

**CITY COMMISSION WORKSHOP MEETING
MINUTES**

**Monday, July 13, 2009
6:30 p.m.**

THOSE PRESENT:

**Commissioner Christopher Leonard
Vice Mayor Al Halpern
Commissioner Bev Garnett
Commissioner Jim Parent
Mayor Mike Finnerty**

ALSO PRESENT:

**City Manager Mike Bonfield
City Attorney Susan Churuti
City Clerk Theresa McMaster**

Mayor Finnerty presented the format for the meeting.

Mr. Bonfield summarized the subject of the Workshop Meeting as being Charter Amendments to Sections 3.15 and 3.18.

City Attorney Churuti reported on the draft ordinances that were provided.

Commissioner Garnett reported that this issue was brought forward to clarify the requirement that Comprehensive Plan Amendments and the requirement for a referendum on such amendments. She stated that the residents would then be able to vote on the issues important to them, not state or county mandates or errors that had nothing to do with height, density, intensity and changes to the Future Land Use Map.

Commissioner Leonard suggested that this issue be discussed in a joint workshop between the City Commission and the Planning Board.

Examples of the types of amendments that were proposed to be exempt from a referendum are the EAR amendments required periodically by the State. It was stated that the original petitions regarding the Charter Amendments that were filed and voted upon were not concerned with these types of amendments.

It was noted that, if the proposed Charter Amendment is passed by the voters, it would simplify the process and save money.

Discussion was held regarding the issues that the residents seem to want to vote on. Those issues are height, density, intensity and change in land use.

Audience Comments

Jim Anderson, 301 41st Avenue
Robert Urban, 6439 2nd Palm Point
Brooke Anderson, 301 41st Avenue
Mike Greiger, 413 Hermosita Drive
Bill Pyle, 6600 Sunset Way
Rosemary Manning, 200 1st Avenue
Deborah Schechner, 710 Boca Ciega Isle Drive
Linda Chaney, 5402 Aloha Drive
Paul Pfister, 8090 Gulf Boulevard
Carol Walker, 5396 Gulf Boulevard
Lorraine Huhn, 9425 Blind Pass Road

The estimated cost for an election was \$17,000 to \$20,000.

City Attorney Churuti summarized those changes which the Commission was in consensus upon.

Audience Comments

Robert Urban, 6439 2nd Palm Point
Bill Pyle, 6600 Sunset Way
Maria Urban, 6439 2nd Palm Point
Bob Manning, 200 1st Avenue
Jim Anderson, 301 41st Avenue
Deborah Schechner, 710 Boca Ciega Isle Drive
Linda Chaney, 5402 Aloha Drive
Deborah Nicklaus, 5380 Gulf Boulevard

The City Attorney and City Manager were directed to draft ordinances regarding Charter Amendments and present them at the June 14, 2009 Regular Commission Meeting.

The general consensus of the Commission was to insure that the voters still had the right to vote on those things that were expressed as important by them when they adopted those sections of the Charter. Those issues were height, density, intensity and land use.

Theresa B. McMaster, City Clerk

Mike Finnerty, Mayor

Minutes approved on
