

October 4, 2016

The Hour Has Arrived For Our October 4th County Commission Meeting. We Always Begin Our Deliberations With An Invocation And Today -- Paul, Where Did You Go? Come Forward. No, Paul. Those Of You Who Are Familiar With YRXY-TV Christian 10 Television Will Recognize Paul Lodato. Welcome Back Paul. Always A Joy To Have You.

Always A Joy To Be Here. Father God We Thank You For This Wonderful Council That Seeks You For Direction And Wisdom. You Said You Would Lead Us And Guide Us In All Truth And Instruct Us In The Way We Should Go. As They Make Decisions Concerning This Great County, Lee County, We Ask For Wisdom And Peace In Their Decision Making Father. In Jesus Name We Pray. Amen.

Join Me In The Pledge Please. You May Be Seated. Let's Begin With A Ceremony Presentation, Mr. Kiker, Let's Recognize You First.

Thank You Mr. Chairman. If I May, I Would Like To Invite Doug Fouler To The Podium, And Along With Him, I Think He Has 15 Staff Members, You Have Your Staff And Maybe Other Folks You Would Like To Join You For The Presentation. Watch Out For Roger, He Thinks Every Dog He Gets To Choose Whether They Go Home With Him Or Not. I Don't Think He Gets To Today. Sorry Roger. There You Go. And Doug -- That's Great. And Doug, We're Going To Read The Proclamation To You And Then Ask All Of You To Come Up Front And Take A Picture With The Board And Then Say A Few Words, Is That All Right?

Fantastic.

On Behalf Of The Board Of County Commissioners, Serving As A Mobility Tool For Those Visually Impaired And Were As By The Act Of U.S. Congress, The President Authorized As National White Cane Safety Day. We As State Law Acknowledges The Freedom Of The Visually Impaired And Makes Provisions For Their Access To And Crossings Of Roads And Intersections And Whereas Individuals With Visual Impairments Are Acting Contributing Members Of Society, To Create And Join In Opportunities Within Our Communities And Our County. And Whereas, The Board Of County Commissioners Acknowledges White Cane Safety Day Is A Time For Reflection On The Meaning Of The Black Cane And Those Who Carry It. The Board Of County Commissioners Of Lee County Does Here Proclaim October 15th, 2016, As White Cane Safety Day In Lee County And Invite Citizens To Celebrate The Freedom And Independence Of The Visually Impaired And Urge Motorists To Be Aware Of Visually Impaired Community Members, Signed By Our Honorable Chairman, Frank Mann. Congratulations. (Applause) Take Your Time. We Have Lots Of Time.

Everybody Come On Up Here. Let's Get Pictures Taken And Make Sure The Puppies Are In The Front. Thank You Guys. Thank You So Much. There We Go.

Thank You Very Much. Good Looking Group. One Of The Dogs Your Spokesman? We'd Love To Hear A Word From You Guys Before You Escape. Thank You Commissioner Kiker.

Thank You Mr. Chairman.

Honorable Commissioners I Want To Say It's A Pleasure And Honor To Be Here To Accept On Behalf Of The Lighthouse Of Southwest Florida, This Resolution, Your Funding Through The Program Is Critical To Our Independent Living Program, Our Vocational Rehab Program, Soon To Be Our Blind Babies Program And Our New Children's Program. So We Now Are Able To Serve Anyone With Visual Impairment And Blindness From Birth To The End Of Life. That's An Incredible Goal We Have Finally Achieved And Your Funding Is Very Important To That. Your Recognition Of This Day Is Even Further Of Importance To The Entire Blind Community. And On October 15th, I Would Encourage You And Anyone In The Audience To Come Out To Pine Island Road And U.S. 41, We'll Blind Fold You And Give You A Cane And Turn You Loose On That Intersection. With The Support Of Lee County Sheriff's Office. The 30,000 Cars Going Through There That Day, You'll Be Fairly Safe. And Then Following The Walk There, We Have A Festival At Our Campus In North Fort Myers And That's A Blast And I Know Commissioner Mann Has Been There For A Couple Of Events And It's Always A Great Time. I Just Wanted To Say It's A Privilege To Be Here On Behalf Of Lighthouse Of Southwest Florida, Humbling Accept The Resolution You Have Given Us.

Thank You Guys. (Applause)

Last Year They Allowed Us To Have A Ride With The White Cane, The First Thing We Had To Do Was Cross The Street. If Anybody Wants To Go To Pine Island, It's Thrilling, I Can Tell You. And It's An Eye Opener For A Lot Of Us In Terms Of What It Is You Have To Deal With. Bless You.

Great Experience. Thank You Guys Again. And Now One Of Our Always Happy Resolution Moments, Commissioner Pendergrass.

Thank You Chairman. If I Could Have Matt Come Forward With Beth. I Didn't Get A Chance To Meet Her But Mac Has A Visitor Of Course. Introduce Our Visitor This Morning. Nice Hair Cut On That Dog There.

Domestic Animal Services, This Morning, She Can Tell You More About Him. Doing A Great Job At Animal Services. We Have A Bunch Of Cats Available. If You Want To Foster Or Take One Home, Please Come By And Get One. Other Than That, Caramel We'll Talk About.

Caramel Is Six Years-Old, Considered A Senior. \$75 For Adults And \$95 For Puppies And Seniors \$25. She's Greeting People In The Back, Happy To Say Hi To Everyone.

Andrew Says That's A Good Dog There.

And She's Rocking A Mohawk.

She Likes The Mohawk.

Turn Around And Let The -- Let The Audience.

Wired Hair Chihuahua.

Do You Have Programs Coming Up For Halloween, Isn't There Something With Cats?

We'll Do Something Closer, We Try To Promote The Black Cats. We're Full Of Cats So If You're Looking To Adopt Or Looking For A Pet, Come Down. We're Getting Ready For The Lakes Park Event Coming Up Too.

I Hope Someone Adopts The Dog Today. It's Cheaper Than The Pet Store.

I Don't Mean To Offend That Dog But It Looks Like His Ears Could Use Some Starch. (Laughter)
Thank You Guys For All You Do. We Hope This Helps.

Thank You Chairman.

Thank You Commissioner Pendergrass Always For This Special Opening Of Our Once A Month Get Together Here. I Have Two Items On Our Recap, Can I Have A Motion To Eliminate The Carry Over And Also To Show The Correction On Item 18, Which Changes 12,000 Per Month To 12,000 Per Year.

I Move.

