

CITY OF COCOA BEACH, FLORIDA
CITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
September 17, 2009

A. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Mayor Beeler called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

[Invocation: Offered by Ken Babington, First Baptist Church](#)

[Pledge of Allegiance](#)

Roll Call

Commission Members Present:

Commissioner Don John

Commissioner Ken Griffin

Commissioner Skip Williams

Vice-Mayor Kevin Pruett

Mayor Leon Skip Beeler

Administrative Members Present:

Skip Fowler, City Attorney

Charles Billias, City Manager

Loredana Kalaghchy, City Clerk

A.J. Hutson, Assistant City Manager

Joanie Regan, Stormwater Coordinator

Sara Joyce Webb, Pool Manager

Jerry Stansfield, Public Information/Grant Writer

Darby Blanchard, Water Reclamation Director

Bryant Holmes, Police Chief

G.C.Wine, Deputy Fire Chief

Laird McLean, Recreation Supervisor

Joe Tucker, Golf Course Manager

Eileen Clark, Assistant Finance Director

Charles Holland, Finance Director

B. [APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:](#)

Upon removal of items E4 and E5 to allow for discussion, the Commission unanimously approved the order of business as amended.

C. CEREMONIAL ACTIVITIES:

1. [Proclamation declaring September 22, 2009 Falls Prevention Awareness Day](#)

[Proclamation - Falls Prevention Awareness Day](#)

Mr. Pete Cunningham and Mr. Robert Fritz accepted the Proclamation. Mr. Pete Cunningham noted that he was accepting the Proclamation on behalf of Freedom 7 Senior Center; the Center had scheduled a fall prevention seminar. He reported on the programs that were offered by Freedom 7, and noted that the Center now had 400 members. He noted that the Center would be offering flu shots. He reported that there were 15 board members, and 40 merchants who offered their services at a discounted rate. He stated that membership to the Center was \$15 per year. He thanked the City for their hospitality in housing Freedom 7 at the

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Golf Course Recreation Complex.

Mayor Beeler reported that, as a physician, he saw in every shift, consequences of falls. He noted that falls truly were a catastrophic problem. He stated that this was an important issue that deserved promoting education.

At inquiry from Vice-Mayor Pruett, Mr. Cunningham listed the hours of the Center, and noted that information on the programs could be obtained from Freedom 7's website. He also noted that the Center mailed monthly newsletters.

D. CITY COMMISSION REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Commissioner John thanked the Air Force's representatives for the show they performed at the end of Minutemen Causeway the previous Friday. The Air Force was also to perform at the air show on October 3 and 4. He stated that a show may also be scheduled on October 1, confirmation could be obtained by calling Coconuts Restaurant.

Vice-Mayor Pruett

- also thanked to Air Force for the military show.
- recognized the golf course staff for coordinating the project of golf course greens replacement. He noted that the new greens were fantastic and that the City was receiving rave reviews. He invited people to visit the course.

Commissioner Griffin

- noted that the air show was great. He noted that he was impressed with the military personnel who performed that national anthem
- reported that on the 12th he joined the Irish Hibernians in their celebration
- reported that on the 14th he attended the Space Coast League of Cities meeting
- reported that he attended the previous night's event - Rachel's challenge; this was a program, which promoted being nice to people.

Commissioner Williams

- passed on his appreciation to the organizers of the Kidney Foundation event. He noted that it was well attended and that waves allowed for the surfing competitions
- reported on a community event to be held on Saturday to benefit kids with autism by getting them to surf. He noted that volunteers were needed early on the day of the event.

Mayor Beeler

- congratulated two Brevard schools, one of which was Cocoa Beach High School, for receiving the blue ribbon award.

E. CONSENT AGENDA:

Upon the City Attorney's reading of the Consent Agenda, and with the exception of items E4 and E5, which were voted on separately, the Agenda was unanimously approved.

