

**CITY OF RIVIERA BEACH
PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 17, 2012 AT 5:30 P.M.**

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

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: We're about to, um, begin our special meeting. I would ask if you would please, um, silence your phones. Madam Clerk, are we ready for the roll call?

CITY CLERK WARD: Yes, ma'am.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Let's have it, please.

CITY CLERK WARD: Mayor Thomas Masters? Chairperson Billie Brooks?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Here.

CITY CLERK WARD: Chair Pro-Tem Dawn Pardo?

CHAIR PRO-TEM PARDO: Present.

CITY CLERK WARD: Councilperson Judy Davis?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: I'm here.

CITY CLERK WARD: Councilperson Cedrick Thomas?

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Here.

CITY CLERK WARD: Councilperson Shelby Lowe?

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Here.

CITY CLERK WARD: City Manager Ruth Jones?

CITY MANAGER JONES: Present.

CITY CLERK WARD: City Clerk Carrie Ward is present. City Attorney Pamala Ryan?

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: Present.

CITY CLERK WARD: You have a quorum, Madam Chair, and you may proceed.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Thank you.

CITY CLERK WARD: Uh-huh.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: By the way, if anyone wishes to speak on an agenda item, uh, we do have consent cards so we would need to please fill them out and get up here as quick -- give them to Mr. Jones, please. Thank you.

All right. We will now stand for the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance led by Mr. Thomas. (Everyone stood for a moment of silence with the Pledge of Allegiance being led by Councilperson Thomas).

Um, Miss Jones, do we have any, um, items to be added, deleted, substituted?

CITY MANAGER JONES: No, Madam Chair.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Any council member needs to do any disclosure at this time on any items on the agenda? If not, then I'd like to get, um, a motion to approve the agenda.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Move agenda.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Need a second.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Second.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. Roll call, please.

CITY CLERK WARD: Councilperson Brooks?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes.

CITY CLERK WARD: Councilperson Pardo?

CHAIR PRO-TEM PARDO: Yes.

CITY CLERK WARD: Councilperson Davis?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Yes.

CITY CLERK WARD: Councilperson Thomas?

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Yes.

CITY CLERK WARD: Councilperson Lowe?

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Yes.

CITY CLERK WARD: Unanimous vote.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. There's nothing on the Consent Agenda. I see here that we have Comments at 8:00. Well, maybe we'll be finished before then. All right. We're down to the regular meeting. Um, item number 1.

CITY CLERK WARD: Resolution 139-12. A resolution of the City Council of the City of Riviera Beach, Palm Beach County, Florida, approving an amendment between the City of Riviera Beach and Palm Beach County, extending the completion date of the City's Neighborhood Stabilization Program from December 31st, 2012, to March 4th, 2013, authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the amendment and providing an effective date.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Need a motion, please.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: So moved.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Second.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Miss Jones, would you like to -- oh, who's going to do the presentation or discussion?

CITY MANAGER JONES: Mr. Stein from, um, Community Development.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: State your name and everything, please?

BRAD STEIN: Yes, ma'am. Good evening. Uh, Brad Stein, Principal Planning with the City.

Um, this is just a continuation of the current Neighborhood Stabilization Program, extending the completion date from December 31st out to March 4th.

Um, currently we have four houses that we purchased. We have been reimbursed by the County for those homes and so, uh, we are in the process of rehabbing. We have rehabbed three of the four homes and now we are in the process of selling them.

Um, there's just a little hiccup on house number 4, um, just having some problems with some windows, uh, ordering the windows and, uh, working with the contractor. But we've got that all figured out today and everything's good to go.

And we've also submitted down to the County, um, for reimbursement for all those, uh, rehab -- rehab costs for those three homes. So we're just moving along in the program so far, and we have applicants down at the County, um, working on getting income verified to make sure that they're verified to be able to purchase these homes.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Oh, wonderful. Any questions from anyone? Okay. We don't have a comment card. Please have the roll call for the vote.

CITY CLERK WARD: Councilperson Lowe?

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Yes.

CITY CLERK WARD: Councilperson Thomas?

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Yes.

CITY CLERK WARD: Councilperson Davis?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Yes.

CITY CLERK WARD: Councilperson Pardo?

CHAIR PRO-TEM PARDO: Yes.

CITY CLERK WARD: Councilperson Brooks?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes.

CITY CLERK WARD: Unanimous vote.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Item number 2?

CITY CLERK WARD: Singer Island Camera Project, \$1,500, Dawn S. Pardo, for security camera installation.

CHAIR PRO-TEM PARDO: Madam --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Motion?

CHAIR PRO-TEM PARDO: So moved.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Second.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Discussion?

CHAIR PRO-TEM PARDO: All right. Madam Chair?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes.

CHAIR PRO-TEM PARDO: Um, after I allocate the next item, I will have \$1,500 left in the District 4 Community Benefits. And, um, the plan here is to put the \$1,500 into an account

so when we get our next stipend in March we'll be able to purchase a camera for the north end of Singer Island.

As you all know, we approved, in the, uh, the CRA budget, and last week we had a discussion about it, cameras over by the Ocean Mall and at the bottom of the bridge.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

CHAIR PRO-TEM PARDO: But there's a concern, um, about safety on the north end, so with the Community Benefits we'll be able to purchase a camera, uh, for the north end of the island.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Oh, that's a wonderful investment.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Madam Chair?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes, Miss Davis?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Just a point of clarification. Um, the Community Benefits -- I'm -- I'm sorry. Miss Pardo, you said the money was going to be put into a -- in a bank account?

CHAIR PRO-TEM PARDO: Into -- it goes over to the police station, just like we've been doing with the landscaping project on A1A, which has been, um -- we've accumulated funds for the past several allocations.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Okay. My only concern was -- was I thought the Community Benefits stipulation was the money had to be spent, but -- so it's, um --

CHAIR PRO-TEM PARDO: No, as long as --

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: -- it's already worked out.

CHAIR PRO-TEM PARDO: -- it's allocated.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Okay. All right.

CHAIR PRO-TEM PARDO: Uh-huh.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. Any other comments?

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Yes. Who monitors these cameras?

CHAIR PRO-TEM PARDO: The police department.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Oh, okay.

CHAIR PRO-TEM PARDO: Everything goes through the police department. They'll purchase them, install. You know, it's part of the police, um, program.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: And technically the -- speaking, the funds are committed once you give it --

CHAIR PRO-TEM PARDO: Absolutely.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: -- and it -- they are committed, so shouldn't be a problem there. Any further comments or questions? Okay. Let's have the vote, please.

CITY CLERK WARD: Councilperson Lowe?

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Yes.

