should have taken me. I could have helped you, Mr. mayor." But it was a wonderful trip and I want to tell you I've gone a lot of places, but I -- I've never been treated, uh, like they treated me in China. It was like a king.

Um, I didn't even -- couldn't even get off the plane. I walked one foot off the plane and they were right there at the gates and just put me in the VIP, uh, vehicle right from the airport right on to the -- the -- the VIP section. And the security was great. And the tour guides was there. I know, um, the Chair's background is, uh -- part of her background was in tours and travels. And you understand how important it is to have a tour guide.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Oh, yeah.

MAYOR MASTERS: Well, the tour guide never left my side. They were the whole trip. It was just wonderful. But we were -- we are preparing a documentary which people will be able to see and air on, uh, Channel 18 that will show the -- the trip and what we feel that was accomplished for our city.

Not just the City of Riviera Beach, but if the County can benefit, when the County benefits, the City benefits, 'cause we get money from the county from time to time. So the more tourists and trade and other kinds of things that can benefit the County, it trickles down to Riviera Beach, particularly when we're at -- when we're at -- when we are at the table and we are involved in the process. So God has been good. I want to give Him all the glory and praise, um, for blessing me to go and to be the voice of our city and to represent the residents of Riviera Beach and the general population of Palm Beach.

Now, on another note, I don't know who to address this to, the manager or the Chair, but the newsletter that, um, went out, there was a wonderful section -- it was from the Chair. And, uh, I want to have -- the next letter I want to have my little section from the Office of the Mayor. I think in -- in terms of fairness and balance that, um, I should be given the same privilege and the opportunity. I know it wasn't any kind of slight, but I commend the Chair for having that vision and foresight to have a column. But in the next paper that comes out, I -- I would like to have a -- a column to talk about some things as relates to the Office of the Mayor. And I want the manager to make that happen. Thank you very much, Madam Chair.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Oh, yes, yes, yes. Well, you know, we've had the newsletter for quite -- many months and it was just an idea as Chair that I wanted to do.

MAYOR MASTERS: Well, you inspired me.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Was already -- you've been the mayor a long time now.

MAYOR MASTERS: Guess I'm a little jealous, Madam Chair.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: You know, plenty of opportunity. But anyway, that was just an idea. I felt like the Chair should have --

MAYOR MASTERS: No, it's all right.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: -- something to -- you know, to say. And certainly the mayor, as well. Not to be slighted at all.

MAYOR MASTERS: It just inspired me. That's all.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. Okay. Okay.

MAYOR MASTERS: No problem.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: All right. Now we will start with, uh, Statements from the City Council. Uh, Mr. Lowe? Mr. Lowe?

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: No, nothing.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Miss Davis?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Just want to announce there is going to be a job fair, uh, Wednesday, August 8th, from 9 to 4. It's going to be at the Hilton Garden Inn, uh, 3505 Kyoto Gardens Drive in Palm Beach Gardens. It's being hosted by DSS Health Solutions and DSS Vet. Um, so if anybody's out there looking for a job, some fliers are back there on the back table with all of the information. That's it for me.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay.

MAYOR MASTERS: Madam Chair, too, the speaker -- a point to the speaker, do you know anything about the, um, McCrae Benefit for the young lady that --

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Yes. I think it's Monday.

MAYOR MASTERS: -- did they -- could you announce that because I know they're talking -- they're asking people to contribute and become a part. Please.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Yeah. Derek McCrae --

MAYOR MASTERS: Gwen -- is it Gwen McCrae?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: -- from the, uh, Derek Mack Band, he's performed at the Jazz after Dark. I believe it's his sister Gwen?

MAYOR MASTERS: Gwen.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Gwen McCrae.