1. Approval of August 6 and August 20, 2009 Commission meeting minutes

[August 6, 2009 Minutes](#)

[August 20, 2009 Minutes](#)

2. Code Enforcement Board Reappointments:

- Reappoint James Gray as a regular member to complete a term expiring 09/18/12 (Seat No. 2 - Commissioner Griffin)
- reappoint Barbara Romano as a regular member to complete a term expiring 09/28/12 (Seat

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No. 3 - Vice-Mayor Pruett)

[Code Enforcement Board Appointments](#)

3. Resolution 2009-31 - A Resolution of the City Commission of the City of Cocoa Beach, Florida requesting the assistance of Governor Crist and Florida Department of Transportation Secretary Kopelousos to prioritize the intercity rail component of the FEC corridor project (from Jacksonville to Miami) as part of the federal economic stimulus package for the State of Florida
Commission Representative: Mayor Beeler
Commission Recommendation: Approve

[Resolution 2009-31](#)

4. [Approve the renewal of the health insurance contract between the City of Cocoa Beach and Health First Health Plan for the policy period of January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010.](#)
[Staff Representative: A.J. Hutson, Assistant City Manager](#)
[Staff Recommendation: Approve](#)

[Staff Memo - Health First Contract Renewal](#)

MOTION BY JOHN/GRIFFIN

I MOVE TO APPROVE THE RENEWAL OF THE HEALTH INSURANCE CONTRACT.

Mr. Hutson explained that was before the Commission was a request to renew the contract. He noted that the City had the contract with Health First for the past ten years and was one of the first organizations to join the Health plan. He noted that the contract included no rate increase for the following year. He pointed out that for the past five years the increases imposed on the City were half of the market rate. He stated that employees were happy with the plan. He noted that the change to the plan included an employee contribution increase and increasing the waiting period from 60 to 90 days for new employees.

VOICE VOTE ON THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. [Request the Commission move to ratify the three \(3\) year collective bargaining agreement between the City of Cocoa Beach and the Fraternal Order of Police, Florida State Lodge No. 159.](#)
[Staff Representative: A.J. Hutson, Assistant City Manager](#)
[Staff Recommendation: Approve](#)

[Fraternal Order of Police Agreement](#)

MOTION BY JOHN/PRUETT

I MOVE TO RATIFY THE THREE-YEAR COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF COCOA BEACH AND THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE, FLORIDA STATE LODGE NO. 159.

Mr. Hutson explained that before the Commission was a three-year contract that covered police officers, dispatchers and sergeants. He noted that the contract was negotiated at no wage increase in 2010, with renegotiation to open next spring for the following year's wages. He noted that another item that was major, included in the contract, was that employment with Cocoa Beach would be considered primary.

VOICE VOTE ON THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

F. ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA:

Items E4 and E5 were removed from the Consent Agenda for discussion; these items remain

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in the minutes as reflected on the agenda.

G. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. [Ordinance No. 1498 - Second and Final Reading - An Ordinance of the City Commission of the City of Cocoa Beach, Florida, levying taxes for the appropriations to be paid out of the General Fund during the Fiscal Year 2010 of the City of Cocoa Beach, Florida; Providing for an effective date](#)
[Staff Representative: Charles Holland, CGFO, Finance Director & Eileen Clark, CGFO, Assistant Finance Director](#)
[Staff Recommendation: Approve](#)

[Ordinance 1498](#)

[Staff Memo - Ordinance 1498](#)

The City Attorney read Ordinance No. 1498 by title only.

MOTION BY WILLIAMS/PRUETT

I MOVE TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 1498.

Mr. Charles Holland offered a PowerPoint presentation. He clarified the assessed values and the recapture provision that is in the Save Our Home legislation, for homeowners. He explained that in 1994, the Save Our Home cap was passed with the first year being set in 1995. At that time, the market value and the assessed values were at parity. He stated that since 1995 and 1996, the real estate boom continued to gain steam with it peaking in 2006. Starting in 2007, there was a bust in the market with market values decreasing. Homes valued in 2006 at \$230,000, in 2009 were valued at \$160,000. He pointed out that the assessed value does not move as fast as the market value. He noted that it was possible for a long time homesteaded property assessed value to still rise. The Save Our Homes placed a maximum increase to 3%. This could allow for a tax increase on some properties. He pointed out that other taxing authorities were independent from the assessed values and the Save Our homes cap. He referred to Cocoa Beach's taxes, pointing out that Florida was ranked the 47th (lowest) of 51 states in the State-local tax burden. Florida taxpayers gave up 7.4% of income to State and local taxes. The U.S. average was 9.7% of income. He noted that at the proposed millage rate of 4.27, for a \$100,000 taxable value home, the City taxes for the year would be \$427, at \$200,000 - \$854 per year, at \$300,000 - City taxes would be \$1,281 per year. The City had the third lowest millage rate in the County.

