

**Minutes of Regular City Council Meeting  
held Monday, May 18, 2020, at 6:00 P.M.  
via Video Conference  
Jacksonville Beach, Florida**



**STATEMENT OF THE MAYOR:**

Mayor Charlie Latham made the following statement:

“Governor Ron DeSantis’ Executive Order No. 20-112 and No. 20-114, extended Executive Order No. 20-69, which authorizes local government bodies to continue to conduct meetings without an in-person quorum at any specific location, and they can continue to hold meetings using communications media technology (CMT).

On April 6, 2020, the City of Jacksonville Beach City Council further approved at their public meeting the use of CMT and alternative start times to conduct their Council meetings and briefings.

Accordingly, this City Council meeting is being held in a modified manner using CMT. The Council, staff and the public are not physically present in City Hall tonight.

In a moment, the City Attorney will explain the CMT procedures and adaptations for public attendance and public comment that have been put in place and being utilized.

The City Council members and City personnel are appearing through CMT.”

**OPENING CEREMONIES:**

Council Member Vogelsang provided the Invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor Latham called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Mayor Latham invited City Attorney Chris Ambrosio to state the CMT procedures and adaptations being utilized for this meeting.

Mr. Ambrosio stated Governor DeSantis’ Executive Order No. 20-123, effective May 18, 2020, further extended and authorized the use of CMT. He explained the CMT instructions and opportunities for the public to attend and participate were published on various platforms in a public notice [*on file*] and went over the options.

**ROLL CALL:**

Mayor: William C. Latham

Council Members:	Keith Doherty	Georgette Dumont	Sandy Golding
	Christine Hoffman	Cory Nichols	Phil Vogelsang

Also present were City Manager Mike Staffopoulos, City Attorney Chris Ambrosio, and City Clerk Laurie Scott.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**Motion:** It was moved by Ms. Hoffman, seconded by Mr. Vogelsang, and passed unanimously to approve the following minutes:

- Regular Council Meeting held on May 4, 2020
- Council Briefing held on May 11, 2020

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Mr. Ambrosio renewed his public request for a closed session, a private client/attorney session, in the lawsuit of SLG Investment Partnership, LLP, and Clear Channel Outdoor, Inc. vs. City of Jacksonville Beach, Case No. 2018AP00121. Pursuant to Florida Statute 286.011(8), he is required to request at a public meeting he desires the advice of the Council concerning the litigation. The subject matter of the meeting shall be confined to settlement negotiations or strategy sessions related to the litigation. He would provide reasonable public notice at a later time in compliance with Florida Statute. He requested the closed session be held on June 15, 2020. Mr. Ambrosio also requested Case No. 162020CA2297, City of Jacksonville Beach vs. SLG Investment Partnership, LLP, be included for discussion at the June 15, 2020, closed session.

Mr. Ambrosio also wanted to provide answers to Council member questions from the May 4, 2020, Council meeting related to Item 20-110 on this agenda regarding the Sea Turtle Protection ordinance.

Mr. Ambrosio explained the changes made after the first reading of Ordinance No. 2020-8140 on May 4, 2020, included adding definitions and correcting scrivener's errors. He stated the area of Jacksonville Beach most in need of changing, upgrading and retrofitting fixtures to comply with this ordinance was the north portion. The south portion of the city was pretty well compliant or relatively dark.

Mr. Ambrosio said Building Official George Knight estimated on the north side, commercial structures, including condos, were 60% compliant. Residential structures on the north side were estimated to be 40% compliant. On the south side, commercial structures, including condos, were approximately 50% compliant, and residential structures were approximately 20% compliant. The area of Ocean Drive and Duval Drive was approximately 50% compliant. Mr. Ambrosio said the geographical area used was for the protection of the sea turtles and enforcement compliance. The estimated cost for a Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) fixture is between \$100-\$400 per fixture. The cost of a FWC bulb could be between \$8-\$22.

Mr. Ambrosio explained Beaches Energy Services employees coordinate turning off lights, typically 15-20 lights during sea turtle nesting season. He stated Electrical Engineering Project Supervisor Matt Seeley believed the City was in compliance by turning off the lights identified by the Beaches Sea Turtle Patrol. There are currently 35 locations where changes could be made to the lighting. Mr. Ambrosio went over four different recommendations proposed by Beaches Energy Services to make changes to lighting:

- Change fixtures to a sea turtle friendly light at an estimated cost of \$400-\$600 per fixture.
- Continue with the current practice of shutting off lights identified by Beaches Sea Turtle Patrol in close proximity to an active nest at an estimated cost of \$100 per light to change out the photocell to a Bluetooth photocell allowing the lights to be shut off remotely.
- Modify surrounding landscaping to shield the lights from the beach.
- Change out the lights identified by Beaches Sea Turtle Patrol to sea turtle friendly lighting during sea turtle nesting season and then change back once the season is over at an estimated of \$400-\$600 per fixture.

