

City of Fort Lauderdale

*City Hall
100 North Andrews Avenue
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301
www.fortlauderdale.gov*



Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 16, 2019

1:30 PM

City Commission Conference Room

City Commission Conference Meeting

FORT LAUDERDALE CITY COMMISSION

DEAN J. TRANTALIS Mayor

ROBERT L. McKINZIE Vice Mayor - Commissioner - District III

HEATHER MORAITIS Commissioner - District I

STEVEN GLASSMAN Commissioner - District II

BEN SORENSEN Commissioner - District IV

CHRIS LAGERBLOOM, City Manager

JOHN HERBST, City Auditor

JEFFREY A. MODARELLI, City Clerk

ALAIN E. BOILEAU, City Attorney

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Trantalis called the meeting to order at 1:45 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioner Heather Moraitis, Commissioner Steven Glassman, Vice Mayor Robert L. McKinzie, Commissioner Ben Sorensen, and Mayor Dean J. Trantalis

QUORUM ESTABLISHED

Also Present: City Manager Chris Lagerbloom, City Clerk Jeffrey A. Modarelli, City Attorney Alain E. Boileau, City Auditor John Herbst and Sergeant at Arms Luan Malushi

CITY COMMISSION REPORTS

Members of the Commission announced recent and upcoming events and matters of interest.

Mayor Trantalis commented on neighbor concerns regarding the Mercedes 5K Run impact on traffic due to it occurring during rush hour. City Manager Chris Lagerbloom discussed the event organizer's desire for businesses, i.e., corporate teams to participate. He noted that the event and its schedule has been in place for several years. Vice Mayor McKinzie commented on plans to mitigate the impact on traffic. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Commissioner Moraitis discussed public outreach in District I regarding plans for Lockhart Stadium (Lockhart). Results would be presented to the Parks, Recreation & Beaches Board followed by a meeting with Staff and the Lockhart team to review the proposed site design sketches. She discussed the process for the four signature projects included in the Parks Bond, suggesting the encumbrance of the funds earmarked, specifically the \$25,000,000 for the Lockhart site. Based upon input from the community, she discussed the desire to utilize these funds to establish a footprint for the Community Center and its future enhancements. City Manager Lagerbloom confirmed that Commission acted to address this via resolution.

Commissioner McKinzie commented on his perspective regarding meeting voter expectations for the Parks Bond. Further comment and discussion ensued. Commissioner Moraitis commented on the future

need for a parking structure next to the proposed smaller high school stadium. Discussion ensued on Inter Miami building a parking garage.

Commissioner Moraitis commented on the goal to be explicit when negotiating with Inter Miami. Mayor Trantalis commented that ancillary items may not cost \$25,000,000 and could be used in other areas of District I. Commissioner Moraitis confirmed District I residents are excited about utilizing this funding at the Lockhart site. Further comment ensued on providing open space in District I and the history of development in the City.

Commissioner Moraitis discussed the proposed Community Center memorializing historic aspects of the World War II Naval Air Station located at the site. She confirmed an upcoming meeting with the Fort Lauderdale Historical Society. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Commissioner Moraitis discussed ongoing efforts regarding the Uptown Master Plan and the upcoming May 2, 2019 meeting hosted by Staff at the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). Comment and discussion ensued on a proposed MPO project being coordinated with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) which would change an area ramp accessing Interstate 95.

Commissioner Moraitis noted that Commissioner Glassman would be honored at the Fort Lauderdale Historical Society on Tuesday, April 30, 2019.

Commissioner Glassman commented on the Tortuga Music Festival. There were few neighbor concerns and traffic, though slow, kept moving.

Mayor Trantalis commented on the recognition of fundraising entities for Parker Playhouse renovations. He requested City Manager Lagerbloom address recognition of the City as a significant funding contributor to Parker Playhouse.

Commissioner Glassman requested discussion of the Ordinance that protects trees during a development project, i.e., incorporating older, larger trees. Comment and discussion ensued. Vice Mayor McKinzie commented on vegetation concerns in navigable waterways, requesting review and discussion.

Vice Mayor McKinzie discussed the groundbreaking for eleven single-family homes in District III, expounding on related details. All eleven homes are Workforce Affordable Housing which have been sold.

Vice Mayor McKinzie commented on project aspects that made the homes affordable. Further comment and discussion ensued. Vice Mayor McKinzie discussed efforts with Habitat for Humanity, including its three new aesthetic models and their desire to locate parcels for 20-30 homes in the City. He expounded on details related to home ownership and rental.

