

Minutes of City Council Briefing
Monday, June 19, 2017 – 5:30 P.M.
City Council Chambers Conference Room, 1st Floor
11 North 3rd Street, Jacksonville Beach, FL

The Council Briefing began at 5:30 P.M.

The following City Council Members were in attendance:

Mayor William C. Latham

Lee Buck
Keith Doherty
Christine Hoffman
Bruce Thomason
Jeanell Wilson
Phil Vogelsang (absent)

Also present were City Manager George Forbes, Director of Planning and Development Bill Mann, Police Chief Pat Dooley and City Department Directors.

Purpose of Briefing

The purpose of the briefing is to update the Council Members on projects including, but not limited to, beach renourishment, the dog park, the water meter replacement program and J. Johnson Gallery parking.

City Manager

- Mr. Forbes stated in addition to the new noise ordinance, the current zoning ordinance must be changed. With this change, Bill Mann explained all restaurants would be allowed up to 200 square feet of outdoor seating without a conditional use permit. However, if a restaurant has over 200 square feet of outdoor seating, a conditional use permit would be required.
- Mr. Forbes suggested the option of increasing the rate for paid parking lots to \$10 on holidays and during festivals. He referenced the fact that a \$10 fee for parking at Jacksonville Beach is still cheaper than the current parking fees in the surrounding areas. Mr. Forbes also suggested changing the starting time for paid parking on Fridays to start earlier than 8:00 P.M. and adding paid parking in the month of October.
- Mr. Forbes explained the plan for installing new permeable turf at the dog park in the large dog area. He stated \$75,000 would be donated towards the total amount of \$150,000 and would help with the cost of the new turf and installation. However, because of the new upgrade to the large dog section, Mr. Forbes suggested raising the yearly membership fee to \$100, which would assist with building a fund for future maintenance.
- City Engineer Robin Smith, with the Public Works Department, stated the water meter replacement program started two weeks ago, and 54 meters have been replaced, averaging about ten meters per

day. Once the initial installation period is complete, the goal is to change 50-100 meters a day with completion expected in March 2018. The installations of the new meters will be scheduled based on the customer's billing cycle resulting in no interruptions or changes in their billing.

- Mr. Forbes stated the Donna Deegan "Brick-by-Brick" breast cancer awareness campaign has not started as of yet but would hopefully start very soon.
- Mr. Forbes reported approximately 625,000 sea oats are scheduled to be planted by mid-August. The last of the dunes restoration is expected to be completed in mid to late July. The Army Corp of Engineers placed 5,000 cubic yards of sand on the dunes between 14th – 16th Avenue South making the dunes twice as large as needed. In conjunction with the City of Jacksonville, trucks are scheduled to move that sand further south towards 26th Avenue South to rebuild the dunes located there.
- Deputy City Manager, Trish Roberts, has been working closely with the City's Code Enforcement Officer and the local sea turtle patrol, as well as actively reviewing the policies regarding the sea turtles to learn if any changes need to be made.
- Mr. Forbes explained there are two new legislative laws that could affect the financial condition of the City of Jacksonville Beach. If approved by voters in November 2018, an additional \$25,000 homestead exemption would be in effect. This additional exemption may cost the City approximately \$500,000. In addition, starting as early as July 1, 2017, the legislature approved the installation of numerous 5G small wireless facilities to be placed throughout the City. These small wireless facilities can include 50-foot poles or 28 cubic foot devices.
- Attorney Steve Diebenow spoke on behalf of the former owner of J. Johnson Gallery about the possible option of obtaining additional parking to accommodate the needs of the two future high-end restaurants. Mr. Forbes led a discussion between the Council and Mr. Diebenow regarding several different options for additional parking for former J. Johnson Gallery property. These options included buying or leasing adjacent lots. Mr. Doherty stated the option of selling a parking lot currently owned by the City to Mr. Diebenow's client would be unfair and could bring legal action. Mr. Diebenow stated he and the current property owner would be open to exploring many different options with the City.

The briefing adjourned at 6:20 P.M.

Submitted by: Jodilynn Byrd
Administrative Assistant, City Clerk's Office

Approved:



William C. Latham, MAYOR

Date:

7/17/17