

**CITY OF RIVIERA BEACH
PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2013 AT 6:30 P.M.
MUNICIPAL COMPLEX CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

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

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay, everyone. Please silence your phones. We're about to get started with our special meeting. Okay. There's Mr. Thomas. We'll wait for him. Madam Clerk, you may begin the roll call, please?

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Mayor Thomas Masters?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: I know he's here. I just saw --

MAYOR MASTERS: Present.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Oh, yeah.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Chairperson Billie Brooks?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yeah, present.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Chair Pro Tem Dawn Pardo?

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Present.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Cedrick Thomas?

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: He is here.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Councilperson Judy Davis?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: 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 Claudine Anthony is present. City Attorney Pamala Ryan?

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: Present.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: City Manager Ruth Jones, did I call your name? City Manager Ruth Jones?

CITY MANAGER JONES: Present. I'm present.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Okay. That's my fault.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: All right. We, uh, will stand now for a moment of silence, followed by the Pledge, led by Miss Jones.

(Everyone stood for a Moment of Silence with the Pledge of Allegiance being led by City Manager Jones).

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Miss Jones, do we have any additions or deletions?

CITY MANAGER JONES: Yes, Madam Chair. We have one addition this evening. Um, that is a Community Benefit request from Councilman Lowe, uh, \$526, to Suncoast High School in support of the Riviera Beach Chess Program.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. We will add that. Thank you very much. I need now, uh, a motion to approve the agenda.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: So moved.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Second.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: 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: Well, we have nothing on the consent agenda, so we will go right into our first resolution. We have one resolution.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: A resolution of the City Council of the City of Riviera Beach, Palm Beach County, Florida, approving the Marina District conceptual master plan provided by Viking Developers, LLC, in accordance with the September 5th, 2012 development of notice elements agreement and integrated plan and providing an effective date.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: So moved.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Second.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Second.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Well, we -- Miss Jones?

CITY MANAGER JONES: Madam Chair, um, the Mayor and members of, uh, City Council, um, although you have heard this before, I think it's worth saying again. We are more than happy to be at this point in the history of the City of Riviera Beach. We are delighted with the progress that has been made. We will present a very brief presentation. You heard a presentation on the same item at the CRA meeting, um, but we wanted to, um, present this item to you tonight so that we can begin to continue to work with the CRA in moving forward with the development of the marina. And right now, I would like to ask Mary McKinney, the Director of Community Development, to give us an overview of the item that is in front of you.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Thank you.

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT MCKINNEY: Good evening.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Good evening.

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT MCKINNEY: Um, what we're going to do is just go over the historical background that led us to this point with all of the regulatory documents that we've had to approve and adopt to get to the point where we could do this plan. So we're gonna put those findings into the record. Um, the Citizen's Master Plan, which was initiated by the charrette that was conducted by the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council, was adopted on January 30th, 2008 by the City Council. And the City's Comprehensive Plan, which then took the findings from the Charrette and implemented them into the goals and objectives and policies, was adopted on October 6th, 2010. Then the City and the CRA staff developed a Community Redevelopment Plan which was required to be in compliance with the City's Comprehensive Plan, and that was adopted on July 20th, 2011. In 2012, in January, Live, Work, Learn & Play, consultant for Viking Developers, completed the strategic assessment which they then presented to the CRA and City Council. And on September 5th, 2012, the City, the CRA, and Viking Developers entered into the joint party agreement known as the Development of Noticed Elements Agreement and Integrated Plan.

Following that, as the CRA's staff noted, the CRA held open-house sessions in January and in February for the public to come in and view all of the Master Plan documents. On January 30th the Joint Public Workshop for -- between the CRA Board and the City Council was held and the Marina District Conceptual Master Plan was presented to the public.

Staff has reviewed the Marina District Conceptual Master Plan, which is attached as Exhibit A to this Resolution, and has found that it is consistent with the 2008 Master Plan, the City's 2010 Comprehensive Plan, and the City's 2011 Community Redevelopment Plan. And on February 14th, 2013, the Planning & Zoning Board reviewed the plan and unanimously recommended approval to the City Council. The City Council -- this Resolution finds that the City Council finds that the Marina District Conceptual Master Plan is consistent with the 2008 Master Plan, the 2010 Comprehensive Plan, 2011 Community Redevelopment Plan, and desires to approve the plan, and City staff also recommends approval of the plan. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Thank you so much, Miss McKinney. Uh, comments before we go to the public for comments. Any discussion by the Board members? Mr. Thomas?

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: None from me.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Miss Pardo?

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Nothing.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Miss Davis?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: None.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Mr. Lowe? Mayor Masters? Um, now for public comments, we have Mr. Ward, followed by Marie Davis. I thought I saw her. Oh, okay.

GERALD WARD: Gerald Ward, 31 West 20th Street. Well, it's, uh, quite interesting that, uh, all the CRA staff except for Mr. Evans disappeared. Uh, it --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: He's right behind you. Lord, he's just so mean.

MAYOR MASTERS: I'd like to emphasize, you know, we need to respect people when they're talking, please.

GERALD WARD: Well, I see two more.

MAYOR MASTERS: Madam Chair, please ask them to respect the speaker. That's very disrespectful.

GERALD WARD: The -- the cooperation and coordination between CRA and the City needs to be emphasized so that the plans that you're approving don't cost the City money. Uh, CRA was a special dependent district supervised by you. You're sitting as the City Council now. And they need to be lock-stepped in concert with the rest of the City. But we

have extensive expenditures that have gone on down there that don't match up with what you're doing today. So it's -- it's, uh, important that you, as the City, make it sure that none of this is cost, uh, to the City, uh, and that all would be cost to the CRA.

Now, as a taxpayer, I'm not quite sure I like the -- the idea of paying for things that may, uh, not be appropriate. Uh, Miss McKinney, Seadek says staff made the determinations that it's in concert with the plans. Before she started listing out her recent plans I had done so in my notes and come up with the half dozen plans that have been approved previously, uh, for the CRA area.