CITY CLERK WARD: Councilperson Thomas?

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Yes.

CITY CLERK WARD: Councilperson Davis?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Yes.

CITY CLERK WARD: Councilperson Pardo?

CHAIR PRO-TEM PARDO: Yes.

CITY CLERK WARD: Councilperson Brooks?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes.

CITY CLERK WARD: Unanimous vote.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Item number 3.

CITY CLERK WARD: Fire Station Number 3, painting and landscaping project, \$3,000, Dawn S. Pardo, donation to the Singer Island Fire Station Project.

CHAIR PRO-TEM PARDO: Um, again, I've been allocating funds toward this project. And this is -- uh, we're \$3,000 short, so we're allocating the \$3,000 so we can paint the fire house, do landscaping, sod, and, um -- and sprinkler improvements.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Need a motion.

CHAIR PRO-TEM PARDO: So moved.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Second.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: All right. It's been -- any comments, questions? All right. Ready for the vote, please.

CITY CLERK WARD: Councilperson Davis?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Yes.

CITY CLERK WARD: Councilperson Thomas?

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Yes.

CITY CLERK WARD: Councilperson Lowe?

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Yes.

CITY CLERK WARD: Councilperson Pardo?

CHAIR PRO-TEM PARDO: Yes.

CITY CLERK WARD: Councilperson Brooks?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes.

CITY CLERK WARD: Unanimous vote.

CHAIR PRO-TEM PARDO: Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Item number 4.

CITY CLERK WARD: In accordance with the agreement, a due-diligence period began on November 7th, 2012, and ends December 21st, 2012. The due-diligence period

provides an opportunity for the City to conduct certain studies and perform certain investigations including, but not limited to, an environmental study and examination of the title to the property and a survey of the property.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Need a motion.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: So moved.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Second.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Miss Jones?

CITY MANAGER JONES: Yes, Madam Chair, members of Council. Thank you so much for being able to provide you with an update tonight on the due diligence.

We, uh, promised that we would come back, um, since our November, um, 7th approval to let you know what we have been doing with -- as it relates to the due-diligence process.

On November 7th you gave us authorization, um, to move forward with the execution of an agreement for the purchase of 1481 West 15th Street. This would allow the City the opportunity, um, for a new, um, police building, um, fire facilities, a Public Works facility, and an emergency operations center.

Um, in accordance with that agreement, the due-diligence period started on November the 7th and was to end on December the 21st. A part of that due diligence included the title search, of which we have completed that, and these items have been brought forward for, um, staff review.

Our external attorney that has been working with us has received these documents, reviewed these documents and then forwarded them on to the City. These issues do not represent any conditions or conflicts with the proposed use of the property as stated within, um, the title, um, of information we received.

As a part of that we were also, uh, to do a survey. Um, we had -- Lidberg & Associates has provided an updated boundary survey, um, to the one that was originally a part of the purchase. Um, no issues were found and that conflict -- um, and they were -- the boundaries were the same as the original survey that we received.

Another important thing was also environmental study. Um, we initially received, um, the first environmental study that the current owner did, but we also went back out and had a second -- our first environmental study for us to do. Um, URS Corporation provided an updated environmental study, um, as it relates to the property.

Uh, they did not cite any hazardous materials on the property. There were, um -- when you actually look at what is on the property, um, they did not find anything buried, drums that contained any diesel fuels or anything aboveground that would cause us any concerns about the environmental, um, condition of the property. Um, they concluded that no issues were found that would conflict with the proposed use of the property.

Another area that was of concern that we wanted to investigate dealt with the, um, Florida East Coast, FEC, Railroad right-of-way investigation. Um, on the property there exists, um, two, uh, railroad tracks: the FEC track which runs east and west, and then there's a track that runs north and south, um, that is owned by -- as a part of the property.

Um, FEC provided us information that they granted the previous owner, Gulfstream Lumber, a license to use that crossing. Uh, following the November 7th meeting that we had, uh, we contacted FEC and it was determined -- and they asked us some questions. We provided them the answers to the questions. Um, and we don't see any problem once the property is purchased of having an issue with FEC and getting the license.

There were two kinds of license and definitions that FEC wanted, and that determine -- that was based on the crossing, whether it was going to be a public crossing, meaning residents would be going across it, or whether it would be a private crossing.

And, um, in our discussions we know that it would be an internal private crossing. Only workers would be crossing, um, the particular railroad track. Um, so we feel comfortable that we'll be able to make applications with FEC to continue to be granted the license in order to cross the track, because it will not be a public crossing for the public.

If it were to be a public crossing, we would have to follow the -- first of all, we would have to file an application with FDOT, um, in -- in Tallahassee. They would draft a stipulation between the parties, and the City would enter into a typical FEC license. In this particular case, um, we -- as I said earlier, we are saying that this is a private crossing, not a public crossing.

CHAIR PRO-TEM PARDO: Madam Chair?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes, Miss Pardo?

CHAIR PRO-TEM PARDO: Um, for the City Manager, so do we have a letter from FEC stating this or was this a telephone conversation?

CITY MANAGER JONES: E-mail.

CHAIR PRO-TEM PARDO: Okay.

CITY MANAGER JONES: E-mail from FEC.

CHAIR PRO-TEM PARDO: We have an e-mail? Okay.

CITY MANAGER JONES: Yes. Uh-huh.

CHAIR PRO-TEM PARDO: Well, I'd like a copy of it -- it wasn't in the back-up -- please.

CITY MANAGER JONES: Uh-huh. The other area, just to let you know, we -- as it relates to the public process, a public meeting forum was held on November the 19th, uh, here in Council chambers. On December the 1st, um, Chair Brooks held a community meeting, of which the acquisition of this property was one of the topics discussed. Um, during, um, December the 5th, um, we came back asking to amend the capital plan, which provided also an opportunity for the public, uh, to voice their opinions about the project.

On December the 7th, Councilman Thomas held and hosted a forum, as well as a tour of the current Public Works facility and the proposed, um -- the site for the proposed acquisition. And on December the 14th, uh, Councilperson Davis also hosted a tour of the proposed property.

Other items that, um, were a part of the contract, um, that the seller was to provide as exhibits, um, consisted of, uh, copies of contracts. Uh, the seller stated that there were no contracts that existed. Uh, we received the existing survey, which we -- they were to provide. We also received the exact release and all the amendments to that. Um, as far

as any existing warranties and guarantees, the seller, um, said that there were none that exist.

We also asked for a copy of all permits, licenses, and approvals issued by the governmental authority, and the seller told us that there were no additional permits or license and approvals.

