

CITY OF OPA-LOCKA
"The Great City"

CLERK'S ACTION SUMMARY MINUTES
REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING

July 27, 2022
7:00 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Williams called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. on Wednesday, July 27, 2022 at Sherbondy Village, 215 Perviz Avenue, Opa-locka, Florida.

2. ROLL CALL:

The following members of the City Commission were present: Commissioner Sherelean Bass, Commissioner Chris Davis, Commissioner Audrey Dominguez, Vice Mayor John H. Taylor Jr., and Mayor Veronica J. Williams. Also in attendance were: Interim City Manager Darvin Williams, City Attorney Burnadette Norris-Weeks and City Clerk Joanna Flores.

3. INVOCATION:

The Invocation was delivered by Vice Mayor Taylor.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

5. AWARDS/PROCLAMATIONS/ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

Mayor Williams stated that the Commission would come back to the presentation of proclamations to give people time to show up.

6. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA AND PULL LIST (deferrals and deletions):

Commissioner Dominguez pulled Consent Agenda Items 13-1 and 13-8.

Commissioner Davis pulled Consent Agenda Items 13-10.

Mayor Williams pulled Consent Agenda Items 13-9.

Clerk Flores pointed out that Consent Agenda Item 13-5 included areas in the body of the legislation which require blanks to be filled in, and she asked if that legislation would need to be pulled.

Vice Mayor Taylor pulled Consent Agenda Item 13-5.

It was moved by Vice Mayor Taylor, seconded by Commissioner Bass to approve the Consent Agenda.

There being no discussion, the motion to approve the Consent Agenda passed by a 5-0 vote.

Commissioner Davis	Yes
Commissioner Dominguez	Yes
Vice Mayor Taylor	Yes
Commissioner Bass	Yes
Mayor Williams	Yes

7. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

City Clerk Flores requested to amend the agenda and read Add-on Agenda Item 14-1 into the record.

14-1: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA, CALLING FOR A SPECIAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 8, 2022 IN THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA, TO FILL AN UNEXPIRED CITY COMMISSION TERM ENDING NOVEMBER 2024; FURTHER PROVIDING FOR A RUN-OFF ELECTION, IF REQUIRED; PROVIDING FOR CONDUCT OF SAID ELECTIONS BY MIAMI-DADE COUNTY ELECTIONS DEPARTMENT (MIAMI-DADE COUNTY); PROVIDING THAT VOTING PRECINCTS FOR SAID ELECTIONS SHALL BE THOSE AS ESTABLISHED BY MIAMI-DADE COUNTY; PROVIDING FOR NOTICE OF SAID ELECTIONS; PROVIDING FOR THE FORM OF BALLOT AND REGISTRATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH STATE LAW; PROVIDING FOR VOTER PARTICIPATION VIA VOTE-BY MAIL IN SAID ELECTIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH STATE LAW; PROVIDING FOR PAYMENT FOR CONDUCTING ELECTIONS TO MIAMI-DADE COUNTY; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. *Sponsored by City Clerk*

It was moved by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Bass, to amend the Agenda.

There being no discussion, the motion to amend the Agenda passed by a 5-0 vote.

Vice Mayor Taylor	Yes
Commissioner Bass	Yes
Commissioner Davis	Yes
Commissioner Dominguez	Yes
Mayor Williams	Yes

Clerk Flores informed the Commission that there was an additional request to amend the agenda and read Add-on Agenda Item 14-2 into the record.

14-2: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA, DIRECTING THE SUBMISSION OF LEGAL INVOICES, ATTACHED HERETO AS COMPOSITE EXHIBIT "A", TO THE STATE OF FLORIDA FOR REVIEW AND SUBSEQUENT PAYMENT; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. *Sponsored by City Attorney*

It was moved by Commissioner Bass, seconded by Vice Mayor Taylor, to amend the Agenda.

There being no discussion, the motion to amend the Agenda passed by a 5-0 vote.

Commissioner Bass	Yes
Commissioner Davis	Yes
Commissioner Dominguez	Yes
Vice Mayor Taylor	Yes
Mayor Williams	Yes

It was moved by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Vice Mayor Taylor, to approve the Agenda.

There being no discussion, the motion to approve the Agenda passed by a 5-0 vote.

Commissioner Davis	Yes
Commissioner Dominguez	Yes
Vice Mayor Taylor	Yes

Commissioner Bass	Yes
Mayor Williams	Yes

8. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Regular Commission Meeting Minutes – May 25, 2022

It was moved by Vice Mayor Taylor, seconded by Commissioner Davis to approve the minutes from the May 25, 2022 Regular Commission Meeting.

There being no discussion, the motion to approve the minutes passed by a 5-0 vote.

Commissioner Dominguez	Yes
Vice Mayor Taylor	Yes
Commissioner Bass	Yes
Commissioner Davis	Yes
Mayor Williams	Yes

Budget Workshop Minutes – July 20, 2022

It was moved by Vice Mayor Taylor, seconded by Commissioner Bass to approve the minutes from the July 20, 2022 Budget Workshop.

There being no discussion, the motion to approve the minutes passed by a 5-0 vote.

Vice Mayor Taylor	Yes
Commissioner Bass	Yes
Commissioner Davis	Yes
Commissioner Dominguez	Yes
Mayor Williams	Yes

9. **DISTRICT ONE / DISTRICT TWO - COUNTY COMMISSIONER REPORT:**

There was none.

10. **PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:**

Proclamations honoring the achievements of the schools in the City of Opa-locka

Commissioner Bass and Commissioner Davis honored Beacon College Preparatory for becoming the first school in Opa-locka to be ranked as an A school since 2005 and Nathan B. Young Elementary School for being ranked as a B school. Vice Mayor Taylor recognized Mr. Niurka Davis for achieving a B ranking for her school in her first year as

Principal of Nathan B. Young Elementary. The Vice Mayor also honored Dr. Robert B. Ingram Elementary School for being ranked as a B school as well. Mayor Williams thanked the principals, teachers and staff at all of the schools, stating that the children of the City can have a great education right in their own backyard. Commissioner Bass concluded the presentation by inviting a representative of the E'arron James Haley Foundation to present a \$1,200 scholarship to a student.

11. CITIZENS' FORUM:

(Opportunity for discussion of any concerns – please limit to 3 minutes)

City Clerk Joanna Flores announced the protocol for public participation at City Commission meetings.

Mayor Williams opened the Citizens' Forum.

Ms. Floralba Wright who resides at 1146 Medina Street, yielded her time to Mr. John Renaud.

Mr. Dionne Alvarez also gave his 3 minutes to Mr. John Renaud.

Mr. John Renaud introduced himself as a Civilian who works for the Opa-locka Police Department and the President of Local 2068 for the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, as well as the Police Chaplain. Mr. Renaud stated that he knows Vice Mayor Taylor is a prayer warrior, and asked God to bless all of the prayer warriors including Commissioner Bass and the Mayor. He then offered a prayer to honor God who he said gave them their platforms to preach the Gospel. Mr. Renaud stated that the last contract they had was in 2008 and had been negotiating for the last 2 and a half years with many delays. He told Commissioner Davis that when it's time for them to pay their Florida Power and Light bill, he can't tell them he doesn't have it because there's another delay in getting the contract ratified. He then told Commissioner Bass that when his rent is due, he can't tell them the City Attorney threw them another curveball and he doesn't have the rent money.

Mayor Williams reminded Mr. John Renaud of the decorum policy because she said he is calling out names.

Mr. John Renaud apologized and continued, stating that saying they are upset and frustrated is an understatement because they need the contract ratified as soon as possible. He informed the Commission that the last contract they agreed to, they didn't want to agree to because it wasn't the best contract for them, and then there were additional delays and right before they were supposed to get it ratified, the City Manager was let go and they found themselves having to start over again. Mr. Renaud said that God has the right people in

place at the right time, because when City Manager Williams walked in, he opened up the dialogue. He asserted that Manager Williams is a man of his word and understands that speaking about loving one another is not just in word because faith is an action, showing them that he is for the people, never having seen a Manager like this, with the Union supporting him, including the Union Members who are Residents, in addition to the many business owners he has seen support him. Mr. Renaud asked the Commission to get the contract ratified with no more delays or curve balls. He noted having seen young people that are watching to see what the Commission does in times like this and what decisions they make as role models. Mr. Renaud stated that Paul said we're all ambassadors of Christ, and he said this is the Commission's opportunity to represent Christ well by doing the right thing. He said that they love the City of Opa-locka, which is why they work here, even through the pandemic and contract delays, and he also said that those who are Residents could have moved out with inflation and taxes having gone up, but they are still here. Mr. Renaud concluded by stating that whenever the spotlight is on you, point it back to the Lord Jesus, who he said is the way, the truth and the light.

Ms. Floralba Wright used the remaining time available to inform the Commission that she lives in Opa-locka and said that she is still here because she believes in the great City of Opa-locka. Sharing her belief that together they can make a change of the City. Ms. Wright concluded thanking City Manager Williams for what he's done for them and then proceeded to plead for the Commission to ratify the contract for the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees.

Mr. Desir, who resides at 341 Sinbad Avenue, introduced himself as the electrician since 2008, sharing that the people of Opa-locka know him and his phone number because they call him when there is no light and he comes to fix it, even on Saturday. He said that he needs the Commission's help, for all the people behind him. Further stating that they have a great City Manager who cares about them, no matter who they are. He said that the City will go forward because the Commission cares about the City, adding that the people did not elect them for no reason and that they have to do something for the City. He also stated that he knows the Mayor and Commissioners will help them, re-asserting that the Manager already did his part. Urging the Commission to not forget the Police Department, he pointed out that without them the City would have no security. In conclusion, he asked the Commission to help them.

Mr. Ario Lundy who resides at 14911 Duval Street stated that the Officers who serve the Opa-locka Police Department are the lowest paid people in Policing and he said that he thinks they haven't had a contract since 2008 or 2014. Mr. Lundy reminded the Commission that Law Enforcement protects the City, and they take a risk. He also said that they shouldn't have to be at the Meeting over a contract and should be on the street fighting crime. Mr. Lundy also said that the Commission is dealing with people's lives

and expressed concern that they can have an anxiety attack because their bill can't get paid and urged the Commission to give them security.

Mr. George Suarez who resides at 1341 Dunad Avenue thanked everyone for coming to see what's going on in the City. Mr. Suarez recalled coming to the Commission Meeting a few weeks ago to praise the hiring of Police Chief Israel who he said was great. He went on to say that while he is happy to see all the development that is going on in Opa-locka, he is saddened to see that people have to beg for their right to live. Mr. Suarez urged the Commission to consider that they could change everything and make everybody look at Opa-locka a different way, considering that every time you Google the City, you find crime, corruption and things that break down the community. He asserted that the community is beautiful, and pointed out that orchids grow out of mud, stating that it is the most beautiful flower. Mr. Suarez asked the Commission to find a way to fix it because it is why everyone went to the polls and voted, and he urged them to do it right.

Mr. John Riley who resides at 2963 NW 135th Street requested that the Commission allow Citizens Input on Agenda Item 13-1 and 13-10.

Mayor Williams asked if it was the will of the Commission to allow Citizens Input on Agenda Item 13-1 and 13-10 and noted that they stated it was fine.

Mr. Riley went on to point out that Florida Statute 162 is the code enforcement statute that provides a method for enforcing a code, but he said that the legislative intent is to get compliance with the law. He noted that the statute also states that the statute should not be used for revenue generating, but he said that he feels in Opa-locka, it seems that it's all about money. Mr. Riley shared that people who come into compliance are coming before the Special Master and are being fined \$250, and he asserted that it is not the intent of the law. He also shared the example of a Police Officer who writes a ticket and is not present when it comes up in court and said that the ticket is dismissed. Expressing his opinion that it should be the same with Code Enforcement but said that in Opa-locka there is a Code Enforcement Officer who no longer works for the City, but they have citations being presented and heard, adding that he doesn't believe it is right because it is not the law. Mr. Riley lamented that a lot of Businesses and Residents say they don't want to help Opa-locka because of how they are treated. Pointing out that the City pays its Special Masters, he suggested that the Commission consider the option to get a Code Enforcement Board made up of Citizens and Businesses who don't have to be paid and can listen and be fair to the Citizens, and not fine them for the sake of fining them. Mr. Riley added that the Board could be non-biased because he said that there are times when it is appearing that the Special Masters are biased and have some personal agenda. He concluded by expressing his hope that the City will get a Code Enforcement Board.

Manuel Perez introduced himself as a Resident who works for the City. Mr. Perez shared that he told a Resident that he was going to take care of an issue that had been brought to the attention of the Public Works Department, but that there's a paperwork process, his truck had been broken, and that he now got the invoice that was necessary to get what he needed to fix the issue. He went on to say that he told the Resident that he would get the issue resolved between tomorrow and Friday because he was going to have a colonoscopy on Friday. Mr. Perez said that the Resident responded by saying that she hoped he doesn't die because she wanted him to finish her job. He expressed that the comment hurt him so much considering how he treats them and asserted that he doesn't think he deserves that. Mr. Perez stated that they are getting hit in the head by 2 people and he doesn't like that because he doesn't think it's the way to treat a human being. Offering assurances that he was going to fix the issue because he has a heart, even if he doesn't do the procedure, but he also said that every time that person calls him, he will not do it for her because he doesn't think he or anybody deserves that.

