

**ORMOND BEACH CITY COMMISSION
FOCUS WORKSHOP**

PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
March 10, 2009 5:30 p.m.

I. Call to Order

Present were: Mayor Fred Costello, Lori Gillooly, Troy Kent, Ed Kelley, and Bill Partington, City Manager Joyce Shanahan, Assistant City Manager Ted MacLeod, City Attorney Randal Hayes, and City Clerk Veronica Patterson.

II. Commission Issues

Mayor Costello suggested City Manager Joyce Shanahan lead with information about the item to be discussed, followed by Commission member comments and audience comments.

Unification/Regionalization of Fire/EMS Services

The City Manager explained the issue was regarding the unification or regionalization of fire and EMS services throughout the County. She reported five cities in Volusia County were meeting to consider regionalization of services. She stated last month at the Volusia Council of Government (VCOG), Lt. Taft of the Daytona Beach Fire Department made a presentation to VCOG, which was included in the packet information given to the Commission, and Mr. Mellon from EVAC spoke, with his comments also included in the packet information. She stated there were a wide variety of options; therefore, staff needed direction from the Commission on this issue.

Mayor Costello stated he had been heavily invested in this issue for ten years and believed Ormond Beach had been a leader in the Halifax area on many issues, and it was time for the City to lead on this issue. The Mayor suggested the City Manager invite the managers from the County, Daytona Beach and Holly Hill to meet to consider options for consolidation of services to provide greater efficiency and reduce costs. Mayor Costello requested staff prepare a study to determine if repositioning all available firefighters and EMS personnel throughout the County would decrease the response time for medical responses to four minutes. He stated the experts agreed the eight minute response time was an arbitrary response time that had no scientific basis in fact; there was no documentation that an eight minute response time saved lives. The Mayor stated there was some documentation that a four minute response time increased the survival rate by one percent. He stated if using all available personnel would not enhance services by meeting a four minute response time, he would favor decreasing personnel. Mayor Costello stated that EVAC has stated they did not need firefighters dispatched to a medical call because the two EVAC people could handle the call without the two firefighters. The Mayor summarized the three options: the current method which does not make efficient use of resources; use the current staffing levels but reorganize to provide better efficiency; or reduce staffing levels to save money.

Commissioner Kelley expressed total support for the idea of sending two people out on a medical call while one person stayed to man the truck at the station. He stated the person at the station could respond to a call with the truck while the two people in the field could probably meet the truck in the field just as fast, depending upon their position.

Mayor Costello stated EVAC positioned personnel differently depending upon the time of day, the time of year, wherever they need them. The Mayor reported he would have more information after Volusia Council of Governments held their upcoming meeting on this issue. He stated he did not feel the Commission was ready to make a decision, but he was ready to request the City Manager organize a meeting with the Managers from Daytona Beach, Holly Hill and the County to discuss the possibility of consolidation of fire and EMS services.

Commissioner Kent stated services had to become more streamlined, more efficient. He stated reading the information was exciting, and he supported the idea of the City Manager working with the other managers towards regionalization.

Commissioner Gillooly stated she understood the desire for basic life support and the advanced life support within the City's Fire Department was to provide a faster response time. She stated in her experience, the local firefighters were the first to respond, doing

the bulk of the work, and then EVAC would arrive to take over the situation. She asked if this was not an opportunity for the City's Fire Department to receive the transport revenues. Commissioner Gillooly questioned who would provide assistance to the one person at the station who responded with the truck to a call when the other station personnel were already out on a call.

Mayor Costello stated that would have to be determined by the recommendations of the joint meeting of the Managers. The Mayor pointed out the statistics of the ladder truck showed 85% of the calls were not fire related; therefore, the question was whether to staff for fire or staff for EMS because optimal staffing for fire was not the same as for EMS. He stated the issue was whether EVAC should decide where the EMS personnel went or if each governmental entity should decide. Mayor Costello expressed his desire for the fire departments and EVAC to work together to improve the level of service by decreasing the response time. He stated if it could not be proven that the level of service could be increased and more lives could be saved, the City needed to stop paying for the paramedics and extra firefighters to be there for EMS and let EVAC function for EMS.

