



JACKSONVILLE CITY COUNCIL

**TRUE COMMISSION
LEGISLATIVE TRACKING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
March 16, 2012
9:30a.m.**

**City Council Conference Room A
Suite 425, City Hall
117 W. Duval Street**

Attendance: Committee Members Joe Andrews (Chair), Greg Radlinski and Diane Brown

Excused: Tom Martin

Also: Jeff Clements – Council Research Division

The meeting was called to order at 9:33 a.m. by Chairman Andrews and the following bills were reviewed:

2012-70 (appropriating \$75,000 for construction of a dog park at Ed Austin Regional Park): the bill was defeated by City Council on a 9-9 vote at Tuesday's meeting. Commissioner Radlinski reported that he had presented Commissioner Andrews' letter of opposition to the TRUE Commission at its last meeting (from which Mr. Andrews was excused) but the commission did not take action on the proposal at that time.

2012-143 (amending the Ordinance Code to permit the Supervisor of Elections to direct mid-year budget savings to pay down Banking Fund borrowing): Jeff Clements explained that the Supervisor proposed the amendment as a mechanism to allow him to apply mid-year budget savings from operating efficiencies to pay down his Banking Fund rather than having the funds be swept into the General Fund as fund balance at the end of the fiscal year. That practice does not give a department head any incentive to be frugal since the department does not benefit from the savings.

Motion (Radlinski): that the TRUE Commission recommends approval of the bill contingent upon the insertion of a 2-year trial period with a sunset provision prompting Council action if it wanted to continue this program for the SOE and/or expand it to other City departments, unless renewed by City Council after a trial period – **approved 3-0.**

2012-142 (amending the Ordinance Code to require that City Council meetings be broadcast live or on tape delay on a public or cable television station): the committee debated the intention of the legislation and the possible alternatives for meeting the bill's apparent intent. Questions were raised about the possible costs involved in getting the meetings broadcast on something other than the current free government access channels.

Motion (Radlinski): that the TRUE Commission 1) urges the City Council to postpone action on the bill while doing research on the number of potential viewers not already served by current meeting broadcast venues and the costs of achieving the bill's apparent intent; or 2) should the Council decline to postpone action, TRUE supports the proposal contingent upon amendment of the bill to include language in the Code making the mandate to televise subject to the annual availability of funds to do so – **approved 3-0.**

012-149 (authorizing issuance of up to \$8.1 million of industrial development revenue bonds for the benefit of Fannie E. Taylor Home for the Aged): Commissioner Radlinski did not have a particular objection to this project, but suggested that the TRUE Commission may wish to look at the broader issue of tax-advantaged bond issues for non-government entities (IDBs, hospital facility revenue bonds, housing assistance bonds, etc.).

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:42 a.m.

Jeff Clements, Chief
Council Research Division
630-1405

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9:00 a.m.