

**Minutes of Regular City Council Meeting  
held Monday, April 1, 2013, at 7:00 P.M.  
in the Council Chambers, 11 North 3<sup>rd</sup> Street,  
Jacksonville Beach, Florida.**



**CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor Charlie Latham called the meeting to order.

**OPENING CEREMONIES:**

Invocation was by Council Member Taylor followed by the Salute to the Flag.

**ROLL CALL:**

Mayor: Charlie Latham

Council Members: Keith Doherty Steve Hartkemeyer Christine Hoffman  
Tom Taylor Phil Vogelsang Jeanell Wilson

Also present was City Manager George Forbes, City Department Directors, and Assistant City Clerk Nancy Pyatte.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was moved by Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Hartkemeyer, and passed, to approve the following minutes, as presented:

- Regular City Council Briefing held March 18, 2013
- Regular City Council Meeting held March 18, 2013

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Councilmember Tom Taylor**

- Mr. Taylor reported that he accompanied the Mayor, the City Manager, and the Finance Director on a legislative trip to Tallahassee last week and stated they had very successful meetings.

There was a Business Workshop held at the Community Center last week and Mr. Taylor thanked the sponsors and all who attended. He said he hoped another one could be held soon.

Mr. Taylor stated he participated in a ride-along with the Police department last Friday night and it was a very busy evening for our officers.

**Councilmember Jeanell Wilson**

- Ms. Wilson reminded everyone that the Springing the Blues Festival will be this weekend.

### **Mayor Charlie Latham**

Mayor Latham made the following announcements:

- The Mayor, along with Mayor Pro-Tem Taylor, the City Manager Mr. Forbes, and the Finance Director Mr. Royal, went to Tallahassee last week for 2 days to lobby important City issues, (1) Support for Pension Reform, (2) Opposition to proposed changes to Sovereign Immunity, (3) Opposition to proposed changes to Communication Service Taxes, (4) Opposition to proposed changes in the Local Business Taxes, and (5) Support of Streamlined Sales Tax.
- On March 20<sup>th</sup> the Mayor and his wife, Kathryn, were honored to represent Jacksonville Beach at a reception held for the German Navy at Mayport Naval Station. Mayor Brown and several Jacksonville City Council members were also in attendance.
- March 25<sup>th</sup> Chief Dooley and the Mayor met with Cindy Funkhouser and JSO representatives to discuss ideas of how to deal with the vagrant issues in Jacksonville Beach and to visit the Sulzbacher Center. The Mayor stated he was very impressed with the facilities and felt enthusiastic about working with them to find a good solution to reduce the impact of vagrancy in Jacksonville Beach.
- On Tuesday March 26<sup>th</sup> the first Jax Beach Business Seminar was held, sponsored by the Small Business Development Center at UNF, Florida First Capital Finance Corporation (FFCFC), the Beaches Chamber of Commerce, and the City of Jacksonville Beach. It was a huge success and all of the organizations discussed the resources they provide to local businesses and most at no cost. The FFCFC discussed how they assist with applying for an SBA 504 loan. There have been numerous requests to offer the seminar again and hope to do so in a few months.
- March 27<sup>th</sup> the Mayor attended a breakfast meeting with Mayor Borno and Mayor Pruette to discuss issues of concern that the three beach cities have and plan to continue this monthly. Both Mayors expressed their intentions to request a contribution for our Independence Day fireworks event from their respective city councils.
- On March 28<sup>th</sup> the Mayor and Councilmembers Hoffman and Doherty attended a reception at the Beaches Historical Society to welcome Paul Astelford, the new Director of Visit Jacksonville. Mr. Astelford will bring his tremendous experience and enthusiasm to the job and we look forward to working with him to boost our visitor traffic in Jacksonville Beach.
- In keeping with the goal to 'build community' the Mayor and Chief Dooley will be holding a town hall meeting at Pablo Towers on Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, at 5:30 p.m. There are plans to hold similar town hall meetings in the future at local businesses, condos, and neighborhoods.
- The Mayor stated he participated in his 4<sup>th</sup> ride-along last Saturday. He rode with Sgt. Lavender during the 5 p.m. to 3 a.m. shift. He observed the current issues with parking, crime, and vagrancy. The Mayor stated that we are blessed to be protected by these men and women on our Police force. Their professionalism and teamwork is second to none, and the Mayor stated he is very proud of each and every one of them.

- The Mayor stated that information about City Council meetings and workshops is posted on the website [www.jacksonvillebeach.org](http://www.jacksonvillebeach.org). Also the agendas and minutes are available and archived for the council meetings as well as for the various board meetings.

