

CAPTIONING
JUNE 29, 2010
CHARTER REVIEW BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

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***following meeting. It should be used for informational
***purposes only. This document has not been edited;
***therefore, there may be additions, deletions, or words
***that did not translate.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: GOOD EVENING.

I'D LIKE TO CALL THE JUNE 29th PUBLIC HEARING TO ORDER.

PLEASE RISE AS MR. FRANK REDDICK LEADS US -- LEADS US IN
THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

[PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE]

GOOD EVENING.

I JUST WANTED TO BASICALLY STATE TONIGHT IS THE PUBLIC
HEARING TO DISCUSS TWO ISSUES.

THE FIRST IS THE POSITION OF THE INTERNAL PERFORMANCE
AUDITOR, AND THE SECOND IS THE ELIMINATION OF THE VETO
POWERS OF COUNTY MAYOR AS THEY CURRENTLY EXIST WITHIN THE
HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY CHARTER.

THOSE ARE THE TWO ISSUES.

IF ANYONE IN THE PUBLIC WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK ON THOSE ISSUES
TONIGHT, THERE ARE FORMS IN THE BACK OF THE ROOM.

PLEASE FILL THOSE OUT.

AS WE GO THROUGH AND HAVE PUBLIC COMMENT, WE'LL CALL THE
SPEAKERS UP IN THE ORDER THAT WE RECEIVE THEIR FORMS.

YOU'LL HAVE THREE MINUTES TO SPEAK ON EACH ISSUE IF YOU'D LIKE.

SO IF YOU WANT TO SPEAK ON BOTH ISSUES, YOU WILL HAVE SIX MINUTES, BUT YOU DO NEED TO FILL OUT A FORM FOR EACH ITEM THAT YOU WANT TO SPEAK ON.

OKAY?

IF THERE'S NO QUESTIONS FROM OUR BOARD MEMBERS, WE'LL JUMP RIGHT INTO THE PUBLIC HEARING.

MR. WHITE, DO YOU HAVE A QUESTION?

>>GERALD WHITE: WELL, ARE WE GOING TO HAVE THE -- THE ATTORNEY, OUR COUNTY ATTORNEY, SPEAK TO US IN ADVANCE BEFORE WE OPEN UP FOR PUBLIC -- INTRODUCE THE RESOLUTIONS, THINGS OF THAT NATURE, MAKE SURE THAT --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: I'M SORRY, MR. WHITE.

I'M NOT SURE --

>>GERALD WHITE: CAN YOU HAVE THE DIFFERENT RESOLUTIONS --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OH, YES.

ACTUALLY, I WILL.

I UNDERSTAND.

SORRY ABOUT THAT.

GOOD EVENING.

>>DEBORA CROMARTIE-MINCEY: GOOD EVENING, EVERYONE.

DEBORA CROMARTIE-MINCEY, COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: THANK YOU, MR. WHITE.

>>DEBORA CROMARTIE-MINCEY: AT OUR LAST MEETING YOU ASKED

FOR THERE TO BE CHANGES MADE TO THE VETO RESOLUTION.
I WOULD ASSUME YOU ALL HAVE THAT INFORMATION OR HAVE
RECEIVED THAT INFORMATION VIA E-MAIL.
I DID MAKE THE CHANGES THAT YOU-ALL ASKED ME TO MAKE.
AND THE IPA RESOLUTION OR THE RESOLUTION TO REPEAL THE
INTERNAL PERFORMANCE AUDITOR THERE WERE NO CHANGES
SUGGESTED FOR THAT AND THAT RESOLUTION REMAINS AS IS.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

ANY QUESTIONS FROM THE BOARD MEMBERS?

COMMISSIONER PLATT.

>>JAN PLATT: I WAS WONDERING, IS -- NO, I DON'T HAVE ANY
QUESTIONS ABOUT THAT.

I HAVE ANOTHER QUESTION WHEN YOU-ALL FINISH THAT.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

ANY QUESTIONS CONCERNING THIS ISSUE?

COMMISSIONER PLATT.

>>JAN PLATT: THEN -- THEN BEFORE WE START HEARING FROM
PEOPLE, IS THE COUNTY ATTORNEY GOING TO TELL US WHAT --
WHAT -- HOW THIS PROCESS WORKS TONIGHT?

>>MITCHELL THROWER: YES.

WE -- WE COULD HAVE HER COME UP RIGHT NOW OR WE COULD DO IT
AFTERWARDS.

>>JAN PLATT: WELL, BUT SEE, MY CONCERN IS HAVING SAT ON
THIS BOARD FOR A WHILE --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: YES.

>>JAN PLATT: -- THERE'S A TENDENCY FOR PEOPLE TO JUMP --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OH, OKAY.

>>JAN PLATT: -- IN AND TALK ABOUT THIS, THAT, AND THE OTHER.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: I'LL EXPLAIN.

AS CHAIRMAN, I WAS GOING TO LIMIT THE DISCUSSION TO -- AND GOOD POINT, COMMISSIONER PLATT.

AS CHAIRMAN, THESE ARE THE TWO ISSUES THAT ARE BEFORE THE PUBLIC TONIGHT.

I WOULD ASK THE PUBLIC IF YOU WANT TO SPEAK ON ANOTHER ISSUE, OUR NEXT MEETING IS JULY 12th, I BELIEVE, MONDAY, JULY 12th.

YOU'RE WELCOME TO COME BACK AND SPEAK DURING PUBLIC COMMENT DURING THAT PERIOD.

WE'RE LIMITING DISCUSSION TONIGHT TO THESE TWO ISSUES, SO I JUST WANTED TO LET YOU KNOW WE WANT TO HEAR FROM EVERYBODY WHO'S HERE ON THOSE TWO ISSUES, BUT WE WANT TO LIMIT OUR DISCUSSION TO THOSE TWO ISSUES, SO IF -- MR. REDDICK.

>>FRANK REDDICK: MR. CHAIRMAN, I ALSO WANT TO RAISE A QUESTION ABOUT --

>> SIR, YOUR MICROPHONE, PLEASE.

>>FRANK REDDICK: OH, I'M SORRY.

OKAY.

I ALSO WANT TO RAISE A QUESTION ABOUT LIMITING ANY DISCUSSION BETWEEN THE BOARD AND THE PARTICIPANT SO THAT

PROCESS WON'T TAKE PLACE.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: YES.

GOOD POINT.

AND I MEANT TO POINT THAT OUT.

DURING THE PUBLIC COMMENT I WOULD APPRECIATE THE BOARD MEMBERS NOT TO ASK ANY QUESTIONS.

I DON'T THINK IT'S FAIR TO THE PUBLIC TO COME UP.

IF ONE INDIVIDUAL COMES UP AND FOR ONE REASON OR ANOTHER OUR BOARD MEMBERS START ASKING THEM QUESTIONS AND THEY SIT HERE FOR 30 MINUTES, THE NEXT PERSON ONLY GETS THREE MINUTES.

TO MAKE IT CONSISTENT AND MAKE IT FAIR FOR EVERYONE, WE'RE GOING TO LIMIT IT TO THREE MINUTES EACH.

AT THE VERY END, WHEN WE GET INTO, ON OUR AGENDA, DISCUSSION BY CHARTER REVIEW BOARD, IF SOMEONE -- A BOARD MEMBER WOULD LIKE TO ASK THE MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC WHO MADE THE COMMENT AND THEY ARE STILL HERE A QUESTION, WE CAN ENTERTAIN THAT AT THAT POINT, BUT I DO NOT WANT TO INTERRUPT THE PUBLIC COMMENT WHILE THEY'RE COMING FORWARD. I JUST DON'T THINK IT'S RIGHT, AND I THINK IT'LL FLOW BETTER JUST TO HAVE THE PUBLIC GIVE THEIR COMMENTS, AND LIKE I SAID, IF YOU WANT TO ASK A QUESTION AT THE END AND THEY'RE STILL PRESENT, WE CAN DO THAT AT THAT TIME.

OKAY.

>>GERALD WHITE: MR. CHAIRMAN.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MR. WHITE.

>>GERALD WHITE: I JUST WANTED TO SAY I SEE THAT MARY ANN STILES IS IN THE AUDIENCE TONIGHT, AND I HOPE THAT SHE'S GOING TO MAKE PUBLIC COMMENTS, BUT I HOPE ALSO THAT SHE STAY WHEN THE BOARD TAKE UP THE ISSUE BECAUSE I HAVE QUESTIONS FOR HER, AND I HOPE SHE WOULD STAY AND ANSWER MY QUESTIONS BEFORE WE CAST A VOTE TONIGHT.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

>>JAN PLATT: WELL, BUT POINT OF ORDER.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: YES, ACTUALLY -- COMMISSIONER PLATT.

>>JAN PLATT: BUT THEY -- TONIGHT WE'RE JUST TALKING ABOUT TWO ISSUES.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: YES.

>>JAN PLATT: WE'RE NOT TALKING ABOUT COUNTY MAYOR OR ANYTHING ELSE.

THE TWO ISSUES ARE THE VETO AND THE INTERNAL AUDITOR, SO I WOULD HOPE THAT EVERYBODY REMEMBERS THAT THAT'S WHAT THIS PUBLIC HEARING'S ABOUT, PERIOD.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: YES.

THOSE ARE THE TWO ISSUES, AND DO HAVE -- WE HAVE INVITED MARY ANN STILES TO ATTEND -- TO COME TO A FUTURE MEETING.

I DON'T KNOW IF EDITH HAS HEARD BACK FROM --

>>GERALD WHITE: I JUST WANT TO SAY IN ADVANCE NOW THIS IS A DEMOCRACY, AND I KNOW WE HAVE TWO PARTICULAR ISSUES THAT'S ON THE AGENDA TONIGHT, BUT WE'RE NOT GOING TO BEAT

DOWN THE CITIZENS TONIGHT IF THEY SPEAK JUST A LITTLE BIT
OUTSIDE OF WHAT WE PERCEIVED TO BE --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: WELL, LET ME JUST MENTION, IT WAS
ADVERTISED AS A PUBLIC HEARING ON THOSE TWO ISSUES.

IF WE START GETTING ON TOPICS THAT WEREN'T ADVERTISED, I
DON'T THINK IT'S FAIR TO THE PUBLIC BECAUSE I'M SURE
THERE'S A LOT OF OTHER PEOPLE THAT MIGHT HAVE WANTED TO
COME AND HEAR CERTAIN OTHER ISSUES, SO I THINK TO BE FAIR
TO EVERYBODY AND WHAT -- THE WAY IT WAS ADVERTISED IS THESE
TWO ISSUES.

THAT'S WHAT WE NEED TO ADDRESS TONIGHT, SO IF SOMEBODY
COMES UP AND STARTS TALKING ABOUT ANOTHER ISSUE, WE CAN
INVITE THEM BACK TO THE PUBLIC COMMENT JUNE -- JULY 13th? -
- 12th, 12th.

MONDAY, JULY 12th, THEY CAN COME BACK TO OUR REGULAR
MEETING.

PUBLIC COMMENT AT THAT POINT, THEY CAN TALK ABOUT ANYTHING
THEY WANT FOR THE THREE MINUTES THAT THEY HAVE.

>>GERALD WHITE: I UNDERSTAND THAT, COMMISSIONER PLATT AND
MR. CHAIR.

I JUST WANTED TO, YOU KNOW -- DON'T -- I'M JUST NOT IN --
I'M NOT IN THE GAME OF TRYING TO BEAT DOWN A CITIZEN NOT TO
SPEAK THEIR MIND.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

>>GERALD WHITE: AND SO I JUST WANT TO BE -- I WANT THE

CHAIR TO BE ON GUARD ABOUT NOT ALLOWING THE PUBLIC TO BE FREE IN THEIR COMMENTS RELATED TO THE AGENDAED ITEMS.

I'M NOT -- THAT'S NOT THE MESSAGE I WANT TO SEND TONIGHT, THAT WE'RE TRYING TO BEAT DOWN THE PUBLIC COMMENTS RELATED TO THE ISSUES THAT ARE ON THE AGENDA.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

THANK YOU, MR. WHITE.

COMMISSIONER PLATT.

>>JAN PLATT: WITH ALL DUE RESPECT, THAT IS NOT THE ISSUE.

>>GERALD WHITE: I JUST WANTED TO MAKE THAT CLEAR.

THAT WAS JUST MY POINT.

>>JAN PLATT: THIS IS A LEGAL PROCESS --

>>GERALD WHITE: I UNDERSTAND.

>>JAN PLATT: -- AND YOU JUST DON'T GO OFF INTO SPACE.

>>GERALD WHITE: I UNDERSTAND THAT.

>>JAN PLATT: VERY PRESCRIBED PROCESS.

>>GERALD WHITE: I UNDERSTAND.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: ANY FURTHER COMMENTS BEFORE WE START WITH THE PUBLIC COMMENT?

OKAY.

ANYONE ELSE?

OKAY.

LIKE I SAID, I'M GOING TO GO THROUGH THE LIST.

IF YOU HAVEN'T COMPLETED A LIST AND -- A FORM AND YOU WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK DURING THIS PUBLIC HEARING, PLEASE COMPLETE

THE FORMS.

THE FORMS ARE IN THE BACK.

THERE'S A FORM FOR EACH TOPIC, THE ELECTED -- THE VOTE -- VETO POWER OF AN ELECTED COUNTY MAYOR FORM AND THERE'S ONE ON THE INTERNAL PERFORMANCE AUDITOR, SO IF YOU'D LIKE TO SPEAK ON BOTH OF THOSE TOPICS, YOU NEED TO SPEAK -- FILL OUT BOTH OF THOSE FORMS.

OKAY.

WE'LL START THE PUBLIC COMMENT.

FIRST UP IS MR. STANLEY GRAY.

PLEASE INTRODUCE YOURSELF AND LET US KNOW WHAT TOPIC YOU'RE SPEAKING ON.

>> GOOD EVENING.

I'M SPEAKING ON THE REFERENDUM, I GUESS, TO DELETE OR THAT'S WITH REFERENCE TO THE COUNTY MAYOR.

SHORT AND SIMPLE, I DON'T THINK THAT THIS SHOULD BE VOTED ON AT THIS TIME, AND MY REASON FOR IT IS IS I BELIEVE THAT WITHIN THE CITIZENS OF THIS COUNTY, THERE'S FAR TOO MUCH CONFUSION AS TO WHAT THE COUNTY MAYOR IS, THE ROLE OF THE COUNTY MAYOR, AND I THINK --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: ACTUALLY, LET ME INTERRUPT YOU A SECOND.

I'M SORRY.

COMMISSIONER PLATT.

>>JAN PLATT: IT'S THE VETO, NOT THE COUNTY MAYOR.

>> I UNDERSTAND.

>>JAN PLATT: BUT YOU SAID THAT YOU'RE HERE TO SPEAK TO THE ISSUE OF DELETION OF THE COUNTY MAYOR.

WE'RE NOT DELETING THAT, WE'RE JUST DELETING THE VETO.

>> THANK YOU FOR YOUR POINT OF CLARIFICATION.

I'M HERE TO SPEAK SPECIFICALLY TO EXACTLY WHAT MS. PLATT SAID.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: THE VETO POWER.

>> BUT MY REASON THAT I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT WE SHOULD VOTE OR YOU SHOULD VOTE ON THE VETO POWER IS IS THAT THE ROLE OF THE COUNTY MAYOR -- THERE'S TOO MUCH CONFUSION WITHIN THE COUNTY, AND I THINK THAT -- IF YOU ACTUALLY VOTED ON THIS, I THINK THAT IT WOULD ADD TO THE OVERALL STATE OF CONFUSION THAT MANY OF THE CONSTITUENTS HAVE WITHIN THE COUNTY.

WITHOUT -- IF I WOULD SAY ANYTHING MORE, I WOULD BE OFF OF THE ACTUAL TOPIC PER SE, BUT THAT'S WHAT I'M OFFERING TO YOU.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

>> MR. GRAY, MAY I HAVE YOUR ADDRESS FOR THE RECORD, PLEASE.

>> MY ADDRESS IS 3020 WEST HARBOR VIEW AVENUE, TAMPA, FLORIDA 33611.

>> THANK YOU.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

THANK YOU, MR. GRAY.

NEXT UP, MS. MARY ANN STILES.

MRS. STILES, CAN YOU PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS.

>> YES.

I AM MARY ANN STILES.

MY ADDRESS IS 16201 SONSOLES DE AVILA, TAMPA, FLORIDA.

I AM GOING TO SPEAK ON THE VETO POWER.

I WANTED TO GIVE YOU A LITTLE BIT OF HISTORY, AND I HOPE THREE MINUTES IS ENOUGH -- AND BY THE WAY, I HAVE ACKNOWLEDGED THE INVITATION AND HAVE NEVER GOTTEN A RESPONSE.

I JUST GAVE THE E-MAIL TO MS. STEWART SO THAT SHE COULD FIND OUT WHY I HAVEN'T HAD A RESPONSE.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

>> BUT CONTRARY TO PUBLIC RUMOR, I HAVE.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

THANK YOU.

>> WHEN A COMMITTEE GOT TOGETHER ABOUT FIVE YEARS AGO, it LOOKED AT THE THREE AREAS OF GOVERNMENT, AND WE HAD LONG DISCUSSIONS WITH FRED KARL AND AN ATTORNEY NAMED BARRY RICHARD, AND WE LOOKED AT THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE FORM, THE COUNTY MAYOR FORM, AND THE COUNTY CHAIR ADMINISTRATIVE FORM.

THAT IS IN CHAPTER 125.84 IF YOU HAVE -- IT HAS NOT BEEN SHARED WITH YOU.

ONE OF THE THINGS THAT WE DETERMINED WAS THE VETO POWER WAS

THE ONE THAT MADE US INTERESTED IN THE FIRST ONE BECAUSE OF THE FACT THAT WE THOUGHT THAT IF YOU HAD SOMEBODY THAT SERVED ON THE SAME COMMITTEE WITH THE MEMBERS, IT COULD CAUSE CONFUSION AND WOULD NOT HAVE THE -- THE -- THE I GUESS INDEPENDENCE THAT WE SOUGHT.

ALTHOUGH ORLANDO HAS THAT SYSTEM AND IT SEEMS TO WORK VERY WELL, WE JUST DID NOT THINK IT WOULD WORK IN HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY.

WE DO NOT BELIEVE IT'S UNCONSTITUTIONAL.

THE MEMORANDUM THAT YOU'VE GIVEN FOCUSES ON FINAL BUDGET, AND THE STATUTE IS VERY CLEAR ABOUT WHAT THE COUNTY MAYOR CAN DO.

WE STAYED WITHIN THOSE FRAMEWORKS.

WE ALSO DETERMINED THAT IF THE -- THE BUDGET, THE MILLAGE, EVERYTHING IS STILL APPROVED BY THE BOARD.

THAT CANNOT BE TAKEN AWAY BY STATUTE, BUT IF -- IF AN INDIVIDUAL ITEM CAN BE VETOED, WE ALSO LEFT IN THERE THAT THE MONIES THAT WOULD BE -- THAT WOULD GO TO THAT BECAUSE OF THE POWER OF THE BOARD WOULD NOT BE EXPENDED BY THE MAYOR, IT WOULD HAVE TO GO BACK -- IT WOULD HAVE TO BE TAKEN OUT ALSO.

I THINK THAT YOU-ALL DOING THIS NOW IS -- IS -- IS DISCOURTEOUS TO THE PUBLIC.

I THINK THAT YOU HAVE CONFUSED THE PUBLIC TO THE POINT THAT I GET CALLS.

I WALK STREETS AND TALK TO PEOPLE TO GET SIGNATURES, AND THEY SAY, BUT YOU -- THE BOARD IS ALREADY TRYING TO TAKE THIS OFF, AND I SAID, WELL, IT'S NOT THE BOARD, IT'S THEIR ALTER EGO.

WHAT THEY'RE DOING IS WHAT JIM NORMAN SAID THAT THEY WOULDN'T DO RIGHT AFTER THE ELECTION BY BEING GIVEN THE SAME MEMO, AND THEY ELECTED NOT TO DO IT BECAUSE THE PEOPLE HAD ALREADY DECIDED, AND NOW YOU-ALL ARE IN A RUSH TO MAKE IT HAPPEN BEFORE -- DURING THE SAME ELECTION THAT WE'RE TRYING TO GET A COUNTY MAYOR ON THE BALLOT, AND IT'S CAUSING THE CONFUSION, YOU WOULD NOT BELIEVE, WITH THE PUBLIC, AND I GOTTA TELL YOU, I THINK YOU OWE THE PUBLIC AN APOLOGY FOR DOING THIS AT THIS TIME.

THERE IS NO NEED TO DO IT NOW.

IF WE DON'T GET ON THE BALLOT, THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS THEMSELVES CAN TAKE IT OFF AT ANY TIME.

IT'S NOT SOMETHING THE CHARTER REVIEW BOARD NEEDS TO DO, AND I JUST TELL YOU, I JUST CAN'T -- I JUST -- IT'S JUST BEYOND ME THAT YOU'RE DOING IT NOW.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

THANK YOU, MS. STILES.

OKAY.

NEXT UP, MR. EDWIN CRAWFORD.

GOOD EVENING.

PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS.

>> SURE.

IT'S ED CRAWFORD, 8908 BEELER DRIVE IN TAMPA.

I KNOW MANY OF YOU, AND I THINK THAT UNDER NORMAL CIRCUMSTANCES, IT WOULD BE A JOYFUL MEETING.

