

City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting
Agenda Item J-3
January 9, 2018
City Commission Chambers
405 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, FL

City Commission

Mayor Raul Valdes-Fauli
Vice Mayor Pat Keon
Commissioner Vince Lago
Commissioner Frank Quesada
Commissioner Michael Mena

City Staff

City Manager, Cathy Swanson-Rivenbark
Assistant City Manager, Peter Iglesias
Assistant City Manager, Frank Fernandez
City Attorney, Miriam Ramos
City Clerk, Walter J. Foeman
Deputy City Clerk, Billy Urquia
Assistant Procurement Finance Director, Celeste Walker

Public Speaker(s)

George Volsky
Elizabeth Plater-Zyberk

Agenda Item J-3 [0:00:00 p.m.]

A Resolution accepting the recommendation of the Procurement Officer to award the Planning Services for Zoning Code Update contract to DPZ PARTNERS, LLC d/b/a DPZ CoDESIGN, the top-ranked proposer, pursuant to Section 2-763 of the Procurement Code entitled “Contract Award” and Request for Proposals (RFP) 2017.05.MS, and authorizing the City Manager to negotiate a final contract amount acceptable to the City for this project, not to exceed the budgeted

available funds.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Okay, J-3, resolution accepting the recommendation of the Procurement Officer to award the Planning Services and Zoning Code Update contract to DPZ PARTNERS, the top-ranked proposer.

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: And, Celeste Walker is with -- our Assistant Finance Director for Procurement. And I -- before we introduce this item, I also am grateful for her to agreeing to be the blue-ribbon committee staff liaison. She came three days before Irma, and so she'll be managing that blue-ribbon process. But, this was a competitive procurement and Celeste is here to explain that procurement and the recommendation through the evaluation committee.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Okay, but before we get into that -- and welcome, Irma.

Assistant Procurement Finance Director Walker: That's my new nickname.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Before we get into that recommendation, I have a -- it is a very unpleasant thing for me to do, very, very unpleasant thing for me to do. The recommended firm was DPZ PARTNERS, and the principal of that firm is Elizabeth Plater-Zyberk, and I don't trust Elizabeth Plater-Zyberk. I consider her ethics to be unethical. I don't consider her to be an ethical person, as evidenced by the fact that she has lied to us, City, that she committed a grievous offense in our fantastic book, Coral Gables: A Garden City, introducing materials there that were offensive to our city and our Commission -- and I was on the Commission at the time -- after we had reviewed the proofs. And also, unethical behavior in the equipment yard, now Rouse project. And I'll go into each of these. And, I very much object to this from an ethical point of view, not competence. There were two finalists in the equipment yard process. One was Elizabeth Plater-Zyberk, and the other one, Rouse. And the selection committee, whoever they happened to be -- and they were experts -- chose Rouse over Ms. Plater-Zyberk's low-rise apartment units. And

after having participated in that contest, after having participated in it and not winning, not becoming the finalist, she started attacking the project, that it was a very bad project for Coral Gables. Now, you can't compete and when you don't win, then you criticize and attack the sport and whatever it is, and she did that. When she lost, she dedicated herself to attack the development as destroying the spirit of Coral Gables and destroying Miracle Mile. I think that's wrong. When you lose a competition, you should be a good loser and not attack the process. Worse, this book, Coral Gables: An American Garden City, which is a beautiful, beautiful book. I think it's the best book that has ever been written about Coral Gables. University of Miami School of Architecture and the (INAUDIBLE) Institute of Architecture, it was supposedly financed -- or it was to be financed by the University of Miami School of Architecture, by the school -- by the City of Coral Gables and by a French Institute of Architecture, and it is a beautiful, beautiful book on our city, a beautiful book. And, one of our distinguished members -- he was the head of the Cultural Board at the time -- reviewed the proofs, the very final -- you know, as it was going to be printed and approved it. And when I received the book, there is a new statement that was not in the proofs that says, "And as of 1997, just such a proposal was rejected by the town fathers -- Elizabeth Plater-Zyberk -- and this was written by a person in the UM School of Architecture -- "was rejected by the town fathers in favor of a money-making scheme even more egregious than the earlier ones. In this case, an enormous regional shopping mall that would flood the area with traffic, et cetera. Citizens' reaction was ferocious and (INAUDIBLE). A monster of this kind shouldn't be proposed for Coral Gables and the town of Coral Gables has been rejecting this type of thing." And we destroyed Miracle Mile, et cetera. But town fathers, us, the City Commission, a money-making scheme. I would like to circulate this, as well as the articles that appeared, and letters showing how Ms. Plater-Zyberk misbehaved in this -- you can look at it and then pass it down, if you want. And I called Tad Foote, the president of the University of Miami at the time, and David Lieberman, who was the number-two person at UM in charge of everything, but academics. And they were furious, and they were apologetic. They rushed to Coral Gables, to our city. They said we don't have to pay for the book, and they apologized tremendously on behalf of the University of Miami and on behalf of the School of Architecture. We never got an apology from Ms. Plater-Zyberk. I am convinced