Mr. Holland suggested that if it was the Commission's intention to decrease the millage to 4.1543 mils, the Staff computed the budget adjustment as follows: add \$40,000 for the purchase of notice boards, reduce budget for medical insurance (\$99,000,) general insurance (\$51,000,) expenditure review (\$16,000,) and position reconfigurations (\$60,000.) This adjustment to the budget would total \$186,000. The Staff also suggested the following budget adjustments: taking out the ball field fencing (\$30,000,) the scorer's building (\$20,000) and the tennis court fencing (\$37,000.) This totaled to an adjustment of \$273,067. He noted that with the suggested reductions, the millage rate could be reduced to 4.100 mils. If the channel dredging project (\$266,315) was removed from the budget, the millage rate could go to 3.9344 mils. If the asphalt rejuvenation (\$170,500) was removed from the budget, the millage rate could be adjusted to 3.8284 mils. He noted that staff recommended that projects not be cut below the 4.1543 mils.

Mr. Holland addressed grants, noting that the grants the City obtained were reimbursement grants. He explained that these grants require that the project be planned, that money be spent upfront, they do not cover the full cost of the project and aid in funding large projects, thus being a reduction in cost to the City. He listed projects that received grants to include the fire exhaust evac system, the water spray park, Shepard Park boardwalks, reuse water

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valves, Ocean Beach Boulevard design and construction, and for the Maritime Hammock design and construction.

Mr. Holland concluded by noting that the budget was part of the overall plan that provided for current operations, planning for future operations and value versus dollars. He noted that the Staff Budget Committee reviewed the budget and made adjustments. He asked the Commission to consider providing for some uncertainty that would include, an active storm season, FPL projected increase in 2010, fuel pricing, a cumulative drop in State-shared revenue \$200,000, since FY 2007, and a population drop, which was estimated to cost \$10,000.

Vice-Mayor Pruett referred to slide 8, noting that he wished to stay as close to last year's millage rate, thus reducing the budget by approximately \$523,000. He referred to the City's grant accounting, noting that in his opinion, if the City was to get reimbursed for grants, it did not seem correct to include them in the budget. He noted that he had a hard time increasing taxes.

Mr. Holland explained that the Budget Committee offered a priority list of items that could be deferred. He noted that it was the Commission's decision to set the millage rate. He noted that the Committee was not recommending that projects be cut past the 4.143 mils. He noted that a few more years will need to pass before properties values can recover. He noted that if the Commission sets the millage rate too low, then future Commissions will be in a position to ask for tax increases.

Mr. Holland explained that the City did not receive an insurance cost increase and there were no cost incurred with hurricanes in 2009. He noted that the expenditure reduction that was recommended was a one-time deal. He expressed reservations on pushing the millage rate too low, noting that it was taking a real risk. He noted that the City had to undertake capital improvement projects in the future that will require funding. He suggested that if the Commission decided to lower the millage rate, that they allow Staff to set the projects. At comments by Vice-Mayor Pruett on the level of funding for Capital Improvement projects, Mr. Holland explained that these were projections. He restated that economic recovery would be slow. Vice-Mayor Pruett stated that he is having a hard time justifying a rate increase over last year. In his opinion, it was not a big of a challenge to find \$500,000 to take out of the budget.

Commissioner John pointed out that the Commission had set priority to first construct a new fire/police building. He referred to the Ocean Beach Boulevard project, noting that the budget showed the City paying one million over the grants that would be received.

