

August 13, 2013

Good Morning Thank You For Joining Us On August 13th Of 2013. Please Join Us From The Pastor Then We Will Have The Pledge.

Precious God, We Thank You For This Incredible Day That You Have Given Us. We Pray You Will Be With Us As We Go About Our Work. Take Care Of The Families, All Of Their Worries And Anxieties So They May Focus On The Work At Hand. We Pray That You Will Be With The Many Civil Servants Of The County Some Of Which Are On The Front Page Of The News And Some Never Get Heard From. We Pray You Are With Them And Bless Them. We Pray For Those In Harms Way. Remember The Fallen Sheriff's Deputy And The County North Of Us. We Know The Risks That They Go Through. Be With That Family As They Continue To Mourn. Protect Our Deputies, Our Fire Department And Ems For A Safe And Boring Day. We Lastly Ask You Would Be With Our Country. Be With The President And The Congress As They Good About Their Work And With Those In Tallahassee, Particularly We Pray You Would Bless Lee County. May Your Blessing Shine Upon Us And May The Work Be Done In Your Name. In The Name Of Christ We Pray Amen.

I Pledge Allegiance To The Flag Of The United States Of America And To The Republic For Which It Stands, One Nation Under God, Indivisible, With Liberty And Justice For All.

Thank You For The Very Inspirational Prayer This Morning. Please Be Seated. All Of The Members Of The Audience Please Silence Your Phones. The First Item Is A Presentation. If I Could Have Kevin And The Employees Of The Dot To Come Forward, Please. Good Morning. Thank You, Kevin, Good Job. On Behalf Of The Board We Have A Resolution To Read For You. Whereas The Purpose Of Nomination Together We Need Community Program To Recognize Those Employees Who Have Gone Beyond The Assigned Duties To Make An Outstanding Contribution And We Make The Award For The Third Quarter Kevin Nault. He Has Been Employed Since January Of 2010 And Whereas On Friday June 28th An 84-Year-Old Lee County Resident Was Mowing His Property. His Mower Fell Off The Steep Incline And Topped Into The Drainage Ditch. Upon Seeing The Citizen And The Water, Kevin Who Was Working Nearby Jumped In To Save The Gentleman From Drowning And Treated His Mother. It Represented Kevin's Outstanding Commitment To Provide Quality Service To The County Daily. Be It Resolved The Board Recognizes Kevin Add The Employee. Together With The Community Programs For The Third Quarter Of 2013. This 13th Day Of August By Myself. Kevin, Congratulations.

Please Come Forward For A Picture. We Will Have A Few Words From You After That. Thank You. Are Those Your Bodyguards With You? You Guys Should Be Proud Of Kevin. Would You Like To Say A Few Words?

Kevin Is Not A Big Fan Of Public Speaking. I Will Speak On His Behalf. We Had A Couple Other Nominees For The Award. People Like Kevin Make Me Very Proud To Be The Director Of Dot. We Have Employees That Are Very Dedicated And Compassionate To Use The Words In The Resolution. We Are Very Proud Of Kevin And His Efforts.

Thank You To You And Your Family. Congratulations. Next We Will Go To The Recap. One Item Deferred, 8a. Any Discussion? No Objections. Motion Carried. Public Comment On The Consent Agenda. I Have A Lot Of Cards Here Today. Ible They Are Separated Properly For Comments. You Have Up To Three Minutes. You Don't Have To Use The Whole Three Minutes. I Will Call Your Names And We Will Warn You When Your Time Is Running Out. First Speaker Is Bill Burr Debt. After Bill Will Be George.

Good Morning, Sir.

Good Morning. I Am Bill, I Am A Lee County Taxpayer And Business And Property Owner And Mortgagee.

I Hold Mortgages On Two Properties In Lee County. I Want To Give You That Perspective With Regard To The Abandoned Property Foreclosure Situation. Private Lenders Are Willing To Accept More Risk And That Makes Them Important To Putting Home Buyers Into These Properties. However, If I Have To Foreclose On A Property, That Is A Serious Personal Crisis For Me. It Is My Priority To Get That Property You Wanted Control, Maintained And Marketed. The Proposed Property Registry Is Just Going To Add Costs And Slow Me Down. Without Providing Any Benefit To The Community In My Case. I Would Also Like To Run Through A Little Math On This. There Is A Lot Of Good People That Want A Solution To The Abandoned Property Situation. I Don't Think We Want To Disappoint Them By Going Forward With A Registry That Doesn't Accomplish What They Are Looking For. Do The Math. Lee County Code Enforcement First Five Months This Year Received Approximately 7,000 Code Enforcement Complaints Of Those 278 Involved Abandoned Or Foreclosed Properties. Of Those There Was Only A Handful That Were Difficult To Contact Or Deal With. Most Of Those Complied. The Bureaucracy Will Be A Burden On Thousands Of Properties Doing The Right Thing But Only Addressing A Very Few Problems. As Far As Long-Term Real Solutions, The Bankers, The Real Estate Agents And Private Lenders In This Community Are Working On A Long-Term Solution Of Putting Buyers In Those Homes. On The

Other Hand The Registry Will Success Millions Of Dollars Out Of The Community Lending Capacity. These Could Be Used To Finance Sales Of The Homes Or New Construction. Furthermore The Required Signs Are Going To Drag Down The Appeal And Appearance Of The Entire Neighborhood. In The Years Ahead We Need To Look At Will Lee County Be A Better Place Because We Have A Surplus Of Well Somethinged Abandoned Homes Or Will It Be Better Because We Put Homeowners In The Homes? The Private Lenders, Bankers, Real Estate Agents Are Making Real Progress A Long-Term Solution. It Will Get Done Quicker Without Them Having The Government On Their Backs. Let's Focus On A Long-Term Solution Of Financing Home Buyers Rather Than On Just Managing The Foreclosed Properties.

Next Speaker Is George.

Good Morning. I Am George. I Am A Full-Time Resident Of Lehigh Acres Since 2004. There Are 144 Petitions Signed By People Of Lee County In Support Of This Ordinance. 18 Months After Moving To Lehigh, The Surrounding Neighborhood Began To Change Drastically. There Were More And More Deflected Duplexes. A Vast Majority Of These Homes Were Owned Buy Out Of State Investor. Maintenance Was Not Addressed. The Members Contacted The Commissioners. The Town Hall Meeting Was Held. The Panel Suggested We Formulate A Task Force Which We Did In April 62006. Our Members Received Training From The Code Enforcement Officers To Identify And Report Violations. By 2008 The Housing Bubble Was Bursting. The Surrounding Area Had 48 Partially Constructed Homes Abandoned By Builders. Construction Material And Debris Was In The Streets. We Called On The Code Enforcement And Commissioner. A Clean Sweep Resulted. In 2009 I Was Asked To Participate In The Lee County Sheriff Department's Weed And Seed Program. Now Known As Lehigh Acres Community Initiative To Improve The Quality Of Life For Residents In Lehigh Acres By Restoration. We Are Now Involved In Cleanup And Reporting Code Violations And Work With Neighborhood Watch Groups In The Area. Through Out Our Involvement We Have Seen More And More Houses Abandoned. Lawns And Landscaping Neglected. Air Conditioners Are Stolen And Interiors Trashed And Appliances Stolen. Swimming Pools With Algae. Some Are Drug Dealing Sites And Party Palaces. Families Are Leaving. Property Owners See Values De Appreciating. The Quality Of Life Is Disrupted. Code Enforcements And The Sheriff Are Working To Alleviate These Conditions. They Are Doing It With Limited Resources. Who Is Responsible To Change What We See Happening In More And More Neighborhoods Of Unincorporated Lee County? It Is Impossible To Locate Is Owners And Mortgage Lenders Who Are Responsible. Thus We Need To Implement The Vacant Property Registration Ordinance. Fort Myers Adopted It And It Has Improved.

Your Time Is Up. The Light Is On.

One Thing. In Closing There Are 200-0782 Homes And We Have Two Situations. We Can Be Part Of The Problem Or The Solution.

Thank You.

How Many Are Left There? 1384.

Next Is Sandy.

Good Morning. I Am A Resident Of Lehigh Acres For Nine Years. Along With My Husband I Am Part Of The Initiative To Bring A Quality Of Life To The Citizens In Lehigh Acres. What George Didn't Have Time To Finish Is That We Can Be Part Of The Problem Or Part 6 The Solution. We Have A Choice. We, The Citizens Of Lee County, Are Working To Become A Part Of The Solution, To Take Back Our Neighborhoods, To Protect The Public Health, Safety And Welfare Of Our Communities And There By Instill The Quality Of Life For Our People. We Are Asking The Commissioners To Be Part Of The Solution As Well. And To Enact The Vacant Registry Ordinance. When George Talked About The Number Of Petitions That Have Been Signed I Would Say 98% Of The Petitions We Brought With Us Today Have Been Signed By Residents Of Lehigh Acres. A Majority Of Those Were Obtained By Going Door-To-Door In Neighborhoods. Attending Bingo Games And Bowling Alleys And Different Organizational Meetings To Obtain The Signatures. I Dare Say The Majority Of The People We Approached Were Very Much In Favor Of The Ordinance And Did Sign The Petition Letters. They Want To See The Quality Of Life Returned To Their Communities. They Want To Be Proud Of Who They Are And Where They Live. We Are Asking The Commissioners At This Time To Seriously Consider And Pass This Ordinance Which Will Make A Tremendous Difference To Everyone In Lee County. Right Now Lee County Is Looking At Over 18,000 Abandoned Properties. Thank You.

Next Speaker Steven Mcgriffin.

Good Morning. I Am Steven MCGIVEN. I Represent Community Watch Organizations. We Maintain Them. We Have 63 Neighborhood Watch Groups That We Work With. I Know The Foreclosure Crisis Hit Lee County Hard. No Harder Than Lehigh. I Have Had The Privilege To Meet Good Hard Working People That Are Overcoming The Devastation Brought On By Foreclosures And Abandoned Houses. How Do We Move Forward With Boarded Up Houses And Swimming Pools And Weeds And Brush Higher Than The House And Criminal Elements That Follows These Properties. If We The Citizens Kept Our Property Like That We Would Have Code Enforcement All Over Us As They Should Be. The Vacant Registry Is The Final Piece Of The Puzzle To Put Us Over The Top. We Have 2400 Abandoned Properties In Lehigh. The Banks Are The Ones Creating This Mess. Please Do Not Let Them Off The Hook. When You

Talk Quality Of Life, None Is Bigger Than The Vacant Registry Ordinance. Our Motto Is Developing Community One Neighborhood At A Time. Please Help Bypassing This Ordinance. I Have 98 Signatures Here. Thank You Very Much.

Linda And After Linda Is Robbie.

Good Morning. I Am Linda. I Represent My Husband Dwayne Who Cannot Be Here Today And Myself. We Have Been Homeowners In Lehigh Acres For Three Years. I Am A Member Of The Cwc Which Is What Steve Griffin Was Just Here. I Am A Coordinator Of Neighborhood Watch. My Watch Groups Represents From 68th West To 78th West Off Sunshine Boulevard. We Go To The Top. There Is Nobody Past Us. 10 We Are Above The Creek Preserve. I Am Here Because We As A Group, Communities Support The Vacant Property Ordinance. I Want To Say Thank You, Thank, Thank You For Working With Code Enforcement To Make The Changes We Needed, Having Code Officers On The Weekends. They Have Been At There. They Were At My House Saturday And Sunday. Anytime I Have A Bad Problem They Are There. I Want To Say Thank You For Working With The Other Groups. Everybody In Lehigh Wants Our Place To Look Better. We Are Desperately Trying To Do That. We Need Your Help. We Need This Ordinance Passed. Please Help Us. You Are The Ones To Make It Happen. We Are Doing The Best And We Lovely High.

Next Is Robbie. After Robbie Bill.

Good Morning. I Am A Local Business Person. A Local Community Banker. And A Taxpayer. I Am Here To Speak On Behalf Of The Abandoned Properties. I Am Here On Behalf Of The Local Banking Community. Every One Of Us Has Gone Through One Of The Most Terrible Recessions Ever Experienced. I Know Everyone In This Room Has. I Want A Solution As Well. The Thing Is We Try To Provide Funds To Make That Dream Come True And Put People In Homes. When Things Like This Happen It Is Everybody's Problem. I Am Here Today To Speak That The Reason I Am Opposed To This Ordinance Is The Liability Issue. Nothing More, Nothing Less. I Want A Solution Like Everyone Wants A Solution. We Need Long-Term Solutions. The Governor Of Our State Of Florida Did Sign In The Month Of June And Appropriated \$30 Million To Go To The Courts To Be Used Only For The Courts To Get Through These Foreclosures To Help Solve This. That Is Where I Think The Backlog Happened. I Think There Was A Number Of Reasons. There Is Accountability But It Is Talking About Liability And Asking Someone To Go On Property Before The Foreclosure Procedure Is Completed. That Is Creating Liability When You Don't Have Ownership. Once Anyone Gets Ownership If It Is A Private Lender, Mortgagee, Absolutely Treat Them Like Every Other Homeowner. At That Point They Are The Owner Of That Home. They Need To Be Held Accountable. I Think Code Enforcement Has Done A Wonderful Job. We Were Hit Hard. We Need

To Let The Process Work. Another Level Of Bureaucracy Pulling In An Independent Company Is Not Our Solution. The Solution Is Right Here With The People That Care About This Community. Let's Get Through It And Let Code Enforcement And There Is An Alternative. I Would Be Happy To Discuss More. The Money Is A Minor Investment If That Is The Proposed Fee. The Liability Is The Issue. I Think We Can Help The County And Code Enforcement With That. Thank You So Much.