We asked for copies of plans and specifications pertaining to the improvement, and the seller once again said -- uh, provided a hard copy of all the plans, uh, to City staff. Then we asked for the original soil test or environmental studies performed, and the seller also provided all of that, um, to the City in compliance with the due-diligence activities.

Also as a part of our due diligence, the City felt it was necessary for us to hold a property inspection, and on December the 11th the City staff contracted with a local professional engineer to inspect the facilities. Uh, you don't ever wanna buy anything that you don't conduct an inspection first of the properties.

The, um contractor brought to our attention the deficiencies that exist in the roofing system, uh, to the main building, uh, that required additional time for us to evaluate and, uh, to basically look at that. We approached, um, the seller with a request for a 30 day additional time, and that time has been, um, granted to the City.

As of today, the seller did agree to grant us 30 additional days so that we can continue to investigate the issue as it relates to the roof and ensuring that there is compliance, um, with any hurricane and other issues. That ends my update.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. Now, any -- the discussion from -- well, first we need to have a -- we did have a motion, so any discussion?

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Uh, yes, um, Madam Chair.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Uh, just a couple questions that I have here. The -- for the additional 30 days, is there a fee attached to that?

CITY MANAGER JONES: There were -- in the correspondence that we received, there was no fee requested.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Okay. And, um, for the repair of the actual roof or whatever the deficiencies are, how was that discussed?

CITY MANAGER JONES: That discussion proceeded, uh, with first of all, having to determine -- we had an engineer that said it needed to be, uh, be able to withstand 180-mile-an-hour winds. They had an engineer that said it did not have to totally be replaced; that it could be retrofitted in order to comply with that. And we need to reconcile the two different, um, engineers' reports. And that will take place within the next 30 days.

In the discussion with the owner, um, today, they also mentioned, um, providing us with a guarantee, uh, on the roof, that it would -- whatever we decided, um, would -- they would guarantee that roof to meet the compliance standards and that the appropriate warranties would go along with that roof.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Okay. Do we have, in writing, uh, not just talk or e-mail, but a legal document that whatever we, um, said for the original 30 days or the original 45

days, do we have a legitimate legal document that says that our due diligence is being continued. and -- and it's under the same, um, auspice of if we don't come up with it, we're not on the hook for this building; we can still, uh, walk away from it. Do we -- do we have that in a legal document form?

CITY MANAGER JONES: Miss --

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: We --

CITY MANAGER JONES: -- Ryan can answer that. We don't have it -- we didn't have it as an amendment to the original document. Uh, these discussions were had today. Um, there is -- there was conversation, and Miss Ryan can speak to it more fully, um, about any conversation she had with their particular attorney about any amendments to the document.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Okay.

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: Okay. Um, Madam Chair?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes, Miss Ryan.

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: I'm looking at my e-mail, because we received their confirmation at about, um, 4:49 p.m. So there was no time to really get the document together, but they did state, um, in their e-mail that, um, they would extend the inspection period and closing date by 30 days. Tomorrow, um, I will work with their attorney to get the legal document together, because the e-mail is just an e-mail. So there has to be --

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Yeah, I'm -- I --

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: -- something --

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: -- I need a legal --

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: -- more formal.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: -- a legal document, and that can be done before this week is out.

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: Oh, absolutely.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Okay. Um --

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: Absolutely. Because right now it -- it -- the -- it ends on Friday, so --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: -- what -- we should have something done by tomorrow, which will, of course, be sent to each of you.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: What -- what ends on Friday?

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: The inspection period technically ended --

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: 45 days.

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: -- on Friday, this Friday.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: So I -- I thought we had till the end of the year.

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: No, the closing is -- was set for December 28th.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Uh-huh.

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: The inspection period ended on December 21st. And, um, it was important for the -- for City staff to either complete the due diligence or to get more time, because on December 21st, that would have been our last day to, um --

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: See, that's -- that's not --

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: -- make a decision.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: -- what I understood. And I know that we can fix it now, but --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: And Miss Ryan --

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: -- that has to be very clearly stated. Because what I've been saying in the community is that we have until December 31st.

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: No.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: 21st.

CITY MANAGER JONES: 45 days.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Well, yeah, but --

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: That --

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: -- I don't ever -- okay.

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: Right.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: I'm just saying, I don't ever remember that being done, so that needs to be taken care of immediately.

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: Right. Well, the new dates, um -- again, the closing was set for December 28th. So the new dates -- I'm gonna tell you right now, as he wrote in the e-mail, um, we would extend the inspection period from December 21st to January 21st, and the closing date will be extended from December 28th to January 28th.

And the reason for the lag is you need time to get the closing documents together. Once both parties decide, Okay, we're happy; um, let's move forward with this, then the documents for the formal closing have to be put together where we have an official closing.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: I -- I would -- I would suggest, uh, can -- to, uh, get at least another 10 days on that 30 days. It's a lot going on. Christmas break. I mean, um, you got MLK festivities. I think that we'll at least need to get another 10 days on -- on that. I don't want any mix-up or any issues with that.

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: Well, and -- and I hate to put the owner on the spot, but you know, at some point -- and in this conversation tonight, it would be great if he could give us a, um, indication if he's willing to do that or not. It -- it takes a lot to get these extensions, and that's why it went down to the wire at 5:00.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Why?

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: So --

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Is the owner here?

CHAIR PRO-TEM PARDO: A representative is.

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: Yes. Mr. Kellam is here. I don't know if he can make a decision on behalf of his client.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Oh, no, no. I met that guy. He said he was the owner.

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: Yeah.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: We need -- we need at least 10 more days on that to make sure that we get -- we, uh -- we can get through this due-diligence period properly.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: I'm sorry. Point of order. The board needs to ask for 10 days.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yeah.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: That's fine. But I'm just saying --

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: If the board asks for 10 days --

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: -- I wanna know if he's willing to --

CHAIR PRO-TEM PARDO: Make a motion.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: -- then that's fine. We can have a vote whether we want to ask for 10 days.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: If the -- if the board doesn't want to ask for 10 days, I would sure like to know why, 10 extra days.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Okay. Well, make the motion and then --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Let me first ask --

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: -- we could have a discussion.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: -- Miss -- ask Miss Ryan, given the statement -- I'm sorry, uh, the statement, uh, of -- of -- or the suggestion or the directive, um, from Mr. Thomas, Miss Ryan, what is your take on all that? He's factoring in the fact that we do have the holidays.

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: Correct. And, look, it would be perfectly reasonable to ask for an additional 10 days. These are very complex negotiations, and, um, the City should have as much time as possible.