THIS IS NOT ONE OF THOSE MEETINGS.

COMMISSIONER PLATT WILL -- FORMER COMMISSIONER PLATT --

IT'S HARD TO BREAK THAT COMMISSIONER PLATT, BUT WE HAVE TALKED NUMEROUS TIMES OVER THE YEARS ABOUT THIS ISSUE.

THE CHARTER REVIEW BOARD HAS REPEATEDLY -- AND JAN HAS BEEN ON MAYBE ALL OF THEM AT THIS POINT -- HAS ALWAYS CONSIDERED HAVING AN ELECTED COUNTY MAYOR.

IT COMES UP EVERY FIVE YEARS BEFORE CHARTER -- CHARTER REVIEW, AND YET IT'S NEVER BEEN PUT ON THE BALLOT, AND WHY HAS IT NEVER BEEN PUT ON THE BALLOT?

WELL, THERE'S A MILLION OR SO PEOPLE IN HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, AND YET WHEN IT COMES TIME TO APPOINT THE FOLKS WHO SERVE ON THIS COMMITTEE, THEY'RE APPOINTED BY THE COMMISSIONERS, AND IT SEEMS TO ME THAT -- THAT THE BODY IS REPRESENTING SEVEN PEOPLE, NOT A MILLION PEOPLE.

AND WHAT I WOULD ASK IS THAT AS -- AS MS. STILES SO ELOQUENTLY POINTED OUT, THERE'S NO REASON TO TAKE THIS TO THE VOTERS AGAIN.

THEY JUST APPROVED THIS IN 2008.

IF THIS OTHER ISSUE DOESN'T MAKE IT ON THE BALLOT AND DOESN'T BECOME LAW IN HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, DOESN'T BECOME

PART OF THE CHARTER, THEN THERE -- REALLY THE POINT IS MOOT.

IF THE COUNTY ATTORNEYS ARE CERTAIN THAT THIS IS NOT LEGAL, THEN IT CAN BE STRUCK DOWN FOR LEGAL REASONS, BUT THE HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY COMMISSION CAN PUT ANYTHING ON THE BALLOT AT ANY TIME THAT THEY WANT TO.

THEY DON'T NEED THIS BODY, AND SO IF THERE'S AN ISSUE THAT THEY WANT TO RESOLVE AND THEY'RE CONCERNED THAT -- THAT THIS IS A PROBLEM WITH THE CHARTER, THEN LET THEM PUT IT ON THE BALLOT.

THERE'S NO REASON FOR THIS BODY TO CONSIDER IT.

THANK YOU.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

THANK YOU.

JARVIS EL-AMIN.

>> EL-AMIN.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: EL-AMIN.

MR. JARVIS EL-AMIN.

PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND YOUR ADDRESS.

THANK YOU.

>> YES.

JARVIS EL-AMIN 4818 EAST 99th AVENUE, TAMPA, FLORIDA 33617.

I JUST WANT TO SAY TO THE MEMBERS OF THE CHARTER REVIEW BOARD THANK YOU FOR LETTING THE PUBLIC COME TALK ABOUT TWO SERIOUS MATTERS.

FIRST OF ALL, I THINK THAT WE DON'T NEED TO ELIMINATE THE COUNTY INTERNAL AUDITOR, THE COUNTY AUDITOR.

I THINK WHAT WE NEED TO DO IS GET SOMEBODY MORE COMPETENT, AND BECAUSE PAT FRANK'S OVER TO THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT, SHE GOT HER HANDS FULL.

SHE CANNOT BE AUDITING, MAKING BUDGETS, AND DOING ALL THESE THINGS.

I MEAN, PUTTING TOO MUCH ON HER.

IF YOU LISTEN TO HER VOICEMAIL, SHE'S TELLING YOU, HEY, BUDGET CUTS, WE CAN'T DO THIS, WE CAN'T DO THIS.

AND NOW YOU'RE TRYING TO PUT SOME MORE ON HER.

IT JUST DON'T MAKE SENSE.

THIS IS LIKE COMMON SENSE, BOARD MEMBERS.

THIS IS COMMON SENSE, AND THAT'S WHAT WE LIKE TO ELECT ELECTED OFFICIALS BECAUSE WE THINK THAT THEY GOT SOME COMMON SENSE ENOUGH TO DO THINGS THAT QUALITY LEADERSHIP CALL FOR, SO DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT GETTING RID OF THE INTERNAL AUDITOR, JUST GET SOMEBODY COMPETENT.

VET THEM RIGHT.

VET THEM LIKE THEY DO IN CONGRESS.

GET SOMEBODY GOOD.

ON THE SECOND MATTER OF THE -- REPEALING THE VETO POWER, YES, REPEAL IT.

WE GOT TO REPEAL IT NOW BECAUSE WE KNOW WHAT THIS IS.

EVERYBODY OVER HERE IS SMILING AND LOOKING.

IT'S A BACK-DOOR APPROACH TO GET VETO POWER, THEN COME BACK
AND GET THE COUNTY MAYOR.

YOU ALREADY KNOW WHAT THAT IS.

CALL A SPADE A SPADE.

IT IS WHAT IT IS.

YOU KNOW, AND SO -- PEOPLE SAY IT WAS DONE WRONG, THERE'S
NO NEED FOR THIS BOARD TO DO IT.

REPEAL IT, AND THEN IF YOU GET A COUNTY MAYOR, THEN YOU
COME BACK AND GET THE VETO POWER.

BUT REPEAL IT.

WHY ASK FOR SOMETHING YOU AIN'T GOT YET?

ANOTHER CASE, BOARD MEMBERS, COMMON SENSE.

AND THIS IS WHAT OUR GOVERNMENT -- COUNTY GOVERNMENT IS
SUFFERING FROM NOW.

WE SEEN THE AS THE WORLD TURNS DOWN HERE AT COUNTY CENTER
WITH THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR AND WITH THE -- ALL OF THIS
GOING ON WITH THE COUNTY ATTORNEY.

COME ON, MAN, THIS IS EMBARRASSING FOR OUR COUNTY.

LET'S DON'T NOW COME BACK AGAIN WITH SOME MORE AS THE WORLD
TURNS, AND LET'S GET IT RIGHT.

WE DON'T NEED NO DYSFUNCTIONAL GOVERNMENT.

LET'S MAKE THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT AND THE -- THE HOME RULE
CHARTER THAT WE HAVE NOW, LET'S MAKE IT WORK.

LET'S GET A GOOD COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR.

LET'S MAKE IT WORK.

LET'S MOVE THIS COUNTY FORWARD.

I JUST COME FROM ATLANTA.

I'M LOOKING AT THIS TOWN.

IF I WASN'T 50, I'D MOVE TO ATLANTA.

THEY GOT TRANSIT.

YOU'D LIKE A TOWN THAT GOT EXCITED?

LET'S BRING THE TOWN ALIVE, AND YOU CAN START WITH YOUR
LEADERSHIP, OKAY.

START RIGHT NOW.

WE REALLY WANT YOU TO DO IT.

THANK YOU.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: THANK YOU.

NEXT UP MRS. ROSEMARY GOUDREAU.

PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS.

>> HELLO.

I'M ROSEMARY GOUDREAU.

MY ADDRESS IS 2901 WEST TAMBAY BOULEVARD, TAMPA 33611.

I APPRECIATE THE OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK TODAY, AND I'M
ESPECIALLY HAPPY TO SEE COMMISSIONER PLATT AND THAT NEW
LITTLE RAGTOP SHE'S GOT GROWING ON TOP OF HER HEAD.

THE REASON I CAME WAS TO ADDRESS THE ISSUE OF THE COUNTY --
THE VETO POWER FOR THE COUNTY MAYOR.

GOVERNMENT HAS GOTTEN IN THE WAY OF CITIZENS WHO HAVE TRIED
TO CHANGE THE STRUCTURE OF GOVERNMENT IN HILLSBOROUGH
BELIEVING THAT THERE'S A BETTER WAY, THERE'S A BETTER WAY

FOR HILLSBOROUGH TO BE MORE COMPETITIVE, MORE WITH OTHER URBAN COUNTIES IN FLORIDA, AND SO A CITIZENS GROUP PUT -- COLLECTED THEIR OWN PRIVATE MONEY TO GET THE PETITION ON THE BALLOT SO THAT CITIZENS COULD VOTE, AND GUESS WHAT? CITIZENS IN THE VERY LAST ELECTION SAID THEY WANTED TO GIVE A COUNTY MAYOR VETO POWER, AND IN THE WORLD OF PUBLIC OPINION POLLING IN POLITICS, THERE'S NO BETTER POLL THAN A VOTE, AND IN JUST THE LAST VOTE CITIZENS SAID THEY WANTED THIS.

I APPLAUD YOUR SERVICE ON THIS GOVERNMENT BOARD, AND I JUST ASK THAT AS YOU MAKE YOUR DECISIONS YOU ASK YOURSELF HOW DOES THIS SERVE CITIZENS.

HOW DOES THIS SERVE CITIZENS?

THE CITIZENS HAVE SAID -- AND HAVE COLLECTED THEIR OWN MONEY AND WALKED DOOR TO DOOR -- THAT THEY WANT A CHANGE, THEY WANT TO GIVE PEOPLE THE OPPORTUNITY TO VOTE ON HAVING A CHANGE.

THEY SAID IT THEMSELVES.

I -- THE ONLY ANSWER TO THE WHY QUESTION THAT I'VE HEARD IS THAT THERE'S CLUTTER IN OUR CHARTER.

I'VE NOT HEARD ANYBODY SAY THAT.

I TALK TO A LOT OF PEOPLE IN TOWN, AND NOWHERE HAVE I HEARD SOMEBODY COMPLAIN THERE'S CLUTTER IN THE CHARTER, SO DOES THAT TRUMP CITIZENS WHO HAVE PUT IN THEIR MUSCLE AND THEIR EFFORT AND THEIR SWEAT GOING DOOR TO DOOR TO MAKE A

DIFFERENCE IN GOVERNMENT?

SO AS YOU MAKE THIS DECISION, I JUST ASK THAT YOU KEEP IN
MIND WHAT SERVES CITIZENS.

THANK YOU.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

THANK YOU.

IS THERE ANYONE ELSE WHO WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK DURING THE
PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD?

>> [INAUDIBLE]

>>GERALD WHITE: NO, NO.

WE HAVE --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: ANYBODY ELSE?

>>FRANK REDDICK: [INAUDIBLE]

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

IT LOOKS LIKE --

>>GERALD WHITE: MS. WILLIAMS, DID YOU WANT TO SPEAK?

>> NO, SIR.

>>FRANK REDDICK: ALL RIGHT.

MOVE TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC COMMENT.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: SECOND?

>> [INAUDIBLE]

>>MITCHELL THROWER: ALL IN FAVOR -- ANY DISCUSSION ON IT
BEFORE WE VOTE?

OKAY.

ALL IN FAVOR PLEASE RAISE YOUR RIGHT HAND.

ANYONE OPPOSED?

OKAY.

THE MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.

OKAY.

NEXT UP IS DISCUSSION, AND I'M GOING TO SUGGEST THAT WE START BY DISCUSSING THE VETO POWER OF THE ELECTED COUNTY MAYOR SINCE THAT'S WHAT THE MAJORITY OF THE PUBLIC SPOKE ON.

IT MAKES SENSE TO DISCUSS THAT FIRST JUST BECAUSE WE'VE GOT THE PUBLIC HERE.

I'D LIKE TO -- IF THERE ARE INDIVIDUALS YOU WOULD LIKE TO ASK QUESTIONS OF OR IF THERE'S ANY DISCUSSION AMONGST US, PLEASE -- WE'LL START RIGHT NOW.

MR. WHITE.

>>GERALD WHITE: YES.

I'D LIKE MRS. STILES TO COME UP AND ANSWER THE QUESTION BECAUSE I MADE THE MOTION, MR. CHAIR, TO DRAFT THE ORIGINAL LANGUAGE FOR THIS, AND WITH THE WISDOM OF COMMISSIONER PLATT, IT WAS FINE-TUNED TO SOMETHING THAT WOULD FIT AND THAT COULD PASS.

YOU KNOW, IT DOESN'T HAVE A DANCING PARTNER, AND SO THAT WAS THE REASON -- IT HADN'T GONE TO THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT TO BE LOOKED AT.

I'M CONCERNED HOW VETO POWER -- THAT'S WHY WE -- I SAID JUST SCRAP THE WHOLE THING BECAUSE I'M JUST SO AFRAID THAT

THIS WILL ADVERSELY AFFECT THE MINORITY CITIZENS.

WE ONLY HAVE AT THIS TIME ONE MINORITY CITIZEN THAT SIT ON THE COMMISSION THAT REPRESENTS THE MINORITY COMMUNITY, AND SO OUR ISSUES, THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN/HISPANIC ISSUES COULD BE VETOED OUT OF A BUDGET, OUT OF -- OUT OF GOVERNMENT, AND SO THAT'S THE MAIN REASON WHY I -- I -- MY THRUST TO REMOVE IT FROM THE BALLOT, AND YOU HAVEN'T COME TO ANY OF THESE MEETINGS.

WE'VE BEEN MEETING FOR MONTHS.

YOU HAVEN'T COME INTO THE HOOD, THE BLACK COMMUNITY, AND SPOKE WITH ME.

YOU HAVEN'T CALLED ME AT HOME.

>> I HAVE SPOKEN TO THE BLACK COMMUNITY.

>>KEVIN WHITE: YOU KNOW, YOU HAVEN'T SHOT UP A FLARE --

>> [INDISCERNIBLE CROSS TALK]

THAT'S NOT TRUE.

>>GERALD WHITE: -- AND SO I ACTED ON WHAT I BELIEVED TO BE SO.

IT'S BEEN GOING ON FOR YEARS.

>> I KNOW, IT'S BEEN --

>>GERALD WHITE: THIS IS THE FIRST THE TIME I'VE HAD A CONVERSATION WITH YOU, AND SO I THINK IT'S SOMETHING THAT DON'T FIT HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY GOVERNMENT.

IF THERE WAS A FIRST STEP TO TAKE WITHOUT VETO POWER UP FRONT, IT WOULD BE AN ELECTED COUNTY CHAIR, AND SO THIS IS

YOUR MOMENT.

LET ME HEAR WHAT YOU GOT TO SAY.

>> WELL, LET ME, FIRST OF ALL, START WITH THE -- THE FEDERAL LAW AS TO WHETHER OR NOT IT DISCRIMINATES.

I READ THE LETTER THAT YOU HAVE IN YOUR PACKAGE THAT WAS GIVEN TO YOU BY YOUR COUNSEL, AND I THINK IT'S PRETTY CLEAR THAT THEY'VE ALREADY SAID THAT THEY REALLY DIDN'T SEE AN ISSUE, BUT THE REASON THAT THEY CANNOT ADDRESS IT AT THIS POINT IF THEY WERE GOING TO ADDRESS IT IS BECAUSE IT'S A CITIZENS INITIATIVE, AND WITH THE CITIZENS INITIATIVE, THEY WAIT UNTIL THE WHOLE THING PASSES AND THEN THEY ACT, SO THAT'S WHY THAT WAS DONE, BUT I THINK I -- I THINK SOME OF YOU -- MAYBE I SHOULD DO A LITTLE HISTORY.

WE STARTED THIS IN 2005, AND WE HAD TO DO TWO PETITIONS. GOD, WE DID NOT WANT TO DO TWO PETITIONS BECAUSE IT ENDED UP COSTING \$250,000 TO DO TWO PETITIONS.

BUT COUNSEL, VERY GOOD CONSTITUTIONAL LAWYERS TOLD US THAT IF WE HAD THE VETO POWER ON THE COUNTY MAYOR THAT IT WOULD BE A SINGLE-SUBJECT ISSUE AND IT WOULD BE KICKED OUT AS UNCONSTITUTIONAL FOR BEING A SINGLE SUBJECT, NOT -- IN OTHER WORDS, NOT BEING A SINGLE SUBJECT, SO WE DID TWO PETITIONS, WHICH DOUBLED THE COST OF GETTING THE PETITIONS BY THE CITIZENS.

WE WENT FORWARD AND WE GOT -- WE KNOW THAT WE GOT OUR -- OUR PETITIONS IN 2006.

WE KNOW THAT.

WE KNOW HOW MANY WE TURNED IN, WE KNOW HOW MANY WERE GOOD, AND WE KNOW HOW MANY WE PAID FOR BECAUSE WE HAD TO PAY \$1.50 FOR THE SECOND ONE AND \$2 FOR THE FIRST ONE, SO WE KNEW HOW MANY WE HAD GIVEN THE SUPERVISOR, BUT THE SUPERVISOR CAME BACK AND SAID THAT WE HAD NOT GOTTEN THEM, THAT WE WERE ABOUT 800 SHORT OR 1200 SHORT OR SOMETHING. THERE WAS A DISCREPANCY IN THE NUMBERS, AND -- OF WHAT WE TURNED IN VERSUS WHAT HE SAID HE HAD.

HE SAID HE DID IT IN WEIGHING THE BALLOT.

I DON'T UNDERSTAND.

I NEVER HAVE UNDERSTOOD HOW HE CAME UP WITH THE NUMBER HE DID, BUT HE RULED THAT WE DID NOT HAVE ENOUGH, AND WE ALL LOOKED AT EACH OTHER AND SAID, WELL, WHAT DO WE DO NOW? AND BUDDY JOHNSON, THE SUPERVISOR AT THE TIME, CAME TO US AND SAID, YOU HAVE SIX MONTHS TO GET YOUR -- YOUR VOTES. YOU'VE ONLY USED FOUR MONTHS OF IT BECAUSE WE GOT IT IN FOUR MONTHS LAST TIME FOR TWO PETITIONS, AND YOU HAVE -- YOU CAN GO AHEAD AND COLLECT FOR THE REST OF THE TIME, AND I SAID, I THINK THAT'S GOING TO BE A PROBLEM IN THAT WE DRAFTED THIS LANGUAGE TO BE ON THE 2006 BALLOT, AND HE AND OTHERS SAID, NO, I DON'T THINK IT'S GOING TO BE A PROBLEM, BUT WE HAD NO CHOICE AT THE TIME BECAUSE WE'D ALREADY SPENT \$250,000, AND WE DECIDED THAT WE WOULD GO AHEAD AND GET THE REST OF THE VOTES AND HE'D PUT IT ON THE BALLOT FOR 2008.

YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENED IN 2008.

THE COURTS RULED THAT IT SHOULD HAVE HAD ANOTHER DATE ON IT.

I'M NOT SURE THE COURT WAS RIGHT, BUT, YOU KNOW, I'M AN ATTORNEY, AND I KNOW THAT ARGUMENTS CAN GO BOTH WAYS, SO WE ENDED UP WITHOUT HAVING THE COUNTY MAYOR ON THE 2008 BALLOT BECAUSE THE COURTS TOOK IT OFF, BUT THEY NEVER TOOK OFF THE SECOND PETITION, AND THAT'S WHAT IS ON THE BALLOT.

THAT PETITION IS FOR VETO POWER OVER ORDINANCES AND ITEMS IN THE BUDGET.

IT DOES NOT TAKE AWAY THE BOARD'S RIGHT TO DO A FINAL BUDGET, IT DOES NOT TAKE AWAY THEIR RIGHT TO DO MILLAGE.

IT DOES GIVE THEM VETO POWER, AND THEN THERE IS APPROVAL -- THERE IS -- THE VETO CAN BE OVERRIDDEN BY A MAJORITY VOTE.

IT'S NOT ANY DIFFERENT THAN THE GOVERNOR WORKS WITH THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE, IT'S NOT ANY DIFFERENT THAN OTHER COUNTIES WORK WITH THEIR COUNTY MAYORS.

MAYBE WE'VE MADE SOME MISTAKES, MAYBE WE SHOULD HAVE CALLED IT AN ELECTED EXECUTIVE INSTEAD OF A MAYOR, BUT ALL THE OTHER COUNTIES THAT WE WENT AND VISITED CALLED THEIR EXECUTIVE A MAYOR, SO WE THOUGHT WE'D DO THAT.

WE ALSO KNOW THAT -- AND I'VE REPRESENTED THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY FOR MANY, MANY, MANY YEARS, AND I KNOW FOR A FACT THAT WHEN BUSINESS COMES TO COMMUNITIES, IT WANTS TO TALK TO THE MAYOR.

IT DOESN'T KNOW WHO A BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONER HEAD IS
SOMETIMES.

SOMETIMES THEY DON'T, BUT IT'S BETTER TO HAVE A MAYOR, AND
THAT'S WHAT WE DECIDED TO CALL IT.

MAYBE THAT WAS A MISTAKE, BUT I WILL TELL YOU THERE WAS A
LOT OF DEDICATED PEOPLE WORKING ON THIS, AND WE FEEL VERY
STRONGLY THAT IF -- WE STILL HAVE 30 DAYS TO GET TO THE
BALLOT.

WE HAVE TILL JULY 31st.

THIS HAS CONFUSED THE PUBLIC, AND I'M SORRY IF I APPEAR A
LITTLE ANGRY, BUT I AM.

WE'VE WORKED SO HARD TO GET HERE, AND THERE'S NO NEED FOR
YOU TO DO THIS, ABSOLUTELY NO NEED.