Remember back in the '87 era the CRA was a very small district compared to its current, uh, 858 acres. So, uh, you -- you need to be supervising what you're doing if you go ahead and continue to approve, uh, what's been represented to you is in accord, by staff, with the comprehensive plan. There is obviously recent changes in the last few months over the size of the Marina District, uh, 25 to 35 acres in size, and I think that you're going to find eventually that there are a number of other things, uh, that cause problems.

You don't authorize the destruction, demolition of CRA, of Spanish Courts. Uh, that's something that has to be done separately. Uh, there are a lot of things in this City that have gone down since the creation of the CRA in 1987 with a non-elected board. Uh, if you had listened at the last meeting, um, we all rolled in the back of the room that the board at that time was a non-elected board of seven, uh, and not, uh, the five council people sitting as the CRA commissioners.

So I think you need to -- to figure out how you're going to control, uh, what's going on, uh, with the, uh, latest CRA plan that you're getting ready to probably approve. Uh, \$29 million is a lot of money and I think you saw at the last meeting the beginnings of the feed for trying to be recipients of that money. Make sure that bricks and mortars are the majority of that. I don't think you have any criteria in your, uh, document. And by the way, for the last item, you don't have a plan at the back of the room. Uh, the agenda says it isn't available because it's too big.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Thank you, Mr. Ward. Um, I might have said Miss Shepherd. Miss Shepherd, I have you for public comments. I'm calling persons who are speaking to this item now. Kimberly Jackson, is she still here? Okay.

KIMBERLY JACKSON: I'll pass.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay.

KIMBERLY JACKSON: I'll pass.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: You'll pass. All right. All right. Then, if that being said, we can call the vote. Comments from the Board?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Marie Davis had one.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: She's not here.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Oh, okay.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: All right. Then we can call for the 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.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Great.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Very, very good. The next item would be the, um, Community Benefit. So Mr. Lowe, you just want to speak to that.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Um, yes. Uh, this is \$560 to, uh, pay for the lease at Suncoast --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Very --

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: So moved.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: -- for the Chess Workshop.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: So, we just need a motion. Okay.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: So moved.

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Move. Second.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Uh, 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? All right. Unanimous vote.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes. We're down now to Public Comments, and I have a card from Miss Shepherd, Elizabeth Robinson, Greg Moore, and Gerald Ward. Miss Shepherd?

MAYOR MASTERS: Madam Chair, while she's coming, if it's possible I wanted to add an item on for Community Benefit. I didn't know I could do it at this meeting. The, uh, Manager said do it now.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Well, I'm --

MAYOR MASTERS: I'd make the request. I could come back and do it under my comments.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: We -- why don't we just -- well, um --

MAYOR MASTERS: At your will.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Stay right there, Miss Shepherd. Um, let's go ahead on it. What -- what is it for --

MAYOR MASTERS: Okay.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: -- Mayor?

MAYOR MASTERS: I -- I want to contribute \$700 to the, um -- it's the after-care, non-profit, um, school, like at Stonybrook for those children when they come home from school. They -- they can now stay right on the property and --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Have you done the paperwork so that Legal would check it out?

MAYOR MASTERS: And, uh -- okay. We'll -- we'll turn it in. But I just --

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Uh, uh, I -- I'm not comfortable with approving --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: I -- well, no, we --

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: -- something like that.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: -- have it -- Legal has --

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Who is it for?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: -- to check off on it.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Who is to?

MAYOR MASTERS: I just told you who it was for.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: Who is it to?

MAYOR MASTERS: Stonybrook. They have a non-profit organization --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Well, let me just explain, sir. Now, you know there are paperwork that we have to submit. We have to verify that it's a 501.3c or whatever, so the paperwork would have to be --

MAYOR MASTERS: But we made the request before --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: -- signed.

MAYOR MASTERS: -- in the paperwork for other things, so I'm asking --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: No, we've always checked out the paperwork. And Legal would --

MAYOR MASTERS: All right.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: -- have to check off paperwork, and I would only do it if Legal says. Is Legal here? Oh.

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: I'm right here.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay.

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: Um, the truth is that we've approved some in the past, but it's only because we've approved the --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: The paperwork.

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: -- the non-profits in the -- before.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Oh, right.

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: So we've seen their non-profit paperwork. Because I haven't seen the non-profit paperwork for the group you're talking about --

MAYOR MASTERS: Right.

CITY ATTORNEY RYAN: -- and Finance hasn't, you know, you could approve it conditionally, Council, if you wanted to do that. Um, but that would really be the only way -

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Let's do it. Let's approve it conditionally --

MAYOR MASTERS: Can we approve it conditionally?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: -- and she steps off, and she signs off, uh --

MAYOR MASTERS: That's fine.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: -- it's fine. Let's just do that.

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: As long as it meets all of the (inaudible) --

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Move. Move approval.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Second.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. All right. But -- go for the vote, please.

MAYOR MASTERS: Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: You're welcome.

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: Okay. Miss Shepherd. Thank you for your patience.

MARGARET SHEPHERD: Margaret Shepherd, Riviera Beach. Um, I did want to go -- go back -- and, uh, to, uh, really, to thank our -- our City Manager, uh, who came on board and started doing a bumper job, and I thank you all for not mismanaging her, but let her be the manager, as well as her assistant. And then we do want to thank Miss Mary McKinney and Jeff, and of course, Scott, who worked so hard. Um, and -- and you know, we -- we don't want to overlook anybody in the process. Um, these are people that do not fight the City. These are people that jump on board and get the City moving. And if you notice within the last year, uh, everybody has really came together as a team.

So we don't wanna just stop with CRA, but we do want to really honor Miss Jones. Miss Jones came in and she just hit the ground and started working. Um, she really put her team together, if you notice who she has on her team. She has good men behind her. And it's one of those things that you feel a little comfortable when a woman has these great men, and these great men have these great women that's working and pulling it together. So we're now, and we want to thank the master developer for all they have done.

Once again, I didn't want to speak after, uh, Bruce Guyton. It seemed like they had a little housework they had to clean up. So you know, I -- I just, uh, let my time go. But, once again, we are appreciative to this Board. And I wanna go back and thank the past boards, because without the past boards, uh, Chair Davis Snyder [phonetic] and Miss Sylvia Lee Blue, and of course, Miss Leah Suede [phonetic], Ann Isles [phonetic], Don Wilson. Without those people we would not be where we are today. They sacrificed for us and, you know, I'm very, very proud that this Board got it moving.