MAYOR MASTERS: That's correct.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: A well-known recording artist –

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Sister-in-law.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: -- was in Germany and had a stroke, I believe. And, uh, they're trying to raise money to get her home. Uh, and they will be having a benefit for her at, uh, B.B. King's downtown West Palm Beach. I don't know the address. Um, I believe it's on Monday. Um –

MAYOR MASTERS: Start time?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: -- starting at, I believe, 8:00. 8 to -- 8 to 11 or something like that. So –

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. Yeah, that's his sister-in-law. He was married to George McCrae.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Yeah, sister.

MAYOR MASTERS: Thank you, Madam –

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Yeah.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yeah. Okay, Miss Pardo, any comments?

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Um, I have a couple of things for staff to please look at. Um, the first is -- and we brought this to staff's attention a couple weeks ago -- there is a very deep hole. It's probably eight or nine inches deep on, uh, Lake -- no, not Lake -- on Park Avenue and South Harbor that still has not been filled in. And I'm telling you, there's a lot of people that walk that street and someone's gonna fall and the City's gonna get sued. So I would appreciate someone filling that in as soon as possible.

Um, I have a question regarding trashcans. Do we have a requirement that businesses must use Dumpsters instead of trashcans? There's a couple of businesses in the city that, you know, on trash day, they have between six and 10 trashcans in front of their business, instead of a Dumpster. So, um, I'd like to know the answer to that. And there's a couple of businesses like that. And if you'd like to know addresses, I'm more than happy to give them to you. But you know, at the end of the day, we're paying for that. So, um, if someone could please get me an answer on that.

Uh, landscaping. We already talked about that for the Ocean Mall. Please, please, please, someone get on them and figure out what they're going to do. And is the Chief here tonight, Chief Williams? No, he's not here. Well, I'd like to know, in the month of July, we had a number of shootings. And we have a lot of police officers. We have a lot of technology. And I'm just wondering, is there something more that we should be doing to try to help stop the shootings in the city?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Hmm.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: And you know, maybe the chief can -- maybe at the next meeting he can do a presentation or something. But there has to be something that we can do. Even if we have to bring the feds in to try to get a handle on this. But it's -- it's terrible. You turn on the news every day. It's another young man killed in the streets. And it -- you know, it has to stop. We have to do something. And I know part of it is, you know, getting jobs for these young men.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh. Uh-huh.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: But there has to be something more that we can do. And I really hope that maybe the chief can share with us things that he's working on. We need to get a handle on this. It's just -- it's very, very disturbing.

MAYOR MASTERS: That's right.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: And that's all I have. Thank you very much.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Thank you, Miss Pardo. And I would say ditto to your comments about doing something, uh, with the crime that's going on. And about a month ago I did give the chief an article that I had seen in, um, USA Today where the City of Maryland and also Chicago had gotten a grant --

MAYOR MASTERS: The State of Maryland.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Was it -- I'm sorry. Chicago. Well, I'm thinking about Chicago and Maryland. Baltimore, Maryland, rather. They had gotten a -- a -- Baltimore had gotten a \$2.5 million grant from the Justice Department. And what they're doing is hiring felons who have been released and it's called S.O.S., Save our Streets. And I thought that we should look at that. I mean, we already have a relationship with, uh, you know, the Justice Commission, and let's see if we can't bring that program, uh, into our city. Again it's jobs and it's also -- and these are persons. These are individuals who know the streets and they had case studies in there showing how they had gone out and defused, you know, situations where --

MAYOR MASTERS: They know the people.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: -- it could have been -- they know the people.

MAYOR MASTERS: They know the people.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: So I -- I think that this is something that we need to -- to look at for our city. And so it's an initiative that I want to encourage to at least investigate and see the feasibility.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: (Inaudible).

MAYOR MASTERS: Amen.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: On the Stonybrook issue here –

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Excuse me.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Last Monday -- I -- I just want to compliment all of the City people who got –

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Miss -- Miss Brooks –

A. -- involved with –

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Miss Brooks?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes. Oh, I missed you.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: You want me to do mine first so you want to –

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: I got (Inaudible).

