The workshop was called to order by Mayor Fland Sharp at 6:00 PM

The following City Council members were in attendance:

Lee Buck
Penny Christian
Steve Hartkemeyer
Rick Knight
Dick Matthews
Tom Taylor
Mayor Fland Sharp

Also present were City Manager George Forbes, Police Chief Bruce Thomason and City Clerk Heidi Huettinger.

**Purpose of Workshop**

The purpose of the workshop was to discuss the downtown paid parking program.

The Mayor introduced Bob Chapman and Lara Diettrich from the parking consultant, Kimley-Horn. Mr. Chapman explained that they have been working with the City to help facilitate a summer parking program. He stated that the City ran a pilot program last summer and their goal this year is to bring order to the program and add security to the parking lots. As a result, the City sent out an RFP for parking management and security guard services. An evaluation committee reviewed the proposals and interviewed the top applicants. They have recommended Republic Parking for the parking management services. Mr. Chapman introduced Marcus Roberts, Ben Turner, and Brenda Mateer from Republic Parking System.

The sole respondent to the RFP for security services was Giddens Security Corporation. Since they meet the qualification requirements and have positive references, they have been recommended for the security services. Mr. Chapman introduced Adam Giddens and Tony Ewest from Giddens Security Corporation.

Mr. Chapman pointed out that in addition to the parking management and security services provided by these companies, they would also act as ambassadors for the City by giving directions and assisting the citizens.

Ms. Diettrich stated that she participated in a capacity/geography study that encompassed 5 fifteen-hour days (from 10am to 1am). As part of the study, they collected data and inventoried the number of parking spaces to be 2,000 between 16th Ave. N and 16th Ave. S. One thousand of
those spaces are between 6th Ave. N and 6th Ave. S. In their data collection and interviews of individuals parking in the downtown area, they were able to determine that 40% of the individuals parking in these spots were not from Duval County.

A discussion followed with the Council discussing the budget for the downtown CAPE program, security and crime issues, and identifying alcohol consumption as the predominant cause of 90% of the problems in the downtown area. Also discussed was the impact of paid parking on local businesses and their employees. Mr. Taylor and Mr. Buck expressed concern about causing harm to businesses that are already struggling with the recession. That issue was discussed and several Council members indicated that they were in favor of the program and did not believe that it would cause harm to the downtown businesses.

The meeting adjourned at 6:49 PM.

Submitted by: Heidi Huettinger
City Clerk

Approved:

/s/Fland O. Sharp
Fland O. Sharp, Mayor

Date: May 17, 2010