

MEMORANDUM

TO: MAYOR & CITY COUNCIL

FROM: GREGORY J. ORAVEC, CITY MANAGER 

SUBJECT: REQUEST FROM GERTRUDE WALKER, SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS, FOR
A WAIVER OF RENTAL FEES FOR THE COMMUNITY CENTER

DATE: OCTOBER 10, 2012

This memorandum serves to request your direction on the enclosed request from Gertrude Walker, Supervisor of Elections, St. Lucie County, for the waiver of any rental fees associated with her utilization of the Community Center for both early voting and Election Day. As you consider this request, you may find the following information pertinent:

- In April 2006, the City granted Ms. Walker the use of the Port St. Lucie Community Center CEOC room as an early voting site.
- In August 2012, Ms. Walker utilized the larger Room B in association with the primary election. It was originally anticipated that Ms. Walker would rent the room, but she later submitted this request.
- Ms. Walker has requested the use of Room B from October 27 through the General Election, from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- Our staff could accommodate these times through existing resources.

While the granting of the request would require the City to forego paid rentals, voting is the cornerstone of our democracy. Therefore, I support the granting of this request.

The staff and I look forward to receiving your direction on this item. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you.

Attachments



Gertrude Walker
Supervisor of Elections
St. Lucie County

4132 Okeechobee Road • Fort Pierce, FL 34947-5412 • (772) 462-1500 • Fax (772) 462-1439

September 20, 2012

Mr. Greg J. Oravec, City Manager
City of Port St. Lucie
121 SW Port St. Lucie Boulevard
Port St. Lucie, FL 34984

Dear Mr. Oravec:

Re: Port St. Lucie Community Center – 2012 General Election

This letter is intended to confirm our earlier discussion regarding the use of the Port St. Lucie Community Center, for the 2012 General Election. In accordance with Section 101.657, Florida Statutes, early voting will begin Saturday October 27, including Sunday October 28, 2012 and run through Saturday, November 3, 2012.

The Governor has recently mandated that early voting sites be open to voters from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. for the General Election. In addition, the Community Center has also been designated as the polling site for Precinct 26 on Election Day. Given the extended daily schedule for early voting and Election Day, I request that the facility be made available to Elections staff and poll workers daily from 6:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m.

As we discussed, the use of the Community Center as a polling site provides a valuable service to City residents whether they join the growing number of early voters or choose to cast their ballots on Election Day. In addition, my office will continue its long standing practice of conducting the City's election at no cost to the City. Accordingly, I am requesting a waiver of any rental fees for the Community Center for both early voting and Election Day.

If you require any further information with regards to this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Gertrude Walker
Supervisor of Elections

RECEIVED

SEP 24 2012

Supervisor's Office

GW/ac

Copies to: City Attorney
County Attorney