Ms. Joanie Regan reported on the grants that would be received for Ocean Beach Boulevard. She noted that for stormwater, the City would be getting 1.2 million dollars in grants (out of 1.5 million that would be spent,) and the General Fund would be receiving \$260,000 from economic stimulus funds. She noted that the City had also received \$230,000 from the County, for the paving of the road.

Commissioner John inquired on the impact on the budget if the Commission set the millage rate at 4.0 mils, rather than 4.27 mils. Mr. Holland noted that it would be a cumulative reduction of \$457,064.

Commissioner John was of the opinion that the millage could be set at 4.0 mils and that the City could still undertake projects, with the difference in budget taken from reserve funds.

Commissioner Williams referred to slide 4 and the 2009 assessed values. Mr. Holland explained that the assessed values had risen 1/10 of 1%. Commissioner Williams computed the dollar impacts of the increase in values and the proposed millage rate. Mr.

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Holland explained that each property stood on its own, thus varying on how the millage levied would impact. He pointed out that the asphalt rejuvenation project had been deferred last year, and in his opinion, this project should not be deferred further, in order to preserve the streets. He referred to the dredging project, noting that the grant the City would receive, would reimburse the City by a large amount. He noted that there were savings in insurance and the budget showed a flat line on employee wages, reflecting a figure of \$180,000. He suggested saving those funds for usage the following year. In his opinion, setting the millage at 4.27% gave the City less funds next year to run, than what was collected the past year, which was again less than the previous year.

Mayor Beeler agreed with Vice-Mayor Pruett on the need to not look at projects. He noted the need to be judicious, and agreed with not going below the 4.0 millage rate. He pointed out that property assessments were still going down. He noted that there would be definitely less income coming to the City the following year. He pointed out that there was a compounding effect of lowering taxes each year. He noted that even with the new City Hall figures included in the CPI, City Hall would not be built soon. Funds were being set aside. He noted that he would support the 4.0 millage rate, noting that it was a reasonable compromise. He noted that Cocoa Beach would be setting the standard in Brevard for lowering taxes. He noted that the Staff could review the budget and inform the Commission on projects that would be undertaken. He noted that he supported undertaking the dredging project.

MOTION BY BEELER/JOHN

I MOVE TO CHANGE THE MILLAGE RATE FROM 4.27 MILS TO 4.0 MILS.

Commissioner Griffin stated that in his opinion, one of the projects that could be cut from the budget could be dredging. At his inquiry, the Staff reported on the documents that would be generated from the professional services budgeted under the Development Services Department. At inquiry from Commissioner Griffin, Mr. Holland explained that grant funds for the dredging project had not been included in the budget, because the City had not received confirmation. Commissioner Griffin noted that he would support the 4.0 millage rate.

Vice-Mayor Pruett noted that the City was required to have three months of reserves; Cocoa Beach currently had eight months worth of reserves. In his opinion, the City was not in dire need to increase the millage rate. He suggested that the millage be held at 3.718 mils and that employees be given raises. He pointed out that reimbursable grant money was not reflected in the budget. He also noted that budget figures were not tight and were adequately adjusted for protection. In his opinion, the City should not allow for a slow creep in taxes. He noted disappointment that the millage rate would be adopted at 4.0.

MOTION BY PRUETT/JOHN

I MOVE TO LEAVE THE MILLAGE RATE TO 3.176 MILS.

Commissioner John noted that, in his opinion, it was not sufficient to lower the millage rate, and ask staff to make adjustments to the budget. The Commission needed to adopt the budget. Mr. Holland noted that the budget would be approved by the Commission with the adoption of a millage rate; staff would adjust the budget to reflect total amounts impacted by the millage rate. Commissioner John pointed out that the Commission also needed to adopt the budget to reflect projects approved by the Commission.

The City Attorney suggested transferring funds from the reserves and for Staff to come before the Commission at a later date so they could approve projects to include in the budget.

Commissioner Williams stated that he wished to see the City continue to operate smoothly, and maintaining police and fire services at the current levels. He noted that he also wished for the City to continue to maintain infrastructure. He noted that recreation was also a valuable service. In his opinion, running the City on less money than previous years, was challenging.