Commissioner Gillooly stated she would like to use the current personnel trained in EMS with the City and not use EVAC.

Commissioner Kelley stated that this was Daytona Beach's plan, which would be divisive and uncooperative in providing EMS countywide for better services at a better value. He stated that the City would not provide a four minute response time with the current personnel, and it would be too costly to obtain a four minute response time without regionalized fire and EMS services.

Mayor Costello expressed most of the people at the County who he had spoken with were not in favor of the Daytona Beach plan because it would be fragmenting and pull the communities apart rather than bring the communities together.

Commissioner Partington stated he heard Volusia County Chairman Bruno say that fire services would break the financial backs of the municipalities in Volusia County. Commissioner Partington stated the strong language by Chairman Bruno was to sound the alarm that the current level of funding could not be sustained. Commissioner Partington stated Jacksonville consolidated many different water entities, while maintaining staff levels and saving a huge amount of money. He stated there was the potential with fire/EMS services and EVAC to combine resources for better services, maintaining jobs and saving money with all of the governments in the County. He stated it was important to stress that personnel would not lose jobs or pay would not be reduced but that money would be saved.

Mayor Costello reminded the Commission the managers had tried to accomplish consolidation but were not successful, which was why the southern municipalities decided to do it themselves. He stated if Ormond Beach, Daytona Beach, Holly Hill, Volusia County and EVAC could not devise a plan for regionalization, he would not vote to continue the current situation because, although the City had some highly trained personnel, the cost could not be justified.

Commissioner Kelley stated Daytona Beach would be opposed to regionalization but might be more cooperative if the County turned down their request to handle their own transport.

Mayor Costello stated he expected the County to turn down the Daytona Beach proposal, and then Daytona Beach would probably be willing to come to the table for discussions.

City Manager Joyce Shanahan asked to clarify that the County would be approached as part of the discussions.

Mayor Costello stated that all of northeast Volusia County should be included.

Beach Parking and/or Property Acquisition

The City Manager asked the Commission to discuss how they wanted to proceed toward the purchase of beach property and whether the property should be on the east side of A1A or the west side. She stated beach property was probably not going to get more affordable than it currently is. She stated she has spoken to the County about beach

tolls, and if the County provided more parking on the beach the City could purchase property on the west side of A1A. She asked if the Commission would like to get citizen input on beach parking and consider a dedicated millage for the purchase. She stated the County had committed up to \$2.5 million in matching funds, and she had spoken with Peggy Farmer regarding the Trust for Public Lands (TFPL). The City Manager stated TFPL would assist in the purchase of waterfront property, but there would be certain conditions relative to development. She asked the Commission to decide what the property would be used for: parking, parks, amenities such as bathrooms, picnic tables, and/or showers.

Mayor Costello thanked Peggy Farmer for the interest of TFPL. The Mayor explained that TFPL would work with the City in locating an appropriate property, purchase the property, and assist the City in finding funding.

Commissioner Kent stated he was excited to have this issue before the Commission again. He explained the size of the land would determine what was on the property. He stated if the property was large enough, he would like to see bathrooms and a playground in addition to parking. He stated he would like to hear from the public and supported a mail referendum to determine what the public wanted. He stated that the east side was more desirable, but the west side was fine; anything was better than nothing. He stated, relative to opening the beach ramps, the conservation poles were sometimes forty-five feet from the dunes in the City; but even though the zoning was the same in Daytona Beach, the poles were fifteen feet to allow for more parking. He stated that the County should open the ramps, which would allow more parking, but stated it was due to laziness and people were not doing their job. He stated that whoever was running the beach had failed Ormond Beach miserably in that regard.

Mayor Costello stated compromise was important and cited the Ormond Hotel as an example. He stated that he was on the Planning Board at the time and took a lot of criticism for favoring the proposal to save only forty percent of the hotel rather than saving the entire hotel. He stated that since the Planning Board was not willing to compromise, the developer sold to someone else, which resulted in the entire hotel being torn down.

