Agenda - Executive Policy Committee - May 5, 2004

REPORTS

Item No. 5 Establishment of Committee to Consider and Formulate a Taxpayers Bill of Rights
File FL

COUNCIL DECISION:

On April 21, 2004, Council ruled automatic referral of the following motion to the Executive Policy Committee:

Moved by Councillor Wyatt
Seconded by Councillor Lazarenko

WHEREAS citizens are raising concerns with regard to the City's tax policies and proceedings and;

WHEREAS based on recent court decisions, there clearly exists the need for greater citizen participation and taxpayer protection in our municipal tax system and;

WHEREAS a Taxpayers Bill of Rights could include and address issues such as retroactive tax demand decisions, the rights of taxpayers in relation to procedures of our Assessment Department, and referendum on new forms of taxation, but not limited to these items and;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council appoint a special committee, consisting of one member of each community committee, to consider and formulate a Taxpayers Bill of Rights that would provide for taxpayer protection, preservation of rights and opportunities for citizen participation and government transparency, and make recommendations regarding the changing of existing legislation and that the committee would report back to Council.