The City Manager expressed concerns about digging into the reserves. He noted that

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an increase in electric and gas prices was expected. The impact of a lower millage rate was close to one million dollars. He noted that property values were expected to continue to drop for the next couple of years.

At inquiry from Commissioner Griffin, Mr. Holland pointed out where the figures for reserve balances, were reflected in the budget.

Commissioner John noted that he wanted to make sure that the 4.27 mils was a neutral position and reflected no increase in taxes. Mr. Holland explained that the rolled back rate was 4.275; 4.270 reflected no increase. Commissioner John noted that he could go along with both motions. He noted that the lower millage could make it difficult for staff to get things done, but that there were nine million dollars in reserves.

Ms. Jeanette Allison suggested that the City hold more workshops on the budget. She addressed employee pensions, noting that City employees receive good pensions. She did not feel that the City was depriving City workers on anything. She referred to the level of fees budgeted for City Attorney services. She noted the need to have a well-budgeted recreation fund that could maintain the facilities. She also suggested that travel expenses be curtailed. She noted the need to look at consultant fees. She stated that in her opinion, business owners in the City were taxed a lot. She recommended that each department make presentation of their budgets. It was also her opinion that City fees, such as for appeals before the Board of Adjustment, were high in comparison to other cities. She suggested the need to have a work session to review fees.

Ms. Janice Scott provided her point of view on the budget. She noted that in her opinion, the main purpose of the budget for the City was spending, and stated that the budget included pet projects. She noted that in the last 3-4 years the City has had a windfall of revenue. She pointed out that the income coming in the next six years will be lower. She suggested that the City adopt a policy on spending. She was of the opinion that the golf course should be run on a positive cash flow, and suggested closing half of the course, if it could not pay for itself. She addressed consultant studies, such as the one conducted for a new city hall. She asked that the City not waste people's time by asking them to serve on Committees, if studies are not implemented.

At inquiry from Vice-Mayor Pruett, Mr. Holland briefed the Commission on carryover funds that were expected for next year's budget. He commended the Finance Department for identifying projects that could change the millage rate from 4.27 to 4.15, pointing out that the change would not require a quantum leap. In his opinion, the budget could be adopted with a 3.76 millage rate and no reduction in services.

VOICE VOTE ON THE MOTION FAILED 2:3; Commissioner Ken Griffin, Commissioner Skip Williams, and Mayor Leon Skip Beeler VOTED NAY; Commissioner Don John, and Vice-Mayor Kevin Pruett VOTED AYE.

VOICE VOTE ON THE MOTION CARRIED 4:1; VICE-MAYOR KEVIN PRUETT VOTED NAY.

2. Ordinance No. 1499 - Second and Final Reading - An Ordinance of the City Commission of the City of Cocoa Beach, Florida, making appropriations for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2009 and ending September 30, 2010; Providing for adjustments to the budget; and providing for an effective date.
Staff Representative: Charles Holland, CGFO, Finance Director & Eileen Clark, CGFO, Assistant Finance Director
Staff Recommendation: Approve

[Ordinance 1499](#)

[Staff Memo - Ordinance 1499](#)

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MOTION BY JOHN/GRIFFIN

I MOVE TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 1499.

Mr. Holland explained that now that the millage rate had been adopted, the budget could be adjusted accordingly.

MOTION BY BEELER/JOHN

I move to reduce the budget by the dollar amount affected by the adopted millage rate, that funds needed in addition to the budget, come from the reserves, and that the amended budget be brought to the Commission for a vote. (This motion was not voted on by the Commission.)

MOTION BY PRUETT/GRIFFIN

I MOVE TO PUT 2% INTO THE LABOR BASE TO ACCOMODATE EMPLOYEE RAISES, BASED ON PERFORMANCE AND MERIT.

Commissioner Williams noted that he did not feel good about not giving employee raises. He noted that he talked to the City Staff who said that this was a tough budget year. In his opinion, Staff should have requested a 1% wage increase to provide for the rate of inflation. He noted reservation on pay for performance increases, noting that they were not easy to implement and could create demoralization in the ranks. He noted that he had seen such plans not be effective.