Do You Have A Second? Commissioner Pendergrass. Passed Without Objection. By Way Of Explanation. I See Some Folks Representing Our Chicken Lovers From Lehigh Back And People From The Sydney And Berne Davis Center. Neither Of These Items Are On Our Agenda For Official Consideration. We Take Them Up For Any Member Of The Public To Address Us On Issues Important To Them At The End Of The Meeting. And I Think That Would Be The Best Way To Approach This Rather Than Even Though You Brought It Up, Commissioner Hamman Before, To Allow Public Input, Take It Up At The End Of The Meeting And See Where It Goes. You All Just Enjoy Government At Work Here For A Minute. With That, Do I Have Items To Be Pulled Commissioner Manning?

No Items.

I Have None.

I Have None.

None. Public Comment On Items On The Agenda? I Don't Have Cards From Anybody Who Wants To Speak On Agenda Items This Morning. Then I Would Move To Approve The Set Agenda. Seconded By Commissioner Manning. Showed Without Objection. We Are Moving Right Along Here. Walk-On, I Have One Walk-On.

Commissioners, It Was A Week Ago Yesterday Receiving A Phone Call From The Supervisor Elections Office Letting Him Know That The -- At The End Of The Year They Had Overspent Their Budget, Pete Worked With The Office To Determine That It Was About 185,000 Overrun In Total In The Budget And So We Have To Do The Budget Amendment To Close Out The Year For The Supervisor's Office. There's A Lot More Information To Go With It If You Want To Talk About It, Pete, Would You Give A Technical Explanation.

With Pleasure. Commissioners, Last Tuesday, The Fiscal Officer Informed They Spent Over The Budget, For 2015 And 2016 From The Fees They Got Over The Year, Essentially They're Out Of Money. So, What This Does Is Per Statute Amends Budget And Makes Sure The Auditor Is Aware Of This, We Don't Want To Get Into A Situation Where We're Using Fiscal Years '16, '17 To Pay For '15 And '16. That's What This Is For.

Mr. Chair, In The Back Up Material, There's A Response From The Supervisor's Office Regarding Questions That Pete Had Asked To Have Answered. They Want To Move On To The November Election Without Additional Hesitation. I Wanted To Clear, There's Nothing That Has Happened That Will Have An Affect On The November Election, Certainly Not By Our Office. I Think It May Be A Poor Choice Of Words. For Someone To Read It, They Could Misunderstand. There's Been This Action And The Overspending Has Nothing To Do With Any Hesitation Or Delaying Or Anything Negative Having To Do With The Election.

Questions Administration On This Issue.

Move Carry Over Number One.

It's A Walk On.

Walk On Rather, Sorry.

Can I Have A Second?

I'll Second It Mr. Chairman.

Then We'll Have Discussions. Certainly.

Commissioner Hamman.

The Second Comes Reluctantly, My Understanding We Have To Do This To Avoid A Negative Comment On The Up Coming Audit. Mr. County Manager, Maybe You Can Answer This, It's Unfortunate The Supervisor Is Not Here. Do They Track Spending Through The Year? How Much Warning Did They Give Us That They Were Going To Overspend Their Budget And How Much Planning Went Into The Fix?

We Had No Forewarning. Pete Received The Phone Call Last Monday And I Couldn't Tell You Whether Or Not The Supervisor Knew Herself Prior To Last Monday Or When That Might Have Occurred. And I Also Couldn't Tell You To What Extent She Tracks The Budget.

Did She Offer An Explanation, Did She Make An Unbudgeted Purchase, What Drove The Overspending?

Commissioners With The Limited Information We Have, We Don't -- Since It Was Last Monday, There Hasn't Been Time To Do A Full Analysis Of Her Budget And Work With The Staff That Way. But What We Do Know, We Have A Spreadsheet In The Back Up That Shows On Four Separate Occasions Purchasing Equipment Which You May Recall Was Discussed During A Budget Workshop Prior To That Budget Year. It Was -- There Was A Supervisor Who Made A Request For About 895,000 Which Was Questioned During That Workshop And We've Had Discussions With Supervisor Otherwise About The Pieces Of Equipment, Function, Versus, The Ipads Purchased And That The Supervisor Wanted To Replace. Ultimately, The Supervisor Agreed During The Workshop And Followed It Up With A Letter To Confirm She Was Withdrawing Her Request For The Money And Would Not Purchase The Electronics And She Would Make It Through The 2016 Election Cycle Entirely With The Equipment She Had On Hand. Subsequent To The June Time Frame, Beginning In December 2015, She -- Starting In 2015 December Purchased On Four Separate Occasions Purchased Electronics In The Amount Of About 700 --

525,000.

My Math Is Not So Good Today. That Seems To Be A Fairly Large Contributing Factor. Along With The -- You May Recall The Lease With Don Howl And She Purchased The Equipment And There Was A Penalty To Be Made.

I Guess One Final Question, I Know It's Presidential Election Year, And Presidential Election Years Come Typically With A Bigger Budget. Did We Increase The Supervisor Election Office From 15 To 16 And If So, By How Much?

Pete?

14-15 And 15-16, The Adopted Budget Was 31.7% Increase.

And Then We're Understanding Today We Still Went Over That. Okay. I Think That Answers All My Questions.

Tell Me Again, I Missed It, What Is The Total Amount This Motion Represents?

185.

185,000?

Yes, Sir. Almost 186,000.

Commissioner, 120,000 Is Excess Fees And 65,000 Is A Transfer From General Funds Reserves.

That's The Internal Imaginations Of How The Money Gets There. Is There Further Questions Or Discussions On The Motion?

If I May, Thank You. The Reason For This Equipment She Was Rather Specific That She Wanted To Avoid The Long Lines I Think Of 2012, Is That --

Yes, Sir, That's Part Of The Response We Received Late Last Week.

But Does This Equipment Actually Address That Situation?

The Statement In Response We Received From The Supervisor References The 2012 Election And The Long Lines During That Time And The Number Of People Who Walked Away Frustrated And Ultimately Didn't Get A Chance To Vote. As We Understand, There Were Two Primary Causes For The Delays. One Was Length Of The Ballot. I Forget How Many Constitutional Amendments, More Than I Have Seen On A Ballot And There Were Not Enough Bubble Scanners At The Voting Places And That's Where You Slide It In The Slot And Register The Person's Vote. These Electronics Are Used For Check In, When A Registered Voter Gets To There And Shows Idea, If For Some Reason, The Poll Worker Doesn't Have That Person's Name Immediately Available On The System, Normally They Would Have To Call Back To The Supervisor Central Office To Confirm That The Person Was A Registered Voter And These Electronic Machines, I Think They Have A Web Based Technology And It Becomes An Automatic Process Versus Making A Phone Call. If There Were Long Lines And If The Cause For Long Lines And Delays Was People Registering When They Got To The Poll, Then These Machines Would Help. But That Was Not The Cause Of The Delays In The 2012 Election.