Next Speaker Bill.

Good Morning. I Am Bill. I Am A Resident Of Lehigh Acres. I Thank The Commissioners For The Opportunity To Speak In Support Of The Vacant Property Registration Proposal. This Proposal Is Unique In That It Really Doesn't Upset Anyone. It Merely Allows Code Enforcement To Facilitate What They Are Working With. The Proposal Would Take Care Of Enhancing The Neighborhoods And Improving Property Values, Making The Neighborhood Safer. We Are Not Making Drastic Changes. We Are Just Asking And Allowing Code Enforcement To Pursue The Current Path That They Take. The Only Thing That Is Changing Is The Fact That They Would Know Who The Property Owners Are. The Bank Has A Mortgage. They Don't Necessarily Keep It. Some Are Sold Three Or Four Times. Code Enforcement Spends As Much Time Trying To Locate The Property Owner As They Do Actually Trying To Remedy The Situation. Contrary To Proplar Belief At This Point In Time From What I Have Heard Earlier This Is Not Affecting All Property Owners. This Only Affects Those In The Lending Decisions Holding The Mortgages. As Far As The Liabilities Are Concerned, I Spoke With The People In Fort Myers Who Had This Program In Place. When I Asked The Lawyer About The Problem At One Of The Community Meetings He Had Not A Clue As To How The City Of Fort Myers Got Around It. When I Spoke To The People At Fort Myers They Said It Was Not An Issue Because Typically The Mortgage Papers Allow The Bank To Go In And Take Care Of The Property If The Resident Or Owner Is Not Being Able To Take Care Of The Properties. So For Them Liability Has Not Ever Been An Issue. To Date They Have Benefited To The Tune Of In Excess Of \$260,000 Without Spending A Nickel. I Thank You For The Opportunity To Speak. You Have A Good Day.

Russell.

Good Morning. I Am A Local Attorney For The Henderson Franklin Firm. I Am Here On Behalf Of Myself. I Would Like To Go Over The Concerns Expressed With Regard To The Vacant Property Ordinance. Under Certain Circumstances It Requires Lenders To Enter Upon The Property For Position, Dominion And Control Of The Property Prior To The Foreclosure Being Completed In A Jew Additional Sale Occurring And Taking Measures To Secure And Maintain The Property. The Ordinance Requires That The Lender Demonstrate Ownership Or Act As The Owner

And Demonstrate Control And Dominion Of The Property At A Time When The Only Legal Interest In The Property Is A Mortgage Interest. Case Law In Florida Is Clear That Florida Is What Is Called A Lien State With Regard To Mortgage Interest As Opposed To Title State The Only Interest The Mortgagee Has By Holding A Mortgage Is Their Legal Naked Lien Interest. It Is Opposed To A Title Interest In Which There Is A Title Interest Held And Recognized In Other States. The Case Law In Florida Is Clear, I Think, That Under These Circumstances And With This Lien Interest Held By The Mortgagee The Mortgagee Has No Right To Go Upon The Property To Exercise Maintenance And Control Of The Property Until One Of Two Things Happen. Either The Mortgage Foreclosure Is Completed And Judicial Sale Safely Occurs And That Mortgagee Is Entitled To The Property Or The Mortgagee Gets An Order From The Court Prior To Going On The Property To Actually Go On The Property And Secure And Maintain It. By Requiring A Mortgagee To Actually Do This Prior To The Judicial Sale Or Prior To An Order From The Court It Requires The Mortgagee To Trespass On The Property. I Would Ask For A Alternative Solution To Requiring The Mortgagee To Engage In That Activity.

Good Morning, Commissioners, Mr. Manager Of The Record. 2002 Roosevelt Avenue, Lifetime Resident Of Southwest Florida. In The Spring Of 2007 I Had The Privilege Of Escorting A News Station And Gave Them A Tour Of Lehigh Acres And The Subject Was The Housing Crisis. We Ended In Greenbrier, The Pictures That I Presented You In The Perk Test Indicate The House Has Been Abandoned Since 2006. That Is Where I Ended My Tour. Dumpsters, Rows Of Houses Sitting Vacant. I Politely Said This Is Before I Had Run Against The Honorable Frank Mann Was Local Representation. We Didn't Have A Commissioner From Lehigh. Three Terms Later Those Pictures Were Taken Last Week. We Have 2800 Abandoned Houses Like Those Pictures. We Have Lost 10s Of Millions Of Dollars In Taxable Value The Last Seven To Eight Years. I Ask You Pretty Please With Sugar On Top To Help Us. Thank You.

Jerry Next Speaker.

My Last Name Is Character. We Are Going To Hear A Lot Of Comments Both Ways And I Guess We Need To Define The Problem. That Is How I Live My Life. I Am A Good Taxpayer In Lehigh Acres. I Own A Bunch Of Property. It Is Obvious We Have A Legal Problem. It Is Obvious It Is A Real Estate Problem And Special Interest Problems And It Always Involves Money And For You That Is What You Do Every Day. You Don't Have Enough To Solve All Of The Problems. I Appreciate Your Staff Rewriting The Ordinance To Police And Enforce The Ordinance You Have Now. The Law Holds Us Up From Doing That. As Russell Said Being A Property Owner Walking On Someone Else's Property Is Not Easy. I Developed Several Deed Restricted Properties In Communities In The County And In The Area And It Is A Blessing To

Have A Deed Restricted Community. When The Guy Sign That He Is Responsible And The Homeowners Pick Up And You Charge A Fee And We Have Money To Mow A Guy's Yard. Our Properties Are Depreciating Because Of Neighbors Who Walk Away. We Can't Find Them, You Can't Find Them, The Police Can't Find Them. Nobody Can Find Them, Nobody Takes Responsibilities. It Takes Two Years For The Bank To Find Them. The Grass Keeps Growing. This Time Of The Year It Is Heavy. We Have Snakes And Alligators. You Are Aware Of All Of This. I Think What You Need To Do Is Work On A Solution To This To Correct The Problem Asap By Getting The Grass And The Blight And The Descent Stopped Then We Can Do Something Else. Surely We Can't Have A Forecast Of Two Or Three Years To Get The Laurie Written We Need To Move On Something Right Away.

Marsha Next Speaker. Then Nancy Williamson.

I Am Marsha. I Am An Attorney From Orlando. I Have Written Many Of These Ordinances For Other Communities. There Are Over 100 Of Them In The State Of County. For Counties And Cities. I Am Not Aware Of Any Liability Lawsuits Or Issues Of Liability Or Any Matters Of That Type Anywhere In The State Of Florida That Have Been Raised With Regards To The Implementation Or Even Enforcement Of These Ordinances. What Has Hand Is We Have A Problem That Didn't Exist In The Past. It Has Skewed How Mortgagees And Mortgage Ors And How Everybody Interacts. You Have To Be Creative Within The Law, Come Up Solutions To Help And Can Help These Communities Try To Come Up With Working With A Code Enforcement And The Sheriff Department Or Police Department To Try To Find A Way To Fix Some Of The Problems That They Have. That Is Basically Where The Ordinances Come From. I Have Not Seen Them As Another Layer Of Bureaucracy At All. I Mean It Is A Means To Accomplish Something And Something Real Comes Out Of It. That Is Not A Layer Of Bureaucracy. It Is A Tool To Get Something Done. I Have Been With Communities Where Even They Planned For Redevelopment And Wanted To Know Quickly What Properties Were In Foreclosure, Where Could They Look To See To Expand Or Build Something. When They Had The Registry It Was Easy To Pull This Data Out And To Be Able To Identify Exactly Where There May Be Opportunities To Approach Properties Owned By Banks Or Owned By Others That Were In Difficulty As Far As Some Future Project The Business That Was Looking To Relocate. It Has Many, Many Opportunities, It Creates An Incredible Database To Allow The Communities To Use It For Foreclosure, Bank, Maintenance. It Allows The Community To Have An Idea What Is Hatching With Regards To The Properties. It Is The Wave Of The Future As Far As Having These Electronic Tools To Help. I Wasn't Going To Speak But I Thought It Was Important Since I Have Written These Ordinances All Over The State And Been Involved In Them To Share My Experiences. It Just Has Never Been A Liability Issue Anywhere Else In The State

So It Is Very Hard For Me To Believe It Would Only Be A Liability Issue In Lee County. Thank You.

Next Speaker Nancy Williamson.

Good Morning. Thanks For Listening To Both Sides. I Have A Cup Pull Rebuttals Then I Will Go Into My Speech Here. It Is Not Just Banks That Got Us Into This Situation. It Is The People Who Bought Houses At The Very Top Of Their Ability To Pay. It Is Insurance Prices That Went Up. Nothing Personal It Is Taxes That Went Up. We Had An Innation In Property -- In Flation. I Live In Lehigh Acres. My Neighbor Has Grass This High. It Is An Eyesore. Lehigh Is Rural. You Are Talking The North And Of Sunshine And Up In There. It Is Very Rural. You Have To Go Four Blocks Up Past The Canal And Other Stuff. It Is Very Difficult. In Greenbrier A Lot Of That Is Builders. It Is Builders Who Spent Their Speck Money And Ran Out Of Money. I Am Not Sure About That. I Forwarded To Stephanie A Website From The Mortgage Bankers Association. They Have Their Own Free For Us To Use Registry That We Could Tap Into Without A Cost. Stephanie Has That Website If You All Want It. My Name Is Nancy Welcome Son. I Am A Realtor In Lehigh Acres. We Have An Issue. Please Remember Some Of These Homes Are Inhabited. Some Are Short Sales. These People Don't Care. Nothing To Do With That. None Of That Has Been Filed. The Ordinance As Written. Here Are My Issues. I Have No Problem With It Being Presented. I Do Have An Issue In The Writing In Regard To The Very Beginning In The First Whereas Clauses. It Is Demonstrative. It Says It Will Happen. The Foreclosure Process Is Ugly. Homes Will Quickly Succumb. To Have A Negative Effect. That Is Not True In All Cases. Section 7 Inspection And Registration. The Fee Of \$200 If That Is What It Comes To, That Is Fine. If A Property Is In The County Ordinance Codes. If It Comes Up Annually For Reregistration I Don't Think The Fee Should Be Paid Again If The Property Is Brought Under The Thing. In Section 9 Security Requirements In Regard To The Mortgagee, I Would Be One Of The Property Managers. We Post A Sign In The Window That Is What We Have Been Asked To Do. I Am So Sorry.

Thank You. Stephanie Next Speaker. 20

Good Morning. Thank You For Allowing Us To Speak Against The Adoption Of This Vacant Property Registry Ordinance. I Represent 4400 Realtor The Realtor Association Of Greater Fort Myers. We Sympathize With The Neighbors That Have Come From Lehigh And Other Areas Who Have Suffered As A Result Of This Downturn And As Robbie Indicated We Have All Suffered As A Result Of The Downturn. Definitely The Worst Southwest Florida Has Experienced Since The Great Depression. We Understand Better Than Anyone What The Homes That Have Been Abandoned Look Like. Our Realtors Are Going Into These Homes. Many Times

Running The Other Way As Fast As Possible. They Are Infested, They Are Bacteria Laid Den, They Have Mold. There Is Criminal Activity And All Of Those Things Our Realtors Are Facing For The Last Six To Seven Years. No One Knows Better Than The Realtors The Scenario. We Want A Solution. The Problem Is That The Way The Ordinary Is Written And Especially The Way The Blue Sheet Is Written. This Whole Concept Is About Five Years Too Late. Fortunately We Have Had A Number Of Changes In The Legislation Including Representative's New Streamlining Foreclosure Legislation That The Governor Has Signed. She Recognized Foreclosures Were Taking Far Too Long In The State Of Florida Probably Longer Than Anywhere. Her Legislation Coupled With Other Measures Are Going To Streamline These Efforts. You Will Not Have The Situation Where You Do Have These Foreclosed Homes Sitting For Years And Years. I Think That Is Important To Recognize. Secondly, As Bill Indicated, Code Enforcement Is Doing A Wonderful Job. We Don't Need An Outside Vendor To Take Money Out Of Lee County. We Should Keep The Money In Lee County. If They Need To Hire One Or Two More Inspectors Or Maintenance Folks, Again, The Building Industry Had Asked Fort Myers To Hire More Code Enforcement People And The Fees Pays For That. If You Feel Lee County Needs Help We Are More Than Happy To Help. Palm Beach Has Had Issues With This Vendor. I Would Respectfully Request You Look At The Information I Had Sent You Regarding What Palm Beach Has Experienced And Not Adopt This Ordinance As Written. We Would Be Happy To Work With You And The Neighbors To Come Up With A Better Long-Term Solution.

Next Speaker Is Rick.

I Am A 50 Year Resident, Builder, Realtor In Lehigh Acres. Let Me Thank You For The Job That You Have Created With The Staff And The People In Developing The Lehigh Plan. It Is Tremendous. You Need To Know The Great Work That They Are Doing Out There In Meeting Every Month With Those People. I Hope You Understand That This Ordinance, We View This As Part Of That Ingredient To The Lehigh Plan. Tammy Said One Time You Are Our City Council. You Know If We Were Incorporated We Would Be The Second Largest City In Lee County. Bigger Than Fort Myers But We Are Not Incorporated. You Are The City Council. As Such The Burden Of Protecting Our Interests Falls On You. Just That Simple, My Friend. You Are To Protect Our Property, Our Health, Our Services And This Law, This Ordinance Provides That Code Enforcement And Sheriff Departments The Teeth To Make The Responsibility Of The Ugly Town Happen And Go Away. Lenders Shirk Responsibility. It Is That Simple. It Is Not The Foreclosure Prose Sess. Though Don't File Lis Pendens Because They Have To Be Responsible. They Know Who The Vacant Properties Are. They Are Going To Do It When They Decide To Do It.