Commissioner Partington stated he supported the mail referendum, which he felt would show it had to be on the east side of A1A in a Renick-like park. He commented the Tom Renick Park was a success, allowing families to enjoy the beach before a picnic as well as safe parking.

City Manager Joyce Shanahan asked whether the Commission wanted to seek input from the citizens before or after a piece of property was located.

Mayor Costello expressed the consensus was to do the mailing before a property was purchased. He suggested each member submit a couple of questions to the City Manager that would be presented during a Commission meeting for their consideration and approval as to what would be included on the ballot. The Mayor suggested that in addition to the east side versus west side question, a question regarding funding should be on the ballot. He stated a millage option could be explained on the ballot for their consideration.

Commissioner Gillooly asked if the TFPL paid any portion for the land purchase or if they just facilitated the project.

Commissioner Kelley explained the TFPL purchased the property and then received a percentage of the package price as a handler's fee, which would then be used for future purchases. He stated that TFPL was really excited about the Bray & Gillespie hotel property and were hopeful something would happen by June, because that property would offer the ability to do a park with all the amenities and parking. He stated TFPL would purchase the property, coordinate with the County on their funding, and assist the City with the bonding process. Commissioner Kelley stated he did not think purchases of individual residential properties was the answer; and if a larger property on the beach could not be acquired, he would support going back to the citizens for them to consider the six and one half acre property at Cardinal Avenue. He stated that property offered adequate room for parking and a park to be enjoyed before or after the beach.

Mayor Costello stated there were two parcels he has been approached about and he had forwarded to Ms. Shanahan. He advised those owners to discuss the idea of selling with their neighbors because the City would not be interested in purchasing a parcel

unless it was large enough to service the needs of the City; the City was not interested in purchasing beachfront property as an investment.

Infrastructure Upgrades for Annexation

Planning Director Ric Goss reported on subdivisions that were enclaves within the geographic area of the City that do not have sewer or water and how the City might help them upgrade their infrastructure to the appropriate standards to allow them to annex into the City. He stated he had provided the members with an analysis of a utility plan for the twenty neighborhoods within the City and County that do not have either central sewer or central water. He stated the total needs would be around \$31 million of which \$10 million was within the City. He reported the Tanglewood subdivision had its own water treatment system, and all the homes were on septic; but the owners were not interested in a central sewer system because there was no history of septic failure. Mr. Goss stated Tanglewood would require a water and a sewer system upgrade, as well as road upgrades, before it would be eligible for annexation. He explained that Tanglewood was under the County's jurisdiction; therefore, the City did not have the ability to set up a special assessment district and provide the infrastructure upgrades up front and then assess them over a period of time. He stated the City could provide individual financing as was done for Arroyo Parkway, but it would be extremely time consuming and laborious, and possibly, not everyone would agree to do it. He explained several suggestions had been presented in the packet information, one of which was to meet with the homeowners' association and the County to discuss how to bring these areas up to the necessary standards.

Mayor Costello stated he mistakenly thought the improvements could be bonded and attached to the tax bill over twenty years, which would be more desirable than paying out a large amount upfront; and he appreciated Mr. Goss protecting the City as part of his job. He stated the homeowners were reluctant to upgrade the infrastructure due to the funds required for the impact fee and were considering upgrading their current water system. He asked if there was any interest in finding a way to assist these areas in meeting the necessary upgrades.

Commissioner Kelley stated there must be a way to set up a special taxing district for people within the City.

The City Manager clarified the properties had to be within the City for a special taxing district.

Commissioner Kelley stated there must be a way to help areas such as Tanglewood and Seminole Woods come into the City under those conditions.

Mayor Costello pointed out the City may lose some bonding capacity if the bonding money was tied up putting in the infrastructure improvements for those areas. He stated that it could be done anyway because the City was not paying for it; the homeowners were.

Commissioner Kelley stated the key word was "may" lose, and he was not convinced the City would lose any bonding ability.

Ms. Shanahan said she was not saying the City would lose the bonding ability, but every time the City issued a bond issue, the City would have less revenue to pledge to future obligations or future debt. She stated it would take a long time to recoup the bonding capacity you might lose due to pledging \$10 million over thirty years.