Commissioner Sorensen discussed the success of the Tortuga Music Festival, commenting on Water Taxi transportation. He confirmed the upcoming Tunnel Top Park Design Meeting on April 24, 2019 at Stranahan House (5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.). Mayor Trantalis recommended keeping the design simple, confirming the Commission's commitment to this project.

Mayor Trantalis commented on the upcoming groundbreaking for the Aquatic Complex and the opportunity to identify its heritage and unique aspects. He expounded on related details and the International Swimming Hall of Fame's (ISHOF) fundraising efforts.

Mayor Trantalis discussed his participation on a Super Yacht Association panel discussion. One of the topics discussed included the recognition of a lack of skilled workers to support the marine industry. He commented on related topics and their impact on the marine industry economy. There is a need to address this training to provide skilled workers.

Vice Mayor McKinzie commented on previous efforts to train skilled workers, i.e., the Step-Up Apprenticeship Program (Step-Up) and OIC South Florida Training. He expounded on details, challenges and the need for mechanisms addressing these goals. Mayor Trantalis concurred.

Vice Mayor McKinzie noted the need for similar skilled worker training for projects in the Northwest Progresso Flagler Heights (NWPFH) Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA). Mayor Trantalis also noted employee deficit within the tourism industry. Commissioner Moraitis suggested the new Chief Education Officer could address these concerns. Further comment and discussion ensued. Vice Mayor McKinzie discussed the importance of resident outreach for training opportunities. Commissioner Moraitis commented on how other municipalities are addressing this need, confirming she would provide information she recently read on this topic.

[19-0387](#)

Communications to the City Commission

Community Services Board (CSB)
March 11, 2019

A copy of this communication is attached to these minutes.

Mayor Trantalis recognized April Kirk, 2640 SE 13th Avenue, on behalf of the Community Services Board (CSB). Ms. Kirk explained the CSB allocates funds for both Community Services Block Grants and Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS (HOPWA). She expounded on housing-related services provided by the CSB. Tiny Homes would serve to solve housing challenges. Current restrictions prevent more than one home per property. The CSB would like to meet with the Commission to discuss innovative ways to address housing needs.

Mayor Trantalis recommended a Joint Commission Workshop with the CSB and the Affordable Housing Advisory Committee. Ms. Kirk concurred. City Manager Lagerbloom confirmed that he would coordinate.

PARKS, RECREATION, & BEACHES BOARD (PRB&B)
MARCH 27, 2019

A copy of this communication is attached to these minutes.

Commissioner Moraitis explained details related to the context of this communication. A park in this area would prevent a specific segment of the homeless population (Segment) from residing near this location. She confirmed the high density of this Segment in the area of the proposed park. City Attorney Alain Boileau explained details regarding recent litigation on this topic, stating that the City did not prevail due to the Ordinance language. He recommended updating the Ordinance. City Attorney Boileau stated that pursuing this proposal is not a viable option from a legal standpoint, expounding on details. Commissioner Moraitis confirmed that she has met with area neighbors, commenting on details. Further comment ensued on the challenges involved with finding opportunities to solve neighbor concerns. Commissioner Moraitis confirmed she would follow-up.

Infrastructure Task Force Committee (ITFC)
April 1, 2019

A copy of this communication is attached to these minutes.

Mayor Trantalis gave an overview of the ITFC's communication requesting that the ITFC be an ongoing Committee for all infrastructure needs. He noted the background and expertise of those serving on the ITFC. Commissioner Glassman suggested keeping the membership in place and altering the scope of the ITFC. Vice Mayor McKinzie concurred with Commissioner Glassman.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Marilyn Mammano, Chairperson of the ITFC. Chair Mammano commented on the initial task assigned to the ITFC, stating it has been accomplished. She urged a continuing consistent, long-term focus on infrastructure concerns. Mayor Trantalis noted the multitude of infrastructure projects and work moving forward. Commissioner Sorensen suggested the ITFC continue. As the timeline for sunseting nears, the Commission would revisit the subject and address the next steps. Further comment ensued.

Mayor Trantalis recessed the meeting at 2:49 p.m.