And we wanna go back to Mr. Shelby Lowe, who five times he, you know -- he ran for this office, and he got it, and he stabilized his district, and you know, we're proud of him. I remember when he came to Ivy Green with shirts for Miss Margie Joseph, shirts that would fit Judy Davis, but he made sure -- he made sure Margie Joseph had a -- had a shirt. I don't figure how Miss Margie Jones got in that shirt, Shelby, but you know, I -- I mean, you know. But every year he was over to Ivy Green with five shirts, and Margie Joseph was one of the ones that got a shirt.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Five free shirts.

MARGARET SHEPHERD: Five free shirts. And, uh, how she got in those shirts, I don't know, but she patronized Shelby. She stuck in with Shelby, and if nothing else, he proved one thing, you can make it.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Thank you.

MARGARET SHEPHERD: So we want to thank you. I didn't know you were running for office. I asked people. They didn't know, but glad you're still on board. And you know, a job well done. We thank everyone. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Elizabeth Robinson?

ELIZABETH ROBINSON: Good evening. Elizabeth Robinson, Riviera Beach.

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Good evening.

ELIZABETH ROBINSON: And I want to echo the same comments that I made to the CRA meeting. This has been a long time coming. It's gone through a lot of hands, as Miss Shepherd pointed out. Um, and this Board made it happen with the collaboration -- and I say collaboration -- of Mrs. Jones and Mr. Brown. It's not one person, but a body of people who make anything great happen, and great things happen to great people, and this is a great community and I'm happy to see it move forward.

We're looking forward to all of the activities that will go on down there. The groundbreaking is, uh, it seems like an infinity away from us, but it's merely a year away. If you think about how long it's been for us to get this far, we are just too happy as a community to see this come together. And somebody made the point that you guys work together really well. I'd like to applaud that, as well. There's no bickering, and if you do, you do it like statesmen, and I say that about Mr. Lowe. He's quite the statesman.

I appreciate the hard work that you all have done. It's shown in the pictures, and there is a rendition of all of the work that you guys have done, and the architects, and the master developer. If everybody wants to look in the back of the room, uh, and see what we've done, it's a wonderful event. I'm happy that you all expedited the vote and said yes, and -- and we're gonna move forward. But I just wanted to say again on the City side, congratulations. Job well done. Miss Jones, to you and your staff, I know it's been hard. Uh, I know there's a lot of work that goes -- where's Mary? --

MARY MCKINNEY: Right here.

ELIZABETH ROBINSON: -- a lot of work that goes on, but you've been a stellar leader and we do appreciate you all and thank you very much. Those are my comments.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Thank you.

CITY MANAGER JONES: Thank you.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: We saw (inaudible) got going on.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. Next we have Greg Moray [phonetic]. Uh, did you -- I have a card.

GREG MORAY: All right. Yes.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay.

GREG MORAY: Uh, hello, Councilors. Um, uh, the Mayor, City Councilors and all, listen, I got a wonderful letter from Joe Kennedy and I'd like to present a letter to every -- all of youse. And he speaks about, uh, "Thank you very much for stopping by. Incredible pictures of the Honey Fitz and then the stories of Conch Town, USA. It's always incredible to see the lasting connections that my family has in Palm Beach area. Please be in touch if you need anything."

So I'd like to pass out this letter to all of youse, and I have pictures, uh, with me, uh, Vicky Kennedy at the, uh, Joe Kennedy's reception in Washington, D.C. I was also with -- with, um, Debbie Wasserman-Schultz, as well. And, um, so this will -- this will add to what we're talking about here in Florida. May I have permission to pass these out?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: (Inaudible) pass (inaudible).

GREG MORAY: Oh, all right. Then he'll pass them out, right over here. All right? Now, I made sure I had seven. Seven (inaudible). Everybody can get one.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Thank you so much, Mr. Moore.

MAYOR MASTERS: The Kennedys.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Moray. That's right, Mr. Moray.

GREG MORAY: Here we go.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: He's always thinking about --

GREG MORAY: And, uh, there's another (inaudible) --

MAYOR MASTERS: Mr. Boston.

GREG MORAY: I'll just pass each one of them out to each of the City Councilors; Vicky Kennedy, Debbie Wasserman-Schultz, they're all right there. They all wanna come here. They wanna see the Honey Fitz boat. Uh, they wanna have lunch at Rybovich, Wayne Huizenga and William Kallop. Don't forget the Governor of, uh -- just pass each one of them out. Now, you read -- you can read the letter right off the bat. That's Joe Kennedy's handwriting. You can call him up. I have a letter of contact. Uh, I have his contact number right here. Uh, I'd like the other person to pass it out, as well. This is his contact number. You can call him. That's his handwriting, and you got pictures of Vicky Kennedy, Debbie Wasserman-Schultz. Uh, you have me and Carlos -- and this is in Washington, D.C. now, those pictures in D.C. These are at Joe Kennedy's reception.

So, um, and then you got me and my grandmother's house, as well, with, um -- with John F. Kennedy, the -- the boat. The Honey Fitz is right behind my grandmother's house there. It's right there. I was very surprised, uh, um, Vicky Kennedy. Look at how beautiful she is. She's absolutely gorgeous, isn't she? Great. I love her. I want to bring her here. I'm

inviting her here to lunch with all the City Councilors, Wayne Huizenga, William Kallop. Um, Debbie Wasserman-Schultz will have to be there. Joe Kennedy has to be there. Just got to e-mail them. Joe Kennedy's headquarters in Newton Center. And --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Thank you so much, Mr. Moray.

GREG MORAY: -- um, I'll just hand -- you can pass these out, as well. Here we go. Contact, Joe Kennedy's contact. So, um, Councilors, let's put this together in the middle of May. If we do e-mailings and do all this, we can have a nice lunch at Rybovich. Um, we have to see what her -- you know, if you want to go into Boston Harbor you have to contact Vicky Kennedy, because she's gonna make one phone call and it's gonna be done. All right?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Thank you so much, Mr. Moray.

GREG MORAY: All right? You got them all?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: All right.