Um, the reason why I state that we want to -- if we want to go ahead and get that nailed down today is because we're gonna do a formal document tomorrow amending it. And before the night is out, we're gonna ask the Council to give, um, um, staff the, uh, the go-ahead to go ahead and enter into that amendment. Because we -- we are not gonna meet again before, um, the end of the year. So if the Council wants to ask for five more days, 10 more days, now is the time to do it. And it's not just staff trying to negotiate for it. It's -- it's the City Council, which is the buyer, and, um, Mr. Kellam representing the corporation, GEU. But it doesn't have to be at this moment. I -- that's why I wanted to raise it now so that he had an opportunity to think about it and go speak to whomever he needs to speak to, in case you actually make a motion to do that and it passes.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Well, I'm definitely going to make the motion. I don't know whether it's gonna pass or not. So if he can't make that decision, then maybe this is the time for him to -- to ask whoever needs to make it.

But I think that the City should at least, you know, have, uh, 10 more days, at least, to go through all this. There's no sense of setting yourself up for any type of mix-up, where you - you have the holidays and the -- the, um -- the -- the -- the Martin Luther King festivities. And I just think that that's pressing it a little bit.

But if that's not the pleasure of Board -- I'm gonna still make the motion, but I -- I don't see why we wouldn't be -- I think 10 days is extremely reasonable, um, if not more.

CHAIR PRO-TEM PARDO: Madam Chair?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes, Miss Pardo.

CHAIR PRO-TEM PARDO: All right. I'll make my comments. Um, I feel the same way as Mr. Thomas. But instead of giving 10 days, let's go 45 days. That's what they gave us originally. Let's go and try to get 45 days out of them.

We had 45 days now to do due diligence. And look, we've come back with, um, you know, our -- our architectural engineers

Came -- come -- came back and identified some serious problems. And you know, we all need to remember, we are buying a used building, and we -- you know, we're paying a lot of money for it. We're paying \$6.6 million, and that is a lot of money. And I just think it was, you know, pretty telling now that the last minute, you know, seconds -- well, minutes to spare, 11 minutes to spare, they came back and finally gave us the 30-day extension.

I think, you know, I'm not speaking on behalf of them, but it's pretty obvious what's going on here. You know, they're gonna have a hard time to sell -- selling that building. So 45 days for \$6.6 million, I don't see what the harm would be extending it.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Madam Chair?

CHAIR PRO-TEM PARDO: If anything --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay.

CHAIR PRO-TEM PARDO: -- it just shows the taxpayers that we are doing our due diligence. This is a lot of money. And remember, we've been saving this money so we can build a new facility. And now, you know, we're turning around, and we're taking someone's headache off of their hands. You know, and it's going to become our headache. So I would say -- I'd like to make a motion --

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Madam Chair?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Mr., um -- sorry.

CHAIR PRO-TEM PARDO: -- to extend this for 45 days.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: I'm gonna second the motion.

MAYOR MASTERS: I agree.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Madam Chair?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh, oh --

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: (Inaudible) vote.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: (Inaudible). Okay. Um, all right.

MAYOR MASTERS: (Inaudible).

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: So what we're --

CHAIR PRO-TEM PARDO: It's a motion.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: -- asking for now in this motion is that we be given 45 days, which then, in effect, would make it -- you have your calendar? Well, 45 days --

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Well, I mean, we might need to --

CHAIR PRO-TEM PARDO: It would be an additional 15.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: I just think we might need to see if --

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Someone's gonna have the floor, Madam Chair. (Inaudible).

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: -- they're going to --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Excuse me. Hold on. Yeah, let's just -- just wait. Mr. Lowe, had you --

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Yeah. I wanted to check with staff, the people that are actually doing the negotiations, other than, you know, the speculators up here. How much time do you need, the staff?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Because it helps us in your decision, you know, if the staff gives us input on this.

CITY MANAGER JONES: Of course the more time we have the, um -- the better, um, in light of the holidays.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

CITY MANAGER JONES: Um, and as Miss Ryan mentioned, it does take you at least a week or so to generate the documents, one that -- once that particular period is over. Um, so the 10 extra days would be helpful to the staff, um, as we get through this negotiation process.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Then why didn't you guys ask for it then, during the negotiations?

CITY MANAGER JONES: Well, it's -- typically, you -- you kinda want them to run calendar time. And, uh, we felt as though, in our original request, that asking for an additional 30 days, um, would be adequate, but more time is always beneficial.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: So we have compared engineering specs or engineering findings from both engineers?

CITY MANAGER JONES: Yes. And so now you've got to reconcile two different opinions.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Okay.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: So --

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Do you --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. Go ahead on, Miss Davis.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Do you -- do you believe that 30 days is enough?

CITY MANAGER JONES: I really -- it's enough, but more time is never -- you never hurt to have more time.

CHAIR PRO-TEM PARDO: Yeah. It's a big job.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: It's like -- yeah.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Madam Chair?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes, Mr. Thomas.

CITY MANAGER JONES: Because we have to get a third opinion, and so that means that someone, um -- we would have to be trying to get someone through the holiday period, and that may not be as easy as it is for us to do. Um, so this actual second round may not start before the 26th of December.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Okay. Well, that made sense. You said that you need a third opinion. Okay. So the -- the owner's here. Um, he's free to come up.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: I'm just trying to (inaudible).

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: And, um, we can talk about this in public.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Madam Chair?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes, Mr. --

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: While the owner's coming up -- and I'd much rather him not to stand there when I said this, but he's there now. The issue is, I don't want our manager really tussling with, you know, really how the owners are gonna feel on this right here.

We're spending our taxpayer dollars, and I don't -- I -- they need to hear from us how we -- because we're gonna be the last ones to make this decision on that. And if they're not willing to give us that, then I support this project a hundred percent, but I don't support it being messy.

So if they're not willing to give us that, then maybe we do have some other issues. I support the project, but I'm not gonna be rushed into spending our money. So if they're not willing to do that, then they need to at least know how I feel about the -- the -- the deal. And staff needs to know how I feel about it. You know?

I'm not trying to sugarcoat it. We're spending a lot of money. They're not giving it to us. We're buying it. You know? So we need to make sure. We making a very big capital investment that we won't be able to do for a while again, and I'm taking it very serious. So if they're not willing to, then that's something that I need to know.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Madam Chair?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh, okay.

CITY MANAGER JONES: The owner is agreeable to give us 45 days.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: They have agreed to it, is what -- is that --

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Madam --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: -- what you're saying?