Is This The Same Scenario With The Equipment That Was Incompatible That We Had To Deal With, I Think Last Year's Budget?

Similar In Nature.

Is It The Same Technology Or Different?

It's Part Of The Technology That The Supervisor Has Been Transitioning To.

All Right. And My Last One, Unfortunately I Guess It Was Not Convenient For Her To Be Here Today, But As We Look Forward With The Constitutional Offices, Do We Have The Same Scenario There? They Run Their Budgets Rather Autonomous. We're Dependant On The Numbers They Give Us To Create The Budget.

That's Correct.

So When There's Usually A Change In Budgeting From Constitutional, Is There A Process They Go Through Or Is This Just How It Happens?

You May Notice From Time To Time, It Happens When The Sheriff's Office, They Will Receive Funds Through Either Some New Federal Or State Grant Or Dollars From Fines And Forfeitures And Those Kind Of Things To Recognize The Revenues And Spend Them, You Will Adopt A Budget Resolution, Which You're Required To Do By Law. If We Have Additional Budget

Spending Unanticipated, Whether It's Involved With New Revenues Or We Might Find Ourselves In A Position To Overspend, We Would, You Know, Ask For A Budget Resolution In That Case, If It Were To Happen. But You're Never Going To See A Time When The Lee County Budget Has Been Overspent.

Thank You Mr. Chairman.

Let Me Ask A Couple Of Questions. You Can Sense The Uneasiness Here But This Is An Emergency Request Before Us And Brought With Your Staff's Recommendation For Approval.

Yes, Sir.

Explain To Me One Last Time Or Maybe It Wasn't Clear The First Time At Least Not For Me, What Bad Things Happen If We Do Not Accept This Request.

Thank You Mr. Chair. Pete?

Commissioners, It Would Not Be Looked On Favorably In Our Audit, Which Is Open To Comment Which You Don't Want. You're Able To Year To Year Carry Over Expenses, There Are No Revenues Left, The Supervisor Received All The Draws From The Board Based On Her Adopted Budget And Kept All The Fee From The Municipal Election And Has Spending On Top Of That. You're Put In The Position If You Don't Do It, You Have To Use Next Year's Revenues To Pay For This Year's Costs.

Any Further Questions Or Discussion?

I Have A Question. Has This Occurred Before The 2012 Budget? Did This Occur In Any Of The Other Presidential Elections, Was There An Increase Of 31% And Increase Overspent? Do You Remember That Happening Historically?

In Presidential Election Years There Have Been Larger -- There Are Been Larger Increases. For Example In '11, '12, The Supervisor Received A 22.9% Increase And It Has Levelled After That.

And This Year Is 31%.

Yeah. There's Never Been A Situation Where The Supervisor Has Not Returned Some Excess Fees Or By Agreement With The County Allowed To Use The Excess Fees For Certain Purchases.

Thank You Sir.

Is There An Objection To The Motion? Adopted Without Objection. Let's Go To Committee Appointments, Whip Through Them Quickly. Commissioner Manning.

There Was No Carry Over. We Took Care Of That.

I Have None, Appointments, Oh, One Of A William Turner To The Construction Licensing.

Motion And Second. Discussion? Adopted Without Objection.

I Have Three.

Motion, Seconded By Commissioner Manning. Show That Adopted Without Objection. Let Me Ask For Motions For Jennifer Christensen And Fred Richards To The Caa Neighborhood District. And Bernie Mcgovern To The Construction Licence Advisory Committee.

Motion Second.

Discussion Objections, Shows Adopted Without Objection.

I Have Three, Jerry To The Construction Licensing Committee. Gillward And Edwards.

Discussions, Objections, Without Objections, Adopted.

I Have Two To The Town And River Approvement Units.

Seconded By Commissioner Manning. Adopted Without Objection. On Commissioner Items Back To Commissioner Manning, Commissioner Pendergrass.

An Update, Sunday I Attended A Community Meeting On Wild Cat Drive, That's Where We Did The Emergency For The Road Conditions, 14 Miles Of Dirt Roads Way Out, It Was A Long Drive But The Community Is Meeting And Talking To Our Staff For The Capital Improvement Project For Drainage And Trying To Get Signatures To Do That. Hopefully In The Future They Can Get Help For Themselves.

That's Possibly Real Good News If It Comes Together. Look, We All Got A Letter -- This Is Just A Shout Out To Dr. Rebecca Hamilton, She Is Blowing Her Horn Up A Little Bit But She Has Justification Here. They Have Just Been Accredited Again By The National Association Of Medical Exam Examiners. There Are Over 4,000 In The U.S., Only 80 Are Accredited And Only 10 In Florida. This Is A Remarkable Achievement, Not Only For This Medical Examiners Office But For Each County She Serves As Well. We're Proud Of Her. She Deserves A Shout Out. (Applause)

Would It Be Too Much To Ask To Send A Letter Saying Congratulations?

You Bet Ya I Can.

That's The Office Many Don't Want To Go But They Do Great Work.

We Don't Get Invited But It's Fine With Me.

I Have No Items.

Commissioner Items.

Just Briefly, I Attended A Meeting Last Friday For The Transportation Summit Held In Cape Coral Last Week And Pretty Much The Subject Was Where We're Going From Here In Terms Of Growth And Transportation Needs, And It Was Very Well Attended, And My Congratulations To Anne Pierce, Who I Think Was The One That Led To Way On That One. Thanks To Her And It Was A Good Meeting. That's It. Thank You.

That Brings Us To County Manager Items. Let Me Try To Clarify One More Time, We Do Appreciate All The Folks From Sydney And Berne Burn Davis, I Know You Expected Only Three Of Us To Be Here, We Have A Full House Because The Meeting In Tallahassee Was Cancelled. The Item Was Going To Be Brought Forth For Discussion Or Recommendation By County Management. I'm Going To Let Roger Desjarlais Make A Comment Or Two And Then Go On Through County Attorneys And Then Come Back And Hear From All Of You Guys.

Thank You.