GREG MORAY: Come and talk to me now. Just come and talk to me, because --

MAYOR MASTERS: I wanna talk to you. Madam Chair?

GREG MORAY: You know, I just come a long ways to get three minutes in, you know? Go ahead. Is that -- you like that? You read that? Is that good? It's real.

MAYOR MASTERS: Thank you. Madam Chair?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Thank you.

GREG MORAY: E-mail them, and Vicky Kennedy's gonna come here. She's gonna come right over here.

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: All right.

GREG MORAY: I'm doing it, Greg Moray.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Thank you, Mr. Moray.

GREG MORAY: That's who's doing this.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: We -- we want to -- we need to -- we need to move on. Thank you, sir.

MAYOR MASTERS: Madam Chair, I have a comment to make to him.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: All right. Uh --

MAYOR MASTERS: I don't want --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: -- Mr. Mayor?

MAYOR MASTERS: Thank you. I don't take your comments lightly at all, and I'm sure no one else does. But I am -- I love the Kennedy family, period. Let me just say -- let me just say this.

GREG MORAY: Go ahead.

MAYOR MASTERS: And, um, the Kennedys have done wonderful and great things for this country, and I respect that. I'm a firm supporter of all the Kennedys and what they've done for government. And any effort that's -- you're gonna be involved with, with the Kennedy family, count me in. Thank you.

GREG MORAY: Thank you very much.

MAYOR MASTERS: Thank you.

GREG MORAY: Thank you. I just want to tell you, they know about my grandmother's house. They know that the Honey Fitz boat is behind my grandmother's house. Mr. Huizenga put it there to retrofit it. They're all -- we're all going to Boston. Everybody here's going to Boston at some point, and you have this contact. She knows everything about me.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. We do have to move on, Mr. Moray.

GREG MORAY: Okay.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Thank you for your comment.

GREG MORAY: Okay. We'll move on. Okay.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: And just thank you for how you gifted --

GREG MORAY: Everybody got it.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: -- us with, you know, the pictures and everything.

GREG MORAY: God bless everybody. I'll be in contact with you.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: And God bless you, too, for your generosity.

GREG MORAY: Thank you. And we're here from South Boston. Here's my neighbors, right here.

MAYOR MASTERS: Well, I'm from North Boston.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Mr. Ward, uh, Gerald Ward.

GERALD WARD: Gerald ward. Three minutes. Days of old reminds me of following appearances like, uh, Greg's. I'm 31 West -- or correction -- 2135 Broadway. Been there 30 -- three decades and it's kinda hard to forget about it. Interesting enough, at the last meeting the issue of CRA Board composition came up, and although you may not have, uh, a majority left to discuss this, uh, at your next, uh, April meeting, or, uh -- I would suggest that you again think about whether the CRA Board should be the same as the City Council. Uh, we've been going since '87. The effectiveness of the first board, which was the board I was talking about, was substantially greater than we have had since the '88/'89 era, when you converted to, uh, the elected officials.

Uh, you need to think about whether you really want to have development and somebody paying attention to the, um, I's and the T's and -- and the dots and the dollars. Uh, I don't think this Board does that, and we need to get back to -- if we're gonna continue the CRA. Now, we're gonna run out of time, eventually, uh, so you will be dis-establishing the CRA.

Special meeting. Go to look at the notice when you walk out downstairs. Now, I can't believe matters brought before the meeting. Now, I addressed that with management, and I got a very positive response, saying they've already seen that and addressed it, but you ended up with two add-ons tonight that really should never have been on a special meeting agenda.

Spanish Courts. Uh, in January the CRA advertised a walk-through, uh, and so I went down the afternoon of the first one, because I -- I'm really curious about what was going on. Chummed up a couple of other local contractors, Riviera Beach contractors. We -- we ended up, uh, looking at the scope of work they did. Didn't make any sense. Uh, provisions in there like we'll -- they will salvage the roof tiles, yet they were only supposed to be gutting the inside of the building. Well, the staff said maybe the roof will fall in if they take out the, uh, drywall inside. Fortunately, yesterday or today, uh, the manager finally got back and Mr. Guy will be involved. And that's the cooperation, coordination that needs to occur between City and CRA.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Thank you, Mr. Ward. Dr. Angela Wynn?

DR. ANGELA WYNN: Good evening. How are you? Uh, first of all, I would like to, uh, say this to all the Jamaicans, you know, community, that the German -- in -- in Germany they get our Jamaican flag and they burn it and stomp on it. That is disrespect to -- to our country in Jamaica. So I'm asking all Jamaicans that are here, we gonna send back a message back to the Germans, let them know that we are gonna burn their flag. Anyone who one want to get in touch with me, please call me at 561-667-3413. We are going to send Germany a message. Thank you on that.

Another part, uh, I'm gonna talk about my support. I support, uh, uh -- what's the name? -- uh, Cedrick. I'm asking that -- I'm asking the citizens of Riviera Beach to -- I ain't got no why. I don't know why -- to support Cedrick Thomas in this general election. And, um, also, believe it or not, I'm supporting Bishop or Mayor Masters in this term. I never do that before. I'm doing it now. And Billie, I love you, sweetheart. I love you to death. You know, you just my -- I just really love you, but I can't support you this time because you're a

Republican, and what the Republican is doing to us in Congress and to Barack Obama, our president, you know, it's just not nice. So as a Republican, I can't support you in that. But I wish you the best. And, uh --

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Did you know Martin Luther King was a Republican?

DR. ANGELA WYNN: Huh?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Did you know Martin Luther King was Republican?

DR. ANGELA WYNN: He was Republican, but he changed his -- his status when he was arrested in Alabama and no one call and tell him that he was arrested until President Kennedy called him and he was arrested -- he -- that he was arrested, then he changed to Democrat.

MAYOR MASTERS: That's right.

DEPUTY CITY CLERK ANTHONY: Even Colonel Powell, who is Jamaican, he's a Republican, but he still vote for Barack. And according to what we see and learn that president, President Barack, what we see and learn what the Republican do in the election in November is very nasty, and even now, until now, this -- the Republican are knocking the -- the, uh, Democrat. You know? So I can't support you in that. And I ask somebody just to do it right, along with, uh -- Bishop Masters.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Thank you, Dr. Wynn, anyway. I love the love you have for me. That's more important.