Homeowners Continue To Face Abandoned Properties, Vacant Property Attracts Crimes And Drugs. Who Is Responsible? The Lendors Won't? Realtors Won't? Who Then? You. That Is It. You Take The Responsibility And I Am Confident You Will Do The Right Thing. Thank You Very Much.

Joe Krieger Next Speaker.

Good Morning. I Would Like To Thank You For The Job You Are Doing. We Need To Continue To Do More. I Did Send This Resolution To All Of You About Three Weeks Ago. I Know You Have A Copy. I Am Going To Start In The Middle. Whereas The Community Council Nebraska Hip Consisting Of 4 Seats Represents The Substantial Majority Of Residents And Taxpayers With A Vested Interest In The Community And It Is Brought To The Attention Of The Community Council Of The Membership The Board Of Commissioners For Lee County Has Been Considering The Adoption Of The Ordinance And Whereas Lehigh Acres Has 2484 Vacant Properties While Lee County Has 12,834 And Banks Own 5,000 Vacant Properties. That Totals 18,000 Properties Having An Adverse Affect On The Neighborhoods And Communities. The Impact Of Not Providing These Services Greatly Affects The Residents' Health And Safety But Will Impact Commercial Developments, Job, Sales Of Homes And Very Economy Of The Residents Of The Community. Whereas Any Such Vacant Property Registration Owners Identified And Hold For Closing Residents Will Henryduce Crime And Cause The Continuing Decline Of Property Values To Cease And To Provide The Tools To Deal With The Issues Now Be It Resolved That The Community Council Of Lehigh Acres Recommendation You To Vote Yes On This Proposed Ordinance. Thank You.

Next Speaker Is Fhida.

Good Morning. I Have Lived In Country Club Estates For 8 And-A-Half Years. I Ask You To Vote Yes To Vote Yes On The Registration Program. I Would Like To Say A Few Words Why I Feel We Need This To Move Forward To Solve The Major Problem. I Have Left Pictures Of The Problem This Ordinance Would Address. An Ordinance Is Needed To Require Banks And Other Lenders To Maintain Properties To The Same Standards That Individual Owners Are Required To Comply With. Some Houses Are Vacant Over Three Years. Being The Banks Trade Mortgages True Responsible Ownership Is Difficult For The Code Department To Determine. These Houses Become A New Sense As Well As Health And Safety Hazard. I Am Showing Pictures Of One Property Located In My Neighborhood. This Was Reported To The Lee County Codes Department Again On July 15 Of 2013 And Still Remains Unattended As Of This Morning. Note The Vegetation Is Overgrown Creating A Hiding Place For Rats, Snakes And Animals. The Swimming Pool Likes Like A Cesspool And Is A Breeding Ground For Mosquitoes. When Should The Health Department Become Involved? When Is This Past The Nuisance Stage And A Health Hazard? The Lower

Screens Are Missing In Several Panels Making This Pool Accessible To Children, Pets And Animals. The Vegetation Pushed The Screen Out To Reach The Nutrient Rich Pool Water. Would You Want This In N Your Backyard? I Have A 92 Neighbor Paying 7 \$2 Each Month To Maintain Her Yard. She Has To Look At This Property. The Banks Care About Process, Not People, Not Neighborhood. They Do Not Make Interest Neighbors They Prove It To Me Every Day. We The Voters Care About Our Homes And Neighborhoods. The Codes Department Is Responsive But They Can Only Do So Much Unless You The Commissioners Give Them The Ordinances And Tools They Need To Help Us Remedy These Situations. Some Of Us Have Put Everything We Have Into Our Retirement Homes. I Feel We Deserve Your Support To Pass This Ordinance To Put The Responsibility Where It Belongs. That Is In The Bank Putting Profits Before People. Help Us Keep Our Homes Safe. Don't Let The Bank Erode Our Neighborhood. It Is Up To You Now To Show Us That You Care And Thank You For Your Time.

Next Speaker Fidel.

Good Morning. I Am Fidel. I Am A Resident Of 8300 Birch Way In Lehigh Acres. I Want You To Think Of One Word. Accountability. I Was Going To Sit Here And Cite The Examples Given. I Am Not Going To Bore You. We Have Heard A Lot Of The Realtors And Bankers Say We Have To Come Up With A Solution. We Can Work This Out. Let's Be Honest. We Wouldn't Be Here If Residents Didn't Ask You To Pass This. It Would Be Business As Usual. You Hear Certain Bankers, You Hear Realtors Say We Want To Work With You. I Have Homes In My Community That Have Been Sitting For Years. No One Takes Care Of Them. Who Takes Care Of Them? My Association Does. That Is Who Takes Care Of Them. This Isn't About The Local Banker. These Are National Banks You Have Wells Fargo, Bank Of America. They Sit On The Properties For Years. They Do Nothing. They Don't Care. They Don't Have An Interest In Our County. That Is The Bottom Line. That Is The Truth. I Ask You To Use The Common Sense Approach. Only You, Each And Every One Of You, Can Make This Happen. Nobody Wants To Be Accountable. Fingers Are Pointed In Every Direction. Everything Is Placed On Code Enforcement. You Are Asking The Sheriff To Get Involved. Our Sheriff's Office Are Not Building Inspectors. They Need To Do Law Enforcement. No One Needs A Sheriff Going To See If A House Is Vacant. That Is Ridiculous. Let's Face It. We Don't Have Enough Code Enforcement Officers To Handle The Amount Of Homes That Are Vacant Out There. Let's Make Someone Responsible. Let's Hold Them Accountable. Let's Hold The People That Need To Be Held Accountable, Make Them Do Their Jobs. You Are The Only Ones To Do That For Us. There Is No One Else. That Is Why The Residents Of This County Said No More. They Have Put This Ordinance Forward. If They Hadn't We Wouldn't Be Here

Today. Please Think About That Accountable. You Are The Ones That Have The Power To Make It Happen.

Next Speaker.

Good Morning. I Am On The Other Side Of That. One Of The Words I Would Say Is Misses In Communication. There Is An Immediate Point Of Contact That Is The Plaintiff's Attorney. It Is Listed Within The Foreclosure Filing Or It Wouldn't Be Before The Court. There Is A Contact Person Listed. That Person Has The Responsibility To Contact The Person That Has Hired Him. That Is Sometimes The Lender Or The Bank. From A Practical Sense I Have A Property I Have Been Working On. It Has Liens In The Amount Of \$400,000. The Property Has A Value Of \$40,000 Assessed Value. What This Would Do. This Is Not In This County. This Would Add A Layer Of Complication Because The People That Are Looking At This House, It Fright Tens Them To Talk About Something That Is 10 Times As Much As The Value Of The 28 Property They Are Talking About Purchasing. What That Cost Was A Complication To The Transaction Is The Point The Human Being, Not With A Bank Or Entity That Were Going To Move Into The Property And Were Hopeful There Would Be A Home. That Is Not Occupied. They Walked Away From The Opportunity. Wells Fargo Didn't Have The Certificate Of Title For A Number Of Years. It Took A Long Time To Get Through The Court System. No Fault Of Theirs. It Took A Long Time. The Liens Have Continued To Accumulate. Wells Fargo As Soon As They Have The Certificate Of Title Petitioned And Is Trying To Get Those Reduced. They Brought The Property Into Compliance. It Muddied The Water. In This Instance It Cost The Sale. It Took The Outcome That You Would Hope Which Would Be The Property To Be Sold And Put Back Into Real People's Hands Away From It. Until This Is Resolved It Is 6 Or 8 Months Before They Will Come Back To Look At The Property Because Of The Difference Between The Value And The Liens. I Hope We Can Think About Preventing That And Being A Partner. The Communication With The Parties That You Can Accomplish And More And Understand The Process. Sometimes Those Banks Don't Have The Possession Of The Property To Address Those Needs That Need To Be Tain Care Of Until They Get That Certificate They Are Not Owners. They Can't Do Anything. The Other Side And Some Thoughts.

Next Speaker Is Curt Beck.

Good Morning. I Am Curt Beck. I Am In Favor Of The Ordinance. I May Begin By Saying I Am Confused By The Bankers And Realtors Opposed To This. The Need For This Ordinance Was Created By The Irresponsible Lending And Bad Behavior Of The Banks During The Last Real Estate Boom And Subsequent Foreclosure Crisis. Their Opposition Is Like An Innocent Person Pleading Gill Toty To A Mass Murder They

Didn't Commit. If I Were Them And Cared. I Would Be Leading The Effort To Get This Ordinance Adopted. I Wouldn't Want People Identifying Me With The Guilty Bankers That Caused The Problem That Is Me. Beginning In March Or April The Opposition Began Lobbying You To Get You To Refuse The Consider The Vpr Ordinance. When They Failed They Lobbied To Delay Adoption When They Said They Would Provide Suggestions. The Suggestions Were Held And They Amended To It Being Voluntary. At The June 3rd Meeting They Delayed Consideration Again Because We Had Another Important Meeting Scheduled For June 5th. Once Again, We Heard The Same Old Arguments. Delay Is A Very Effective Strategy To Kill An Idea Without Merit Or Untruth. 30 As You Wit Here Today It Is A Very Foolish Strategy If You Are Trying To Kill The Truth. After The June 3rd Meeting I Began Reaching Out To Community Leaders. I Was Humbled By The Overwhelming Support. There Are 50 People Here Today In Support Of The Ordinance. They Will Hand In Approximately 1500 Signed Petitions To Be Handed To The 5-Inch Thick Stack You Had Three Weeks Ago. I Am Sure The Stack Is Continuing To Grow And Is Larger Now. I Have Been Told That You Have Received A Large Number Of Phone Calls And E-Mails Supporting Our Efforts. As Word Spreads The Support For The Ordinance Grows To Make It Easier To Get Information. I Had My Computer Consultant Construct A Website At www.save.us.from.the.bankers.com. The Opposition Will Continue To Tell You This Ordinance Is Illegal, Not Needs. Over 100 Other Cities And Counties Throughout Florida Have Similar Ordinances. If It Were Illegal And Urn Needed Do You Think They Would Have Them? I Doubt It. If It Wasn't Needed Do You Think These People Would Be Here Today? Would You Have These Petitions? The Sheer Number Of People Here Today Should Make It Obvious Much Of What You Have Been Told By The Opposition Isn't True. The Truth Is That People Want And Need This Ordinance. The Time To Act On This Is Now. In The End I Know You Will Do What Is Right For Lee County? Thank You For Your Time.

Next Speaker Is Chuck. After Chuck Will Be Vince. It Is The Whole Agenda.

For The Record I Am Chuck. I Reside At 2061 Clubhouse Road In North Fort Myers. We Are Here To Speak About The Bill Of Support For This Effort To Run Some New Waterlines In Our Community. We Really Want To Thank Commissioner Frank Mann And Pam For The Efforts And Work And The Countless Meetings Both Neighborhood And Meetings In Their Office. They Have Really It Is A Good Effort The Government And Taxpayers And The Residents Can Get Together And Get A Job Done. This Is A Tough Situation That We Were Involved In With Our Water Situation. We Want To Thank You All For Your Efforts, And We Support This Passage Today. Thank You So Much.

Good Morning. I Would Like To Reinforce The Comments That Were Just Made. Basically, Thank The Commissioners For Hard Work And Recommend That Is

Proposal To Have A Permanent Safe Drinking Water Proposal Approved. Thank You Again For Your Support.

Good Morning. Thank You For The Opportunity To Be Here This Morning. I Would Like To Echo The Other Comments You Have Heard. I Would Like To Thank Commissioner Mann For Being Such A Big Supporter And Pam For Helping Us. He Met Us At A Time Of Hurt. We Had A Completely Failed Water System Unsuitable For Drinking As Well As Nondistributed. No Reliability whatsoever In That System. You Met Us In The Ditches And In The Trenches We Want To Do That Throughout The Project To Work Together To Work At Controlling The Cost And Reducing The Costs. We Want To Work Side By Side With You And We Have Expressed That Interest. The Last Thing To Leave You With. Lessons Learned In Things Like That. Unfortunate Thing Is This Took Years To Come. We Knew The Problem Existed In 2004 And Five. There Was Tremendous Failure This Is The System. We Reported That To The Health Department. We Reported It To The Public Service Commission. Reported It To The Commissioners. It Took About Five Years For Us To Finally Get To The Realization That There Really Is A Problem Here In This System. If We Can Learn From Our Experience Other Communities Wouldn't Have The Same Experience That We Have. That Is The Best Way To Describe It. Let's Do That. Let Me Leave On A Positive Note. Thank So You Much. Thank You, Thank You, Thank You.

Good Morning. Thank You Very Much For This Opportunity. I Would Like To Echo Those Words Of My Friends That We Are Extremely Grateful To Commissioner Mann And Pamela Who Was Dropped In A Situation With A Complete Failure Of Water System And Had To Scramble To Figure Out What To Do. The Whole Department Did A Wonderful Job. Thank You Very Much.

That Is The Last Card. Are There Any Other Cards For The Agenda? I Will Close The Public Comment. We Will Go To The Consent Agenda. Commissioner Manning?

None, Mr. Chairman.

You Want A On The Consent?

Yes. I Have None. Commissioner Mann.

I Have That Same One.

Commissioner Hall.

I Make A Motion.

Any Discussion In No Objection Motion Carries.