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

- Mitch Reeves, 1663 Sea Oats Drive, Atlantic Beach  
Mr. Reeves thanked everyone for participating in ‘Save the Ferry’.
- Mike Stang, 1020 North 19<sup>th</sup> Street, Jacksonville Beach  
Mr. Stang expressed concerns about the increased road traffic and that some roads have not been well maintained by the State.
- Jim Overby, 21 Burling Way, Jacksonville Beach  
Mr. Overby spoke about the downtown traffic patterns and problems at the Beach Blvd. and 2<sup>nd</sup> Street roundabout.

### **MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL**

- (a) Proclamation of the Week of May 19-25, 2013, as National Public Works Week

Mayor Latham read and presented the Proclamation to the Public Works Director, Ty Edwards. Mr. Edwards introduced the City Engineer, Marty Martirone, the Streets Superintendent, Dave McDonald, the Distribution & Collection Superintendent, Chuck Hernden, the Water Plant Supervisor, John Birch, and the Pollution Control Plan Supervisor, Pam Morgan.

The City Manager praised the Public Works Department staff and stated that they are the unsung heroes of Jacksonville Beach. Mr. Forbes said that he cannot thank them enough for all that they do every day, 24/7.

- (b) Proclamation of the Month of April 2013 as Child Abuse Prevention Month

Mayor Latham read and presented the Proclamation to Mr. Mitch Reeves, President of the Exchange Club.

### **CITY CLERK**

### **CITY MANAGER**

- (a) Authorize Parking Validation Program and the Budget for the Downtown Parking Program

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Hartkemeyer to authorize the downtown parking budget and validation program as detailed in a memo from the City Manager, dated March 26, 2013.

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Speakers:

- Vince McGuire, 155 Pine Street, Atlantic Beach, co-owner Campeche Bay Restaurant – spoke against paid parking and the validation program
- Bill Stevens, 733 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue North, Jacksonville Beach, owner Beachside – spoke against the validation program, suggested a lower charge for paid parking and a later starting time, after 6:00 p.m., on Fridays

The City Manager stated that Council approved continuing the paid parking program, a validation program, paid parking effective during daylight savings time, the police department taking over security, and replacement of the orange barricades at the March 18, 2013 Council meeting. The budget is the same except for the addition of \$10,000.00, the cost to print the validation tickets.

Mr. Forbes reviewed the process of the proposed validation program. Mr. Forbes said now is the time to have control over the parking lots which needs to start this weekend.

There was a lengthy discussion about the proposed validation process and the requirement of a point of sale receipt system to participate and for verification of parking refunds. It was noted that there are merchants who don't have this type of operating system. The consensus was, at this time, that the validation program was too complicated and burdensome for both the merchants and the City.

Discussion continued about other Florida cities and their parking programs, charges, and not having a validation program. Also, suggestions were made to change the starting time for paid parking, to lower the charge from \$5 to \$3, to change the amount of the rebate to the customer, to allow residents free parking, and have more workshops to develop a workable validation program.

It was noted that this is a pilot program and, if approved, can be modified. Mayor Latham stated there have been many meetings and that a lot of work has gone into creating a parking program. He commended Staff for their efforts and all the time spent in development. We were not aware of the financial impact the point of sale system would have on some merchants. He said the primary objective now is for a system with a stable parking environment.

Mayor Latham call for a vote on the motion on the floor - to authorize the downtown parking budget and validation program as detailed in a memo from the City Manager, dated March 26, 2013.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Doherty

Nays: Hartkemeyer, Hoffman, Taylor, Vogelsang, Wilson, and Mayor Latham; motion failed with a vote of 6 to 1.

The Mayor opened the floor for discussion about the rate charged and about modification of the hours for paid parking.

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Amended

motion: An amended motion was made by Mr. Taylor to continue the paid parking program, charging \$3 instead of \$5, to start at 9 p.m. instead of 6 p.m. on Fridays, suspend the validation program pending development of a more workable program.

Amended motion failed due to lack of a second.

Discussion ensued about changing the starting time for paid parking, lowering the charge from \$5 to \$3, allowing residents free parking, timeline for changing the orange barricades to removeable fencing, and having a user friendly validation program.

Mr. Forbes stated that a meeting was scheduled for 10 a.m. Wednesday, April 3, 2013, for the purpose of showing the merchants the validation program process, assuming it would be approved. It was not approved. Instead, we can meet with the merchants to gather more information before we put it back on the agenda.

The City Manager clarified that the regular paid parking program will start this weekend on April 5<sup>th</sup>: \$5 parking starting Friday at 6 p.m. – 2 a.m., Saturday 10 a.m. – 2 a.m., Sunday 10 a.m. – 12 midnight.