The Last Board Meeting, Commissioner Hamman Asked, Talked With You About A Letter You Received From The Program. In The Letter, I Have Not Seen The Letter Myself Yet, But In The Letter, I Think It Told You That The City Of Fort Myers Was Prepared To Approve Grant Dollars As Part Of The Local Match And That The Senator Was Sponsoring The Request On Behalf Of The Berne Davis Center. When You Finished Your Conversation, You Instructed Me To Come Back And Report. To Let You Know What The City Of Fort Myers Did And Other Information. The City Has Approved The Use Of Some Funds As Part Of A Match, Not 200 Thousand But At 150,000. The Source Of The Funds Through The City Come From A Three Year Maintenance Grant That The City Gives To The Berne Davis Center For Maintenance. The City Council Instructed The City Manager To Make The Funds Available For The 105,000 Available To Satisfy The Local Match. It's Just Re Appropriating Existing Funds That Were Budgeted For Maintenance On The Building, Owned By The City. They Additionally Appropriated From The Rainy Day Fund For A Total Of 150,000. As We Did More Research, I Got To Look At The Submission Given Back In February, Asking For -- Showing The Total Cost Of \$703,000 And Looking For A Local Match. We Had The County Attorney's Opinion At That Time, But There Is A Memo From One Of The Staff Members At The Visitors Bureau, Said The Office Said The Project Is Eligible For Bed Tax Dollars, That Was A Miscommunication. In Fact, The Legal Opinion Was That The Dollars Were Not Eligible For A Match For Anything That Has To Do With Maintenance. The Current Price Is \$1.2 Million As Explained To Me. And The Reason For The Difference Between The 703,000 And 1.2 Million, The Building Has To Be Brought Up To Code And Has To Have Five Life Safety Issues And That's The Reason For The Increase In Cost. The Original \$703,000 Estimate Was Provided To The Performing Arts Center By The Architect. There's Not A Contractors Bid, The Project To The Best Of My Knowledge Has Not Been Costed Out By An Estimator In A Construction Company. So At 1.2 Million, We Don't Have Documentation That Details The Budget For This Project. As You Know, The Project Is -- The Roof Top Project For The -- I Think Termed The Garden, A Bar Used For Events. They Have A Liquor Licence. It Looks Like A Beautiful Plan When You Look At The Drawings. We Don't Have Detail That We Would Normally Require Of Others Who Are Asking

Funds. This Request Comes With A Very Short Time Schedule Attached To It. Even Though The Original Request Was Made In February, We Didn't Become Aware Of The New Request Until A Few Weeks Ago For The \$200,000 Ask. There's A Deadline I'm Told To Apply For This Grant Which Is Tomorrow. So They Find Themselves In A Bit Of A Jam, Trying To Assure The State They Have A Local Match For The Project. I Don't Know How Many Work Sessions We've Had In The Past Few Years On Budgeting And Establishing Strong Parameters On Budgeting And So We Rarely Go Outside The Budget Cycle To Appropriate Funds. My Recommendation Is We Denied This Request For A Number Of Reasons, We Don't Have Adequate Detail, It's Outside The Budget Process. This Is A City Owned Building, Your Instructions Last Week Was To Bring Back Information Only. You Don't Have A Blue Sheet That Would Provide Public Notice And Allow For Public Input Beyond Advocacy. And There's Certainly The Grant In Tallahassee Is Not A Sure Thing And I'm Not Sure There's As Much Support In Tallahassee As People May Think. So, I Want To Turn To The County Office, Miss Andrea, That I Didn't Mistake Your Opinion? If So Correct Me.

Our Office Appreciates The Opportunity To Clarify The Issue. We've Had The Opportunity To Deal With This Matter Since February Of Last Year And By Virtue Of An E-Mail Dated February 1st, 2016, From Andrea Fraser Stating That The Project Would Not Qualify Under Statute And County Ordinance, We're At A Loss To Understand How The February 3rd Memo That It Was Fundable. Let Me Restate Our Concerns. Commissioners Within The Project Scope, It Is Clear There Is Existing Maintenance To Be Done. Maintenance Is Specifically Excluded From Eligible Tdc Funds, Expenditures Under Your Own Local Ordinance And The Board Must Make A Finding For The Money That It Promotes Tourism. As You Recall The Last Time It Came Up, The Concern Was Expressed By Our Office With Concern To The Project. It Remains Unclear To What Extent Tourism Will Be Promoted Versus Localized Use And I Would Remind You, You Don't Have A Blue Sheet Pending Before You For Board Action, There Would Be Concern Of The Availability Of The Public To Comment And The Board To Take Action At Today's Meeting.

For Clarification, It's Tdc Funds That You're Speaking To, That Was Miss Fraser's Opinion Directed To Whether It Would Be Appropriate To Use Tdc Funds For This Request.

Yes, Sir.

That's Where It's Clear To You All That Would Be Inappropriate.

Based On The Facts As We Know Them Sitting Here Today, That's Our Recommendation.

If We Take Action On This We Would Have To Use Funds Other Than Tdc.

That Would Be Our Recommendation. Yes, Sir.

The Questions Of Council Or Staff?

I Have A Question. Richard, The Second Part Of The Testimony There, Was That Referring To The Blue Sheet, The General Funds, We Would Be Able To Or Not.

It Would Be Out Of The Context Of Your Normal Practice To Handle The Matter In This Way.

Couple Questions, In February, Was There A Formal Application Provided?

Commissioners, There Was A Cover Memorandum Together With A Submittal From The Art Center.

For How Much Money?

\$150,000.

And Was It Noted In There It's For The Benefit Of Matching Funds?

Yes, Sir.

Okay. And Then I Had Talked To Mr. Griffith A Couple Times In The Past Couple Weeks And Informed Him That It Was Paramount That This Either Occur In A Blue Sheet, Through The Staff Or Through Commissioner And I Obviously Pointed Out To Commissioner Hamman, Since He Brought It Up, This Has To Be On The Blue Sheet Before We Can Take Action On It. Have You Had Contact Or -- I Guess Anyone Had Contact In That Regard?

Mr. Chair? Mr. Griffith And I Have Had Two Separate Phone Conversations, One Thursday Last Week And The Second One Yesterday Afternoon. We -- I Actually Called Him Yesterday Afternoon Because I Didn't Want To Appear To Be Sand Bagging Or The Arts Center In This Conversations. I Explained The Purpose Of My Call Was To Explain The Nature Of My Comments Today. But There Was -- We Did Not Have Discussion About -- Let Me Take That Back, I Certainly Made It Clear That I Was Not Going To Have A Blue Sheet Presented To You For Consideration Today, That My Instructions Were To Bring Back Information Only. And That I Would Not Be Recommending The Appropriation.