Officer German Bosque began by recalling that he got hired by the City of Opa-locka right after Hurricane Andrew in 1993 when he was 29 and will be 59 next Tuesday. He said that he was lucky that he liked all of the Members of the Commission because that hasn't always been the case, having been to many Commission Meetings. Having been asked to speak before, he said that this was his first time speaking the podium in his 28 years because in the past he didn't really support what it was he was being asked to speak about. He pointed out that in 29 years, he's been through 25 Chiefs of Police, with Police Chief Israel being number 25, sharing his opinion that it is not a good thing, recalling that the Police Department has rowed the boat in different directions for different Chiefs. Informing the Commission that it was the team that asked him if he wanted to speak, he said that he absolutely did. He expressed his love for the positive that the City Manager brings, sharing that he teases him that he has no personal life because he sees him at 6:00 a.m. when he gets to the City, and on Saturdays and Sundays as well. He also expressed that everyone in the Police Department are all impressed with the Chief of Police, adding that he is still star struck that he's here and said he is glad that he accepted the position and that the City Manager and Chief of Police connect. Giving thanks that the City is moving forward, he shared some of the changes he has seen over his 29 years with the Opa-locka Police Department, including when Eckerd Drugs was in the City and being excited when McDonald's got built. He also remembers Opa-locka Elementary School and shared that Dr. Ingram was good to him. Lamenting that a lot of bad things are heard about Opa-locka in the news, he said that what is not heard is all the good stuff. He said that a lot of credit has to be given to the Officers standing behind him because he stated it is easy to be a Police Officer in other cities because he said that they're spoiled with brand new cars, beautiful Police Stations, to which he said they are entitled. Acknowledging that they get the job done every day no matter whether or not they have a Police Station or how beat up their cars are, or if they don't have air conditioning, while he offered appreciation for new

cars that are coming. He informed the Commission that the Police Officers go when they're called, because he said it's not even about the money and asserted that they do not go any faster or slower because they're not getting paid as true professionals. Expressing pride that they get the job done, he reported that a lot of people in the Community love the Police Department. He shared that at Glorietta and Cordoba Courts Apartments, they love the Police Department, further stating that the Community has a gift for being ventriloquists, giving information without moving their lips and thanking them for being there. He emphatically stated that the Police Department needs the Commission to support them, pointing out that they have personal issues like everybody. Offering assurances that the Police Department knows the Commission cares, he said that this is how they show it to them. Lamenting that they've lost a lot of good Officers over the years, he said that they've been lucky to keep a lot of them because while it's sad, the money does matter and the turnover matters. Acknowledging that they take the job and know what it was when they applied for it, he pointed out that they get offers everywhere they go from other departments because Officers like to take a lot about the starting pay. He concluded by expressing his appreciation because he brought his first Officer next door program home because he was with Opa-locka and also met his wife 29 years ago on Cairo Lane and is thankful for the beautiful family he has today and asked that God continue watching over them all.

Officer Jairo Rosero gave his 3 minutes to Officer Daniel Kelly.

Officer Marcos Gonzalez yielded his time to Officer Daniel Kelly.

Officer Daniel Kelly stated that the reason the Police Department Officers are at the Commission Meeting is because they've been out of a contract for numerous years. Officer Kelly asserted that in order for Opa-locka to stop being a training ground, they have to move the pay and starting salary up. He informed the Commission that he is a Field Training Officer and recently one of the new guys that had just come out of his car, was telling someone to stay away from the City because they said that Opa-locka doesn't pay. Officer Kelly expressed offense at that because Opa-locka gave him an opportunity, paid his bills and he was able to pay the mortgage for his nice house. He lamented that they have Officers that come here and learn all they can, and then be the best they can be somewhere else. Officer Kelly asserted that they need the Dais to support them and give them what they deserve, because he said they aren't begging for anything that they don't deserve. He reminded the Commission that the Police Department works hard when they sleep at night, with the Officers patrolling and protecting the City. Recalling going on shooting calls numerous times in the back blues, and acknowledging that the triangle has changed, he stressed that it's time the Commission supported the Police Department. Further acknowledging that the Police Chief is great, Officer Kelly said that in order for the Chief to do his job and retain officers, the Commission needs to give the Police Department what they need because many of them are going to leave. Pointing out that

every Police Department starts off at \$57,000 to \$58,000 he said that Opa-locka's \$38,000 starting salary is not even in the ball game and added that a \$48,000 starting salary would be low, but they will be grateful for it. Officer Kelly shared that he has told some of the Field Training Officers that they're not going to keep training Officers to keep leaving, noting that as soon as they come off of probation, they are going somewhere else and are wasting the Opa-locka Police Department's time. Sharing his love for his daughter, who he said he calls his CEO, Officer Kelly said that he doesn't like working nights anymore because he loves when she runs to the door to give her daddy a kiss when he reaches home, adding that he's not sure if he's going back home to her because he has been shot at while working for the Opa-locka Police Department and is thankful that when he checked himself, they had missed him before he returned gunfire. Officer Kelly concluded by reasserting that they are not asking the Commission to move them to a \$60,000 starting salary and are just asking for \$48,000 to be on the playing field.

Captain Lawrence Holborow asked for a moment of silence for Andrew Gomez who was a Police Officer who worked for the City of Opa-locka and went to the County because he wasn't being paid enough and had a baby coming but passed away and didn't get to see his dream. Captain Holborow shared that he has been out there 16 years, has been injured 3 times, with 3 of those times being serious and informing the Commission that his shoulder will never be the same. He also shared that he has seen Officers laying on the ground bleeding, waiting for Fire Rescue, pointing out that they have to work off duty jobs to pay their bills. The Captain went on to say that he has been the Police Benevolent Association representative for 12 of his 16 years and in his entire time involved in collective bargaining, he has never witnessed what went on this past Monday. Explaining that he has been staying on top of a lot of things, having a new assignment that is not easy, he pointed out that he put everything together at the last minute and did the best he could to make sure everybody got out of the great debate event safe without one incident except having to remove one person. Captain Holborow asserted that they can't keep getting out of cars and having rocks and bottles thrown at them, while trying to keep people that the North Miami Police Department and Miami-Dade County Police Department are recruiting, informing the Commission that they've lost 7 people to the Miami-Dade Police Department, and one just graduated last week. He went on to say that during the meeting, normally he doesn't get involved in the debates because he is not a lawyer, but he said that there's only so much he is going to take considering that he has a family that he has to take care of. The Captain said that the Chief of Police was asked a question during the negotiation and before it was asked, the City Attorney and City Manager were going back and forth, and then when the Chief tried to answer the question, he got talked over, which led to a 25-minute delay which he said led to the contract not making it. He went on to state that proper procedures were followed, the Police Benevolent Association lawyer was there as required, and they were on the last leg and for the first time ever, the Board of Commissioners were at the finish line that nobody else had gotten to. Captain Holborow shared that they were going to go

back to everybody at the end of that meeting and tell them that the Commission supported their Workers and their Police, and they need to move forward and get on the playing field, but it didn't happen because of the battles going back and forth that he said he was embarrassed by. He said that anybody who wants to challenge that can pull the tapes from the other meetings that he has only spoken 2 other times at, pointing out that he has been in numerous negotiations because they have been without a contract for a long time, and he's never seen that.

Mayor Williams asked for Captain Holborow to pause, stating that she did not want to take away from his time but stating that the Commission has not had a conversation as a Board on the Police Benevolent Association contract. The Mayor said that Captain Holborow was talking about what occurred during negotiations that the Commission was not there for and said that it was going a little bit over the line because they weren't in the room when it happened, adding that they shouldn't be, and asking the Captain to make sure his comments stick to that part.

Captain Holborow stated that with all due respect, it was an open meeting and wasn't closed, so anybody could have attended.

Mayor Williams stated that she understood but said that the Commission wasn't there.

Captain Holborow pointed out that he was at the meeting on Monday and as an Employee of the City, he's trying to make his point as the Police Benevolent Association elected representative, which is the same as a Union Shop Steward that is protected under Federal guidelines to be able to speak on certain things. The Captain said he was moving forward because he guessed that pretty much everybody got the picture that they're trying to get there. He went on to inform the Commission that they were trying to get the contract done for Police Officer Edward Vega who came in and out of the Police Station for 16 years without ever using sick time and is retiring on Friday, because once he retires, he's not entitled per the Florida Retirement System statute. Captain Holborow also said that he has never used sick time either except his injury time. He also stated that the reason he was up there is because he's been a representative for so long that he knows a lot of things, and said that the current Commission is the closest that the Police Department has ever gotten to a decent raise, and that's what he wants to see, asking them to step up to do whatever they have to do to rectify whatever the problem was the other day and get the Police on the playing field.

Officer Lowry Simon stated that whenever he's not doing what he's supposed to be doing, a close friend of his asks him how long, and he posed that question to the Commission, asking them how long. Officer Simon shared that he has been shot at and wonders if that bullet is worth \$38,000 or if they believe his life is only worth \$38,000. He asked if they believe that the lives of the Opa-locka Police Officers are worth as much as the lives that

they protect each and every day, which he said are invaluable. The Officer said that when a man's home has been broken into, his son was shot and killed, and he is running towards the house while being shot at, if they believe that \$38,000 is what that's worth, then by all means they should continue to pay them that. He went on to say that as the youngest of those who have spoken, he has learned a lot in the 8 years that he's been in the Opa-locka Police Department. Officer Simon stated that with the wealth of knowledge he has gained in Opa-locka, he runs circles around Officers from other agencies that he has attended training with, and he asserted that he is better than them, but they make more money than him. Lamenting that they tell him they wouldn't do what he does for the amount of money he makes, he informed the Commission that when he scores higher than them in aptitude for understanding the elements of preparing legal documents to make his case and telling somebody their rights when they think they know, so that they'll be educated to know what they need to do when dealing with Law Enforcement. Expressing that he loves his job and loves it in Opa-locka, Officer Simon concluded by saying he just hopes it's worth more than \$38,000.

Police Chief Scott Israel reminded the Commission that Dr. King said that we all got here on different ships, but we're in the same boat now. Chief Israel recognized the Commission as incredibly ethical and professional, and said that he's learned more from his boss in 2 months than anyone he has ever worked for before, describing City Manager Williams as a man of honor. The Chief also shared that he has walked around in uniform, acknowledging that he looks different from many of the people that live in the Glorietta Gardens and Cordoba Courts Apartments, yet they are taking selfies with him and telling him that the Police Department is turning the corner because of all of the stakeholders. Chief Israel then informed the Commission that Captain Kenneth Ottley is out with Detectives from the Opa-locka Police Department at 1355 Ali Baba Avenue, arresting a group of people for drugs and guns while they are there in the security of the auditorium. The Chief went on to say that one of the most important things he wanted to do when he became the Chief of Police, was to bring needed diversity and reported that he brought in Kenneth Ottley as an African American Captain who is incredibly talented, in addition to Captain Rogers. He also pointed out that in military and paramilitary organizations, Sergeants control the agency, noting that Sergeant Lowry Simon is the Opa-locka Police Department's only African American Sergeant. The Chief committed to changing that but said that they are in the same boat now because he was told that Sergeant Simon has applied with the Lauderhill Police Department to start at an entry level salary because he would be making more than a Sergeant in Opa-locka. He asserted that they have to do the right thing. Acknowledging that he doesn't know anything about law making and can learn a lot from every Member of the Commission, Chief Israel said that he knows about leadership and asserted that you can't have 2 Mayors or 2 head coaches. While assuring Mayor Williams that he would abide by the rules of decorum and not mention what happened in the meeting the other day, he invited each and every Member of the Commission to call him so that he

could tell them what happened in the meeting, which he said was deplorable and unacceptable. Chief Israel stated that Opa-locka has the best City Manager he has ever worked with and assured the Commission that he doesn't blow smoke because what's on his mind is on his tongue, adding that they hit a home run when they picked Mr. Williams, who he asserted needs to lead the Police Department in contract negotiations, with others like him needing to speak when spoken to. The Chief told the Commission that they would have been thoroughly embarrassed at what they heard and once again urged them to call him. He pointed out that he has been in more contract negotiations than everyone in the auditorium put together in his 42 years in law enforcement, and he has never been so embarrassed and humiliated. Chief Israel reminded the Commission that the Police Department protects the City night and day, offering assurances that they are turning the corner. He expressed his love for the Commission and his job, recognizing that he is blessed that they have given him a lot of authority, acknowledging that the Bible tells us with authority comes responsibility. Assuring the Commission that this will probably be the last time he will address them and apologizing profusely that he was way over his 3 minutes, he pleaded with them to direct the City Manager to get a contract because he knows what he's doing, and they should let him drive the train and let others speak when spoken to.

There being no additional members of the public to address the Commission, Mayor Williams closed the Citizen's Forum.

12. ACTION ITEMS (items from consent agenda pull list):

- 1. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE EXCHANGE OF THE PROPERTY IDENTIFIED BY FOLIO 08-2122-007-0270, AND OWNED BY THE CITY WITH PROPERTY IDENTIFIED BY FOLIO 08-2122-000-0031, AND OWNED BY VSQUARED INVESTMENTS, LLC. AND TAKE ALL OTHER NECESSARY ACTIONS TO EFFECTUATE THE INTENT OF THIS RESOLUTION; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. *Sponsored by City Manager***

The above resolution was read into the record by City Attorney Norris-Weeks.

It was moved by Vice Mayor Taylor, seconded by Commissioner Bass to discuss Agenda Item 12-1.

Mayor Williams asked Interim City Manager Williams to introduce Agenda Item 12-1.

Interim City Manager Williams informed the Commission that the resolution proposed by Agenda Item 12-1 is for a property swap for the City's property that sits adjacent to Segal Park, just outside of the park. The Manager explained that the proposal to swap the land would make it possible to have 1.7 acres of continuous land off of the apartments behind NW 22nd Avenue.

Commissioner Dominguez stated that the reason she pulled Consent Agenda Item 13-1 is because she wanted to know why the City needs to extend Segal Park, whether this was a recommendation of the Parks Master Plan and why there was urgency to do this. The Commissioner pointed out that the City has many events in that location including funerals, and the lot that's in front of Segal Park is where people actually park. She also noted that the 2019 memorandum to Interim City Manager Newall Daughtrey from Planning & Community Development Director Gregory Gay, which was included as backup documentation for the proposed item, states that "the City's interest in acquiring these properties would be to own all the property from between Segal Park and the City owned properties [former Christian Memorial Hospital site] at 14310- 14322 NW 22 Avenue for future expansion of Segal Park with more recreational amenities, proposed performing art center/gymnasium and overflow parking, or for future multifamily residential/mixed use development opportunities." Commissioner Dominguez asserted that she doesn't think this is a great idea because of her parking concerns in addition to her belief that it seems to be more geared to building a multifamily residential development. She concluded by stating that she will not support Agenda Item 12-1 because it is taking the little space where people park.

Vice Mayor Taylor stated that while parking was one of his issues with the resolution proposed by Agenda Item 12-1, his main issue was the property value. The Vice Mayor noted that Opa-locka's property had an assessed market and land value of \$80,000 while the property that is being proposed to be swapped, had a market and land value of \$25,000 in 2022. He pointed out that the values that were given to the Commission were from 2018, and also noted that the land value will increase once whoever acquires the property builds on it. The Vice Mayor asked Interim City Manager Williams if that was considered.