that she knew that Vince Scully, a distinguished professor of architecture and a distinguished -- at Yale University, who was teaching a semester -- semesters -- winter semesters at UM, knew about this and inserted that in spite of the fact that he had reviewed the proofs. That is a memorial book for the City of Coral Gables. It is the best book that has ever been written about the City and its garden features, and it has that grievous quote in it. And I blame Ms. Plater-Zyberk for that. I am opposed to this on ethical grounds, and I will speak against it, regardless of who am I, and I won't trust anything that she does for us. George Volsky is the one -- and he's here, and he's the one who reviewed the proofs. And, do you want to say a few words, George?

George Volsky: My name is George Volsky, 1008 Alhambra Circle. It's painful for me to come back to (INAUDIBLE) what happened so many years ago. But, I want to confirm everything that the Mayor has said. And, I was privy to the whole process, because it affected me personally. Because Mayor had asked me, in lieu of my long experience as a writer for the New York Times and as chairman of the Coral Gables Cultural Arts Council to recommend whether the City ought to publish this book, which had been actually written, but never published. And, that book was joint project of the University of Miami School of Architecture and the (INAUDIBLE) Architecture of France. So, I reviewed the book, made some editorial changes, and I signed on the book. In the book business, it is a rule that if you sign on the book, that book ought to be published as is, as it is signed, unless the one who signed on the book makes recommendations for changes afterwards. The two statements that appeared on -- in the book were done without my permission, even though afterwards, on one occasion, Ms. Plater-Zyberk told me that she didn't know anything about it. Not only did she know about this, but then I went to the -- on one occasion, I went to Paris with my wife. I went to the office of the School of Architecture of France, and I saw a series of faxes (INAUDIBLE) in which Ms. Zyberk insisted that initially that one whole page criticizing this project be printed, and they said (INAUDIBLE) set in print. We cannot do that. And besides, people would -- in the City would object to it. The reply was, well, we don't give a damn about the City. We can sell it through Books & Books. And, I saw this written and sent by fax. Well, that happened afterwards. So, frankly, I agree with the Mayor that there is a question of credibility, and especially that telling the City, go to

hell; we can do whatever we want was absolutely unprofessional. For me, it was unprofessional because it -- my statement, my work, which was totally voluntary, because I've been here in the City for a long time. The City hasn't given me any payment for anything. So, I was offended, and it is painful to me that I was not offered a -- as the Mayor said, the University of Miami president and the chief economic officer apologized. I was not apologized by Ms. Plater-Zyberk. And it is painful for me to come back to this issue, but that's life and I want you to know my point of view on this.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Thank you, George.

Commissioner Lago: Thank you, sir.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: This is not a matter of competence. This is a matter of ethics, and I very, very much oppose this...

Vice Mayor Keon: I -- well, I'd like to speak, too, to what you had to say, too. This was an extremely controversial issue when it was done twenty-some odd years ago, extremely controversial. There was support on both sides. There was concern for traffic. There was concern for a lot of things. There were concerns because written in the -- you know, you, yourself, said, Mayor, at the time, that you personally negotiated this deal with the Rouse Company. Now, that was documented in papers or whatever.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: I didn't.

Vice Mayor Keon: And -- well, that was also documented, that you personally negotiated this deal.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Madam Vice Mayor, this is a matter of...

Vice Mayor Keon: Whatever, but you know what...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Ethics and not...

Vice Mayor Keon: The issue is...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Rouse. This is...

Vice Mayor Keon: This is...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: A matter about having been lied to.

Vice Mayor Keon: This is a matter of...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: We were lied to.

Vice Mayor Keon: Liz Plater-Zyberk is the dean of the School of Architecture of Miami. She has a long and distinguished career as an architect and an urban planner. She is well recognized locally, nationally and internationally...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: And an unethical person.