This Falls Under The Category, It's Not Technical Analysis, But It Goes To The Process. We Spent So Much Time In The Last Three Years Becoming Financially Stable, Having Started With A Very Large Deficit In 2013, And For A Number Of Reasons, Not The Least Of Which Are The Policies You Have Adopted And We Have Implemented That Makes Us Financially Stable Today. We Receive Requests All The Time For Money And It Would Be Easy To Spend Every Dime We Have In The Reserve Accounts To Fulfill All The Requests From The Community. There's No Doubt The Center, It's A Great Organization, They Have A Great Product And Everybody In Town Understands The Importance Of The Berne Davis Center. But We Get So Many Requests And Not The Least Of Which In This Case, Pennies For Progress, They're Looking For Dollars To Help Curb Crime In Youth In Particular. It's For Preschool Educational Programs To Begin To Get These Kids -- Help Them Understand There's A Better Life Than Crime On The Streets And That Came From The High Profile Nature Of Some Of The Shootings That Have Taken Place In Fort Myers In The Past Year. While We Were Having Discussions With The Pennies For Progress Folks, It Morphed Into Going To The Ballot In 2018 To Create A Children Services Council But They Asked For Dollars, Not

A Specific Amount But Asked For Dollars To Help Them Expand Existing Programs. And They Were Denied The Dollars Until We Have More Information Maybe A Year From Now, It Just Depends On The Conversations We Have And What You May Make To Further The Delivery Of Social Services In Lee County. If We Appropriate These Dollars Today, I Shutter To Think The Kind Of Fall Out That Will Come For Providing Dollars For This Project And Not Providing Dollars For The Kind Of Programs The Pennies For Progress People Were Promoting. That's My Final Comment.

Let Me Ask The Honorable Council This, We Just Today On A Walk-On Approved Expenditure Of 185,000 For The Supervisor Election. No Blue Sheet Attached To That. Tell Me The Legal Circumstance And The First Question Could Save You From Answering The Other Ones, Are We Prohibited If Three Commissioners Would Like To Support This Request From Doing So As We Are Structured Today?

In As Much As You're Sitting In The Meeting, Your Action Would Not Be Unlawful. It Would Be Out Of Practice And --

You Answered My Question.

Mr. Chair --

He Has Told Me This Would Be Different, Too. And I'm Trying, Folks, To Get Your Professional Advice, And Not Be Part Of The Debate That Belongs Up Here.

Yes, Sir, I Just Want To Make Sure That Just Clarity On One Issue, There Was A Blue Sheet That Accompanied The Walk-On Item For Today.

We Also Said It's Outside The Budget Process And We Don't Have The Details And No Blue Sheet, But This Is The Third Time In Addition To The February Request We Have Discussed This In Recent Weeks. It's Not New To Anybody. Now, Look, Having Said All This, We Are Through With County Attorney And County Manager, If Items Were Going To Come Back To This, I Want To Take Up And Dispose Of The Request From My Chicken People Who Are Also Back, Mr. Edwards, Are You Here To Speak?

Mr. Chairman, If I May, I Would Like To Hear The Rest Of What Our Attorney Was Going To Say.

Didn't Mean To Cut You Off. I Had Heard The Answer That I Asked For.

I Haven't Heard His Entire Answer.

Let's Hear Your Speech, Too.

Thank You Sir. For The Record, You Asked A Two Part Question. I Answered Part Two, Part One Is Along The Lines Of Roger Desjarlais's Comments, There Was A Blue Sheet And Posted To The County's Web Site As An Action Item In Advance Of The Meeting, So Legal Distinctions And Facts Can Be Drawn.

Okay. I'm Trying -- I Just Want To Dispose Of The Chicken Issue. We Have Fewer People Here For That. Mr. Edwards, Please --

The County Attorney Was On The Agenda --

I Thought You Were Through On County Attorney Items.

Yes, Sir, We Have No Items To Present Today.

That Was My Understanding. Sorry. Mr. Edwards Get Up Here And Tell Us About The Chickens.

Thank You Commissioners. Last Time We Spoke Mr. Mann You Had To Leave. I Hope You're Feeling Better. I'm Going Make It Easier This Time. Like I Said Before, We're Not Going Away With Getting Backyard Chickens But I Have A Better Proposal So You Don't Have To Change The Laws Or Make A Decision Right Now And Satisfy Both Sides Of The Issue. Bonita Springs Did A Two Year Pilot Program And They Didn't Have To Change Anything, They Allowed The Pilot Program And Certain Permits. I Propose We Do The Same Thing In The Unincorporated Part Of Lee County And Have A Pilot Program With A Limited Number Of Permits And After The Pilot Program Is Over, See If It Caused Problems Or You Hear Anything, And At That Time, You Can Change The Zoning Ordinance To Where We Can Have The Chickens Legal. This Gives -- It's A Win/Win Situation For Everybody Involved If You Do It This Way. Right Now, The Way The Chicken Issue Is Working Right Now, Out There Where I Live, I Can Stand In My Driveway Every Morning And Hear More Roosters Than You Can Imagine. Obviously I Don't Have Roosters Or Chickens, But With It Being Illegal, People Are Still Doing It, I Say Come Up With A Pilot Program And Legalize Having The Chickens And Then Work On Getting Rid Of The Roosters And Things That Annoy People. And That's Really All I Have To Say Today.

Thank You Chuck. Others Who Want To Speak On The Chicken Issue? Carmen And Oscar? You'll Be Next. Others?

I'm Carmen Ramirez.

I Am Right To Do What I Want To Do In My Property. I Love My Chickens, I Love My Dogs And Everything. But The More, More Dangerous Is The Dogs. I Hear Dogs Barking All Night, Not Let Me Sleep, My Daughter And Husband. My Chickens Don't Make Any Noise All Day. Okay? I Love My Chickens, My Husband, He's Bipolar, The Only Reason I Have The Chickens Because It Helps Him. I'm Not Asking About Money, I'm Asking You About Letting Me Keep My Chickens. I Pay My Taxes, I Pay My House, I Keep It Clean. And I Want You To Consider It. Not For Anything Else. Thank You.

Teresa Park. You Want To Take Oscar?

Good Morning. Last Time I Come Over Here I Explain About Why I Have My Chickens. Keeping Chickens Is Like Medicine. I Pay 40-400 Dollars On Medicine. I Can Enjoy The Life That Way With My Chicken, I Quit Taking My Medicine And They Are Relaxing. Spend The Whole Day Taking

Care Of My Chicken. I Pay Taxes, I Work, Working Hard For 40 Years And Now The City Tell Me I Can't Have It. I Pay My Taxes. I Guess That's Not Right. I See My Neighbors, I Go To Call The Police. I'm Going To Call The Police, Growing Chicken, There's Nothing Wrong With That. I Eat At Least Two Or Four Eggs A Day From My Chicken. Nobody Can Say Nothing. But I Can't Kill A Dog. But I Can Kill A Chicken, Nobody Say Nothing. The Chicken Not Making Any Noise. Sleeping All Night Long. During The Day, They're Quiet. I Don't Think Nothing Wrong With That. I Love It. I Enjoy It. They Are My Pets. We Need More Benefit For This Government To Approve. Thank You.