Mr. Ambrosio stated he looked at grant opportunities for public and potentially private conversion of lights, but the application process was very time consuming, estimated to be 50-100 hours. He

suggested if the Council wanted to pursue the option, he would recommend outsourcing to a grant application manager.

Ms. Golding raised a point of order if a discussion on this ordinance should be done when the agenda item for the sea turtle ordinance was brought up. Mr. Ambrosio said this time was utilized to open the floor for discussion, but it could be revisited during the agenda item.

Ms. Dumont stated it would be approximately \$24,000 to replace the 35 identified lights, not including bulbs, for the first recommended option. She inquired as to why shading of light fixtures on the east side was not addressed and if the homeowners know what their options are. Mr. Knight responded under the current ordinance, only the buildings on the oceanfront, along the sand, in the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) zone are evaluated for lighting. He stated under the proposed ordinance, everything east of 1<sup>st</sup> Street would undergo a lighting review. He confirmed all properties identified in the 2018-2019 light survey were provided a copy of the current ordinance and notified they were not in compliance. There currently was no fine for not being in compliance.

Mr. Seeley explained possible funding through the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) as part of the Downtown Redevelopment Project. He said Dix.Hite went through the end zones identified in the lighting survey and recommended replacement. Responding to Ms. Dumont's question on shields for the lights, he explained Beaches Energy Services is trying to find a hurricane friendly shield as well as the bulb, so there is not flying debris on the beach during storms.

Mr. Staffopoulos asked Mr. Seeley to explain the lights that have been pilot tested on 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue South. Mr. Seeley stated Beaches Energy Services was on their second LED light for testing and evaluation, and they have a third one with a low-profile shield. The first light was ruled out.

Mr. Doherty brought up regular resident complaints received about how dimly lit and uninviting the downtown area looks. He believed amber lighting made the area look worse and asked if adjusting the height of the light posts had been considered. He thought the boardwalk, street ends, and parking lots were unsafely lit. Mr. Seeley said as part of the Dix Hite study, they looked at options to balance the public security concern with sea turtle friendliness.

Mr. Ambrosio responded to a question from Ms. Hoffman stating the City does not have a full-time grant manager. Mr. Nichols said there was a lot of grant money available for trails and pedestrian walkovers. Mr. Ambrosio said there was also grant money available for water activities, recreational activities, and boat ramps.

#### **COURTESY OF THE FLOOR TO VISITORS:**

Mayor Latham extended Courtesy of the Floor to visitors. Whereby, Ms. Scott read submitted comments into the record [on file]:

- Ken Marsh, 2011 Gail Avenue, Jacksonville Beach - "Because the next agenda item includes a TIP presentation of our priority road projects, I felt that this was a good opportunity to advise council that in late February of this year, Mayor Latham asked if I would be willing to volunteer as a beaches representative of the TPO Citizens Action Committee. I enthusiastically accepted this challenge, presented my resume, and was

subsequently approved by the board. One of my key responsibilities is to ensure that the citizens voice is heard both for future motorized and non-motorized projects. I do not want to steal any of Denise's thunder as she goes through the TIP Road project document. What I would like to discuss tonight is for council to consider having a future discussion regarding Jacksonville Beaches' role in fulfilling the East Coast Greenway project. Essentially, The East Coast Greenway is a walking and biking route stretching from Maine to Florida, connecting our nation's most populated corridor. It offers a safe place for bicyclists, walkers, runners, (of all ages and abilities) - to commute, exercise, and visit destinations along the route. Currently, there is a recommended proposed route thru the beaches. Most of the route falls short of the safety criteria necessary to be designated a Greenway multi use trail. If you look at the route from Mayport Ferry to Vilano, a distance of approximately 35 miles, there is just a small couple of blocks in Neptune Beach that runs along Florida Blvd (from Atlantic Blvd to Jarboe park) that is an existing and authorized Greenway route. It is important to note that Atlantic Beach has authorized by resolution a future feasibility study for a multi-use trail along a portion of Mayport Rd. In addition, St Johns County is currently reviewing a study of a trail along A1A from Micklers Landing to Vilano. One thing is certainly evident to me during this virus crisis. I see more runners, walkers and cyclists enjoying 1st St along Jax Beach than ever before. Our residents are an extremely active community that enjoy our outdoors. Clearly we have many constraints within our network of streets, but that does not prohibit us from developing a transportation plan whereby future road projects also consider executing the East Coast Greenway throughout our city limits. Again, I thank Mayor Latham for giving me this opportunity with the TPO, and I will be glad to be a resource and support in any way possible."

