

NOVEMBER 1, 1989

The Manatee County Civic Center Authority met in SPECIAL SESSION at the Civic Center, Palmetto, Florida, Wednesday, November 1, 1989, at 5:34 p.m.

Present were members:

Russell A. McInerney, Chairman  
P. Allen Schofield, Vice-Chairman  
Donald Brittain  
Walter Grace  
William Orr  
Barbara Turner  
Eugene Wiseman

Also present were:

John Graham, Director  
Kim Umana, Finance Director, representing R. B. Shore,  
Clerk of Circuit Court

Representatives of the various news media were present.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman McInerney.

#### PALMETTO TOMATO FESTIVAL

J. C. Shafranek, Sales Director, advised that a booth has been donated to the Authority for use at the Palmetto Tomato Festival. He requested Authority members manage the booth November 17, 18 and 19.

#### JOSEPH RUSSO - FACILITY OPERATION

Joseph Russo submitted a revised proposal for operation of the Civic Center. He offered to enter into a facilities management contract instead of operating as an independent organization. He offered a \$1 million Letter of Credit to cover operating expenses and a percentage of the profits (75/25). He stated he would retain all present staff and add others.

Discussion: Food service; dinner for civic organizations; lease facility including the kitchen; performance contract; lower ticket prices, etc.

Kent Chetlain, County Commissioner, suggested a one-year, renewable lease, not long-term.

Discussion: Any profit to go into an account for Civic Center use; Mr. Russo promote an event; film producing capacity; game show in the Center.

Mr. Russo stated he would cover all operating expenses, even those in excess of \$1 million.

In discussion regarding the bid process, John Graham, Director, stated a management firm had reviewed the Center and another firm was to review it. If it is determined to lease the Center, the bid process must be followed.

Mr. Russo submitted resumes of Steven C. Ervin, Stephen M. Farrelly and Sid Bernstein, members of his organization, and introduced Mr. Ervin. He stated he would be an overseer, Mr. Bernstein would be the promoter, and Mr. Ervin and Mr. Farrelly would be responsible for overall operating of the Center.

Mr. Ervin reviewed his background.

Discussion: Employees; committee to negotiate terms.

It was suggested a committee of one Authority member, the Director and Mr. Russo be formed to discuss terms/conditions, and that Cliff Walters, Authority attorney, be invited when basic details have been discussed.

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Motion was made by Mr. Brittain, seconded by Ms. Turner and carried unanimously, to authorize Mr. McInerney and Mr. Graham to act as liaison to meet with Mr. Russo and pursue/clarify the ideas discussed.

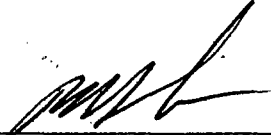
Mr. Graham stated one management company (Ogden Allied) will be making a presentation at the November 15, 1989 meeting. Spectacorp will be reviewing the Center on November 2, and may make a presentation at the same meeting.

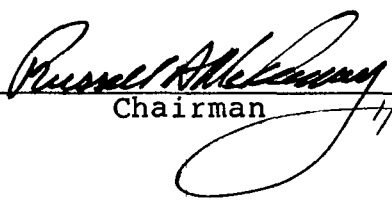
**MEETING ADJOURNED**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Attest:

APPROVED:

  
 Clerk  
 Adj: 6:55 p.m.  
 /sgf

  
 Chairman 11/7/90