



ANNA LOPEZ BROSCHÉ
PRESIDENT
Council Member
At-Large Group 1
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OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL

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February 20, 2018
11:00 a.m.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Members of the City Council

FROM: Council President Anna Lopez Brosche
At-Large Group 1

RE: Special Committee on the Potential Sale of JEA

In accordance with Council Rule 2.103(a), as President of the Jacksonville City Council, I hereby appoint a Special Committee on the Potential Sale of JEA.

BACKGROUND: The possibility of selling JEA has been a topic addressed by multiple past Mayoral administrations and City Councils. We find ourselves in a market favorable to considering such a possibility and JEA leadership has kicked off the process once again.

The City of Jacksonville has significant infrastructure needs, some decades long and remaining unfulfilled, and also seeks to make economic development investments to create a vibrant and attractive community offering economic prosperity to all of its citizens. The net proceeds from a potential sale could yield the capital investment needed to accommodate such investments.

At the same time, there are potential downsides to selling the City of Jacksonville's largest and most profitable asset: employing approximately 2,000 people, contributing significantly to our community in various ways not the least of which is an annual stream of revenue to the City of Jacksonville, maintaining a focus on ratepayers, and answering to the Mayor and City Council.

The City Council has tremendous responsibility to consider all aspects and implications of a potential sale (costs and benefits; risks and rewards), to hear the constituents and community at large, and to make the most prudent decision as to how we move forward for both the short-term and the long-term health of the City of Jacksonville.

CHARGE: Understand all aspects and implications (who, what, when, where, and why) of a potential sale of JEA, and the roles that various parties to such a potential sale will play in the process.

Conduct necessary meetings and hearings to gather the relevant facts the entire City Council should consider in its decision(s) related to a potential sale of JEA.

Offer monthly (or more frequent, as necessary) updates as to the progress of this work to the City Council at its regular meetings.

Make recommendations to ensure a transparent and open process for the citizens of Jacksonville as to the consideration of a potential sale of JEA.

MEMBERS: Council Member John R. Crescimbeni, Chair
Council Member Danny Becton
Council Member Anna Lopez Brosche
Council Member Garrett Dennis
Council Member Joyce Morgan

DEADLINE: While we can expect the process of a potential sale of JEA to take months, possibly years, my authority to create and maintain such a special committee lasts through my term as Council President ending on June 30, 2018. I impose no deadline on this effort and look forward to a status update at the June 26, 2018 regular meeting of the City Council so that the public and future City Council leadership may consider a continuation of this work.

I would like to thank Council Member Crescimbeni for agreeing to Chair this special committee. I am particularly grateful for his leadership and institutional knowledge, for his inquisitive nature, and for his acute awareness of the Ordinance Code, the Charter and Related Laws, and the Rules of the Council of the City of Jacksonville. I appreciate the willingness of the members to devote the necessary attention what may be the largest and most complex privatization of a municipal-owned utility in the United States of America.

All Council Members and other interested parties are highly encouraged to attend and participate in the Special Committee meetings.

ALB/js

cc: Council Members/Staff
Cheryl Brown, Director/Council Secretary
Jeff Clements, Chief, Research Division
Carol Owens, Chief, Legislative Services Division
Jessica Matthews, Legislative Supervisor
Paula Shoup, Information Systems Administrators
Kyle Billy, Council Auditor
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