SHREVEPORT CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES

January 28, 2014

The Committee of the Whole was called to order by Chairman Joe Shyne.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Councilman O. Jenkins seconded by Councilman Corbin for approval. Motion approved by the following vote: Ayes: Councilmen Rose McCulloch, Everson, O. Jenkins, Corbin, Webb, Shyne, and S. Jenkins. 7. Nays: None.

Awards and Recognition of Distinguished Guests by the Mayor

Awards and Recognition of Distinguished Guests by City Council Members

Communications of the Mayor

Mayor Glover: Mr. Chairman, members of the council, thank you much. I want to start by asking the council to join me in extending a welcome to one of our visitors here today. A young man whom I told him when I first met him last week, he happened to join us on last Monday, myself and Councilwoman McCulloch, as well as members of the administration as we were providing noon time meal to the seniors in MLK community. I told him when I saw him I say, "You know you remind me of myself when I was in the first grade," but it turns out he's actually in the fifth grade so that gives you an idea of what young Cedric looked like some 40+ years ago, but young Cameron White is here today. I had the opportunity to visit with him and his mother prior to the start of today's Council Meeting. He's pursuing some academic efforts and I needed to be able to sit and visit and interview me regarding some of those things and also decided to extend his visit by coming to the City Council Meeting, so Cameron you want to come up and introduce yourself and introduce your mother?

Councilman Shyne: Mr. Mayor, it would be kind of redundant. We've had him to come up already and give us his name and all of that. It's good for you to recognize him, but he came up earlier.

Mayor Glover: Okay, well appreciate you making him at home Mr. Chairman and giving him the chance to introduce himself. I assume that that meant he had a chance to make some comments on the record at that so Cameron thank you for coming down. Good to see you and look forward to being able to visit with you again soon. Also, Mr. Chairman, members of the council with regard to the reference that was made by Councilman Oliver Jenkins, he is correct. Myself, along with Councilman Oliver Jenkins, as well as Sheriff Prator and along with Doug Dominick the president of the Parish Commission, as well as Woodrow Wilson the Parish Administrator had a chance today to have our first meeting to talk about the Caddo Shreveport transition process for

the separating of the Caddo-Bossier Office of Emergency Preparedness and Homeland Security. I believe that we're ultimately going to come up with a scenario that's going to protect the interest of Shreveport and Caddo Parish between now and the 1st of July when this new entity will be responsible for being in place. We believe it's going to be one that's going to serve the interest of the safety and security of both people and property very well so we look forward to that process going forward. There is a meeting scheduled on this coming Friday that the City of Shreveport will represented at by Deputy Chief Huddleston. There will be representatives from the other five entities that are a part of the current cooperative endeavor between Caddo and Bossier that will deal with all of the issues relevant to the parting or the separating. Mr. Webb these are the guys who will be responsible for dealing with I guess the issues of the divorce between the two parishes and the two cities in this regard, but I'm confident that we will have a structure, a concept and a structure in place well before July 1st. We will be meeting together again. The group that met this morning following this meeting on this Friday to see what those next steps are, but we believe it'll be something that will make the best of what we think is an unfortunate situation. And as I shared with you guys on yesterday as we heard from the folks from the Shreveport-Bossier Sports Commission I think it's sad and unfortunate that as we have folks who are trying to get us together around the issue of sports that we are separating around the issue and cause and purpose of working jointly and collectively to keep our people safe during emergencies, but I guess the older I get sometimes the harder it gets for me to understand the motivation for some things. And it appears as if the decision to separate is going to be one that's final because the process only calls for one of the involved parties to provide 90 days' notice of their intention to withdraw. And at that point the whole thing comes to part so we intend to ensure that Shreveport and Caddo Parish are going to be well taken care of. It's just unfortunate it won't be as cooperative of regional effort as it has been in years past, but we'll continue to keep the council posted and certainly Councilman Jenkins will be I'm sure continuing to engage the Caddo-Shreveport aspect of it as we continue to go forward.

Councilman Webb: Mr. Mayor, where does that put Sandy in the mix of all this?

Mayor Glover: Well, it kind of leaves him up in the air. It leaves him and the rest of the folks who are still left on staff up in the air. It's my recommendation as I said with the group this morning that Sandy is the one who is fully possessed of the institutional knowledge and institutional history of our efforts of whether I think the last 9 nine years I think he's been in charge of the Caddo-Bossier office.

Councilman Webb: Yeah, because I remember (inaudible) when I was a commissioner.

Mayor Glover: And certainly anything that I think that we do on the Caddo side to the extent that Sandy is interested and willing that anything that we look to manifest on the Caddo side ought to involve Sandy in the staff capacity as we go forward and so what that ultimate entity ends up looking like. The level of staffing that we'll end up having and how we pay for it are all those things that we're still figuring out right. The one up-

side of this whole situation from a fiscal standpoint is that the funding mechanism has pretty much been the same that it's been going back to 1953 when this thing first started and that pretty much had the vast majority of the funding in terms of the 6 entities involved falling on the City of Shreveport. And so even despite the fact that you had population up-takes and Caddo Parish has the statutory responsibility for it I think and Councilman Jenkins correct me if I'm wrong. I think our number was above 169, 70+ thousand. I don't think anybody else broke the \$50,000 number in terms of total appropriated funding and so certainly as Oliver Jenkins pointed out this morning and certainly we agree with we would have an expectation as we go forward in this thing that we kind of equalize the funding contribution from all the entities involved. In fact, I specifically put on the record that I certainly welcome that City Parish EAP Funding ratio that one that we might certainly be open and receptive to although the parish guys were not so eager to embrace that at this point. But we would expect that Sandy needs to be just in terms of being able to give us the necessary capacity to know exactly what it is that we need to be aware of, concerned about, factoring in terms of a new entity going forward and hopefully we'll be able to keep him on in some regard that's talked about having the entity itself be a cooperative endeavor agreement between the City, the Sheriff's Office and the Parish of Caddo that it would function essentially as a Shreveport-Caddo version of what had been the Caddo-Bossier Office from a housing operational standpoint. The idea at this point is to look at the possibility of having him at the 911Facility and if there is space there and that that would end up ultimately as it has been when we have the larger expanded Emergency Operation Center that that would be where our official D.O.C. would be from, but those are all things that we threw out for discussion and hope to have crystalized between now and the next month or so.