Now Teresa Parks.

Backyard Hen Program. I Understand One Of The Reasons People Are Opposed Is Due To Communities Who Have Expired Deed Restrictions. I Understand Why The County Might Not Want To Get Involved But What About Those Who Have Never Owned Property Governed By Deed Restrictions. Our Commissioners Are Supposed To Represent Our Entire Community. When You Hold An Entire Community Hostage To A Few Deeds, Much Of The Remainder Of The County Goes Without Representation. We Have Three Kinds Of Residents In Lee County. Snow Birds And Tourists, Retirees And Year Round Residents. The Year Round Residents Build Homes, Provide Small Businesses For Necessary Services. Without These Individuals Our Area Would No Longer Be Attractive For Snow Birds And Vacationers. In Order For Year Round Residents To Support Their Families On This Kind Of Income, People Are Forced To Make Ends Meet On Impossible Salaries. Did You Know The County Deputies Make Only \$30,000 A Year? This Is The Case For Many Labors, Teachers, And Hospitality. One Parent Works While The Other Stays Home. Providing Children With Quality Care And One-On-One Is The Priority. Many Of These Families Find The Sacrifice To Be A Privilege And Don't Apply For Benefits. Part Of The Educational Experience Is Maintaining Solar Energy, Bee Keeping And Backyard Hens. There Are Codes Prohibiting To Be Self Abstaining, Many Are Forced Into Hiding Their Hens. These Are Hard Working People But They Have Become Criminals. This Is A Reduction In Common Sense. It Seems It Would Be In The Best Interest Of The County To Reduce Barriers For Food Sources And Educational Experiences. All Have Come To The Understanding You Don't Have To Be A Farm To Be Self Sustaining. It Makes More Common Sense To Allow People To Be Self Efficient Rather Than Becoming A Welfare Recipient. In Events Of A Hurricane All Of Us Need Resources And Those Who Have Self Subsidence Becomes Our Heros. Maybe It's At That Time We Reap The Benefits Of Our Self Sustaining Neighbors. Allowing People To Become A Resource Rather Than A Liability. Thank You Gentlemen.

Are There Others To Speak On The Chicken Issue? Approach. You're Last. Help Yourself.

I Just Wanted To Make A Correction To A Statement I Made The Last Time I Spoke, I Said That District 5 Was Totally In Favor And Mr. Pendergrass Corrected Me On That, There Was Some Opposition In E-Mails. I Would Like To Say That Of The Surveys Done, One By The Lehigh Newspaper, 85% Were In Favor, 15% Opposed. I Would Call That Overwhelmingly In Favor. Any One Of You Children Have 85% Approval Rating, You Would Be Thrilled To Death By That. With

The Chickens, It's Strange That I Can Have Just About Any Kind Of Exotic Bird I Want To Have, A Parrot Screeching You Can Hear For A Quarter Mile. I Can Have -- There's Different Kinds Of Exotic Birds, Guineas, They're The Most Obnoxious Bird, You Can Hear Them Screeching All Over. A Lot Of Farmers In The Midwest Have Them As Guard Dogs. It's Not Indigenous To Florida So It's Exotic. With Proper Permitting I Can Probably Have A Snake That's About 10 Foot Long In My Backyard. There's Pigs That Have Been Bred To Be Called Pets And Not Farm Animals You Can Have. They Look Like A Pig And Smell Like A Pig And The Back Half Is Probably Still Ham, But You Can Have That. It's Just Odd That You Can't Have A Chicken. I Just Pass That Along. Thank You.

I Don't Want To Appear To Correct Or Amplify In Any Way, I Think We're Hung Up Here On The Definition Of Farm Animals And A Chicken Is One Of Those And That's Where We Run Into The Violation. Is That Close Councillor? Is The Fact That A Chicken Is A Farm Animal The Reason They Are Not Allowed In The Residential Areas?

Yes, Sir.

Thank You. Are There Other People Who Want To Speak On The Chicken Issue? Are The Folks Here Want To Speak On Another Issue Other Than The Center Matter? We're Going To Take That Up And Templeton I Have Your Card, Or Mr. Griffith. We'll Get A Card For You Jim. You Know The Routine.

Thank You. Jim Griffith The Director Of The Art Center. I'm Here To Answer Questions, I Appreciate The Opportunity I've Had To Speak With Each Of You Individually And The County Manager. There's A Couple Corrections I Want To Make Of What I Have Heard This Morning. One Is The Claim It's A Maintenance Request To The Building. Those Of You Who Know The Building, We Completely Gutted The Building And Began A Capital Campaign For Improvements, Rehabilitating The Building From A Courthouse To An Art Center. So, The Roof Top Was Never Utilized For Live Space. So The Roof Top Phase, Which Is The Last Phase Of The Declaration. It's A Capital Improvement Request. It's Built By The People, It Was Built With Tax Dollars In The Height Of The Depression. And I'm Sure There Was Quite Controversy At The Time Whether To Spend Tax Dollars In The Height Of The Depression On A Beautifully Ornate Public Facility. So We Are In Fact Carrying On That Investment Of Original Tax Dollars To Build The Building. It Was Built For \$200,000 In 1933. Davis Watched It Being Built, Living Down The Street From That. The Overwhelming Support We've Had From The Community Is Testament That The Community Wants The Project To Complete. Our Organizations That Has A Fabulous Board Of Directors That Leads Us In The Direction We're Going Has Invested A Tremendous Amount Of Money. We're About 85% Done With The Restoration. The Final Phase We're Asking Your Help For, Most Of The Money Has Been Raised, There's Only A Small Percentage That We Need To Match. The Grant From The State, We Have A Tremendous Record Of Receiving Grants From The State. We're Batting A Thousand. Every Grant We Have Applied For The Restoration Of The Building Has Been Successful. There's No Guarantee We'll Get The Recommended For Funding, And One Last Thing I Want To Give An Update. The Governor Has Declared A State Of Emergency, So The Defending Of The Grant Supposed To Take Place Tomorrow, It Has Been Postponed. I Don't

Know The Date Too, If There's A Blue Sheet Issue, We May Be Able To Submit. I Was Given No Directions On Blue Sheets. I Didn't Know About That. We Did Propose The Formal --

That's An Issue Of Third Visit. I'm Going To Throw The Flag On You. Miss Templeton.

Get To The Microphone.