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: So there you go.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. So we're -- it's --

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Oh, okay.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. Thank you so much.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Yeah. And -- and, Madam Chair?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes, Miss Davis?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: I -- I -- I agree that, um --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: -- you know, it's -- I don't wanna be -- you know, we -- we had the general public really, um, upset, um, because of the 45 days from the very beginning. So if -- if the City Manager is comfortable with 45 days, um, and we feel that we can get it done and not be pressed --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Well, he just said it's okay with them.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: -- to get it done --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: So it's --

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: -- so that's fine.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: -- that's okay.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Great.

MAYOR MASTERS: Madam Chair?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes.

MAYOR MASTERS: I -- just to the, uh -- just I'll put this statement to you, Mr. Owner, on - on the record. Uh, I thank you for agreeing to 45 days. I think if I was the seller, I'd agree to whatever, 60 days. You wanna sell the building. So that's not a big deal but I'm, you know, glad you agree. You would agree to anything at this point, because you wanna get rid of that building. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: We thank you for your cooperation.

We -- we appreciate it

MAYOR MASTERS: I -- I (inaudible). I -- I -- I can. That's how I feel.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. All right. Um, let's just move on.

CITY CLERK WARD: You have a motion on the floor.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: You know, it's been decided so -- we got a motion. Okay.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: (Inaudible) accuse a guy of being dishonest.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. All right.

MAYOR MASTERS: Well, he -- well, he wants to sell the building.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: All right. Well, let's --

CITY CLERK WARD: Councilperson Lowe? Councilperson Lowe?

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: What are we voting on?

CITY CLERK WARD: On your --

CHAIR PRO-TEM PARDO: 45 days.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: 45 days.

CITY MANAGER JONES: But you got cards? Don't you --

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Cards.

CITY MANAGER JONES: -- wanna hear those before you vote?

CHAIR PRO-TEM PARDO: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes, we do. We do have comment cards. Okay. Uh, Earl Davis with the Southside Coalition?

EARL DAVIS: Earl Davis, 1001 W. Fourth Street. Just wanna say a few words on this property that, uh, the City is trying to purchase, which, uh, the Concerned Mothers of the Southside, they support this. And now the Southside Coalition, we support it.

Now, all of those that don't support it, tough. And if they don't support it, one they -- once they come March, we gonna really try to help 'em find out why they didn't support it, 'cause you know, we kinda tired of the City dividing up. The Council pull one way; the other peoples pull -- I ain't gonna call no names -- the other way.

But you know, I talked with my group and I talked with Miss Dawson that knows that I have a meeting Friday night. It's just a shame that we can't do anything. Then I asked some of 'em would they go over and look at the building. And that was two weeks ago. Yeah, Miss Davis, we gonna look at it and, um, we'll call you back.

You know, one thing I hate in my whole life, even in high school, I hate a liar. You know? Once you lie to me, I'm gonna put your business in the street and you will be sorry. I promise you you'll be sorry. You know? And it's just not nice.

I don't see nothing wrong with the building. I thank Mr. Thomas, Miss Davis, and Mr. Jones and all for taking us own a tour of the Public Works and the building. The building looked great. And I had one of -- City official to tell me, Who wants to move over there in that warehouse? It's not a warehouse. To us, it's an office building. And where they get this warehouse from?

And then you got your own City officials running around here talking against the project. You know? And then when you find peoples like that, they don't have no business sitting up there on the dais, and I'm gonna tell you that. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Next we have Vivian Havener.

VIVIAN HAVENER: I'm always afraid of this thing. Good evening. Vivian Havener, and I want to talk about the police department. I've been in crime prevention in Riviera for 20 years. Uh, Keith Fitzgerald started us out. As a matter of fact, I ran into him the other day, and he was inquiring about all of you people.

And for the last 12 years I have been with the present chief and I'm there in the police department. I know every inch of it. The walls. Those brick walls are in terrible shape and there's more corridors than there are offices.

And also, uh, some of the officers have been divided into little cubbyhole things with a place just for a desk and just two drawers. And there's no privacy. The senior officers all have these little places to work at, and there's no privacy.

If you recall -- see, I called Commander -- um, Major Mitchell on a complaint. He can't talk to me freely back on the phone because maybe the person in the next, uh, booth is listening to him, which I think is outrageous. Every one of these officers should have their own office privacy, and if somebody needs to help them, that's fine.

Also, I went -- my husband took me over to see this place that you're looking to buy. I love the road going into it. I wished it was in my street, because mine is full of cracks. And I -- I couldn't see anything wrong with the buildings. They look fine buildings to me, in great shape, and I wish you well with it. I hope you can get it.

And I thank all of you for allowing me to speak, because last week I was told by a member of the public to silence myself. But, uh, I'm not silencing myself. I'm speaking tonight. And thank you very much. I appreciate it.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Thank you for speaking. Miss Duncombe, Norma Duncombe?

NORMA DUNCOMBE: Uh, Norma Duncombe. Um, let me first of all say that when it comes to progress, I'm one of those persons who feel there is never enough progress. But I think that if you're gonna make decisions that are big like this, then you really should make sure that it is really progress.

Let me say this. I can go -- you can go from the, what, Miami to Maine, and you will never see anybody take their city complex or their police department and put them in a warehouse area. Uh, we -- and -- and I guess I go back, because I've been here all my life, and to see our City Hall here I thought was progress. And whatever you need, you could find enough space to put a new building here.

First of all, let me say, if you're not familiar with renovations, you can never guarantee what you're gonna have. And if you have a leaking building over there now, I guarantee you you cannot patch it up and it will work. If you're putting out that kind of money, of course they're gonna laugh all the way to the bank. I mean, they're enjoying this contract that you have drawn up with them.

And if you tell them 90 days, they're not gonna say no, because they're not gonna get anybody else to buy that building. And I think it's a disservice to the citizens of this city. You know, I have -- I have talked and I've listened and Mr. Thomas talked with us on Sunday. And like I told him, it's a matter of not trying to work against you, but trying to say, Let's make good decisions.

You know, he gave the argument of what -- what -- what -- what you're trying to do, and I have no objection to that. But it's just like buying an old car. You cannot guarantee what you're gonna get. It might run for 10 days and it might run for 30. It might run for years. But I -- I -- I just think it's a disservice to, uh, the citizens to spend their money that way. And it was one thing that stood out that Mr. Thomas told us on Sunday. He said that even

though the City is purchasing the building, they're not gonna really take possession of it because they don't want liability. If you sign papers purchasing that building and somebody's injured, you are responsible. And guess what? People love to sue this city. So you got liability.

It's -- it's just a lot of things that are involved. And I don't know if you've thought about it, but I think you really should seriously think about it. And why do you want an old building when you can put up a new one? And you can go -- I don't care how high you go up. You go up as high as you need to go in order to bring all of the services on this main street where you have bus services and everything else. I thank you.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Thank you, Miss Duncombe. Uh, Margaret Shepherd?

