

Closed Session – September 18, 2012

Pursuant to NCGS 143.318.11(a)(6), NCGS 143.318(a) (4) and NCGS143-318.11(a)(5), the City Council of the City of Raleigh met in closed session at 3:06 pm in Room 205, Raleigh Municipal Building, 222 West Hargett Street, Raleigh, NC to conduct the performance reviews of the City Attorney and City Clerk, to discuss an economic development opportunity and to discuss acquisition of real property on Western Boulevard. All Council members were present. Also present were City Manager Allen, City Attorney McCormick and City Clerk Smith. The following items were discussed.

Jehovah's Witnesses

Present to discuss this item were Dave Olsen PNC Center and a representative of GRCVB.

City Manager Allen stated this is the annual request for funding of the Jehovah Witness meeting at the PNC Center. In previous years, the City Council has put \$150,000 in the budget for this event. City Manager Allen stated the Council knew his feelings about the request.

Representatives of GRCVB presented the attached return on investment as a result of the 2011 program and the request was briefly explained.

Mayor McFarlane asked what project the Jehovah Witnesses proposes and whether we could get a project such as Habitat for Humanity or something of that nature. Mr. Olsen stated they like to do things in the facility (PNC). He talked about possible programs such as tree planting at PNC, etc. Projects that have been completed by the group in the past were discussed.. The fact that the project is not necessarily tied to the meeting time in Raleigh was discussed. Mayor McFarlane expressed concern about the lack of cooperation on doing a project. Mr. Weeks talked about the needs at Helping Hand Mission. Work to get a partnership put together and get a project outlined was discussed.

Mr. Odom stated he could support the request as is and talked about the economic development it brings to the city. Mayor McFarlane asked if the City Council is ok with pursuing a partnership with Helping Hand Mission with all the Council agreeing. Mr. Gaylord talked about the possibility of using the 9/11 network to help get the project identified and working.

Ms. Baldwin moved approval of coming up with a list outlining three potential projects and tell the group that the appropriation comes with the condition that the group helps with one of the projects. Her motion was seconded by Mr. Crowder and put to a vote which passed unanimously.

Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses 2011 programs-ROI

Projected Hotel Revenue (19,428 rooms x \$69) = \$1,340,532

Projected Lodging Tax Revenue (1,340,532 x .06) = \$80,432

Projected F & B Revenue (22,000 attendees x \$42(50% less than exact) x 7days)=\$6,468,000

Projected F & B Tax Revenue (\$6,468,000 x .01) = \$64,680

Total Revenue (\$1,340,532 + \$6,468,000) = \$7,808,532

Projected Sales Tax Revenue (\$7,808,532 x .02) = \$156,171

Total projected Tax Revenue (\$80,432 + \$64,680 + \$156,171) = \$301,283

Investment

City of Raleigh \$150,000

Centennial Authority \$100,000

GRCVB \$25,000

Total \$275,000