Commissioner Kelley requested a definite answer as to what the City would lose in future bonding ability by bonding \$10 million over 30 years; it wouldn't be all \$10 million.

Mayor Costello stated he wanted to ensure the Commission was interested in the concept before staff spent more time on the issue. The Mayor expressed his support for assisting property owners who were willing to pay for the infrastructure improvements by paying for the upgrades over a period of time.

Ms. Shanahan stated it was easy to do in the areas within the City by establishing a special assessment district; but the difficulty was with those areas outside the City where the City had no ability to do a special assessment district, and financing agreements would be very difficult to do.

Mayor Costello asked if the Commission would agree to bond areas, such as Hidden Hills, within the City to upgrade the infrastructure.

Assistant City Manager Ted MacLeod reported that when an offer was made to Hidden Hills in the past the support was underwhelming and that was when the cost was \$8,000 with an option for paying over time.

Mayor Costello stated there needed to be a policy for staff to follow when property owners came forward requesting annexation.

Commissioner Gillooly asked if the City was affected when the enclaves experienced problems with their water supply.

Mr. MacLeod explained that it would not because most of the subdivisions outside the City had their own water supply. He stated those areas would probably be interested in another water source because the private supply was costly. He stated providing a good source of potable water would stress the septic tanks because people would use more water.

The Planning Director commented the City could provide water at a wholesale price using the subdivision's existing water lines and the properties remain in the County, but there did not seem to be any interest. He stated there were policies in the comp plan for the extension of sewer within the City; special assessment districts, or whatever the Commission deemed appropriate, could be used; but the comp plan required enclaves coming into the City to bring the infrastructure up to the City's standards.

Mayor Costello asked to confirm that water could be offered wholesale to the areas outside the City.

Mr. MacLeod explained although it was possible, the issue was a water company already providing water and which the County would have to buy out if the subdivision purchased water wholesale from another source and used the water lines to distribute it. He stated there had been numerous meetings with these people, but they had never taken the next step.

Mayor Costello asked that a letter be sent to the homeowners explaining the circumstances involved and ascertaining any interest in purchasing wholesale water.

Riverfront Walk

Commissioner Kelley stated a number of people had mentioned the idea of a riverfront park as a joint venture with a private entity that would consist of a small marina with a restaurant and shops to create synergy for the downtown area. He stated it would help the downtown and create value for our residents because there was no place for seven or eight miles south to stop and eat on the river where you could pull a boat in and eat. He suggested TIFF money could be used to develop this part of downtown and requested an artist's rendering, without spending a lot of money, depicting a color concept plan. He reported he had spoken to several investors who were interested in partnering with the City for this idea.

Mayor Costello stated he had wanted the Riverfront Walk forever. He stated he wanted docking for boaters who wanted to visit downtown and eat; there be non-motorized boats such as paddleboats, canoes and/or swan boats for rent; and a place where people who did not own a boat could come and enjoy the river. He stated the Racing and Recreation District had funds that might be utilized.

Commissioner Kelley pointed out there were four grants, on the list of available grants the Commission was given, for which this project would meet the qualifications.

Mayor Costello stated the Commission had to have the vision and stick with it even though it might take a number of years to accomplish; previous Commissions had wanted to wait until after the parking problem was solved, but that could be resolved as part of the concept design. He stated he and Commissioner Kelley were in favor of the idea and asked the other Commissioners to express their thoughts.

Commissioner Gillooly stated she thought it would be a great enhancement and would help the businesses downtown by bringing more life to the area.

Commissioner Kent stated there was difficulty getting a spot at Tom Renick Park unless you arrived before 10:30 a.m., but this would provide other options within walking distance of each other, some of which would be free family entertainment. He supported the entire riverwalk concept with a restaurant and daytime slips. He expressed concern regarding nighttime noise from a restaurant that might affect neighboring residents. Commissioner Kent stated it was a fabulous time to consider the project and possibly using TIFF funds to cover costs.

Mayor Costello added he was no longer in favor of an amphitheater because of the new outdoor stage at Rockefeller Gardens.

