

CITY OF JACKSONVILLE

KIRBY OBERDORFER
Chair



BRAXTON GILLAM
Vice-Chair

GENE FILBERT
L. E. HUTTON
HELEN LUDWIG
TATIANA SALVADOR

ETHICS COMMISSION

MINUTES
July 7, 2010
5:00 p.m.

SCOTT SHINE
MARY SWART
RHONDA PEOPLES-
WATERS

Mayor's 4th Floor Conference Room
City Hall

Attendance: Kirby Oberdorfer, Braxton Gillam, Gene Filbert, L. E. Hutton, Helen Ludwig, Rhonda Peoples-Waters, Tatiana Salvador, Scott Shine, Mary Swart

Also in attendance: Councilmember Glorious Johnson and Councilmember John Crescimbeni, Cindy Laquidara, General Counsel, Carla Miller, Ethics Officer; Jon Phillips and Susan Stewart, Ethics Coordinator

The ethics thought was provided by Carla.

Carla introduced the Interns who gave a PowerPoint presentation on their research relating to other Ethics Commissions around the state and country.

Questions and answers followed.

General Counsel Laquidara provided information regarding independent authorities.

The Chair called on Councilmember Johnson to discuss her proposed j-bill who suggested that if anyone has recommendations, get them to Carla.

The Chair recognized Councilmember Crescimbeni and Robert Flower, former member of the Charter Revision Commission.

Councilmember Crescimbeni questioned the reasoning of sending a j-bill to Tallahassee when the City Council or a citizen's initiative would accomplish the same task and save time. He welcomes draft legislation to introduce to Council and let the City Council vote.

Carla explained the Office of General Counsel advised that some aspects need to go to Tallahassee for jurisdiction over some independent authorities.

Braxton requested legal counsel, Jon Phillips, research what can and cannot be done by referendum opposed to what can and can't be done with a j-bill. What has to be

Ethics Office
117 W. Duval Street, Room 450
Jacksonville, FL 32202
Phone: (904) 630-1476, Fax: (904) 630-2670
Email: ethics@coj.net
HOTLINE: 630-1015

done in Tallahassee that can't be done in a referendum, if anything?

The City Council can amend the charter directly or put approve something pursuant to vote of the electorate.

A motion was made for the OGC to provide an opinion as to if this is something the Council can act upon without a j-bill and consider the merits of taking the bill to the Council. Friendly amendment was offered: City council amend the charter by its own vote or does it have to go to the referendum process or a J-bill. Can it go to either or one specific one? Motion seconded. Discussion followed. Kirby restated the motion for clarity: That OGC will look into the jurisdictional aspect of what can be done at the City Council through an ordinance to amend the charter as opposed to what may need to be accomplished in a j-bill.

Discussion followed.

Steve Rohan explained the parameters of the Council's authority a referendum and that of a j-bill. Questions and answers followed.

It was determined that the Ethics Commission can legally pursue both a j-bill and City Council action at the same time.

A meeting was set for July 26 at 5:00 p.m.

The minutes from the May 24, 2010 meeting were unanimously approved.

A motion was made, seconded & approved to table the previous motion.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 6:32 p.m.

Susan Stewart
Ethics Commission Coordinator

Date of Approval

This is a summary of the meeting and is not a verbatim transcription. A tape recording of these proceedings is available in the Duval Legislative Delegation Office at City Hall.