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: -- I mean, you're the Chair. If you just want to go ahead –

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Go ahead on. Go ahead on. Go ahead. I'm sorry.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Um –

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yeah, I was trying to go in order.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Right. I figured that's what you were trying to do. Um, the, uh -- just a -- a couple of, um -- of things. Um, while we were, uh, approving those family daycare centers, I was, um, able to go out in the community and, um, I talked with a few of the residents. And a -- a few issues that they're having, I've -- I've talked with Miss McKinney on today in reference to, uh, maybe some traffic control, uh, measures, such as speed bumps or some other things.

Um, as well as some stop signs and so on and so forth. But what I would like to know, Miss Jones, or put here on the record to get some information from is: what is the proper channel for anyone who's trying to receive something like that? A speed bump, a stop sign, for them to do. So that just by the off chance that their district representative or their representative, period, is stopping by, they don't have to wait till that happens. They can, you know, start the process, um, of that. And you don't have to answer it tonight. I just would like to, you know, have that prepared and we can, uh -- you know, we can put that on.

Um, I've -- I'm still receiving, um, text messages in reference to tonight's meeting. Um, one of the complaints is they still can't hear us well on the mike. But a -- I don't know what we need to do to fix that. We've had that issue for --

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Uh-huh.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: -- for a while. Um, also, if -- if that's part of the piece that is needed, we -- we definitely need the channel to be working. We announced that the channel was not going to be working and it, you know -- it's up and working. So I don't want anybody to feel like we were trying for them not to watch the, uh -- the meeting. That was something that we didn't know that was going to happen at the start of the meeting. You actually told us that, you know?

CITY MANAGER JONES: Right.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: So --

CITY MANAGER JONES: We found some duct tape.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: I got you. Um, on the issue, uh, regarding Stonybrook as I announced to my colleagues, I'm -- I'm going to be opening it up. I'll be in conversations with the, uh -- the owner who I have not had a chance to get to tonight. Um, I went outside once -- everybody was through speaking -- to talk with them and try to gain some type of, uh, control on that.

I'll, you know, definitely make sure that everybody has an opportunity to be involved in whatever way that they want, but I'll definitely take the -- the point on it. And what I would like to see happen is that we come to some resolution. You know, not really point a bunch of fingers but come to some resolution to get, you know, the situation remedied, um, and that we use whatever measures that we can.

Miss Jones, if -- you know, with your permission, tomorrow morning I'd like to meet with the, uh, police chief, yourself, Mr. Jones, in an emergency fashion. I know that you have your, uh -- your staff meeting tomorrow. So whatever time that we can get --

CITY MANAGER JONES: 8:30?

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: 8:30 sounds -- sounds good. 8:30 in the morning. And the, uh, fire chief, as well -- as well as Miss McKinney. To, uh -- to see what type of immediate resolutions -- Miss Ryan, you might as well be in that meeting, as well. Um, so that we know what we can do legally as a City and make sure that, you know, we're -- we're doing everything that we can but we don't, um, put the City in a -- in a position that, you know, would make the City liable for anything.

So, um, I do want to -- out of that meeting, get, you know, some immediate information to the residents. And I'll open up the, uh, chambers here within the next day or so to get them some more information to try to work this, um, you know -- to work the situation as quickly as we can. We don't want anybody to, um -- you know, to have to

live in conditions that they've been, um, living in. Uh, and it just didn't start today -- yesterday or two weeks ago. This has been going on for a number of, um -- of years. One of the residents who was out there, um, said that she's been living there since Stonybrook opened.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Oh, wow.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: I don't even remember when Stonybrook opened. That's how long ago it --

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Hmm.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Long time ago.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: -- you know, it -- it has so -- she's been out there for that. And some of those things that, like -- she hasn't had a new refrigerator or, you know, a new stove or, you know, whatever those are. So those are some of the issues that we'll definitely be, um -- we'll definitely be working on.