Commissioner Partington stated he was interested in looking at the whole riverwalk concept and would like to see drawings; possibly the Chamber had some renderings.

The City Manager summarized the Commission wanted to see a rendering of the complete riverwalk concept but was not ready for staff to pursue potential private investors.

Commissioner Kelley pointed out that none of the development would be across the street from any residential properties, even if it extended up to the Ormond Yacht Club. He expressed his vision was to have the restaurant closer to the bridge, which would keep the noise further away from the residents and provide the option of foot traffic into the downtown area.

Mayor Costello and Commissioner Kelley stated they were not opposed to relocating Pilgrim's Rest to another site.

Commissioner Kent stated the people fishing and boating there in the summer would love to have a splash park where they could cool off.

Founders' Day Program

The City Manager stated this request came from the Mayor and Commissioner Partington as a way to recognize the City's founding fathers. She stated that Leisure Services Director Robert Carolin had prepared a budget of potential costs. She stated if the Commission would like to pursue the idea, it could be prepared for the Quality of Life Board which would develop recommendations for criteria for citizens to be recognized or, possibly, the Commission preferred just a Founder's Day Celebration.

Commissioner Partington stated he did not remember requesting the idea but did not think it was a bad idea.

Mayor Costello stated he had been involved with the Ormond Beach Historic Society, which had an annual banquet, and suggested the idea of an annual community celebration of the City's heritage and the founders of the City and maybe recognize a citizen of the year, but not in competition with the Chamber's citizen of the year. The Mayor suggested if the Commission had an interest in the idea, the City could partner with the Historic Society as a fundraiser for them. He suggested the City might offer a monetary contribution but no staff time.

Commissioner Gillooly stated when she was on the Historic Landmark Preservation Board (HLPB) there was discussion regarding a possible History Day. She suggested the HLPB could contribute another valuable resource of information on the historical landmarks of the City. She stated she would be interested in pursuing the idea.

Commissioner Kent stated he had not heard much about the idea and would like to learn more before he agreed to donate even a \$1,000 to the idea.

Mayor Costello stated two of the members showed an interest; therefore, the City might offer encouragement and attendance but not a financial contribution.

The City Manager suggested approaching the Quality of Life Board, Ormond Beach Historic Society and the Historic Landmark Preservation Board to let them know, if they had an interest in organizing an event, the City would help facilitate the idea in some way.

Grant Applications and Awards

Ms. Shanahan stated there was a concern the City might not be pursuing all available grants. She referenced the Mayor's comment at a Commission meeting that Florida communities were toward the bottom of the list of recipients for grant dollars. She stated the information provided to the Commission illustrated the types of grants applied for and how much had been awarded. She explained one of the big problems the City had was grants requiring matching funds, most of which required a 50% match, often cash, not in-kind services. She stated in this economic environment state funds were much more limited, and our lobbyists were pounding hard to find grant opportunities for the City. She assured the Commission that a lot was being done to secure funds, but she was open to suggestions from the Commission.

Mayor Costello stated the list he had sent to the City Manager from the Legislative Committee on Intergovernmental Relations in Tallahassee showed Ormond Beach was looking bad as far as the grants received. The Mayor explained to citizens who asked what type of stimulus money the City was going to receive, that the City had planned ahead with a transportation millage and had paved the dirt roads; therefore the City was being penalized for doing a good job, which was why the City was not getting very much stimulus money. He stated he was glad the City was in such a good position, but he did not want to hear that the City did not receive grants due to the need for matching funds. He requested, with the Commission's support, that staff present grants requiring matching funds to the Commission for their decision on whether to pursue or not. He asked for all possibilities to be presented to the Commission, and the Commission could decide whether they wanted to provide matching funds.

Commissioner Gillooly asked if the City could use funds received from one grant source as matching funds for another grant.

Ms. Shanahan explained that generally you could not use one grant match for another grant, nor could you use something called, "supplanting," which prohibited using matching funds for a grant that had been identified in the budget for another purpose. Ms. Shanahan expressed that she understood the Commission wanted to explore all possibilities for grants and not discount something because there may or may not be matching funds in the budget; the Commission would decide.

