

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE STUART CITY COMMISSION
HELD ON July 11 2013
AT 3:30 P.M. IN THE CITY COMMISSION CHAMBERS
121 SW FLAGLER AVENUE
STUART, FLORIDA 34994**

CITY COMMISSION

**Mayor Eula R. Clarke
Vice Mayor Troy A. McDonald
Commissioner Kelli Glass Leighton
Commissioner Jeffrey A. Krauskopf
Commissioner James A. Christie, Jr.**

ADMINISTRATION

**City Manager, Paul J. Nicoletti
Interim City Attorney, Robert Kilbride
City Clerk, Cheryl White**

City Manager Nicoletti announced that this is a public meeting and open to the public. No decisions can be reached due to no quorum.

DISCUSSION AND DELIBERATION

- 1. Commissioner Krauskopf has asked to meet for ½ hour each with City Commissioners to discuss their individual goals and objectives in an informal conversational setting.**

Commissioner Krauskopf asked each Commissioner of the goals and objectives.

Vice Mayor McDonald answered with the following.

Maintain a high level of service that we provide in all of our departments. He also wants to continue working on economic issues to keep the City in a positive forward motion. He also noted that he feels a good line of communication with staff is key to his goals and objectives.

He explained that he has been very involved with economic development and feels very strong about the collaboration between the City and County and working together not against one another.

He also stated he wants to plan on Mayor Manager Administrator Chair monthly meetings.

Commissioner Krauskopf said that during budget meetings he will be looking at line items.

Vice Mayor McDonald suggested looking at printing in Black and White City Wide.

9:14 a.m.

Mayor Clarke answered his question with the following answer:

Her biggest objective is for the downtown area, the hiring of a planner, and to work on economic development. She also wants to look at the East 10th Street Recreation Center and planning for remodeling of the center and its facilities.

She also stated she and Mary Kindle and Dave Peters are working toward a recycling program with school children.

Commissioner Krauskopf clarified that what she envisions is a center that will employ people, help with recycling and be a learning place for school children.

She said she yes and hopes that the City may work with the County if they also want to participate.

Mayor Clarke said she would like to meet with both Police and Fire Chief's to discuss their departments.

She said that she feels her neighborhood cries out and she would like to make a difference.

Commissioner Krauskopf noted that if there is something specific in the budget that needs to be addressed then he suggested bring it to the staff's attention.

She feels that the City should enhance the 10th Street center by covering the small concrete area and cover the playground area. She said that it should be put back on the map and work on that effort.

Commissioner Krauskopf asked she not get frustrated with the planning effort of the City Hall area. He said that he has always envisioned a hotel element here but a very special one. I see that the concept of the rents from the land lease pay for a new location and new City Hall so that we don't burden the taxpayers. After the City Hall paid off you still have the income coming in.

Mayor Clarke said she would like to learn more about the cascades project in Tallahassee. She also wants to look at the single family lots owned by the City.

10:00 a.m.

Commissioner Christie answered his question with the following answer:

Commissioner Christie stated he would be looking at balancing of the 2014 budget so we know what we are going into. He also wants to prioritize some of the things we want to do for next year. He said what he feels is important is how the City is going to gather

a general consensus on how we will move forward. He said he wanted to discuss the 750 plan. He also encouraged specific planning of the urban core.

Commissioner Krauskopf said he is looking for a concrete plan as to what the City wants in the downtown.

Commissioner Christie encouraged a strong healthy consensus among all the Commissioners.

1:08 P.M.

Commissioner Glass Leighton answered his question with the following answer:

Commissioner Glass Leighton said she would like to get the balances budget by not raising taxes, and no cut backs or layoffs from Public Safety. She also suggested some cost cutting measures such as changing City Hall hours.

Commissioner Krauskopf said he began this exercise because he was concerned about the street resurfacing program and whether or not it is on schedule. He found that it was not, and expressed concern.

Commissioner Glass Leighton stated she met with some of the Firefighters who told her that there was some policy changes that increased some of their budgetary items, and if for some reason if that policy was reversed the City could save, \$100,000.00 alone. She also has concerns over the hiring of a full time Attorney, and felt that a part time Attorney would be sufficient. She also strongly supports keeping the Police Department intact.

Commissioner Krauskopf encouraged Commissioner Glass Leighton to strongly voice her specific concerns to staff and ask for the support, make that point very clear.

He explained he would be looking at all big fleet stuff –particularly the Fire Department and will be making recommendations to Paul and hope there will be willingness and suggestions will be made. He said the message should be to reduce the City's debt as soon as possible.

Commissioner Glass Leighton stated she understands the different buckets of the budget but is very difficult to explain that to the public. At the core of it the residents think of it as tax dollars.

Commissioner Krauskopf said he was happy to see representation from North of the Bridge when she came on the Commission, and encouraged her to continue resident participation with her neighbors. He said he heard some very interesting ideas today from fellow Commissioners and looks forward to seeing those come to work.

He thanked Commissioner Glass Leighton for coming.

ADJOURNMENT: 1:52 P.M.

Cheryl White, CMC, City Clerk

Eula R. Clarke, Mayor

Minutes to be approved at the Regular Commission
Meeting This 9th Day September 2013