If I May Since There Are Three Of Us Interested In This May Be We Could Ask The County Manager To Lead Us In Discussion On This.

Thank You, Commissioner. Lindsey Is Going To Give You A Little More Detail. These Are Dollars That Have To Be Used Following A Disaster. Debris Removal Is The Biggest Task Following That Event. Fema Requires A Lot Of Monitoring Of That Debris, What Is In It, Where It Goes For Us To Qualify For Reimbursement. This Blue Sheet Allows Us To Contract For That Service And Be Prepared For That Event. It Puts Somebody On The Hook To Do That For Us. As You Can See It Is Terribly Expensive. Lindsey Can Talk To Our Experience In The Cost Of Hurricane Charlie, I Think.

Commissioners, If I Could Interrupt. The Questions On My Mind So You Know The Answer. I Have Been Wondering What We Did In The Past. We Have Been Having Hurricane This Is Lee County For A Long Time. This Is New. And How Quickly Do We Have To Spend The Entire \$200,000? A Little History On It. Why Is This Before Us Today?

In That Context My Concern, Too, Is The Dollars. Where Does It Come From? Is It Budgeted? I Would Like To Have That Discussed, Too.

There Is A Lot On The Plate. Let's Start There.

Good Morning. Lindsey Sampson. This Is Not New. We Have A Contract In Place To Do This Work. That Contract Is Nearing It Termination. We Have Put This Back Out On The Street. We Requested Follow Up Qualifications And Bids And Through That Process We Are Recommending A Different Company But A Company That Is Qualified To Do This Work. In The First Time We Did This Was In 2004. We Did Not Have A Contract Or Under Contract When Charlie Hit So We Had To Scramble To Get The Necessary Personnel To Do This Work. At That Time We Began Simply With County Employees, Then We Moved To A Contract On A Very Short Notice. Scents To Hurricane Charlie We Did Go On The Street For Qualifications And Bids. We Have Had A Contractor In Place For Over The Period Of Time Two Different Contractors In Place Since That Time. As Far As The Funding, The Funding Has Been Handled In Two Different Ways To My Knowledge So Far. For Hurricane Charlie The Funding Came From Solid Waste Division Reserves. For The Hurricane In 2005, I Don't Know Why I Missed That Name. Whoever He Or She Was, Wilma, It Came From The Mstu Reserves. In Both Cases To The Extent Available That Those Expenditures Were Reimbursed By Fema In Different Proportions For The Different Storms. Let's Leave It There For Right Now.

I Recognize This Isn't New. After Wilma When We Didn't Have A Contract The Board Directed You Not To Put Us In This Position Because We Paid A Premium To Bring

Them In Last Minute. I Appreciate You Making Sure This Contract Is Getting Cycled Through So We Have The Latest And Most Up-To-Date. My Issue In Debris Collection Boils Down To The Policy That When The Last Hurricane Occurred We Had A Lot Of Talent With Captiva. We Did Not Have A Public Area To Gather And Collect. The County Did Go Into Gated Communities And Pick Up Without Charge. There Was A Controversy Could We Find A Public Landing Where Debris Could Be Put There And Have The Burden Shared Rather Than All Private Pickup? I Haven't Seen Anything Over Time. It Has Been Talked About Hit And Miss. Since You Brought This Up With Collection I Thought Now Is A Good Time To Ask You Have You Worked With The Folks To See If There Is A Public Location That Debris Can Be Collected From? Are We Going To Treat Them Again Different Than We Treated The Gated Community? I Like Everything To Be Fair. I Want To Be Upfront About What We Are Doing. We Are Not Collecting Privately, Then We Are Not Going To Collect Privately. If We Are Going To What Circumstances Can Everyone Patake In That? I Don't Know If You Have An Answer. I Don't Want It To Be Left After The Disaster With The Argument About Those Issues.

Let Me Respond To That. I Do Want To Clarify This Work Is For The Monitoring Service, Not The Actual Collection.

You Have To Monitor Where You Are Picking Up To Make Sure They Are Picking Up The Right Debris.

That Aside We Have Had Discussions With The State Particularly With Regards To The Property On The South Side Of The Developed Area Of Upper Captiva. The State Has Not Committed But Have Not Denied. With Other Areas We Have Both Public And Private Property Arranged For That Debris Collection Activity. Upper Captiva Is By Nature A Different Situation. One Thing To Recall With Upper Captiva. We Collected Funds Through Mstu, Shortly After Hurricane Charlie, Those Funds Were Reimbursed To The Property Owners Several Years Later.

Because Of Being Fair And Equitable Because We Went To Other Private Properties. I Am Looking For That Policy At Some Point In Time. It Is Hard After The Fact. If We Go Out With A New Management Director And We Are In Hurricane Season. The Communities Need To Understand What Their Responsibility Is And What The County Is Going To Be. It Is Good Every Four Years To Boot That Up. We Have New Faces And New Homeowners Associations And New People On The Islands And They Don't Understand The Process.

I Would Like To Mention Unfortunately, The Federal Government With Regards To Fema And Collection Of Private Property Is Also A Moving Target.

I Recognize That. That Is Go To Always Bring These Things Up So Everybody Knows We Are On The Same Page. Thank You.

What I Want To Mention With This Contractor Part Of Their Responsibility Is To Provide Training To County Staff Including Up-To-Date Information Related To Federal Regulations Requirements. Again With Regards To Monitoring Of A Disaster Cleanup Event And That Work Is Done For No Charge As Part Of This Contract, The Contractor Will Provide Ongoing Training To County Personnel.

Mr. Chairman The One Question You Didn't Answer Is When Does This Money Get Spent? 38

This Is Part Of The Contract With Regards To The Training Is That No Charge. The Actual Cost For Performing Monitoring Services Is Done Only When The County Informs The Contractor That Their Services Are Needed, Their Monitoring Services Are Needed. Then As It Is Provided The Costs Are Billed On A Per Hourly Rate. It Would Be At The Time Of An Event.

We Have A Two Year Contract With This Number Locked In. We Do To Have The Option We Renegotiate That Fee, I Am Assuming.

In Actuality, The Final Language Of The Contract Is There Is A Two Year Contract And Then There Is Two Additional One Year At The Full Discretion Of Lee County Where The Terms And Condition And Pricing In The Contracts. It Could Be A Three Or Four Year Contract.

I Am Asking Are We Locked In At There Price For Those Renewals. If The County Decided To Invoke One Of Those We Are Not Renegotiating The Price At That Time?

Correct.

That Is My Question.

Mr. Parker You Had A Question? Move To Approve?

Second.

I Second. Any Discussion? No Objection Motion Carries. Thank You. We Move To Add More Agenda. We Have One Item.

On 14-A Which Seems Everybody Seems To Agree With Us But We Don't Have A Path To Move 39 Forward, Let Me Get In Put From The County Attorney As To The Questions Of Legal De Raised. We Have Been In Front And Side Ways And Behind This Ordinance. Tell Us What Is Real And What Isn't Real. I Want To Get Something Done. Go Ahead.

Assistant County Attorney. Our Office Has Done The Research With Respect To The Issue Raised. It Has To Do With Whether Or Not The Bank Is Allowed On The Property. In Other Words After The Registration Can They Put Somebody On The Property? Our Office Believes That They Are Able To Do So. We Can Go Out And Do More Research If You Would Like To, But The Basis For This Belief The Abandonment And Waste Clause Contained In Every Mortgage That I Have Reviewed. I Pulled Up Mortgages That Were Recorded In July Just To Make Sure That I Had The Most Recent Renditions From Local Banks And Out Of State Banks, Freddie Mac And Fannie Mae Mortgages. Every One Of Them Contains The Clause To Allow The Bank To Go To The Property And Maintain In The Event That The Property Owner Is Failing To Do So. It Does Not Require Them To Be Out Of The House. It Allows Them On The Property When It Is Inhabited Or When It Is Uninhabited In Order To Maintain The Property As The Collateral For The Mortgage.

This Is A Document From April 11 Of This Year From The President Of The Florida Bankers Association I Believe You Refoot Some Of The Paragraphs In This Could You Confirm That?

Yes.

I Want To Know That You Read This And Understood It.

I Have.

I Don't Know The Answer Here But We Have An Issue. It Needs To Be Resolved. If The Board Is Willing To Take Another Extended Period Of Time To Have Both Parties Get Together I Don't Have A Problem With That. If You Don't The Agenda Item Is To Draft This Ordinance And Bring It Back To Public Hearing. We Cannot Decide Anything Today. I Want My Colleagues Input. This Is Lingered For Months. We Need Something Done.

This Is 4 Or 5,000 Different Ones. In Lehigh Acres And Gateway In Support Of The Measure. I Would Support We Move Forward To Public Hearing. We Have More Discussion Then. We Heard The Testimony In Other Counties.

We Did Get Some Alternative Language That They Wanted To Look At. Let's Set A Date Four Weeks From Now. You Can Only Beat It So Much. It Is A Time Certain. Four Weeks To Look At This Language To See If There Is Compro Myself With The Backs. There Is Frustration From Local Banks Versus Bigger Banks. The Difference In How They Do Business In Our Community. I Hope That Some Of This Could Be Included So That The Outcome Is The Same But That We Are Not Putting -- Because Of Bad Behavior Here I Don't Want To Throw Out The Baby With The

Bathwater There Is An Opportunity To Review This And See If There Is A Way To Come To Something. In Four Weeks That Is Plenty Of Time To Do That.

Mr. Chairman Most Of These Folks Here From Lehigh It Is Clear To Everybody Especially In Lehigh That I Have Heard This And I Sense Their Frustration. We Have Come A Long Way In Lehigh. We Had A Horrible Crisis When The Recession Hit. There Were Thousands Of Foreclosed And Unforeclosed Homes Abandon. This Is The Biggest Issue Facing Lehigh. It Is Diminished. We Went From Five Code Enforcement Officers To Nine. Actually We Had Maybe For The Sheriff's Office Where He Was Helping Us Point Out Issues To Get Them To Code Enforcement. We Have Come A Long Way To Speed Up The Process. There Is A Substantial Inventory Of The Problem Homes Out There. What Confuses Me Here, Nobody Is Against Trying To Speed Up The Process. There Are Obstacles Within The Law And Constitution That Makes It Difficult For Us To Accomplish The Cleanup As Fast As We Would Like To And He Has Worked So Hard On This Issue. They Are Community Leaders. They Recognize We Do Have Those Built In Legal And Constitutional Obstacles. I Don't Want To Move This Forward And Create The Impression Overnight This Issue Is Going Away. We Have Built In Problems. This Ordinance If Passed In Some Form Will Not Take Care Of 42 Totally. I Like The Fact That The Banking Community, Local Banks Have Offered Suggestions And Have Not Opposed The Fee Itself We Are Talking About. Usually That Means There Is An Opportunity To Expand Our Communitycation And Do Something That Works For Everybody. What I Don't Understand Is Several Folks Allegation That The Banks Deliberately Dragged Their Feet. The Banks Who Are In This To Make A Profit Only Suffer As You Delay Cleanup And The Value Of That House Continues To Detear Rate. It Makes No Sense They Would Not Be In Favor Of Finding A Mechanism To Speed Up The Process. I Think What I Am Hearing Is Let's Move Forward On This But Let's Welcome Other Participants For Their Input.

If It Can Be Done In Four Weeks.

Yes, But I Think It Is Go To Put A Target Date On This So We Don't Continue To Drag This Out. With Those Thoughts I Am Ready To Move Forward.

I Do Appreciate And I Think We All Hear What Is Going Onatly High And The Other Communities. The Gentleman Here Spoke Specifically That The Role Of This County Commission Is Their Town Council. Having Served On Council, This Is Not A Brand-New Problem. It Has Been Dealt Within Other Municipalities As Well. To Me When I Look At The Situation I Think One Of The Things We Need To Not Forget Is That What Is It We Are Truly Trying To Accomplish? 43 There Are Ways That Government Can Go In And Take Over Maintenance Of Property, Once It Is Identified. There Are Ways To Get The Right To Inspect The Property For Safety

Issues, And There Are Ways If There Is A Safety Issue That We Can Take The Building Down. I Think That Establishing An Aggressive Legal Posture On This Problem Is One Of The Things That We Absolutely Need To Make This Part Of The Discussion. Let's Not Forget And I Spoke To Senator Rector Earlier Is That There Was A \$30 Million Commitment Made From The State To Henry Solve Part Of The Issue That We Are All Facing. You Know, Let Us Give That Time To Take Hold And See What Are We Going To Get? What Are The Benefits Of That? As I Spoke Earlier This Morning And Maybe You Want To Comment On It. In Terms Of Operations With This Part Of The Things We Are Talking About, You Need Policy Direction From This Board. Are There Things That You Can See From An Operational Standpoint Either In Code Enforcement Or Something Like That That We Could Again Be More Aggressive?

I Have To Admit We Have Not Had A Great Deal Of Discussion About Alternatives Over The Last Several Weeks. I Did Ask Mr. Stewart This Morning If We Had Ever Launched An Aggressive Campaign To Ask People To Give Us A Call If They Had A Property Next Door To Them For Example. At One Time There Was A Newspaper Article With Phone 44 Numbers And We Are Increased Number Of Call For A Short Period Of Time But There Was No Campaign To Rectify The Problems. If The Board Would Like Us To Look At That We Are Help Be To Do That. Mr. Burdette Was Quoting From A Study About The Actual Number Of Cases That We Have Responds To And Resolved Over Time. You Know, A Look At The Numbers Might Be Helpful. This Is A Policy Issue For The Board To Pass This Or Create This Ordinance Or Something That Looks Like It Doesn't Place A Burden On The Staff So We Just You Know The Devil Is In The Detail.