DR. ANGELA WYNN: Well, you're a Republican. I can't support you. Anyway, God speed be with you.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. Thank you, dear.

DR. ANGELA WYNN: Okay.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Thank you, ma'am. Mary Brabham [phonetic]? Brabham? I'll never get her name straight.

MAYOR MASTERS: She got (inaudible).

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: The lovely lady with the hat.

MARY BRABHAM: Hi. Good evening. Mary Brabham. Uh, nice to know that the marina deal went on. I was way down on the South End today, so I'm glad that everything went off without a hitch. First of all, I would like to address the Council, as well as the general public. Our election is March the 12th, and I'm encouraging every resident, young and old, to get up and vote.

I have to say something about this election. When we start saying who's Democrat, who's Republican, who's Independent, who -- who are the Tea Parties, or the Green Parties, and we're so Christian-fied, we have to remember, we came from the Republican Party. We came from the Republican Party. It doesn't matter what national creed you are. We say we're black, and we're white, we purple, and we blue, and we all -- we all are the same.

When we start letting one dictate who can be, who cannot be, we had a Council representative Leah Suede, and I'm gonna say this, she just like family. She sat up on that dais for almost 17 years. She was a Republican. And every time when she ran, Republicans and Democrats, Independents voted for her. Almost 17 years. It doesn't matter who we are. What matters is who can do the job, and I'm for one saying that this city needs another facelift. I don't have anything against any other candidates, but if we as the residents of Riviera Beach expect to do better, and have a face that represent us, we must rise to the occasion, residents. We must rise to the occasion.

It's enough of the taxpayers' monies being spent going this way and that way. Who would you say would represent your city? Yes, Billie Brooks may be who she is, but she is a human being. Billie Brooks may be an Independent, Democrat, or Republican. She stands for all of them. It doesn't matter where you've been, but where you going. And also, I'm encouraging the residents to get up and vote. We know that this election here is crucial. We have some very good candidates.

Kimberly Mitchell, she's a newcomer. We have been asking. We have been asking, who can stand up and who can rise to the occasion? Not saying that we have anything against Terrence Davis, but with this election here, this is crucial. She makes no mistakes. She's very accurate. She's very thorough. She will rise to the occasion. I'm for one, know it. So let's put all this partisan difference to the side, and residents, you get up and vote, and you make a difference. I have nothing against Mayor Masters or the Bishop Masters, nor Shelby Lowe, but we need a new face in this city.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. Thank you.

MARY BRABHAM: We need that. Thank you.

MAYOR MASTERS: Madam Chair? Madam Chair?

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Yes, Mayor.

MAYOR MASTERS: Thank you. Well, that's interesting. Thank you, Miss Brabham, for your remarks. Um, it's interesting because you supported me last year, so I guess every other year it's something different. But I just want to say this, because the subject matter came up. This is African-American History Month. Unfortunately, the shortest month in the -- in the year, which it shouldn't be. But someone mentioned tonight that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., um, was a Republican. I need to comment on that right now, henceforth, and forever more.

Whenever that issue has come up, his family has denied it, number one. And number two, Abraham Lincoln was a Republican. That's then. But we're talking about now. This

election is non-partisan. Whether you're a Democrat, which I am, or whether Republican, you don't vote based upon party. You vote based upon the person. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: One last, um -- well, it's a written comment, and I was asked to read it into the record. Northern Palm Beach County Chamber of Commerce President Beth Kigel wants the record to read -- um, it's her letter as follows, please. "Dear Madam Chair and Members of the Council, it is with great pleasure that I'm writing to you on behalf of the Northern Palm Beach County Chamber of Commerce in support of the resolution approving the Marina District Conceptual Master Plan. As you may be aware, our Chamber represents more than 800 members in the northern region of Palm Beach County, covering a span of 10 municipalities, including the City of Riviera Beach. We also have within our chamber the Riviera Beach Business Council, which promotes the economic well-being of Riviera Beach businesses and the community at large.

"Promoting economic development, smart growth, and job creation are key priorities of our chamber as a necessity to enrichen the overall community. This waterfront development is viewed as a major step forward in enhancing the Riviera Beach community, as well as the entire northern region. Not only does this provide the opportunity of generating new revenues for the city and jobs for its residents, but it also will help make Riviera Beach a 'world class destination' that will draw additional funds, visibility, and economic activity into the area.

"This long awaiting vision of Riviera Beach as the place to live, work, learn and play can now become a reality with your positive support tonight. On behalf of the Northern Palm Beach County Chamber, its Board of Directors, and over 800 members, we encourage you to please vote in support of this resolution. Sincerely, Beth Kigel, President and CEO." And we just want to make that part of the record. Uh, at this moment now we have statements by the Mayor and City Council, starting to my right. Mr. Thomas?

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Well, thank you, Miss, um, Brooks. As you probably are aware, um, by the comments that have been made here the latter part of the evening that this will be the last meeting before the election, um, and, um, I just would, uh, like to, um, say that although I don't really like the politicking and the back-biting and the name calling, um, I do understand that, um, you know, the election is the election. It's going to be up to the people, um, to decide who they want to be their representatives.

Um, so I, you know, I appreciate any support that, you know, that was given to me tonight. Um, uh, I am proud of, you know, what's been accomplished with my colleagues here, along with the staff. I think that we have, uh, come a long way as a city, and I appreciate the opportunity that the city has given me to be here.

Um, this is a proud time for me. I'm loving my job right now, and I definitely would like to return. I have, uh, submitted my bid for re-election and I'm hoping that, um, the city is approving of that. Um, and I would like to return to, uh, finish the job that we've, um, started.

Also want to, um, say a congratulations to the individuals who will be leaving their, um, seats, and I wish them well in their future, um, endeavors, on whatever seat that they're going to. We may not have always agreed, but I'm very proud of what we've been able to accomplish together as a team, um, and, um, you know, I wish you, uh -- you well in your future endeavors. And thank you, and I'll see you, everyone, around.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Miss Pardo?