Interim City Manager Williams stated that the market and land value were absolutely considered. The Manager explained that if a piece of property is not able to be used, it doesn't matter how much value it has. He went on to state that so long as someone owns a piece of land inside of the City's land, and the City owns all of the surrounding land, it is of no value to the City. The Manager pointed out that it is over 1 acre that surrounds the plot, that the City of Opa-locka and its residents have not had the pleasure to use.

Vice Mayor Taylor suggested that because the other property sits to the south of the land, if the City fenced it off, the land can be utilized by going around it, to add a parking lot, a

gymnasium and whatever else is proffered. The Vice Mayor stressed that the fact that the City would be giving away its land for less, is not a fair trade to him and doesn't make financial sense.

Interim City Manager Williams stated that if the will of the Commission is to block off the City's land and allow somebody else to develop their land around the City's land, then that will be the will of the Commission.

Vice Mayor Taylor stated that was ok because it can be done.

Mayor Williams stated that she can't support the resolution proposed by Agenda Item 12-1, and she thanked Commissioner Dominguez and Vice Mayor Taylor because what they stated was what she had in her notes. The Mayor said she is very leery when she saw the language about the future expansion of Segal Park because that land is used for parking and parking is an issue, but no one has shown the Commission what the parking would look like, nor are they aware if anyone is working on the proposals mentioned for that expansion of the park including the recreational performing arts center or gymnasium, pointing out that it is a lot and takes time.

Interim City Manager Williams stated that the proposal to expand Segal Park to include a recreational performing arts center or gymnasium was drafted under the Daughtry administration in 2019 and is not currently part of the City's Parks Plan. The Manager informed the Commission that City Staff would like to review the land for the Miami-Dade County affordable housing initiative.

Mayor Williams stated that she was confused because the documentation provided to the Commission for the resolution proposed by Agenda Item 12-1 includes a memo from the Daughtry administration as well as a memo from Manager William's administration that include the same language from Community Development Department Director Gregory Gay.

Interim City Manager Williams acknowledged that the documentation provided to the Commission for the resolution proposed by Agenda Item 12-1, included a memo from both the Daughtry administration and his current administration, and pointed out that the language also says that the land is contemplated to be used for affordable housing, as had been read.

Mayor Williams clarified that she was reading the memorandum from April 25, 2022 and not from the memorandum from Mr. Daughtry's administration. The Mayor noted that it was probably a cut and paste from the 2019 memorandum and suggested that things are read a little bit more clearly because that language gave her pause.

Interim City Manager Williams apologized and acknowledged that it did look like a cut and paste from the 2019 memorandum, but he assured the Commission that according to the City's Parks Plan, there is currently no plan to expand Segal Park, but the City would like to review the land to address affordable housing needs.

Mayor Williams stated that the Planning & Community Development Department needs to be careful because the Commission does read memorandums.

Vice Mayor Taylor recalled that there was a pond or lake there and that a child died, so they drained it and that's what gave birth to Segal Park. The Vice Mayor said that as a result, the land could not be developed because the pond or lake was there, stating that the plan for development had come up several years ago.

Interim City Manager Williams asked Planning & Community Development Director Gregory Gay to address any knowledge he has regarding the history of the land, given that he was working for the City at that time.

Planning & Community Development Director Gregory Gay informed the Commission that the proposal for expansion of the park site was taken from documentation from 2011 to about 2014. Reminding the Commission that he began working for Opa-locka in 2014, Mr. Gay said that at the time, the City was looking at an opportunity to expand the park and add additional amenities. He also explained that the property has been zoned for residential development since 2014, and the intent has been to look at it as a redevelopment opportunity. Mr. Gay went on to say that he is not aware of the history of someone dying there.

Vice Mayor Taylor stated that he thought the land couldn't be developed because it used to be a lake, pond or canal that ran through the area.

Planning & Community Development Director Gregory Gay stated that he is not aware of it.

Commissioner Davis stated that he lived across the street from Segal Park for quite some time and he said that the City embarked on a capital project to build a community center prior to the completion of the Helen Miller Center. The Commissioner recalled that the City had challenges with the project, and he confirmed that Vice Mayor Taylor is correct that the park had a lake. He also shared that from talking with Residents who have lived in the Community slightly longer than he has, he knows there were challenges with the foundation, and he informed the Commission that he literally watched the building sink. Commissioner Davis said that the City later embarked on a different capital project to rectify that issue and recommended that Planning & Community Development Director

Gregory Gay might be able to get more information to provide a report if it is the will of the Commission.

Mayor Williams recalled that the Commission had amended the agenda to allow former Mayor John Riley to provide Public Input, and thus she invited Mr. Riley to address the Commission.

Mr. John Riley stated that a couple of years ago, the City bought property east of Segal Park, which is also for development but cannot be developed unless you put 60-foot pilings under the land. Mr. Riley pointed out that the land is vacant, but once mortar is put on the land, it's 5 times more valuable. He went on to say that the City would be losing money based on the resolution proposed by Agenda Item 12-1. Mr. Riley also said that he has worked with Miami-Dade County on affordable housing for 10 years and the City has had a number of buildings for affordable housing including the Town Center Apartments by the Post Office. Lamenting that it is housing that people cannot afford, Mr. Riley said that he doesn't know who is being talked about when discussing affordable housing, suggesting that it must be people that don't live in Opa-locka and are coming from other places. Mr. Riley stated that the proposed resolution is not in Opa-locka's best interest at this time because the City would be losing money and the developer will have invested \$22,000 and will have a project that's worth \$500,000. He also recalled that when he had just been elected as a Commissioner in 1982, there was a child that died in that lake and canal and Mr. Segal gave the land to the City.

Mayor Williams reminded Mr. Riley that there was another item he wanted to speak on.

Mr. John Riley stated that he wanted to provide Public Input on Consent Agenda Item 13-10 and pointed out that the month of August would begin in 4 days, with school starting August 17th, and he asked where the Summer program was. Mr. Riley stated that it didn't make any sense because the Summer was gone.

Mayor Williams thanked Mr. Riley.

There being no additional discussion, the proposed resolution failed by a 4-1 vote.

Commissioner Bass	No
Commissioner Davis	Yes
Commissioner Dominguez	No
Vice Mayor Taylor	No
Mayor Williams	No

2. [13-5] A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA, SETTING THE PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE

CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA AS REQUIRED BY THE STATE AND LOCAL AGREEMENT OF COOPERATION BETWEEN THE GOVERNOR AND THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FOR FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2022-2023; ESTABLISHING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE CITY BUDGET ON OR BEFORE AUGUST 1ST AND FORWARDING TO THE GOVERNOR THE PROPOSED ANNUAL BUDGET OF THE CITY AS PRELIMINARILY APPROVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION FOR FY 2022-2023; AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO FORWARD A COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION AND APPROVED PROPOSED BUDGET TO THE GOVERNOR; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. *Sponsored by City Manager*

The above resolution was read into the record by City Attorney Norris-Weeks.

It was moved by Commissioner Dominguez, seconded by Commissioner Davis to discuss Agenda Item 12-2.

Mayor Williams asked Interim City Manager Williams to introduce Agenda Item 12-2.

Interim City Manager Williams asked Budget Administrator Anathan to introduce Agenda Item 12-2.

Budget Administrator Anathan explained that the line that was left blank in the resolution proposed by Agenda Item 12-2, was left blank for the possibility that the Commission may want to change the budget as presented. Mr. Anathan informed the Commission that if they accept the budget as presented, the number would be \$84,912,007.

Vice Mayor Taylor stated that he believed City Clerk Flores had asked that Consent Agenda Item 13-5 be pulled for a reason, and he asked if the information provided by Budget Administrator Anathan had addressed the Clerk's concern.

City Clerk Flores informed the Commission that she requested that Consent Agenda Item 13-5 be pulled because the second whereas, has 2 blank areas, which she said she believed is what Budget Administrator Anathan was addressing. The Clerk also pointed out that there are blanks to be completed in section 2 of the proposed resolution. She also identified some areas that need to be filled in within the resolution proposed by Consent Agenda Item 13-6.

Mayor Williams asked what the reason was that those blanks were included in the proposed resolution.

Budget Administrator Anathan stated that it has been his experience in other cities that those amounts should be left blank to allow the Commission to make adjustments as they see fit.

Mayor Williams asked if those areas are to be left blank.

Budget Administrator Anathan restated that those blanks are to be filled in at this time if the Commission accepts the budget as presented.

Mayor Williams stated that she is a little lost and asked City Attorney Norris-Weeks to explain.

City Attorney Norris-Weeks stated that when she and her Staff received the proposed resolution, they reviewed it and made a note to not forget to add the correct numbers into the blanks. The City Attorney said that she was assuming that at some point it would be added. She went on to say that what Budget Administrator Anathan was saying is that in his experience, those areas are left blank and if the Commission made adjustments, they would let him know at this time. The City Attorney informed the Commission that if they approve it and the numbers that Mr. Anathan read into the record, then those would be the numbers inserted in the blanks that are in the resolution.

Mayor Williams asked if the same amount would be filled in for all of the blank spaces that were included in the proposed resolution.

Budget Administrator Anathan confirmed that the same amount of \$84,912,007 would be filled in for all of the blank spaces that were included in the proposed resolution.

Commissioner Davis stated for the record that the resolution proposes to send the proposed budget with the Commission's wishes and ideas to the State of Florida for their approval and said that the State will provide feedback by August 1st.

Budget Administrator Anathan informed the Commission that the State of Florida has to provide their feedback to the City by August 31st.

Commissioner Davis acknowledged that the feedback from the State of Florida would be received by August 31st, which will include whether any deletions or additions need to be made, with the goal of having a balanced budget by October 1st.

Mayor Williams stated that the Commission just wants to make sure they are transparent for those that are listening, so that they know what the amount is.

There being no additional discussion, the proposed resolution was approved by a 5-0 vote.

Commissioner Davis	Yes
Commissioner Dominguez	Yes
Vice Mayor Taylor	Yes
Commissioner Bass	Yes
Mayor Williams	Yes

3. **[13-8] A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA, ACCEPTING THE PROPOSAL OF CUNNINGHAM COMMUNICATIONS CONSULTING COMPANY D/B/A THE BRAND ADVOCATES, INCORPORATED FOR PUBLIC RELATIONS AND MARKETING CONSULTANT SERVICES PURSUANT TO RFP NO. 22-0614100 AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT FOR SAME, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED ONE HUNDRED FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$105,000.00) PER FISCAL YEAR; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. *Sponsored by City Manager***

The above resolution was read into the record by City Attorney Norris-Weeks.

It was moved by Vice Mayor Taylor, seconded by Commissioner Bass to discuss Agenda Item 12-3.

Mayor Williams asked Interim City Manager Williams to introduce Agenda Item 12-3.

Interim City Manager Williams informed the Commission that the resolution proposed by Agenda Item 12-3 would accept the proposal submitted by The Brand Advocates in response to the request for proposals for a firm to provide support to the City and Commission with public relations and communications, including managing the City's social media accounts, flyers and pictures for events for the amount of \$105,000 annually. The Manager stated that the City had several great bids, including the 5 in the Commission's agenda packet. He reported that the proposal included in the resolution was the winning bidder. Manager Williams acknowledged that as City Manager, he has the authority to make another

recommendation, but stated that he is making the recommendation that the panel made and submitting it to the will of the Commission.

Mayor Williams stated that she would have loved to have met them and asked if they were at the meeting.

Interim City Manager Williams stated that he no longer saw the representatives from The Brand Advocates present at the meeting.

Mayor Williams said that it would have been nice if they would have been present if they are going to be approved to do all of the City's marketing and expressed her hope that in the future, they would stay to the end of the meeting in case the Commission has any questions, adding that it's a little unfortunate. The Mayor went on to share that she did some research on Cunningham Communications and she does like what they've done. She said that the only concern that she has is that they don't have any municipalities under their belt now, besides the projects they've done such as the Miami Gardens bridge and hospitals that they were chosen to do public relations for. Mayor Williams asked if someone could let her know if The Brand Advocates had a city contract before.

Interim City Manager Williams asked Assistant City Manager Lawson to address Mayor Williams' question because she oversaw the request for proposals process.

Assistant City Manager Lawson pointed out that according to the request for proposals package provided by The Brand Advocates, they have provided services for the City of Miami Gardens, Miami-Dade Expressway Authority, Johnson & Johnson and Miami-Dade County. Ms. Lawson acknowledged that at this time, they do not have a current contract with a municipality.

Mayor Williams stated that she wanted to be clear that The Brand Advocates have performed services and they have worked on specific projects for Johnson & Johnson, the Miami-Dade Expressway Authority, City of Key West, Kissimmee, as well as for Miami Gardens for their pedestrian bridge and tunnel, but she said that they've never been the sole marketing firm for those entities. The Mayor said that it would have been great if they were at the meeting because she would have loved to have had a conversation with them. In reviewing their scope of services, she said that she liked that they are willing to rebrand the City because she has talked about branding and marketing since she got elected. Mayor Williams read a quote from Tasha Cunningham that stated, "I define success by an impact. For me it's not about money or recognition, it's about the impact because the project I'm working on positively impacts the community. Does it have a benefit for the residents and business owners who live and work there?" and the Mayor said that

she really appreciated that quote and she would have liked to have met Ms. Cunningham to let her know that she was moved by the quote. Noting that the proposed contract is for \$105,000 each fiscal year, Mayor Williams said that she would have liked to have had a nice exchange with the company that the City is going to give that much money to, and she asked how much was given to the City's previous marketing firm.

Interim City Manager Williams stated that he did not have that information at the time but assured the Commission that it could be provided at a later date.

Commissioner Dominguez stated that despite knowing that the Commission has been patiently asking and waiting for a public relation firm that she acknowledged the City definitely needs, the reason she pulled Consent Agenda Item 13-8 is because she wants to know if there are going to be any additional costs because she has seen in the past that the City is billed for certain events or projects in addition to the set amount. The Commissioner also asked if any research had been done into other cities, pointing out that Opa-locka is very small and stating that the proposed contract represents a lot of money to pay for a firm, but she asserted that she is in support of getting a public relations person because it is definitely needed.