IF WE DON'T MAKE THE BALLOT IN 2010 AND IT DROPS, THEN THE
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AT ANY ELECTION IT CALLS FOR
ANY REASON CAN PUT THIS -- TAKE THIS OFF THE COUNTY CHARTER
IF IT WANTS, BUT WHAT IS WRONG WITH LETTING THE PEOPLE
DECIDE IF THEY WANT TO HAVE AN ELECTED COUNTY MAYOR, AND
WHAT IS WRONG WITH -- WITH THIS BOARD RECOMMENDING THAT IT
BE ON THE BALLOT?

>>FRANK REDDICK: MR. CHAIRMAN.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: YES, MR. REDDICK.

>>FRANK REDDICK: I'M GOING TO RESPECTFULLY --

>>GERALD WHITE: MR. CHAIR, I STILL HAVE THE FLOOR.

I STILL HAVE THE FLOOR.

>>FRANK REDDICK: WELL, YOU ASKED A QUESTION.

>>GERALD WHITE: AND SHE'S ANSWERING MY QUESTION.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MR. WHITE, LET ME LET MR. REDDICK --
MAYBE HE HAS A QUESTION.

>>GERALD WHITE: WELL, LET ME FINISH UP WITH MS. STILES.

>>FRANK REDDICK: [INAUDIBLE]

>>MITCHELL THROWER: WAIT, WAIT, WAIT, WAIT.

>>GERALD WHITE: LET ME FINISH UP.

>>FRANK REDDICK: [INAUDIBLE]

>>MITCHELL THROWER: WAIT, WAIT, WAIT.

>>FRANK REDDICK: [INAUDIBLE] FOR A PRESENTATION.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: PLEASE.

>>FRANK REDDICK: LET ME HAVE THREE MINUTES.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MR. REDDICK --

>>GERALD WHITE: THANK YOU, MS. STILES.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: PLEASE, LET MR. WHITE FINISH UP.
AND LET REMIND -- PLEASE.

WE -- AS CHAIR, I CAN TALK TO EDITH, AND WE CAN SEE ABOUT
GETTING YOU ON THE AGENDA JULY 12th.

WE HAVE OUR NEXT PUBLIC HEARING JULY 13th.

>> THAT'S WHEN I TOLD HER I COULD BE HERE.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

BECAUSE LIKE I SAID, I WOULD LIKE TO LIMIT YOUR DISCUSSION
TONIGHT ON THE VETO POWER.

>> YOU CAN'T ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS WITH JUST YES, SUPPORT

IT, DON'T SUPPORT IT.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: AND THAT'S WHY I HAVEN'T CUT -- THAT'S WHY I'M NOT CUTTING YOU OFF.

>> THANK YOU.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: THAT'S WHY I'M NOT CUTTING YOU OFF.

>>GERALD WHITE: WELL, AND MR. CHAIR, LET ME JUST FINISH UP AND SIMPLY RESPOND TO HER COMMENTS BECAUSE I BELIEVE THAT WE ARE MAKING THE RIGHT DECISIONS BECAUSE THE CITIZENS ALSO CREATED THIS CHARTER REVIEW BOARD, AND WE ARE CHARGED WITH DOING A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF THE CHARTER, AND THERE'S ANOTHER ISSUE THAT WAS REMOVED -- THAT WE'RE CONSIDERING REMOVING FROM THE CHARTER THAT THE CITIZENS PASSED ALSO THAT WE BELIEVE -- THAT I BELIEVE AT THIS POINT DOESN'T FIT HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY GOVERNMENT, AND SO I BELIEVE I'M CARRYING OUT MY CHARGE AS A MEMBER OF THE CHARTER BOARD IN THIS REGARD, AND SO I THINK VETO POWER GOES TOO FAR AT THIS POINT.

I STAND BY THE BELIEF THAT IF THERE WAS A FIRST STEP FOR LEADERSHIP IN HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, IT WOULD BE AN ELECTED COUNTY CHAIRMAN THAT SITS AS A PART OF THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH, AND SO WE DISAGREE WITH THAT.

I'VE BEEN OPENING UP THE FLOOR TO SIT IN ON EVERY ISSUE HOPING TO SEE YOU SITTING AROUND THE EDITORIAL BOARD OF THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN LEADERS, AND I HAVEN'T SEEN THAT, AND SO I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU CAN TRY AND CALL FOR A CHANGE OF OVER A

MILLION PEOPLE LEAVING OUT A TREMENDOUS PART OF THE COUNTY.

>> AND I -- I DON'T --

>>GERALD WHITE: AND LET ME -- I HAVE -- I'M --

>> I DON'T AGREE WITH THAT.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MR. WHITE, LET MRS. STILES ANSWER.

>>GERALD WHITE: LET ME JUST SAY THIS, MR. CHAIRMAN.

THOSE ARE THE REASONS WHY THIS IS NOT RIGHT BECAUSE ALL PARTS OF THE COUNTY HAS NOT HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE, TO WEIGH IN ON THIS KIND OF THING, AND IT DON'T HAVE A DANCING PARTNER, IT DON'T FIT THE GOVERNMENT, AND, YOU KNOW, THAT'S WHY I'M STRONGLY IN SUPPORT OF REMOVING THIS FROM THE CHARTER.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

THANK YOU, MR. WHITE.

LET US LET MRS. STILES ANSWER THE QUESTION, OKAY.

THANK YOU.

>> THE ONLY RESPONSE I HAVE TO THAT IS WE DO HAVE A LOT OF AFRICAN AMERICANS WORKING WITH US.

WE HAVE TALKED TO THE COMMUNITY, WE'VE WALKED IN THE COMMUNITY, BUT DID YOU KNOW -- HAVE YOU LOOKED AT THE VOTES THAT ELECTED THE VETO POWER?

WE CARRIED THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY ON VETO POWER.

THEY KNOW WHAT WE'RE DOING.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

THANK YOU.

ANY OTHER QUESTIONS FOR MRS. STILES RELATED TO THE VETO
POWER?

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: I HAVE --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MRS. REBACK.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: THANK YOU.

YOU'VE MENTIONED SEVERAL TIMES THAT THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS CAN, IF THEY CHOOSE, REMOVE THIS PROVISION
AND THEY HAVEN'T CHOSE TO DO SO.

DO YOU MEAN TO PUT A REMOVAL PROVISION ON THE BALLOT OR DO
YOU MEAN BY JUST A VOTE OF THE BOARD?

>> THEY -- THEY WOULD HAVE TO PUT IT ON THE BALLOT.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT.

SO THERE'S REALLY --

>> BUT THEY COULD DO IT --

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: IT'S REALLY NOT -- IT'S REALLY
MISLEADING TO SAY THEY COULD DO IT, YOU KNOW, IF THEY
CHOOSE WITH A STROKE OF A PEN.

IT'S NO DIFFERENT FROM YOU -- FROM YOU -- I GUESS SOMETHING
I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO SAY IS THAT THE SUGGESTION THAT
\$250,000 HAS BEEN SPENT SUCCESSIVELY AND THE TIME AND THE
AGGRAVATION AND -- AND ALL THAT, I -- I UNDERSTAND YOUR
COMMITMENT AND THOSE WHO WORK WITH YOU TO PLACING THIS ON
THE BALLOT, BUT THERE IS ANOTHER OPTION AND THAT IS TO COME
TO THIS BOARD AND ASK THIS BOARD TO PLACE IT ON THE BALLOT,
AND ONE THING THAT BOTHERS ME IN WHAT I'VE -- I'VE -- I'VE

NOT PARTICIPATED MYSELF IN ANY OF THIS DEBATE REGARDING COUNTY MAYOR UP UNTIL THIS CONVERSATION WITH YOU RIGHT NOW, BUT WHAT BOTHERS ME AS A CITIZEN OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY AND AS A MEMBER OF THIS BOARD IS THE SUGGESTION THAT I HEAR FROM MS. GOUDREAU, FROM YOU, THAT SOMEHOW IT'S A WASTE OF YOUR TIME TO -- AND -- AND I'M COMING FROM A DIFFERENT PLACE THAN MR. WHITE, BUT THAT IT'S A WASTE OF YOUR TIME TO PERSUADE THIS BOARD TO PUT A COUNTY MAYOR PROVISION ON THE BALLOT BECAUSE SOMEHOW, YOU KNOW, WE'RE ALL PATSIES OF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WHO APPOINTED US.

AND I JUST WANT TO SAY FOR THE RECORD THAT I PERSONALLY WAS APPOINTED BY KEVIN BECKNER.

I HAVE NEVER, EVER HAD ANY DISCUSSION WITH KEVIN BECKNER ABOUT HIS POSITION ON THE ISSUE OF COUNTY MAYOR, NEVER, NOT INITIATED BY HIM, NOT INITIATED BY ME.

I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT HE THINKS ABOUT WHETHER COUNTY MAYOR IS GOOD OR BAD, AND AS A NEW MEMBER OF THIS BOARD AND, FRANKLY, AS A NEW PUBLIC SERVANT -- THIS IS MY FIRST OPPORTUNITY AS A PUBLIC SERVANT -- NO ONE -- NO ONE HAS SOUGHT TO PERSUADE ME THAT IT'S A GOOD IDEA, AND I'M NOT SO SURE IT'S A BAD

IDEA --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: -- BUT --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MRS. REBACK, I HATE TO INTERRUPT YOU,

AND I KNOW THESE TWO ISSUES ARE VERY -- THEY'RE
INTERTWINED.

THE ISSUE IS WE ARE GOING TO INVITE -- WE'RE GOING TO HAVE
MARY ANN STILES IF SHE ACCEPTS COMING JULY 12th.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: I THINK THIS IS RESPONSIVE, MR. CHAIR,
I REALLY DO.

I THINK THIS IS RESPONSIVE TO WHAT I'VE --

>> COULD I --

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: -- TO WHAT I'VE HEARD BECAUSE THE
SUGGESTION IS THAT UNLESS WE LEAVE THIS MEASURE ON THE
BALLOT -- UNLESS WE LEAVE IT ON THE CHARTER NOW AS A RESULT
OF THE PAST VOTE, THEN IT'S GOING TO CAUSE A DIFFICULT --
IT'S GOING TO CAUSE DIFFICULTY FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO ARE
PROMULGATING THE COUNTY MAYOR POSITION ITSELF, AND -- AND
I -- THAT'S THE PART THAT I JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND --

>> OKAY.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: -- BECAUSE JUST AS THERE ARE OTHER WAYS
TO HANDLE THAT, THERE ARE OTHER WAYS TO ADDRESS THE VETO
POWER AGAIN.

>> LET ME -- LET ME GO BACK BECAUSE I DON'T WANT TO MISLEAD
YOU.

THE CHARTER SAYS THAT THE BOARD CAN PLACE ANY AMENDMENT TO
THE CHARTER IT WANTS ON THE BALLOT AT ANY ELECTION THAT IT
CHOOSES.

IT DOES NOT NEED A CHARTER REVIEW BOARD TO DO THAT.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: RIGHT.

>> THAT WAS MY POINT.

SECONDLY, I -- IF YOU FEEL THAT IT IS SOMETHING TO -- THAT WE SHOULD PUT ON THE BALLOT, WHY DON'T YOU-ALL MOVE FORWARD AND PUT SOMETHING ON THE BALLOT?

WHY DON'T -- IF YOU BELIEVE ORLANDO IS THE WAY TO DO, WHY DON'T YOU DO THAT AND SEE IF IT PASSES THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS?

I THINK YOU-ALL SHOULD.

I THINK YOU SHOULD PUT IT ON THE BALLOT.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: WELL, THAT'S, I BELIEVE, WHY YOU WERE INVITED TO SPEAK TO THIS BOARD ON ANOTHER OCCASION TO SPEAK --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: JULY 12th.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: WELL, JULY 12th WAS THE DATE THAT WAS WORKED OUT TODAY.

YOU WERE THE --

>> NO.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: OR THIS IS WHAT I -- YOU WERE THE NUMBER ONE INVITEE THAT THIS BOARD REQUESTED TO HAVE COME SPEAK TO US.

>> AND THE MINUTE I GOT AN INVITE, I SENT YOU AN E-MAIL, AND I TOLD YOU --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

LET ME LET MRS. STEWART --

>>EDITH STEWART: I NEED TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THAT. SHE DID NOT RECEIVE THE LETTER UNTIL SHE RESPONDED TO IT, AND MY ASSISTANT FAILED TO NOTIFY ME OF THE RESPONSE.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: WELL, I APOLOGIZE ON BEHALF OF THIS BOARD THEN.

WE'VE HAD THIS PROBLEM WITH A NUMBER OF OUR INVITEES NOT EITHER GETTING THEIR INVITATIONS OR NOT HAVING THEIR RESPONSES ADDRESSED BY STAFF, BUT LET ME SAY WE ARE A PUBLIC BODY.

WE'VE BEEN -- ALL OF OUR MEETINGS HAVE BEEN PUBLIC, AND FROM THE VERY FIRST TIME THIS BOARD SAT, YOUR NAME WAS THE NUMBER ONE INVITEE THAT WE WANTED TO COME SPEAK TO US SPECIFICALLY ABOUT THE COUNTY MAYOR SITUATION.

>> WELL, I DID WAIT FOR A PUBLIC INVITATION BECAUSE I HAVE THE MINUTES FROM THE LAST CHARTER THAT VOTED NOT TO INVITE ME.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: WELL, FIVE YEARS AGO IT WAS A -- IT WAS A DIFFERENT CHARTER REVIEW BOARD --

>> YES.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: -- AND I WASN'T HERE, FOR ONE.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: YEAH.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: AND IT'S A TOTALLY DIFFERENT -- IT'S A TOTALLY DIFFERENT CIRCUMSTANCE, AND MY SUGGESTION IS THERE'S SO MUCH THAT I DON'T KNOW THAT I WOULD LIKE TO BE EDUCATED ON ABOUT WHY A COUNTY MAYOR IS GOOD FOR THIS

COUNTY, AND I DON'T HAVE A POSITION AGAINST THE COUNTY
MAYOR.

I HONESTLY LACK SUFFICIENT INFORMATION, AND BECAUSE I LACK
SUFFICIENT INFORMATION, I DON'T FEEL COMFORTABLE WITH A
PROVISION GIVING VETO POWER TO A -- AN OFFICE THAT DOESN'T
EXIST BECAUSE, "A," THE OFFICE SIMPLY DOESN'T EXIST, AND
"B," IF IT DOES COME INTO EXISTENCE, I YET DO NOT KNOW THE
SHAPE OF THAT OFFICE AND THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THAT OFFICE,
AND -- AND THE CITIZENS WHO VOTED ON THIS PROVISION WHEN IT
PASSED, I DON'T AGREE WITH MS. GOUDREAU IN THE SUGGESTION
THAT IT'S AN INSULT TO THE CITIZENS WHO VOTED FOR IT
BECAUSE THEY VOTED FOR IT TIED TO, AS MR. WHITE SAID, A
DIFFERENT DANCING PARTNER.

>> NO, THEY DIDN'T.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: WELL, WE DON'T HAVE A DANCING PARTNER
TODAY.

>> AND WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO IF THEY VOTE NOT TO REPEAL
IT?

HAVE YOU-ALL THOUGHT ABOUT THAT?

>>JAN PLATT: THEN SOMEBODY WILL TAKE IT TO THE COURT.

>> WHY?

JUST LEAVE IT ON THE BALLOT UNTIL WE FIND OUT WHAT THE
CITIZENS WANT WITH ELECTED COUNTY MAYOR, UNTIL THIS BOARD
STEPS UP AND FINALLY MAKES A RECOMMENDATION TO CHANGE THIS
CHARTER.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: WELL, FOR -- LET ME GIVE YOU AN EXAMPLE.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MRS. REBACK, PLEASE -- OKAY. PLEASE.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: MAY I ANSWER THAT? LET ME GIVE YOU AN EXAMPLE.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: YOU CAN GO.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: FOR EXAMPLE, IF THE COUNTY MAYOR TURNS OUT TO BE A PARTISAN POSITION RATHER THAN A NONPARTISAN POSITION, THEN I'M NOT SURE THAT I WOULD FEEL COMFORTABLE WITH LEAVING THIS IN THE CHARTER AS IT IS, AS IT CURRENTLY STANDS, WITH THE PROVISIONS THAT CURRENTLY ATTACH TO IT AND THE POWERS THAT ATTACH TO IT.

I'M NOT SURE I'D BE COMFORTABLE WITH THAT WITH A PARTISAN COUNTY MAYOR.

I MIGHT FEEL DIFFERENTLY WITH A NONPARTISAN COUNTY MAYOR, BUT THE FACT IS THE LACK OF A DANCING PARTNER IS VERY SIGNIFICANT TO ME, AND, YOU KNOW, THAT'S WHAT I'D LIKE YOU TO RESPOND TO IF YOU CAN.

>> I THINK THAT IT DOESN'T MATTER THAT IT'S SITTING THERE WITHOUT A, QUOTE, DANCING PARTNER.

I THINK THERE'S STILL PLENTY OF ACTIVITY BY THE CITIZENS OF THIS COUNTY TO GET THIS ON THE BALLOT.

YOU READ MY OP-ED PIECE TODAY.

WE'RE HAVING A DIFFICULT TIME BECAUSE THE PUBLIC IS TOTALLY

CONFUSED, I CAN TELL YOU THAT, AND IF YOU DON'T THINK THEY ARE, WHEN YOU GO HOME TONIGHT CALL SOME OF YOUR FRIENDS OR GO OUT TOMORROW AND COME HELP US GET SIGNATURES AND YOU'LL SEE WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT.

THEY'RE TOTALLY CONFUSED.

THEY HAVE NO IDEA.

I'VE HAD EDUCATED PEOPLE SAY, BUT MARY ANN, WHY ARE THEY TRYING TO TAKE IT OFF THE BALLOT AND YOU'RE TRYING TO GET IT ON?

I SAID, I KNOW.

I HAVE TO SIT THERE AND EXPLAIN WHY -- WHAT I DON'T UNDERSTAND IS WHAT IS THE RUSH?

>>MITCHELL THROWER: COMMISSIONER PLATT.

>>JAN PLATT: I WOULD LIKE -- I WOULD LIKE TO HER -- FOR HER TO PROVIDE US THE MINUTES THAT SAID --

>> OH, I PLAN TO.

>>JAN PLATT: NO.

CAN I FINISH?

I'D LIKE TO SEE THE MINUTES WHERE YOU SAID THAT THE LAST CHARTER BOARD VOTED NO TO THE HAVE YOU.

I CHAIRED THAT BOARD, AND I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THAT'S THE CASE.

>> I'LL PROVIDE THEM TO YOU.

>>JAN PLATT: I WOULD LIKE TO SEE THAT.

>> I'LL PROVIDE THEM TO YOU.

>>JAN PLATT: BUT ANYWAY --

>>GERALD WHITE: AND I WOULD LIKE TO SAY I EXPRESSED STRONG INTEREST FIVE YEARS AGO IN HAVING MS. STILES COME BEFORE OUR BOARD, AND THAT WHOLE YEAR I WAS JUST SO DISAPPOINTED THAT I NEVER HAD AN OPPORTUNITY FOR HER TO -- TO HAVE HER SAY PUBLICLY.

SHE'S A CITIZEN OF OUR COMMUNITY.

I ADMIRE HER TREMENDOUSLY.

SHE WAS MY FIRST MENTOR, MY FIRST TEACHER IN POLITICS WHEN I SERVED AS CHAIR OF WORKERS' COMP IN TALLAHASSEE.

IT WAS MARY ANN STILES THAT SHOWED ME AROUND.

YOU HELD MY HAND.

YOU -- YOU SHOWED ME THE WAY, AND I WAS SUCCESSFUL, I BELIEVE, IN TALLAHASSEE AS A RESULT OF YOUR TUTORING, AND SO I'VE ALWAYS ADMIRERD YOU AND I'VE ALWAYS LOOKED UP TO YOUR TENACITY AND YOUR STRONG WILL, AND SO I WANT YOU TO HAVE YOUR -- YOUR SAY.

I WANT YOU TO MAKE YOUR CASE PUBLIC, AND I -- AND I REALLY WANT THIS -- THIS RICH PUBLIC DEBATE ABOUT WHAT OUR GOVERNMENT SHOULD LOOK LIKE, AND SO WITH HASTE, I SAY WITH HASTE, MARY ANN STILES SHOULD BE SCHEDULED AT OUR NEXT MEETING, MR. CHAIR.

WE HAVE BEEN WAITING TO HEAR FROM HER FOR A LONG TIME.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: SHE WILL BE -- IF SHE'S WILLING TO COME JULY 12th, SHE'LL BE ON THE JULY 12th AGENDA.

>>GERALD WHITE: AND SO I WANT THIS PUBLIC DEBATE, AND HOPEFULLY FINALLY WE CAN DECIDE AS A COMMUNITY WHAT WE WANT. CITIZENS, NOT ELECTED OFFICIALS -- YOU'RE A CITIZEN, I'M A CITIZEN.

ALL OF US ARE CITIZENS.

NONE OF US ARE ELECTED.

-- CAN SAY WHAT WE BELIEVE THE FUTURE SHOULD LOOK LIKE AS IT RELATE TO HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY GOVERNMENT, AND I'M HOPING THAT THE GOOD OUT OF OUR DELIBERATIONS CAN BE THE RESULT.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

>> I'LL BE HERE.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MR. ROBINSON, DO YOU HAVE A QUESTION?

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: I WANT TO APOLOGIZE FOR BEING LATE.