Mayor Trantalis reconvened the meeting at 3:06 p.m.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

BUS-1 [19-0330](#)

2018 Annual and Special Neighbor Survey Results

Mayor Trantalis recognized Aricka Johnson, Structural Innovation Manager. Ms. Johnson gave opening remarks for the 2018 Neighbor Survey (2018 Survey) and the Special Issues Neighbor Survey (Special Survey). The Special Survey focused on transportation, homelessness and public education. She introduced the consultant Chris Tatham of the ETC Institute (ETC) who implemented and managed the survey. Mr. Tatham participated via conference call, explained ETC's experience and qualifications, expounding on details related to valuable neighbor input to be used for decision making. Mr. Tatham narrated the Survey presentation.

A copy of the presentation is attached to these minutes.

The 2018 Survey indicated resident's overall perception is that the City is moving in the right direction. Areas of neighbor concern involve street maintenance and infrastructure. Overall ratings were high for City services and customer service. Mr. Tatham expounded on trends illustrated in the presentation. Opportunities for improvement include traffic flow, preparing for the future, maintenance of infrastructure and disaster preparedness. Police, Fire and Rescue Services were highly

rated.

Mr. Tatham presented results of the Special Survey, confirming a focus on households with school-age children. Neighbor transportation concerns in specific areas were dependent upon weekday or weekend travel. He discussed the top intersections of concern as illustrated in the presentation. Traffic flow, traffic signalization, roadway improvements and completing street projects and were among top items of concern.

Mr. Tatham noted that the overall ratings on homelessness were optimistic, expounding on details, including input on the shift in funding to address homelessness needs. He commented on the improved ratings for public schools, explaining details related to elementary, middle school and high school ratings. These results are available on the City's website.

Mayor Trantalis commented on the Special Survey results regarding public schools and recent input from Mary Fertig. He discussed family safety and education perceptions in urban versus suburban environments. Mayor Trantalis also commented on neighbor survey participation. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Commissioner Moraitis commented on park, public amenity and school impact on families. She also noted the challenge of adequate affordable family housing. Commissioner Sorensen discussed the need for more involvement with the School Board and the positive impact of parks in building community. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Mary Fertig, 501 Poinciana Drive. Ms. Fertig commented on the survey, requesting that the Commission consider the numerous successes of City schools, expounding on details.

BUS-2 [19-0308](#)

Water and Sewer Rate Study Presentation and Discussion

Mayor Trantalis recognized Andrew Burnham, Vice President of Stantec Financial Services. Mr. Burnham expounded on the services provided by Stantec Financial Services. The Stantec Water and Sewer Rate Study (Study) provides the proposed rate structure intended to create an equitable, stable and predictable revenue structure to fund the City's utility operation, including infrastructure requirements. Mr. Burnham noted his advisory role in the Study. He introduced Kyle Stevens, Stantec Project Manager, who narrated the presentation, explaining details and answering Commission questions resulting from the findings.

The Study included water and sewer users for single family customers,

multifamily customers and the wholesale water service. The Water and Sewer Systems are housed in an Enterprise Fund supported by user fees. Through Ordinance, there is a five percent (5%) annual indexing adjustment applied to rates each year. The current rate structure has not been adjusted in over ten (10) years. The presentation focused on the study of revenue sufficiency, cost of service, updating user rates and impact fees. The parameters of the revenue sufficiency study include a ten-year forecasting model which addresses financial viability, the 2019 Budget, the Five-Year Capital Spending Plan, billing data, account growth forecasts and future debt issuance. The Study addresses the Return on Investment (ROI) with the assumption that it would be phased out in the near future.

A copy of the presentation illustrating the Study's findings and recommendations is attached to these minutes.

Additional rate increases would be needed due to minimum reserve maintenance requirements. Mr. Stevens confirmed that there are significant capital needs, expounding on funding details which include rate increases and debt issuance.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question regarding the 2017 \$200,000,000 debt issuance, Mr. Stevens confirmed it is being paid for with the 2018 five percent (5%) water rate increase. There would be a five percent (5%) increase in 2019 but not in 2020. As things move forward, there would be modifications to the underlying rate structure. The five percent (5%) annual increase would begin again in 2021 through 2028. This revenue would be used to fund annual operating costs, inflation, additional debt service and the capacity to complete \$20,000,000 in capital spending each year.