On That Accord I Hope That As Part Of This Effort That We Do Look Anal Allow The County Manager To Look At What Can We Bring To Bear With The Resources We Have Sable To Us? I Would Rather See Us Working On The Problem Rather Than Writing The Code, Changing The Law. I Would Disagree With The Statement Of Putting Another Layer Of Government On Top Of The Problem That I Think Already Has Too Much Of That Already. That Would Be My Input.

We Appreciate Senator Ricktor Calling Us To Have A Conversation Where He Is From His Perspective In The Personal Business But As A Legislator And What The State Is Doing. That Can Be Accomplished. Serving On The Fort Myers City Council With A Code Enforcement That Does Mow And Cites For Property Teardown, All Of Those Things. I Am Not Saying The Answer Is To Go To An Outside Source. 45 The Fact I Am Relying On A Neighbor To Call. I Like The Registry. How We Deal With That Could Be Internal Or External. No One Is -- That Is A Cost Factor. What Is More Effective? What Will Prove To Have The Outcome And Meet The Expectation Of Our Residents? Are They In Lehigh Or Wherever They Are In Unincorporated Lee

County. What I Hoped To Do In The Four Weeks And This Is A Conversation About Code Enforcement. We Have A Conservative Legal Team Over The Past That Have Said We Are Not As Comfortable As What Fort Myers Doing. All Of Those Issues Can Be Looked At And Be Incorporated Into The Ordinance As Well As What We Have Heard From The Board Of Realtors, Banking Associations Along With The Local Banks. This May End Up Being Something. Let's Get It Resolved In Four Weeks. I Don't Think You Need Longer To Put Something Together. At The End We Have The Good Folks Back To Say, Yes, We Like It, No, We Don't. As Long As We Are Not Moving The Language Into The Ordinance. We Can Continue It If It Is Too Substantive. I Hope In The Next Four Weeks, 28 Days, 30 Days, That We Can Get Those Out So We Can Move Forward. I Am Certainly In My District In North Fort Myers We Are Back To Traditional Single Family Neighborhoods Similar To Out East In The Russell Park Areas. These Are Issues For These Folks In The Neighborhoods. We Do Need To Address It. I Think This Ordinance Putting These Ideas Together If It Makes Sense To Farm This Out At That Time We Will Put That Out There. If It Makes Sense To Hold It Internal See How We Do It Against Budget, Those Are Great Options. I Would Like To Have An Up Or Down Vote On This In Four Weeks. We Have Dragged This Out Almost Eight Months Or So. I Will Make A Motion To Move It Forward To A Public Hearing In Four Weeks. With All That We Have Heard To Bring It Home For A Landing.

I Will Second The Motion. I Ask For An Amendment. My Motion Was To Ask The County Attorney To Draft An Ordinance For Our Discussion And Put It Back To Public Hearing. Four Weeks Is A Tight Timeframe.

It Will Go Six Weeks. You Have To Have Two Weeks, Four Weeks To Review The Ordinance And To Move It To Public Hearing Two Weeks After That.

I Would Also Ask Under Discussion I Would Ask Both Sides Submit To The County Attorney's Office The Language They Would Like To See Incorporated And Why. If That Is Okay.

That Is Fine With Me.

In The Middle Which Part To Use?

There Are Legal Parameters To Be Taken Care Of. Some Of The Items Put On The Record You Have Disputed The Illinois Legality Of Those. They Are Capable To Go Through That Problem.

Part Of It Would Simply Be If There Are Remaining Issues Which There Is No Internal Resolution And Agreement For A Recommendation Back To Us. You Can Give Us An Option. This Is What The Community Suggested. This Is What The

Proponents Of The Ordinance Suggested And This Is What You Would Have To Do. I Think It Is Important That The Proponents Of The Anybody With Any Interest In This Ordinance Have Freedom And Resepectivity At The Staff Level During This Four Weeks So They Can Be Heard. We Are Not Going To Have Another Public Workshop Or Anything Like That On This. Let's Have A Total Vetting Of This Thing And Bring It Back And Put It To Sleep And Move Something Forward.

There Chairman, There Are Going To Have To Look At The Existing Code Ordinances To See What Is Missing. If You Add Don't This We May Be In Conflict With Code Enforcement On The Books Now. We Need To Coddy Fieverything So We Are Not Conflicting What We Are Doing And We Are Giving The Opportunity To Look At Enforcement From External And Internal Processes. When This Comes Back There Will Be Plenty Of Time For The Public Before It Goes To Public Hearing. At That Same Time Up Give Staff Time To Make Determinations Also.

Thank You. I Like Where We Are Going With This. I Would Ask The County Manager. I Hear Numbers Getting Thrown Around Here On How Many Incidents We Have. If You Co-Ed You Indicate Us On How Many There Are And Whatever Tracking And Monitoring Your Organization Does So We Have That Benefit.

We Are Happy To Do That.

One Last Thought. It Is Good News That This The End Of Last Week They Announced We Have Had The Lowest Number Of Foreclosures Initiated In Four Years To This Problem Little By Little Is Taking Care Of Itself. It Is Helping Us Go Away. It Is Going To Get Easier Instead Of Worse.

Any Other Discussion?

Any Objection On The Motion?

No Objection The Motion Is Carried. Let's Move On To The Public Hearing.

Good Morning. Jack Peterson Assistant County Attorney. We Are Here For The First Of The 9:30 Public Hearings In Regards To An Ordinance Designating Certain County Employees And Official As Code Enforcement Officers. I Have Reviewed The Affidavit Of Publication And Find It Legally Sufficient And The Board May Take It Up On Your Discretion, Sir.

I Move The Item.

Second.

Any Discussion?

What Does It Do?

Commissioner, In The Past We Have Had Some Problems With Code Enforcement Officers Working For Departments Other Than Code Enforcement. They Have Been Attempting To Issue Civil Citations For Violations Of Their Own Pick Code Items Like Animal Control Is One Of The First Once That Started To Have A Problem. Just About Two Or Three Months Ago, An Officer From Natural Resources Was Attacked By A Homeowner Who Had Problems When This Employee Was Making A Well Inspection. What Has Happened Is We Are Asking That Certain Employees Besides Their Title Also Be Named As Code Enforcement Officers That Protects Them From Certain -- That Allows Their Personnel Files To Be Deleted As Far As Telephone Numbered And Home Addresses. It Extends To Them Certain Legal Protections In The Sense That Instead Of Just In The Case Of This Code Enforcement Officer With Natural Resources Whether The Sheriff Could Not Proceed To Investigate It Very Well Because It Was Just His Word Against The Homeowners. As Code Enforcement Officers, An Attack On A Code Enforcement Officer By State Law Is A Third-Degree Felony Which Allows The State Attorney And Sheriff To Have A Wider Ability To Investigate It.

You Are Saying It Does Two Things? It Extends The Third-Degree Felony Potential Charge To Cover More People?

Yes, Sir.

Because We Are Now Calling Them Code Enforcement Officers And Gives Those People The Statutory Protection Of You Can't Find Their Phone Number Or Address?

That's Correct, Sir.

Thank You.

Any Objection? No Objection The Motion Is Carried. Number Two.

Good, Good Morning. 50 I Have Your Must Be Two Public Hearing. I Have Reviewed The Affidavits Of Publication Published In The August 1st, 2013 Time News Press It Is Legally Sufficient To Proceed With The Public Hearing At This Time. I Am Providing It To The Clerk For Incorporation Into Your Minutes.

The Public Comment On Public Hearing Number Two. Being None. Open For Discussion.

Move The Item.

Second.

Any Discussion?

Yes. I Appreciate The Motion. Is This Time Sensitive? Is This Something We Need To Have Done Today?

It Does Not Have To Be Done Today.

Is There A Time We Need To Have This Done In Terms Of Contract? What Would That Be?

Commissioners The Revenue Is One That We Have Included In Our Models For Balancing The Budget. However, You Know, Matter Of Weeks Is Not Going To Make A Difference.

Thank You. You Just Said The Magic Words In Terms Of Balance In The Budget. If I Understand Correctly This Represents \$8 Million Increase In Fees To The County?

This Would Be About \$4 Million.

Where Am I Hearing \$8 Million?

That Is The 5.9% Statutory Ceiling.

Is That Part Of This Motion?

No.

We Haven't Spent That Much Time Talking About The Budget Yet. I Am Wondering From A Policy Standpoint, You Know, If We Are Actually Driving The Budget Based On Increasing Revenues. Just Shortly Recently We Increased The Trim Tax To A Maximum And I Understand The Process And I Understand That You Can Always Lower It. I Do Understand That. If We Are Going To Increase The Taxes, Then Increase Fees Which Are Taxes, Then I Am Hearing About 2020 Funds Which Are Revenue Funds And We Haven't Spent A Lot Of Time On What Is Our Position On Whether Or Not This Is Going To Be A Revenue Driven Budget And Number Two We Haven't Had The Discussion On The Expense Side Of It As Well. I Just Think It Is Premature To Increase Taxes Or Fees Until We Have Had A Discussion And We Have Had A Chance As A Board To Take A Policy Position. I Vend Had That Discussion And I Would Ask That We Postpone Passing This Until We Have That Discussion.

I Can Tell I Am By Myself Again.

Mr. Chairman. We Have Had The Discussion About Cuts And Revenue At Length. I Don't Think You Aral Lope. I Don't Think That Is A Fair Comment To Your

Colleagues. I Will Share With You That Last Discussion With The County Managers We Showed Where Cuts Occurred. Approximately \$7 Million And The Opportunity For Revenues. It Was A Balance. Some Cuts, Some Revenues To Get To Zero. We Don't Have To Be Challenged 52 To Go To Zero. It Can Still Be The Same Combination. There Are \$7 Million In Cuts Proposed By The Staff, Additional Cuts. I Have Nod -- I Have Not Heard From Any Other Commissioner Recommendation Also Other Than What Is Given By Staff. If You Don't Like What Is Given By Staff Which Is Their Recommendation To Us. You Need To Communicate Or Have That Discussion With Us Here All Five Of Us And Say, Staff, These Are Great, But Why Isn't This There? We Had This Discussion In June. We Had It Again On The 30th When We Came Back. Maybe I Am Alone In Recall Of What We Have Moved Forward With. At The Time Staff Brought The Franchise Fees They Asked Do You Want Us To Move Forward With The Franchise Fees And We Said Yes. They Haven't. I Want To Go Back To Budget And Costs. Every Time We Do A Public Hearing There Is A Cost. If We Were Not Prepared To Go To Public Hearing For The Franchise Fee We Shouldn't Have Given That Direction. I Don't Mind Postponing It. We Have To Go Back Out And Retis And Go Through The Full Process. I Am Not Opposed To Supporting Your Request, But What Bothers Me Is The Continuation Of Discussions That Were Not Discussing These Items And We Are Not Talking About Them. I Am Not Someone Who Likes To Talk In Ambiguities So Be Specific. We Had The 30th. There Was No Timeframe When They Brought Forward Cuts And Revenues. While We Don't All Agree We Can't Leave Them Without Specific Directions. They Don't Have Esp. I Am Trying To Put My Feet In Their Shoes And Hear What They Are Telling Us. I Am Not Going To Criticize Them For Not Doing Something I Haven't Asked Them To Do. They Are Saying To Us And Please Correct Me If I Am Wrong. You Are Saying To The Board. Here Are The Cuts We Feel Are Appropriate. That Is It. Now, If We Want Different Cuts. If We Want Too Look At Employee Benefits, Employee Salaries, Look At Different Departments Downsizing. We Need To Communicate That. In Their Experience They Are Saying To Us, No To All Of Those Things. I Know They Looked At Them. They Looked At Everything. I Am Looking Before Monday If There Is Something You Haven't Seen Yet, Let's Tell Them Today. Let's Tell Them Right Now. I Am More Than Happy To Accommodate A Delay On This Increase Even Though I Think I Seconded The Motion. I Am Happy To Accommodate That.

You Don't Remember?

No, I Don't. I Am Frustrated. Having Said That I Don't Want To Give The Impression To The Public We Are In The Dark. I Don't Feel Like I Am In The Dark. Maybe I Am Alone In That.

Any Others?

Let Me Get My Flashlight Out.

I Appreciate That. 54 There Has Been Yet Another Presentation Of \$7 Million Worth Of Cuts That You've Particularly Or Since You Have Been Here You Would Like To Introduce To The Board. We Haven't Seen Those Cuts And We Haven't Talked About Those Yet. If You Are Relying On What Happened Before He Got Here I Believe There Was Some Discomfort, If You Will, In Terms Of The Cuts Presented To Us From Staff At That Time. This Is Just About A Budget Process. I Do Appreciate Is Fact That Staff Was Given Direction To Work On This Ordinance. It Goes From Giving Direction To Working On The Ordinance, Public Hearing, No Discussion, We Vote On It. Implication Of Fees And Taxes That We Are Going To Add To The Mix Or Going To Substitute It With Other Revenues, You Know, I Think The Policy Discussion Has Not Happened Yet. We Haven't Talked About The Sheriff's Budget Yet. Yes, We Had A Presentation, No, My Opinion We Haven't Talked About It. All The Way Across The Board. We Don't Have A Policy For Reserves. That, Too, Enters Into The Mix Of How You Balance A Budget. We Have A Lot Of Work To Do. We Have A Lot Of Discussion. I Appreciate The Fact That If There Is A Chance That We Could Postpone This In Hopes That We Will Have Some Of That Policy Discussion Before Then Would Be Ideal In My Book.