Vice Mayor Keon: As a...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Yes.

Vice Mayor Keon: As a renowned architect. I have never -- other than what you have said here today -- ever heard anyone question her integrity ever.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Because you have no knowledge...

Vice Mayor Keon: I think this is a matter...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Of what I'm talking about. Read the footnote. That is after the proof was approved.

Vice Mayor Keon: And, you were saying that it was Vincent Scully that did it and wrote it and whatever.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: And, he was a member of the School of Architecture, yes. And also...

Vice Mayor Keon: He wrote it. So, you know what...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: But, you don't participate in a bid...

Vice Mayor Keon: But Raul, it's over.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: You don't -- no, it isn't over.

Vice Mayor Keon: It's over.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: It isn't over.

Vice Mayor Keon: It was 20 years ago.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: It isn't over.

Vice Mayor Keon: You have gone on to...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: The fact that...

Vice Mayor Keon: You have gone on to practice your career. You've come back as mayor. She has worked as a very distinguished architect. She applied for this. She has the competency and the background and the education and the experience to do this, and she was chosen through a competitive process. And I don't think that you should raise concerns about her integrity from this dais when it is a personal matter and disqualify her...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: It is not a personal matter.

Vice Mayor Keon: From...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: It is a matter of...

Vice Mayor Keon: From being awarded this contract. She can do this. And like you have said, this is not a matter of competence. You are asking her to perform this because of her competence. And, I would recommend...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: I am not asking her to perform anything.

Vice Mayor Keon: That we award this contract to her as it's been -- gone through a competitive process.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: I very much oppose it. And this is a matter for the City, because our model book, our fine book, whatever, has a quote there, which she approved, after the proofs were submitted and approved, attacking the City Commission as money grubbing. And, I very much take offense at that.

Vice Mayor Keon: But, you know...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: And in addition to that, she participated in the finalists, too, and after not having been chosen, she attacked the whole idea of the process after having participated...

Vice Mayor Keon: Okay.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: In it.

Vice Mayor Keon: That, at this point, is long ago history to people sitting on this dais making that decision.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Yes, you perform...

Vice Mayor Keon: It's long ago.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Sexual harassment or you could kill someone or you did something...

Vice Mayor Keon: It is long ago.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: It was a long time ago, therefore, it's forgiven. No.

Vice Mayor Keon: No, it is (INAUDIBLE). But, it is not...

Commissioner Lago: If I may.

Vice Mayor Keon: You know, this is not about somebody's, you know, one person's feelings about another. This is about the competence...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: She may be a friend of yours...

Vice Mayor Keon: To do this job.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: But she's an unethical person.

Vice Mayor Keon: Okay.

Commissioner Lago: Well, let me -- if I may, Vice Mayor and Mayor, just one second. Because, again, I think I was in high school when this book came out. I want to make sure that -- I'm lost.

Commissioner Mena: Me, too.

Commissioner Lago: Mike, are you lost?

Commissioner Mena: Yes.

Commissioner Lago: And I've been here four years. I know you're lost. I've looked at the book, but I hadn't caught that footnote. So, I think we have...

Vice Mayor Keon: People have the right to disagree. People have the right...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: They don't have the right to disagree...

Vice Mayor Keon: To not...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: After the proofs are approved. That is not ethical. That is not proper.

Vice Mayor Keon: And, you have not yet attributed that quote to Liz Plater-Zyberk. You've attributed it to Vincent Scully. So, I don't know why that becomes an issue. But you know what? And we are public officials. You know, we put ourselves out there. You run for election. You are -- you -- people are going to talk about you. They're not going to agree with you. Somebody's going to say, why the hell did they spend all that time worrying about a bombax tree today, you know.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: And, if I...

Vice Mayor Keon: Because we do.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: If I committed...

Vice Mayor Keon: Because we do.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: If I robbed a bank or if I did something unethical, it should come out.

Commissioner Lago: I think...

Vice Mayor Keon: Robbing a bank is illegal.

Commissioner Mena: Listen, I...

Commissioner Lago: I just think we have the opportunity...

Commissioner Mena: I'm with Commissioner Lago in -- from the perspective of this is coming out of left field for me. I was not aware of this issue at all. Obviously, you...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Because I couldn't communicate with you.

Commissioner Lago: I know.

Commissioner Mena: I understand. No, I understand. I understand.

Commissioner Lago: I said that multiple times that...