Commissioner Griffin was of the opinion, that such a motion would handcuff the next Commission to a number. He noted that he could not support the motion.

Commissioner John stated that a lot of residents were incurring hard times to pay their bills. He noted that he understood the need to get a raise, and pointed out that many, such as in the field of construction, did not get raises. He noted that he hoped that employees were happy that they had jobs. He stated that hopefully, the City can do better next year.

At inquiry by Mayor Beeler on the impacts of a 2% raise, Mr. Holland noted that it equated to approximately \$140,000. Mayor Beeler noted that he was not completely against the increase, even though he was aware that many cities had implemented forced furloughs.

Vice-Mayor Pruett noted that the 2% suggested increase was based on labor reports. For the General Fund employees, that equated to less than \$1,000 a year each. The increase, in his opinion, would retain good employees. Commissioner Williams pointed out that the Assistant City Manager had negotiated a contract with the unions in good faith. He commented that maybe the Commission should hold a workshop on this subject. Commissioner Griffin noted that City employees are valuable and the City pays them what the City can afford to pay. He noted that he was not in favor of the increase.

Vice-Mayor Pruett addressed funding for fireworks. Mr. Holland noted that no fund were included in the budget for fireworks. In his recollection, the account that paid for the July 2009 firework, had a negative balance. He noted that he expected that funds would be raised for the July 2010 fireworks. Vice-Mayor Pruett requested for an accounting on 2009 fireworks.

At the request of Mayor Beeler, Assistant City Manager Hutson reported on the negotiated union contracts. He noted that the City had completed negotiations with the Police Department. He briefed the Commission that the union negotiations were based on discussions of revenue, pointing out past contract increases. He noted that when the City's revenues were doing well, the City kept up with the market. The same applied to the Fire union contract. He reported that LIUNA has also been told of the zero increase for 2010. He noted that a trust exists between unions and management. Unions were asked by the City and they agreed to work with management during these struggling economic times. Mr. Hutson noted that if employees were to be asked to forgo this year's raises for future ones, so as to not let employees go, employees agree to fore go the raises. Vice-Mayor Pruett noted that the reason why he suggested the increase, was because he had heard

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comments from employees.

VOICE VOTE ON THE MOTION FAILED 2:3; Commissioner Don John, Commissioner Ken Griffin, and Commissioner Skip Williams VOTED NAY; Vice-Mayor Kevin Pruett, and Mayor Leon Skip Beeler VOTED AYE.

VOICE VOTE ON THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

H. NEW BUSINESS:

1. [Resolution No. 2009-30 - A Resolution of the City Commission of the City of Cocoa Beach, Florida, adopting a five-year capital improvements program, to include the fiscal year 2010 capital improvements budget and adopting a proposed capital improvements program for the next four fiscal years 2010-2014 which may be revised and extended each year with regard to capital improvements.](#)
[Staff Representative: Charles Holland, CGFO, Finance Director & Eileen Clark, CGFO, Assistant Finance Director](#)
[Staff Recommendation: Approve](#)

[Resolution 2009-30](#)

[Staff Memo - Resolution 2009-30](#)

The City Attorney read Resolution No. 2009-30 by title only.
MOTION BY GRIFFIN/BEELER
I MOVE TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 2009-30.

Finance Director Holland asked the Commission to approve the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) budget by Resolution. Mayor Beeler explained that the CIP was a plan and the City was not committed to spend the funds budgeted for in the plan.

Commissioner John noted that he could not support the CIP as submitted, because there was an allocation for a new City Hall. He noted that he did not see a funding source for a new City Hall. He noted that he supported just moving forward only with a new police/fire station.

Commissioner Pruett pointed out that 12 million each had been allocated in Fiscal Years 2012 and 2013. He noted that he would support a police and fire station, and could not support a new City Hall. He noted the need to take a step back. He noted that he did recall discussion on possibly looking at a police and fire station and not for an entire City Hall facility. He noted the need for the City to look at both revenues and expenditures.

Mayor Beeler noted that he supported leaving in the CIP budget the funding for a new City Hall, pointing out that there could be possible future grants.