CHAIR PRO TEM PARDO: Thank you, Madam Chair. Well, I'm very fortunate. I don't have an election for another two years. But, um, to the mayor, to Mr. Lowe, to our Chair Brooks, and Councilman Thomas, I would just like to say it has been a privilege to serve with all of you. Most of you I served with for the past five years. Miss Brooks, I served with you for the past four years. And like Councilman Thomas just said, we have done extraordinary things in, um, those four or five years.

Um, congratulations to you guys. You know, whoever gets back in, I look forward to continuing working with you. Uh, who doesn't, whoever, you know, does not get back in, um, I hope to continue serving you, and I hope that you stay involved in the community, and I know that I will be calling on you for advice and continued assistance. So, um, best of luck to each and every one of you, and again, thank you. It's been a privilege serving with you.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Thank you. Miss Davis?

COUNCILPERSON DAVIS: I will also, um, say to Mr. Lowe and to you, Miss Brooks, um, I'll miss you in this capacity, but good luck to you. Much luck to you in your future endeavors. Um, and to Mayor Masters and Councilman Thomas, the very best of luck to you, also, in your races.

I just have one announcement to make, uh, outside of those comments. Um, many of you know there have been talks going on with, uh, FDOT concerning State Road 710. Um, as the MPO rep, um, we met with FDOT representatives last week, Mary and I, and also Representative Powell called, uh, Secretary Wolfe and his staff and, um, we met today concerning the removal of some fences, um, and we pressed really hard, but it's still, uh, kinda up in the air.

We're working on some -- some different things, but, uh, Representative Powell has asked, um, Secretary Wolfe and his staff to come and do a presentation or do a forum to answer any questions to the residents of the city, uh, and that will take place on March 8th, which is next Friday, at 5:30 in the City Chambers. And Mrs. Jones, if you would, please, um, place this on our website and, uh, TV 18. Um, so if you have questions about what's going on on State Road 710, uh, please come out and get all of your questions answered. Thank you very much. Good luck to y'all.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Mr. Lowe?

COUNCILPERSON LOWE: Yes. Wow, hmm. Thank you very much. Um, I appreciate, um, the kind words from my colleagues, and I do, or have enjoyed my -- well, you know,

it's hard to be accurate. You know, it's a lot of things I could say up here, especially in the span of six years. But you know, I took on this responsibility in 2007, shortly after I had a kidney transplant. And you know, it just kinda fit my life. You know, I knew that, um, you know, I would spend a considerable amount of time rehabbing and trying to get adjusted to, you know, my life as, um, having permanent kidney failure.

But you know, this job gave me a purpose and, you know, I can say tonight that, you know, the things that I wanted have already been done and I'm comfortable in that. Um, this plan is one of the things that I had set out to assure that, you know, this community at least had or would be put on the right track, and tonight represents that.

And then most of all, my, uh, work with the kids. You know, I can honestly say that the kids here in Riviera Beach have a better opportunity today, uh, due to some of the things that I've championed, like the Community Boating Center. You know, now the kids have access to the waterfront and can enjoy the waterfront and get involved in the industry and learn and develop a passion to be successful in a community like this.

Um, the Chess Program and the Miss Riviera Beach program, and the playground work, and you know, the list is long. But I did leave something behind, and you know, I'm just -- I'm satisfied. I'm -- you know, I'm not afraid of change, never have been, and you know, I am who I am. And some say, you know, maybe I was too quiet, or not aggressive, but you know, I was me. And you know, I didn't want to take any power or assume any authority that I didn't have in the charter. And that's the only way you can survive in this -- in this game, is you know, you do what the rule says, and just follow that and you can't go wrong.

But you know, I wanted to leave, uh, this seat to someone else and, um, hopefully the best person will win, but it's -- you know, it's time for somebody else to get involved and see how it is sitting up here and -- and going through the things that we all go through up here.

So now that, um, you know, my vow of poverty and service has come to an end, because I have definitely lived below my standards for the last six years, but I'm healthy enough to, and not afraid now to go out in the community or go out in the business world and -- and be productive. You know, I didn't know if I would make that five-year threshold, but I -- but I did. I made that two years ago, and I'm on my seventh year.

So, um, and I just appreciate the ones that, uh, elected me into office and I -- you know, I can rightfully say I did the best that I could, and I enjoyed helping those that I could. And thank you very much, and hopefully I'll be back, um, as the Mayor. You know? I see one more chapter in my life and that -- perhaps that's it. You know, I always wanted to be the - the leader of this community, and hopefully I'll get a chance at that, but if not, I'll go on and live a happy life and -- and finally make some money. So thank you very much.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Mayor? Mayor Masters?

MAYOR MASTERS: If I were not a candidate for re-election, I'd vote for you, 'cause, uh, Shelby, there's no question, is very sincere, and he has worked very hard in -- in his seat. And, uh, I have great respect for him. He's run a very clean race, and when anyone runs a

clean race, with dignity and with respect, and not tried to pull somebody else down or put somebody else up, but just run your race, he certainly has my respect.

Um, as relates to 710, um, the Office of the Mayor have also been in -- in communication with the neighbors who live in that area, and who are affected. Um, and there will be a delegation that will be going with me to Tallahassee. I think that -- I mean, I appreciate the fact that they're coming here, but it's time to go there. Um, we will be going and, uh, we're not going to be asking them to do this and do that. I think the time has come that we need to say it, and say it loud: We will not accept compromise. I will not accept a compromise on this issue. It is morally wrong, number one, to do what you're doing, DOT, to the people, uh, in that area. Number two, it's -- it's just unjust and, um, as someone said earlier tonight, they -- they talked and didn't seem to get to where -- uh, too much, and pressed, and pressed, and pressed. Well, I'm prepared to do a little bit more than that.

If, in fact, that we cannot get this resolved, then we go from negotiation to demonstration, and I am prepared to lead that against, uh, this immoral, um, endeavor, the DOT disrespecting a neighborhood. It's just not acceptable. Um, as we stood up with the residents of Stonybrook, we will also stand up for the residents that are impacted in that area.

I believe in demonstrations. I believe in boycott. I believe in protest. I believe in non-violence, as Dr. King did. And everything we got, and the reason why we're sitting here today, because people stood up, and young people. Now, people can say Dr. King was Republican or Democrat. I don't know what he was, but I know that every time the family, it comes up, they deny it and they say he was not; that he was a Democrat. But that's then. And now we -- we are here because of people who stood and fought.