Interim City Manager Williams explained that the way the process works is that the City puts out its criteria for what it is looking for and open it up to the public so that people that are interested in providing those services, compete against each other to win the contract. The Manager said that he understands Commissioner Dominguez's concern that perhaps \$105,000 is too much to provide annual public relations services to the City of Opa-locka, he pointed out that it was the winning and lowest bid, and that all of the other bids included in the Commission's agenda packet were higher.

Commissioner Dominguez restated her question, asking if there would be any additional cost.

Interim City Manager Williams asked Assistant City Manager Lawson to address Commissioner Dominguez's concern about additional costs, because she oversaw the request for proposals process.

Assistant City Manager Lawson informed the Commission that the contract submitted by The Brand Advocates in response to the request for proposals, was for \$105,000 per year, and she said that the City had budgeted for \$202,000. Ms. Lawson also said that they do not expect any additional costs because the fees were structured based on items per service.

Commissioner Bass asked if the proposed agreement with The Brand Advocates would be for just 1 year.

Interim City Manager Williams informed the Commission that the proposed agreement with The Brand Advocates is a 2-year contract.

Commissioner Bass stated that she would personally like to see a 1-year contract because it's \$105,000 and the Commission needs to know that they approve of their work and are able to serve based on the City's needs.

Interim City Manager stated that if it was the will of the Commission, the contract can be amended to be for 1 year, with an option for a second year.

Commissioner Davis stated that he had something to say, but that he would like to second Commissioner Bass' motion.

Mayor Williams stated that she was going to make a motion to defer Agenda Item 12-3 but asked if they could make a motion to amend the proposed resolution and then defer the item. The Mayor emphasized that her question was whether it would be necessary for the City to go through the request for proposals process again if the Commission were to amend the proposed resolution.

City Attorney Norris-Weeks assured the Commission that the proposed agreement would not need to go through the request for proposals process again if the Commission voted to amend it.

Interim City Manager Williams apologized and stated that the contract had just been reviewed again and it already includes the proposed amendment with language that states the agreement would be for 1 fiscal year with a 2-year renewable clause, subject to the negotiation terms with the City.

City Clerk Flores clarified what page of the agenda packet the length of the contract could be found on.

Mayor Williams pointed out after reading the terms of the contract, that technically the Commission doesn't need to amend it if it is OK with Commissioner Bass, because it is 1 year.

Commissioner Bass thanked everyone for the information.

City Attorney Norris-Weeks pointed out that in Section 11 of the proposed contract titled term and termination which calls for 1 fiscal year with a 2, 1-year renewable

clause. The City Attorney said that it sounded like Commissioner Bass would want 1 year with a 1-year renewable clause.

Mayor Williams stated her understanding that the proposed contract says it is anticipated to be for 1 fiscal year with a 2, 1-year renewable clause, and what was being suggested is that it should say a 1-year renewable clause.

City Attorney Norris-Weeks stated that she believed that's what Commissioner Bass was saying.

Mayor Williams stated that based on City Attorney Norris-Weeks interpretation, the proposed resolution will need to be amended.

Interim City Manager Williams stated that Mayor Williams had requested information regarding how much the City paid for a 1-year contract with the last public relations firm, and he said that he had that number now if the Commission would still like to have it.

Mayor Williams said that she would like to have that number, adding that she was sure it was more.

Interim city Manager Williams reported to the Commission that the City had paid the last public relations firm \$228,690.39

Mayor Williams recalled that the City's last public relations firm had a crew that came to every event with photography and video, and she asked if The Brand Advocates offered that because she looked but didn't see it.

Interim City Manager Williams confirmed that The Brand Advocates would offer photography and video for the City's events.

It was moved by Commissioner Bass, seconded by Commissioner Davis to amend the resolution proposed by Agenda Item 12-3, to state that the contract is anticipated to be for 1 fiscal year with a 1-year renewable clause.

There being no additional discussion, the proposed amendment was approved by a 5-0 vote.

Vice Mayor Taylor	Yes
Commissioner Bass	Yes
Commissioner Davis	Yes
Commissioner Dominguez	Yes
Mayor Williams	Yes

Commissioner Dominguez asked if there was a section in the proposed contract that addresses the deliverables.

Interim City Manager Williams informed the Commission that the request for proposals described the purpose and scope of work, with the deliverables or specific tasks including creating a unique memorable identity for the City of Opa-locka, developing a comprehensive public relations plan, reviewing and updating the City's web and social media strategies, creating slogan/logo/tagline as appropriate, directing City communications when the City faces a crisis situation, improve the public and private sector's perception of the City, advising on media public relations strategies and multi-disciplinary efforts to address possible changes to the City's physical and social fabric, developing and maintaining a diverse media distribution list and media contacts on behalf of the City, create and design flyers for City events and functions, as well as assist the City with planning of major events.

Commissioner Davis recalled that over the years, Opa-locka has taken a stab at establishing a public relations firm. The Commissioner went on to state that he would like to see that at the end of the first fiscal year, when the option is presented to renew the contract, he would like for the Commission to consider having an in-house public relations firm. He said that he thinks there are advantages, pointing out that the Police Department has no public information officer and adding that he thinks the City's marketing and public relation needs span well beyond what is outlined in the proposed contract.

Mayor Williams wholeheartedly agreed with Commissioner Davis and shared that she made the same recommendation at a meeting in the City Manager's Office, asserting that the City needs someone in-house. The Mayor then moved to defer Agenda Item 12-3, stating that she doesn't want it to go back through the request for proposals process, but asserting that she believes that it would be great if the Commission can actually meet The Brand Advocates in person and have some dialogue with them. She asked Interim City Manager Williams to make sure that The Brand Advocates are at the next Commission Meeting.

Interim City Manager Williams stated that if it was the will of the Commission, he absolutely would.

Commissioner Bass stated that she too would like to have a conversation with The Brand Advocates but pointed out that the Commission will not be in session in August and would go all the way until September before making a decision on the public relations firm.

Mayor Williams stated that she is just not comfortable because she said that if she was about to get a contract for \$105,000, she is going to be there from start to finish.

Clerk Flores asked Mayor Williams if she would like to vote on the motion to defer Agenda Item 12-3.

Mayor Williams stated that Interim City Manager Williams already said that he would defer Agenda Item 12-3.

Interim City Manager Williams stated that he would like to determine the will of the Commission.

It was moved by Mayor Williams, seconded by Commissioner Bass to defer Agenda Item 12-3.

There being no additional discussion, the item was deferred by a 3-2 vote.

Commissioner Bass	Yes
Commissioner Davis	No
Commissioner Dominguez	Yes
Vice Mayor Taylor	No
Mayor Williams	Yes

Interim City Manager Williams stated that upon the will of the Commission becoming clear, he would defer Agenda Item 12-3.

City Attorney Norris-Weeks stated that the Commission can vote to defer an agenda item and do not need the consent of the Manager.

4. **[13-9] A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA, AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 19-9649 TO ALLOW THE CITY COMMISSION TO REVISE THE GUIDELINES FOR THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.** *Sponsored by City Commission*

The above resolution was read into the record by City Attorney Norris-Weeks.

It was moved by Commissioner Dominguez, seconded by Commissioner Davis to discuss Agenda Item 12-4.

Commissioner Davis recalled that during the discussion the Commission had when they last discussed the City's scholarship program, that there were a few challenges

with the application process. Having been on the Commission when the program was first implemented, the Commissioner stated that they had challenges with getting the word out and with the payments associated with the scholarships. Acknowledging the concerns that were brought up the last time the Commission discussed the program, he recognized that it might be difficult for students to obtain transcripts in the summer because schools are short staffed and suggested that they may want to extend the program deadline or make amendments to the application process. The Commissioner also pointed out that the dates that were originally outlined in 2019 will obviously change but the amounts being the same, with the City giving out 5 scholarships of \$1,000 each. He also said that he heard Mayor Williams state at the last meeting that she would like to increase the amount, and Commissioner Davis said he is open to any discussion, and he just wanted for them to pick up where they left off.

Mayor Williams stated that she has written many reference letters for students and thinks that the City's scholarship program will get more traction if 2 scholarships of \$2,500 each are offered instead of the 5 scholarships of \$1,000 each. The Mayor also recommended that instead of the City's scholarship program requiring 3 reference letters, that it should require 2 reference letters, with 1 letter from a school official and 1 letter from a non-relative that the student has worked with, adding that she has seen that in a lot of scholarships that have come her way. She concluded by expressing that she is glad to see trade schools included in the scholarship program as well.

Commissioner Davis proposed to amend the grade point average requirement stipulated under qualifications for the City's scholarship program from 2.75 to 2.5, to be able to capture some of the youth that may fall within that category. The Commissioner acknowledged that the intent is to award the City's best and brightest but given the low participation the last time the scholarship program was administered, he said that he thinks that they would obviously have a better return.

It was moved by Mayor Williams, seconded by Commissioner Davis to amend the City's scholarship program to award 2 scholarships of \$2,500 each, require 2 reference letters and stipulate a 2.5 grade point average as a qualification.

There being no additional discussion, the motion passed by a 5-0 vote.

Commissioner Dominguez	Yes
Vice Mayor Taylor	Yes
Commissioner Bass	Yes
Commissioner Davis	Yes
Mayor Williams	Yes

Mayor Williams stated that the scholarship being on the City's website is not going to get any traction and recommended that the Clerk's Office send it out to local college assistance program advisors as well as to Miami-Dade County Public Schools, which she said would get it out to various high schools.

Commissioner Bass stated that she has a list of students who are interested in applying for the City's scholarship.

Mayor Williams pointed out that the deadline for the City's scholarship program is stipulated as May 31st and asked if the deadline would be moved.

Vice Mayor Taylor suggested that because the City's scholarship was already advertised the way it is now, that the proposed amendments should be presented in the next fiscal year and the program should remain the way it is for this year.

Mayor Williams asked Clerk Flores if it was understood that the proposed amendments to the City's scholarship program would be for the next school year.

Vice Mayor Taylor pointed out that the proposed amendments would be made to the original resolution which created the City's scholarship program in 2019, and thus would be effective immediately.

City Clerk Flores reminded the Commission that there are currently funds in the City's budget for the current fiscal year for scholarships but asked if the Commission was proposing that their amendments to the program would be for the next fiscal year.

Mayor Williams stated that Clerk Flores was correct in stating that the Commission was proposing that their amendments to the City's scholarship program would be for next fiscal year. The Mayor went on to clarify that the Commission was also proposing that the scholarship program for this school year would be subject to the resolution written in 2019.

City Clerk Flores stated that she understood the will of the Commission and asked if they wanted to discuss a deadline date for the submission of applications for the City's scholarship program.

Mayor Williams acknowledged that Commissioner Bass had stated that there were students who were interested in applying for the City's scholarship now, and she asked the Commissioner if she wanted to discuss an application deadline date.

Commissioner Bass pointed out that the students go back to college in August and that is only a few days away, but she said that it is not rocket science and was

confident that they can get it together for the students to apply for the scholarship. The Commissioner went on to say that even though the Commission is on break, she knows they are going to have to work, and asked how much time the City Clerk's Office would need to get the documentation together to distribute.

Mayor Williams noted that the resolution passed in 2019 which established the City's scholarship program, has a deadline date of May 31st, and she asked if Commissioner Bass was proposing that the Commission go outside of that deadline.

Commissioner Bass said that the Commission is going to have to change the deadline for the City's scholarship program.

Vice Mayor Taylor suggested that the proposed resolution to amend the City's scholarship program be deferred until later in the year once the process that is in place right now is completed.

Commissioner Davis suggested that the Commission just needs to amend the deadline date for the City's scholarship program and keep it consistent since it has been advertised, and he said that they can then bring back the proposed resolution to amend the program, after the program is finished.

Mayor Williams suggested that the Commission rescind their last vote and make an amendment to change the deadline date for the City's scholarship program. The Mayor then asked if the deadline should be changed to August.

Commissioner Bass stated that the deadline should be changed to a date that works for the City Clerk's Office because they have to do the work required for the City's scholarship program.

Mayor Williams said to remember that the students will already be in college by August.

Commissioner Bass stated that despite the students already being in college, they're still going to need the money.

Mayor Williams asked for a recommended deadline date for the City's scholarship program.

Vice Mayor Taylor stated that August 5th, 12th and 19th are all Fridays in August.

Mayor Williams asked if the students that Commissioner Bass stated are interested in applying for the City's scholarship, had already filled out an application.

Commissioner Bass stated that the students who she had identified as being interested in applying for the City's scholarship, had not filled out an application yet.

Mayor Williams stated that more time will be needed because it is a process and the students have to get a transcript as part of their application for the City's scholarship, and thus she suggested that the application deadline be set for the end of August.

Commissioner Bass asked if setting the end of August as the deadline date for the City's scholarship program would work for the City Clerk's Office.

Clerk Flores assured the Commission that her Office will make it happen based on whatever date they decide to set as the deadline for the City's scholarship program.

Mayor Williams said she would provide a deadline date for the City's scholarship program.

Vice Mayor Taylor suggested that August 31st be considered as a deadline date for the City's scholarship program because it is one month.

Commissioner Davis suggested giving the students until the end of the fiscal year and setting the deadline for the City's scholarship program as September 30th.

Mayor Williams stated that she was also going to suggest giving the students until September 30th to gather all of the information required for the City's scholarship application, pointing out that they're already graduates, and it is not going to be easy for them to get back into their school.

Clerk Flores asked for clarification on whether the will of the Commission was to amend the deadline date for the City's scholarship program to be August 31st or September 30th.

Mayor Williams stated that the deadline date for the City's scholarship program should be September 30th.

Commissioner Bass stated that by September 30th, the students will be gone and off to college already.

Commissioner Dominguez stated that college starts August 25th and said that setting a September deadline for the City's scholarship program will be fine because there's a mini term that the students can apply for. The Commissioner shared her belief that the September deadline will be great, so that the students have

enough time to get their transcripts and all the information required by the scholarship application.

Mayor Williams stated her understanding of what was being proposed, which was to amend the deadline date for the City's scholarship but keeping the 2019 resolution the way, it is.

City Clerk Flores confirmed that Mayor Williams' understanding was correct and asked if the will of the Commission was to amend the deadline date for the City's scholarship program to September 30th.

