



OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL

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117 West Duval Street
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Jacksonville, Florida
32202

MEETING MINUTES Restoring Certain Budget Cuts

DATE: September 22, 2014

LOCATION: 117 West Duval St, Suite 425 Conf. Room A

MEETING COMMENCED: 10:00 am

TOPIC OF MEETING: Discuss restoring certain budget cuts.

PRESENT: CM Lumb; CM Love; CM Brown; CM Anderson; CM Lee; CM Daniels; CM Redman; Peggy Sidman, OGC; Kirk Sherman, CAO; Kim Taylor, CAO, Brian Parks, CAO; Sheriff John Rutherford, JSO; Under-Sheriff Dwain Senterfitt, JSO; Bill Clement, JSO; Charlene Taylor Hill, JHRC; Jon Heyman, JCC; Jim Robinson, DPW; Lin White, DPW; Margo Klosterman, Mayor; Teresa Eichner, Mayor; Angela Moyer, Budget; Wayne Young, JEA; Angie Dixon, Ombudsman; Donna Barrow, ECA; Kevin Kuzel, ECA; Belinda Peeples, ECA; Leeann Krieg, ECA; Alpha Nickelberry, ECA; Dan McDonald, ECA; Rebekah Hagan, ECA; Tiffany Dailey, ECA (see sign-in sheet for full attendance)

CM Lumb: Stated the purpose of the meeting to discuss restoring certain budget un-prioritized cuts possibly using the Fund Balance of \$65,000,000. In addition he stated there is \$45,000,000 in the emergency fund balance. Asked those in attendance to introduce themselves.

Sheriff Rutherford: In response to CM Lumb, he stated the cuts to over time (\$1.3 million) & the 2.07% across the board cut (\$4.3 million) came to a total of \$5.5 million. He said that he had asked the Finance committee to restore at least \$4 million of the total although it would be better to have the full \$5.5 restored.

He said the he has identified 10 officer positions that he can leave vacant that he believes will help him make his budget with the \$4.5 million restored. But if they find they can't he would have to close CTC and their drug treatment program known as the Matrix house or return to City Council for more money.

In response to CM Lumb he confirmed that if CTC & Matrix House are closed that it would be very difficult for the new Sheriff to reconstitute the programs assuming the funding was there.

Ms. Sidman: In response to CM Lumb she reviewed the action taken by the Finance committee in regard to the Property Appraiser's office. She also stated that if the City Council loses their appeal to the state to reduce the Property Appraiser's budget that the funds needed would be taken out of the General Fund.

CM Lumb: Noted that he recently became aware that when for instance there is a savings from the Sheriff's budget that is reallocated to the next year that it is considered using reserves.

He said that the City Council should have given themselves some flexibility by allowing a small millage increase. He stated that his amendment will restore the across the board cuts with the exception of the JFRD fix.

In response to CM Anderson he said that would get total needed from the Fund Balance down to \$6 million. In addition, he reviewed the JFRD fix which recognizes the increase in revenue from rescue of \$2.3 million.

CM Daniel: Stated she has done the same amendment excluding the JFRD fix.

CM Lumb: In response to CM Brown he confirmed with Kirk Sherman that the JFRD rescue revenue stream is safe & reliable.

Mr. Sherman: In response to CM Love he said that the minimum reserve required is between 5-7% and that if we use \$6 million of the \$110 million current reserves we would be at about 9%.

Mr. Heyman: Stated his concern that the \$81,000 in rental income that the JCC had secured for the Brewer Center has been taken from their budget. He said the 2.07% cut (\$40,000), the \$81,000 plus the increase in debt service of \$194,000 will hurt the JCC.

Mr. Sherman: Explained there was an insufficient amount of debt service for Brewer Center allocated to the JCC in the past and there was a "true-up" done by Finance. He also stated that the JCC did get credit for the \$81,000 put is losing an \$81,000 position.

In response to CM Anderson he explained that Mr. Heyman is concerned that his budget is flat lined and his debt service went up \$194,000.