In response to Commissioner Moraitis' question regarding if the \$20,000,000 transfer to capital spending comes from the Return on Investment (ROI), Mr. Stevens explained this \$20,000,000 in capital spending is the annual transfer out of the Operating Fund into the Capital Fund to pay for cash-funded projects. Further comment and discussion ensued. City Manager Chris Lagerbloom discussed the reduction of the ROI and its use. Mr. Stevens confirmed options regarding the use of ROI funds, including lowering rate increases for a limited time and reducing the amount of future debt. Further comment and discussion ensued on using water rate increases to pay for debt service, operating and maintenance costs and the impact of lowering rates, including future bond issuances. At the time of the Study, no formal ROI policy had been set for the use of the ROI.

In response to Vice Mayor McKinzie's question regarding elimination of the five percent (5%) annual rate increase, Mr. Stevens explained the financial performance of the Water and Sewer Fund would be lower, expounding on details and stating there would be less flexibility in other areas. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Paul Berg, Director of Public Works. Mr. Berg explained that the recent \$200,000,000 bond issuance was the first of six. He confirmed shortages in the system's operating and maintenance funds, expounding on details. In response to Mayor Trantalis, Mr. Berg said that currently there are not adequate funds to cover operating and maintenance expense increases on an ongoing basis. This is one reason for annual water rate increases in addition to paying the debt service for bonds already issued and anticipated debt service for future bond issues. The ROI remaining in the Water and Sewer Fund (Fund) is not adequate to solve all funding needs. Mr. Berg said that the ROI is one part of the rate restructuring. Should the ROI not remain in the Fund, rates would need to exceed five percent. Mayor Trantalis commented on historical aspects of this topic. Further comment and discussion ensued.

City Manager Lagerbloom suggested that Stantec model three rate structure increase scenarios for a side-by-side comparison: one with the annual five percent (5%) increase; one without the five percent (5%) increase; and one without the \$20,000,000 ROI reduction. Commissioner Moraitis commented on input from residents, requesting a breakdown of costs associated with debt payments and other items related to water costs.

Commissioner Sorensen commented on the impact due to a lack of past investment. Mr. Berg confirmed efforts to bring operations and maintenance current. Mayor Trantalis noted the last major water and sewer expenditure was for a specific project to remove septic tanks and bring all residents onto the system. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Mr. Burnham gave context to this topic, stating that in many cases initial utility infrastructure was contributed by developers or federal grant programs. Utility companies never had to set rates to recover those costs. Costs to address utility needs have increased substantially along with significant regulatory requirements. Mr. Burnham said that the national average for rate increases averages five percent (5%) per year, expounding on related details.

Mr. Stevens reviewed parameters in the cost of serves, separating and understanding costs to provide water service, sewer service and their respective revenues. Revenue for water was \$22,000,000 over costs. Revenue for sewer services was \$22,000,000 under costs. Mr. Stevens explained that the intention is for these to be revenue neutral in the fiscal year 2019 budget, expounding on work with Staff and related details. Staff confirmed there had been a large amount of recent focus on addressing sewer needs.

Recommendations regarding the cost of service include a phased approach. Water rates would increase by three point six percent (3.6%) and sewer rates would increase by seven percent (7%). Over time, revenue increases would align with expenditures. Further comment ensued. Mr. Stevens noted that updates to the costs of service are recommended every five years and continued evaluation over time. User rates have two components: 1) a fixed monthly charge independent of metric usage for recovery of customer service costs and readiness to serve costs and; 2) the rate structure which is a volumetric measure for the amount of water used. The objectives are to make modifications to enhance equity within the rate structure and comport with the cost of service findings, revenue and expenses in alignment with industry best practices.

Mr. Stevens expounded on details related to user rates for single-family dwellings, multifamily dwellings, commercial and wholesale customers. Multifamily dwellings are based upon number of units behind the meter. Commissioner Moraitis noted concerns regarding this aspect of the Study when used for large condominiums that do not have full-time residents. Comment and discussion ensued. Mr. Stevens said that the recommendation for single family dwellings and commercial accounts is based on a fixed charge for the meter size and the readiness to serve component.

Vice Mayor McKinzie noted his concerns, commenting on the hardship of rate increases on senior citizens with fixed incomes. Mayor Trantalis confirmed the necessity of pursuing the Study recommendations, suggesting special accommodations for low-income individuals. Further comment and discussion ensued. Mr. Burnham noted fixed charges currently exist, explaining that the presentation updates those amounts and includes changes to the tier structure that would reduce bills for low-use households such as senior citizens. Mr. Stevens explained tier structure component recommendations illustrated in the presentation. Comment and discussion ensued.