Mayor Williams reiterated that students are not going to be able to walk into their school during the opening of schools, to gather all of the information required by the City's scholarship application and stressed that they are going to need until September.

Clerk Flores pointed out that September 30th is the last day of the City's budgetary fiscal year, and she just wants to make sure that she is not going to have any issues processing payment for the students awarded the City's scholarships.

Mayor Williams asked if September 23rd would work as the deadline date for the City's scholarship program.

Clerk Flores confirmed that September 23rd would work as the deadline date for the City's scholarship program.

Mayor Williams explained that she was just trying to provide a date while giving the students some time to get the information required by the application for the City's scholarship.

It was moved by Vice Mayor Taylor, seconded by Commissioner Bass to amend the original resolution which established the City's scholarship program, to establish September 23rd as the application due date.

There being no additional discussion, the motion passed by a 5-0 vote.

Vice Mayor Taylor	Yes
Commissioner Bass	Yes
Commissioner Davis	Yes
Commissioner Dominguez	Yes
Mayor Williams	Yes

Mayor Williams asked City Clerk Flores to save the notes on all of the other amendments to the City's scholarship program, which she said they would move into the next fiscal year.

City Clerk Flores confirmed that she would save the notes on all of the other amendments to the City's scholarship program, so that the changes could be made in the next fiscal year.

5. **[13-10] A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA, DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO ALLOCATE FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$50,000.00) FOR A SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM WITH CAREERSOURCE SOUTH FLORIDA, PURSUANT TO THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS SET FORTH IN EXHIBIT "A"; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.** *Sponsored by City Commission*

The above resolution was read into the record by City Attorney Norris-Weeks.

It was moved by Vice Mayor Taylor, seconded by Commissioner Davis to discuss Agenda Item 12-5.

Commissioner Davis stated that the resolution proposed by Agenda Item 12-5 which was sponsored by the City Commission, would direct the City Manager to allocate \$50,000 for a summer youth employment program which has historically been done in the City to combat youth violence and crime by creating more fruitful opportunities for the youth. The Commissioner said that he has been personally reaching out to the City's appointed officials regarding the status and has received minimal to no communication. He also said that through the Clerk's Office, he has reached out to the representatives of Career Source but has not received a status update. Acknowledging that it is now the end of the summer, and that a former Commission Member and resident expressed being as perplexed as the Commissioner said he is about why a summer youth employment program is being presented at the end of the summer. The Commissioner noted that Career Source representatives were present at the meeting and expressed his hope that it would be the will of the Commission to allow them to provide some insight because the Commission put the proposal forward in a public form, recognizing that it set expectations for Residents. Further acknowledging that the community is still experiencing hard times, Commissioner Davis said that he wants to provide some answer for why the City was unable to have the program and if there are any ways to extend the program, suggesting that Career Source could possibly present other options. The Commissioner concluded by stating that he would hope that the

Commission would give the Career Source representative leeway, so that they can have that conversation.

Mayor Williams stated that if it was the will of the Commission, Career Source Executive Director Rick Beasley could speak about the resolution proposed by Agenda Item 12-5.

Mr. Rick Beasley introduced himself as the Executive Director of Career Source and stated that their address is 7300 Corporate Center Drive. Mr. Beasley agreed with Commissioner Davis and recalled that he came to the Commission Meeting in June and immediately went back to their board, which approved and launched the summer youth employment program for Opa-locka. He also said that they had conversations with the administration regarding not doing the program at all because it only had a couple of weeks remaining if the Commission approved it at that meeting. Mr. Beasley shared the concerns they had about the delay, understanding that research was done which determined that they weren't listed on SunBiz, which he said he mentioned was ironic to some of the administration, because they leased from the City until June of this year and asked why there wasn't a delay on the last board. He stated that his staff recommended not to do it, but he also said that because they had a website up and running, they had 14 kids, and he made a deal with his staff that he would take care of them. Mr. Beasley informed the Commission that they can do an out-of-school youth program that deals only with kids that are 16 to 24 years of age, but he pointed out that it does not allow for youth who are a little younger to have that opportunity. He expressed their disappointment and stated that the proposal was to match funds based on the commitment he made, and he said that they just needed the City to allocate the dollars for them to approve the agreement because they front the cash and just ask for reimbursement when they provide their report that proves that they served the kids, which he said is what they normally do for all of their contracts for municipalities and counties. Mr. Beasley went on to say that it was up to the Commission how the city government is run, but he stated that the program is an opportunity for them to get kids working. He also explained that the reason they approached the Commission is because they can't just do a program for the City of Opa-locka, because they would have to do it for every municipality in the country. Mr. Beasley informed the Commission that they had the same structure for the City of Homestead, Florida City and Miami Gardens, with the one in Miami gardens having well over 294 kids registered after their board approved it, and they got them rolling within a couple of weeks. He also shared that they launched a summer youth program for charter schools that will also end in a couple of weeks. Despite the disappointment he expressed, Mr. Beasley said that they can modify it if the Commission wants to focus on out-of-school youth and said they have a couple of

ideas for pre-apprenticeship programs in the construction and automotive industries. He said that it is up to the Commission, and they will take their lead, but said that they think they could do something for kids between 16 and 24, to get them off the street and reduce some crime.

Commissioner Davis acknowledged having heard Mr. Beasley propose a couple of options including a pre-apprenticeship program for the construction and automobile industries.

Mr. Beasley informed the Commission that they have a pre-apprenticeship program that's been approved by the Florida Department of Education, which he said had been launched with Warren Henry, Bean Automotive which owns Lexus and Toyota dealerships. He also told the Commission that they've had conversations with Jeff Bridges from the Opa-locka Community Development Corporation, who he pointed out is also a board member of his, and he said that they can get youth who live in Opa-locka on the projects that the Community Development Corporation has available. Mr. Beasley suggested that would be a win-win because they're within Opa-locka and the youth would be working on projects that will help build the community. He acknowledged that after they do the training for the automotive industry pre-apprenticeship program, the jobs will be out of the City since there are no automotive dealerships in Opa-locka, but Mr. Beasley pointed out that it would provide a career pathway and would not be training for training sake. Mr. Beasley added that each student would get an industry recognized certification that will allow them to be transferable to any other company that they can work for.

Commissioner Davis acknowledged hearing Mr. Beasley mention a couple of things that he thinks are amazing and will actually fill voids in the community, including the focus on vocations as well as the fact that students will receive industry standard certifications. The Commissioner said that he realized the pre-apprenticeship program targets a slightly different age group than the summer youth program originally proposed, but he stated that he believes it does capture opportunity youth, as youth who fall within that age gap and are more at risk. He said that he supports it and thinks that the 16 to 24 age range is spot on in addition to liking the fact that the students will be trained on industry standard, but also have an opportunity to work with top tier companies in South Florida. Commissioner Davis concluded by stating that he approves of it but would like to hear from the rest of the Commission.

Mr. Beasley informed the Commission that the pre-apprenticeship program for the construction industry is in partnership with all of the trades in Miami-Dade County.

He explained that it is part of the program that they pay for with Miami-Dade County Public Schools, but said that when they launched it, it was with the carpenters, pipefitters, electrical brotherhood and laborers, and he said that it was designed so that they can fill a pipeline because they need workers. Mr. Beasley also said that the unions come out and do a career fair, giving the students a choice between the unions and those unions have to bid on the terms of the salaries and benefits to attract students. He concluded by stating that the students will be able to continue on in an apprenticeship program afterwards.

Mayor Williams acknowledged that Mr. Beasley stated that he would pick up the tab for the 14 students that are presently in the program, and she asked if there was a way to have them work after school so that they can continue the program as opposed to creating a whole different program

Mr. Beasley stated that they don't want to interfere with the student's studies during the school year. He said that in the future it could be designed the way that Mayor Williams suggested but explained that all of their programs end by the time the students go back to school because they are typically trying to get resources so that they can buy their books, clothes and what they need to begin the school year. Mr. Beasley explained that for year-round employment, they have to be in there for an entire year, and that the dollars he is using are really set for the summer. He asserted that he wants to spend his money so that he doesn't lose it.

Mayor Williams stated that she does like the apprenticeship program and pointed out that the school year is about to start. The Mayor said that 80% to 90% of her students work. She also expressed her wish that the Commission could have seen a program more geared to high school as opposed to students that are out of high school.

Mr. Beasley stated that the reason they pitched the summer youth employment program when he spoke with Commissioner Davis in June is because the idea was that the students work in the summer. He said that something can be designed where the kids are working throughout the year, but he pointed out that it's going to cost more money. Mr. Beasley also asked the Commission to keep in mind that they were trying to find employers that are in the City limits or 5 miles outside. He went on to say that it can be done, but they didn't design it that way.

Mayor Williams asked if most of the employers are doing summer internships.

Mr. Beasley stated that they would have to work out availability with employers to have the students work throughout the year. While he didn't want to say that it couldn't be done, Mr. Beasley informed the Commission that the employers they

work with typically have a need for the summer, and while he recognized that there may be a need coming up for Christmas, the program would need to be designed to get those employers on board. He went on to say that they envisioned that both apprenticeship programs will be a little longer, with work experience tied to it along with some stipends. Mr. Beasley added that they can simultaneously work with the City's administration to look at designing something that has an in-school component but would still have to work with employers who would be interested in doing it throughout the year, pointing out that it is a different model and possibly a different funding stream. He concluded by stating that he doesn't know what Opa-locka can afford, reminding the Commission that Career Source will match dollar for dollar.

Vice Mayor Taylor said that he is actually with Mayor Williams because he did on the job training in high school and knows that it can work. The Vice Mayor also said that he is not against the apprenticeship program, but knows the City had several other agencies asking to do an apprenticeship program. He said that while he does agree that the City should give at-risk children an opportunity, he would prefer to see it going to high school students, because he said that is where it was supposed to go.

Mr. Beasley assured the Commission that they are not opposed to it but asked them to keep in mind that they're trying to change something that wasn't intended, on a dime. He shared that he worked in high school but said that they have to go out and find employers that are outside of the structure of fast food and retail, that can give the students a different work experience that builds to a career and not just a job. Mr. Beasley stated that's what he's trying to do with all of the agencies that they work with, including the students having their own bank account and providing them with a work readiness component. He concluded by stating that if the Commission wanted them to provide the students jobs in fast food and retail like they had when they were younger, they can do that, but to give them exposure to a career pathway, it will take some time to find employers who are willing to do it throughout the year.

Commissioner Davis urged his colleagues on the Commission to remember that the summer program is geared more towards younger students, and he said that it may be difficult for them to participate in those opportunities throughout the year because of school. The Commissioner added that he thinks that throughout the year, providing the opportunity to the 16 to 24 age group is spot on, recalling that he worked at 16 and because the laws have changed, they can work longer hours and different types of jobs. Acknowledging that anybody above the age of 18 is not a student anymore, he said that he thinks the need is in the Community, because

he sees plenty of 20- and 21-year-olds that don't necessarily have a direct career path and could benefit from this sort of opportunity. Commissioner Davis recommended that the Commission keep that age range throughout the year and refer younger students to the summer program because they can take full advantage of these sorts of work opportunities when they are not in school.

Mayor Williams informed the Commission that at her school, they partner with Warren Henry, and she said that it's an amazing program because the students walk out going straight into work with Warren Henry. Acknowledging that it's going to be difficult to have Opa-locka students in it, the Mayor said that the apprenticeship program is specifically in schools that are outside of the City and not in the surrounding neighborhoods.

Mr. Beasley stated that because his staff had said that they weren't going to do it because it took too long, they did research and because the programs like the construction and automotive apprenticeship are already approved, in partnership with Miami-Dade College, working with Warren Henry and they've already met with the folks at the school system, they are going to have it at D.A. Dorsey Technical College and are also going to move it over to Miami Lakes, with the option to have the training right in the backyard. He recommended that the Commission could defer it and let them come back with 2 options. Further pointing out that for students who are in high school, he would have to go find employers who are willing to offer the opportunity in the evening because students can't leave school unlike through the summer employment program during which they can work 9 to 5, which he said is why most employers do that. Mr. Beasley also reiterated that he already had conversations with potential employers for the pre-apprenticeship in construction because he knows that the Opa-locka Community Development Corporation has some projects that they think they can make work and can have as part of their contract that they will have guaranteed jobs. He said that he doesn't like training for training's sake and doesn't want to put a child into a program that gets their hopes high but leads to no employment. Mr. Beasley concluded by stating that it's up to the Commission, but warned that despite him matching the money, if they take too long, he is going to have some other options and is going to use those dollars to get some other programs running.

Mayor Williams stated that what Mr. Beasley said was understood and acknowledged that he was correct about the after-school program because most of the students who do leave are going to retail or fast food even during on-the-job training. The Mayor said that generally when they have a contract with major organizations, they are in the private sector for summer internships, which she pointed out is difficult to continue.

Mr. Beasley added that they have lead workers who have designed their program for a 9 to 5.

Mayor Williams recalled doing one with AT&T when she was in high school.

Mr. Beasley said that he wasn't blessed to work at AT&T and had to go work at McDonald's and Hardee's.

Mayor Williams acknowledged that the Commission could defer it but pointed out that they did talk about the pre-apprenticeship program, adding that she didn't know if everyone is okay with that. The Mayor expressed that she is really saddened that this happened and said she just had to put it on record that she is disheartened that this happened to their babies, adding that a lot of people dropped the ball on the project. She said that all they can do now is move forward because they want Mr. Beasley to want to work with Opa-locka moving forward so that they can make sure that next summer, the kids go right into their internship and it's successful as a great partnership each summer. The Mayor went on to say that she thinks they should take the after-school program off the table because Mr. Beasley already told them it's going to be difficult.

Mr. Beasley suggested that they just work on the out of school program because they have a number of youth in the Community that have either dropped out of school or have graduated and can't afford to go to school, but this is a way they can look at 2 career options with other options that they can work with them to get them into other training. He informed the Commission that he spoke to Mr. Ellis who mentioned that Mr. Ario Lundy has another project that they can do and offered that as evidence that there are jobs available with employers who are willing to train. Mr. Beasley stated that the key for them is to get kids off the streets and reduce crime, suggesting that they can look at whether the crime rate went down when they had the program in place. He also informed the Commission that he failed to mention that because they're doing it with the college and school district, that the students get college credit and can continue their post-secondary education towards an associate degree. Additionally, he said that with Warren Henry they get certification in Range Rover, Infiniti and Audi. He said that the Warren Henry high school program is a 2-year program that bleeds into their apprenticeship program, with diversity including women and those of Hispanic and African descent because they truly believe in careers.

