

**Minutes of Regular City Council Meeting
held Monday, October 17, 2016, at 7:00 P.M.
in the Council Chambers, 11 North 3rd Street,
Jacksonville Beach, Florida.**



OPENING CEREMONIES:

Council Member Wilson gave the invocation, followed by the salute to the flag.

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Latham called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL:

Mayor: William C. Latham

Council Members: Lee Buck Keith Doherty Christine Hoffman
 Bruce Thomason Phil Vogelsang Jeanell Wilson

Also present were City Manager George Forbes, City Clerk Laurie Scott, and Assistant City Clerk Catherine Ponson.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Ms. Wilson, seconded by Ms. Hoffman, and passed unanimously, to approve the following minutes, as presented:

- Regular City Council Meeting held on October 3, 2016

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR TO VISITORS:

Speakers:

- Sandy Golding, 1203 18th Avenue North, Jacksonville Beach, stated her appreciation to Mayor Latham and all City staff for their efforts during Hurricane Matthew. She announced that Beaches Watch would hold the Jacksonville Beach Candidate Forum on Wednesday, October 19, 2016, 7:00 P.M., at Jacksonville Beach Elementary School. The forum is being sponsored by Beaches Watch and JBEPTA MaPS Academy.
- Kevin Brown, 1833 Kings Court, Jacksonville Beach, spoke regarding the sea oat replanting and dune replacement at Jacksonville Beach.

- Art Graham, 602 3rd Avenue North, Jacksonville Beach, complimented the City on making the public aware of the importance of evacuating the beach during Hurricane Matthew and making sure the area was safe before opening the beach after the storm.

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

Item # 16-495, Employee of the Quarter Presentation

Mayor Latham read letters of appreciation for Jamison Parker, Beaches Energy Services, and Michael Bequette, Building and Maintenance, and presented them with Employee of the Quarter pins.

Betsy Kirshbaum, Fire Department, also received Employee of the Quarter recognition and was unable to attend.

CITY CLERK:

CITY MANAGER:

- (a) **Item #16-490, Accept the Monthly Financial Reports for the Month of September 2016**

Motion: It was moved by Ms. Wilson and seconded by Ms. Hoffman, to accept the monthly financial reports for the month of September 2016, as submitted by the Chief Financial Officer.

Roll call vote: Ayes – Buck, Doherty, Hoffman, Thomason, Vogelsang, Wilson, and Mayor Latham. The motion carried unanimously.

- (b) **Item #16-491, Discussion of Draft Hurricane Matthew After Action Report**

Mr. Forbes presented a video showing scenes from the area during and after Hurricane Matthew, which passed the Jacksonville Beach coast on Friday, October 7th, 2016. He gave a report of the damage to Jacksonville Beach. He discussed debris removal, dune restoration, and the current shore protection project.

Ty Edwards, Public Works Director, stated there are two contractors for debris removal. Ceres Environmental Services removes the debris. DebrisTech monitors and tracks the debris. There are currently seven trucks removing debris in Jacksonville Beach, and so far they have removed 14,500 cubic yards of debris. The trucks are operating seven days a week.

Mr. Forbes recognized Public Works staff for being able to keep water service on during the storm.

Mr. Edwards also recognized Public Works staff for keeping the sewer and stormwater systems operational during the storm. He reported the Streets Division began removing trees and sand which enabled residents to return to the beach the next day.

Joe Mitrick, Baptist Beaches Hospital President, thanked all City departments for their help before, during, and after the storm.

Allen Putnam, Beaches Energy Director, reported every customer was without power at 2:05 P.M., Friday, October 7th, 2016. This included all three transmission lines from the mainland being down. At 8:00 P.M., he sent crews into the field to begin repair. There was 91% of service restored in 14 hours and 100% in two days.

Fire Chief David Whitmill stated that once the evacuation order was issued, Hicks Hall at the University of North Florida in Jacksonville was secured as the Emergency Operations Center. He stated that generators were operational during the storm at the Fire Stations enabling crews to stay and begin damage assessment Saturday morning. He reported there were 32 calls for service on Saturday, October 8th, 2016, and 24 calls for service on Sunday, October 9th, 2016. He added the Fire Department is still conducting damage assessments on hotels and condominiums on 1st Street.

Police Chief Pat Dooley stated the Communications Center was switched to the Emergency Operations Center in downtown Jacksonville, including computers, radio transmission, and phone lines. The Police Department assisted with the evacuation of the homeless. The Police Department coordinated with the City of Jacksonville Sheriff's Office regarding bridge closures. He added there was a contingency of approximately ten officers that remained at the beach during the storm to maintain order. He reported that since much of the power was restored and water still on, the beach reopened at noon on Saturday, October 8th, 2016.

Mr. Forbes concluded the discussion by stating the City is continuing to work on hurricane issues including debris cleanup and obtaining FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) declarations for permanent repairs (to public property) and individual assistance.

(c) Item #16-492, Discussion of the Performance Contract - Part 1 with Johnson Controls, Inc., to Install Improvement Measures to the City's Utility Metering Systems within the City Limits of Jacksonville Beach

Mr. Edwards introduced Justin Newbern, project manager and engineer with Johnson Controls. Mr. Newbern gave an update on the "Guaranteed Energy, Water, and Wastewater Cost Savings Project." Phase A, selecting a Performance Savings Contractor, and Phase B, authorizing a Project Development Agreement to perform an investment grade audit, are complete. Phase C, Part 1 is the implementation portion that will focus on water and natural gas metering. Phase C, Part 2 will include the remaining natural gas meters and a pilot program for electric metering.

