

Commissioner Cabrera: Why don't we all just go home, why don't we all just go home and call it a day.

Dr. Carnegie: And speaking to the bit about capping enrollment, the reason why the school is being connected is because enrollment several years ago was 900 students, and 900 students generated so much sewage that DERM wanted it connected. We just had two or three schools taken off the consent decree because they have enrollment of 400, and they are not going to be connected, so to put a cap of 450 on the school where we've just spent a million dollars connecting sewage in my opinion is not the right way to go.

Mayor Slesnick: How many students are there now?

Dr. Carnegie: Well there is about 400 something students there now because of declining enrollment, but the sewer design was on the books when the enrollment was over 900.

Mayor Slesnick: Doctor, I've got two questions. One is either for the City Manager or his staff. I noticed that in here there is a substantial payment that at the conclusion of this it will be paid, but has that been paid already? - six hundred and something thousand?

Dr. Carnegie: I'm not quite sure what is to be paid, but if we make an obligation to pay something it will be paid.

Mayor Slesnick: Oh no, no, I wasn't questioning that, I was just questioning since the sewer has been built...

Vice Mayor Kerdyk: \$64,000.

Mayor Slesnick: ... whatever this payment was in here, somewhere in here -- thanks Bill -- the property owner must submit to the city a letter of agreement that the owner has to agree with all the conditions and the fees listed in said ordinance based on the city ordinance, the connection fee for the property \$64,000 give or take, this connection fee shall be paid concurrently upon signing the connection agreement. Now is the connection agreement dependent on this resolution?

Dr. Carnegie: Exactly -- whatever we are obligated to pay will be paid.

Mayor Slesnick: OK, and the \$64,000 is dependent upon the execution of the agreement which is awaiting adoption of this resolution.

Dr. Carnegie: Exactly.

Commissioner Cabrera: At this time I'm going to move to defer this item. Does anyone wish to -- Mr. Mayor, at this time I'm moving to defer this item.

Mayor Slesnick: OK. I would like to give him the courtesy, but it's been moved and Chip are you seconding?

Commissioner Withers: Yes.

Mayor Slesnick: OK, it's been moved and seconded, but go ahead Doctor, I don't want to cut you off.

Dr. Carnegie: Consulting with our attorney, I think it would be probably best if we defer this item for a couple of weeks and we can reconvene with Public Works and go through some of these details. If there are any other issues that you have we could perhaps properly address them.

Commissioner Withers: I think its – Dr. Carnegie, right?

Dr. Carnegie: Yes.

Commissioner Withers: OK, nice to meet you. A little history, just so you don't think this is an antagonistic shot over the bow of the School Board. Historically, what had happened was we had severe overcrowding in Gables High School; there was some "gerrymandering" of some districts in Region 4, which through more kids into the school. Our Fire Marshall had cited them for overcrowding, I mean, it was a mess. Ponce Middle School was headed down the same track, and our City Attorney and I were very much involved with this whole issue, and there was nothing we could do to get the attention of Dade County Schools, I mean, we tried everything.

City Attorney Hernandez: There were about 200 public hearings.

Commissioner Withers: And we couldn't get them to budge, and the only way we could get them to budge was hook-up to our sewer main and that's when they had portables in the parking lot, and it was a mess, cars all over the neighborhoods, and so all we were trying to do was reach out to the public school and say hey, we love having Gables High School, we love having Ponce Middle School, we love all of our public schools and schools in the city, we just want to be involved in the campus planning process and the concurrency issues, and we really received a deaf ear and a blind eye as we moved forward. So we had literally held the School Board hostage over the hook-up of the sewer system. We didn't want to honestly do that, I mean, we got more grief from parents because they couldn't hook-up the brand new science building at Ponce Middle School, it was sitting there but no students could go in, and they were sitting in portables because the science building didn't have a sewer-up, but it worked, and as a result you know, Gables High School now the districts are redrawn, it's down to a level that's a little more manageable; and all I'm saying is, I know there is a great opportunity for West Lab with UM and the partnership there and the reputation that school has. If I was Dade County Public Schools, I would say, I would focus interest on growing West Lab as an elementary school and even adding 8th grade, because it is a shining star on the hill. My point is, if that dialogue ever takes place, we as a city want to be a part of that. If we can tie a sewer use into that to secure our ability to be at the table to talk about that, that's the only reason that I bring this up. So it's not a hit on your

attorney you brought here or you or the Dade County Public Schools, as much as we just want to be a partner in this thing.

Dr. Carnegie: I don't think that the School District will have a problem with you being a partner in this process; we are always looking for partners as part of our educational process. So that being said, I think if we defer it for two weeks or until some other time...

Commissioner Withers: Excuse me, maybe you could also bring the current status on the reconfiguration of the street, what the updated campus master plan of West Lab, whatever plans because those were on again, off again, I don't know where we are with that; and if there is an intention to bring West Lab back up to 6-7-800 students, I don't know if any of us object to that...

Dr. Carnegie: That's why we have the sewer.

Commissioner Withers:...OK, then we all know the reason now don't we?

City Attorney Hernandez: So Mr. Kay and I will follow-up with you and I'm sure he has your contact information.

Dr. Carnegie: Absolutely. Thank you so much.

Mayor Slesnick: Doctor thank you, and thank you both for coming today and being with us and I have to tell you that all of us agree here that the more conversations we have with our Public School System the better it is for all the parents and students in Coral Gables. We don't get this chance often enough, so thank you, and you are looking at a bunch of Dade County Public School graduates up here. All those in favor of deferring please say aye.

All: Aye.

Mayor Slesnick: Opposed like sign; and we have deferred until the next agenda two weeks from today.

[End: 10:07:27 a.m.]