Keri O'Brien

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To: Keri O'Brien

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda #4 Public Comment

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Please add this as Public Comment to Agenda #4 on the June 25, 2025 City Commission Special Meeting - Thank you...Gregory Lloyd, 805 United Street

It is with rich irony that our current Mayor, Vice Mayor, and sitting Commissioner Donie Lee—who worked behind the scenes to wrongfully remove the former City Manager and suppress the Corradino Report—are now tasked, along with our other sitting City Commissioners, with fixing the very problems they enabled.

They knew about the Corradino Report. They chose to do nothing.

The upper management team within City Hall leads by intimidation, berating, and bullying. Their goal is not to support the public interest—it's to protect themselves and their allies at the community's expense.

The Grand Jury Report exposed a toxic culture of negligence, manipulation, and cronyism at the highest levels of City Hall.

The report unanimously recommended the immediate resignation of Assistant City Manager Todd Stoughton for failing to do his job "properly" and "impartially," yet he remains gainfully employed by the City Manager, collecting a generous salary plus benefits each month.

The Grand Jury unanimously recommended that disgraced and indicted former City Attorney Ronald Ramsingh be immediately terminated with cause. Instead, our City Commission rewarded him with a \$221,000 golden parachute.

Criminally indicted Jim Young, our former Chief Code Enforcement Officer, should have been terminated immediately for cause according to the Grand Jury. Instead, he was allowed to comfortably retire on his city salary.

Raj Ramsingh, our former Chief Building Official, was indicted on seven felony counts, including one for running a criminal enterprise. Again, the Grand Jury unanimously concluded that he should have been terminated immediately for cause. Instead, he was suspended by our City Manager and, as a result, is still accruing city retirement benefits.

If you want an honest gauge of how upper city management has performed since the scathing Grand Jury Report—with its 27 recommendations—look no further than the recently released exit interview of HARC Inspector Janice Slivko, in which she states:

"For such a tiny municipal structure, the environment within City Hall remains toxic and stressful. Day-to-day decision-making is so ingrained with cronyism, manipulation, and corruption that it is impossible to provide public service ethically without being pressured... I've lost the desire to be part of an organization led by unqualified, narcissistic autocrats who choose to advance the agenda of a select group of influential individuals while claiming transparency."

This broken leadership is not just embarrassing—it has cost us money and valuable human resources. The proposed 30% property tax increase by the City Manager is a direct result of incompetence, mismanagement, and a willful failure to collect fair market rents from various lop-sided sweetheart leases—losing millions each year in city revenue. These include leases with highly profitable, multi-state corporations like Historical Tours of America and the Key West Yacht Club, just to name two.

It's time to change the narrative. It's time to do the right thing—beginning with an overhaul of upper city management. That means terminating the underqualified and illequipped Growth Management and Development Director Patrick Wright and City Manager Brian Barrasso before their probationary periods end—before the city finds itself paying for yet another round of golden parachutes.

And if we are truly "proactive" about following the Grand Jury's recommendations (per Recommendation #8), Assistant City Manager Todd Stoughton must finally be shown the exit door.