Several weeks ago -- uh, when I used to tell this story it -- it used to bring tears to my eyes, but I think I can get through it. When Cedrick Thomas had a, uh, Thanksgiving Feast, was giving away turkeys, there was an elderly man who I really didn't know that well, but he had some breathing difficulties. He asked me did he have to stand in line, because he just couldn't stand any longer, and I said to him, "Well, let me go and talk to the man in charge." And I talked to Councilman -- distinguished Councilman Thomas, who I'm looking forward to coming back, getting back up here, um, if that's the will of the people, and he said, "No, let's make provision."

I went to the Assistant Manager, um, Danny, Mr. Jones, and he said, "Well, I have a chair. Give him the chair." I gave him the chair and this elderly gentleman was about 85 years of age. He looked at me in the eyes and said -- I was getting ready to leave and, you know, move on -- he said, "Mr. Mayor, don't leave." I said, "Okay." He said, "When -- when is your term over, or when will you run again?" I said, "In March." And he said to me, "I don't know how much more time I have left on the face of the earth, but I want to be here when you run. I want to be here in March." And I said, "Well, I'm gonna pray to God that you will be here, and you'll be here much longer. Because I want to see you be my mayor again."

His name -- and many of you may know him -- is Johnny Carlisle, who lives in the National Village area. The past two weeks has been very good weeks for me. Uh, I've worked

hard for 25 years, ministry, activist, standing up for people, black and white, Republicans and Democrats. We're all precious in God's sight. And one of the things that sometimes you wonder if you're sacrifice is in vain, if people notice, or do they really appreciate what you've tried to do. And for some reason it seems like in the last two weeks I got more awards and acclamations than I've probably got in a long time.

And I said, "God, are you trying to send a message? Am I getting ready to leave here?" But, um, I don't think that's the case. But I do want to thank the Youth Recreation Association for giving me the award of the Mayor of the Year. I would like to thank the Evolution of the Revolution, certainly non-violently, for giving me another award for standing up for the people. And last but not least, I want to thank the African Diaspora for giving me the award of the year for the Mayor of the Year, and others. So I want to thank you, and it's been a pleasure to serve you, and I pray and work hard to continue in this capacity.

I feel that I'm here for a purpose. I'm not here by accident, but I'm here because people have voted three times over odds, people who have spent three times more amount of money than I had, but we're still here, and I'm still holding on to God's unchanging hand.

I want to say this, as it relates to a few days ago when the media, um, had candidates, had the mayor and others, all across and plastered across the news about paperwork. Well, let me just say this for me, in my house. It was reported that the media that the mayor had written an improper check. I've been writing checks for 35 years. That wasn't true. It was just misinformation, outrageous, and just misinformation. It wasn't about a check. It was about paperwork, whether you sign on this line or whether you sign on this paper, whether you turn this one in or that.

Everybody -- everybody had acted in good faith. All the candidates who may have been in question acted in good faith. The city clerk acted in good faith, impeccable record. Has more awards and plaques on her wall than anybody, perhaps, sitting up here. So let's not try to point the finger and blame and shame anybody, because everybody acted in good faith, and no one did anything, certainly me and others that I know of, intentionally, or in bad faith. So I want to set the record straight.

Um, for those of you who are seniors, or those who are students, people who are working who may not be able to get to the polls and vote, our country has a mechanism for you. It's called voting by absentee. And if you have an absentee ballot, there's three things you can do. You can mail it in. You can take it in to the election supervisor's office, and as a courtesy that I've always done for several years, if you have a ballot, and you would like for me, or someone that I know to pick it up, we'll be happy to do that. You may call 561-247-2713 and I'll be happy to do that. Last but not least, Mr. Sherman, water -- of the, uh, Finance Department, I have a couple of questions for you. Would you please come forward?

FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN: Yes.

MAYOR MASTERS: Good evening, sir. How are you?

FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN: Great. How are you doing?

MAYOR MASTERS: I'm good. I've been continuously bombarded -- bombarded by, uh, questions, complaints, and comments as it relates to the Water Department, so -- Uh, Utilities. So I want to ask you a couple things.

FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN: Okay

MAYOR MASTERS: Okay. We have two programs, or I'll just call them programs. The one that I want to ask you about is the one that if a person has a bill that's a hundred percent higher. Explain that to me, to the audience, what that actually is and what it means.

FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN: Okay. If -- if -- if their -- if one month bill comes in and it's twice what they -- what your -- your normal bill is, or what your prior bill is, um, yeah, we will investigate, bring that to attention. We will investigate that. While we are investigating it, they're required to pay your prior month's bill. And what we do is we actually look at your -- your average bill. So it's not necessarily one month to the next month, but you know, we look at your average bill for a year and we compare it to your current bill. If you've -- if it has doubled, uh, we sort of put it in a suspense-type file, uh, while we investigate to try to figure out why it has increased.

Uh, but during that period you're required to continue to pay your average bill, uh, because we don't want people to fall too far behind. Uh, and once we have finished the investigation, uh, depending on -- on obviously what the results of that investigation show, uh, if the billing was correct, you have the same amount of time to catch up on your bill as it took us to, uh, resolve the matter, uh, and obviously, if we find that it's incorrect, you know, we correct your bill, and, uh, we can either refund you if we owe you money, but you know, we -- we make it the arrangements to, uh -- to get that bill back in line.

MAYOR MASTERS: Okay. My question is, this only applies to people who bills are a hundred percent higher, or double. Is that true or not?

FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN: The -- the -- those bills that are double of what your annual average is.

MAYOR MASTERS: Do we have any mechanism or any relief for people who bills are 90 percent or 80 percent or 70 percent, 60 percent higher?

FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN: Well --

MAYOR MASTERS: It have to be a hundred percent?

FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN: No. Again, anybody can come in and ask us to -- to go and look at their bills and we'll test their meters, you know. I mean, we go -- we go through that process. It doesn't necessarily have to be. Um, but what we do do in those cases is they really are required to pay what the bill is while we're investigating. So all this

really did, um, is provide a little bit of relief for those people that -- that had this extraordinary increase in their bills.