YOU KNOW, IN ENGINEERING YOU HAVE SERIOUS PROJECTS, AND I HAD A REAL SERIOUS HOT-BUTTON ISSUE TODAY WITH THE SCHOOL, SO I APOLOGIZE, BUT I WAS WATCHING A LITTLE BIT ON TV.

I WANT TO SAY THIS.

MS. STILES, I'M GLAD YOU'RE HERE.

I'M JUST LIKE GERALD, I'VE BEEN WANTING TO HEAR FROM YOU.

I'VE READ YOUR PETITION, WHAT YOU'RE TRYING TO DO, AND I WASN'T A PROPONENT OF THIS BEING PUT ON THE AGENDA TODAY.

I AM A PROPONENT OF CHANGING THE PART OF THIS VETO THAT SPECIFICALLY DEALS WITH THE BUDGET WHERE IT STATES

SPECIFICALLY THAT THE COUNTY COMMISSION HAS THE FINAL SAY-- SO, THEY CAN'T BE OVERRULED.

THAT IS WHAT THE ATTORNEY SAID WAS UNCONSTITUTIONAL WITH THIS STATEMENT, WITH THIS LANGUAGE, SO I'M ONLY A PROPONENT TO HAVE GO FORWARD TO THE VOTERS JUST ON THE ONE SPECIFIC ISSUE OF THAT THE VETO POWER OVER THE BUDGET CANNOT BE DONE BY THE COUNTY MAYOR.

EVERYTHING ELSE THAT WAS CONSTITUTIONAL I'D LIKE TO SEE IT STAY THERE UNTIL SUCH TIME THAT THE PEOPLE GET TO DECIDE IF THEY WANT A COUNTY MAYOR IF WE CAN EVER GET IT ON THE BALLOT.

THERE'S TWO WAYS TO DO THAT.

YOU CAN DO IT BY GETTING THE PETITION ON IT OR WE COULD DO IT WITH TEN VOTES.

WE CAN DO IT, PROBABLY NOT GOING TO BE IN 2010, MAYBE 2012, BUT WE CAN DO THAT.

SO I'M HERE TO SAY THAT -- AND LET YOU KNOW THAT I WOULD HOPE THAT YOU GET TO US AND EXPLAIN YOUR VIEWS ON THE COUNTY MAYOR.

THIS ISSUE HERE WAS PASSED 53% BY THE VOTERS.

THE OTHER PART WAS STRICKEN OFF.

THAT'S WHY VEHEMENTLY EVERY TIME THEY VOTED ON THIS I SAID, NO, I AIN'T MOVING THIS FORWARD.

I WILL MOVE IT FORWARD, I WILL SUPPORT AN ISSUE GOING ON THE BALLOT, AND I HOPE PEOPLE AROUND HERE TAKE A LOOK AT THAT, THAT WE JUST CLEAN UP WHAT WE KNOW IS ERRONEOUS WITH IT, AND THAT IS THE PART ABOUT IT CAN HAVE VETO POWER OVER

THE BUDGET FROM THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

AND THAT'S THE PART THAT'S UNCONSTITUTIONAL, AND USUALLY WHEN AN ORDINANCE OR ANY TYPE OF LAW IS STRICKEN DOWN, IT DOESN'T STRIKE THE WHOLE LAW, IT JUST STRIKES THAT PORTION OF THE LAW THAT IS NOT CONSTITUTIONAL, AND THAT'S THE WAY MY APPROACH TO THIS IS.

IF THAT PORTION THAT WAS VOTED ON BY 53% OF THE VOTERS IN HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY WAS ERRONEOUS BECAUSE IT HAD THAT THE COUNTY MAYOR WOULD HAVE VETO POWER OVER THE BUDGET OF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, THEN THAT NEEDS TO BE TAKEN OUT.

THAT'S ALL I'M SITTING HERE TRYING TO DO IS CONVINCE NINE OTHER PEOPLE TO AGREE LET'S DON'T STRIKE THE WHOLE THING, BUT OUR APPROACH, SO YOU'LL KNOW, WAS THAT WE NEED TO GET RID OF THE WHOLE THING AND THEN WE WOULD HAVE PUBLIC COMMENT TODAY, AND THEN PUBLIC COMMENT, I GUESS, ON JULY THE 13th, THAT WE WOULD MAKE A DECISION WHETHER THIS LANGUAGE GOES FORWARD.

SO IF THERE'S ANYTHING IN THIS LANGUAGE THAT YOU WOULD SUGGEST THAT WE KEEP, I'M HERE TO LISTEN TO IT, BUT I DON'T THINK ANYTHING IS WRONG WITH THIS EXCEPT FOR THAT PART THAT THE COUNTY ATTORNEY HAS SAID IS UNCONSTITUTIONAL, AND THAT'S DEALING WITH THE VETO OF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WHEN IT DEALS WITH THE BUDGET.

>> I'LL THINK ABOUT YOUR COMMENT, BUT I WILL TELL YOU THERE'S OTHER CONSTITUTIONAL SCHOLARS THAT DON'T AGREE WITH

THAT ARGUMENT.

I ALSO WANT TO TELL YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN -- AND I HAVE WATCHED EVERY ONE OF YOUR MEETINGS.

I DON'T WANT YOU-ALL TO THINK I HAVE ANY DISRESPECT FOR YOU.

I HAVE WATCHED THEM.

BUT I'M ALSO A BUSINESSWOMAN WHO'S TRYING TO SURVIVE OUT THERE TOO, AND DOING THIS AND THE -- AND THE CHARTER REVIEW AND HANDLING TALLAHASSEE, IT'S -- IT'S -- IT'S -- IT TAKES A LOT OF TIME.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

MRS. GRIMES.

>>GINA GRIMES: I -- I HAVE A QUESTION, BUT I WANT TO JUST MAKE THESE FEW REMARKS FIRST, AND THAT IS IS I VOTED TO HAVE THE HEARING TODAY TO DISCUSS THE ISSUE, BUT WHEN WE VOTED ON THAT, I TOOK THE POSITION THAT I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE CONFUSING TO PUT THIS ISSUE ON THE BALLOT UNTIL WE KNOW WHETHER OR NOT THE COUNTY MAYOR AMENDMENT WAS GOING TO BE ON THE BALLOT BECAUSE IT DIDN'T MAKE SENSE TO HAVE THE COUNTY MAYOR AMENDMENT ON THE BALLOT AND THEN TO HAVE ANOTHER MEASURE TO REMOVE THE COUNTY MAYOR VETO POWER. I THOUGHT IT -- I THOUGHT IT WAS A -- I THOUGHT IT WOULD CREATE CONFUSION.

BUT THEN AS I THOUGHT IT THROUGH -- AND THIS IS THE QUESTION I HAVE FOR YOU.

IF -- ONE OF THE ALTERNATIVES I WAS CONSIDERING WAS PERHAPS, THEN, WE COULD PUT -- WE COULD WAIT AND SEE IF THE COUNTY MAYOR MEASURE WAS PLACED ON THE BALLOT IN NOVEMBER, AND IF IT -- IF IT WAS NOT OR IF IT FAILED, THEN WE COULD PASS A PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENT TO PUT THE REMOVAL OF THE VETO POWER AT THE NEXT ELECTION, LIKE, FOR INSTANCE, LET'S SAY 2012, AT THAT ELECTION, WAIT AND FIND OUT WHAT THE OUTCOME OF THE NOVEMBER ELECTION IS, BUT THEN I THOUGHT WELL, WHAT IF AT THAT NEXT ELECTION LET'S SAY YOU DON'T GET ENOUGH SIGNATURES TO PUT IT ON THE BALLOT IN 2010, THEN YOU GO AND YOU PROPOSE TO PUT IT ON THE BALLOT IN 2012? AGAIN, WE'LL BE IN THE SAME SITUATION WHERE THERE COULD BE CONFUSION BECAUSE WE'RE TRYING TO REMOVE SOMETHING THAT YOU'RE PERHAPS TRYING TO PUT ON THE BALLOT, SO HOW DO WE WORK IT OUT WHERE THE TIMING IS RIGHT?

>> CHARTER REVIEW BOARD RECOMMEND THAT IT GO ON THE BALLOT, THE ENTIRE -- HOWEVER THE CHARTER REVIEW BOARD DECIDES THAT WE SHOULD HAVE AN ELECTED COUNTY MAYOR OR COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE -- ADMINISTRATOR.

I THINK IT'S VERY IMPORTANT THAT THIS BOARD SERIOUSLY CONSIDER THAT, AND I HAVEN'T HEARD A LOT OF TALK ABOUT IT.

>>GINA GRIMES: YOU KNOW WHAT, I'LL TELL YOU, I'LL BE HONEST WITH YOU, WHEN I WAS APPOINTED TO THIS BOARD, I FULLY EXPECTED TO HAVE A LOT OF DISCUSSION ABOUT THE COUNTY MAYOR ISSUE, AND I WAS FRANKLY VERY SURPRISED THAT THERE

ISN'T THIS HUGE PUBLIC OUTCRY THAT YOU-ALL ARE TALKING ABOUT.

>> BECAUSE I THINK WE -- MOST OF THE PUBLIC THINK WE'VE DONE IT.

DO YOU KNOW THAT?

IT'S AMAZING.

COME WALK WITH US.

MOST OF THE PEOPLE GO, MARY ANN, I'VE ALREADY SIGNED THIS ONE; MARY ANN, I'VE ALREADY WRITTEN YOU A CHECK ONCE.

>>GINA GRIMES: I JUST AM SURPRISED THAT NOT ONE INDIVIDUAL, NOT ONE MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC HAS COME FORWARD TO ASK US TO EVEN DISCUSS THIS ISSUE.

WE'VE HAD OTHER MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC BRING FORWARD OTHER PROPOSALS, LIKE INCREASING THE NUMBER OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AND CHANGING THE DISTRICTS, BUT I WAS FRANKLY SURPRISED THAT WE DID NOT HAVE A REQUEST TO DISCUSS THIS ISSUE.

SO THAT'S JUST -- THAT'S A COMMENT.

AND THE -- THE ISSUE WITH THE TIMING, I'M NOT -- YOU KNOW, I'D BE WILLING TO LISTEN TO ANY PROPOSAL ON HOW TO WORK THAT OUT BECAUSE I AGREE THAT IT IS CONFUSING TO PUT THE REMOVAL OF THE VETO POWER ON THE SAME BALLOT WHERE WE'RE TRYING TO PROPOSE AN AMENDMENT TO --

>> HAVING PUBLIC MEETINGS AND DOING NEWSPAPER ARTICLES ANNOUNCING YOU'RE HAVING PUBLIC MEETINGS WHILE WE'RE OUT

THERE TRYING TO GET THE SIGNATURES FOR A PETITION IS JUST -
- I CAN'T TELL YOU WHAT IT'S DONE TO US.

>>GINA GRIMES: WELL, BUT OUR CHARGE IS NOT TO STAND DOWN
AND WAIT FOR YOU TO COMPLETE WHATEVER TASK YOU BELIEVE IS
APPROPRIATE.

>> NO, IT'S NOT.

>>GINA GRIMES: SO IT'S NOT -- I DON'T THINK IT'S
REASONABLE FOR YOU TO TAKE THE POSITION THAT WE HAVE NO
BUSINESS DOING WHAT WE'RE DOING.

>> IT'S NOT NECESSARY --

>>GINA GRIMES: THESE'S MEETINGS HAVE BEEN OPEN TO THE
PUBLIC, AND ANYBODY CAN COME FORWARD, AND WE REALLY HEARD
VERY LITTLE ABOUT IT, SO I DON'T THINK WHAT WE'RE DOING IS
INAPPROPRIATE AT ALL.

I THINK WE'RE FULFILLING OUR RESPONSIBILITIES.

>> IF YOU FOLLOW THAT ARGUMENT TO ITS LOGICAL CONCLUSION,
YOU DON'T EXACTLY HAVE A CROWD HERE SUPPORTING TAKING IT
OFF THE BALLOT EITHER.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MRS. GRIMES, LET ME CLARIFY.

WE DID HAVE -- AND I RECALL AT LEAST ONE PERSON WHO DID
COME BEFORE US AND SAID THAT THEY WOULD LIKE US TO DO A
COMPREHENSIVE STUDY OF THE ELECTED COUNTY MAYOR ISSUE
DURING PUBLIC COMMENT.

>>GINA GRIMES: WHO WAS THAT?

>>MITCHELL THROWER: I DON'T HAVE THE NAME, BUT ACTUALLY --

>>GINA GRIMES: ONE PERSON?

>>GERALD WHITE: MS. STILES, YOU SAID YOU COULD SUPPORT AN ELECTED COUNTY CHAIR?

DID I HEAR YOU SAY THAT?

>>MITCHELL THROWER: ACTUALLY, MR. WHITE -- MR. WHITE, PLEASE.

MR. REDDICK IS NEXT UP.

PLEASE WAIT TO BE RECOGNIZED BY THE CHAIR.

MR. REDDICK AND THEN COMMISSIONER PLATT.

>>FRANK REDDICK: THANK YOU, MR. CHAIR.

I HAVE A TIMING QUESTION, AND I'M GOING TO ASK OUR COUNSEL TO COME UP BECAUSE I HEARD THAT -- THROUGH HER PRESENTATION THAT SHE HAS UNTIL JULY THE 31st TO COLLECT THOSE PETITIONS IN ORDER TO GET THEM ON THE BALLOT.

>>MARY HELEN FARRIS: THAT'S CORRECT.

AND THEN THEY HAVE 30 DAYS TO CHECK THEM.

>>FRANK REDDICK: THEY HAVE 30 DAYS TO CHECK THEM?

>>MARY HELEN FARRIS: THE BALLOT PREPARATION FOR THE NOVEMBER BALLOT IS OCTOBER -- AUGUST 25th OR SOMEWHERE IN THAT AREA.

>>FRANK REDDICK: IF WE WAITED UNTIL AFTER THAT TIME FRAME --

>>MARY HELEN FARRIS: AFTER THE 31st?

>>FRANK REDDICK: 31st -- WILL WE STILL HAVE TIME TO GET -- IF WE WANT TO SUPPORT THIS ORDINANCE, WILL WE HAVE TIME TO

GET IT ON THE BALLOT FOR 2010?

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: IT WOULD HAVE TO BE 30 DAYS AFTER THAT.

>>FRANK REDDICK: IT WOULD HAVE TO BE 30 DAYS --

>>MARY HELEN FARRIS: RIGHT, TO SEE --

>> SINCE I CAN'T COLLECT ANY -- MAY I ANSWER?

SORRY.

SORRY

SINCE I CAN'T COLLECT ANY SIGNATURES AFTER JULY 31st, THE
ISSUE OF CONFUSION BECOMES MOOT.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: I JUST WANTED TO COMMENT.

MRS. GRIMES ASKED WHO STATED IT.

I DON'T HAVE THE EXACT -- I DON'T HAVE THE PERSON'S NAME,
BUT FROM MY NOTES IT WAS THE APRIL 12th, 2002, MEETING
DURING PUBLIC COMMENT SOMEONE STATED THAT -- RECOMMENDED
THAT WE CONDUCT A COMPREHENSIVE STUDY OF THE ELECTED COUNTY
MAYOR -- APRIL 12th, 2010.

THAT WAS THE ONE I NOTED HERE, SO -- ACTUALLY, I HAD MR.
REDDICK AND THEN COMMISSIONER PLATT.

>>JAN PLATT: WELL, YOU KNOW, AS I'M SITTING HERE HEARING
THIS, THIS BOARD BY LAW MEETS EVERY FIVE YEARS.

IF YOU KNOW ABOUT COUNTY GOVERNMENT OR ARE SUGGESTING ANY
CHANGES, YOU KNOW IF YOU'RE A LAWYER OR IF YOU'RE A CITIZEN
THAT THIS IS GOING TO MEET EVERY FIVE YEARS AND CAN DISCUSS
ANYTHING THAT IS IN THAT CHARTER, AND I REALLY AM I A
LITTLE INCENSED THAT YOU ARE -- THIS BOARD IS BEING MADE TO

FEEL THAT THEY'RE NOT DOING THE RIGHT THING BY DEALING WITH CHARTER ISSUES.

I MEAN, IF YOU GET THE GIST, SHE'S TRYING TO MAKE US ALL FEEL GUILTY THAT WE'RE TRYING TO CHANGE SOMETHING THAT'S IN THE CHARTER, AND YET EVERY FIVE YEARS -- SHE KNOWS WHEN THE CHARTER GROUP MEETS.

WE SHOULD NOT BE INTIMIDATED TO DEAL WITH HER AGENDA.

SHE COULD HAVE DONE IT AFTER WE HAD MET, SO I JUST GUESS I'M A LITTLE CONCERNED ABOUT THAT.

AND THEN THE OTHER ISSUE, WHICH YOU BROUGHT UP, WHICH IT REALLY HADN'T DAWNED ON ME -- WHEN THIS VETO POWER DID PASS, IT WAS WITH A MAYOR THAT WAS NONPARTISAN.

THIS ONE THAT'S ON THE BALLOT IS GOING TO BE PARTISAN, WHICH WE HAVE CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS WHOSE BUDGETS ARE HERE THAT ARE PARTISAN THAT -- AND THE BUDGET IS -- IS REALLY PIECED TOGETHER BY THE ADMINISTRATOR, WHOEVER THAT MIGHT BE, AND THAT'S ONE OF THE POSITIVE PARTS ABOUT HAVING AN ADMINISTRATOR WHO IS NOT ELECTED BECAUSE THEY'RE NOT A POLITICIAN, AND THEY PIECE TOGETHER THAT BUDGET OF ALL THE CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS AS WELL AS THE COUNTY COMMISSION, SO NOW THE VETO, IF -- IF -- IF THE NEW PROPOSAL PASSES, IS GOING TO BE A WHOLE NEW SITUATION THAT WAS MAYBE NOT CONTEMPLATED BACK WHEN THIS VETO WAS PASSED, SO MY VIEW IS DON'T BE INTIMIDATED INTO THINKING THAT WE'RE HURTING HER. SHE KNEW WHEN WE WERE GOING TO MEET, AND WE HAVE THE -- WE

HAVE THE LEGAL RESPONSIBILITY TO DEAL WITH ANY ISSUE THAT WE FEEL IS IMPORTANT, AND THE -- THE POSITIVE PART ABOUT THIS IS THAT WE ARE NOT ELECTED, THAT WE -- THE COUNTY COMMISSION -- AND I WAS A COUNTY COMMISSIONER FOR 20 -- 24 YEARS, AND I CAN SAY THIS, THAT THEY RESPOND TO THE PEOPLE BECAUSE -- IN A DIFFERENT WAY THAN THIS GROUP OF CITIZENS RESPONDS TO ISSUES, AND SO I JUST SAY KEEP ON KEEPING ON AND LET'S STICK TO THE ISSUE OF THE VETO AND LET'S MOVE ON. I THINK WE'VE PROBABLY GOT OTHER PEOPLE WHO WANT TO SPEAK.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: LET ME -- MR. WHITE.

>>GERALD WHITE: I WAS NEXT.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MR. WHITE -- MR. WHITE, YOU'VE SPOKEN.

>>GERALD WHITE: JESUS.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: I'M GOING TO LET OTHERS SPEAK BEFORE I COME BACK TO YOU.

>>JAMES TOKLEY: I'LL BE VERY BRIEF.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MR. TOKLEY.

I'LL GIVE YOU AN OPPORTUNITY AGAIN, BUT I DO WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT -- IF THERE'S OTHER BOARD MEMBERS THAT HAVEN'T SPOKEN, I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE SURE THEY HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO ASK A QUESTION OR SPEAK BEFORE THOSE WHO HAVE ALREADY SPOKEN SPEAK AGAIN.

>>JAMES TOKLEY: I AM SITTING IN THE MIDST OF POLITICIANS AND ATTORNEYS.

I, HOWEVER, AM AN ENGLISH PROFESSOR OF SOME 43 YEARS.

BEING SO, I BELIEVE THAT WHENEVER PEOPLE COMMUNICATE,
WHENEVER PEOPLE SPEAK, THAT IS POSITIVE, THAT IS A GOOD
THING.

WE NEED TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE ISSUE YOU CHAMPION.

CERTAINLY WE HAVE OUR OWN OPINIONS, BUT WE ARE ALL SERVANTS
FOR THE PEOPLE, AND I WOULD LIKE TO HEAR MORE OF WHAT YOU
HAVE TO SAY.

I AM IN NO WAY INTIMIDATED BY WORDS.

BOMBS YES, VERBS NO.

I'D LIKE TO HEAR MORE ABOUT WHAT YOU HAVE TO SAY.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

ANYONE ELSE LIKE TO ASK A QUESTION?

MR. WHITE.

>>GERALD WHITE: YEAH.

I WANT TO GIVE MARY ANN STILES MY PROPOSAL FOR A COUNTY
CHAIR, AND I WANT YOU TO TAKE IT AND THINK ABOUT IT AND
LISTEN TO THE PAST MEETING BECAUSE I BELIEVE THAT'S THE
FIRST STEP.

I BELIEVE WE NEED TO BE WEANED FROM THE EXISTING STRUCTURE
AND THEN TAKE A FIRST STEP BEFORE WE GO TO A CARTE BLANCHE
FULL EXECUTIVE.