Based on discussion and comments the City Manager changed the Friday starting time from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., no changes to Saturday 10 a.m. – 2 a.m., or Sunday 10 a.m. – 12 midnight.

(b) Approve the Purchase of a Surf Ski for Use by the Ocean Rescue Competition Team

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Hartkemeyer, to approve the purchase of a surf ski for the Ocean Rescue Competition Team as described in a memorandum from the Recreation and Parks Director dated March 26, 2013.

Mr. Forbes said this is for the Ocean Rescue Competition Team and they raised \$1,853 in donations on their own time. The cost is \$1,750 and they want to use the funds from the Ocean Rescue donations account.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Hartkemeyer, Hoffman, Taylor, Vogelsang, Wilson, Doherty, and Mayor Latham; motion carried unanimously.

(c) Approve the Purchase of a Replacement Greens Roller and Aerator Machine for the Golf Course

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Hartkemeyer, to approve the purchase of a replacement greens roller and aerator machine for the golf course as described in a memorandum from the Recreation and & Parks Director, dated March 26, 2013.

Mr. Forbes stated that we have contracted out the aeration of the greens and it requires shutting down the course 2 to 3 times per year and costs \$3,000 each time. By purchasing our own aerator we can schedule this process without having to shut down the course and it will pay for itself within 2 years.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Hoffman, Taylor, Vogelsang, Wilson, Doherty, Hartkemeyer and Mayor Latham; motion carried unanimously.

- (d) Authorize the Execution of Closing Documents to Finalize Purchase of Real Property (1304 North 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Jacksonville Beach)

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Hartkemeyer to authorize the Mayor and City Manager to execute the closing documents for the City purchase of the real property described as Lot 1, Block 9, Pine Grove Unit Number 2 Subdivision (*1304 North 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Jacksonville Beach*). Authorize \$30,000 to clear, grade and grass two City-owned real properties, as explained in the memorandum from the Public Works Director dated March 24, 2013.

The City Manager said this property is in a low lying area and will be used for stormwater retention. After purchase, the City plans to clear the structures from this property and the adjacent properties recently purchased, grade and grass the properties. The cost will be \$30,000 and the work will be contracted out.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Taylor, Vogelsang, Wilson, Doherty, Hartkemeyer, Hoffman and Mayor Latham; motion carried unanimously.

## **RESOLUTIONS**

## **ORDINANCES**

- (a) Ordinance No. 2013-8025 – SECOND READING

Mayor Latham requested that Ordinance No. 2013-8025, be read by title; whereupon Ms. Pyatte read the following:

“AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AN ORDINANCE ENACTING AND ESTABLISHING A COMPREHENSIVE LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATION AND OFFICIAL ZONING MAP BY REPEALING SECTION 34-467 FLOOD HAZARD AREA IN ITS ENTIRETY AND BY ADOPTING A NEW SECTION 34-347 FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT REGULATIONS; ADOPTING FLOOD HAZARD MAPS, DESIGNATING A FLOODPLAIN ADMINISTRATOR, ADOPTING PROCEDURES AND CRITERIA FOR DEVELOPMENT IN FLOOD HAZARD AREAS, ADOPTING LOCAL ADMINISTRATIVE AMENDMENTS TO THE FLORIDA BUILDING CODE; PROVIDING FOR APPLICABILITY, REPEALER, AND SEVERABILITY CLAUSES; ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.”

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Hartkemeyer, to adopt Ordinance No. 2013-8025, approving new Floodplain Management Regulations coordinated with the

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2010 Florida Building Code, adopting local administrative amendments to the Florida Building Code, and adopting updated Flood Insurance Rate Map panels for the City of Jacksonville Beach, as described in a memo from William Mann, Senior Planner of Planning and Development, dated February 28, 2013.

Speakers:

- James Sorrell, 1410 Pinewood Road, Jacksonville Beach – questioned if this will affect resale value of properties?

Mr. Forbes explained the ordinance does not change any regulations applicable to development in the floodplain areas in the city; the regulations moved from our zoning code to the Building Code. There are some changes to the delineated flood hazard areas on the Flood Map. FEMA prepared and distributed [to all Duval County cities] new Flood Insurance Rate Map panels which replace our panels dated April 17, 1989. Mr. Forbes noted that if we don't adopt the new map and changes, our residents may not be able to participate in the FEMA Flood Insurance Program, which will negatively affect property values.

Roll call vote: Ayes – Vogelsang, Wilson, Doherty, Hartkemeyer, Hoffman, Taylor, and Mayor Latham; motion carried unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business coming before the Council, Mayor Latham adjourned the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

Submitted by: Nancy Pyatte  
Assistant City Clerk

Approval:

/s/William C. Latham

William C. Latham, Mayor

Date: April 15, 2013