And I'll, you know -- I don't -- I don't want to, you know, make sure -- I don't want to, you know, violate any Sunshine Laws or whatever, so I'll be talking with that -- those individuals tomorrow to make sure in, you know, how I can communicate, even if it is just communicating directly with the -- with you, Miss Brooks, the Chair, or, um -- and/or the mayor or whoever else is there. I know that, you know, Mr. Lowe is also covering that area. Everybody is concerned about it.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: So I just want to make sure that we can have a -- a concentrated effort on trying to, um -- to resolve that.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: So that's what I'll be, you know, working on immediately. Just to let everybody know.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Good. Appreciate it.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Okay.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. All right. Um, I was gonna thank the -- the City folks who got involved on Monday night. We were trying to get food for the people, and, um, the police were very helpful in -- in working that matter out. And I certainly want to thank Mr. Jones, Mr. Danny, Deputy City Manager Danny Jones for his help and all the policemen.

Uh, we're getting ready now for our September clean-up campaign, and this is a great time for the students to get, uh, community service hours. It's going to be

September the 15th and we're relocating now to Cunningham Park. We thought we would move -- move the, uh -- that event. And so therefore, we're looking forward to getting all of the, uh, notices out now to the schools and -- and to the churches of this event. And we want adult volunteers, as well as, um, young volunteers.

And I believe -- oh, the -- lastly, I -- my -- my office, uh, does recruit, uh, from different people, agencies, businesses, private vendors, uh, monies for scholarships under the name of Bobbie Brooks Scholarship. And to date we have about \$4,000. And, uh, Dr. Nelson, Fredeva Nelson, is the one and her little committee that reviews these applicants and come up with a decision about the scholarships that would be awarded.

And we hope to do this, uh, for the second semester of college. So we welcome, uh, you to please contact my office, 845-4032, and we will send you the information. Again, that's 845-4032.

And that is -- oh, lastly, for all of you who are, um, planning travel, say, before -- by the end of September -- and of course, most of us are out of money -- please look at your budget, because you know, we do have line items that perhaps you have under-utilized or not utilized. Office supplies, training. And you should now get the -- the form to change -- do a line-item change. You can put this money into your budget. So -- and we're getting near the end also for the promo and we need to know what we're gonna do with that.

So -- but you have a lot of money to -- you have -- I won't say you have a lot, but you have some. And there are a couple -- there are a couple of, uh, very important, um, meetings that are coming up now. One in Hollywood and the National League has a, uh, institute I believe that's going to be in September in -- in South Carolina -- uh, South or North Carolina. And so this is an opportunity now to clean out your -- your account. Okay? All right. That's it.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Motion to adjourn.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Hey.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: So moved.

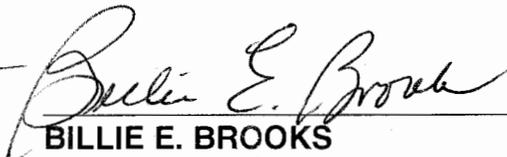
ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was duly adjourned.

PLEASE NOTE: A COMPLETE AGENDA PACKAGE AND RECORDING IS ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK.

APPROVED:


THOMAS A. MASTERS
MAYOR


BILLIE E. BROOKS
CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:


CARRIE E. WARD
MASTER MUNICIPAL CLERK
CITY CLERK


DAWN S. PARDO
CHAIR PRO TEM

ABSENT

CEDRICK A. THOMAS
COUNCILPERSON


JUDY L. DAVIS
COUNCILPERSON

TARDY

SHELBY L. LOWE
COUNCILPERSON

MOTIONED BY: D. PARDO

SECONDED BY: J. DAVIS

B. BROOKS AYE

D. PARDO AYE

C. THOMAS ABSENT

J. DAVIS AYE

S. LOWE TARDY

DATE APPROVED: 09/05/2012