Mayor Costello stated someone mentioned to him that grants.gov was the source for grant information and suggested it was worth having an employee dedicated to researching grants.gov and applying for hundreds of grants, because they were out there.

Commissioner Gillooly suggested bringing in the Historic Society and some of the other groups, which could be of assistance.

Mayor Costello mentioned the Anderson-Price Building needed help, and the City needed to partner with them on applying for a grant and let them provide the match, but the City could provide a share. He stated staff should present opportunities in multiple sections for grants every year, and then the Commission could determine, with the available funds, which grants to apply for.

Commissioner Kelley suggested there might be grants for a marina.

Mayor Costello proposed that John Mica might be able to help.

Commissioner Gillooly asked to confirm that based on a statement by Commissioner Partington at the CDBG workshop, she understood that relative to the Americans With Disabilities Act, CDBG money did not need to be for a specific district. She stated that a portion of the CDBG money should be set aside as the City's contribution for the Homeless Assistance Center rather than using taxpayer's dollars which could be used for other projects such as matching funds.

III. Organizational Issues

Duties of City Attorney with Regard to Representation

Mayor Costello stated there had been questions regarding the job description or the parameters of authority for the City Attorney, and the Commission had received a response. He asked Commissioner Gillooly if her questions had been answered.

Commissioner Gillooly stated she had a couple of points to make; she made reference to page 2 of the City Attorney's report where the City Attorney quoted her as saying he had an obligation to come to the Commission beforehand to discuss the issue; whereby he responded that was not so regarding legal opinions. She stated she understood the concept of a legal opinion but if an opinion obligated the City to a liability, she questioned when the City would stop accepting a former city manager's statement as valid evidence.

City Attorney Randy Hayes explained to Commissioner Gillooly that the Pension Board was their own little court; they had their own rules of procedure, and the issue, as related to Mr. Miller's letter, was a piece of evidence the Pension Board decided how to handle. He stated the Pension Board got to weigh the viability and credibility of that evidence. He reported that part of the discussion was whether or not witnesses should be called for a more formal hearing, but the Board determined the letter was sufficient evidence.

Mayor Costello asked the City Attorney if an issue arose that was unrelated to a pension board where a decision was regarding whether or not to accept evidence, would the City Attorney or the Commission determine the validity of the evidence.

The City Attorney explained it would depend on the nature of the matter; as an example, with a development order which would be a quasi-judicial matter, the Commission would have the opportunity to decide. He stated it would depend on the context of the issue.

Mayor Costello asked when the City Attorney decided and when the Commission decided.

The City Attorney stated the nature of the proceedings, the nature of the rules for the proceeding, and the issues involved in the proceedings determined who decided.

Commissioner Gillooly asked for a method to protect the City in the future against what a past employee might say relative to what happened during their tenure.

The City Attorney stated that each case was evaluated as to the context of the proceedings before the governing body which had jurisdiction over the matter.

Commissioner Gillooly asked that a time limit be set for correcting issues as to which pension plan was appropriate for an individual employee.

Commissioner Kelley explained that currently there was protection in place with the option to opt-in at the time of employment. He stated that Chief Baker's case was a unique situation because he was required to obtain his certification after he started his employment.

Commissioner Gillooly stated there should be some statute of limitations on what a former City Manager could say happened years ago.

Mayor Costello explained it was not possible to put a statute of limitations on someone making a statement of fact.

Commissioner Gillooly asked for assurance that this situation would not arise again.

Commissioner Kelley explained that it could not happen again and used himself as an example. He explained that because he chose not to opt-in to the City's retirement plan, he could not go back and request to join even if he paid the contributions.

Commissioner Gillooly asked what if a former employee stated that Commissioner Kelley had said he had wanted to be in the pension plan.

Commissioner Kent expressed if, as an example, former Human Resource Director Lorenda Volker wrote a letter that Commissioner Kelley meant to be in the pension but it was just discovered that a mistake had been made, Commissioner Kelley should be enrolled.

Commissioner Gillooly asked for a directive to employees that they were responsible to make sure they were enrolled in the appropriate pension plan and that they had three months to do it.