Communications from Council Members

Councilman Shyne: Alright, Communications from Council Members. Any communications from –

Councilman Webb: Yes, Mr. Chairman if I may. I was out of town last week at – it means you didn't talk too much yesterday. I was able to go home and catch up on my newspaper reading and I read in Thursday Obituaries where George Casten the owner of George's Grill passed away and I know we didn't mention that yesterday. I wanted to bring it up today you know, condolences to his family. His funeral was yesterday afternoon at 1:00 and I didn't know it, but it was a good eatery. It have all that good soul food, but he had some good burgers and good coconut pie, but I'm still gone be patronizing it. You know he'll be greatly missed and I know his daughter is gonna continue running the establishment so it's good to hear that they gonna – they been an icon in Shreveport since 1960 so you know, anyway.

Councilman Everson: And his daughter Tini has been doing a good job keeping it open and the food is just as good if not a little more modern take on a few things.

Councilman Webb: Yeah, she has. She gone go back to some of her food. The whole thing's on the menu and bring up the new ones as well. It'll be good.

Councilman Shyne: Alright, any other council members with any communications at this point? If not, we will move into Public Comments and we always have some good public comments from Mike's good friend Sammy. Sammy, you have 3 minutes Sammy.

Public Comments

Mr. Sammy Mears: (1901 Centenary Blvd. Shreveport, LA 71101) There is a burned out light bulb right above you all.

Councilman Shyne: Dale will take care of that so don't worry about that.

Mr. Mears: Okay. The reason I am here today is I was not very happy last Monday that I didn't get the fair treatment that I should have had. I was over at the Pines Road Walmart looking for a book that I thought maybe I could a little bit of help on and the person bought the last book before I could even get to it and I tried to get 3 or 4 people to help me out letting me know when they might be able to get the next order of books on the shelf. Unfortunately, nobody came to help me and then this one lady I asked said that she didn't know and she said come back in about maybe 2 months. Maybe we'll have it then. I said, "Well, I'm not sure if I could really wait that long for it." And she said, "Why is that?" So I just felt like I wasn't treated right you know when she was asking me why I couldn't wait that long, so I went and got something to eat at the Pines Road McDonald's. Then I went home and called the Shreve City Walmart to see if they might be able to give me an answer as they had the book I was looking for. They put me on hold for 45 minutes so I just rode the bus out there and decided to look myself. Went behind the registers to the bookshelves and no one even said do you need any help. They just went right on by like I didn't exist and that wasn't fair to me at all. I did find the book I was looking for. I bought it, took it home and added it to the other book that I've got. So I got Get Rich Carefully and Real Money from Jim Cramer. I've read 3 chapters on one of the books already. I just felt like that the treatment that I didn't seem to get toward getting some help I should have had. Everybody else got their help when they asked for it. I'm not a bologna sandwich. I'm just as much human and if I look like a bologna sandwich, please, far from it. I hope the next time that I do go somewhere to look for something or to shop for something that maybe I will get better service or better help. I just didn't feel happy that I didn't get the proper treatment I should have had and I wanted to bring that today because maybe word could get to the Shreve City Walmart and the Pines Road Walmart that everyone does need their exact treatment that they need. Thank you.

Councilman Shyne: Sammy, since you live in Councilwoman Rose McCulloch's district she might be willing to –

Mr. Mears: Jeff. I'm Jeff's.

Councilman Everson: Sammy's in my district.

Councilwoman McCulloch: Well, you know I work for the City of Shreveport. I mean that was your direction –

Councilman Webb: They're fighting over him.

Councilman Shyne: That's right.

Councilwoman McCulloch: The beginning of this term so I mean whatever I can do to (inaudible) I'd be more than happy to.

Councilman Shyne: She can help you Sammy.

Mr. Mears: I appreciate it and also just to make one more thing clear. The TV down there at the bus terminal has ugly pictures. It just get stuck on every picture and I even saw the *Price is Right* where Drew Carey had his head like this on the screen and legs were over here. That was the most ridiculous thing I've ever seen and since Sportran was here last time they need to get that thing fixed, too.

Councilman Shyne: Well now Councilman Oliver Jenkins will help you on that one.

Mr. Mears: That was the ugliest thing I ever saw in my life.

Councilman O. Jenkins: Department of Transportation, it falls under Public Safety.

Mr. Mears: Whatever it falls under – all I know is I have never seen Drew Carey look so ugly like that in my whole life. Thank you.

Councilman Shyne: Sammy, we appreciate it. If it's no more comments at this particular point we're going to adjoin this meeting. Thank y'all very much.

Miscellaneous Matters

THE COMMITTEE RISES AND REPORTS: (Reconvenes Regular Council Meeting)

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at approximately 4:08 p.m.

//s// Arthur G. Thompson, Clerk of Council