Thank You For Having Me And Appreciate Your Consideration. I Listened And Watched The Last Meeting With Great Interest, And The Transcript's A Little Hard To Follow, The Written, You Don't Know Who Is Talking But With Regard To The Blue Sheet, If This Deadline Has Been Put Off, And There Is A Way We Can Satisfy The Public Input, That Would Be -- Would Help Overcome Some Of The Objections I've Heard, One Thing That Was Said, It's Not A Tourist Attraction. It's A Local Use. I Think It's One Of The Reasons That People Do Come To Fort Myers. I Believe It's One Of The Reasons That People Want To Build In Fort Myers. And Relocate To Fort Myers. When I First Hit Town In 1991, It Was A Ghost Town Down There. And We Have Created An Atmosphere Of Success And Other Businesses Have Come In And The Downtown Area Is Beginning To Thrive. Of Course We Had To Go Through The Hurricane Charlie Days And The Times Of That. We Had To Go Through The Downturn In The Economy And The Lean Times Of That. We Were Able To Get Through That And Get As Far As We Have With, You Know, People Like Berne Davis And State Grants And So On And So Forth, Local Help, Too. I Would Like To Urge You And Staff As Well To Figure Out What We Can Do And How Best To Do It, So We Don't Blow This Opportunity At The State Level. I Think It Could Affect Other People Applying For State Grants If We She We Don't Have The Support Locally For It. There's So Much Participation. And Part Of The Solution I Think To The Violence In The Area, Just Adjacent To Downtown Is Giving People Something To Do And Giving People A Concept Of What They Can Do With Their Lives, Absent Violence And Gangs And Drugs And All Of Those Things. There's Such A Diverse Population Of People Who Go There. Last Night At Tgim, The Film Festival Preview, We Had People From Naples Come Up For That. It Is A Tourist Attraction And Not A Maintenance Thing. This Is A New Capital Building Project. We Are Finishing What We Started. The End Is In Sight. For This Entire Project And I Would Just Urge You To Give Us The Direction And To Help Us Meet Your Needs To Move Forward.

Thank You. And You Have Run Your Three Minutes, But As You're Walking Back To Your Seat, Let Me Say, I'm Aware Of The Tremendous Contributions That You Have Made To The Community In Arts And Culture And So Many Other Different Ways And We're Profoundly Grateful For All You Have Done. This Lady Puts Her Money Where Her Mouth Is. Are There Others From The Group Who Wanted To Speak To Us This Morning? I See Two Hands. So One Of You Start Walking This Way Or Both And One Can Sit In The First Row. We'll Need You To Fill Out One Of These.

I'm Scott Atwood, I'm On The Board Of Directors. I'm Speaking On My Own Behalf Today, We Did Hold As A Bar Association, We Held Our Bench Bar Gala At The Art Center Friday Night And We Had Capacity Crowd There. We Had Folks From Out Of County Throughout The Circuit Attending. It Is Widely Accepted That This Arts Center Has Become A Cultural Beacon In The Community. So Much So That The City Of Fort Myers, I Believe, Uses It As Their Back Drop Picture

On Their Web Site To Bring Tourists In And To Attract People And Talk About The Cultural Diversity And The Advantages Of People Who Want To Come To This Area And Trying To Get People Here Rather Than Going To Other Areas, We Need A Way To Attract People. We Are Doing So With Having An Art Center That Is Top Of The Line, Bringing In Top Of The Line Work And Performers. And We're Bringing In Out Of Town Weddings. We Just Had One With Folks From Out Of State, They Picked This And Were Looking Around And Wanted To See Beautiful Places. And Those Sort Of -- The Sculpture Garden On The Roof Is The Type Of Thing To Wrap Up The Deal For A Lot Of The Groups Trying To Bring In From Out Of Town, For Weddings And As Groups. If You Can Have A Reception That No Longer Has To Require Closing On First Street, On The Roof Top And Proceed Into The Down Stairs Area, They Want To Come Here. Once Finishing The Program, Then It's Over At 11:00 At Night And Then Go Downtown Like The Bench Bar Gala, We Went Out After And Took Up Probably 75-100 People Who Otherwise Would Not Have Been Downtown Spent Money And They Stayed In Town Because That's What You Can Do. That's The Advantage Of Having A Cultural Icon Downtown. Just A Couple Of Legal Comments Here, There's Not Apparently A Written Advisory Opinion But The County Attorney Showed Me The Memo Written With Regards To The Bed Tax. And While Not Exclusively A Person Who Deals With Government Affairs, The Two Issues With The Tdc, It Would Not Qualify For The Bed Tax, It Was Mentioned By Jim And Pamela, That The Maintenance Issue This Is Not A Maintenance Issue. The Money That Needs To Be Spent There Was To Improve The Property. It Will Improve The Property. It's A Capital Improvement Expense And If This Is Not Tourism, Then It Is -- This Is Tourism. This Is Tourism --

All Right. Thank You. There Was A Three Minute --

I Apologize. I've Had More Than One Court.

Thank You For Your Participation This Morning. Lady Coming Forward, Do You Want To Speak To Us?

We Have One In The Front Row, Too.

Oh Yes, I'm Sorry, You Were Here First. Can You Identify Yourself?

Hi, Good Morning. I'm Veronica Banches, I Design Sensory Rooms For Local Schools. Sidney & Berne Davis Center Has Been One Of Our Main Sponsors. Any Time I Need Something, They Are Supportive. The Artists Support What We Do. It Has Become Our Home. When You Look At Families Like Mine Who Are Autistic, We Can Go There For Art And Education And Parties And They Support Us. So To Hear They Were Doing This Garden, Can You Imagine The Sensory Delight It Was For Me And My Kids. We Can Go There And Touch And Feel And Smell. It's Not Just A Tourist Place, It's A Home For Families Like Me. When You Guys Make That Decision Just Think It Is A Home For Us. Thank You.

Thank You.

Identify Yourself For Us.

I'm Susan Fahe, I'm On The Board For Sidney & Berne, And Chief Compliance Officer And Corporate Secretary. But, The Reason I Wanted To Take A Moment To Address The Commission Is Because As An Employer In Lee County, We Sometimes Struggle To Attract And Retain Talent To This Area. And It's Critically Important That We Have A Culturally Diverse Community And Activities To Offer Our Employees, Folks We Are Bringing Down Here To Join Lee County, To Move And Join. One Of The Reasons Why I'm A Resident Of The City, But Also Obviously I've Been With Chicos-Fas For Ten Years. We Would Appreciate Your Support.

Thank You. Others?

I'm The Quiet Guy Nobody Hears From. Bruce Bellman. Since 1960 --

Recently Of Lee County.