We Didn't Ask To Drop Policy. We Directed Them To Bring Forward The Franchise Rates. They Wouldn't Have Brought It Forward If We Didn't Direct Them To. We Directed You To Bring That Back And Do It.

Roger.

Commissioners This Resolution Today Is Part Of A Larger Puzzle That Includes Both Diversifying Revenues As Well As Reporting To You On Budget Reductions That We Intend To Make Our Case For On Monday Of Next Week. I Know There Is A Lot Of Discussion About The Revenue Side And The Expense Side Of The Budget Process. This Is But One Piece Of That Puzzle. This Afternoon You Will Receive From Us The Documents That You Will Begin To Exam In Order To Get Through The Budget Workshop Next Week. As I Have Said In The Previous Budget Memo And Repeated In This One We Have Taken The Cuts As Far As We Feel Comfortable Absent Policy Discussion And Direction From The Board. On September 26th That Is When We Have Our First Policy Goal Setting Strategic Planning Meeting. Following That Meeting Let's Make The Assumption We Are Successful And We Have More Policy Direction From You We Can Go Back To The Process And Tweak The Budget And We May End Up Doing Reorganization It Depends What You Tell Us At That Time.

The Date August Or September, Roger?

September.

The Last Budget Hearing Is The 19th. You Are Talking About Next Year's?

Not Necessarily. It Depends. We Always Have Option To Amend Midyear So We Can Do That. In The Meantime If Our Goal Is To Get To A Balanced Budget Without Going To Reserves We Have A Few Options To Consider That You Will See When We Send It To You This Afternoon And We Will Talk About It Next Week. As I Mentioned Most Of You That I Have Seen This Morning As Soon As You Are Ready Let Me Know. We Will Be Happy To Brief On The Proposal That You Are Going To Be Examining And Have To Make A Decision On To Talk About The Detail If You Would Like In Advance Of Monday. This Is About Everything Kind Of Converging At The Same Time. On This Blue Sheet Could You Delay A Week Or So? You Can Do That. Nothing Time Sensitive About Doing It Today. It Is Part Of A Larger Puzzle.

I Do Think I Understand This. This Blue Sheet Item Relates Directly To The Budget This Year And What I Have Heard You Guys Talking About And We Have Had Direct Conversations That I Will Try To Work With You. If You Think Show Me The Additional Cuts And I Have Commended You Publicly For The Courage That You Took Upon Arrival To Find More Cuts, Some Big Bucks. It Is Only Based On Further Reductions That I Would Entertain Some Revenue Enhancement. I Think I Can Say This Without Fear Of Contridiction. There Is No One On The Commission The Last Six Years More Tight With Budget And I 57 Have Voted With Five Out Of Six Budgets Because I Thought We Had Not Cut Enough. Looking Back Now Cumulatively Our First Budget Deficit Was Close To \$50 Million We Had To Cover From Savings. Then It Was 40 Then 30 Plus And 30 Plus And We Are Looking At 34 More Now. We Are Over \$00 Million -- \$100 Million Out Of Savings. We Can't Do That Any More. We Are Going To Have To Balance The Budget In A Real World Scenario. This Is One Of The Components. The County Manager Has Brought This To Us. I Don't Like It Either But It Must Be A Part Of The Budget Discussion. If We Can -- I Don't Mind Delaying It A Day Or Two Or Week Or Three So That It Can Be Part Of The Total Budget Process So We Can Balance That Revenue And The Additional Cuts. I Know You Are Still Working On It. Ultimately I Think We Have To Address This And Probably Make It Part Of The Revenue Enhancement So That We Don't Continue To Dig Into A Savings Account That We Have One Out Of. When We Have The Hurricane We Talked About Earlier Today We Are Desperately Going To Mead What Savings Account We Have. I Don't Like The Fact We Haven't Said As Much As I Like. I Do Work In A Collegial Body And We Have To Compromise And Work With One Another And See The Big Picture And Long-Term Picture. I Think We Have About Run Our Well Dry. Even With The Revenue 58 Enhancements. Taxpayers In Lee County Are Going To End Up Paying Less Than They Did Five Years Ago. That Needs To Be Repeted Several Times. All I Am Trying To Do Here Is Agree With On You The Process And The Timing. My Plea Is For All Of Us To Get

Real. There Are No More Easy Alternatives. I Commend Staff For What You Guys Have Done In Bringing Forth The Budget Recommendations So Far. We Are Going To Finalize Them And Move Forward. We Don't Lose Anything By Waiting A Day Or Two. Can We Make This Blue Sheet Issue Part Of The Actual Budget Adopting Process? On The Same Day When We Know What Revenues Are Required?

We Can But It On.

I Would Be Hesitant To Wait Quite That Long. We Need To Make Sure That It Is On Time To Begin Placing It On The Bills For What Month?

Staff Is Here Today If We Have Questions Also.

I Believe October Would Be Nice To Begin It In October.

Our Workshop Is Monday. We Can Give Them Direction Again On Monday To Go To Public Hearing. We Can Get It Done Before The End Of August. Why Don't We Set A Tentative Time For Monday What We Want To Do Then We Can Have This Discussion Again And Decide The Timing What That Is Going To Be. I Don't Have A Problem With That. I Want To Point Out Again Roger's Memorandum On July 24th Was Clear. He Gave Us An Overall Budget Of Every Department In The General Fund That Showed Where He Was Taking The \$7 Million From. It Coincided With What Doug Gave Us In Descriptive Detail. It Was The Same Areas. I Brought This Up. You Asked Me At The Last Meeting At Monday Workshop You Asked Where Would You -- I Asked You Where Do You Want To Take More From? Think About It And Come Back Tomorrow. No One Spoke Up. It Was A Long Meeting. I Told You From My Perspective I Don't Know Where Else To Consult Unless You Go To Specific Employees. You Know There Are Human Services, Parks And Recreation And Emergency Management. That Deals With Eliminating Positions And Services And It Is A Combination In Very Specific Detail. I Just Am Not Disagreeing With You But I Just Don't Want A Feeling That We Are Getting Thing This Is Gray Terms. I Don't Feel We Are. What Is Lacking Is Our Ability To Discuss It. We Are All Here Understanding It Is Black And White. Maybe We Are Not Spending Enough Time Going Down The Line To Make Sure Of That. Maybe That Should Be A Goal For Monday So We Can Give Staff Specific Directions That Doesn't Come Back At The Meeting That We Didn't Understand.

I Would Like To Have The Discussion Part Of The Budget Process And At Which Time I 60 Would Think That We Would Be Able To Identify Whether Or Not This Is A Revenue Stream That We Want To Take Advantage Of Or Not, You Know. Let's Be Real Clear We Are Raising Taxes When We Do This. That Is The Conversation That Needs To Happen. There Is A Motion On The Table And I Don't Know How You Want To Do It.

I Would Leave It To Your Decision. If You Want To Keep The Motion I Will Keep My Second. I Am 50/50. This Board Gave Direction To The Staff.

I Amends The Motion To Put This On The Monday Budget Workshop And Have It Walk On Item On Tuesday The 20th. It Is A Public Hear.

It Has To Be A Public Hearing. If You Put It On A Date Certain For Public Hearing We Can Foregotissing It Again.

It Would Be The 27th.

I Will Second That Motion For You, John.

I Need To Ask A Question If I May. Is Part Of That Discussion Going To Be The Final Recommendation If You When Of What Tax Rate You Want To Set In This County? Does It Include The Discussion On Things Like 20/20 Reserves? Is It Going To Include These Aspects Before We Decide Whether Or Not We Are Going To Increase The Taxes By \$4.5 Million?

It Is Part Of The Package You Will Receive This Afternoon. You Will Receive Preliminary Recommendations On Policy For Sitting Reserves In Every Account Where We Have Reserves Mostly It Has To Do With The General Fund But The Mstu And A Couple Others. Library Fund We Talk About So You Will Have That Information And We Would Intend That To Be Part Of The Discussion Next Week To Include A Global Conversation We Intend To Have With You.

We Have No Other Budget Workshop Scheduled Before The Fifth. This Is Our Last Budget Workshop.

I Missed The Last Point. We Wouldn't Be Asking To Set A Final Millage Rate. What We Expect At That Meeting You Will Give Us Direction. At The End Of The Budget Workshop. Then We Will Come Back For The First Public Hearing With The Recommended Final Millage Rate Along With All Of The Budget Numbers. We Will Get That To You. We Have A Chance To Look At It.

With All Due Respect To The Board And Thank You For Being Patient With Me. How Can We Add This Fee To The Revenues Without Having Accomplished What You Were Just Talking About Which Is An Overall Revenue Picture Where We Want To Be?

One Component Of The Budget Process We Are Aware Of And We Have Had Public Input On -- We Have An Opportunity To Reduce Our County Spending By Eliminating Some Bus Services That Would Affect The Blind, It Would Affect The Developmentally Disabled. Now In The Final Analysis Those Are The Kinds Of

Decisions We Are Going To Make. We Can Balance The Budget On Their Backs Or We Can Ask Our Northern Tourists To Come Down Here And Live In Their Second Homes To Pay More On Their Electric Bill. Those Are The Decisions We Are At. They Are Days Away. I Think We Lose Nothing By The Motion As It Is Now Structured. The Final Analysis Is Where We Are Down To. Those Are The Decisions We Are Going To Be Making.

If I May, You Forgot One More Or That Is That There Is Sufficient Dollars In This County To Balance This Budget Without Raising Taxes. That Is A Discussion That Needs To Happen.

Where Is The Money?

You Have 20/20. There Is A Big Pot Of Money Right There.

The Millage Of 20/20. We Can't Take The Money In 20/20. All You Can Do Is Take The Millage. Giving One Year Out Of 20/20 Doesn't Solve The Issue. If It Was A One Time Fee I Don't Disagree To Take \$34 Million To Put In The Budget This Year. What Do I Do Next Year. I Have A \$30 Million Rye Occurring Expenses. If You Are Talking About The Millage I Am Happy To Change That. These Are Re-Occurring Expenses.

That Again Is A Policy Discussion That Has Not Happened. We Currently Are Reserving 10% Of All 20/20 Money For Maintenance. Is That Right? Is That 20 Years, 50 Years, 100 63 Years? We Don't Know. Is It Correct Amount? How Much Are We Using? At What Rate? How Much Is Enough When You Look At \$100 Million That Says Perhaps You Want To Talk About Funding It Differently In Terms Of This Is The Amount Of Money We Want In There. If It Goes Over There We Use It. If It Gets Used Up We Fund It. There Are Other Ways Of Doing This Rather Than The Way We Have Been Doing It For The Last Decade. It Is A Successful Program In Many, Many Aspects. I Am Not Asking To Get Rid Of The Program. I Am Saying Let's Reevaluate How We Manage It And Look At The Policies That Direct Staff And Everyone Else To Proceed. Just There Alone I Think There Might Be Money Depending On How This Policy Discussion Comes Out. It May Provide Some Relief In Terms Of Balancing The Budget And Where We Get The Revenues And When We Pay Our Expenses.

Mr. Chairman. Are You Talking About The Millage?

There Is Half A Penny Going To The Regular Rate, Correct?

No, Even Though The Millage Is Combined On The Trim Notice It Is True To 2020 As Far As Incorporation And Accounting. When You Say 2020 You Are Moving It. I Am

Going Back This \$30 Million Shortfall Are Re-Occurring Expenses. We Have Made That Commitment No Matter The Millage For 2020 It Will Stand Alone We Wouldn't This Year If We Leveled A Millage Of 5 We Would Keep That In 2020. We Wouldn't Move That. The General Fund Has A Re-Occurring \$30 Million Short Fund To Balance One Year At Not The Next Year That Is Re-Occurring In This Pot. I Am Happy To Share This With You On Monday. I Want To Say Again. The County Manager And Pete Have Both Talked About The .5 Millage And About Taking Reducing That Millage For 2020 To Move That Over To The General Fund. That Has Not Been A Conversation We Have Had. People Can Say What They Want And It The Controversial And I Will Probably Get A Thousand E-Mails. At The End Of The Day The Majority Of The Board Made It Clear We Would Not Take Existing Money Collected For 2020 And Do What Our State Legislatures Do And Federal Government Does Which Is Take From Transportation And Move It To Something Else. That Pot Will Stay True. I Think Those Are Great Agenda Items For Monday. Policy Decisions As The County Manager Said That Is A Strong Policy Measure And The Statement We Have To Be Willing To Divert Existing Money We Told The Taxpayer Was Collected For Conservation To Offset The Debt In The General Fund. That Will Not Be Resolved Today. I Defer It To Monday And Make Sure It Is On The Agenda To Be Discussed Early. John, What Was The Date Of The Motion You Made Was To Move This Public Hearing To Tuesday August 27th? Thank You.

You Had Something?

It Looks Like You Are Finished. I Am Good.

We Have The Amended Motion To Move This To Monday. Any Discussion On That? Any Objection?

I Don't Think For Clarity Let's Restate That Again.

The Motion As I Heard It Was To Move This Public Hearing To August 27th Which Is A Public Hearing Date Which Is A Tuesday At 9:30.

This Discussion Will Be Taken Up On Monday The 19th In The Budget Workshop. Any Objections? Motion Carries. Number Three.

Good Morning. I Am The Assistant County Attorney. I Have Agenda Items, 3, 4, 5, Sixty Your Agenda This Morning. I Will Ask You To Take Up Each One Individually. I Will Introduce Affidavits Into The Record And Give Them To The Clerk. I Have For Public Hearing Agenda Items 3, 4, 5. Affidavits Of Notice Of The Publication And For Item 6 I Have Affidavit Of Publication And Posting. I Have Reviewed The Affidavits They Are Legally Sufficient For You To Go Forward This Morning And I Will Give These Affidavits To The Clerk.

