

Minutes of City Council Briefing
Monday, March 6, 2017 – 6:00 P.M.
City Council Chambers Conference Room, 1st Floor
11 North 3rd Street, Jacksonville Beach, FL

The Council Briefing began at 6:00 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

Also present were City Manager George Forbes, Finance Director Karen Nelson, and Jodilynn Byrd, City Clerk's Office.

Purpose of Briefing

The purpose of the briefing is to update the Council Members on projects and review the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016.

Comprehensive Annual Financial Report review

The Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016 (Copy on file) was reviewed.

City Manager George Forbes introduced Ryan Tucker of Purvis Gray & Company, the lead independent auditor.

Mr. Tucker presented a detailed review of the Audit Report. In summary, the City received an unqualified opinion on their financial statements, and the auditors found no major deficiencies in internal controls or compliance violations of any laws or regulations.

Mr. Forbes stated the City's financial condition would remain positive as long as we recognize problems and know how to resolve them. For these reasons, the City will need to continue to budget conservatively.

City Manager

Mr. Forbes expressed the importance of planning and preparing for the long-term financial condition of the City. He discussed the following items:

- Maintaining systems service levels
- Persevering in times of economic downswings
- Meeting the demands for growth

Mr. Doherty stated that due to the growth of the City and the increase of visitors, a sound infrastructure for our roads would be mandatory. Mr. Doherty also suggested the Council start thinking and planning ahead now for more growth within the City. Mayor Latham added the FDOT is in charge of some roads and has a well put-together 20-year plan. Mr. Forbes indicated that when the City completes paying off the bonds for the Better Jacksonville Beach Fund, the City would then have an additional \$1 million to use to improve the roads.

Mr. Buck offered a suggestion of keeping a more realistic goal on planning for the next three years financially instead of planning for the next five or ten years. Mayor Latham added that in his experience, a company and organization should always have a strategic long-range vision in place but also have short quarterly goals as well. Mr. Forbes agreed.

Mr. Forbes explained that it is critical to be aware of the possible ramifications of projects and capital improvements being completed now and how they could create possible issues in the future. The instance he discussed was the (maintenance and upkeep of the) new skate park. Ms. Hoffman asked for clarification if CRA funding would pay for the building and maintenance of the skate park. Mr. Forbes confirmed that it would cover the building and maintenance costs. Ms. Hoffman inquired about the funding for additional needs such as security for the skate park that may not have been budgeted in the original plan. Mr. Forbes stated that additional funding for the skate park would not come from the CRA funds but would come from the City's general operating budget.

The briefing adjourned at 6:50 P.M.

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

Approved:



William C. Latham, MAYOR

Date:

3/22/17