MARGARET DUNCOMBE-SHEPHERD: To everyone, my name is Margaret Duncombe-Shepherd. And you know, I have just never heard anything so -- so ironic that this -- this past councilperson spent a million and a half dollars.

It is so unreal that somebody get up here and then they try to disgrace this council. I understand what Miss Pardo is talking about. She's talking about the stormwater drain money. Now, I was here in 2004, I think, when that went on -- on the market. Can you find another account? I think that's what she's talking about.

But let me go to Public Works. Let me stop at Public Works when I went over there. The bathrooms, I wouldn't put my dog in there. To go in there and eat a sandwich, I wanna tell you, you guys -- to sit on that dais and say the things you say, I wouldn't even open a hot dog over there in a wrapper.

It's time for us -- it's not funny, you all. Those people over there are not only citizens of Riviera Beach; they work for us out in the hot sun. Everybody else is in the cool breeze. They cut our grass. They take care of us, and they're living in squalor conditions? How do they even work over there?

I don't -- the gas is over there. Our equipment is over there. Our -- our -- our -- our vans, our buses, everything out in the elements. Let's get to the railroad tracks. If anybody remember the storm, the food went down to Miami. Michael Brown had to circle it back and bring it here, and the line was all around the block. Do you guys remember?

If you have the railroad tracks, think. Slave mentality. Think. The railroad tracks are an A-plus. Our food, whatever, would come on those tracks. A million and a half. I'm not getting into the money. I'm -- that's your job. If you can't handle it, leave the seats. You have to make a -- decisions. You keep hearing this crazy slave mentality. This -- this stuff is unreal.

Those people over there are suffering, and this is the way we -- the police department. Those people are there to take care of us. They have a space. It's not old. Let me -- let me clarify. What I saw was brand new. Maybe -- maybe -- yeah, it is time for my glasses to be checked, but it was very beautiful to me. I wasn't the only one. You know why people don't come here? It's because of this. They don't want to face it. Me, I personally don't care. I'll see you in March. I will see you in March, I guarantee you. They said, Bring on the referendum. They ready for the referendum.

AUDIENCE: Bring it on.

MARGARET DUNCOMBE-SHEPHERD: They're ready for this referendum, if it's a referendum. It's time for you all to set up and do what we put you in office to do. If you're gonna take the insults, you gotta have alligator skin. I learned that a long time ago.

Last year that lady told me to sit down and shut up, and that's all she told Miss Havener. Y'all heard my response. And if she was here today, I'll say it to her and Norma Duncombe again today: Get a life. Raise some dogs, puppies, monkeys. I really don't care what you do. But you know what? This City has to what? Go for a change and move forward. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Thank you, Miss Shepherd.

MAYOR MASTERS: Madam Chair?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Next we'll have Bruce Guyton.

MAYOR MASTERS: Madam Chair? Point of clarification.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: While he's coming up. Uh --

MAYOR MASTERS: Yeah. While he's coming up.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Just a minute, Mayor, please. Let's be courteous.

MAYOR MASTERS: I have a point of clarification.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay.

MAYOR MASTERS: May I make my point of clarification?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes, you can --

MAYOR MASTERS: Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: -- respond. Uh-huh.

MAYOR MASTERS: Uh, just for the record, before this -- and I just need someone to correct me if I'm incorrect. But before we became knowledgeable -- and I agree with Mrs. Duncombe, I mean, Mrs. -- well, Mrs. Duncombe and what Miss Shepherd said about the - - the Public Works building.

MARGARET DUNCOMBE-SHEPHERD: (Inaudible).

MAYOR MASTERS: Well, both Miss Duncombes.

MARGARET DUNCOMBE-SHEPHERD: Thank you.

MAYOR MASTERS: But the, um, point of clarification is, before we became informed about the, uh, new transition, it is my understanding that we were just getting ready to put a shovel in the ground and build a new Public, uh, Works facility over there where it is now. Is that correct? Can somebody tell me, am I wrong?

CITY MANAGER JONES: We had -- the Council had approved the site plan. We had not gone out for, um, a construction company to build it.

MAYOR MASTERS: But we had the money to -- to do it?

CHAIR PRO-TEM PARDO: Wait. Madam Chair?

CITY MANAGER JONES: We had the money.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Just let him -- let them finish.

CHAIR PRO-TEM PARDO: Okay.

MAYOR MASTERS: Okay. Thank you. I just wanted to get a point of clarification.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Then I'll let you talk.

CHAIR PRO-TEM PARDO: Yeah. All right.

MAYOR MASTERS: Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIR PRO-TEM PARDO: Madam Chair? Just for point of clarification, I think we need to remember that the City did spend \$302 and -- well, I'm sorry -- \$300,000 on design services for the Public Works complex, so we were well on our way.

MAYOR MASTERS: Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh, Mr. Guyton?

BRUCE GUYTON: Uh, thank you, Madam Chair, Council people, Mayor. My name is Bruce Guyton and I, too, am a lifelong resident of Riviera Beach. And, um, tonight is fairly refreshing. Early on I was demonized for coming out in support of moving forward just to do the due diligence. I said, We need to find out whether this building would be feasible, and make our determination then. People hit the ceiling, went way in left field: We don't need to do this. We were gonna build a new building here. Or we have spent this amount. Um, one thing that I found that we don't do is think outside of the box. And in order to make progress, we have to think outside of the box. We don't have to be like everyone else. No one else is doing this, no -- well, who cares? If it's feasible for us and the department heads tell us that they can operate from that place and not put our citizens' health in jeopardy, what is the problem? We don't have to be like everyone else. We can be a trailblazer and start something that maybe others will follow, because they never really thought about it.

AUDIENCE: That's right.

BRUCE GUYTON: But if we can meet our response rate, if the police can get out, if Public Works can have all what they need -- and then, on top of that, we were only gonna build two buildings. I mean, we were only gonna have two operations for the money that we have now.

But if we move in that building, we're gonna be able to incorporate four operations: Public Works, Police, Fire, and Emergency Operations. With the money that we were gonna spend, we were just gonna build two buildings, Public Works and, um, Police. So -- and then on top of that, we're gonna save \$2.5 million. And that 300,000 that, you know, we said we've already spent, I'm sure that those ideas can be incorporated into this new building.

So it's not just lost money, because those things that were incorporated into that design -- and Staff, correct me if I'm wrong -- cannot come into this new operation.

So, um, I am in full support of it moving forward. Should something surface during this due diligence that put the health/welfare, uh, in jeopardy, then we'll step back. But right now I have seen nothing why we should stop.