In response to Commissioner Moraitis' question, Mr. Burnham confirmed charges for wholesale water are higher than what is charged to residents. Wholesale customers charge a surcharge to their users. Comment and discussion ensued on water rates. In response to Commissioner Moraitis' question, Mr. Stevens confirmed that the results listed in the presentation were only for water and sewer charges. He explained the impact of user rates on commercial 5/8" meter accounts, select multifamily accounts and select wholesale accounts noted in the presentation.

Mr. Stevens noted the following regarding the Study's analysis of water and sewer impact fees (Impact Fees): 1) Impact Fees were last updated 10+ years ago; 2) the analysis calculated the capacity cost of current water and sewer systems; 3) it reviewed and updated the level of service and cost for each ERU; and 4) the Impact Fees listed in the presentation represent the current cost to buy into the system for an ERU. He reviewed the calculated water and sewer rates shown in the presentation. The calculated charges for new connections are less than what is currently charged. In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Mr. Stevens confirmed the City is undercharging for new connections. Mayor Trantalis reviewed cost amounts for new construction connections.

Impact Fee recommendations include: 1) consideration of updating the Impact Fees charges to fully recover the current cost of capacity for new connections; and 2) consideration of assessing an Impact Fee for new connections to wholesale systems.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Fred Nesbitt, 3900 Galt Ocean Mile. Mr. Nesbitt commented on the current multifamily unit base volume rate for water and sewer being fifty percent (50%) higher than single family or commercial. He commented on the impact of meter size, citing examples in the Study and noting the cost differences among multifamily, single-family and commercial billing. Mr. Nesbitt discussed the need for equity, commenting on the increased billing for large multifamily building meters and the small percentage of residents residing in multifamily buildings on a full-time basis. He recommended multifamily, single-family and commercial billing charges be the same.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Dennis Ulmer, 1007 NW 11th Place. Mr. Ulmer commented on his minimum water usage and the impact of annual increases on consumers. Mayor Trantalis noted that the Study's recommendations illustrate how minimum users would realize reduced water bills. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Charles King, 105 N. Victoria Park Road. Mr. King commented on his perspective regarding addressing this topic, stating purchases of large amounts of water should be less expensive. Mayor Trantalis commented on water conservation efforts and creating a water system for the future. Further comment ensued.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Pio Ieraci, 3800 Galt Ocean Mile, on behalf of the Galt Mile Community Association. Mr. Ieraci commented on opposition to the Study's multifamily dwelling unit billing and the decision to count the number of units behind a meter, expounding on details.

Mr. Burnham commented on the concept that purchasing more water should be less expensive. The State of Florida has Water Management Districts that provide the City with a Consumptive Use Permit. It includes a conservation rate structure that has increased rates for large users and must be followed.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Mr. Burnham discussed the topic of higher costs for condominium users and the number of units behind a meter. Mr. Burnham explained the fundamental industry practice for billing, the readiness to serve, and the number of units or the meter size pricing structure.

In response to Mayor Trantalis' question regarding basing multifamily billing on usage, Mr. Burnham said usage billing impacts financial risk and rating agencies. This necessitates fixed-rate charges. Mayor Trantalis noted that the readiness to serve includes a fixed cost and this is what is being funded. It is a basic infrastructure cost which needs to be maintained. Mr. Burnham cited examples. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Commissioner Sorensen inquired if there could be a fixed cost per unit for multifamily dwellings. Mr. Burnham commented on the hybrid system currently in place, confirming a combined model of readiness fees and usage tier fees would be prepared for Commission review. City Manager Lagerbloom confirmed he would bring these examples and recommendations to the Commission coinciding with the upcoming Fiscal Year 2020 Budget.

Mr. Burnham commented on notice requirements regarding rate modifications. He also confirmed that similar to other communities, cost recovery could be done in a phased approach. Further comment ensued.

BUS-3 [19-0347](#)

Letter of Intent for Redevelopment Project - Broadview Park

Mayor Trantalis recognized Alfred Battle, Deputy Director of the Department of Sustainable Development. Mr. Battle explained this item as detailed in the Commission Agenda Memo (CAM). In response to Mayor Trantalis' question, Mr. Battle confirmed the City is the fee simple owner of the property. The properties have an existing well field. City Manager Lagerbloom confirmed the need to maintain these utilities going forward, confirming an ongoing environmental study of the property that would determine the availability for a project.

