

CITY OF JACKSONVILLE

KIRBY OBERDORFER
Chair



BRAXTON GILLAM
Vice-Chair

GENE FILBERT
L. E. HUTTON
HELEN LUDWIG
TATIANA SALVADOR

ETHICS COMMISSION

MINUTES
July 28, 2010
5:00 p.m.
Don Davis Room
City Hall

SCOTT SHINE
MARY SWART
RHONDA PEOPLES-
WATERS

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

Also in attendance: Jon Phillips, Office of General Counsel and Susan Stewart, Ethics Coordinator; Carla Miller via conference call and Rich Brooks, Ethics Office Intern

The ethics thought was provided.

The minutes from the July 7, 2010 meeting were unanimously approved.

General Counsel Report: Jon indicated he has researched the questions previously raised and is available to respond to questions.

Discussion followed regarding the bill introduced by Council Member Johnson reestablishing the Ethics Commission in the Charter.

Carla updated the members that CM Johnson withdrew the J-bill, and that it will be done by Council Ordinance. Now is the time for recommendations from the commission as to what should be added, deleted or changed before it begins the process.

Rich explained that a resolution was prepared in advance, as a suggestion for language for discussion. It was compiled based on the resolution that was presented to the Charter Revision Commission and items added that were discussed at the previous meeting. A chart was provided that outlined different recommendations.

Discussion followed on the proposed resolution.

A motion was made, seconded that the Ethics Commission be reinstated into the Charter and reaffirm the prior recommendations. The motion carried unanimously.

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A motion was to affirm prior recommendations by the Ethics Commission be added to the charter, and should include authority over independent agencies, employees and appointed members; the Ethics Commission have ability to subpoena witnesses as it previously had under the original charter; some form of dedicated funding source to pay for staff for the commission to perform its functions, including Ethics Officer and Inspector General; and that the code provide for membership qualification and make-up; Commission have the jurisdiction and ability to levy fines for violations of the ethics code. Discussion followed. The motion carried unanimously.

A Motion was made, based on the "Ethics Options chart" that the Ethics Officer and Inspector General positions are independent and function citywide be included in the resolution. The motion was seconded and discussion followed. The motion carried with a vote of 4 in favor and 3 opposed.

A motion was made and seconded that the resolution contain the provision to include part b of the proposed resolution which states "delineate jurisdiction of the Ethics Commission to include conflicts, hotline, education, transparency, procurement, campaign ethics, campaign finance & lobbying." Discussion followed. An amended motion was made to move this item, postpone discuss and refer to the Legislative Subcommittee. The amended motion was seconded and the members agreed to send to the Legislative Subcommittee for further discussion.

A motion was made that the Chair and Jon Phillips, legal counsel will meet to redraft and prepare a resolution reflecting subjects voted on and changes made and not offer proposed legislation, based on what was discussed and approved this evening. The motion was seconded and carried.

The next meeting of the Ethics Commission was set for August 25 at 5:00 p.m.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 6:39 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.