The City Attorney explained when a new employee was hired, the Code required the employee be fitted into the proper pension plan; therefore, it would not happen again.

Commissioner Gillooly stated she would be satisfied if the City Attorney could guarantee that because it was her responsibility to ensure it did not happen again.

Mayor Costello stated in the case of Chief Baker, the City was not giving him something he did not deserve, but the City was correcting a problem that should have been corrected earlier. The Mayor explained that unless there was a firefighter or police officer who started as a general employee, it would not be an issue.

City Manager Joyce Shanahan stated staff would research the records to confirm that there was no employee in the general plan that should be in either the fire or police plan.

Commissioner Kent said to Commissioner Gillooly that he saw her as such a strong figure and such a good person, but she was hard on staff sometimes, in a public way. He stated he was concerned that employees might leave the City because of that.

Commissioner Gillooly stated her intent was not to attack but to do her job, and if she was not here to be effective and to do the best thing for the citizens, then she did not need to be here.

Purpose of "Reports, Suggestions, Request"

Commissioner Kelley stated the reports portion of the meetings was initiated when there was no access to email communications where an issue could be presented to all members to determine if there should be further action as a discussion item or as an agenda item. He stated at two of the last meetings, forty-five minutes were spent on closing comments, and he wondered about the purpose of that time. He remarked that Ms. Shanahan had been great about sharing reports or questions with answers to all the members and, therefore, he would use the time to relay information needed to be said to the entire Commission which he could not say at any other time.

Commissioner Partington stated by bringing the matter to the attention of the Commission they would all probably be more aware and try to keep it short.

Commissioner Gillooly stated Commissioner Kelley made a good point.

Commissioner Kent stated he did not think there should be a time limit, but Commissioner Kelley's point was well taken.

Laura Jones, from the audience, suggested because the audience was limited to three minutes, the Commission should be limited to three minutes.

Mayor Costello stated the Commission many times had a lot to say and did not feel a three minutes limit was appropriate to place on the members. The Mayor suggested with electronic media available, the intergovernmental reports did not need to be an agenda item; and with the consent of the Commission, he requested the City Manager to remove that section of the agenda.

At the request of an audience member, Mayor Costello asked the City Manager to post the intergovernmental reports on the City's website.

Audience Comments During Discussion Items

Mayor Costello stated it was difficult to tell someone they could not speak when they came before the Commission, which caused ill will. He stated he would like to allow audience comments during discussion items.

Commissioner Gillooly and Commissioner Kent agreed to allow audience comments during discussion items.

Commissioner Partington suggested a three minute time limit to which everyone agreed.

Greg Avakian stated sometimes it was impossible to state all the information in three minutes.

Mayor Costello requested the information be submitted beforehand to the Commission for their review and then three minutes could be used during the discussion of the item to summarize.

Time of City Commission Meetings

Mayor Costello stated the item indicated he requested the item but he had not requested it.

Commissioner Kelley stated there had been discussion years ago about holding the meetings earlier, but no change was made. He stated he preferred starting at 6:00 p.m.; and a workshop could start at 5:30 p.m. and be continued until after the 6:00 p.m. meeting, if necessary to finish.

Commissioner Partington expressed “if it ain’t broke, don’t fix it.”

Commissioner Kent stated he was fine with 6:00 p.m. or 7:00 p.m.; it does not matter either way to him.

Mayor Costello stated it should continue to be at 7:00 p.m., which would give time for a workshop before the meeting.

Commissioner Kelley expressed his preference for workshops being on the same night as the Commission meetings.

III. Goals Meeting

The City Manager stated staff would like to hold a goals meeting with the Commission. She expressed it was particularly important for her to ensure that what the Commission wanted was being accomplished.

After the discussion of availability of various dates, Ms. Shanahan stated she would present the Commission with a list of dates from which to choose.

Mayor Costello suggested a workshop could be held before a Commission meeting and be continued after the regular meeting, if needed. The Mayor suggested a goals meeting after the budget was final.

IV. Closing Comments

There were no closing comments.

V. Close the Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 8:24 p.m.