Vice Mayor McKinzie commented on his desire to incorporate unincorporated properties. Comment and discussion ensued. Mayor Trantalis concurred with Vice Mayor McKinzie noting the need to do it in an economically feasible manner. City Manager Lagerbloom said the analysis would be available prior to the summer break or immediately afterward.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Robert Lochrie, Esq., on behalf of the Housing Authority of Fort Lauderdale (HAFL). Mr. Lochrie explained the HAFL's work with Staff to develop parcels for Workforce Affordable Housing, expounding on details related to the Letter of Intent attached as Exhibit 1 to the CAM. The HAFL is requesting the Commission to consider the Letter of Intent proposal and begin the process of identifying what could be built. The HAFL will bear the cost of the environmental study discussed earlier by City Manager Lagerbloom.

Mayor Trantalis confirmed a consensus to move forward on this item. The proposed Workforce Affordable Housing Units would be Broward County Affordable Housing units located within the City. Vice Mayor McKinzie commented on the number of affordable housing units throughout the City.

BUS-4 [19-0390](#)

Discussion on the Salary and Benefits for Elected Officials

City Manager Chris Lagerbloom lead the discussion on this item, confirming any modifications would need to be adopted before July 31, 2019 to be in effect for the next election in November 2020. He said that members of the Commission cannot take any action on items which would benefit the Commission during their current term.

City Manager Lagerbloom discussed related surveys done in Broward County, explaining details. He recommended consideration of five separate areas: salary, benefits, healthcare, retirement options and

expense account. City Manager Lagerbloom addressed and expounded on each area. Comment and discussion ensued.

The last salary increase approved was in 2002. City Manager Lagerbloom recommended tying Commissioner salaries to the 2018 Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) median family income for Broward County which is \$65,700 and would adjust annually. Further comment and discussion ensued. The Commission concurred with this recommendation.

City Manager Lagerbloom explained benefits for five different management categories. Comment and discussion ensued on monthly cell phone allowances. Discussions ensued on a monthly \$150 cell phone stipend.

City Manager Lagerbloom recommended offering the purchase of family and/or partner healthcare coverage to the Commission members in the same manner offered to employees. City Attorney Alain Boileau commented on how this is addressed in the Charter, expounding on details.

City Manager Lagerbloom recommended the Commission direct them to study bringing the Florida Retirement System (FRS) to all employees and elected officials. City Auditor John Herbst expounded on this topic, explaining related details and stating that currently it would be cost-neutral or a cost savings. Further comment and discussion ensued on the FRS vesting rules and other retirement options that would begin immediately, i.e., a 401K Plan. City Auditor Herbst explained details of the FRS plan. Mayor Trantalis requested additional information regarding the FRS plan. It was confirmed that City Manager Lagerbloom, City Auditor Herbst and City Attorney Boileau would address this request and provide additional information and details.

In response to Commissioner Moraitis' question regarding any benefit areas not addressed in the Charter being negotiable, City Attorney Boileau explained the logic behind the Charter provision that any decision made by the Commission should not be for their benefit during current term. He commented on previous interpretations of this Charter provision that would transfer to other benefits. Further comment and discussion ensued.

City Manager Lagerbloom recommended all members of the Commission have the same amount of \$750 for expenses which would be inclusive of all expenses. Commissioner Glassman commented on

factoring in the vehicle allowance into expenses. Commissioner Moraitis suggested other benefits remaining as is, given the recommended salary increase, noting the retirement would be based on this amount. Further comment and discussion ensued.

Mayor Trantalis recognized Sherman Whitmore, 401 East Las Olas Boulevard. Mr. Whitmore commented on the need to consider the value and time contributed by the Commission. He also made a recommendation on expenses and employing paid interns to assist the Commission.

City Attorney Boileau requested a consensus regarding the Office of the City Attorney filing an amicus brief with the Supreme Court of the United States in support of Florida Power and Light's position on electric utility deregulation scheduled to be filed on Thursday, April 18, 2019. There was consensus.

EXECUTIVE CLOSED DOOR SESSION - 4:30 P.M. OR AS SOON THEREAFTER AS POSSIBLE

[19-0428](#)

The City Commission will meet privately pursuant to Florida Statute, Section 286.011(8) concerning:

Edgewater House Condominium Assoc., Inc. v. City of Fort Lauderdale

Case Nos.: CACE 18-022196 (13); CACE 18-022278 (AW); CACE 18-022280 (AW)

Mayor Trantalis announced the commencement of the Executive Closed-Door Session.

CITY MANAGER REPORTS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Trantalis adjourned the Conference Meeting at 5:16 p.m.