MAYBE WE'LL GET THERE ONE DAY, BUT WE HAVE SUCH A DIVERSE
COMMUNITY WITH SO MANY ISSUES, THERE'S JUST SO MUCH FEAR
ABOUT THIS MASSIVE CHANGE THAT YOU'RE CALLING FOR, AND I
REALLY BELIEVE THAT YOU PROBABLY WOULD HAVE HAD MORE

SUCCESS IF YOU WOULD HAVE JUST REACHED DEEPER INTO THE COMMUNITY AND TALKED TO THE PEOPLE THAT HAVE REAL CONCERNS, BUT THIS IS THE FIRST TIME IN FIVE, SIX, SEVEN YEARS THAT YOU AND I HAVE TALKED ON THIS ISSUE, AND I THINK THAT'S THE PROBLEM, SO IT'S NOT THIS BOARD'S MISTAKE.

AND TRUE, WE'RE NOT AFRAID.

WE'RE CARRYING OUT OUR CHARGE, BUT YOU ARE A CITIZEN WITH FULL RIGHTS, AND I AM NOT GOING TO TURN AWAY ANY CITIZEN WITH FULL RIGHTS OF CITIZENSHIP HERE IN HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY THAT IS -- THAT WANTS TO DO SOMETHING, GET INVOLVED IN THEIR GOVERNMENT, AND SO THE DOOR -- MY DOOR, THE GERALD WHITE DOOR IS OPEN.

I BELIEVE THIS BOARD'S DOOR IS OPEN.

[LAUGHTER]

SO COME ON, BRING IT ON.

>> I RESPECT --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: THANK YOU, MR. WHITE.

>> I RESPECT THAT.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

>> THE ONLY COMMENT I WOULD HAVE IS I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT IT WOULD -- EVEN IF YOU RECOMMENDED IT, IT WOULD NOT PASS THE BOARD.

I HAVE TALKED TO BOARD MEMBERS.

I KNOW WHAT THE VOTE IS THERE.

IT'S NOT GOING TO HAPPEN.

IF IT WOULD, IT WOULD BE WONDERFUL.

IF IT WOULD -- I WOULD EVEN ADMIT THAT MAYBE -- I WOULD
EVEN -- NEVER MIND.

I BETTER NOT DO THAT YET.

[LAUGHTER]

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

ACTUALLY, MR. ROBINSON HAD AN ADDITIONAL QUESTION AND THEN
WE'RE GOING TO MOVE ON WITH OUR DISCUSSION.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: ONCE AGAIN, I'M GOING TO SAY THIS, IS
THAT WHEN I CAME HERE -- AND I'M LIKE GINA -- THE COUNTY
MAYOR I THOUGHT WAS GOING TO BE DISCUSSED A LOT, AND ONE
REASON IS IS WE DIDN'T HAVE A -- WE HAD SOME PEOPLE COME,
BUT IT REALLY WASN'T A LET'S GET BUSY ABOUT THIS, AND I
THINK IT'S SUCH A DIVISIVE ISSUE IN THE COMMUNITY, WHETHER
WE HAVE ONE, WHETHER WE DO NOT HAVE ONE, WHETHER IT'S
PARTISAN, NOT PARTISAN, AND I THINK AFTER -- I'VE READ YOUR
PETITION.

I THINK THERE'S SOME PROBLEMS WITH THAT.

EVEN IF IT PASSED, THERE WOULD BE SOME ISSUES AND THIS TYPE
OF STUFF.

I THINK, THOUGH -- AS A BOARD I THINK THAT WE'RE TALKING
ABOUT THE VETO POWER NOW, AND OF COURSE, THE ISSUE IS GET
RID OF IT ALL, AND I'VE TOLD YOU I'M NOT FOR GETTING RID OF
IT ALL, I'M FOR GETTING RID OF A PIECE OF IT, AND I THINK
THAT WOULD BE OKAY.

AND WE HAVE PLENTY OF TIME FOR 2012, BUT I DO BELIEVE THAT AS -- AS A BOARD, AS A CHARTER REVIEW BOARD -- AND I'VE HEARD A LOT OF PEOPLE TALK ABOUT THE COUNTY MAYOR, AND I THINK WE HAVE THE EXPERT ATTORNEY HERE.

WE'VE GOT A GREAT LEGAL STAFF.

WE GOT ALL THESE MINDS AND ALL OF THESE DIFFERENT BACKGROUNDS UP HERE, THAT WE SHOULD TAKE IT UPON OURSELVES TO PUT SOMETHING ON THE BALLOT FOR THE COUNTY MAYOR, WHAT WE THINK BASED ON ALL OF THIS --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MR. ROBINSON, I DON'T WANT TO INTERRUPT YOU.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: I HEAR YOU.

TWO SECONDS.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: WE DISCUSSED AT THE VERY BEGINNING OF THE MEETING THAT WE'RE GOING TO LIMIT OUR DISCUSSIONS JUST TO THOSE TWO ISSUES, THE VETO POWER AND THE INTERNAL PERFORMANCE AUDITOR.

MARY ANN STILES HAS BEEN INVITED TO COME BACK.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: HOW DID WE GET ON THE COUNTY MAYOR ISSUE THEN?

>>MITCHELL THROWER: WELL, SOME OF THE CONVERSATION WAS INTERTWINED WITH THE VETO POWER, AND I PROBABLY, AS CHAIR, LET IT GO ON TOO LONG.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: WELL, OKAY, BECAUSE I WAS WATCHING ON TV [INDISCERNIBLE CROSS TALK]

>>MITCHELL THROWER: I PROBABLY LET IT GO TOO LONG, BUT I
WOULD ASK YOU TO HOLD OFF.

MARY ANN STILES HOPEFULLY WILL BE BACK ON JULY 12th,
MONDAY, JULY 12th --

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: OKAY.

SHE'S SUPPOSED TO BE HERE?

OKAY.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: -- FOR OUR REGULAR MEETING.

SHE'S BEEN INVITED.

I BELIEVE SHE'S ACCEPTED.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: [INAUDIBLE]

>>MITCHELL THROWER: YEAH.

THANK YOU.

>> THE ONLY QUESTION I HAD ASKED IS HOW MUCH TIME WILL I
HAVE?

>> 30 MINUTES.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: 30 MINUTES IS WHAT WE'VE BEEN
ALLOWING THE --

>>GERALD WHITE: AS LONG AS YOU WANT.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: 30 --

>>GERALD WHITE: THE FULL MEETING.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: 30 MINUTES --

>>FRANK REDDICK: 30 MINUTES.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: AND THEN WE'LL HAVE SOME QUESTIONS.

>>GERALD WHITE: [INAUDIBLE]

>>MITCHELL THROWER: COMMISSIONER PLATT.

>>JAN PLATT: AND A LONG TIME AGO WE ASKED TO HAVE SOMEBODY COME AND SPEAK ABOUT THE ORANGE COUNTY [INAUDIBLE] TOO, SO COULD WE HAVE THAT AT THE SAME TIME --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: I WILL CHECK WITH EDITH.

>>JAN PLATT: -- RATHER THAN SPEND THE WHOLE FULL HOUR [INDISCERNIBLE CROSS TALK]

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: WE HAVE A FULL AGENDA THAT DAY.

>>GINA GRIMES: [INDISCERNIBLE CROSS TALK]

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: MR. WILKES?

>>GINA GRIMES: YEAH, LET'S ASK HIM.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: HE VOLUNTEERED.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: WE'LL GET -- I'LL CHECK WITH EDITH, AND WE'LL MAKE SURE WE GET AN INVITATION OUT TO MR. WILKES BECAUSE HE DID SEND AN E-MAIL TO US AFTER THE LAST REGULAR MEETING SAYING HE'D BE WILLING TO COME AND SPEAK TO US.

>>GERALD WHITE: WELL, I DON'T WANT TO --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: WAIT, WAIT, WAIT.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: EXCUSE ME.

YES.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MRS. REBACK.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: I'VE GOT THE FINGER.

MS. STILES, EXCUSE ME, BUT I HEARD YOU SAY TWICE -- IN YOUR REMARKS HERE AND IN YOUR RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS, I HEARD YOU SAY TWICE SOMETHING TO THE EFFECT THAT WHATEVER THIS

BOARD DOES, THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WILL NEVER APPROVE IT OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

>> OH, I STAND CORRECTED.

YOU-ALL CAN GO STRAIGHT TO THE BALLOT.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: WE CAN GO -- RIGHT.

AND I --

>> I STAND CORRECTED.

MARY HELEN JUST TOLD ME.

I FORGOT.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: RIGHT.

YOU SAID THAT TWICE --

>> I KNOW, AND I'M SORRY.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: -- WE CAN GO RIGHT TO THE BALLOT, SO YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY ABOUT THEM, YOU JUST NEED TO WORRY ABOUT US.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: FOR CLARIFICATION, TEN OF THE 14 MEMBERS HAVE TO VOTE ON AN ITEM TO PUT IT ON THE BALLOT, SO THAT'S A CLARIFICATION.

ANY FURTHER DISCUSSION CONCERNING THE VETO POWER OF THE ELECTED COUNTY MAYOR?

>>GERALD WHITE: I WOULD REALLY LIKE THE COUNTY ATTORNEY TO REALLY PUT IT ON THE RECORD, AND THAT -- I DON'T KNOW IF IT'S REALLY BEEN DONE.

WE'VE READ IT -- THIS ISSUE OF PART OF THIS VETO BEING UNCONSTITUTIONAL.

I -- WE NEED TO HAVE THE COUNTY ATTORNEY REALLY PUBLICLY ON THE RECORD VERBALLY ADDRESS THAT FOR THE CITIZENS, AND THAT REALLY HASN'T BEEN DONE, AND WE NEED TO MAKE SURE THAT'S DONE BEFORE WE VOTE BECAUSE --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: LET ME ASK MARY HELEN FARRIS TO COME UP BECAUSE I BELIEVE WE'VE RECEIVED STATEMENTS AND REPORT - - I'D HAVE TO GO BACK AND LOOK AT MY NOTES, BUT I BELIEVE WE'VE RECEIVED DOCUMENTS CONCERNING THAT.

>>MARY HELEN FARRIS: RIGHT.

MARY HELEN FARRIS, COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE.

WHAT WE HAD IN YOUR PACKET SEVERAL MEETINGS AGO THAT WAS DISCUSSED WAS A PACKET -- EXCUSE ME -- THAT RENEE LEE PUT TOGETHER FOR THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS RETREAT. IT WAS SOME OPINIONS, AND IT WAS A DRAFT DECLARATORY JUDGMENT ACTION THAT WAS A PROPOSAL THAT SHE TOOK TO THE BOARD THAT BECAUSE OF THE -- THE STATUTES, YOU CAN'T BE INCONSISTENT WITH GENERAL LAW AND THAT THE -- THERE'S OTHER ATTEMPTS TO CAP BUDGETS, DO STUFF LIKE THAT, EVEN THOUGH THE ONE THAT THE CHARTER REVIEW BOARD IN I THINK IT WAS '05 OR 2000 THAT WANTED TO CAP AND ALLOWED THE BOARD TO OVERRIDE IT, THAT DID NOT SAVE IT, SO THERE WAS A DRAFT DECLARATORY JUDGMENT ACTION FOR THAT JUST FOR THE BUDGET THAT SHE TOOK TO THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AT A RETREAT, AND THE BOARD DECLINED TO MOVE FORWARD ON IT.

>>GERALD WHITE: OKAY.

THANK YOU.

>>MARY HELEN FARRIS: SO -- OKAY.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: POINT OF ORDER.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MR. ROBINSON.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: OKAY.

WE'RE GOING TO HEAR FROM ALL THE PUBLIC.

WHEN DO WE DECIDE ON WHETHER WE GO WITH THIS, MODIFY --

YOU'RE GOING TO WAIT UNTIL THE END, MR. CHAIR?

>>MITCHELL THROWER: WE HAVE -- I MEAN, IF SOMEBODY WANTED TO MAKE A MOTION TO HAVE THE COUNTY ATTORNEY DRAFT SOME WORDING TO CHANGE THIS AT THIS POINT, IT COULD BE DRAFTED, IT COULD BE BROUGHT BACK AT THE SECOND PUBLIC HEARING.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: CAN WE WAIT UNTIL WE HEAR ALL OF THE PUBLIC BECAUSE --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: YES, WE CAN ALSO DO THAT.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: I'D LIKE TO MAKE A MOTION TO LET IT GO FORWARD, BUT ONLY TAKING OUT --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: WE HAVE TO HAVE TWO PUBLIC HEARINGS BEFORE WE MAKE OUR FINAL VOTE ON AN ISSUE, BUT IF WE'RE MAKING A MINOR CHANGE TO SOMETHING, THEN WE COULD MAKE -- WE COULD REQUEST THAT MARY HELEN FARRIS REWORD IT OR ADD SOMETHING OR WHATEVER AND THEN BRING IT BACK TO THE SECOND PUBLIC HEARING.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: I WOULD LIKE MR. ROBINSON'S SUGGESTION TO BE BROUGHT TO THE SECOND PUBLIC HEARING SO THAT WE COULD

DISCUSS BOTH ALTERNATIVES WITH THE PUBLIC BECAUSE
OTHERWISE, IF WE WAIT --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: ARE YOU MAKING A MOTION?

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: YES, I'M GOING TO MAKE A MOTION TO THAT
EFFECT.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: YOU'RE MAKING A MOTION?

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: I'M MAKING A MOTION.

>> SECOND.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: STATE EXACTLY FOR THE RECORD --

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: IF I UNDERSTAND CORRECTLY, AND JUMP IN
IF I'M NOT STATING IT CORRECTLY, BUT I WOULD MOVE THAT THE
COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE PREPARE AN ALTERNATIVE BALLOT
RESOLUTION THAT SIMPLY REMOVES THE LANGUAGE STATING THAT
THE COUNTY MAYOR WOULD HAVE VETO AUTHORITY OVER THE BUDGET.

>>GERALD WHITE: AND I'LL SECOND THAT.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: WHOA, WHOA, WHOA, WHOA, WHOA.

JUST THE OPPOSITE OF THAT.

THAT'S WHAT SHE'S SAYING IS UNCONSTITUTIONAL.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: RIGHT, THAT WOULD TO REMOVE THAT --

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: THAT WOULD REMOVE --

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: -- REMOVE THAT AUTHORITY.

REMOVE THAT AUTHORITY.

DO YOU UNDERSTAND?

>>MARY HELEN FARRIS: [INAUDIBLE]

>>GERALD WHITE: CAN I SPEAK --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MRS. REBACK HAS MADE THE MOTION, MR. WHITE HAS SECONDED IT.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: I SECONDED IT.

>>GERALD WHITE: I SECONDED IT, JOE. IT DOESN'T MATTER.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MR. ROBINSON SECONDED IT. DISCUSSION ON THIS MOTION ON THE FLOOR?

>>GERALD WHITE: YES, I WANT THE COUNTY ATTORNEY TO RESPOND TO THAT MOTION BECAUSE I WANT TO MAKE SURE AT OUR NEXT PUBLIC HEARING IS THAT THE ONLY ISSUE -- WILL -- THIS VETO PROVISION, WILL IT PREVAIL IN COURT UNEQUIVOCALLY WITH THIS VETO ISSUE RELATED TO THE BUDGET REMOVED FROM THE LANGUAGE?

>>MARY HELEN FARRIS: THERE WAS NO OTHER PROBLEMS WITH THE LANGUAGE OTHER THAN WHAT WAS IDENTIFIED BY THE OFFICE ABOUT THE BUDGET, AND WHAT WE CAN DO IS I'LL BRING BACK THE PROPOSAL THAT MR. ROBINSON SUGGESTED.

YOU CAN ALWAYS DECIDE JUST TO GO BACK WITH THE COMPLETE REMOVAL.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: RIGHT.

>>MARY HELEN FARRIS: YOU COULD DECIDE TO GO WITH THAT ONE. IT JUST GIVES YOU THE ABILITY TO SEE WHAT THE LANGUAGE WOULD LOOK LIKE.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: RIGHT.

>>MARY HELEN FARRIS: AND IT'S JUST A VERY MINOR CHANGE. SO I CAN GET THAT DONE, GET IT POSTED AND PUT ON THE WEB

SITE AND SENT OUT TO EVERYBODY TOMORROW.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: THAT WOULD BE GREAT.

THANK YOU.

>>GERALD WHITE: OKAY, MARY ANN STILES, YOU GOT A NEW LIFE. AND I ALSO WANTED TO THANK THE FORMER PUBLISHER OF THE TAMPA TRIBUNE THAT'S HERE BECAUSE I WANTED HER TO BE ONE OF THE SPEAKERS AS WELL.

I HEARD HER SPEAK BEFORE THE COMMISSION -- THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, AND I'VE BEEN TRYING TO REACH HER, SO I HOPE THAT SHE COME ALSO BECAUSE I WOULD LIKE HER REMARKS RELATED TO ORLANDO AND HER HISTORY IN ORLANDO, ORANGE COUNTY, AND SO IF SHE CAN COME AT OUR FUTURE MEETINGS AND SPEAK TO HER EXPERIENCE RELATED TO ORLANDO ON HOW SHE COMMENTED, MR. CHAIR, ON HOW SHE FELT THAT THE COMMUNITY HAD MOVED FORWARD AFTER THEY CHANGED FORMS OF GOVERNMENT, I THOUGHT THAT WAS INTRIGUING.

I WANT TO HEAR MORE ABOUT THAT.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

LET'S GET BACK TO THE TOPICS AT HAND TONIGHT.

ANY FURTHER DISCUSSION ON THIS -- OH, OKAY.

WE'VE STILL GOT A MOTION ON THE FLOOR.

I'M SORRY.

ANY FURTHER DISCUSSION ON THE MOTION ON THE FLOOR TO HAVE MARY HELEN FARRIS REWORD THE RES -- OR DRAFT A RESOLUTION TAKING OUT THE VETO POWER CONCERNING THE BUDGET?

IS THAT PRETTY MUCH --

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: YEAH, AS AN ALTERNATIVE.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: AS AN ALTERNATIVE.

>>JAN PLATT: MAY I ASK IS IT ALSO INCLUDING THE TWO-THIRDS VOTE?

ARE YOU LEAVING THAT IN THERE?

I'M JUST ASKING.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: WHATEVER WAS UNCONSTITUTIONAL.

>>GERALD WHITE: CAN YOU SPEAK TO THAT, COMMISSIONER PLATT?

>>JAN PLATT: PARDON ME?

>>GERALD WHITE: THE TWO-THIRDS VOTE.

>>JAN PLATT: ACCORDING TO THE VETO, THE ONLY WAY THAT IT CAN BE OVERRIDDEN IS WITH A TWO-THIRDS VOTE.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MRS. REBACK --

>>JAN PLATT: I JUST WONDERED IF THAT WAS PART OF YOUR MOTION.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: WELL, THE ONLY WAY THAT THE BUDGET ACTION CAN BE OVERRIDDEN, SO SINCE THE AUTHORITY IS GOING TO BE REMOVED, THEN IT -- THAT WOULD GO WITH IT, I WOULD ASSUME.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: YEP.

MARY HELEN, CAN YOU ANSWER --

>>GINA GRIMES: JUST WITH RESPECT TO THE BUDGET.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: YEAH, JUST WITH RESPECT TO THE BUDGET, THAT AUTHORITY WOULD ALSO GO WITH IT.

>>MARY HELEN FARRIS: WITH RESPECT TO THE BUDGET, THE TWO-THIRDS.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: I THINK THAT'S THE ESSENCE OF --
>> RIGHT.

[INDISCERNIBLE CROSS TALK]

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: THAT'S THE ESSENCE OF THE PUNITIVE CONSTITUTIONAL PROBLEM, RIGHT, JUST THE BUDGET?

>>MARY HELEN FARRIS: RIGHT, JUST THE BUDGET.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: SO THERE'S NO CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUE WITH THE TWO-THIRDS AS TO ANYTHING ELSE?

>>MARY HELEN FARRIS: RIGHT.

AND I'LL BRING BACK THE LANGUAGE.

YOU KNOW, I'LL --

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: NO, BUT I MEAN -- BUT THERE'S NO OTHER -- THERE'S NO ISSUE WITH REGARD TO THE --

>>MARY HELEN FARRIS: NO.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: -- TWO-THIRDS IN GENERAL?

>>MARY HELEN FARRIS: NO.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: OKAY.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: ANY FURTHER DISCUSSION BEFORE WE VOTE?
OKAY.

A MOTION'S ON THE FLOOR.

EVERYBODY'S HEARD THE MOTION.

ALL IN FAVOR PLEASE RAISE YOUR RIGHT HAND.

THOSE OPPOSED PLEASE RAISE YOUR RIGHT HAND.

THREE INDIVIDUALS OPPOSED.

MR. FISHER, COMMISSIONER PLATT, AND MRS. LEYTHAM ARE
OPPOSED.

THE MOTION PASSES.

I HAD TO THINK ABOUT IT.

OKAY.

NOW WE'RE GOING TO MOVE ON TO THE NEXT ITEM WITH THIS
PUBLIC HEARING.

IT'S ELIMINATING THE POSITION AND FUNCTIONS OF THE INTERNAL
PERFORMANCE AUDITOR.

WE HEARD FROM SOME INDIVIDUALS FROM THE PUBLIC.

ANY DISCUSSION?

>>FRANK REDDICK: WELL, MR. CHAIRMAN, IF I MAY --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MR. REDDICK.

>>FRANK REDDICK: -- I AGREE WITH THE -- ONE OF THE
SPEAKERS WHO SPOKE TO THAT.

I DON'T THINK IT'S NECESSARY TO -- TO GET RID OF THAT
POSITION.

NOW, I'M IN FAVOR OF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS DOING A
BETTER JOB WITH HIRING PEOPLE.