- Sue Ann Alleger, 1084 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue South, Jacksonville Beach – "I received an update from Mr. Staffopoulus, the City Manager, regarding the traffic problem on 16th Avenue South. The information was shared with concerned residents and we look forward to further discussion. The letter did not state the reference speed limit that was used for the traffic statistics. One must assume the reference speed limit used is 15 mph although it is hard to believe that only 1% of vehicles are traveling at speeds that would result in a traffic violation. No other speed limit is posted on 13th Avenue South or 16th Avenue South and only one Watch Children sign is posted and it is posted on 13th Avenue South. A school speed limit crossing and speed limit posting are found near Roberts Avenue. We request that 16th Avenue South be posted with a 15 mph speed limit sign consistent with the school posting. Vehicles turning onto 16th Street South from a dead stop at 9th Street would be encouraged to accelerate along 16th Avenue South if any other speed is posted. Please consider our request and we look forward to resolution of this problem. Thank you for your help so far. Mr. Dreisher from Baptist Beaches has contacted us and is addressing the lighting problem. Thank you."
- Casey Jones, 13150 Yamasi Trail, Jacksonville – "Today the City of Jax Beach will vote to protect the endangered and threatened Sea Turtles that call our beach their own. This is a huge step in the right direction but unfortunately light pollution in Jax Beach is still shining very brightly. The illegal parking lot lights adjacent to the beach are still there and shining onto the beach. 1st Street lights are not shielded on the west side of the street. Why I don't know."

**MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL:**

**Item #20-106 – Presentation by the North Florida Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) Staff on the North Florida Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**

Mayor Latham invited Denise Bunnewith with the North Florida TPO to make her presentation. Ms. Bunnewith (via video) addressed the comments submitted under Courtesy of the Floor by Mr. Marsh, who is on the TPO's Citizens Action Committee, related to the East Coast Greenway Trail. Ms. Bunnewith explained the TPO just adopted the Unified Planning Work Program. In the second year of the Work Program, there is a study to look at the East Coast Greenway Trail through the three Beaches communities, which would be the first step. A trail study is currently underway in St. Johns County.

Ms. Bunnewith went over some of the planned projects for the Beaches area [on file], including the intersection modification at Atlantic Boulevard and 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, rehabilitation of the Atlantic Boulevard Intracoastal Waterway bridge to San Pablo Road, rehabilitation of the Intracoastal Waterway bridge at JTB (J. Turner Butler Boulevard), a safety project on Mayport Road, from Atlantic Boulevard to Mayport Naval Station, pedestrian safety improvements on A1A (3<sup>rd</sup> Street) from 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue North to Bay Street, and the resurfacing of Wonderwood Drive from Wompi Drive to the Intracoastal Waterway.

Ms. Golding asked for more information on the pedestrian improvements planned along A1A. Ms. Bunnewith believed it would be improved crosswalks. She would find out the specifics from the DOT (Department of Transportation) and follow up with an email. Ms. Golding brought up missing street signs for the Avenues along 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. Ms. Bunnewith would also ask DOT about the street signs, but she believed it was handled locally.

**CITY MANAGER:**

**Item #20-106 – Accept/Reject the Monthly Financial Reports for the Month of April 2020**

Mr. Staffopoulos stated the City is beginning to see some decreases in General Fund revenue associated with Parks and Recreation not collecting user fees. The state revenues are still 30-60 days in arrears, so we have not yet seen the impacts of sales tax collection and other state revenues.

**Motion:** It was moved by Ms. Hoffman and seconded by Mr. Vogelsang to accept the financial reports for the month of April 2020, as submitted by the Chief Financial Officer.