Commissioner Mena: I...

Commissioner Lago: Sometimes the Sunshine is a real...

Commissioner Mena: I understand. Listen, I respect, obviously, both of you and your opinions. And obviously, they're quite divergent here. But, I need an opportunity to get...

Commissioner Lago: She's here.

Commissioner Mena: A clearer answer on some of this and what happened. You know, I wasn't really prepared to deal with this because I had no idea...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Of course.

Commissioner Mena: This was going to be an issue.

Commissioner Lago: I'd also like to get my hands around this and -- I mean, if the Vice Mayor and the Mayor will indulge me. I mean, maybe we could hear from DPZ to get an understanding and maybe we can clarify this. Or we can table this issue. I can have my own meeting with DPZ and get to an understanding of what may have occurred here and then we can have future discussions.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Maybe this should be tabled at this point.

Vice Mayor Keon: Do you want to speak?

Commissioner Lago: I mean, plus, Frank's not even here.

Vice Mayor Keon: You know, I think that you -- you know, you've attacked her integrity in a public setting. I think she at least has the right to respond.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Sure.

Mr. Volsky: (COMMENTS MADE OFF THE RECORD).

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Yes, sir.

Mr. Volsky: (INAUDIBLE) the Vice Mayor said that the Mayor has not attributed those changes to anybody. I saw communications with the French editor -- because it was printed and set up in France -- from Ms. Plater-Zyberk, not from Mr. Scully. She demanded or she asked that this -- originally, a page, a whole page criticizing the City. And finally, only two corrections were printed. But, she corresponded -- I saw that she corresponded a number of faxes that this be done. And she said that -- this is key point. I don't give a damn about -- not in this way -- about the City. We can sell it ourselves. We don't need their money. We can sell it through Books & Books, and that was on a fax. So, in other words, I felt, first, offended as a person who signed on the book. Second, as a resident of Coral Gables in which someone who doesn't even live here, but works here, said something about the City. The City doesn't -- it doesn't matter, the City. And then speaking of another aspect of it, I remember I was speaking of the book, as I said, I put my name on it that this book should appear as it was given to me, so my name was on it. Secondly, the Mayor has mentioned that Ms. Plater-Zyberk, who -- while being dean of the School of Architecture, also was a member of a private firm -- architecture firm. She was --

wanted to develop that site where Rouse is -- or Rouse was trying to develop on her own. And I remember, the day before the final meeting, which was held at the Biltmore, I was in her office finalizing the publication of the book. And she told me, George -- and she was a person who I knew very well. She went to my house and we broke bread in my house. She said, George, some people win, some lose. We lost and I'm not going to fight it. Next day, when there was a meeting, she spoke against the Rouse project in favor of her project. This is something which I think...

Vice Mayor Keon: You know what, as an urban planner, she is entitled to render an opinion as an urban planner. She is entitled to render an opinion about what she thinks is an appropriate project, just as someone is -- it is appropriate for them to...

Mr. Volsky: No, no.

Vice Mayor Keon: Have a divergent opinion.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: No, she isn't.

Mr. Volsky: No, madam.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: No, she isn't.

Mr. Volsky: If you want an opinion, you don't...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: She should respect (INAUDIBLE).

Mr. Volsky: Go forward...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: You don't -- when you lose, you don't attack...

Mr. Volsky: Madam.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: The game. You don't attack the sport when you lose. No...

Mr. Volsky: It took...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: No. That is unethical.

Mr. Volsky: Madam, it took months to go through this process.

Vice Mayor Keon: I will tell you...

Mr. Volsky: There was enough time...

Vice Mayor Keon: Yeah.

Mr. Volsky: Before my signing on to say we want something done -- want something additional.

Vice Mayor Keon: I think you should give her the opportunity to defend herself.

Mr. Volsky: Well, I see...

Elizabeth Plater-Zyberk: Thank you.

Mr. Volsky: What I'm telling you is absolute factual. And, I'm very sorry to -- even to speak on it, because I -- it's not a very, very felicitous incident in my life. And again, I say...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Thank you, George.

Mr. Volsky: Ms. Plater-Zyberk never apologized to me personally.