I ALSO FIND IT'S -- I WAS VERY DISAPPOINTED IN THE CLERK,
MS. FRANK, AND HER AUDITOR THAT SHE HAD COME BEFORE US AND
SPEAK TO US ABOUT IT BECAUSE IT ENDED UP, THEN -- IN MY
OPINION, THEY DID A LOT OF POLITICAL GRANDSTANDING, AND --
AND THAT'S ALL IT WAS ALL ABOUT, AND I WAS DISAPPOINTED TO

SIT THERE AND -- AND SEE THEM BICKERING BACK AND FORTH WITH MR. BARNES, AND EVENTUALLY, WHEN THEY FOUND OUT -- THEY DID FIND OUT THAT THE STORE OVERPRICED THEM, BUT THEY SAID THEY HAD NOT FOUND ANYTHING, AND SO THAT'S WHY I CALL IT POLITICAL GRANDSTANDING THAT THEY WERE DOING, AND MY POSITION IS I WILL NOT SUPPORT ANY MOTION TO REMOVE THE PERFORMANCE AUDITORS FROM THE COUNTY -- FROM THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, AND I THINK THEY NEED TO DO A BETTER JOB OF HIRING AND SCREENING THEIR APPLICANTS.

I AGREE WITH THE SPEAKER WHO STATED THAT -- THAT THE CLERK'S OFFICE HAS A LOT OF RESPONSIBILITIES AND WILL CONTINUE TO HAVE A LOT OF RESPONSIBILITY, AND -- AND WE'RE SAYING WE'RE GOING TO ADD MORE.

I DON'T THINK THAT'S NECESSARY.

NOW, WE HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY NOW -- AND I HEARD COMMISSIONER BECKNER COME BEFORE US.

HE ASKED US NOT TO MAKE NO CHANGES.

HE SPOKE HIGHLY OF KEEPING THAT POSITION, AND I SEE REASONS FOR US TO KEEP THAT POSITION, BUT I CANNOT SUPPORT THE POLITICAL GRANDSTANDING, AND THAT TOOK PLACE BY THE CLERK'S OFFICE AND EVEN SOME -- BY SOME OTHER MEMBERS OF THIS BOARD, SO I WOULD NOT SUPPORT THAT POSITION.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

ACTUALLY, I DID WANT TO MAKE A CLARIFICATION REAL QUICK.

I BELIEVE, MR. REDDICK, MR. BECKNER, WHEN HE DID COME

BEFORE US, HE DID NOT ASK TO MAKE NO CHANGES, I BELIEVE HE WENT ALONG WITH MR. TARR'S RECOMMENDATIONS TO REMOVE THE BUDGET ANALYST FROM THE WORDING BECAUSE OF THE POSSIBLE BIAS AND TO CHANGE THE TITLE.

I BELIEVE THAT WAS HIS RECOMMENDATION TO GO ALONG WITH MR. TARR'S RECOMMENDATIONS.

HE ALSO -- A LOT OF THE OTHER SUGGESTIONS FROM MR. TARR, WHO WAS THE PEER REVIEW AUDITOR, WERE MORE ISSUES THAT COULD BE HANDLED DIRECTLY BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

THEY WEREN'T DIRECT CHARTER ISSUES.

THEY INVOLVED SEGREGATION -- THE AUDIT COMMITTEE AND FUNCTIONS, REPORTING STRUCTURE, AND ITEMS SUCH OF THAT NATURE, SO LET ME GO TO MR. ROBINSON.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: THANK YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN.

THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I WANTED TO BRING UP.

I'M ALL -- WE HAVE TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THE INTERNAL PERFORMANCE AUDITOR LANGUAGE IN THE CHARTER.

WE WERE TOLD THAT BY MR. BECKNER, WE'VE BEEN TOLD THAT BY EVERYBODY WE HEARD, THE EXPERTS, AND SO I'M HERE TO MOVE THAT RATHER THAN WHOLESALY ELIMINATING THE POSITION, WHICH I DON'T THINK THE COUNTY COMMISSION WANTS NOR NEEDS -- AND I'M NOT GOING TO DEBATE ABOUT WHETHER THEY WERE GRANDSTANDING, THEY PROBABLY WERE, BUT THAT'S POLITICS. THEY'RE ALL POLITICIANS.

BUT I WOULD LIKE TO -- TO MOVE -- AT LEAST DISCUSS OR
WHATEVER WE GOT TO DO TO REMOVE THE BUDGET ANALYST LANGUAGE
FROM THE CHARTER, TO HAVE THE COUNTY ATTORNEY COME BACK AT
THE NEXT PUBLIC HEARING TO REMOVE THE BUDGET ANALYST FROM
THE CHARTER AND CHANGE THE TITLE FROM INTERNAL PERFORMANCE
AUDITOR TO -- WHAT WAS IT CALLED?

YOU'RE THE AUDITOR IN HERE, SO THAT YELLOW BOOK -- YOU KNOW
WHAT -- THE TYPE --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: I BELIEVE IN HIS PEER REVIEW HE SAID -
- HE RECOMMENDED INTERNAL AUDITOR BECAUSE IT WAS
CONFUSING --

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: INTERNAL AUDITOR BECAUSE THE
PERFORMANCE MAKES YOU GO TO THAT YELLOW --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: PERFORMANCE -- NOT -- HIS
INTERPRETATION WAS NOT ALL THE AUDITS THAT THE AUDITOR
WAS -- IS BASICALLY DOING ARE PERFORMANCE AUDITS, SO IT'S
KIND OF MISLEADING TO SAY INTERNAL --

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: INTERNAL AUDITOR.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: -- AUDITOR, SO THAT'S WHAT THE PEER
REVIEW [INAUDIBLE] --

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: YOU KNOW, I WOULD MOVE THAT.

>>FRANK REDDICK: I'LL SECOND YOUR MOTION.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: WE DRAFT -- SO WE HAVE AN ALTERNATIVE
LIKE WE JUST DID PREVIOUSLY THAT WE GO -- COMPLETELY WASH
IT OUT OR AT THE SECOND PUBLIC HEARING WE HAVE AN

ALTERNATIVE TO HAVE A -- GO TO THE VOTERS TO ELIMINATE THE BUDGET ANALYST AND CHANGE THE TITLE BECAUSE THAT'S WHAT I HEARD, AND WE KNOW THAT'S AN ISSUE, AND I THINK EVERY COUNTY COMMISSIONER AGREES WITH THAT, SO THAT WOULD BE A MOTION IF I GOT A SECOND.

>>FRANK REDDICK: [INAUDIBLE]

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MR. ROBINSON MADE THE MOTION, MR. REDDICK SECONDED IT.

DISCUSSION ON THAT MOTION?

LET ME GET MR. FISHER.

I HAD HIM WRITTEN DOWN.

THEN I'VE GOT MR. AMON, AND THEN I'LL COME BACK TO YOU GUYS.

>>RALPH FISHER: I CONCUR WITH YOU, MR. ROBINSON, ON THIS ISSUE.

REGARDING AUDITS, YOU KNOW, I WAS AN AUDITOR FOR MANY YEARS WITH ERNST & ERNST BEFORE I BECAME A LAWYER, AND I CAN TELL YOU YOU CAN NEVER HAVE ENOUGH AUDITORS WORKING FOR YOU, AND THE IRONY OF MR. BARNES' POSITION IS THAT HE'S THE ONE THAT, YOU KNOW, APPARENTLY DETECTED THE PROBLEMS THAT OUR COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR HAD THAT RESULTED IN HER, YOU KNOW, DISMISSAL ACCORDING TO SOME PEOPLE FOR CAUSE, SO, YOU KNOW, THE KIND OF IRONY IS WE'RE TALKING ABOUT GETTING RID OF A POSITION THAT MIGHT BE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE COUNTY'S FUNCTION, AND I COMPLETELY AGREE ALSO WITH THE COMMENTS BY

THE PUBLIC SPEAKER THERE AND ALSO BY MR. REDDICK THAT, YOU KNOW, THERE'S NO WAY THE CLERK OF THE COURT NOT JUST ADMINISTRATIVELY CAN HANDLE THIS BUT POLITICALLY.

IT'S A BOMBSHELL FOR HER TO COME IN AND START FINDING PROBLEMS IN A FELLOW CONSTITUTIONAL'S OFFICE.

SHE'S NOT GOING TO DO THAT.

SHE'S GOING TO LOOK AND SEE THAT THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS ARE PRESENTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GENERALLY ACCEPTED ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES MINUS THE BILLION DOLLARS THAT WAS STOLEN, SO SHE'S NOT GOING TO BE LOOKING UNDER STONES FOR PROBLEMS.

AND SO I THINK THAT WHAT WE REALLY NEED TO DO -- AND I ACTUALLY HAVE SOME SPECIFIC WORDS THAT I WOULD SUGGEST THAT WE PUT IN TO -- TO HELP MARY HELEN, AND ON ITEM 4, SECTION 4.1, SECTION 4, I WOULD REWORD THE FIRST SENTENCE SO THAT IT READS, THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SHALL ANNUALLY GIVE DIRECTION TO THE INTERNAL AUDITOR REGARDING THE CONDUCT OF INTERNAL AUDITS OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY WITH ANNUAL WRITTEN REPORTS SUBMITTED TO BOTH THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AND THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR.

SO WHAT I'VE DONE IS I'VE TAKEN THAT FIRST SENTENCE THAT I'M SURE WORD WOULD BE ALL IN GREEN BECAUSE IT RUNS ON ITSELF IF YOU USE THAT WORD PROCESSING PROGRAM, AND SHORTEN IT AND MAKE IT MORE CLEAR SO THAT IT READS -- ONCE AGAIN I'LL READ THE SECTION 4, PROPOSED CHANGE ON THIS ONE

SENTENCE.

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SHALL ANNUALLY GIVE DIRECTION TO THE INTERNAL AUDITOR REGARDING THE CONDUCT OF INTERNAL AUDITS OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY WITH WRITTEN REPORTS SUBMITTED ANNUALLY TO BOTH THE BOARD AND THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR.

WHAT THIS DOES IS TWO THINGS.

NUMBER ONE, IT CLEANS UP WHAT THIS PERSON DOES.

IT MEETS MR. ROBINSON'S PROBLEMS WITH THE BUDGET REVIEW.

IT ALSO FORCES OUR GOOD FRIENDS THAT APPOINTED US TO ANNUALLY COME UP WITH AN AUDIT PROGRAM BECAUSE REALLY, THAT'S WHAT MR. BARNES WAS DOING UP THERE, THRASHING AROUND WITH NO DIRECTION.

WELL, GUESS WHAT?

WE'RE FORCING OUR FRIENDS THAT APPOINTED US TO COME UP WITH AN ANNUAL PLAN WHAT'S HE GOING TO LOOK AT.

SO I CONCUR, BUT I ALSO AM BEING VERY SPECIFIC IN WHAT I'M SUGGESTING, SO I WOULD ASK TO AMEND THE MOTION MAYBE TO INCLUDE THIS SENTENCE.

>> SECOND.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: CAN WE DISCUSS THIS AMENDED MOTION NOW?

>>MITCHELL THROWER: WELL, WE'VE GOT TO DISCUSS IT.

IT WAS SECONDED.

WE CAN DISCUSS IT RIGHT NOW.

>>RALPH FISHER: MR. PRESEAU WANTED TO SAY SOMETHING.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MR. PRESEAU.

ACTUALLY, DID I LET -- MR. AMON, HAVE YOU SPOKEN YET?

>>JOE AMON: NO.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: LET ME LET MR. AMON AND THEN MR.
TOKLEY.

I'VE GOT A LIST OF NAMES.

I'M TRYING TO MAKE SURE I GO THROUGH THE LIST AND GIVE
EVERYBODY AN OPPORTUNITY.

MR. AMON.

>>JOE AMON: BUT POINT OF ORDER.

WHERE ARE WE?

ARE WE GOING TO TALK ABOUT THE AMENDED --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: WELL, WE'VE GOT AN AMENDED MOTION
RIGHT NOW.

>>JOE AMON: I HAPPEN TO AGREE WITH MR. FISHER, BUT THERE'S
ONE OTHER ISSUE THAT CONCERNS ME, AND THIS IS IN THE TIME
WE'VE WILL THIS DISCUSSION, IT'S OBVIOUS THAT THERE IS A
CONFLICT OR NOT A CONFLICT BUT A CONFUSION ON THE
DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A PROCESS AUDIT AND A MONETARY AUDIT,
AND CAN YOU THINK OF -- WITH YOUR BACKGROUND, CAN YOU THINK
OF SOME WORDS THAT WE CAN ADD TO THE -- TO THE MOTION THAT
YOU JUST MADE THAT WOULD BE MORE DEFINITIVE ON WHAT KIND OF
AUDITS THAT THIS POSITION WOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR?

>>RALPH FISHER: MAY I RESPOND?

>>MITCHELL THROWER: YES.

>>RALPH FISHER: I DID -- YOU NOTICE THE WORD "PERFORMANCE"
I TOOK OUT.

I JUST CALLED HIM AN INTERNAL AUDITOR, AND THAT ANSWERS IT
BECAUSE IT'S SORT OF WHAT MR. THROWER DOES FOR A LIVING.

AN INTERNAL AUDITOR CAN HAVE VERY SPECIFIC FUNCTIONS.

THE BOARD COULD SAY, LISTEN, WE THINK THAT ONE OF THE
DEPARTMENTS IS HAVING PROBLEMS.

HECK, THEY COULD MAYBE EVEN SEND THEM OVER TO THE CLERK'S
OFFICE.

I'M JUST KIDDING.

>>JOE AMON: OKAY.

>>RALPH FISHER: BUT, NO, THE WORD "INTERNAL AUDITOR" --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: THAT'S WHY THE PEER REVIEW -- MR.

TARR, THE PEER REVIEW INDIVIDUAL WHO CAME IN AND DID THE

PEER REVIEW, HE SUGGESTED INTERNAL AUDITOR BECAUSE IT IS --

THERE -- A LOT OF -- AUDIT, THAT'S MORE GENERAL, IT'S NOT
LIMITED --

>>JOE AMON: YOU GUYS COME FROM AN AUDIT BACKGROUND.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: -- TO JUST PERFORMANCE AUDITS.

>>JOE AMON: YOU COME FROM AN AUDIT BACKGROUND.

I'VE PERFORMED AUDITS FOR MANY YEARS BUT AS AN ENGINEER.

THE ISSUE IS IT WAS OBVIOUS THERE WAS A CONFUSION ABOUT
WHAT THAT POSITION WAS, SO I'LL -- I'LL DEFER TO YOU.

IF YOU-ALL THINK THAT CHANGING JUST THAT MUCH OF THE NAME
WILL BE EFFECTIVE IN COMMUNICATING WHAT WE'RE TRYING TO DO,

THEN I WILL ACCEPT IT.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

MR. TOKLEY.

>>JAMES TOKLEY: PERHAPS -- PERHAPS THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT'S PRESENTATION WAS A BIT PERFORMANCE, PERHAPS IT WAS, BUT WHEN -- WHEN I RECALL THE MONTHLY MAY HEM OF THE INTERNAL AUDITOR, I WAS IN NO WAY IMPRESSED WITH THAT OFFICE.

HAVING SAID SUCH, I COULD NOT IMAGINE HOW IT COULD BE REDONE AND REOPENED.

I WOULD BE MORE -- I LEAN MORE TOWARD AN INCLINATION OF THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT BEING ABLE TO DO WHAT IT HAS DONE TRADITIONALLY.

THAT'S MY OPINION.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

MR. PRESEAU.

>>GREG PRESEAU: I THINK FOR THE SAKE OF EXPEDIENCY, WHAT WE NEED TO DO IS AMEND MAYBE YOUR REQUEST AND JUST HAVE MR. TARR'S LANGUAGE BROUGHT TO US, AND THEN WE CAN GO LINE ITEM BY LINE ITEM, GO TO THE PROFESSIONAL THAT, YOU KNOW -- THAT IS AN AUTHORITY ON THE SITUATION AS OPPOSED TO US TRYING TO COME UP OR CONSTRUCT OUR OWN VERBIAGE AND GO TO THE AUTHORITY, HAVE THEM BRING US THAT LANGUAGE IN ADDITION TO THE, YOU KNOW -- THE LANGUAGE TO, YOU KNOW, DO AWAY WITH THE POSITION.

THEN WE CAN ADDRESS THOSE ISSUES LINE ITEM BY LINE ITEM.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

LET ME JUST CLARIFY REAL QUICK.

MR. FISHER, YOU MADE AN AMENDED MOTION.

>>RALPH FISHER: YES, SIR.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: DID WE HAVE A SECOND OF THAT AMENDED -

-

>> I SECONDED.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

WE ALREADY HAVE AN AMENDED MOTION, MR. FISHER'S MOTION ON THE TABLE.

>>RALPH FISHER: THE TERM "INTERNAL AUDITOR" IS A TERM OF ART.

IT'S NOT A PERSON DETERMINING WHETHER FINANCIAL STATEMENTS ARE MATERIALLY CORRECT, IT'S A PERSON THAT HELPS MANAGEMENT IN FERRETING OUT PROBLEMS WITHIN THE ORGANIZATION.

I MEAN, YOU CAN RECOGNIZE A THEFT OF MONEY FROM A FINANCIAL STATEMENT, AND THAT'S ALL STATED PROPERLY ON THE BOOKS, YOU KNOW.

THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT COULD STATE THAT, BUT WE'RE LOOKING TO SEE WHAT ARE THOSE PROBLEMS THAT RESULTED IN THAT THEFT, SO THE INTERNAL AUDITOR -- I'M GOING TO -- THE TERM TAKING OUT THE WORD "PERFORMANCE" AND TAKING AWAY THE REVIEW OF THE BUDGET, WHICH IS A COUNTY COMMISSION FUNCTION ANYWAY, NOT AN INTERNAL AUDITOR FUNCTION -- I THINK MY

SUGGESTED SENTENCE IS ENOUGH, BUT I -- YOU KNOW, I'D SAY WE AT LEAST RECOMMEND -- I WOULD ASK THAT YOU SUPPORT THE -- THE AMENDED MOTION AND THEN AT THE NEXT HEARING WE ALSO HEAR FROM THE -- BECAUSE HE'S NOT GOING TO COME UP WITH A WHOLE NEW DESCRIPTION OF WHAT THIS GUY DOES, MR. TARR ISN'T.

HE MAY FINE-TUNE THIS WITH US.

>>GREG PRESEAU: NO, NO, NO.

I'M ASKING THAT -- HE HAD LANGUAGE THAT HE PROPOSED -- THAT HE PRESENTED.

>>RALPH FISHER: OKAY.

>>GREG PRESEAU: IT WAS LANGUAGE ALREADY DRAFTED.

>>RALPH FISHER: OKAY.

SO WE COULD LOOK AT THAT.

>>GREG PRESEAU: WE COULD HAVE THAT, YOU KNOW, BROUGHT IN -

-

>>RALPH FISHER: ALSO.

>>GREG PRESEAU: -- AS PART OF THE -- YOU KNOW, THE PROPOSAL.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: AND ALL OF THE BOARD MEMBERS WERE PROVIDED WITH A COPY OF THAT, SO --

>>GREG PRESEAU: WITH A COPY OF THAT.

BUT HE ADDRESSED OTHER ISSUES, NOT JUST THOSE SINGLE LINE ITEMS YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: YEAH.

>>GREG PRESEAU: HE ADDRESSED OTHER ISSUES THAT CONFLICTED WITH EACH OTHER THAT ALSO WAS TO THE DETRIMENT OF THE POSITION, SO --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: ACTUALLY, LET ME MENTION FOR CLARIFICATION, THE OTHER ISSUES -- AND I BELIEVE I'M CORRECT.

THOSE TWO ISSUES THAT WE'RE DISCUSSING HERE, THE INTERNAL -
- THE TITLE "INTERNAL PERFORMANCE AUDITOR" AND THE -- THE -
-

>> BUDGET ANALYST.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: -- BUDGET ANALYST WERE THE ONLY TWO ISSUES THAT WERE DIRECTLY RELATED TO THE CHARTER.

THE OTHER ISSUES HE DISCUSSED WERE ISSUES THAT COULD BE HANDLED BY THE BOCC.

THEY'RE NOT CHARTER ISSUES.

I MEAN --

>> [INCOMPREHENSIBLE CROSS TALK]

>>MITCHELL THROWER: YOU KNOW, I MEAN, I GUESS TECHNICALLY WE COULD DEAL, BUT IN TERMS OF AN AUDIT COMMITTEE AND IN TERMS OF THE STRUCTURE AND IN TERMS OF THE OFFICE LOCATION, THE ITEMS THAT CAME UP IN THE PEER REVIEW, THOSE WERE ITEMS THAT WEREN'T DIRECTLY, YOU KNOW -- I MEAN, WE COULD -- YOU KNOW, I'M NOT SAYING WE COULDN'T ADDRESS THEM, BUT THEY'RE NOT DIRECTLY CHARTER ISSUES.

>>RALPH FISHER: AND THIS THIRD THING IS IT FORCES THE

BOARD TO GIVE THE GUY A LIST OF THINGS TO DO EVERY YEAR BECAUSE HE'S SITTING UP THERE WITH NOTHING TO DO THRASHING AROUND CAUSING TROUBLE, SO WHAT WE DO IS WE MAKE THE BOARD GIVE HIM A LIST OF WHAT HE NEEDS TO GO LOOK AFTER, AND IT FORCES THEM TO LOOK AT THEMSELVES, NOT PERSONALLY BUT, YOU KNOW, AT THE ORGANIZATION.