- Ms. Hill:** Expressed her concern about the 3 positions cut from JHRC's budget.
- Mr. Robinson:** Stated he is concerned about the affect that the cuts in one department will have on other departments.
- Sheriff Rutherford:** Agreed with my Robinson that JSO cuts will affect the Mayor, Parks & DPW.
- Mr. Robinson:** Reviewed a number of services that would be impacted by the 2.07% cut to the DPW.
- Sheriff Rutherford:** In response to CM Brown he stated that still being short the \$1.5 million will have an affect on JSO and there will be no funds for contingencies.
- Mr. Robinson:** In response to CM Brown he said that DPW contingency funds are practically nil.
- CM Brown:** Said he thinks that the things that the citizens see need to be properly funded.
- CM Daniel:** Pointed out that the City has \$48,000,000 in an emergency contingency fund.
- CM Jones:** Stated that he understood the frustration of the Finance Committee but he did not agree with adding a 2.07% across the board cut in addition to the budget cuts already made.
- CM Redman:** Said he thinks the City needs to have the funds to take care of the necessary services from DPW & Public Safety.
- Mr. Robinson:** In response to CM Brown he stated that road resurfacing; sidewalks and capital maintenance are covered by the CIP. He said the 2.07% lapse is not related to these items. He said that the Finance Committee has about a quarters worth of money available for these items in the CIP.

In response to CM Lee, he confirmed that there is 13 employees for the new mowing dept. He also said the mowing funds are still included for black cemeteries but the funds to address disrepair is not and could create a liability that should be covered by insurance. He confirmed that \$925,000 left in the budget.

CM Lee: Asked for a legal opinion of the cemetery issue. She expressed her concern for the rash of recent murders in the City.

Sheriff Rutherford: Explained to CM Lee that if the \$4.5 million is restored there would not be enough to add the 40 officers and that he would need about \$10 million total added to his budget to restore the \$5.5 million reduction & hire the 40 new officers. He also confirmed that crime will likely continue to climb without it.

Ms. Eichner: In response to CM Brown she said that the City is required under Florida Statutes to provide forensic exams for children in Victim Services and that budget item was lapsed into the Mayor's office on the last day of the budget hearings.

CM Brown: Expressed his concern that there are other legal situations that have been affected by the cuts that the City will have to deal with at a later time.

Ms. Hill: In response to CM Lee she reviewed the effects of JHRC losing 3 positions.

Ms. Sidman: Per CM Jones request, she agreed to get the list of ordinance waivers in the budget.

Mr. Sherman: In response to CM, he agreed to check with the Property Appraiser about the possibility of collecting more ad valorem taxes than originally predicted.

Ms. Sidman: In response to CM Lee & CM Lumb she stated that it is too late to raise property taxes.

Meeting Adjourned: 11:19 am

Documents forwarded to

Legislative Services: Notice, Minutes, Sign-In Sheet & Audio CD

The written minutes for this meeting are only an overview of what was discussed.

Council Members/Staff

cc: Cheryl Brown, Director/Council Secretary
Dana Farris, Director, Legislative Services Division
CITYC & COJ.NET
Media
File Copy
Planning and Development Department
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OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL

TDD: (904) 630-1580

September 17, 2014
4:00 p.m.

Meeting Notice

Notice is hereby given that Council Members Lumb, Brown, Love & Jones will meet on Monday, **September 22, 2014 at 10:00 am** in Conference Room A, located at 117 West Duval Street, Suite 425 (4th Floor), City Hall St. James Building. The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss restoration of certain budget cuts using money from fund balances or reserves.

All interested persons are invited to attend.

Please contact Donna Barrow, ECA At-Large Group 5, at (904) 630-7144, for additional information or email DLBarrow@coj.net.

RL/dlb

CC: Council Members/Staff
Cheryl Brown, Director/Council Secretary
Jeff Clements, Chief, Research Division
Dana Farris, Chief, legislative Services Division
Carol Owens, Assistant Chief of Legislative Services
Kristi Sikes, Chief, Administrative Services Division
CityC@coj.net
Media Box

CM Lumb, Brown, Love Jones
 Rest. of Certain Budget Cuts
 September 22, 2014

Name	Organization	Phone or email
Ruby Wyse	JAFB	334-8470
Flora Hill/Lepez	T-U	
Chris How	T-U	
MAX MARSHOT	DAILY RECORD	
NOROEICA HALL	Bivca Region	34464 913-3377
Tracie Mancini	TAX Chamber	366-6660
Johnny Davis	CS	630-1078
Standa Peoples	CC Miss I ECA	630-1074
Liz White	Public Worker	255-8757
Em Huma	ICC	390-6425
Dan McDonald	ESAS	2737
Alpha Nickelberry	CC/ Daniels	630-1393
Lauren Taylor	WI	
Cherlene Taylor	WRE	630-4901
Angie Dixon	Imbudsman Office	630-1191
Andy Mox	Budget	6307301
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Jeffrey Bailey	CC	
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