Elizabeth Plater-Zyberk: Thank you. Liz Plater-Zyberk, 6612 LeJeune Road, Coral Gables. So, we're -- first of all, I should say that Merrick Park, which was, in a sense, the subject of all of these events, turned out very well, even though many of us thought something else should be there originally. I'm one of the people who takes faculty from the University often for dining there, and it's a great part of the city. So, this really was 20 years ago, and I'd like to make the point that, in my life, that's water under the bridge. We went on to many other projects and many other places and much work that I think was successful with the City. I enjoyed my work with George working on the book; all of the faculty did. I think we produced a beautiful one. And unfortunately, I have a different memory about some aspects of the result, including the knowledge about the offending footnote. Vince Scully -- who recently passed away -- was a very passionate historian, known for his work at Yale, and for many years at Miami for imbuing a great passion for design and city building among his students. And, he produced many -- helped produce many great architects and clients, developers with that passion. So, he always spoke up. I do remember -- I think either George or the Mayor calling me when I was sick -- as I am somewhat now -- in bed, six months after the book came out and saying, look, at what -- pointing to the footnote to me, which was a complete surprise, because I also proofread the same book that George Volsky did and didn't realize at the time that the footnote had gone through from Scully to the French publisher, who was a friend of his. So, there's a little bit of a difference of perception of that experience here. I was part of the group, Mayor; I was in your office with Tad Foote, when we spoke about the problem. You asked Tad if the book could be taken back and reprinted, and Tad, bless his heart, said it may not be a pleasant thing that has been produced, but he stood by academic freedom and he said, I can't go back and ask the writer to make that change. So, as you -- as the Mayor said, indeed, the University -- the School of Architecture, not even the University, swallowed the cost of the book and the City then scrapped them. I regret that this still represents a concern for the City and the Mayor. My engagements with the City since that time -- before that time and since that time, including the recent -- my

recent work on the Residential Zoning Committee, and earlier, the University's BID plan, as well as several special design review committees, have always been based on my admiration for the City, its founders and its leaders in their ongoing efforts to maintain its historical and architectural character. You may still be hearing the Purchasing Department's and the Planning Department's recommendation of our work on the Zoning Code. My team, which includes, Tony Garcia, from streets plan -- Street Plans Collaborative, EAC Engineering, and Galina Tachieva, who's here, who is the AICP accredited project manager, also a long-time resident of Coral Gables, and I should say the majority shareholder in the firm that my husband and I are turning over to our partners is here as well, and she can speak to it. So, we would look forward to this opportunity to update the code for the City that we have long loved and admired and used as an example in our work in other parts of the country. But, I think we would understand if the elected leadership is not behind this, that there may be a better candidate for the role. Thank you.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: I think...

Mr. Volsky: Mr. Mayor...

Vice Mayor Keon: No.

Mr. Volsky: I can (INAUDIBLE) to again address the -- address the Commission.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Yes, but be brief because you've done it twice.

Mr. Volsky: (INAUDIBLE) not just said that she had nothing to do with those objections. I saw -- again, she never denied it -- emails -- not emails, I'm sorry -- faxes from her to the Paris office. (INAUDIBLE) I want to make copies. He said no, I cannot give you the copies. They do exist, because Mr. Scully was a good architect, obviously, well-known architect, had his objections. But, these objections could have been done before. The process of vetting the book

took months. It wasn't just one day to the other. And she was instrumental in having those things, and she denied it today. And then, of course, there is one speaking of her (INAUDIBLE), she was instrumental in one big project, which is the -- was called in 1962, January, which was called a charrette. I don't know if you remember. You were not here -- which was an ego trip of one Commissioner.

Vice Mayor Keon: Was what?

Mr. Volsky: An...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Ego trip...

Mr. Volsky: Ego trip.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Of one Commissioner.

Mr. Volsky: Of one Commissioner, who's no longer here.

Vice Mayor Keon: I know, I know.

Mr. Volsky: Yeah, you know that.

Vice Mayor Keon: You know, that's all -- it's history.

Mr. Volsky: But, that's...

Vice Mayor Keon: I know it.

Mr. Volsky: Beside the point.

Vice Mayor Keon: It's history.

Mr. Volsky: It should be mentioned. In other words...

Vice Mayor Keon: And it's water under a bridge.

Mr. Volsky: If you talk about...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: No, but it isn't.

Mr. Volsky: Association (INAUDIBLE)

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Don't discard history. History is very important.

