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| **OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL** |
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**Meeting Minutes for Council Members Lori N. Boyer & Bill Gulliford**

**Wednesday, May 20, 2015 at 12:15 p.m.**

**Topic:** The meeting was held to discuss pension reform ordinances

**Location:** Conference Room A, 4th Floor, 117 West Duval St., City Hall, Jacksonville, FL

**City Attendees**: Council Members Lori Boyer, Bill Gulliford, Stephen Joost, Greg Anderson and John Crescimbeni, Reggie Brown, Council Elect Danny Becton, Kirk Sherman (Council Auditor), Derrel Chatmon (OGC), Kyle Billy (CAO), Glenn Hansen (Budget Officer), Ronnie Belton (Director of Finance), Brian Parks (CAO), Teresa Eichner (Office of the Mayor), Stan Johnson (ECA – District 13) and Nicole Spradley (ECA – District 5).

**Meeting Convened:** 12:17 p.m.

Council Member Bill Gulliford opened the meeting and introductions were made. Council Member Gulliford explained that he called the meeting because the City is in a tight financial situation and needs to find a solution to resolve the pension issue. He explained that ordinance 2015-304 excludes the senior staff pension plan and he will take that up separately, and it changes the 3 year period to 7 years, being the split between the 15 years remaining.

Before the meeting began, Council Member Gulliford handed out a copy of his draft amendment to ordinance 2015-304 and a summary of Florida Senate Bill 172 regarding local government pension reform.

Council Member Gulliford explained his amendment would require the City to pay a minimum of $5 million in the first fiscal year after the effective date of ordinance 2015-304-E, increasing by $5 million each year until it caps out at $20 million each year and the Police & Fire Pension Fund would match the City’s contributions. He discussed how general liability has not been addressed and that the City Council must focus on finding a permanent funding source.

Joey Greive and Brian Parks addressed questions regarding how chapter funds work and the funds available in those accounts.

Derrel Chatmon explained that the City is deemed to comply with ch. 175 and 185 of Senate Bill 172. Mr. Chatmon will have a discussion with a pension consultant and lawyers in Tallahassee to address Council Member Boyer’s concerns regarding the changes that were made to ch. 175 and 185 and the impact it could have on this bill.

Council Member Gulliford explained that his amendment would put pressure on future Council’s to comply and act responsibly.

Brian Parks agreed with Council Member Boyer comments that there is something in the code that specifies what the City is required to contribute to the pension fund.

Council Member Boyer asked Council Member Gulliford if he had a letter of support from the unions. Council Member Gulliford said that he did not; however Randy Wyse, Fire Chief, stated that that he would support any agreement that is reached with the Police and Fire Pension Fund and the City of Jacksonville.

The group discussed the difference between the previous pension ordinance 2015-54 and ordinance 2015-304. Council Member Joost questioned whether the City would be paying more with the $20 million match than in previous pension bill scenarios. Stephen Durden explained that the first bill required the City to pay $80 million up front whereas Council Member Gulliford’s bill did not, and that the money would remain in an account that could accrue interest.

The group then discussed the possible scenarios of matching funds and collective bargaining. Council Member Crescimbeni requested additional information on the share plan.

Council Member Gulliford stated that the current City Council cannot mandate future Councils to contribute to the pension fund and that they must follow state statutes.

Joey Grieve will meet with Council Member Gulliford, Stephen Durden and Brian Parks to discuss this ordinance further.

Council Member Anderson asked Mr. Grieve to provide a payment model for each scenario.

Council Member Gulliford clarified that with his bill, the plan would be effective immediately and that it does not solve the funding problem, it is just the first step to stop the financial bleeding.

Council Member Gulliford ended the meeting.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 1:05 p.m.

**Minutes:** Minutes completed by Nicole Spradley, ECA District 5, on Friday, May 22, 2015

cc: Council Members/Staff

Cheryl Brown, Director/CouncilSecretary

Dana Farris, Chief, Legislative Services Division

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