SO THAT'S THE THIRD COMPONENT OF THIS.

WE'RE TAKING AWAY THE REVIEW FUNCTION OF THE BUDGET, WE'RE NARROWING HIS FUNCTION TO INTERNAL AUDIT, AND WE'RE HAVING THE BOARD ANNUALLY GIVE HIM A LIST OF THINGS TO DO.

THAT'S WHAT MY SENTENCE --

>> [INAUDIBLE]

>>GREG PRESEAU: I'M ASKING YOU TO DEFER TO THE LANGUAGE AS DRAFTED BY MR. TARR BECAUSE HIM BEING THE AUTHORITY ON THE SUBJECT, HE WOULD HAVE, YOU KNOW, GOOD INPUT AS TO HOW TO DRAFT THE LANGUAGE TO MAKE THAT POSITION MORE EFFECTIVE WITHIN THE CHARTER.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

COMMISSIONER PLATT AND THEN MRS. REBACK.

>>JAN PLATT: ON THIS LIST THAT WILL BE DEVELOPED ANNUALLY, THEN, ARE YOU ELIMINATING THEIR ABILITY TO HAVE INDEPENDENT -- INDIVIDUAL COMMISSIONERS GIVE FOUR-HOUR REQUESTS BECAUSE THAT'S WHAT'S HAPPENING, AND THAT'S HALF THE PROBLEM.

DOES THAT ELIMINATE THAT OR --

>>RALPH FISHER: APPARENTLY IT DOES, YEAH.

THE BOARD VOTES ON THESE THINGS, NOT INDIVIDUALS.

>>JAN PLATT: NO, BUT MY QUESTION IS IS YOUR LANGUAGE GOING TO ELIMINATE THE PRACTICE THAT CURRENTLY EXISTS THAT COMMISSIONERS CAN ASK THE ACCOUNTANT TO DO ANY KIND OF LITTLE INVESTIGATION THAT WILL ONLY TAKE FOUR HOURS BECAUSE THAT'S --

>>RALPH FISHER: UH-HUH.

>>JAN PLATT: -- BECAUSE THAT'S --

>>RALPH FISHER: I'D SAY IT APPARENTLY DOES BECAUSE IT'S AN ANNUAL LIST THAT'S GIVEN.

>>JAN PLATT: IS IT LIMITED TO THAT?

>>RALPH FISHER: I'D SAY BY MAJORITY VOTE -- THEY GIVE HIM A LIST BY MAJORITY VOTE.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MRS. REBACK AND THEN MRS. LEYTHAM.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: I DON'T THINK IT DOES ELIMINATE THAT. IT -- IT -- BUT IT DOES GIVE AN ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITY TO THE BOARD OF PROVIDING ANNUALLY A LIST OF PRIORITIES, BUT I'M -- I WANTED TO SPEAK TO THAT ISSUE BECAUSE I OBJECT TO THE LIST OF PRIORITIES COMING FROM THE BOARD ITSELF, AND I'M -- I'M -- MY SUGGESTION IS THAT WE CONSIDER RATHER THAN HAVING THE -- THE BOARD GIVE DIRECTION ANNUALLY THAT WE INCORPORATE INTO THE CHARTER THE IDEA THAT THE -- THERE WILL BE AN AUDIT COMMITTEE RATHER THAN DIRECTLY FROM THE BOARD SO THAT THE BOARD WOULD MAYBE -- AND WE CAN FIGURE

OUT A WAY SO THAT THE BOARD WOULD HAVE TO GO THROUGH THE AUDIT COMMITTEE TO GET TO THE AUDITOR BECAUSE I THINK -- I THINK THAT AN AUDIT COMMITTEE WOULD REALLY PROTECT THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE INTERNAL AUDIT PROGRAM, AND A COMMITTEE MIGHT ENSURE THAT THE COUNTY AUDITOR WOULD -- WHO GENERALLY REPORTS DIRECTLY TO THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR WOULD -- WOULD ENSURE THAT THE ADMINISTRATION IS NOT UNDULY OR ADVERSELY AFFECTED BY THESE DIRECTIVES OF THE BOARD, AND ALSO, IT WOULD REMOVE, I THINK, MORE POLITICAL PRESSURE ON THE AUDIT PROGRAM FROM THE INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS OF THE BOARD, AND SO I WOULD ASK THAT RATHER THAN IT SAY THE BOARD SHOULD DIRECT THE AUDITOR ANNUALLY, I WOULD -- I WOULD OBJECT TO THAT LANGUAGE BUT CONCEPTUALLY SUGGEST THAT WE FORMULATE A CHARTER PROVISION IN -- IN REFERENCE TO AMENDING THE INTERNAL AUDITOR CHARTER PROVISION THAT SPEAKS TO THE REQUIREMENT IN THE CHARTER THAT THERE BE AN AUDIT COMMITTEE AND THAT THE BOARD ADDRESS THE INTERNAL AUDITOR THROUGH THE AUDIT COMMITTEE.

AND I -- I REALIZE THAT -- THAT THERE'S A LOT OF ROOM FOR WHAT NEEDS TO -- WHAT THAT AUDIT COMMITTEE WOULD BE AND WHO WOULD BE ON IT AND HOW IT WOULD BE CREATED, AND THERE'S A LOT TO DISCUSS ABOUT AN AUDIT COMMITTEE, BUT I THINK I WOULD -- I WOULD VERY MUCH LIKE TO SEE THERE BE AN AUDIT COMMITTEE BECAUSE I DO THINK NOW THAT THE -- THE VICISSITUDES OF THE -- AND THE WHIMS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY

COMMISSIONERS ARE MAKING THAT OFFICE MUCH LESS EFFECTIVE THAN IT COULD BE.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

ACTUALLY, MRS. REBACK.

LET ME GET MRS. LEYTHAM, MR. TOKLEY, THEN MR. WHITE.

>>BETH LEYTHAM: AND I'LL BE QUICK BECAUSE I'VE PRETTY MUCH SAID I DON'T THINK IT'S FIXABLE, AND I WATCH YOU-ALL TRYING SO HARD TO FIX IT, BUT IT HASN'T WORKED FOR EIGHT YEARS, AND THE THINGS THAT YOU ARE TRYING TO FIX ARE GOING TO HAPPEN BECAUSE OF THE HUMANITY OF THE ENTIRE SITUATION. THE CLERK'S OFFICE IS -- IS CONSTITUTIONALLY OR STATUTORILY MANDATED TO DO THIS.

THEY CAN DO IT.

I -- I DON'T ACCEPT THAT SHE WAS GRANDSTANDING AT ALL.

I THINK SHE WAS BASING HER OPINION ON A BREADTH OF HISTORY IN COUNTY GOVERNMENT, SO FOR THAT REASON, I RESPECT WHAT YOU-ALL ARE TRYING TO DO, BUT I THINK YOU'RE SPITTING IN THE WIND.

>>JAMES TOKLEY: YES.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MR. TOKLEY.

>>JAMES TOKLEY: AND I ECHO THAT.

WE ONLY KNOW WHAT WE READ IN THE NEWS, BUT IF THE NEWSPAPER IS AUTHENTIC AND ACCURATE, WE NEED NOT QUIBBLE ABOUT THE CATASTROPHE THAT THIS OFFICE SEEMINGLY HAS BROUGHT ABOUT. IT SEEMS TO BE SOMETHING -- AN EXPERIMENT, A TOUCH OF THE

STOVE THAT PROVED THAT IF YOU PUT YOUR HAND TO THE BURNER,
IT WILL GET -- IT IS HOT.

I DON'T BELIEVE THAT THE PEOPLE OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY NEED
TO UNDERGO THAT SITUATION AGAIN.

IF THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT CAN HANDLE THE SITUATIONS
AND THE AUDITING, I THINK THEY ARE THE ONES WHO SHOULD DO
THIS AND NOT -- AND THAT THIS EXPERIMENT SHOULD BE SET TO
THE SIDE.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MR. WHITE, THEN MR. ROBINSON.

>>GERALD WHITE: THANK YOU, MR. CHAIR.

THIS SECTION 4.10, COUNTY INTERNAL PERFORMANCE AUDITOR, I
THINK ALL -- ALL THE INTENT OF GOODWILL WAS IN THE WORKS
WHEN THE PREVIOUS CHARTER REVIEW BOARD PUT THIS ON THE
BALLOT AND THE CITIZENS APPROVED IT, BUT THE BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, IN MY OPINION, HAVE REJECTED THIS
POSITION FROM THE VERY BEGINNING, AND I REALLY BELIEVE THAT
IF WE CONTINUE THIS POSITION, ALL WE'LL BE DOING IS JUST
THROWING TAX DOLLARS IN A BLACK HOLE, AND I WANT ERIC
JOHNSON, THE BUDGET DIRECTOR, BEFORE OUR NEXT PUBLIC
HEARING TO BRING BACK HOW MUCH MONEY HAS BEEN SPENT EACH
YEAR SINCE THIS OFFICE HAS BEEN CREATED, AND I WANT THE
COUNTY ATTORNEY, MARY HELEN, TO BRING BACK HOW MANY
PERFORMANCE AUDITS OR BUDGET ANALYSIS OR ANY WORK FORMALLY
HAS BEEN DONE BY THE PREVIOUS OR THE ONE THAT JUST WAS LET
GO WAS DONE, AND HOW MUCH MONEY HAS ACTUALLY BEEN SPENT

OVERALL SINCE THIS POSITION WAS CREATED.

AND I THINK WHEN YOU SEE THE COMPARISONS, YOU'LL REALIZE THAT WE'RE ON COURSE TO PUT THIS ON THE BALLOT AND ELIMINATE IT.

IT HAS NOT WORKED.

THE COMMISSIONERS DON'T WANT IT.

THE ONLY THING THAT CAN BE DONE IF THERE'S ANYTHING TO SAVE THIS POST IS TO FORCE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, THE ELECTED -- THE ELECTED PEOPLE TO CREATE AN ORDINANCE THAT WILL -- THAT WILL PUSH THIS LANGUAGE TO REALITY, AND THEY HAVE REFUSED TO DO THAT, ALL RIGHT.

THEY HAD A CHANCE WHEN THEY CREATED THE FIRST ORDINANCE THAT WOULD OUTLINE A LOT OF THESE THINGS -- ALL THIS STUFF YOU-ALL ARE TALKING ABOUT, IT ALREADY EXISTS.

IT ALREADY EXISTS.

AND SO IT'S NOT GOING TO WORK, IT HASN'T WORKED, IT'S A WASTE OF TAX DOLLARS.

THEY JUST LAID OFF ALL THESE EMPLOYEES TODAY.

THE COUNTY DON'T HAVE ANYMORE MONEY TO WASTE.

THE CITIZENS DON'T HAVE ANYMORE -- THEIR POCKETS ARE JUST ABOUT EMPTY.

WE NEED TO DO THE RIGHT THING, CONTINUE ON, AND PUT THIS ON THE BALLOT AND ALLOW THE CITIZENS TO MAKE THE -- MAKE THE FINAL DECISION BECAUSE THIS HAS OUTRIGHT BEEN A WASTE, BUT WE NEED TO SEE IT IN BLACK AND WHITE, SO I CALL PUBLICLY

FOR THE DIRECTOR OF THE BUDGET DEPARTMENT TO BRING BACK THOSE NUMBERS AND FOR MARY HELEN FARRIS, OUR COUNTY ATTORNEY, TO BRING US BACK THE WORK THAT HAS BEEN DONE.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

>>GERALD WHITE: AND THEN WE'LL SEE WHAT THE COMPARISONS LOOK LIKE AND WHY WE ARE WHERE WE ARE, MR. CHAIR, AND THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT, PAT FRANK, SHE'S A WELL-RESPECTED ELECTED OFFICIAL IN THIS COMMUNITY, AND I THINK SHE BROUGHT WISDOM BEFORE THIS BOARD.

THAT'S WHY I BELIEVE WE'RE HERE TODAY, AND I STAND WITH THE WORDS THAT SHE SAID TO US, WHAT SHE SUPPORTED IN THE BEGINNING BECAUSE I SUPPORTED THE SAME THINGS, MR. CHAIR, SHE SUPPORTED IN THE BEGINNING.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

>>GERALD WHITE: BUT THOSE THINGS DIDN'T BECOME A REALITY, AND THAT'S WHY WE'RE HERE TODAY, OUTRIGHT FAILURE OF THIS POST, AND SO LET'S JUST STOP THE GAMES, STOP TRYING TO FIX SOMETHING THAT CAN'T BE FIXED.

THIS THING IS JUST BROKE.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

MR. WHITE -- MR. ROBINSON.

REMEMBER WE DO HAVE THE AMENDED MOTION ON THE FLOOR.

MR. ROBINSON.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: LET ME SPEAK TO THAT.

I HAVE THE BOOK HERE THAT WAS GIVEN TO US BY MR. TARR, AND

HE'S MADE TWO RECOMMENDATIONS.

ONE, REVISE SECTION 4.10, COUNTY INTERNAL PERFORMANCE AUDITOR, IN THE COUNTY CHARTER TO SEGREGATE THE POSITIONS OF THE IPA AND THE BUDGET ANALYST.

SECOND WAS PAGE 12 -- I WAS READING FROM PAGE 11.

PAGE 12 HE SAYS, REVISE SECTION 4.10, COUNTY INTERNAL PERFORMANCE AUDITOR OF THE COUNTY CHARTER, TO CHANGE THE NAME OF THE INTERNAL PERFORMANCE AUDITOR TO THE INTERNAL AUDITOR.

THAT'S THE ONLY TWO THINGS THAT I'M SAYING NEED TO BE DONE OR ELSE LET ME TELL YOU WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN.

IF YOU DON'T GET TEN VOTES, THE COUNTY PERFORMANCE AUDITOR IS GOING TO STILL BE IN HERE.

IF THE PEOPLE -- IF YOU GOT TEN VOTES, PEOPLE PROBABLY MAY NOT VOTE FOR IT TO BE TAKEN OFF.

IT MAY BE -- WE MAYBE GET INTO ONE OF THESE SITUATIONS -- I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT THIS, YOU KNOW, HOW WE CAN GET THINGS OUT THERE, AND THAT IS IS WE MAY PROPOSE TWO ITEMS ON THE PERFORMANCE AUDITOR TO BE ON THE BALLOT, ONE TO COMPLETELY ELIMINATE IT AND ONE TO CHANGE THESE TWO SECTIONS THAT THIS EXPERT THAT MR. AMON WAS ASKING ABOUT CHANGED, AND THAT'S BASICALLY WHAT HE SAID CHANGE DEALING WITH THE CHARTER.

ALL THE OTHER THINGS WERE FOR THE COUNTY COMMISSION TO WORK OUT.

AND I'M GOING TO TELL YOU SOMETHING, GERALD, YOU'RE WRONG.
ALL OF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ARE NOT FOR GETTING RID OF
THE INTERNAL PERFORMANCE AUDITOR.

>> MIKE.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: KEVIN BECKNER TOLD ME THAT.

I MIGHT CALL KEVIN WHITE, AND HE MIGHT TELL YOU THAT, BUT
WHAT I'M SAYING IS ALL THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ARE NOT FOR
GETTING RID OF THE INTERNAL PERFORMANCE AUDITOR.

THEY'RE LOOKING FOR US TO REVIEW ALL THIS AND GIVE THEM
GUIDANCE BECAUSE -- LET ME TELL YOU WHY.

YOU CAN PICK UP THE PHONE AND CALL THAT INTERNAL AUDITOR --

I'M NOT EVEN SAYING THE WORD "INTERNAL PERFORMANCE
AUDITOR," I'M SAYING INTERNAL AUDITOR.

I PICK UP THAT PHONE TO THAT INTERNAL AUDITOR AND I SAY,
LOOK HERE, I NEED YOU TO GO CHECK OUT THIS ITEM FOR ME.

HE GOING TO GO DO IT.

I PICK UP THE PHONE AND CALL THE CLERK OF THE COURT, LET ME
GET BACK WITH YOU, LET ME SEE WHAT THE REST OF MY STUFF IS.

THAT IS WHY THIS WHOLE ISSUE OF INTERNAL PERFORMANCE
AUDITOR CAME ABOUT BECAUSE THEY WEREN'T HAPPY WITH WHAT
THEY WAS GETTING WITH THE CLERK.

THAT'S WHY.

SO -- BUT THEY DIDN'T THINK IT OUT.

THAT'S WHY THIS CHARTER NEEDS TO MAKE SURE WE THINK THINGS
OUT WHY DOES STUFF GET ON THE BALLOT, WHY IT'S COMING OFF.

SO I'M SAYING I DON'T THINK EVERY COUNTY COMMISSIONER WANTS TO GET RID OF THAT PERSON-TO-PERSON TO GO CHECK SOMETHING OUT.

WHAT THEY GOT IS -- IS AN INTERNAL PERFORMANCE AUDITOR WITH ALL THE PROBLEMS.

CHANGE THE NAME TO THE INTERNAL AUDITOR LIKE THE EXPERT SAID, LIKE MR. AMON SAID, GET RID OF THE BUDGET ANALYST LIKE THE EXPERT SAID, AND THEN LET THE COUNTY COMMISSION DEAL WITH IT, OKAY, BUT I DON'T THINK WE NEED TO THROW THE BABY OUT WITH THE BATHWATER BECAUSE YOU'RE SAYING THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS DON'T LIKE IT.

WELL, WE ONLY HEARD ONE COUNTY COMMISSIONER COME IN HERE TO DATE, AND THAT WAS KEVIN BECKNER.

HE DIDN'T SAY THROW IT OUT, HE SAID CLEAN IT UP.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MR. REDDICK.

>>FRANK REDDICK: WELL, I JUST WANT TO -- I WAS GOING SAY SOMETHING, BUT I'M JUST GOING TO ECHO MR. ROBINSON'S COMMENTS AND AGREE WHOLEHEARTEDLY WITH WHAT HE STATED, AND I WANT TO -- ALSO JUST WANT TO STATE FOR THE RECORD AGAIN THAT MY STATEMENTS THAT I MADE PREVIOUSLY STAND BECAUSE I DO BELIEVE THERE WAS POLITICAL GRANDSTANDING, AND I WILL STAND BY THAT, AND, YOU KNOW, IT'S GOOD TO HAVE WHERE SOME MEMBERS -- YOU CAN GET A NICE SMILE FROM THE AUDIENCE, AND THEN ALL OF A SUDDEN YOU THINK THE PERSON IS THE GREATEST PERSON IN THE WORLD, BUT I STAND BY THOSE COMMENTS.

I'M READY AND PREPARED TO SUPPORT THE AMENDMENT TO THE MOTION, AND I CALL FOR THE QUESTION.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: WELL, WAIT A MINUTE, THERE'S AN AMENDED MOTION.

>>FRANK REDDICK: [INAUDIBLE]

>>JOE AMON: AMENDED MOTION.

>>FRANK REDDICK: [INAUDIBLE] AMENDED MOTION.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: WELL, WAIT A MINUTE.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: WAIT, WAIT, WAIT, WAIT.

WE GOT A CALL FOR QUESTION.

IS THERE A SECOND ON THAT CALL FOR QUESTION?

>>JOE AMON: YES.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: SECOND ON CALL FOR THE QUESTION.

ANY DISCUSSION ON THE CALL FOR QUESTION BEFORE WE VOTE ON THE CALL FOR QUESTION?

>>GERALD WHITE: MR. CHAIR --

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: IF WE VOTE FOR THE AMENDED MOTION, ARE WE ALSO VOTING FOR THE LANGUAGE TO PUT IN ABOUT THE --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: YES.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: -- ABOUT THE BOARD DIRECTS YEARLY --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: YES.

IF -- YES, WE ARE VOTING ON THAT.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: -- THE BOARD SHALL GIVE DIRECTION ANNUALLY?

>>MITCHELL THROWER: IF THAT AMENDED MOTION DOESN'T PASS,

WE'LL GO BACK TO THE ORIGINAL MOTION, WHICH IS MR. ROBINSON'S MOTION, WHICH INCLUDES THE TWO ISSUES THAT MR. TARR -- WE EITHER VOTE FOR MR. FISHER'S WHICH INCLUDES GETTING THE DIRECTION FROM THE BOCC CONCERNING WHAT AUDITS TO WORK ON.

LIKE I SAID, IF THAT FAILS, WE GO BACK TO THE ORIGINAL MOTION BY MR. -- MR. ROBINSON, RIGHT, YOU MADE THE ORIGINAL ONE?

>>GINA GRIMES: THAT'S JUST TO BRING IT BACK FOR DISCUSSION?

>>MITCHELL THROWER: JUST TO BRING IT -- TO HAVE -- WE'RE ASKING LEGAL TO DRAFT SOME WORDING TO BRING BACK FOR DISCUSSION AT THE NEXT MEETING.

>>GINA GRIMES: IT MAY NOT BE PERFECT OR FINAL --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: THAT'S ALL THE MOTION'S ABOUT.

>>GERALD WHITE: MR. CHAIR, NOT TO SINGLE OUT ANY COMMISSIONER, POLICY IS PASSED BY A MAJORITY, AND I'M SPEAKING AS IT RELATE TO THE MAJORITY OF THE BOARD. WHEN THE POLICY -- THE ORDINANCE SPEAKS FOR ITSELF, AND SO WE'RE NOT SINGLING OUT ANY ONE COMMISSIONER WHEN WE TALK ABOUT THE DIRECTION OF THIS POST, WE'RE TALKING ABOUT WHAT A MAJORITY DECIDES.