MAYOR MASTERS: And that's those people who are a hundred percent --

FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN: Those people that have --

MAYOR MASTERS: -- higher. That's --

FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN: -- have a hundred percent more, correct.

MAYOR MASTERS: Okay. Uh, unfortunately we're not doing it for those that are 90 percent or higher, period. But let me ask you this. That's another issue. The second question that I want to ask you, for the seniors, they have to be a certain age, number one, and a certain, uh, financial requirement.

FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN: Correct.

MAYOR MASTERS: Is that true?

FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN: To get that senior discount, yes.

MAYOR MASTERS: Okay. Now, if they don't make that financial requirement, then they don't qualify.

FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN: Correct.

MAYOR MASTERS: We don't have anything for veterans, do we?

FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN: No, we do -- we do --

MAYOR MASTERS: Or handicapped?

FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN: -- not.

MAYOR MASTERS: Single family parent?

FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN: No.

MAYOR MASTERS: Just for people who fit within a certain qualification and have a certain -- a certain age.

FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN: Right. It was -- it was age and income requirements.

MAYOR MASTERS: Okay. Madam Chair, thank -- Madam Manager, thank you very much.

FINANCE DIRECTOR SHERMAN: You're welcome.

MAYOR MASTERS: I'd like for the Manager to take note, and I would like for you to bring a report back to me and others, if they request. I would like to see the same, uh, relief as a hundred percent to anyone who has -- uh, if it's 80, 70, 60, whatever. High is high. And I don't think it's -- it's -- I think -- I don't think it's fair to just do it a hundred percent, double. That's number one. I would like for you to look at it and see if there's any other way that we can offer that same thing. And also, last but not least, I would like for you to look at the -- the water situation that we're offering to seniors who meet a certain financial, um -- have a certain financial income level to see if that same level could be applicable and apply to others who may not be seniors, but just can't pay because of their income. I would like to think that we can do better and make it apply to all who fit that income, and that's what I'm going to advocate for, and I -- I ask that you would, um, give me information and do some research and bring back a report, uh, as relates to the water. And, uh, and also -- and also, there's not a -- just however long it takes. And also, look at the possibility if the water bill can just be reduced, period. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Okay. Um, well, just to respond to the last directive, of course, the next meeting, it will be after the election, so I guess we could all look at what direction we would wanna go with that. The next meeting, I believe, is gonna be March 20th -- March 20th somewhere, there about.

Uh, well, it's been late into the evening, and I'll just simply say that, you know, to the persons to whom I've served for the last four years in District 1, it has certainly been, uh, a wonderful experience, opportunity to try to provide services to the seniors, to our college graduates -- well, persons who have graduated or not in college, and just a few of the things that -- that I have accomplished. And for me, it's just very important now to try to take my experience, both as a business person, both as a 40-year taxpayer here in the City, to just really go to another level, and that is why I am seeking the position of Mayor.

But at -- but I just want to end it by saying this, because I'm not gonna get into a big spiel. I believe all of us who have embarked on a seat, we're looking for a certain prize at the end, but for me it's a matter of enjoying the journey, knowing that whatever's at the end is going to be the will of God for all of us, and when I do pray, I pray for all of us that God's will will be done in our lives, and that no matter what happen, we have to see that this is the will of God.

And with that, I'm just encouraging everybody to go out and vote for your choice, and no matter what, we should all continue in this community to work together for the good of everyone. And that is what I want to leave with you. So just get out and vote and, uh, have a blessed day and, um, if God wills it, I'll see you as the mayor. Fine. If not, I congratulate whomever God has appointed in any of these seats. And let us just be peaceful, continue to walk in peace, joy, and love, one towards the other, and it will all work out okay.

MAYOR MASTERS: Amen.

CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: And with that, adjourn?

COUNCILPERSON THOMAS: Yeah, motion – motion to adjourn.

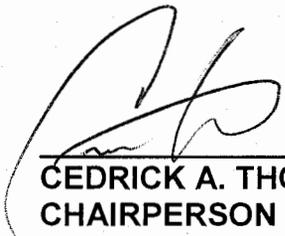
CHAIRPERSON BROOKS: Thank you.

(CONCLUSION OF MEETING)

APPROVED:

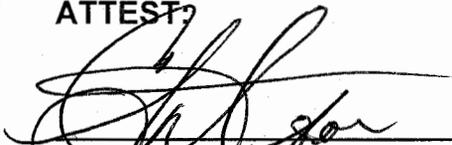


THOMAS A. MASTERS
MAYOR

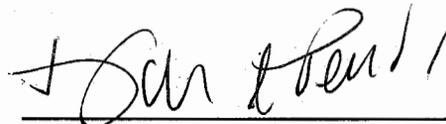


CEDRICK A. THOMAS
CHAIRPERSON

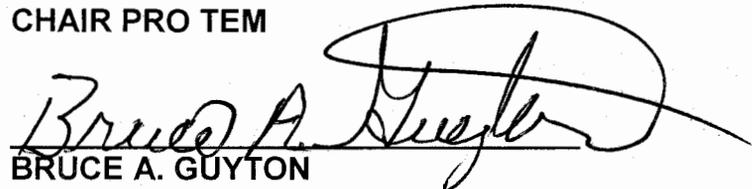
ATTEST:



CARRIE E. WARD
MASTER MUNICIPAL CLERK
CITY CLERK



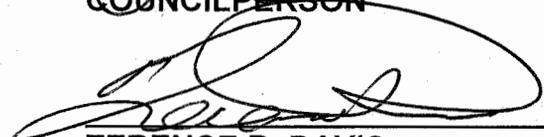
DAWN S. PARDO
CHAIR PRO TEM



BRUCE A. GUYTON
COUNCILPERSON



JUDY L. DAVIS
COUNCILPERSON



TERENCE D. DAVIS
COUNCILPERSON

MOTIONED BY: B. GUYTON

SECONDED BY: D. PARDO

B. GUYTON AYE

J. DAVIS AYE

C. THOMAS AYE

D. PARDO AYE

T. DAVIS AYE

DATE APPROVED: 04/03/2013