Commissioner Griffin noted that he could not see budgeting for a new complex. He pointed out that if the funding would be taken out, the City might not be able to obtain grants. He was in favor of leaving those funds in the budget.

Commissioner Williams pointed out that this was a five-year plan. The plan did not have to be acted on, if the City had no funds. He was of the opinion that there was a need for a new fire station, and that the police and fire station could be combined on the same side of the street.

Vice-Mayor Pruett made a motion, explaining that with the need for a place holder in order to obtain a grant, and the Commission's opinion that there was no foreseeable action to spend twenty-four million dollars on a City Hall facility plan.

MOTION BY PRUETT/JOHN

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I MOVE TO CUT THE PUBLIC SAFETY/MUNICIPAL FACILITY LINE ITEM, FOR 2012 AND 2013, FROM TWELVE TO SIX MILLION DOLLARS EACH.

Mr. Holland pointed out that the Commission approved Option one, as presented by the design consultants ADG; this is where the numbers came from. He noted that all Commission comments were not inconsistent with what had been previously said on the project. He noted that what was needed to happen was to show that, as part of the overall plan, was an entire project. The entire project included a new City Hall, a cultural building, a storage facility for the Police Department, and work to be done to Fire Station 2. He noted the need to have a plan in order to pursue grants. He pointed out that every project, would come before the Commission for approval. He explained that he had projected obtaining a loan over two years. He also pointed out that this project has continued to move backwards, because there was no funding.

Mayor Beeler noted that he would support keeping the funds in the CIP. He noted that this would then be planned, and moved backwards until funds are available. Commissioner Griffin noted that he liked the idea of decreasing the funding to six-million dollars and keeping the project in the CIP. Commissioner Williams noted that he would support keeping the project in the plan. He noted the need to look back at the City Hall facility plan to look at cost of the project phases. He pointed out that the CIP was a plan that could be changed.

Commissioner John noted that the CIP was the best estimate of what they City wants to do. He stated that he did not plan to spend \$24 million towards a City Hall. He did not want people to think that he was supporting the City Hall complex construction in the next few years. In his opinion, what was placed in the CIP should be an honest plan.

Vice-Mayor Pruett pointed out that the Commission has been talking about this issue for quite sometime. In his opinion, six-million dollars will serve as a place holder. Commissioner Griffin agreed that the plan should include realistic numbers and noted that he would support retaining six-million dollars for each of the two years. Commissioner Williams noted that he would continue to support having a plan, since it could be changed.

MOTION BY WILLIAMS/BEELER

I MOVE TO TABLE TO OCTOBER 1, 2009 UNTIL THE NUMBERS CAN BE LOOKED AT FOR ALL THE PHASES AND TO PLACE THOSE NUMBERS IN THE CIP

Ms. Janice Scott encouraged the Commission to go over the CIP projects more thoroughly. She stated that the fact that the City says it is just a plan, does not mean it would not come into fruition. She noted that the police/fire complex design was driven by safety laws. It was also her opinion, that the police and fire stations should be combined.

VOICE VOTE ON THE MOTION CARRIED 3:2; COMMISSIONER SKIP WILLIAMS, AND MAYOR LEON SKIP BEELER VOTED NAY.

VOICE VOTE ON THE MOTION FAILED 3:2; Commissioner Don John, and Vice-Mayor Kevin Pruett VOTED NAY; Commissioner Ken Griffin, Commissioner Skip Williams, and Mayor Leon Skip Beeler VOTED AYE.

VOICE VOTE ON THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

I. STAFF REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

No Staff reports were submitted.

J. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Jeanette Allison addressed the Commission by noting that she knew how everybody

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votes. She synopsized how City meetings are run, with comments being exchanged between the Commissioners and the Commission and Staff. In her opinion, the Commission did not hold dialogues with members of the public and noted that this should be changed.

K. CITY ATTORNEY REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The City Attorney did not offer a report.

L. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 pm. The minutes for this meeting will be approved by the Commission on October 1, 2009.

Loredana Kalaghchy, City Clerk

Leon "Skip" Beeler, Commissioner - Mayor