I Have Been In Fort Myers For The Past 10 Years Or So. Everybody Points To Sarasota And Says This Is So Cool, This Is Better, If You Want To Attend Something Like The Center In Sarasota It Would Cost \$200 And You Probably Wouldn't Get In Because You're Not Appropriate Or It's 30 Miles Away. There's A Big Difference. Downtown, Fort Myers Has Turned Into A Beautiful Development, There's Okay Parking. Sarasota Is Surrounded With Condos And High Rises All Over The City. It's No Longer Nice Like Fort Myers. Fort Myers Has This Draw, When I Was At The Center Four Years Ago, There Were Four People Behind Me From New York City. They Were Listening To Some Of Our Entertainment And Their Comment Was Clearly This Would Cost A Thousand Dollars A Ticket In New York. And It Would Not Be Near This Intimate. Two Of Those People Have Moved To Fort Myers Since And Are Now Locals. Sidney & Berne Davis Is One Heck Of A Draw And Doing A Garden Up Stairs Will Make It Better And Complete The Job That Needs To Be Completed. It's Not Right For The City Or County Or Whatever To Say We've Made It Three Quarters Of The Way And Now We're Going To Quit. I Taught High School And Did Grant Money, With The Grant Money I Received, I Learned The Hard Way, You Turn Down The Grant Because You Can't Get Support, You're Done. They Don't Offer It Again. I Would Hate To See Fort Myers Get Turned Around Because We Tell The State We're Not Interested In Your Grant Money, Fort Myers Is Not Important Enough. Thank You.

Thank You. Others In The Crowd? Well, Then I'm Going The Say The Public Input Period Is Over And Ask My Commissioners If Anyone Has Comments To Make At This Time?

Thanks For The Information, I Guess We Need To Start Maybe Going Back A Few Years, When I Was Mayor Actually, I Accompanied Jim Humphry And Mayor Henderson At The Time, We Got The First \$650,000 From The State. I Think It Was Last Year Or The Year Before, When The Board Was Asked To Look At Harbor Side Improvements And There Was A Process Problem If You Would, They Were Actually Targeting Tdc Dollars In Which Case Same As Here, The Town Was Informed That It Did Not Qualify For Tdc Dollars And So Staff Then Worked Putting Together An Application And Going Through The Process Properly And I Think It Did End Up Rewarding The Town. Having Said That, I'm Trying To Figure Out Where We Go From Here. The First New

Information that I heard this morning was that there's a reset on the clock for October 5th. So I think we need to establish that date certain before we jump to any conclusions right now. I don't know how many days that is. Along with that, I would think that we need to create some sort of blue sheet so we can get public input properly which would include an application, an official application, one we can look at and one we can figure out what's going on there. Appreciate the fact that some of this might be maintenance and some might be CIP, it's kind of hard to make a decision based upon what it might be. I think that the next thing that has to happen, if we could solicit an official opinion from the senator to find out what's going on, frankly I've heard several different stories. They're not all the same. And I think it would be beneficial to us and certainly serve her purpose and her position to find out where she's coming from and then lastly, which I think is mostly is that this is a town owned building, where's the town at? Why aren't they here? Why aren't they asking for the blue sheet and why aren't they putting the proposal forth. I would ask that we turn to the town and ask them to participate and contribute to this. It might take some of the hearsay out of the conversation. It's my 10 years is that we for the most part we're dealing with elected officials at this point in time, especially when there's dollars involved in terms of matching budgets and talking about their budgets. With those characteristics I think we could probably move on but I think we need more participation from other folks. I appreciate everything you folks do and obviously it's an important project and an important facility for the county as well as the town. I think that we need to structure where we go from here, and let's not leave it loose like it is right now. And target if we will, I don't know the date for certain, I don't know where we get that from. When we find that out, I would like us to ask staff and or a commissioner if commissioner Hamman wants to help out. But try to move this thing forward to bring it to some sort of fruition.

Thank you. Commissioner Hamman.

I think there's a third option that we should look at that's the path of least resistance. It may not be the most popular, but option one was to approve the request and award money today. It doesn't sound like we have consensus to do that. We could deny it and then the state grant would go away, or option three, this is what I think, we just heard hue the process would work to get the county to take this issue up, the third path is to get your board members on the phone and give each of them a quote of \$15,000 and get 10 people to raise \$15,000 and then there's your 150,000 and you'll have a match and no strings attached and no process to go through at the county. I'm just trying to give you the path of least resistance. You have very capable board members who I have a ton of confidence in. That might be the best way to get the \$150,000. Otherwise, I'm happy to talk after the meeting as well about the longer harder process that we're not really sure what the outcome will be. But I know you all could probably jump in there and probably come up with this -- I'm not saying it's going to be easy. I know it's not easy to raise money. We have all done it, but that could be the best bet. And I'll just offer that.

Any Comments? Let Me Just Say A Couple Of Things. One, This County Has Partnered With The City And With The Private Sector In Many Ways Over The Past 25 Years For The Restoration Of Downtown Fort Myers, Which It Was A Slum, It Was Nothing, There Were Boarded Up Windows, An Economic Disaster. By Buying The Old Birch Federal Building Next To Us, The Huge Increases Of The Size Of The Justice Center Beside Us, We Committed To Saving Downtown Fort Myers By Making The Capital Investment And Putting Live Bodies Here To Take Advantage Of The Restaurants And Shops That Are Going To Appear Hopefully And Have Now Finally, After 25 Years Of Just A Terrible Period That We Suffered Through, We Can See Our Way Clear. The County -- What's It Been, Not Even A Full Year We Committed \$4 Million To The City Of Fort Myers To Make Certain Harbor Side And The Project Came Together And Partnered With The Private Sector That's Going To Make Tens Of Millions Of Dollars In Investment There. We Have Shown Our Commitment, I Think We're Willing With An Additional Commitment And These Folks Have Shown Their Commitment, I Don't Know Of A Private Projector Partnership That Has Had More Commitment Financially From The Private Sector Than The Sidney & Berne Davis Building Over Here. I Hope We Can Participate In This. I'm Totally Supportive Of Trying To Make This Happen. We've Got Some Matters Of Concern. I Think You Have Your Work Cut Out For You Now, But You Know What Folks Are Concerned About And How To Respond. I Hope We Do That Quickly Because I Don't Know How Long This Window Will Remain Open. I Appreciate You All Coming And Your Patience To Sit Through This Entire Thing Today. I Appreciate The Way You Guys Have Handled The Discussion. Thank You. There's No Further Business According To Us. We're Not Meeting In Workshop This Afternoon. We Are Adjourned. Thank You Very Much.