Beginning First The Agenda Item 3. This Is Petition To Vacate 2013-006 To Vacate A 6-Foot White Public Utility Easement Or Portion There Of At 272 Lee Boulevard In Lehigh Acres.

Move.

Second.

Public Comment? Discussion?

Public Hearing Number 4 Petition To Vacate Moved.

Second.

Vote On The First One.

Any Objection?

No Objection. Second Item.

This Is Number 4. This Is 00005 This. Is To Vacate Portions Of A Five Foot Wide Easement At Royal Palm Park Road In Fort Myers Shores.

Move.

Second.

Any Public Comment?

I Temis Closed. Any Objection? Motion Carried. Public Hearing On Item 5.

2012, 0013 Tovoy Indicate A Portion Of 30-Foot Wide Drainage 17408 Kentucky Road In San Carlos Park.

Moved.

Second.

Any Comment? Being None The Public Comment Is Closed. Discussion? Objection?

I Am Sorry. Public Comment?

No.

Any Objection? No Objection Motion Carried. Public Hearing Number 6.

00002. This Is To Vacate Portions Of The Former Iona Drainage District Over Part Of Royal Woods Phase Two In South Fort Myers.

Moved, Seconded. Public Comment Is Closed. Discussion? Any Objection? No Objection Motion Carries.

Thank You. I Move Walk On Item Number One.

Second.

Commissioner Hall Second. Discussion? Objection? No Objection Motion Carried. Thank You.

Commissioner This Is Not A Commissioner Item Per Se It Is With Mixed Emotions I Would Like To Say A Sincere Thank You To My Executive Assistant Who I Hired In Early March Of 1997. She Has Been Through A Lot. She Is Not A Person Who Wants The Limelight, That Is For Sure. I Want To Wish Her Well And Her Family Well As They Embark On Retirement Together. They Will Be Relocating To The Panhandle In Their Former Family Compound That Was Constructed In The 1940s And We Wish Them Well. She Has Been An Asset, A True Asset To Lee County. Even Though I Am Transitioning To A New Executive Assistant I Want To Thank Her From The Bottom Of My Heart For The Job She Has Done For Both Myself And Commissioner James.

Thank You.

This Last Friday During The Tdc Time Town Of Fort Myers Presented To The Tdc A Request For Consideration Forbid Tax Project. In That Meeting It Was Noted That Probably Best That We Go To The Board First And Get Direction Or Get Some Plan Of Action If You Will In Terms Of How To Deal With That Situation. It Is A Considerable Amount Of Money. It Is My Recommendation That We Would Perhaps If Commissioner Hall Would Accept As The District Owner Of That Geography Maybe Lead The Board's Effort In Terms Of Initial Conversation To Find Out What It Is And Direct It To The Correct Resources.

I Am Happy To Do That. They Did A Brief Presentation At Tdc. I Think That You And The Tdc Board Handled That Very Professionally And Very Well. Thank You For Your Leadership In That Regard. It Is Hard To Get A Presentation And They Are Looking At You Yes Or No. It Is Not Really That Easy. I Thought You Asked Great Questions And The Board Did A Great Job. The Devil Is In The Detail That Is No What We Do At This Board. I Will Move It To That. I Will Get It Scheduled For An Upcoming.

Thank You. One Last Thing. I Know That You Participated In The Spirit Of 45 This Last Sunday. It Was Almost Underwhelming If You Will What The Lack Of Reporting On It. These Are World War Ii Veterans. This Is The Third One I Participated In. Courtesy Of Lee County Sheriff's Department. They Had A Flyover With The Helicopter. The Fire Destructs Put The Flags Up, 21 Gun Salute, The Whole Mix. It

Is Alive Changing Experience. If You Have Never Been To One You Should Go. There Is Not A Lot Of World War II Vets That We Have To Honor If I Can Just Really Digress There Was A Lady That Had Given A Bracelet To Her Husband In 1944. He Soon Passed And Was Killed In The Battle Of The Bulge In 1945 And Had Lost The Bracelet Forever. A Policeman In Belgium Found The Inscription With The Number And Love Jeanie On It And Got It Back To Her. She Was There. Stories Like That One After Another That Touches You And Makes You Proud To Know Why We Are Here. Thank You.

Announce That I Attended The Spirit Of 45 Event. Myself And My Wife. 560 People Were There. Resolution On The County Commission To The Veterans There. I Am A World War II Veteran. My Father Fought In The South Pacific. I Have Past Friends At The American Legion Meetings. It Was A Honor To Represent Lee County. That Generation Of Heroes. We Are Losing A Lot From That Group. It Was A Good Day To Be With Them.

Mr. Chairman. As A Continuance Of My Sermons On What Is Going To Read In The Newspaper About Our Building And Construction Industry And Real Estate And How Great Things Are Going. In Case You Missed It A Couple Days Ago Real Estate Column Said Housing Prices In Southwest Florida Sky Rocket. Fort Myers And Naples In Top 10 Nationally For Increases In The Last Quarter. This Is A Great Place To Live And Work And Try To Look After Our Citizens. It Seems More And More Questionable The Need To Continue The Impact Fee Reduction In Case You All Didn't Catch That Will Is One For Everybody.

While We Are Part Of That Effort To Help The Economy. Thank You.

I Am Through.

I Want To Knowledge And Congratulate The Port Authority Honored At The Florida Image Award. They Won The Golden Award For Outstanding Best Innovation Planning And Design For Their Facebook Launch. We Not Only Have The Greatest Airport But We Are Technically Advanced With Facebook. It Is Something I Have Not Embraced Yet. I Want To Congratulate The Cape Coral Chamber Of Commerce For The Leadership Cape Coral Class. On Friday I Was To Go But Was Under The Weather. I Look Forward To Seeing The Students. They Do A Great Program. Are You A Graduate? I Am A Graduate Of Leadership Cape Coral. They Do A Great Job. Best Of Luck To Them And We Look Forward To Engaging The Class As Well. Thank You.

I Have One To The Human Services Council.

Any Other Discussion? Any Objection. Motion Carries. Commissioner Hall.

New Appointment For The Partner For Results. Two New Appointments. Will Ron Bell For Bicycle And Pedestrian. He Is There For Punishment And Wanted To Serve On The Palm District As Well.

Any Discussion?

Any Objection? Motion Carries.

Mr. Chair One Item. You Requested A Quick Update On Disaster Readiness For Elected Official. It Will Take A Couple Minutes If You Like.

Good Morning. At Your Request I Want To Give -- It Is A Long Meeting. A Brief Update On The Process As We Are Here Into Hurricane Season. This Is The Anniversary Of Charlie Making Landfall In 2004. Preparedness Is Always Our Motto. This Year's Forecasted To Be Heavy Storm Season. Average Of Three Major Hurricanes A Year. This Year Is Predicted To Be 3 To 5 Storms In The Atlantic Basin. Forecasting Being More Accurate These Days We Are Ready For The Anticipation Of The Storms. When An Event Comes To Light Our Responses And Phases. Once A Tropical Depression Or Wave Is Identified In The Atlantic We Are Watching It. We Are Not Broadcasting A Lot Of Information But We Are Keeping An Eye On It. Once That Storm Is Named And Becomes A Tropical Storm Most Of Our Actions Are Monitoring. We Do Start Getting Responses From The Media And Will Answer Those. 72 We Don't Have Any Formal Information Going Out On A Routine Bases. The Storm Is Projected To Point To Lee County In The Five-Day Cone, It's Path We Get Busy. Internally We Start Preparing For Activation. Nothing Formal Yet Takes Place. Once It Hits The Three Day Cone That Is When We Start Ramping Up. We Do A Partial Activation At Level Two And Make More Formal Information Sent Out To The Press. We Start Preparing The Evacuation Plans And Start Decision Making On Evacuations At That Point. Once A Warning Is Issued By The National Hurricane Center We Get Busy And We Will Come To You At That Point For A State Or Local Emergency To Be Declared. We Will Begin -- We Will Go To Full Activation At Level One. When A Warning Is Issued Our Community Occasions Out Of Emergency Management Start And Pios Start Taking Over To Push The Information Out Through The County. We Get Busy Prepping And Being Prepared For The Evacuations And Being Prepared For The Storm To Come. A Question We Discussed In A Meeting The Other Day About The Formalities Of The State Or Local Emergency Of A Storm Or Other Event That May Preclude It And What Needs What The Process Is. The State Or Local Emergency Is Preferred That It Is Put In Place By A Quorum Of The Board Of Commissioners. If The Quorum Is Unavailable We Can't Get Ahold Of You Or For Whatever Reason We Are Unable To Get Three Then The Chair Is Allowed To Make That Declaration. If The Chair Is Unavailable We Go

To The Vice Chair. Once The Vice Chair If We Can't Get Them We Will Resort To Essentially Any Of The Five That Are Available.

Desperation.

If We Can't Get Ahold Of Any Of You Then The County Manager Has The Authorization To Make That State Of Emergency Declaration Or His Designee. De Activation Follows The Same Steps. Same Preferences. I Would Be Happy To Answer Any Questions You Might Have. Any Questions?

How Many Folks Do You Have On Friday?

It Was Very Well Received, Very Well Attended. Between 200 To 50 At Ten -- 250 Attendees. Great Opportunity To Show Off There.

It Was A Good Day. Thank You. Anything Else?

No, Sir.

At This Time The Public Matters Of Concerned Citizens For Public Speaking. You Have Three Minutes To Speak If I Call Your Name. First My Name Is Thomas Flog.

After Thomas Is Edison And Kim After That.

Good Morning. I Am A 32 Year Resident And I Represent The Sons Of Confederate Veterans. They Are Active And Contributes Citizens In Lee County. We Strongly Object To Any Effort To Remove The Port Of Robert E. Lee From The Commission Chambers. The Removal From The Commission Chambers Within No Way Solve The Complex Social Issues Of Opposing Groups Blame On The Portrait. General Lee Was Not Political. He Was A Christian, Had Chrisias Values And Devotion To Duty. Today The Society Can Find Strong Reasons For Emulate The Character. Lee County Citizens Have Many Reasons To Be Proud Of Their History. We Have Progressed As A Society And Yet There Are Reasons And To Be Cleaned From Where We Have Been. Modern Leaders Can Use The Solid Character Of General Lee. Where There Are Social Issues Let Us Tackle Them As Unified Community And Not Waste Time Blaming The Problems On A Piece Of Artwork From The Last Century. We Urge You To Reject The Request To Remove The Portrait From The Chambers.

Good Morning. I Live In Cape Coral. I Appreciate The Opportunity To Address This Issue With You All. My Great, Great-Grandfather Was A Officer In The Confederate Army. My Grandfather. I Have An Interest In This. I Will Not Give A Long Version. I Am Proud To Live In The County Named After General Lee. Almost Every Sovereign State Has A County Named General Lee. He Was A Soldier In The United States Army Second In His Class At The United States Military Academy At West Point In

1829. He Received No Demerits. 75 He Is Not The Only Cadet That Received No Demerits. He Later Returned To West Point And Was Commander At West Point. This Is The Soldier Who Actually Arrested John Brown At The Harper Ferry Arsenal. He Was In Command Of The Union That Arrested John Brown At Harpers Ferry. He Is The General That General Scott Called The Greatest Soldier Now Living. This Is In The United States Army, Not Confederate Army. He Was When The Southern States Decided To Succeed From The Union. This Is The Soldier That Abraham Lincoln Chose To Be The Commander Of All Of The United States Army. At That Point He Lived To Be The Commander Of The Army Of Northern Virginia. To Me It Is Ridiculous If Anybody Could Come Up With A Better Representative Of This County For You All To Sit Under Than General Lee. I Will Help You Hang The Picture Up There. Thank You Very Much.

Thank You. Kim. I Met With My Neighbor This Is The Hallway After The Morning's Big Vote. They Said You Bumped Up The Agenda And Voted On The Water Pipe Issue In The Yacht Club. I Am Confused.

It Was Pad Passed Is That What You Are Here To Speak For?

That Is Why I Am Here.

It Was Passed Earlier.

I Was Confused. I Thought I Would Speak Before That Passed.

It Wasn't Clear On Your Card What You Were Here To Speak About.

I Wrote Yacht Club Water And I Thought That Would Be Clear. It Is Ok. It Doesn't Matter. Am I On Now? Suncoast Estates And Yacht Club Colony Have More In Common Than Geographic Proximity. Our Lee County Government Has Used The Same Excuse To Avoid Paying For Improvements In Both Neighborhoods. I Always Hear That Suncoast Estates Owns The Roads. They Are Privately Owned. That Is Why They Are Not Paved. I Heard The Same Over The Last Couple Years Because Yacht Club Colony Was Privately Owned We Are Expected To Pay For It. The Reason We Don't Want To Pay For It. Half Of My Income Is Taken By Taxes Every Year. In The Last 40 Years The Colony Paid \$160 Million In Taxes. I Haven't Asked For Any Assistance From The County During That 40 Years. However, I Know Why The County Can't Afford \$2 Million. Because In The Past 40 Years We Built Four Baseball Stadiums For Billionaires And Gave 10 Cents Of Millions To Hertz, Chicos, Vr Labs And I Said Probably 14 Years Ago When I First Came Here That This Spending Spree, This Federal And State And Local Governments Have Been On For The Last 100 Years Is Not Sustainable. Something Would Crash And In 2008 It Started To Crash And The Bailouts Tried To Postpone It Or They Have Effectively Postponed

The Real Crash. That Is Still Coming. 77 This Is Not A Recession. This Is A Depression. The Bankruptcy In Detroit Is Just The Tip Of The Iceberg. More Bankruptcies Will Come. A Lot Of People Are Afraid. I Am Not. I Am Happy To See The System Collapse. Like The Homes Remodeled In The Last Five Years. People Come In To Abandoned Houses They Are Gutted And Rebuilt And Look Nice And Back On The Market And So What I See When This Thing Collapsed Is A Rebirth. We Are Going To End Up With Smaller Government And I Think We Will Be Better Off. I Am Looking Forward To It, Not Dreading It. Thanks For Listening.