Mayor Williams stated that she just wants to see this move and doesn't know if she wants to keep deferring it, so she is okay with the pre-apprenticeship program since Mr. Beasley already established what it's for, acknowledging that this is Commissioner Davis' item.

Commissioner Davis said that he thinks it will be proper given that the timeline passed for the summer youth employment program. The Commissioner went on to say that because it is an Agenda Item that is sponsored by the Commission, he guessed they can just defer it in the hopes that Mr. Beasley will come back with 2 options that they can vet. Commissioner Davis then said that despite the fact that he had initiated the process, all of his colleagues on the Commission reserve the same right to work through anything that needs to be vetted, so that when the 2 options are presented, they can come ready to go and don't fall into the same situation, losing sight of time and missing out on this sort of opportunity.

Mr. Beasley suggested that they can move forward with the one item, and he said that they would be glad to work with Vice Mayor Taylor on the other piece to determine what the cost would be and decide if the City has extra money to do so if Career Source matches half of it to make it a win-win. He assured the Commission that they're not limited but he is trying to expose the students to occupations that they would never go into.

Mayor Williams asked if the Commission was going to defer the Item so that Mr. Beasley can come back with 2 proposals or if they're going to go through with the pre-apprenticeship program.

Mr. Beasley recommended that the Commission move on with this one and then he will have his staff reach out to Vice Mayor Taylor to design a separate one for on-the-job training throughout the year with a small number that may be 15 or 20 students by working with the high school and make it truly beneficial for them. He stated that he is not limited in terms of resources, reminding the Commission that he will match it and he just needs them to say yes.

Vice Mayor Taylor stated that it sounded good to him.

Commissioner Davis asked if the proposed \$50,000 allocation as a match for the program is sufficient to move forward.

Mr. Beasley acknowledged that it is a match but informed the Commission for the record that he will pay more because the training will be more.

Commissioner Davis said that the other issue would be amending the proposed resolution to change the language from summer youth employment to the newly proposed pre-apprenticeship program.

Mr. Beasley stated that it's an out-of-school career pre-apprenticeship program.

Mayor Williams asked what the terms of the agreement for the apprenticeship program were, including the length of the program and how many hours of work would be offered.

Mr. Beasley informed the Commission that those who choose to go into the construction pre-apprenticeship program would go through a 16-week program. He said that they are going to utilize the resources from Opa-locka to provide stipends and support services, Career Source is going to cover some of the training and what's left will be used for paid work experience so that they get other training. Mr. Beasley went on to say that the beauty of it is that the paid work experience does not go against eligibility for the out of school program participants to go into the apprenticeship because he is subsidizing part of that with the employer for full apprenticeship employment.

City Attorney Norris-Weeks stated that there is a contract as part of the backup for the proposed resolution that Career Source sent on June 28th, which she said they made some slight revisions to. The City Attorney said that they were told through Assistant City Manager Lawson that Career Source disagreed with the changes, which Ms. Norris-Weeks said are required by the State Statute. She offered examples such as the City not indemnifying someone that they're just giving money to and don't have any other contact with, in addition to State of Florida E-Verify requirements, when the contract stops as well as the reporting requirements that the City Attorney said are just standard.

Mr. Beasley said that he understands what City Attorney Norris-Weeks stated, but he stated for the record that he will not give up Career Sources' indemnification, because just as the City of Opa-locka operates under the State of Florida Statutes, Career Source also operates under State of Florida Statutes.

City Attorney Norris-Weeks stated that she doesn't want there to be any disagreement and said that she has actually gotten strange calls about this despite never having a conversation with anyone from Career Source because she gets her information from City Staff. The City Attorney went on to state that they received the contract on June 28th, but she said that the program started on June 13th and when they pointed out the issues with the contract, they were told that Career Source disagreed with the issues. She said that what she is trying to do is to put it on the table so that the Commission is aware, adding that they can make whatever decision they want including accepting terms that may not be in the best interest of the City or do something else. Ms. Norris-Weeks further stated that she has to do her job to protect the City and put things on the record to make sure that the Commission is aware that they disagree on the terms. She went on to say that she

has an email to the effect that the item was pulled on July 6th through the City Manager's Office and said that they can't make that decision. The City Attorney pointed out that because the item is back before the Commission, if they are making changes to the terms of the contract, they have to know what the changes are so that she can make sure that it flows, and she has some clear direction about how they want to move forward.

Mr. Beasley suggested that they just delay it and allow the Career Source attorney to respond because he said that there are certain things that they are not going to do as an agency. He asserted that they are not going to put themselves in jeopardy, which he said they are already doing by putting the money up front. Mr. Beasley also offered the examples of the work they've done with the City of Miami Gardens and Miami-Dade County with whom Career Source has contracts, acknowledging that they have different legal departments than the City of Opa-locka. He concluded by stressing that they are just trying to serve.

Commissioner Davis asked City Attorney Norris-Weeks to elaborate on her statement that there was an issue with the terms of the Career Source contract.

City Attorney Norris-Weeks stated that the only contract that is before the Commission is the one that she has prepared, with Assistant City Manager Lawson also making some changes to come up with the terms that the Commission and the provider would be agreeing to. The City Attorney then stated that she still doesn't understand when it starts and when it ends, adding that the Commission needs to have some understanding of that, including what is going to be done and whether or not the provider agrees to those terms.

Commissioner Davis said that the contract he was looking at says that the project would commence on June 13, 2022. The Commissioner acknowledged that the Commission was working with a different program and assumed that the terms would change. He also said that he heard Mr. Beasley state that it is basically a standard contract that the Commissioner said he probably has with every city.

City Attorney Norris-Weeks stated that Mr. Beasley was talking about the Career Source contract, which she said is something that would not be a legal contract to sign because it didn't include the language that the City would have to have.

Commissioner Davis stated that City Attorney Norris-Weeks had said that the sum was the issue and he read that the contract states that the City agrees to pay the contractor for faithful performance of the agreement, for work to be completed in accordance with the agreement requirements, in an amount of \$50,000. The Commissioner also read that the contract stipulates that the services contemplated

by this project commence on June 13, 2022 and shall end on December 31, 2022. He asked if that did not include both the term and amount.

City Attorney Norris-Weeks stated that she never said anything about the amount, acknowledging that it is \$50,000. The City Attorney said that if the Commission is making some changes, she believes that it is reasonable to question if it is still the same time period and if the Commission intends for it to begin on June 13th. She also said that December 31st is only a reporting date and she recommended that the Commission may want to carefully look at the contract.

Commissioner Davis stated that he sees a report that's required in the contract, but he said that he also sees that it says that the project shall commence.

City Attorney Norris-Weeks stated that commence means start.

Commissioner Davis pointed out that he is a grant writer by trade and has done a lot of reporting as it relates to grants, and he said that at the end of a project a final report is typically provided.

Mr. Beasley recognized that City Attorney Norris-Weeks' point is that the Commission was proposing to modify the terms of the contract and thus the length of time will change. He said that they can go back and forth on the other items that they disagree on. Mr. Beasley further explained that if they start to recruit now, the pre-apprenticeship program probably won't start until sometime in late August or early September so the training program may finish sometime in December and then the work experience component will come in. He went on to say that he is not used to a municipality having the agreement approved at that time, because he said that neither Miami-Dade County nor any of the cities Career Source works with, does it that way. While he acknowledged that he can't tell the Commission how to run the City, he informed them that typically Career Source gets an approval of an appropriation, and they work with the attorney because in most cases they are fronting the cash. Mr. Beasley concluded by acknowledging that City Attorney Norris-Weeks is right that the contract has to change because the Commission is modifying what is being asked of Career Source.

Commissioner Davis asked what the recommendation was from the City Attorney's Office, given the amendment to the resolution that was proposed.

City Attorney Norris-Weeks recommended that the Commission should determine what they are agreeing to so that when they have a conversation through the Manager's Office with Career Source, they will have filled in the gaps on what the

Commission intends, how long the contract would be for and what services would be provided because she said that she can't just make up something.

Commissioner Davis asked if the Commission should just defer the item or if an amendment can be made to move forward with the allocation. The Commissioner stated that he thinks the intent of the Commission is to get movement on the item so that Career Source can work with the City Attorney and so they are not in a situation in which things get bounced around and they miss out on the opportunity again. He concluded by directly asking City Attorney Norris-Weeks what her recommendation was to get the process started.

Mayor Williams stated that since the proposed resolution was sponsored by the entire Commission, she thinks it is their will to defer it so that they can make sure all the nuts and bolts are tightened up.

Commissioner Davis said that they haven't heard from the Commission, and he asked the City Attorney to get her legal opinion. The Commissioner also said that he has no problem deferring or amending the proposed resolution, but he would like to have the City Attorney tell him that and not the Commission.

City Attorney Norris-Weeks stated that she believes Mr. Beasley's representation of his experience that people just give money and there's no contract, but she said that she does a lot of this type of work and what she has seen is that this would normally be a 3-party agreement. Because that is not the case and there are matching funds based on money the City is giving, the City Attorney recommended that the Commission should have some type of contract outlining the terms, including how long the program will run, and what's going to be done. She said that none of that was in the Career Source document, and she also said that they just tried to modify it a little bit. In order to avoid leaving the meeting and it is becoming an issue, the City Attorney said that the Commission could allow them to work it out by deferring the proposed referendum. The City Attorney also stated that if Mr. Beasley thinks this is very time sensitive, then she said that the Commission could take time to go through it on the Dais so that everybody understands what they are agreeing to.

Mr. Beasley said that he was going to correct City Attorney Norris-Weeks, stating that most of the cities that Career Source works with allocate the resources with an intent and then they work on an agreement when it is approved because they front the money and then it's reimbursed. He said that Career Source is taking the risk because if they don't agree, he still has to eat the cash. Mr. Beasley concluded by stating that whether or not the City moves forward with Career Source is up to the

Commission, pointing out that they made an offer and if it's not accepted, he's fine with it.

City Attorney Norris-Weeks stated that it looks like the Commission is trying to move forward with the proposed resolution, but she is pointing out that there is an agreement attached to the item and thus if it is approved, it would approve that agreement. The City Attorney then said that if Mr. Beasley is saying that he is not going to sign that agreement, then they've wasted a lot of time because there are things in the agreement that she was told that Career Source didn't necessarily agree to.

Mr. Beasley stated that the Commission can defer the proposed resolution and he said that he'd be glad to get back with the City's Administration and work with them. He also said for the record that there are certain items that will be a sticking point, including indemnification because he said that just like the City of Opa-locka is a public entity, Career Source is a public entity created by Miami-Dade County and Monroe County, and he will not put his agency in jeopardy. Mr. Beasley said that they're not in a rush to begin the program, and he committed to work with the City to work everything out.

Mayor Williams asked if the agreement would be amended on the back end.

Mr. Beasley stated that they are going to get the amendment of the agreement done before they get back before the Commission.

Mayor Williams stated that she is ready to vote.

City Attorney Norris-Weeks asked what the Commission is voting on.

Mr. Beasley reiterated that the City Attorney is right that what was agreed to is not the same as what is in the Commission's Agenda packet, so he recommended that they just take it off the Agenda so they can go back and work it out and go from there.

Mayor Williams assured Mr. Beasley that he is working with them.

Mr. Beasley said that he wanted to be very clear and stated that it's frustrating for him because he is not asking for money and is saying that if the City wants a program, he will match their money to serve the folks in the Community.

Commissioner Davis acknowledged that it is very unusual for an organization to provide matching dollars up front. The Commissioner went on to say that if you know anything about grant writing, matching funds are usually reimbursed, and he

said that it is unusual, but he thinks it is a good faith effort from Career Source. He then said that Vice Mayor Taylor spoke about other agencies that were interested in providing the same sort of service, but Commissioner Davis said that he doesn't recall hearing any of those entities offer to provide matching funds. The commissioner said he wanted his colleagues on the Commission to realize that and said that it is why he has been meeting with Career Source and would ultimately like to move forward with some sort of program for the youth.

Mayor Williams lamented that they are going around and around but said that they know what they need to do. The Mayor then said that the item was going to be deferred and thanked Mr. Beasley because they know the great work that Career Source does, and she offered assurances that they are going to get this right moving forward.

City Attorney Norris-Weeks said that there was never a discussion about mutual indemnification, and that the discussion was that no indemnification will be allowed unless it is of the City.

There being no additional discussion, the proposed resolution was approved by a 5-0 vote.