The Committee for a Better Riviera Beach, for which I am the chair, we have island residents and mainland residents. We voted unanimously for it, to move forward so that

we can have some progress. Some say they're -- they're in favor in progress -- for progress, but right after that they said "but." Then "but" changes the context of everything they said before.

So they mean, Let's stay where we are, but the progress just need to wait, because they don't think it's right right now. We need to step out, take a chance. It's okay to make mistakes. That's life. You identify the mistake. You take corrective action and you keep it moving. So don't be afraid to take a chance. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Thank you, Mr. Guyton. Next we have Miss Delores Dawson.

DELORES DAWSON: Delores Dawson, 669 W. Sixth Street, 664 W. Fifth Street. I'm president of the Concerned Mothers of the Southside and a member of the Southside Coalition.

I must confess that when -- before we went to see the building, some of us really gave you a hard time because we didn't know where it was. We -- we thought we knew where it was. We were concerned about 13th and Old Dixie. So when -- in our conversations, we were saying, How in the world could it be there? But after getting on the bus, going over there, we fell in love with the building. And when we saw the Utility Department -- Department over there, we was wondering why in the world had the Code -- Code Enforcement let it live so long, why they hadn't set it on fire or got rid of it a long time ago. It's just a plum disgrace to live in a city like Riviera, that I love, with such a terrible Utility Department where they do our work.

AUDIENCE: Public Works.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Public Works.

DELORES DAWSON: Public -- it's Public Works?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

DELORES DAWSON: It were Public -- it was -- it was a mess.

AUDIENCE: Yes, it was.

DELORES DAWSON: And it really needed to be condemned.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh-huh.

DELORES DAWSON: So we are in favor of the new building, because in going in there and seeing the format, seeing how it was, we was just thrilled to death. And we even promised the Chief that we would volunteer over there sometime. So we are in favor of it.

So we thank you for it. And we -- only thing, we don't want division in our city. We don't want to be divided by where we are, who's over here and who's over there, because I think the City can be unified if we all just work together. We love the building. We support the building. And we know a little bit about buildings. Some of us own properties. We know a little about buildings, and we know what can happen and what will happen if we don't do the right thing. So I thank you.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Miss Dawson? Miss Dawson?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Um, Madam Chair?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Before you leave, um, because I might miss you. You know the lady that you were trying to get me to hook up with, was having the problem with the roof?

DELORES DAWSON: Yes, yes.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: I've not called her, but please tell her to try to reach me, because there might be a source of money --

DELORES DAWSON: All righty.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: -- that can help her, but I've just not been able to, uh, catch her at her place.

DELORES DAWSON: All right. 'Cause she's not there because the electricity fell down because of the roof.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Right.

DELORES DAWSON: And so she's not in there. She goes in the -- she stay in the park a lot of nights till about 9 or 10:00, but she goes somewhere else to sleep. So it would be good if you take it in consideration.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: I'm just trying to run her down, so any way you can hook us up --

DELORES DAWSON: I will.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: -- maybe we can try to help with that house.

DELORES DAWSON: I will find a way.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: All right.

DELORES DAWSON: Thank you so much.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. Thank you.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Madam Chair?

MAYOR MASTERS: Thank you, Miss Dawson.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Madam Chair?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes? Yes, Miss Davis.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Uh, Miss Dawson?

DELORES DAWSON: Yes.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: You know, I got pictures of you guys to prove that you fell in love with this building. You remember that, right? On the exercise bikes.

DELORES DAWSON: Oh, we -- we really loved it. Oh, yeah, we'll go over and exercise any time.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: All right.

DELORES DAWSON: All right. And we want to thank, too, Miss Davis, because we have a member in our group who's very excited about on Thursday -- because she's gonna have a treat from Mrs. Davis, and it's so -- it's really good. I'm so glad. I won't tell it. You can tell it.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Wonderful. Okay. Thank you. Um, is that the end of comments? Okay. All right. Now, are we ready for the vote?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: And the vote is to --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Actually --

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: -- extend --

CITY CLERK WARD: Extend the time to --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Extend the time to --

CITY CLERK WARD: -- 45 days.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: -- 45 days.

CHAIR PRO-TEM PARDO: Yeah, 45 days, correct. My motion still stands.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay.

CITY CLERK WARD: And Thomas second. Councilperson Lowe?

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Yes.

CITY CLERK WARD: Councilperson Thomas?

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Yes.

CITY CLERK WARD: Councilperson Davis.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Yes.

CITY CLERK WARD: Councilperson Pardo?

CHAIR PRO-TEM PARDO: Yes.

CITY CLERK WARD: Councilperson Brooks?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes.

CITY CLERK WARD: Unanimous vote.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Very good. Now we're down to Statements by Mayor and City Council, and I'll start with my right, Mr. Thomas?

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Uh, none. None. I just would -- just like to thank, uh, everyone who came out to, um, the, um, meeting. I know it was a, uh, very short-notice call, but I do appreciate all -- all of the, uh, groups who came out.

We were well -- well represented, um, by 'em. And, um, I -- I think that they got a chance to see the buildings. And -- and we'd like to thank the staff and everyone who was a part of that. Miss Duncombe, I'd also like to thank your organization for allowing me to come out and -- and, um, speak to you, as well. And I welcome the opportunity to continue to have this dialogue. I appreciate the respect that you had, even though some members were, you know, not feeling the same way as I did on the project. Everybody was well respectful and they received me well, and they took the information back. And it was a -- a meeting full of love, which I didn't expect. But I'm glad I got it. So thank you very much for that, as well. That's all for me. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Miss Pardo, any comments?

CHAIR PRO-TEM PARDO: Thank you, Madam Chair. I would like to wish all of our residents a Happy Hanukkah, Merry Christmas, and a very Happy New Year. Um, I'm sure good things are in store for us in 2013, and I look forward to seeing you all then. Enjoy your holidays.

AUDIENCE: Thank you, Miss Pardo.

CHAIR PRO-TEM PARDO: Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: You're welcome. Miss Davis?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Uh, yes. I'd just like to commend Mr. Thomas, uh, for hosting a fantastic roundtable. It was -- it was great. I -- I gave him kudos then, and I just wanted to reiterate, um, the same thing tonight.

Also, I'd like to wish everyone happy holidays, Merry Christmas, feliz navidad, uh, and happy Hanukkah.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Yes, ma'am. Um, happy holidays to all. And I'd also like to, uh, commend both my colleagues, Miss Davis and Mr. Thomas, for their efforts in regards to, uh, the Public Service building project.

Uh, it helped out a lot and you know, it was rather timely. And it helped clear up a lot of, uh -- a lot of misinformation that is so easily dispersed out in the -- in the community. And I'd just like to encourage people, if you have any questions, feel free to contact us.

