# MEETING MINUTES

**Noticed Meeting JEA Pension Bill 2019-566**

**Council Member Priestly Jackson and Council Member Morgan**

Tuesday, September 24, 2019 3:00 p.m.

City Hall, 117 W. Duval Street, Suite 425 City Council Conference Room A

**Attendance:** Councilwoman Brenda Priestly Jackson, Council Members Joyce Morgan, Randy DeFoor, Michael Boylan, Matt Carlucci, Garrett Dennis, Council Auditor Kyle Billy, Kim Taylor-Council Auditor’s Office, Brian Parks-Council Auditor’s Office, Paige Johnston-Office of General Counsel, Kendra Mervin-ECA District 10. All other attendees are listed on the attendance sign-in sheet.

Council Member Brenda Priestly Jackson convened the meeting at 3:09 p.m.

CM Priestly Jackson opened the discussion by informing attendees that bill 2019-566 should go before the Rules Committee and the Chair of the Rules Committee can request the referral of the bill. CM Morgan stated that she missed two windows of opportunity to bring bill 2019-566 before the Rules Committee, but brought it up in the last Rules Committee meeting and asked that more information be presented. CM Carlucci stated that the bill should go before the Rules Committee so that additional sets of eyes could review it.

CM Priestly Jackson asked Paige Johnston-OGC whether the bill will require a 2/3 vote in Council to be referred to Rules, since the Finance Committee amended the bill during its last meeting. She also asked whether it can be automatically sent to Rules without a supermajority, according to Rule 2.102(b). Paige Johnston affirmed that she does not believe rule 2.102(b) was applicable and referenced Rule 3.202, which states that the Rules Chair can request to have the bill referred to the Rules Committee and that a super majority vote is required. CM Priestly Jackson asked Paige Johnston to explain any exceptions because according to 2.102(b) all introduced ordinances that are amended or substituted in committee can go back to committees dealing with auditing and performance measures, calendar, agenda, rules and laws. It appears that an automatic referral would be appropriate. Paige Johnston responded that she could not recall precedence when a bill was referred under 2.102(b).

CM Boylan asked for clarification of the bill “going back,” since it was not assigned to Rules initially. CM Priestly Jackson clarified by referencing Council Rule 2.102(b); the bill would be referred to Rules and not re-referred. CM Carlucci shared that he appreciates the homework that CM Priestly Jackson did and reiterated that the bill should come before Rules. He also expressed that he had concerns that the Council Auditor’s Office recommendations were not taken into consideration regarding the JEA pension liability. CM Priestly Jackson stated that her primary focus is determining the most effective and efficient way to get the bill before the Rules Committee at this time. She restated that she believes the bill should automatically go to Rules since it was amended in the Finance Committee meeting.

CM Garrett Dennis interjected that the bill should also come before the TEU Committee (Transportation, Energy and Utilities) and that he is in support of the bill going before Rules. CM Priestly Jackson agreed that the bill should also go before the TEU Committee. Paige Johnston clarified that a sure way to get the bill before both Rules and TEU is to have the Chairs request it during the Council meeting and have a 2/3 supermajority vote. CM Carlucci asked whether the Council President could just refer the bill to Rules. Both Paige Johnston and CM Morgan responded that the Rules Chair would be responsible for referring the bill. CM Morgan asked whether two motions are required to have the bill referred to the Rules and TEU Committees. Paige Johnston responded that both could be moved at once or separately and a 2/3 vote is required. She presented an alternative, which is to postpone the bill for two or four weeks and have a workshop during the next Rules Committee.

CM Priestly Jackson revisited her previous question: *how can an item be referred under 2.102(b*). She has concerns that postponement would fail to facilitate action being taken during committees and that a workshop would be a theoretical exercise. She asserted that the most efficient method of having the bill referred to Rules is her preferred course of action. Paige Johnston said that she will have an answer ready to present during the Council agenda meeting.

*Written minutes for this meeting represent an overview of the discussion.*

**Meeting Adjourned:** 3:54 p.m.

*Minutes prepared by Kendra Mervin, Executive Council Assistant – District 10, 904-255-5146,* [*mervink@coj.net*](mailto:mervink@coj.net)*. The following items were submitted for public record and can be accessed by contacting the Legislative Services Division: minutes, attendance sheet, audio recording).*

BPJ/km

cc: Council Members/Staff

Cheryl L. Brown, Director/Council Secretary

Jessica Matthews, Chief of Legislative Services

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