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| **OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL** |
| Matt SchellenbergCOUNCILMAN, DISTRICT 6OFFICE (904) 630-1388E-MAIL: MATTS@COJ.NET | January 22, 20168:00 a.m. | 117 West Duval StreetSuite #425Jacksonville, FL 32202 |

**Meeting Minutes of Tuesday, January 19, 2016**

**Council Member Matt Schellenberg and Council President Greg Anderson**

**Topic:** Committee of Whole Format/Procedures for Upcoming Meetings Regarding Ordinance 2016-1 and Ordinance 2016-2

2016-0001: ORD-MC Amend City Charter by Creating New Article 26 "Equal Rights Laws" to Expand City's Laws to Include Prohibiting Discrimination based upon Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity or Gender Expression, in Addition to Existing Laws; Amend Chapters 60 (Human Rights Comm), 400 (Equal Opportunity/Equal Access), 402 (Equal Employmt Opportunity, 406 (Public Accommodations) & 408 (Fair Housing), in Accordance with Affirmative Certified Referendum Results; Amend Sections 60.105 (Functions, Powers & Duties), 400.101 (Statemt of Policy), Ord Code. (Sidman) (Introduced by CM Gulliford & Co-Sponsored by CM's Carter & Newby) Public Hearing Pursuant to Chapt 166, F.S. & CR 3.601 - 1/26/16 Committee as a Whole Public Meetings @ 3:00 P.M. - 2/4/16, 2/18/16 & 3/3/16

2016-0002: ORD-MC re Equal Opportunity & Expand City's Laws to Include Prohibiting Discrimination based upon Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity or Gender Expression; Amend Secs 60.105 (Functions, Powers & Duties) & 400.101 (Statemt of Policy); Amend Chapts 402 (Equal Employmt Opportunity), 406 (Public Accommodations) & 408 (Fair Housing). (Byndloss) (Introduced by CM Hazouri & Co-sponsored by CM Bowman) Public Hearing Pursuant to Chapt 166, F.S. & CR 3.601 - 1/26/16 Committee as a Whole Public Meetings @ 3:00 P.M. - 2/4/16, 2/18/16 & 3/3/16

**Location:** Conference Room B (City Hall)

**Attendees:** Council Member Matt Schellenberg, Council President Greg Anderson, Council Member Reginald Gaffney, Council Member Tommy Hazouri, Council Member John Crescimbeni, and various others. For complete list, see attached sign-in sheet.

**Meeting Convened:** 3:30 p.m.

Councilman Schellenberg opened the meeting by asking Council President Anderson to describe the format he has set thus far for the upcoming Committee of the Whole meetings.

Council President Anderson explained that two pieces of HRO legislation (*2016-1 and 2016-2*) would be taken up through the Committee of the Whole process. He scheduled three meetings to discuss the bills at committee, and at the end of the third meeting, he will close the committee meeting and immediately convene the Council.

Councilman Crescimbeni asked the Council President if he would consider shortening the speaking times to less than what is allowed at Council in an effort to accommodate more speakers.

Council President Anderson explained the Committee of the Whole process in detail: There will be three meetings, the dates of which have already been established (*February 4th, February 18th, and March 3rd*), the meetings will be structured, and each meeting will have one hour of public comment. For the first two Committee of the Whole meetings, the public comment period will likely be at the end of the meeting, from 5:00pm to 6:00pm, to allow people time for speakers to arrive from work. In response to Councilman Crescimbeni’s question, if there is a “packed house,” comment times will likely be limited, although he would prefer to give everyone at least a minute to speak.

Councilman Schellenberg asked the Council President if the first meeting would open with Councilman Hazouri and Councilman Gulliford speaking about their respective bills, and asked about the format (how much speaking time they will have, response time from other Council Members, etc).

Council President Anderson stated that the details were not yet decided, but gave the “concept” of the first meeting: Bill sponsors will have a certain period of time to present their bills, then they will be afforded time to take some “limited questions, not debate,” from other Council Members. Following that, the Council will hear from the General Counsel, and Council Members will be given the opportunity to ask questions of the General Counsel. The last order of business at the first meeting will be public comment.

Councilman Hazouri asked when the Council Members would be able to ask questions of attendees.

Council President Anderson suggested that the Council meeting immediately following the third Committee of the Whole would be the best opportunity.

Councilman Schellenberg asked about the time limits on Council Members and if they would be given 5 minutes to speak initially, then 3 minutes on their second turn.

Council President Anderson responded that those times would likely be reduced but would like flexibility on the details as he is still working out the process.

Councilman Gaffney expressed his concern at shorter speaking times as the issue is very important to the community and the Council Members.

Councilman Schellenberg made the suggestion that the first few rows of seats in the Council Chambers be left empty so speakers in the queue can sit in reserve as they wait for their name to be called, thereby improving the process.

Council President Anderson agreed to that suggestion.

Councilman Crescimbeni asked about the bills and the order in which they would be taken up. “If 2016-1 gets approved, are we going to take up 2016-2?”

Council President Anderson replied that both bills would be taken up and voted on.

A discussion ensued between the Council President and several attendees in which the Council President again clarified the public comment process and the multiple opportunities for public comment between the Council Meeting and Committee of the Whole meetings. The public *hearings* on the two bills will be combined, and will be an opportunity for attendees to speak on both bills.There will also be a public *comment* period which will give a second opportunity for attendees to speak.

As all questions were asked and answered, Councilman Schellenberg thanked the Council President and those in attendance for the meeting.

**Meeting Adjourned**: 3:55 p.m.

**NOTE: A recording of this meeting, meeting minutes, and sign-in sheet are on file in the office Legislative Services.**

**Minutes:** Audrey L. Braman, ECA to Council Member Matt Schellenberg – District 6 (904) 630-1388 – 117 W. Duval Street, Suite #425, Jacksonville, FL 32202