**Roll Call Vote:** Ayes – Doherty, Dumont, Golding, Hoffman, Nichols, Vogelsang, Mayor Latham  
The motion passed 7-0.

**Item #20-108 – Approve/Disapprove the First Amendment on the Permissive Use Agreement between the City and St. Johns River Water Management District**

Mr. Staffopoulos explained this is a clarifying agreement with the St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) to rectify the location of the equipment they had placed on City property. The equipment they had was relocated from Water Plant #2 to another property located on the stormwater system.

**Motion:** It was moved by Ms. Hoffman and seconded by Mr. Vogelsang to approve the First Amendment of the Permissive Use Agreement between the City and the St. Johns River Water Management District.

**Roll Call Vote:** Ayes – Dumont, Golding, Hoffman, Nichols, Vogelsang, Doherty, Mayor Latham  
The motion passed 7-0.

**RESOLUTIONS:** *None*

**ORDINANCES:**

**Item #20-109 – ORDINANCE NO. 2020-8139 (Second Reading) (Public Hearing)**

Mayor Latham requested the City Clerk read Ordinance No. 2020-8139 by title only, whereupon Ms. Scott read the following:

**“AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 31 – TRAFFIC AND MOTOR VEHICLES, ARTICLE I. – IN GENERAL, SECTION 31-5 – RIDING BICYCLES ON SIDEWALKS PROHIBITED, OF THE CITY OF JACKSONVILLE BEACH CODE OF ORDINANCES; CHANGING THE TITLE; REMOVING THE PROHIBITION OF RIDING BICYCLES ON PUBLIC SIDEWALKS, AND ADDING MULTIPLE SUBSECTIONS THAT AUTHORIZE, REGULATE OR PROHIBIT USE OF CERTAIN OTHER DEVICES ON SIDEWALKS; PROVIDING FOR LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS, REPEAL OF CONFLICTS, SEVERABILITY, CODIFICATION, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.”**

Mayor Latham read the following:

“This ordinance is before this Council for a public hearing and consideration on its second reading. I will now open the public hearing on Ordinance No. 2020-8139.”

**Public Hearing:**

Ms. Scott advised there were no public comments submitted for this item. Communications Manager Jacob Board advised there were no preregistered speakers for this agenda item.

Mayor Latham closed the public hearing.

**Motion:** It was moved by Ms. Hoffman and seconded by Mr. Vogelsang to adopt Ordinance No. 2020-8139 to make amendments to Section 31-5 of the City Code of Ordinances to change the title, to remove the prohibition of riding bicycles on sidewalks, adding multiple subsections that authorize, regulate or prohibit the use of certain other devices on sidewalks, to conform to Florida Statute regulations.

**Discussion:**

Ms. Golding stated Florida Statute Section 316.008(7)(a) states a county or municipality may enact an ordinance to permit, control or regulate the operation of vehicles, golf carts, mopeds, motorized scooters and electric personal assistive mobility devices on sidewalks or sidewalk areas when such is permissible under federal law. She said it goes on to say the ordinance must restrict such

vehicles or devices to a maximum speed of 15 miles per hour in such areas, and this ordinance does not specifically limit the speed of the electric personal assistive mobility devices to 15 miles per hour.

**Amended Motion:** It was moved by Ms. Golding and seconded by Ms. Dumont to modify Section 31-5(k) of Ordinance No. 2020-8139 to state that no person shall operate an electric personal assistive mobility device on a sidewalk at a speed greater than 15 miles per hour.

**Amended Motion:**

**Roll Call Vote:** Ayes – Golding, Hoffman, Nichols, Vogelsang, Doherty, Dumont, Mayor Latham  
The amended motion passed 7-0.

**Discussion:**

A brief conversation ensued related to vehicles parking in their driveways and blocking the sidewalk and the need for the City to take a look at how the Land Development Code allows new development to limit the amount of parking. Police Chief Genepaul Smith stated it is unlawful to block sidewalks with your vehicle in driveways. It is currently enforced when a complaint is received.

**Original Motion:**

**Roll Call Vote:** Ayes – Hoffman, Nichols, Vogelsang, Doherty, Dumont, Golding, Mayor Latham  
The motion passed 7-0, as amended.