Commissioner Davis	Yes
Commissioner Dominguez	Yes
Vice Mayor Taylor	Yes
Commissioner Bass	Yes
Mayor Williams	Yes

13. ADMINISTRATION:

CONSENT AGENDA:

- 1. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE EXCHANGE OF THE PROPERTY IDENTIFIED BY FOLIO 08-2122-007-0270, AND OWNED BY THE CITY WITH PROPERTY IDENTIFIED BY FOLIO 08-2122-000-0031, AND OWNED BY VSQUARED INVESTMENTS, LLC. AND TAKE ALL OTHER NECESSARY ACTIONS TO EFFECTUATE THE INTENT OF THIS RESOLUTION; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. *Sponsored by City Manager***

- 2. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT THE FEE PROPOSAL FROM 300 ENGINEERING GROUP P.A. TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING, DESIGN, PERMITTING SUPPORT, BID AND AWARD, AND ENGINEERING SERVICES DURING THE CONSTRUCTION OF CAIRO LANE, NW 127TH STREET, AND ALEXANDRIA DRIVE AND ENTER INTO A CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING CONSULTING SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH 300 ENGINEERING GROUP, P.A. FOR SAME, IN AN AMOUNT OF TWO HUNDRED SIXTY THOUSAND, SEVEN HUNDRED THIRTY DOLLARS (\$260,730.00); FURTHER AUTHORIZING AN ADDITIONAL TEN PERCENT (10%) CONTINGENCY BUDGET IN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED TWENTY SIX THOUSAND, SEVENTY THREE DOLLARS (\$26,073.00); PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. *Sponsored by the City Manager***
- 3. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A TRACT OF LAND LOCATED AT 13600 NW 17TH AVENUE (FOLIO 08-2122-018-0200) IN THE AMOUNT OF TWENTY-FOUR THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$24,000), TO SERVE AS AN ACCESS EASEMENT FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF PINE TREE LAKE; PROVIDING FOR A CONTINGENCY BUDGET OF THREE-THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$3,000); FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE INTERIM CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT FOR PURCHASE AND SALE OF SAID LAND, IN A FORM ACCEPTABLE TO THE CITY ATTORNEY AND TO TAKE ALL OTHER NECESSARY ACTIONS TO EFFECTUATE THE INTENT OF THIS RESOLUTION; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. *Sponsored by the City Manager***
- 4. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A SOLE SOURCE CONTRACT WITH HYDRA SERVICE, INC., IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED FIFTY-EIGHT THOUSAND, FOUR HUNDRED EIGHTEEN DOLLARS AND THIRTY CENTS (\$58,418.30), FOR THE DIRECT PURCHASE OF A PUMP AND APPURTENANCES FOR REPLACEMENT OF BURNT PUMP AT STATION #11-C (MASTER PUMP STATION), PUMP #2.; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF**

RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. *Sponsored by the City Manager*

- 5. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA, SETTING THE PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA AS REQUIRED BY THE STATE AND LOCAL AGREEMENT OF COOPERATION BETWEEN THE GOVERNOR AND THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FOR FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2022-2023; ESTABLISHING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE CITY BUDGET ON OR BEFORE AUGUST 1ST AND FORWARDING TO THE GOVERNOR THE PROPOSED ANNUAL BUDGET OF THE CITY AS PRELIMINARILY APPROVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION FOR FY 2022-2023; AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO FORWARD A COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION AND APPROVED PROPOSED BUDGET TO THE GOVERNOR; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.** *Sponsored by City Manager*
- 6. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA, SETTING THE PROPOSED MILLAGE RATE OF 9.3500 MILLS FOR COMPUTATION OF AD VALOREM TAXES FOR THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA AS REQUIRED BY LAW FOR THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2022-2023; ESTABLISHING THE DATE, TIME AND PLACE FOR THE FIRST HEARING TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSED MILLAGE RATE AND PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FY 2022-2023; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.** *Sponsored by City Manager*
- 7. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE INTERIM CITY MANAGER TO PIGGYBACK THE SOURCEWELL SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH TYLER TECHNOLOGIES, INC. FOR PUBLIC SECTOR AND EDUCATION ADMINISTRATION SOFTWARE SOLUTIONS WITH RELATED SERVICES AND ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH TYLER TECHNOLOGIES, INC. FOR THE INSTALLATION AND SUPPORT OF THE FIRM'S ENTERPRISE RESOURCE PLANNING (ERP) SYSTEM, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED ONE MILLION, FOUR HUNDRED THIRTY THOUSAND, TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$1,430,200.00); PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS;**

PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. *Sponsored by City Manager*

- 8. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA, ACCEPTING THE PROPOSAL OF CUNNINGHAM COMMUNICATIONS CONSULTING COMPANY D/B/A THE BRAND ADVOCATES, INCORPORATED FOR PUBLIC RELATIONS AND MARKETING CONSULTANT SERVICES PURSUANT TO RFP NO. 22-0614100 AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT FOR SAME, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED ONE HUNDRED FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$105,000.00) PER FISCAL YEAR; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. *Sponsored by City Manager***
- 9. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA, AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 19-9649 TO ALLOW THE CITY COMMISSION TO REVISE THE GUIDELINES FOR THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. *Sponsored by City Commission***
- 10. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA, DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO ALLOCATE FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$50,000.00) FOR A SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM WITH CAREERSOURCE SOUTH FLORIDA, PURSUANT TO THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS SET FORTH IN EXHIBIT "A"; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. *Sponsored by City Commission***
- 11. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA, CALLING FOR A GENERAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 8, 2022 IN THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA FOR THE PURPOSE OF ELECTING A MAYOR AND TWO CITY COMMISSIONERS; FURTHER PROVIDING FOR A RUN-OFF ELECTION, IF REQUIRED, TO BE HELD ON DECEMBER 6, 2022; PROVIDING FOR CONDUCT OF SAID ELECTIONS BY MIAMI-DADE COUNTY ELECTIONS DEPARTMENT (MIAMI-DADE COUNTY); PROVIDING THAT VOTING PRECINCTS FOR SAID ELECTIONS SHALL BE THOSE AS ESTABLISHED BY MIAMI-DADE COUNTY; PROVIDING FOR NOTICE OF SAID ELECTIONS; PROVIDING FOR THE FORM OF BALLOT AND REGISTRATION IN ACCORDANCE**

WITH STATE LAW; PROVIDING FOR VOTER PARTICIPATION VIA VOTE-BY-MAIL IN SAID ELECTIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH STATE LAW; PROVIDING FOR PAYMENT FOR CONDUCTING ELECTIONS TO MIAMI-DADE COUNTY; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. *Sponsored by City Clerk*

- 12. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA, CALLING FOR A CITY OF OPA-LOCKA SPECIAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 8, 2022 FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUBMITTING TO THE ELECTORATE, PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CITY CHARTER SECTION 2.3 - "MAYOR AND COMMISSION COMPENSATION"; PROVIDING FOR NOTICE OF ELECTION; PROVIDING REQUISITE BALLOT LANGUAGE AND CHARTER AMENDMENT TEXT FOR SUBMISSION TO THE ELECTORATE; PROVIDING FOR THE CITY CLERK TO UTILIZE THE SERVICES OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS FOR THE SPECIAL ELECTION; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.** *Sponsored by City Clerk*

Vote taken on Consent Agenda items can be viewed under Agenda Item 6 – Approval of the Consent Agenda.

14. NEW ITEMS:

- 1. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA, CALLING FOR A SPECIAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 8, 2022 IN THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA, TO FILL AN UNEXPIRED CITY COMMISSION TERM ENDING NOVEMBER 2024; FURTHER PROVIDING FOR A RUN-OFF ELECTION, IF REQUIRED; PROVIDING FOR CONDUCT OF SAID ELECTIONS BY MIAMI-DADE COUNTY ELECTIONS DEPARTMENT (MIAMI-DADE COUNTY); PROVIDING THAT VOTING PRECINCTS FOR SAID ELECTIONS SHALL BE THOSE AS ESTABLISHED BY MIAMI-DADE COUNTY; PROVIDING FOR NOTICE OF SAID ELECTIONS; PROVIDING FOR THE FORM OF BALLOT AND REGISTRATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH STATE LAW; PROVIDING FOR VOTER PARTICIPATION VIA VOTE-BY MAIL IN SAID ELECTIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH STATE LAW; PROVIDING FOR PAYMENT FOR CONDUCTING ELECTIONS TO MIAMI-DADE**

COUNTY; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. *Sponsored by City Clerk*

The above resolution was read into the record by City Attorney Norris-Weeks.

It was moved by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Bass to discuss Agenda Item 14-1.

Mayor Williams asked City Clerk Flores to introduce Agenda Item 14-1.

City Clerk Flores informed the Commission that resolution proposed by Agenda Item 14-1 calls for a special election as the result of Vice Mayor Taylor submitting his resignation in accordance with the State of Florida's resign to run law, to be able to run for the Office of Mayor. The Clerk stated that the special election would be on the same date as the general election and the City will be piggy backing off the Miami-Dade County Election, so the cost will be minimal. She further explained that the election is required because there are 2 years left on Vice Mayor Taylor's term.

There being no discussion, the proposed resolution was approved by a 4-0 vote.

Commissioner Bass	Yes
Commissioner Davis	Yes
Commissioner Dominguez	Not Present
Vice Mayor Taylor	Yes
Mayor Williams	Yes

2. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA, DIRECTING THE SUBMISSION OF LEGAL INVOICES, ATTACHED HERETO AS COMPOSITE EXHIBIT "A", TO THE STATE OF FLORIDA FOR REVIEW AND SUBSEQUENT PAYMENT; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. *Sponsored by City Attorney*

The above resolution was read into the record by City Attorney Norris-Weeks.

It was moved by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Vice Mayor Taylor to discuss Agenda Item 14-2.

Mayor Williams asked City Attorney Norris-Weeks to introduce Agenda Item 14-2.

City Attorney Norris-Weeks informed the Commission that consistent with their will, her Office is looking to catch up on all invoices prior to the start of the 2020 audit, which she said hasn't started yet. The City Attorney said that it is her intent to finish all of them, reporting that others are done, but that she wanted to move this one forward to get them in for financial review by the State of Florida. She also informed the Commission that the invoices presented for their consideration were in the same format that the State of Florida has approved for other legal bills with the same details.

Mayor Williams asked if it was possible for the Commission to take some time to review the invoices provided by the City Attorney since they just got them that same evening and suggested that they can bring the proposed item back at their meeting tomorrow.

Commissioner Davis stated that he would like to have time to review the invoices provided to the Commission by the City Attorney. The Commissioner said that he thinks the last 2 invoices that the Commission approved both happened at a Special Commission Meeting, recalling that he had expressed that he didn't agree during the first approval. He acknowledged that the State of Florida subsequently approved the invoices. The Commissioner explained that his position was that a Special Commission Meeting was not the right forum and he also said that he didn't agree with the language included in the item. He went on to state that he would personally like to have more time to review the invoices because they span time periods during which he was on the Commission, and he said that he might be familiar with many of those issues. Commissioner Davis acknowledged that the Attorney's contract states that the approval of any invoices is a function of the City Manager's Office. He recalled that they had some challenges with that process, but he said that he wanted to state for the record that it was done because the Commission is not privy to many of the day-to-day matters including meetings and any sort of formal work being done in the City, which he said would make it difficult for them to vet and ensure that the line items included in the invoices are ultimately sufficient and accurate. Commissioner Davis concluded by stating that if the Commission is going to approve the invoices, despite him not being totally comfortable with it, that he would definitely like to have more time.

City Attorney Norris-Weeks pointed out that she is an officer of the court and is not going to put anything in her invoices that didn't happen. The City Attorney informed the Commission that everything in her invoice has backup and said that they can go on the court record to see that there was a hearing or deposition on a certain date, or that an email was sent. She said that it was a small bill and explained that she was looking to have it approved on the Agenda for that Commission

Meeting because she and her Staff would like to get paid for their reasonable time. Ms. Norris-Weeks also stated that the invoice included billing for only one attorney, on things that there were several attorneys working on. She concluded by addressing Mayor Williams' question about bringing the item back during tomorrow's Special Commission Meeting and said that the meeting had already been noticed and it was too late to add anything to that Agenda because it has to be done 24 hours prior to the meeting start time.

Commissioner Bass stated that she is not going to doubt that the invoices presented to the Commission by the City Attorney are legit, but because they just got them now, she said that she thinks they should take the time to review them. The Commissioner said that nobody gets a bill and just pays without looking at it and added that the Commission needs to do its due diligence, pointing out that they have Residents who are watching them, and she requested that they be provided with at least a day to do the right thing.

City Attorney Norris-Weeks said that the Commission can go ahead and pull the item. The City Attorney stated that while it is an unusual process because generally it is not an issue, she said it is not true that there is something in a contract that says that the City Manager approves bills. She went on to say that she doesn't think that there should be a Special Commission Meeting anytime she needs to get paid, because she said it would be cumbersome. The City Attorney also informed the Commission that she was trying to not have mental impressions of what the City is doing so that it is on record and the public pulls it, with other attorneys seeing exactly what the City's trial strategy is. She informed the Commission that other attorneys have tried to do that, and she said that she has gotten a court order to stop it. The City Attorney also said that it is a delicate balance, but that she heard the will of the Commission and would bring the invoice back with several others at the same time and will meet with them in advance.

Mayor Williams stated that she thinks what is being said is for the Commission to have it earlier than the meeting time, so that they can review it, and she acknowledged that the City Attorney stated that she was going to pull the resolution proposed by Agenda Item 14-2.

15. PLANNING & ZONING:

A. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

There were none.

B. APPEALS:

There were none.

16. ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS/PUBLIC HEARINGS:

A. FIRST READING ORDINANCE(S)/PUBLIC HEARING(S):

B. SECOND READING ORDINANCE(S)/PUBLIC HEARING(S):

- 1. AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF OPA-LOCKA, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE ANNUAL ADOPTED GENERAL, PROPRIETARY AND SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS BUDGETS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2021 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2022, ADJUSTING REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES AS REFLECTED IN EXHIBIT “A”; PROVIDING FOR THE EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS ESTABLISHED BY THE BUDGET; AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO TAKE CERTAIN ACTIONS; PROVIDING FOR APPROPRIATION OF ALL BUDGETS AND EXPENDITURES; PROVIDING FOR FEES CONSISTENT WITH APPROPRIATIONS AND AMENDMENT; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICT AND REPEALER; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE (first reading / public hearing held on July 13, 2022). *Sponsored by City Manager***

The above ordinance was read by City Attorney Norris-Weeks.

Mayor Williams asked Interim City Manager Williams to introduce Agenda Item 16-B-1.

Interim City Manager Williams stated that the ordinance proposed by Agenda Item 16-B-1 is the second reading for public hearing, per ordinance. The Manager said that it was part of the 2-part process to submit the budget to the State of Florida and this is part of the internal process for the budget that is to be adopted.

Mayor Williams opened the Public Hearing for Agenda Item 16-B-1.

There being no members of the public to address the Commission, Mayor Williams closed Public Hearing for Agenda Item 16-B-1.

It was moved by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Vice Mayor Taylor to discuss Agenda Item 16-B-1.

There being no discussion, the proposed ordinance was approved by a 5-0 vote.

Commissioner Dominguez	Yes
Vice Mayor Taylor	Yes
Commissioner Bass	Yes
Commissioner Davis	Yes
Mayor Williams	Yes

C. RESOLUTION(S):

There were none.

17. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

Interim City Manager Williams reminded the Commission that when he was appointed as City Manager, there were 9 vacant Department Heads in the City's 13 Departments, with only 4 Department Heads in-house. The Manager reported that since that time, in his first 90 days, he's hired a Chief of Police and Building & Licensing Department Manager, rehired the Community Development Director and Community Redevelopment Agency Manager, hired a Building Maintenance Manager, appointed permanent Parks & Recreation Department and Information Technology Department Directors, hired a Capital Improvement Projects Manager and was now making a special announcement of the hiring of the Finance Department Director, Ms. Niema Walker.

Finance Department Director Niema Walker stated that it is a pleasure to be at her first full Commission Meeting, adding that she is excited to do great things for the City of Opa-locka.

Vice Mayor Taylor welcomed Finance Department Director Niema Walker to the team.

Mayor Williams welcomed Finance Department Director Niema Walker to the City.

Interim City Manager Williams informed the Commission that Finance Department Director Niema Walker comes to the City with a significant amount of experience, having been a finance director for municipalities similar in size to Opa-locka and also having been an elected official. The Manager reminded the Commission that the City has been without a permanent Finance Director for several years, and also announced that with the hiring of Finance Department Director Niema Walker, Opa-locka now has department heads for all of the City's 13 Departments. Mr. Williams also introduced Mr. Deepak Bhatt as the new City Planner.

City Planner Deepak Bhat introduced himself as a city planner with global experience from India to the Middle East and Canada. Mr. Bhat informed the Commission that he recently worked with the City of North Miami Beach, and he said that he is really honored to work

for the City of Opa-locka with his background in Moorish architecture, and he committed to contributing to the development of the City.

Interim City Manager Williams said that the City of Opa-locka is winning against its rival city, with City Planner Deepak Bhat being the City's second steal from the City of North Miami Beach. The Manager also informed the Commission that he and both Assistant City Managers had the pleasure of meeting with the City Manager of North Miami Beach earlier that day, and he reported that they are working on some joint initiatives that are supported by North Miami Beach Commissioner Daniela Jean, which they want to bring forward in Opa-locka. Mr. Williams also stated that the Members of the Commission are all aware that Miami-Dade County ordinance requires municipalities within the County to develop workforce housing, which is also known as affordable housing, and he said that the Community Development Department together with the Community Redevelopment Agency, has started to push forward on that initiative. The Manager said that when he was hired, the City was running behind with the submission and their attorney contacted his Office, so they immediately got working on putting together an initiative that they are looking forward to presenting on Friday at Sherbondy Village Auditorium from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Mr. Williams explained that this would be phase 1 of the project, and that he would be meeting with all of the Members of the Commission one-on-one to prepare them and answer any questions that they may have in advance. The Manager concluded by stating that they look forward to having the Commission come out and support the initiative at the event.

Commissioner Davis acknowledged having seen the flyer for the affordable housing event, and said he wanted to highlight the income gap that Opa-locka has had for many years that hasn't been addressed. The Commissioner also acknowledged that the City wants to attract young professionals because of the brain drain caused by losing the best and brightest, and the Commission wants to put forth these sorts of initiatives for those young professionals and working-class individuals who may not fall within the low to moderate income gaps, and thus can provide housing opportunities for them to live and grow in the Community. Commissioner Davis thanked the City Manager's Office and the Commission for supporting those types of initiatives, as well as the Community Development Department for hosting the forum, in addition to everyone involved at the County who prioritized this need. He concluded by stating that he has been an advocate for affordable housing and said that he is very excited to see the initiative move forward.

Vice Mayor Taylor stated that he totally agrees with Commissioner Davis on the workforce housing initiative. The Vice Mayor also expressed concern about buses for the children at Nathan B. Young and Opa-locka Elementary, sharing that he reached out to Miami-Dade County Public Schools District 1 but was told that there's nothing they can do because those schools are not transported based on the 2-mile distance. He pointed out that other municipalities have courtesy buses to transport children to the schools, and he asked that Interim City Manager work to provide something. The Vice Mayor shared concern specifically for the Residents of Sailboat Cove who go to Nathan B. Young Elementary and who have safety concerns because the students have to go south to 17th Avenue and cross over to 22nd Avenue, in addition to the Blues Apartments whose Residents go to Opa-locka Elementary and have to cross over the main thoroughfare and the train tracks.

Interim City Manager Williams assured the Commission that he would absolutely work to provide courtesy buses to transport the children of Opa-locka to and from school.

Mayor Williams thanked Interim City Manager Williams for all of the initiatives that he is bringing forth to the Community.

18. OFFICIAL BOARD REPORTS:

There were none.

19. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

Vice Mayor Taylor noted that Hispanic Heritage Month begins September 15th and reminded the Commission that last year the City introduced Conga-locka as a festival to highlight Hispanic heritage in the Community. The Vice Mayor asked that Interim City Manager Williams help find funding for that initiative.

Mayor Williams asked if the Hispanic Heritage festival would be sponsored by the Mayor and Commission.

Vice Mayor Taylor said that the Hispanic Heritage festival can be sponsored by the Mayor and Commission.

Mayor Williams stated that if funding is found by the City, then the Hispanic Heritage Festival should be sponsored by the Mayor and Commission.

It was moved by Vice Mayor Taylor, seconded by Commissioner Dominguez to direct Interim City Manager Williams to help find funding for Conga-locka, the City's Hispanic Heritage Festival.

There being no additional discussion, the proposed future agenda item was approved by a 5-0 vote.

Vice Mayor Taylor	Yes
Commissioner Bass	Yes
Commissioner Davis	Yes
Commissioner Dominguez	Yes
Mayor Williams	Yes

20. MAYOR/COMMISSION REPORTS:

Commissioner Dominguez stated that at the last Commission Meeting, she asked Interim City Manager Williams to execute the paint program and she said that she just wanted to know when Residents can pick up the paint.

Interim City Manager Williams stated that he has had the conversation about the paint program with Commissioner Dominguez several times, and he said that the resolution directed him to fund the program through grants.

Commissioner Dominguez stated that the paint program was passed by the Commission and was later approved by Florida's Chief Inspector General Melinda Miguel, and she asked Interim City Manager Williams not to tell her that he has to get funding because she said that it doesn't work like that. The Commissioner also said that it was a directive for him to have it by the current Commission Meeting and she doesn't understand why it's not in place. She then asked the Manager not to try her, because he can try Jesus, but don't try her and she added that she needs for him to get it done.

Interim City Manager Williams stated that he has continually been disrespected on the Dais.

Commissioner Dominguez asked how.

Interim City Manager Williams said that he will not allow Commissioner Dominguez to speak to him in that way.

Commissioner Dominguez said that Interim City Manager Williams can speak the way he likes, but she is bringing to his attention that she just wants to know when Residents can pick up the paint and she doesn't understand why it's not in place. The Commissioner went on to say that today was beautiful with a lot of Police Officers and American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees representatives, but she said that nobody knows what happens behind the doors and now that she is on the Commission, she knows what's happening. She said that she has sent the Manager emails, including second request emails and up to the current date, she stated that she had not heard anything and said that she wanted to read them for the record. The Commissioner shared that she sent the Manager an email on Monday with the subject line of Second Request April 13th, in which she said that she was requesting legislation directing the Manager to send information to residents via their water bills as a newsletter, with examples from the City of Tamarac and Coral Springs having been provided. Commissioner Dominguez also said that on Monday, July 18th, she sends the Manager a text message including pictures, regarding an unkept property located at 905 Opa-locka Boulevard, and she said that it was also discussed in her one-on-one meeting with the Manager, but she lamented that she has yet to receive a response despite knowing that the Manager has read the messages. The Commissioner said that she doesn't understand why it is that she's not getting a response, adding that people are picturing the perfect Interim City Manager, but she said that she never had a problem with either of the 2 previous City Managers during the very short time they served after she was appointed to the Commission. Commissioner Dominguez shared that when she would send the previous Managers an email or a text message, she would

get a response immediately, yet she said that she doesn't get that from Manager Williams, and she would like to understand why.

Interim City Manager Williams addressed Commissioner Dominguez's concern about the paint program legislation that she sponsored and explained that the legislation is an unbudgeted program with various grant programs being investigated as potential funding sources. The Manager assured the Commission that he is doing everything he can, and he pointed out that the Commission just had its American Rescue Plan Act Workshop during which he actually made the recommendation that the City support the paint program with American Rescue Plan Act funds. He went on to remind the Commissioner that he has met with her on this item and has discussed ways that the item can move forward. The Manager also said that his calendar is open to Commissioner Dominguez, and they don't have to do this from the Dais.

Commissioner Dominguez said that Interim City Manager Williams canceled both of their meetings.

Interim City Manager Williams stated that he meets with Commissioner Dominguez more than any other Commissioner, and he said that the notion that she is not getting the attention that the others get, is absolutely not true and he said that he has proof of that. The Manager also said that Commissioner Dominguez has requested more items than any other Member of the Commission.

Commissioner Dominguez asked how many of the items that she has requested have passed.

Interim City Manager Williams stated that he was going to finish his statement because it is his opportunity to speak and that if Mayor Williams does not reel in Commissioner Dominguez, he will reel her in himself.

Mayor Williams asked what Interim City Manager Williams stated.

Interim City Manager Williams stated that he called on Mayor Williams.

Mayor Williams asked Interim City Manager Williams not to do that and said that she was going to end it before she jumps into it. The Mayor said that Commissioner Dominguez was getting her point across.

Interim City Manager Williams stated that he was speaking.

Mayor Williams acknowledged that Interim City Manager Williams was speaking and asked him to chill the tone in his voice and finish.

Interim City Manager Williams said that he requested help from Mayor Williams when Commissioner Dominguez said that he should try Jesus, but that did not happen.

Mayor Williams said that the Commission should remember that what is done to some, can happen to you tomorrow. The Mayor asked that they all cool their tempers and stated that Interim City Manager Williams was a little out of line but said that he can finish.

Commissioner Davis stated that since the Commission was on the topic of unresponsive appointed Members of the Dais, he might as well throw his grievances out since everybody is putting it on the record. The Commissioner lamented that he shared the same challenges with the City Attorney's Office having emailed her from his personal account and from the City Clerk's Office about the State of Florida's legislative review but hasn't gotten a response to many of the items he has requested. Most recently, Commissioner Davis said that he requested a one-on-one shade meeting regarding the litigation matters between the City and the Opa-locka Community Development Corporation. He went on to say that he hopes to have communication with the City Attorney's Office at some point because he said that there's been minimal to no communication. Commissioner Davis reiterated that he has sent email after email, but nothing is provided in writing and that the Attorney sometimes calls, or when he calls her, he said that she is always in a meeting or doing something, which he said he's not even sure is City of Opa-locka business or is for another municipality. The Commissioner expressed his hope that since he's not being communicated to in private sessions and he said that he knows that communication has taken place with other Commissioners, that he can have a response to his request for a shade meeting or to his various emails.

Commissioner Bass left the meeting at 10:55 p.m.

City Attorney Norris-Weeks stated that she does respond to Commissioner Davis.

Commissioner Davis asked City Attorney Norris-Weeks what correspondence she was referring to, because he has several emails that have not received a response.

City Attorney Norris-Weeks asked Commissioner Davis to allow her to speak. The City Attorney stated that Commissioner Davis told her that he would be sending her those emails, which she said she looks forward to receiving, because she said that there are not several emails that have not been responded to. Ms. Norris-Weeks also said that Commissioner Davis sent her a text message this week, accusing her, and she said that she could read the message, but it would be very embarrassing.

Mayor Williams stated that it was very clear that there are some members of the Commission that have issues with the Charter Members. The Mayor said that somehow, they are going to have to work through it.

Commissioner Davis left the meeting at 10:58 p.m.

Mayor Williams stated that they are going to end it there and asked that Interim City Manager Williams and City Attorney Norris-Weeks, reach out to the 2 Commissioners that have issues because at the end of the day, they are their bosses and if there are issues, they have to fix it and they have to be professional at all times.

Vice Mayor Taylor asked if Interim City Manager Williams and City Attorney Norris-Weeks can meet with each Commissioner separately one-on-one to let them know where the City is at with the union contracts.

City Attorney Norris-Weeks stated that the City Manager would be the best person to meet with concerning the union contracts, but she said that she'd be happy to meet and talk with anybody. The City Attorney pointed out that the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Union contract has been noticed for the Special Commission Meeting tomorrow.

Vice Mayor Taylor said that he was mostly talking about the Police Benevolent Association contract, because he understands that the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Union contract will come before them during their Special Commission Meeting tomorrow. The Vice Mayor reiterated his request for Interim City Manager Williams and City Attorney Norris-Weeks to meet with each Commissioner, so that they can have a response.

Mayor Williams stated that she is uncomfortable with Vice Mayor Taylor's request for Interim City Manager Williams and City Attorney Norris-Weeks to meet with each Commissioner about the union contracts because the minute she walks out of their shade meetings, people on the Dais are taking back misinformation and she hears her name coming from City Employees, accusing her of halting contracts along with another Commissioner. The Mayor asserted that it is out of line and inappropriate because she said that if it's in the shade, then everything that's said should have stayed there, but she lamented that it has not. She went on to say that she has never seen a Police Benevolent Association attorney address the Commission, or negotiations that are convoluted, adding that she doesn't know who they are working for because they are in the middle of union contract negotiations. Mayor Williams concluded by asserting that she is not meeting with anyone.

Vice Mayor Taylor explained that she was just asking for a simple update on the union contract negotiations because of some of the things that were stated during the Citizen's Forum.

Mayor Williams stated that she understood what Vice Mayor Taylor was requesting and she said that whoever wants to meet with the Interim City Manager's Office is fine.

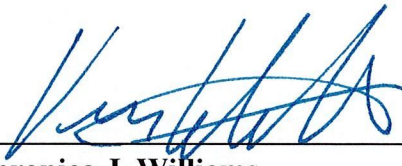
Vice Mayor Taylor said that he would send a personal request to Interim City Manager Williams and City Attorney Norris-Weeks, to meet with them for an update on the union contract negotiations.

21. OFFICIAL BOARD APPOINTMENTS:

There were none.

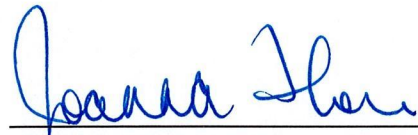
22. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the City Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 11:01 p.m.



Veronica J. Williams
Mayor

Attest:



Joanna Flores, CMC
City Clerk