Mr. Volsky: Then you should mention this. You know, there is a lot of omissions in this. And, it's very painful for me to speak about, because I know that she and her firm, School of Architecture, they have done a lot of good things. But, the -- here is a question of character, of credibility, and of actually, in my view, of being sure that whatever they are going to do is going to be to the benefit of the City. Because (INAUDIBLE) at that time, she and her people -- it was not only she (sic). There were a number of others. This happened 20 years ago, and it was very, very painful episode in the history of the City.

Vice Mayor Keon: I remember.

Mr. Volsky: (INAUDIBLE) you didn't (INAUDIBLE), but I did and Mayor did, too. So, there -
- so, my doubt is whether what they're going to do is going to benefit the City.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: How dare they call us...

Mr. Volsky: I don't know.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Money grubbing people. How dare they.

Mr. Volsky: So, we don't know. It pains me to intervene. I don't want to...

Vice Mayor Keon: She didn't call you money grubbing.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Yes, she did.

Vice Mayor Keon: But, I never had...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Yes, she did.

Vice Mayor Keon: Mr. Trias, who is the individual that was...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: I will...

Vice Mayor Keon: Part of the selection committee, ask about her credentials and are you comfortable with her doing it.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: I would like to move -- I'll pass this, and I'd like to move that we table this.

Vice Mayor Keon: I'd like to move that we...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: And that prevails, doesn't it?

Vice Mayor Keon: Accept it.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: A motion to table?

City Attorney Ramos: Well, you can make a motion to table.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: I have.

City Attorney Ramos: I need to know there's a second before another motion is made.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: You need more information?

Commissioner Lago: I'm ready to table.

Commissioner Mena: I have no problem with that.

City Attorney Ramos: Is that a second, Commissioner Lago?

Commissioner Lago: I would like...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: That's a second.

Commissioner Lago: I would like to have a personal meeting with the team from DPZ, and I just want to have a discussion...

Commissioner Mena: Yeah, let me -- let me just be clear. Right now, I'm having a hard time understanding...

Commissioner Lago: What this has to do with what...

Commissioner Mena: What this has to do with the competence and ability to execute the contract at issue.

Commissioner Lago: I agree.

Commissioner Mena: But with that said, again, this is all out of left field for me. I've heard what other people have said here today. So, I think it's probably a good idea to table it, so that we can get a little more information.

Vice Mayor Keon: Would you like it on the agenda for the next agenda?

Commissioner Lago: Perfectly fine.

Commissioner Mena: I have no problem with that.

Commissioner Lago: And I -- listen, and I have the utmost faith in DPZ. They're exceptional architects, exceptional planners. I've seen many of their projects, which have been assets to this community all throughout South Florida. I just want to get my hands around what this is. And, I just feel that I would be doing a disservice to this Commission and this community if I move forward without actually knowing what I'm voting on.

Commissioner Mena: Right.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Right. That's...

Commissioner Lago: That's just -- I mean, again, that's not an indictment on DPZ or anything we've heard today. I just need to get my hands around this and have a sit-down conversation

with both parties. Mr. Volsky, I'd like to sit down with you and have a conversation also, as we always have and understand a little bit more about what happened in the past.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: And I will...

Commissioner Lago: I think -- like the Mayor mentioned, no matter which way I vote on this issue, I think it's important to understand history.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Right.

Commissioner Lago: If not, you're doomed to repeat it. So, let's...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Okay, so it's...

Commissioner Lago: Get (INAUDIBLE)

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: 3-1 -- I mean, it's...

Vice Mayor Keon: Oh, well...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: You want to take a roll?

Vice Mayor Keon: Well, I'd like to then make the motion that we continue to...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: No, no.

Vice Mayor Keon: The next...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Let's do the motion to table first, and then you make your motion.

City Attorney Ramos: There's a motion on the floor.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Go ahead.

City Attorney Ramos: Is that a second from Commissioner Lago?

Commissioner Lago: Yes.

City Attorney Ramos: Mr. Clerk, can you call the roll?

Commissioner Lago: Yes.

Commissioner Mena: Yes.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Yes.

Vice Mayor Keon: Yes.

(Vote: 4-0)

Vice Mayor Keon: I'd like to make a motion that it be placed on the next agenda.

Commissioner Mena: Second.

Commissioner Lago: I'll second. Mena beat me to it.

City Attorney Ramos: Mr. Clerk.

Vice Mayor Keon: Yes.

Commissioner Lago: Yes.

Commissioner Mena: Yes.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Yes.

(Vote: 4-0)

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Thank you.

Vice Mayor Keon: Thank you.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Let's take a five-minute break, please, and then we'll finish.