**Item #20-110 - ORDINANCE NO. 2020-8140 (Second Reading) (Public Hearing)**

Mayor Latham requested the City Clerk read Ordinance No. 2020-8140 by title only, whereupon Ms. Scott read the following:

**“AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 6-8. – SEA TURTLE PROTECTION, OF THE CITY OF JACKSONVILLE BEACH CODE OF ORDINANCES, PROVIDING FOR AMENDMENTS AND REVISIONS TO CONFORM TO CURRENT MODEL LIGHTING ORDINANCE REGULATIONS, STANDARDS, AND GUIDELINES; PROVIDING FOR LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS, REPEAL OF CONFLICTS, SEVERABILITY, CODIFICATION, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.”**

Mayor Latham read the following:

“This ordinance is before this Council for a public hearing and consideration on its second reading. I will now open the public hearing on Ordinance No. 2020-8140.”

**Public Hearing:**

Mayor Latham asked if there were any public comments submitted for this item, Whereby, Ms. Scott read submitted comments into the record [on file]:

- Casey Jones, 13150 Yamasi Trail, Jacksonville – “I have been working for over 2 years to improve the life of our majestic Sea Turtles in the Jax Beach area. I even had to start another local 100,000 petition to get your attention. This new Sea Turtle Lighting Ordinance is a

great step in the right direction. Special thanks to the City Manager Mike and Chris for working hard.”

Mr. Board stated there were no preregistered speakers but said another public comment submittal had been received. Ms. Scott advised the submittal had been received after the five minute cutoff time for this item. Mayor Latham verified with Mr. Ambrosio the five-minute cutoff was what had been published. Mr. Ambrosio confirmed but advised an exception could be made.

- Casey Jones, 13150 Yamasi Trail, Jacksonville – “Special thanks to the City Manager Mike and the hard work that Chris put into this new Sea Turtle Lighting Ordinance. Chris is taking the worst Sea Turtle Lighting Ordinance in North Florida and making it the best Lighting Ordinance in North Florida. Way to go Chris.”

Mayor Latham closed the public hearing.

**Motion:** It was moved by Ms. Hoffman and seconded by Mr. Vogelsang, to adopt Ordinance No. 2020-8140 to make amendments to Section 6-8 – Sea Turtle Protection, of the City Code of Ordinances to conform to current model lighting ordinance regulations, standards and guidelines.

**Roll Call Vote:** Ayes – Nichols, Vogelsang, Doherty, Dumont, Golding, Hoffman, Mayor Latham  
The motion passed 7-0.

**Item #20-111 - ORDINANCE NO. 2020-8141 (Second Reading) (Public Hearing)**

Mayor Latham requested the City Clerk read Ordinance No. 2020-8141 by title only, whereupon Ms. Scott read the following:

**“AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF JACKSONVILLE BEACH, FLORIDA, SUBMITTING TO THE ELECTORS OF JACKSONVILLE BEACH PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF JACKSONVILLE BEACH; PROVIDING BALLOT TITLES, SUMMARIES, AND TEXT FOR THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS; PROVIDING DIRECTIONS TO THE CITY CLERK; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE FOR APPROVED AMENDMENTS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE FOR THE ORDINANCE.”**

Mayor Latham read the following:

“This ordinance is before this Council for a public hearing and consideration on its Second reading. I will now open the public hearing on Ordinance No. 2020-8141.”

**Public Hearing:**

Ms. Scott stated there were no public comments submitted. Mr. Board stated there were no preregistered speakers.

Mayor Latham closed the public hearing.

**Motion:** It was moved by Ms. Hoffman and seconded by Mr. Vogelsang, to adopt Ordinance No. 2020-8141, making amendments to the City Charter to create the requirements and procedures for removal of the City Manager and City Attorney; and the requirements and procedures for the elimination of City Departments; and standards for Council and appointees to not interfere with the performance of City employee duties, appointments or removals, and provide enforcement provisions.

**Discussion:**

Ms. Dumont stated under the ballot proposal to remove the City Manager, two questions are being asked. The first is for a supermajority to remove the City Manager, and the second is to remove gender-specific references. Mr. Ambrosio explained it had not caused problems in other cities (Winter Park, Palm Coast, and Bonita Springs) that recently had charter questions with three to four different parts.

Ms. Dumont said under Section 27. – Term of appointment, there was discussion at the May 4, 2020, Council meeting about having a simple majority to provide notice to the City Manager within 60 days. Within 30 days, the City Manager has a chance to respond. She said she did not make a formal motion at that time.

**Amended Motion:** It was moved by Ms. Dumont and seconded by Ms. Golding to strike the “super” and the “five (5)” from Section 27, so it is a majority vote of the members of the Council to furnish a formal statement, and that it still remains a supermajority vote for full removal of the City Manager.