Good Morning Or Good Afternoon.

It Is Almost Afternoon. Nine Years Ago I Was Encouraged By Bob James To Volunteer At The Lee County Domestic Animal Services. He Thought It Would Be Helpful To Get In Put Regarding The County Pet Over Population. So I Am Here Today With Citizen Input. Last Year 9,800 Animals Entered Our Shelter. For Every 1,000 Dogs Or Cats That Enter The Shelter It Costs The County \$250,000. How Do We Reduce The Budget Of Lee County Domestic Animal Services? It Is Simple. Take In Less Stray Dogs And Cats. How Do We Reduce The Intake Of Stray Dogs And Cats? A Spay And Neuter Ordinance. If You Own A Pet In Lee County You Cannot Let It Roam And Reproduce While Responsible Citizens Pay. My Bowl Is To May Lee County A Model By Becoming A No Kill County Through Effective Ordinances To Save Money And Lives. With An Average Of Over 200 Pets Entering The Shelter Every Week, If Any Of You Have Any Doubt About The Urgency Of Passing The Proposed Ordinances I Encourage You To Go To The Shelter On Any Given Day And Hold A Perfectly Adoptable Animal In Your Hands While It Takes Its Last Breath. Caring Employees At The Lee County Domestic Animal Services Witness This Every Day. I Am Respectfully Requesting The Board Set A Date Today For The Public Hearing On This Issue. The Community Support For These Ordinances Runs Deep And Every Day We Wait Means More Animals Are Needlessly Being Put To Death. Please Set A Deadline Today. By The Way I Want To Thank You For Highlighting A Pet Every Month. The Awareness Is Very Helpful And At The Same Time I Am Sure It Reduces The Blood Pressure Of Everybody In The Room. Thank You For Your Time.

Next Speaker Shelly Webber.

Thank You.

Good Morning Or Afternoon. My Name Is Shelly Webber. I Come To You Today Representing The United Daughters Of The Confederation. There Has Been A Lot Of Issues Going On. The United Daughters Have Had The First Charter Here In 1914. They Have Been Here Ever Since That Time. They Were With The

Community And Have Been With The Community As Possible As Far Back As Will The First Hospital Was Built. They Came To Put Up The League Monument Which Is On Monday Row Street And Raised The Funds To Do That. When The Lee Memorial Hospital Needed Funds To Operate The Hospital, They Gave All Of Their Funds To The Hospital And Started Again. Later On When They Added A Nursery To The Hospital, They Needed Furnishings For The Hospital And The Adc Organization Again Had The Funds To Put Up The Robert E Lee Monument But They Donated To The Children's Wing Of The Hospital. They Did Get The Monument Up. Today I Want To Give You A Brief Idea What The Daughters Have Done In The Community. Ico Go On And On. Sometimes The Things Done Are Done Quietly And No One Ever Knows About It. I Am Here Today To Defend The Robert E. Lee Monument Being Removed From The Chambers. Robert E. Lee Was A Noble Man. After The War Between The States Ended, He Told All Of His Men To Go Home And Be Good Citizens. He Himself Became President Of The Small College With Only Four Professors. His Main Reason For Being There And I Will Quote This Is He Wanted To Prepare A Few Hundred Of The Students There To Train Them For Being Good Peace Officers. That Was His Goal Afterwards. I Would Like. I Don't Know Exactly How To Go About This. There Is So Much Publicity About This And The Naacp Has Not Come Forward To Bring This Up As A Vote. It Is More Like A Threat. I Would Like To Request That The Commissioners Put This On Their Agenda So That The President Of The Naacp Can Come In And Have His Say And We As -- Excuse Me.

Your Time Is Up, I Am Sorry. You Only Have Three Minutes.

Thank You For Your Time.

Ronnie Van Pelt.

Good Day Commissioners. I Have A Lot Of People On My List Here. My Friends Call Me Mo. I Am Here To Address A Safety Issue Involving Taxi Service Companies Operating Here In Lee County. Briefly Three Questions. Three Answers. What Is The Duty Of A Cabdriver? Answer Drive The Cab. What Is The Driver's Responsibility? To Get People From Point A To Point B Safely. Three. Is There Anything Else A Cabdriver Should Be Doing While Doing This? The Answer Is No. What We Have In Lee County Is Taxi Service Companies Which Give A Cell Phone To The Dispatcher And Say Drive The Cab And Take The Calls And Make Sure Everybody Picks Everything Up. This Is A Little Crazy. We Have These Companies That Are Literally Operating The Entire Company From Behind The Wheel Of A Moving Vehicle. The Owners Of These Companies Don't Run The Companies. They Just Manage Them. The Whole Operation Is On The Head Of The Dispatcher. 81 When You See A Cab Go Down The Road With A Phone Number On The Side. That Doesn't Get You The Owner Of The Company. It Doesn't Get You The Manager. It Gets You The

Dispatcher. The Dispatcher Is Behind The Wheel Of A Moving Vehicle. It Would Be Great If They Could Pull Over And Answer The Phone But When They Have Passenger This Is The Car And They Have To Get Them From Point A To B. They Don't. They Keep Answering The Phone And Directing Other Drivers What To Do And So The Whole Operation Is Done By The Dispatcher. The Dispatcher Needs To Be In A Fixed Location. It Is Not That The Owners Can't Do That. It Is Because They Won't. There Was A Tv Show Taxi. He Answered The Phone Behind The Window And Sent Them On The Way. The Cell Phone Changed The Industry. These Owners Are Living Large Because They Are Not Paying Someone To Sit Behind A Desk To Answer The Phone. Instead The Public Safety Is Put At Risks Because Of A Multiple Distractions That Then Go On Inside That Taxi. County Ordinance 11-07. We Need To Look At This And Very Briefly Back In May I Talked With On Fort Myers Beach Terry And The Vice Mayor Of The Fort Myers Beach And Mr. Kickker We Talked About This In May. I Talked To The Florida Department Of Transportation. Senator Rubio, Osha In Dv And Tampa And The Safety Council Of Fort Myers Beach To Stop This. This Is A Public Safety Issue That Needs Addressed.

After John It Is Vanessa.

I Am Representing The Quiet Land And I Am Here To Talk About Sustainability. Sustainability Comes From A Program That You Have Approved Of And Are Members Of. Every Person Who Lives In Lee County Is A Member Of Ikly Is Participating In The Program. I Am Not Going To Explain It. I Gave You Material About Six Weeks Ago. If You Want To Know What It Is And Sustainability You Can No What Those Things Are. I Have Given You The Material To Study It. What I Want To Do Is Let Now We Have A Meeting Every Friday Night. We Study This Think Of Agenda 21 And Sustainability. We Have People Come In Who Have Studied This Program. They Let Us Know What It Is. I Saw On The Lee County Website That 91% Of The People Of Lee County Approve Of This. Everyone That I Talked To Outside Of Our Group That Comes On Friday Night, Everyone That I Have Talked To, No One Knows What Ikly Is Or Agenda 21. They Have Heard Of Sustainability. They Don't Know What It Is. They Have No Idea That If They Live In Lee County They Are A Member. We Are Going To Let Everyone In Lee County Know What It Is. We Are Also Going To Get A Radio Program To Put On The Radio What This Program Is All About. It Has To Do With Us Losing Or So Far Certain -- Sovereignty. People Will Not Agree It Is Good For Lee County To Spend Money 83 For Us To Be Members Of Agenda 21 Or Sustainability Or Whatever Name You Want On It. I Am Asking You To Do Something That Will Say We Will No Longer Have A Part In Ikly. I Want You To Take This Sustainability And Get Rid Of It. Because You May Not Be Using The Name Agenda 21. You Are In There Under Sustainabilities. There Is A Lot Of Verbiage Coming From Those Programs. You Have To Study It And It Will Tell Us

That We Are Going To Get Rid Of Land. A Lot Of Stuff Said This Morning Has To Do With That. I Would Ask You To Please Say Something In A Program To Say We Had No Longer Follow Agenda 21. Also We Are Going To Have These. You Are All Invited To Comedy Fend It. You Are All Invited To Come Speak. One More Thing.

Your Time Is Up.

Leave That Picture Up There. We Love Robert E Lee. We Don't Think Anyone Should Take That Picture Down. Thank You.

Thank You. Next Vanessa Followed By Charles Hickman. Charles Hickman Are You Here? Following Charles Will Be Shawn Mcfall.

I Am Charles Hickman To Encourage The Permanent Display Of The Portrait Above You All Of The Splendidly Dressed Robert E. Lee And To Share With All Of The Historical Truth About The Honor Due Him. The First Page You See Is From A 1953 Encyclopedia Published In New York. That Was Taught To Us And Our Parents. You Can See They Say Lee Was A Great Man And Distinguished Officer. Next Page There Are Two Pages Minted By The United States Government Depicting Robert E. Lee. Next Page Is Postal Issues. Top One You Can See How They Described The Heroes Of The American Army. Second One Distinguished Southern Leader And Southern Soldier. All Of These Stamps Were Put Out To The Public. Next From The National Archives It Takes Care Of Presidential Libraries And Homes. This Came About Eisenhower Who Had A Portrait Of General Lee In His Office. To Keep This Brief. Will You Please Tell Me Why You Hold Him In Rye Regard? President Eisenhower Who Enforced Integration Responded Robert E Lee Was One Of The Gifted Men Produced By Our Nation. I Say A Nation Of His Caliber Would Be Incomparable In Spirit And Soul They Will Strive To His Devotion To The Land And His Efforts To Heal The Nation's Wounds We On Our Own Divided World Will Strengthen Our Love Of Freedom. I Display This Picture On My Office Wall. Dwight D Eisenhower. This Is The Portrait Painted By President Eisenhower. This Is The Launching Of The 606 Submarine Named Robert E. Lee. He Was In Full Uniform. Following That Is A Photograph Inside The Sub Of His Portrait In The Background. Then A Black Of The Sub Missile. The Latin In The Bottom. Next One Fort Lee Virginia Is Named After General Lee. The Newspaper Traveler After His Horse. In Conclusion If We Can Hold Have Been Better E Lee In High Esteem We Are Duty Bound To Honor Him Ourselves.

Thank You. Next Will Be Shawn Mcfall.

Good Day. My Family Has Been In Lee County For Five Generations. Besides That My Grandfather Also Served At The Buckingham Airfield In World War Ii. Every One Of My Family Has Great Honor In Robert E. Lee. The Picture Needs To Stay. We

Have More Things To Worry About Than Taking It Down. Especially When Hurricane Season Is Coming Up. The Last Time We Talked About Taking Down The Picture And Changing The Name Of Lee County Was After Hurricane Charlie Came Through. At That Time I Was Working On Sanibel When Charlie Came Through. Dealing With The Cleanup. People Not Only That I Like When I Am Flipping Channels On The Tv At Least I Know I Am Watching Our County Commissioners Because Of Picture In The Background. I Am Not Looking At Charlotte County. With The Picture Being There, It Represents Me As Being A Citizen Of Lee County. You Gentlemen And Ladies As Being The County Commissioners To Me I Know I Am Watching You Guys On The Television Because The Picture Is There. Thank You.

Next Speaker Robert Gates.

I Am Here To Speak About Robert E. Lee's Portrait. I Am The Heritage Defense Chairman. I Am Not Going To Let You All Be Fooled I Know You Are Not. The Agenda Is Not About The Picture. I Can Sit Here And Give You All Of The Facts You Want And I Could Filibuster About It.

No You Can't.

That Is Too Close To Lunchtime I Agree.

Two Facts In 1909 At 104 Years Ago A 15-Foot Statute Is On Capitol Hill And It Is Still There Today. In 1953 A Stained Glass Window Of Robert Edward Lee Was Placed In The National Cathedral. It Took 22 Paintings To Fill It. Interesting Point. I Know Everybody Knows What Goes On In The National Cathedral. The Last Speech That Was Ever Given By Martin Luther King On March 31st Of 1968 Was Given Underneath The Stained Glass Window Of Robert E. Lee. I Am Trying To Keep Quiet As Far As The Press. I Am Letting You Do The Job. You Are Handling It Very Well. God Bless You.

Thank You. Next Speaker.

Mr. Chairman. Honorable Commissioners, Ladies And Gentlemen. I Am Here As The Chaplain Of The Camp Of The Confederate Veterans. I Would Like To Urge You To Retain This Portrait Because It Represents A Man Who As The World Progressed Had To Make Do With Less And Less To Accomplish More And More While Still Sustaining The Moral Of His People. I Listened Today And To Their Concerns. I Know You Heard Them Well. What Better Example Could There Be In Such A Place Than This Gentleman Who Was A Southern Gentleman. Who Upon His Retirement At The End Of The War Urged All Of Those Who Lived With Him And Followed Him To Become Good Americans And Teach Their Children To Be So. Thank You.

No Other Cards. The Meeting Is Adjourned.