You know, we're not afraid to answer your questions. And before you assume something's in the mix, come -- come, seek the truth. It's right here. And my number haven't changed and all of us are accessible. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Well, I want to say, also, um, ditto to everything that's been spoke tonight by my colleagues. And I do wish and pray that we all will have a wonderful peaceful, blessed holiday season. Be thankful for what we have.

Please look at the progress that we're making in the City, and let's do all that we can to keep -- I will say love and harmony among us. Don't seek to divide us in any way. If you speak anything, speak joy. Speak of the good that you see in the City. Let your lenses be lenses of love and beauty and appreciation for what we have.

We have certainly come a very long way. And you know, I believe we can always disagree, but we don't need to be disagreeable. We should still respect each other. That's so important. You know, a house divided against itself, a community divided against itself, will not prosper.

So I would ask that you pray for peace and prosperity for the City of Riviera Beach. If you see an area, um, maybe that it's not to your liking, then why don't you contribute and come up with an idea as to how to make things better.

MAYOR MASTERS: That's right.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Make things better. But peace should always be, uh, what we're guided by. If at all possible, be at peace with everyone. With everyone. And I want to thank the owner for your cooperation.

You see what we're struggling through here. And, um, we know that, you know, it's all going to work out in the best interests of our citizens, and that's really what it's all about. So that's just my little spiel, and I wish you all a very blessed holiday season. And, Mayor?

MAYOR MASTERS: Thank you. While I'm not as eloquent as the Chair, and I can't say it like the Chair, but let me just say, um, from my heart, Merry Christmas. December the 25th is Christmas. So Merry Christmas on -- for December the 25th. Happy Hanukkah to all who celebrate Hanukkah, as I will celebrate, as well. And happy Kwanza, which I will celebrate, as well, which is the seven days after -- after Christmas.

I want to change the subject for just a minute, and maybe this is a wonderful way to close. But September 1963, four children were killed attending Sunday school in the basement of a church in Birmingham, Alabama.

It was the killing of those four children that ignited and took the Civil Rights movement to a whole new level. A couple of days ago 20 children senselessly -- were sitting in -- in school. Lives were taken again by an act of violence.

I pray that this incident that happened in Newtown will likewise, as a result -- will ignite another movement in this country, as the President said, that will speak meaningfully as relates to assault weapons, as relates to, uh, gun control laws, and that we will take a look at what can be done better to protect the lives of children in public schools in America.

And as I look at this entire situation, I ask what can I do as an elected official to ensure and to take the security and the safety of our children in Riviera Beach and Palm Beach County to a whole 'nother level.

And as a result of that, I singlehandedly put a petition online, and it's -- you can go there, to change.org. It's something that I asked many years ago during the Nate Brazil situation where a teacher was killed in a school in Palm Beach County, where a child 13 years old took a gun into school and killed a teacher.

I asked then, and I'm asking again, but this time on a whole 'nother level, that metal detectors -- there's absolutely no reason why, if we can put book detectors in public schools and protect books from being stolen out of library, if we can protect our lives in this public building, I'm asking, and I have petitioned the Palm Beach County School Board to install metal detectors. Cameras are good, police are -- that's wonderful.

But when you have a metal detector, it -- I think it will do good, that we can have metal detectors in all the public schools in Palm Beach County. If you agree with me, go to change.org, sign the petition. Let's not wait until something happen.

What happened in Newtown can easily happen any -- at any school in America. And tomorrow evening, as a minister of the Gospel, as a bishop, I will be joining other ministers that will be gathering in Newtown, um, Connecticut.

As the bishop of New Macedonia Church and as a minister of this community, I will be traveling to Newtown, Connecticut. I ask you for your prayers, and I ask that God will use me in a way while I'm there to help, along with the other ministers, to do whatever we're gonna do for that community.

May God bless Riviera Beach, and I will ask the Chair at this time if we can just have a moment of silence for those 20 children lives that were taken in Newtown. Shall we?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Most definitely we will take a moment of silence. (Moment of Silence observed for the children of the Newtown, Connecticut massacre).

MAYOR MASTERS: Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: You're welcome.

MAYOR MASTERS: And I will be going on my own dime. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Got a motion to adjourn?

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: So moved.

CITY MANAGER JONES: Um, Madam Chair?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes. Oh.

CITY MANAGER JONES: I would like Miss Pardo, if you would like, since this is our last meeting of the year, the poinsettias on the back, if you would like to take one for your office, please feel free --

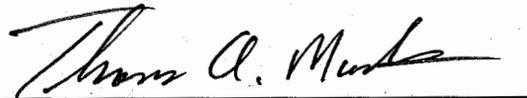
UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I thought she was gonna ask us (inaudible) --

CITY MANAGER JONES: -- to do so.

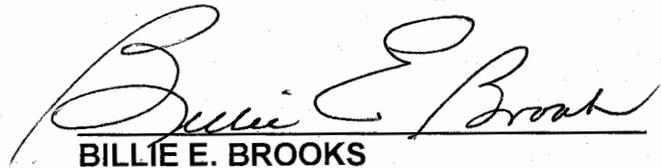
(CONCLUSION OF MEETING)

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THOMAS A. MASTERS
MAYOR

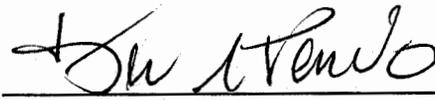


BILLIE E. BROOKS
CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:



CARRIE E. WARD
MASTER MUNICIPAL CLERK
CITY CLERK



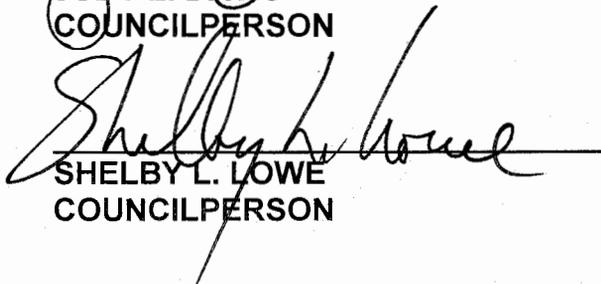
DAWN S. PARDO
CHAIR PRO TEM



CEDRICK A. THOMAS
COUNCILPERSON



JUDY L. DAVIS
COUNCILPERSON



SHELBY L. LOWE
COUNCILPERSON

MOTIONED BY: S. LOWE

SECONDED BY: D. PARDO

B. BROOKS AYE

D. PARDO AYE

C. THOMAS TARDY

J. DAVIS TARDY

S. LOWE AYE

DATE APPROVED: 2/06/2013