**Discussion:**

Mr. Nichols believed it would be too confusing and suggested leaving it the way it is written.

**Amended Motion:**

**Roll Call Vote:** Ayes – Vogelsang, Doherty, Dumont, Golding, Hoffman, Mayor Latham  
Nays – Nichols  
The amended motion passed 6-1.

**Discussion:**

Discussion ensued on the proposed charter amendment for Section 30 as to whether an option for a warning needed to be added. As the Council already has the discretion to determine the penalty, it was decided no change to the ballot proposal was needed.

Ms. Dumont suggested the verbiage of the ballot proposal for removal of the City Attorney should match the wording for removal of the City Manager to provide a formal statement with 30 days to reply.

**Amended Motion:** It was moved by Ms. Dumont and seconded by Ms. Golding to have the same language for the City Attorney that is provided for the City Manager with regard to the forewarning before removal from office with a majority vote from the Council prior to a supermajority vote thirty (30) days afterward.

Mr. Ambrosio advised the current code section related to the City Attorney was minimal, likely because the City previously did not have an in-house City Attorney, and the proposed amendments were only dealing with the removal of the City Manager and City Attorney.

**Amended Motion:**

**Roll Call Vote:** Ayes –Dumont, Golding, Hoffman, Mayor Latham  
Nays – Doherty, Nichols, Vogelsang  
The amended motion passed 4-3.

Mr. Nichols stated the supermajority was not necessary. If the City Manager or City Attorney lost the confidence of a majority of the Council, they would not be able to do their job. He also said the City Manager and City Attorney receive annual evaluations letting them know how they are performing.

**Original Motion:**

**Roll Call Vote:** Ayes –Dumont, Golding, Hoffman, Doherty, Mayor Latham  
Nays – Nichols, Vogelsang  
The original motion passed 5-2, as amended.

**Item #20-112 - ORDINANCE NO. 2020-8142 (First Reading) (Public Hearing)**

Mayor Latham requested the City Clerk read Ordinance No. 2020-8142 by title only, whereupon Ms. Scott read the following:

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF JACKSONVILLE BEACH, FLORIDA, AMENDING CHAPTER 30, ARTICLE III, SECTION 30-34(a) (ADDITIONAL HOMESTEAD EXEMPTIONS AUTHORIZED) OF THE CITY CODE OF ORDINANCES, TO INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF ADDITIONAL HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION FOR LOW-INCOME PERSONS AGE 65 YEARS AND OVER FROM \$25,000.00 TO \$50,000.00 CONSISTENT WITH STATE LAW; DIRECTING THE CLERK TO PROVIDE A COPY OF THIS ORDINANCE UPON COUNCIL APPROVAL TO THE DUVAL COUNTY PROPERTY APPRAISER; PROVIDING FOR LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS, REPEAL OF CONFLICTS, SEVERABILITY, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Mayor Latham read the following:

“This ordinance is before this Council for a public hearing and consideration on its First reading. I will now open the public hearing on Ordinance No. 2020-8142.”

**Public Hearing:**

Ms. Scott stated there were no public comments submitted. Mr. Board stated there were no preregistered speakers.

Mayor Latham closed the public hearing.

**Motion:** It was moved by Ms. Hoffman and seconded by Mr. Vogelsang to adopt Ordinance No. 2020-8142 to amend City Code of Ordinances Sec. 30-34(a) to increase the low-income senior additional homestead exemption from \$25,000.00 to \$50,000.00.

Mr. Staffopoulos stated the property appraiser indicated the approximate impact to Jacksonville Beach is just over \$10,000.00 per year.

Ms. Golding provided additional data she received from the property appraiser's office. The total number of residential parcels in Jacksonville Beach was 10,528. The number of residential parcels which are homesteaded was 6,426 (61%), with 104 (1.6%) of those being senior-owned property.

**Roll Call Vote:** Ayes –Golding, Hoffman, Nichols, Vogelsang, Doherty, Dumont, Mayor Latham  
The motion passed 7-0.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Before adjourning, Mr. Ambrosio responded to a question from Mr. Doherty related to restaurant closing times, stating he did not find any state or county executive orders prohibiting hours of a restaurant. He said it would default to our code.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:29 P.M.

Submitted by: Laurie Scott  
City Clerk

Approval:



William C. Latham, MAYOR

Date: 6/2/20

LS: sg