COMMISSIONER PLATT HAS ALREADY EDUCATED US ON THIS.

IF THE BOARD WANTED TO SAVE THIS POST, THEY WOULD HAVE DONE IT ALREADY, AND THEY HAVEN'T.

AND ALSO, I WOULD REQUEST THAT THE COUNTY ATTORNEY BRING
BACK I GUESS IT'S AN ORDINANCE OR A RESOLUTION OR SOMETHING
THAT THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS PASSED THAT
CREATED I GUESS IT WAS THE CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE.
THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS CITIZEN ADVISORY
COMMITTEE WAS GIVEN DIRECTION UNDER A RESOLUTION OR
ORDINANCE --

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: THAT'S A DIFFERENT TOPIC.

>>GERALD WHITE: NO, IT'S RELATED TO THIS --

>> [INAUDIBLE]

>>GERALD WHITE: THAT SHE BRING THAT DOCUMENT BACK BECAUSE
THAT DOCUMENT --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MR. WHITE, MR. WHITE, MR. WHITE --

>>GERALD WHITE: THAT DOCUMENT GAVE --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: -- LIMIT IT TO THE DISCUSSION ON
THIS --

>>GERALD WHITE: IT IS.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: -- AMENDED MOTION.

>>GERALD WHITE: IT IS, BUT THIS IS --

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: THERE'S A CALL FOR THE QUESTION.

>>GERALD WHITE: -- A PART OF THAT.

WE NEED TO HAVE THAT.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: THE DISCUSSION'S CLOSED.

>>GERALD WHITE: THEY NEED TO HAVE THAT -- THEY NEED TO
HAVE THAT DOCUMENT THAT GAVE THE CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

--

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MR. WHITE, MR. WHITE --

>>GERALD WHITE: [INDISCERNIBLE CROSS TALK]

>>MITCHELL THROWER: -- YOU'RE OUT OF ORDER.

>>GERALD WHITE: -- DEALING WITH THE SCOPE --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: YOU'RE OUT OF ORDER.

>>GERALD WHITE: -- THE SCOPE OF AUDITS.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: WE'VE GOT A CALL TO QUESTION.

>>GERALD WHITE: SO I REQUEST THAT.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: IT'S BEEN SECONDED WITH VOTING ON --

>>GERALD WHITE: MARY HELEN, I REQUEST THAT DOCUMENT.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

ALL IN FAVOR OF THE CALL TO QUESTION, PLEASE RAISE YOUR
RIGHT HAND.

ANYONE OPPOSED?

OKAY.

NOW WE'RE GOING TO VOTE ON MR. FISHER'S MOTION.

I'M GOING TO HAVE HIM RESTATE IT.

IT'S THE AMENDED MOTION.

>> [INAUDIBLE]

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: [INAUDIBLE]

>>RALPH FISHER: I WAS COMING UP WITH THE SPECIFIC LANGUAGE
TO IMPLEMENT MR. TARR'S RECOMMENDATIONS, OKAY.

THEY WERE WE TAKE OUT THE WORD "PERFORMANCE," OKAY

THROUGHOUT SECTION 4.1.

NUMBER TWO, IN THE FIRST SENTENCE OF THE FOURTH SECTION OF SECTION 4.1 IS AMENDED TO READ, THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SHALL ANNUALLY GIVE DIRECTION TO THE INTERNAL AUDITOR REGARDING THE CONDUCT OF INTERNAL AUDITS OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY WITH ANNUAL WRITTEN REPORTS TO BE SUBMITTED TO BOTH THE BOARD AND THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR. OKAY.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: AND THE BUDGET ANALYST.

>>RALPH FISHER: THE BUDGET ANALYST WAS REMOVED.

>>GINA GRIMES: HE TOOK THAT OUT.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: [INAUDIBLE]

>>RALPH FISHER: OKAY.

WELL, IT'S GONE, SO THERE'S NO REFERENCE TO BUDGET ANALYST.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: THAT'S PART OF YOUR MOTION, THE BUDGET ANALYST --

>>RALPH FISHER: RIGHT, THE BUDGET ANALYST IS GONE.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: [INDISCERNIBLE CROSS TALK] THE TITLE.

>>RALPH FISHER: SO WHAT I'M DOING IS BEING SPECIFIC ON WHAT WE'RE GOING TO RECOMMEND -- JUST ASKING MARY STILES -- MARY HELEN FARRIS, SORRY -- WHAT A FREUDIAN SLIP -- TO COME BACK WITH LANGUAGE TO SUGGEST THE SPECIFICS OF IMPLEMENTING MR. TARR'S RECOMMENDATIONS, AND THIS WAS A SUGGESTED SENTENCE TO DO THAT.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

ALL IN FAVOR OF THAT MOTION PLEASE RAISE YOUR RIGHT HAND.

ALL OPPOSED.

FIVE.

OKAY.

LET ME MAKE SURE.

FIVE OPPOSED.

AND THERE WERE -- LET ME MAKE --

>>RALPH FISHER: 13.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: 13 HERE.

OKAY.

THE MOTION PASSES WITH --

>>RALPH FISHER: 7-6.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: NO, THERE WERE FIVE OPPOSED, SO 8-5.

8-5.

THOSE OPPOSED RAISE YOUR RIGHT HAND ONE MORE TIME.

COMMISSIONER PLATT, MR. TOKLEY, MR. THROWER, MR. WHITE, AND
MRS. LEYTHAM.

OKAY.

THANK YOU.

>>GERALD WHITE: MR. CHAIR.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: YES, MR. WHITE.

>>GERALD WHITE: I WOULD REQUEST FROM THE COUNTY ATTORNEY
THAT SHE BRINGS BACK THE BOARD POLICY AS IT RELATE TO THE
HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON HOW THAT
GROUP WAS SUPPOSED TO WORK WITH THE INTERNAL PERFORMANCE
AUDITOR, AND I ALSO WOULD PUBLICLY LIKE TO REQUEST THAT THE

CHAIR OF THE CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPEAR AT OUR NEXT PUBLIC HEARING TO LET US KNOW HOW THAT RELATIONSHIP -- DID THEY HAVE A RELATIONSHIP RELATED TO SCOPE OF AUDITS. THAT WAS A BOARD POLICY, AND I WANT TO KNOW ON WHAT LEVEL WAS IT EXECUTED, DID ANYTHING TAKE PLACE BECAUSE MS. REBACK TALKED ABOUT A COMMITTEE.

WELL, THE COMMISSIONERS CREATED A COMMITTEE UNDER THE POLICY, AND WE STILL HAD ALL THESE PROBLEMS, SO THAT'S WHY I WANT TO BACK UP THAT DOCUMENT --

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: I DON'T THINK THAT'S WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT.

>>GERALD WHITE: -- THAT DOCUMENT RELATED TO THE CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND DID THEY ACTUALLY ASSIST THE INTERNAL PERFORMANCE AUDITOR.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

ARE YOU MAKING A MOTION, MR. WHITE?

>>GERALD WHITE: WELL, DO I NEED ONE JUST TO REQUEST -- IT'S A FORMAL DOCUMENT.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MAKE A MOTION.

>>GERALD WHITE: I COULD BRING IT, BUT DO I HAVE TO MAKE IT JUST FOR A DOCUMENT?

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: ABSOLUTELY.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MAKE A MOTION.

IF I'M GOING TO MAKE MR. ROBINSON MAKE A MOTION, I'D LIKE YOU TO MAKE A MOTION.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: [INAUDIBLE]

>>GERALD WHITE: MR. CHAIR, JUST ONE DOCUMENT.

I'LL SUBMIT THE DOCUMENT.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

THANK YOU.

>>GERALD WHITE: I'LL SUBMIT THE DOCUMENT.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: SUBMIT IT IN TO THE RECORD, THAT WOULD BE GREAT.

>>GERALD WHITE: MARY HELEN, CAN YOU GET ME THAT DOCUMENT, I CAN PASS IT OUT?

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

MRS. FARRIS.

>>MARY HELEN FARRIS: I WAS JUST GOING TO ASK MR. FISHER IF I COULD GET A COPY OF THAT LANGUAGE TO MAKE SURE I HAVE IT. YOU CAN E-MAIL IT TO ME.

AND JUST IN CASE -- I THOUGHT THIS MIGHT COME UP -- I'VE ALREADY DONE A ROUGH DRAFT THAT DOES BOTH.

IT TAKES OUT THE BUDGET ANALYST.

I JUST CROSSED OUT THE COMPLETE INTERNAL PERFORMANCE AUDITOR, BUT I CAN CHANGE THAT, AND WITH THE ADDITION OF THIS LANGUAGE -- AND AGAIN, I WILL TRY TOMORROW TO GET BOTH OF THESE DONE -- BOTH OF THESE DONE, PUT ON THE WEB, SENT OUT TO YOU SO THAT PEOPLE HAVE AS MUCH TIME AS THEY CAN TO REVIEW THEM.

IT'S NOT AN INCREDIBLE CHANGE BECAUSE WE'VE ALREADY TALKED

ABOUT MR. TARR'S RECOMMENDATIONS.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

COMMISSIONER PLATT.

>>JAN PLATT: PROCESS.

IN TWO INSTANCES WE'VE ASKED FOR ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE FOR THOSE DIFFERENT -- WHEN WE MEET AT THE NEXT PUBLIC HEARING, HOW MANY VOTES WILL IT TAKE TO PASS ONE OF THE OPTIONS, SAY, ON -- BECAUSE WE'VE GOT TWO -- TWO PROPOSALS, BUT WE'VE GOT TWO PROPOSAL --

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: TEN VOTES.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: TEN VOTES.

TEN OF THE 14 GETS IT ON THE BALLOT.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: WE CAN PUT BOTH OF THEM ON THE BALLOT.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: I GUESS TECHNICALLY WE COULD.

IT WOULD CONFUSE THE HECK OUT OF PEOPLE.

>>JAN PLATT: [INAUDIBLE]

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: OH, IT'S TEN VOTES.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: THAT WOULD CONFUSE THE HECK -- YOU TALK ABOUT CONFUSING.

I MEAN, TECHNICALLY I GUESS WE COULD.

>>JAN PLATT: OKAY.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MRS. REBACK.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: I -- I -- I'M WONDERING WHETHER, YOU KNOW -- IN CRITIQUING MR. FISHER'S PROPOSED LANGUAGE, I BROUGHT UP THE IDEA OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE, AND I'M

WONDERING WHETHER -- I'D LIKE A SENSE OF THIS BOARD AS TO WHETHER THERE'S INTEREST IN PART OF -- AS PART OF OUR WORK TO AMEND THE OFFICE BY CHARTER AMENDMENT IF THIS BOARD FEELS IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE TO HAVE THE NEED FOR THE AUDIT COMMITTEE BE PLACED IN THE CHARTER ITSELF AS OPPOSED TO RELYING ON THE GOODWILL OF THE COUNTY COMMISSION IN ESTABLISHING AN AUDIT COMMITTEE.

I MEAN, OBVIOUSLY THAT'S ONE ALTERNATIVE.

THE COUNTY COMMISSION COULD ESTABLISH AN AUDIT COMMITTEE AND COULD GIVE IT CERTAIN POWERS AND DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OR WE COULD PUT IT IN THE CHARTER AND ASK THE ELECTORATE WHETHER THEY WANT IT OR NOT.

I PREFER THAT IT COME OUT OF THE COUNTY COMMISSION ITSELF, AND SO I'M WONDERING IF MAYBE IT MIGHT BE APPROPRIATE FOR THIS BOARD TO PASS A RESOLUTION ASKING THE -- ASKING THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO SET UP AN AUDIT COMMITTEE IF -- IF WE -- IF WE DON'T PASS -- IF WE DON'T PASS THE BALLOT MEASURE REMOVING THE AUDITOR COMPLETELY, THEN I WOULD ASK US TO CONSIDER -- AND IT'S PREMATURE, SO I'M NOT MAKING A MOTION AT THIS MOMENT, BUT I WOULD ASK US THEN TO CONSIDER MAYBE A RESOLUTION TO THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ASKING THEM OR -- OR RESOLVING TO TELL THEM THAT IT'S A REALLY IMPORTANT IDEA TO DEVELOP AN AUDIT COMMITTEE.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MRS. REBACK, I THINK THAT'S A GOOD

POINT.

I'LL TELL YOU, I WANT TO CLARIFY MY VOTE.

THE REASON I DID NOT VOTE FOR THAT -- I AGREE WITH THE AUDIT COMMITTEE, AND I WANTED TO STUDY THAT A LITTLE BIT MORE BEFORE I VOTED FOR MR. FISHER'S RECOMMENDATION BECAUSE I DO THINK AN AUDIT COMMITTEE IS CRITICAL TO HAVE IN PLACE, AND THERE'S A LOT OF OTHER STRUCTURAL THINGS THAT AREN'T INVOLVED WITH THE CHARTER.

I THINK TO SAY THIS POSITION IS COMPLETELY, YOU KNOW -- I MEAN, PERFORMANCE AUDITORS HAVE FUNCTIONED VERY WELL IN OTHER COMMUNITIES, SO I JUST WANTED TO CLARIFY MY VOTE BECAUSE I DO THINK AN AUDIT COMMITTEE IS CRITICAL IF THIS POSITION'S GOING TO FUNCTION PROPERLY.

SO -- AND MR. TARR, THE PERFORMANCE -- THE AUDITOR WHO DID THE PEER REVIEW, HE CAME TO THAT SAME CONCLUSION, SO -- MR. ROBINSON.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: MR. CHAIRMAN, I'M SO GLAD YOU'RE AN AUDITOR.

IT SAYS RIGHT HERE ON PAGE 9 BECAUSE I BROUGHT MY BOOK BECAUSE I KNOW WE WERE TALKING ABOUT THIS INTERNAL AUDITOR. IT SAYS RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE BOCC, ESTABLISH AN AUDIT COMMITTEE TO OVERSEE THE INTERNAL AUDIT PROCESS.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: YEAH.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: SO I'M ALL FOR YOU.

IF YOU BRING THAT MOTION UP ON THE 13th, I'LL SECOND IT.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: I'M DOING IT.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: WE'LL SEND A RESOLUTION UP TO THEM
AND --

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: RIGHT.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: [INAUDIBLE] BECAUSE REMEMBER FOLKS,
WE'RE GOING TO HAVE A NEW COUNTY COMMISSION BY THE TIME
THIS GO DOWN.

>>GERALD WHITE: MR. CHAIR.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: WAIT.

LET ME LET MR. PRESEAU, AND THEN MR. WHITE, YOU CAN GO.

>>GREG PRESEAU: I WOULD SUGGEST THAT WE RESERVE TIME FOR
OUR REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING FOR OUR AGENDA THAT MAYBE WE
COULD HAVE SOME ORE DISCUSSION ON THIS.

WE COULD HAMMER OUT SOME IDEAS FOR VERBIAGE FOR THIS AND
FOR THE, YOU KNOW, VETO.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

>>GREG PRESEAU: -- IF WE PUT THAT ON OUR AGENDA FOR THE
NEXT MEETING, WHICH IS THE 12th, WHICH IS --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: I'LL TALK TO EDITH.

>>GREG PRESEAU: -- RIGHT AHEAD OF OUR PUBLIC MEETING.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: LET ME MAKE A COMMENT BEFORE MR.
WHITE.

I JUST WANTED TO MENTION I'VE SPOKEN TO MR. SAM McCALL.
HE'S THE AUDITOR WITH THE CITY OF TALLAHASSEE, AND I WILL
FORWARD SOME OF THE COMMENTS I GOT FROM HIM.

I ASKED HIM SPECIFIC QUESTIONS.

HE HAS A VERY -- I THINK IT'S INTERESTING BECAUSE IT'S DISCUSSIONS CONCERNING AUDIT COMMITTEE SIZE AND WHAT -- I THINK IT MIGHT BE INTERESTING FOR OUR DISCUSSION IN THE FUTURE.

I'LL FORWARD HIS E-MAILS TO YOU.

I'VE ASKED HIM SOME QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SIZE AND WHAT WORKS FOR TALLAHASSEE.

HE IS WELL RESPECTED IN THE FIELD THAT HE CAME AND SPOKE WITH BOCC EARLIER ON, AND I KNOW HE IS -- TALK ABOUT AN EXPERT IN THE FIELD OF AUDITING AND PERFORMANCE AUDITING AND GOVERNMENT AUDITING, THIS GUY'S GOOD, SO I WILL FORWARD YOU HIS COMMENTS THAT I'VE RECEIVED BEFORE THE NEXT MEETING JUST SO THAT YOU CAN SEE HIS RESPONSES.

SO MR. WHITE.

>>GERALD WHITE: WELL, YOU KNOW, IF WE'RE NOT GOING TO PUT SOME LANGUAGE THAT -- TOGETHER THAT WOULD ACTUALLY MANDATE A LOT OF THESE THINGS THAT WE'RE SAYING -- IF WE'RE ALLOWING FOR IT TO BE DONE BY WAY OF AN ORDINANCE, THIS IS NEVER GOING TO HAPPEN, AND I JUST WANTED TO SAY I BELIEVE THAT THE CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE SERVE AS THE AUDIT COMMITTEE UNDER THE BOARD'S POLICY.

THAT'S WHY I WANT THAT POLICY.

AND I ALSO REQUEST THAT WE RECEIVE A COPY OF THE ORDINANCE UNDER THIS LANGUAGE THAT OUTLINE A LOT OF THIS STUFF THAT

WE'RE TALKING ABOUT.

WE NEED TO HAVE THAT ORDINANCE.

AND I ALSO WOULD LIKE TO REQUEST, IF WE'RE GOING TO PUT THIS AUDIT POST ON THE AGENDA, THAT WE HAVE THE BUDGET DIRECTOR, ERIC JOHNSON, HERE TO SPEAK TO THIS ISSUE AND RELATED TO HOW HE FEEL AS THE BUDGET DIRECTOR OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY THINGS HAS GONE, AND SO WE HAVEN'T HEARD FROM THE FINANCIAL SECTOR OF THE COUNTY, THE BUDGET DIRECTOR, ON THIS MATTER, SO MR. CHAIRMAN, IF YOU -- IF YOU SCHEDULE THIS AUDIT DISCUSSION AT OUR REGULAR MEETING, WE NEED TO HAVE THE BUDGET DIRECTOR, ERIC JOHNSON, HERE TO SPEAK TO THE AUDIT COMMITTEE, TO SPEAK TO THE BOARD ORDINANCE, AND WHAT HE THINKS SHOULD HAPPEN RELATED TO THIS POST.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

LET ME JUST MAKE A COMMENT.

MR. ROBINSON JUST POINTED OUT TO ME THE ORDINANCE WAS INCLUDED, AND I BELIEVE IT'S THE BOOK THAT THE AUDITOR GAVE -- THE FORMER AUDITOR GAVE US.

THE ORDINANCE IS IN THERE, A COPY OF IT, THAT ALL THE BOARD MEMBERS RECEIVED, SO YOU MAY WANT TO REVIEW THAT BEFORE THE NEXT MEETING -- REGULAR MEETING AND THE NEXT PUBLIC HEARING.

>>GERALD WHITE: I REALLY -- REALLY, I JUST WANT TO SAY THIS AGAIN.

I WANT TO MAKE IT CLEAR.

I'M NOT TOTALLY AGAINST KEEPING THIS POST, BUT I AM AGAINST JUST WASTING THE MONEY IF WE'RE NOT GOING TO PUT IT IN THIS BOOK TO MANDATE IT THAT IT BE DONE.

IF WE LEAVE IT UP TO SOMEBODY ELSE TO DO IT, I'M TELLING YOU, IT'S GOING TO BE MORE OF THE SAME, IT'S NOT GOING TO BE DONE, AND THE NEXT CHARTER REVIEW BOARD WILL BE BACK HERE FIVE YEARS AGO TRYING TO FIX SOMETHING THAT CAN'T BE FIXED.

UNLESS YOU DESIGN IT AND PUT IT IN THIS BOOK AND MANDATE THAT IT BE DONE, AUDITS BE DONE, WORK BE CARRIED OUT, THE AMOUNT OF BUDGET, THE AMOUNT OF STAFF, ALL THAT KIND OF STUFF, THEY'RE JUST GOING TO PLAY POLITICS WITH IT AND IT'S GOING TO BE MORE OF THE SAME.

THAT'S ALL I'M SAYING.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: THE VOTERS STILL HAVE TO APPROVE IT, MR. WHITE.

>>GERALD WHITE: THEY APPROVED THIS.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: JUST BECAUSE YOU PUT IT IN THERE --

>>GERALD WHITE: THEY APPROVED THIS AND IT'S NOT STRONG ENOUGH.

LOOK AT THE MONEY THAT'S BEEN WASTED.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

ANY FURTHER -- LET ME SEE.

NO MOTIONS ON THE FLOOR.

ANY FURTHER DISCUSSIONS CONCERNING THIS ITEM?

OKAY.

DO WE HAVE A MOTION TO ADJOURN?

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: SO MOVE.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: SECOND?

>> SECOND.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: ALL IN FAVOR OF ADJOURNMENT PLEASE

RAISE YOUR RIGHT HAND.

ANYONE OPPOSED?

>> YEAH.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MEETING'S ADJOURNED.

THANK YOU.