Mr. Newbern reported there will be a new Automated Metering Infrastructure (AMI) System installed which allows wireless communications with water, gas, and electric meters. The AMI system will enable the City to assist the customers when a water leak occurs.

Mr. Newbern explained the new water meters are solid state meters with no moving parts. Mr. Forbes pointed out that the new meters have batteries and when the batteries wear out, the entire meter must be replaced. Mr. Newbern stated that the smaller meters have a 20-year warranty, with replacement costs in years 11 through 20 being prorated. He added that the project would pay for itself in 14 years.

Mr. Forbes commented that the City would have to include meter replacement costs in the Five-Year Capital Plan each year in anticipation of being able to replace the meters. He added it would be a significant investment and advised the City Council that they will be voting at the next meeting on Part 1 of this phase of the project, which will focus on water and natural gas metering.

Mr. Vogelsang stated he had concerns that the City is going to have to replace the meters at the same time the City is getting the return on their investment. He asked Mr. Newbern if these meters were the best option considering their battery life.

Mr. Newbern answered that these meters have the longest meter warranty within the industry. He added every meter would be factory tested for accuracy before being installed.

Mr. Thomason asked if we will be notifying those customers of the increase in their water bills due to the accurate meter readings. Mr. Newbern answered there would be a group of existing customers who receive an increase, however, based on average water use, the increase will be gradual.

Mr. Thomason commented the City still needs to publicize clearly the potential of an increase and inform our customers about the new water meters.

(d) Item #16-493, Award Continuous Service Contracts to Tank Rehab LLC, American Tank Maintenance LLC, and Utility Services Company in Response to RFP No. 05-1516 for Elevated Tank Maintenance

Motion: It was moved by Ms. Wilson and seconded by Ms. Hoffman, to award continuous service contracts to Tank Rehab LLC, American Tank Maintenance LLC, and Utility Services Company, in response to RFP No. 05-1516 for Elevated Tank Maintenance, for a period of five years and authorize the Mayor and City Manager to execute contracts with these firms as described in the memorandum from the Public Works Director dated October 11, 2016.

Mr. Forbes explained the City has two elevated water storage tanks located on Gordon Avenue and 11th Avenue North. Tank maintenance is critical, which includes inspections, renovations, and repairs.

Proposals were sent to five firms, and the City received three responses. City staff recommends using all three firms, Tank Rehab, LLC, American Tank Maintenance LLC, and Utility Services Company on continuing service contracts for a period of five years.

Roll call vote: Ayes – Doherty, Hoffman, Thomason, Vogelsang, Wilson, Buck, and Mayor Latham. The motion carried unanimously.

(e) Item #16-494, Award Bid No. 1516-18 Power Transformer for Guana Substation to the Lowest Responsive, Responsible Bidder, Georgia Transformer Corp.

Motion: It was moved by Ms. Wilson and seconded by Ms. Hoffman, to award Bid Number 1516-18, titled Power Transformers for Guana Substation to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder Georgia Transformer Corp., as explained in the memorandum from the Director of Beaches Energy Services dated October 12, 2016.

Mr. Forbes stated that the City needs a second 50 MVA (milli volt amps) transformer at Beaches Energy Guana Substation. This is necessary to enhance system reliability and accommodate load growth at the south end of our service territory. Eight proposals were sent to approved manufacturers, and Georgia Transformer Corporation had the lowest responsive bid of the six received.

Roll call vote: Ayes – Hoffman, Thomason, Vogelsang, Wilson, Buck, Doherty, and Mayor Latham. The motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTIONS:

Item # 16-496 RESOLUTION NO. 1965-2016

Mayor Latham requested that the City Clerk read Resolution No. 1965-2016, by title only, whereupon Ms. Scott read the following:

“A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF JACKSONVILLE BEACH, FLORIDA AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO PAY ADDITIONAL WAGES TO EXEMPT EMPLOYEES ASSIGNED TO PREPARATION, RESPONSE AND RECOVERY EFFORTS DUE TO NATURAL DISASTERS, SEVERE WEATHER OR CATASTROPHIC EVENTS”

Motion: It was moved by Ms. Wilson and seconded by Ms. Hoffman, to adopt Resolution No. 1965-2016, amending Resolution No. 1710-2004 and authorizing the City Manager to pay additional wages to exempt employees assigned to preparation, response and recovery efforts due to natural disasters, severe weather or other catastrophic events, effective October 17, 2016, as described in a memorandum from the Chief Financial Officer dated October 12, 2016.

Mr. Forbes explained the City's supervisory, management, and professional level employees are considered exempt and do not normally receive overtime compensation. The City has historically compensated exempt employees during natural disasters. Mr. Forbes stated this resolution further clarifies the previous Resolution No. 1710-2004 adopted on September 7, 2004.

Ms. Wilson asked if FEMA would reimburse the City for the compensation of those employees. Mr. Forbes said that he anticipates a reimbursement [subject to FEMA approval.]

Roll call vote: Ayes – Thomason, Vogelsang, Wilson, Buck, Doherty, Hoffman, and Mayor Latham. The motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCES:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:55 P.M.

Submitted by: Laurie Scott
City Clerk

Approval:



William C. Latham, MAYOR

Date: 11-7-16