

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



CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Pro-Tem Tom Taylor called the meeting to order.

OPENING CEREMONIES:

Invocation was by Council Member Wilson; followed by the Salute to the Flag.

ROLL CALL:

Mayor: Charlie Latham - *Absent*

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

Also present was City Manager George Forbes, City Clerk Judy Bullock, and Senior Secretary Catherine Martinich.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

- Council Briefing held May 20, 2013
- Regular City Council Meeting held May 20, 2013

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Council Member Doherty said that he attended a meeting on May 30, 2013 called by Mr. Fernando Meza and Albert Merza. Commander Smith and Chief Dooley were also in attendance. He complimented the police and citizens for the positive tone of the meeting.
- Mayor Pro-Tem Taylor represented the City at the Memorial Day American Legion, Post 316, and dedication of the new Chaplin's Garden honoring all that have passed during wartime since 1812.
- Mayor Pro-Tem Taylor complimented Mrs. Poe, a Fletcher 8th grade Middle School teacher, whose students recreated the solar system on fencing. He encouraged residents to visit the display. It is in the area of 18th Avenue and 10th Street North.
- Mayor Pro-Tem Taylor complimented the Parks and Recreation Department for their hard work and making the Friday night movies a huge success.
- Mayor Pro-Tem Taylor said he just returned from the 76th Fletcher High School Graduation ceremony. He said that 88% of the class is planning to attend college, and that they have collectively earned over one million dollars in scholarships.

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- Mayor Pro-Tem Taylor announced that the North Florida TPO presentation would be given prior to Courtesy of the Floor.

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

- A PowerPoint presentation was given by Denise Bunnewith, with North Florida TPO (Transportation Planning Organization). She reviewed the TIP (Transportation Improvement Program) projects scheduled between 2013 through 2018, which includes bridge painting and landscaping at various locations. She discussed Intelligent Transportation System projects that are also scheduled. This is an updated camera and traffic system to better monitor and control traffic during peak periods, evacuations, and throughout the four-county region.

Discussion: Ms. Bunnewith clarified for Mr. Doherty that the FDOT (Florida Department of Transportation), FHP (Florida Highway Patrol), and the City of Jacksonville would be monitoring traffic in real time.

Ms. Bunnewith verified for Mr. Forbes that the signalization would be able to be changed and managed, to move traffic better, when necessary.

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR TO VISITORS

The following people addressed the Council about the Memorial Day fights in the community, crime, public safety, beach security, safety within the Central Business District, and problems with large crowds gathering on holidays and during special events in the downtown area. Police Chief Pat Dooley, City Manager George Forbes and the Council Members were complimented by the speakers for their professionalism in the management of the weekend crowds. Several suggestions were made to help improve behavior of visitors coming to the beach.

Speakers:

- John McGowan, 5 North 17th Avenue, Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250
- Fernando Meza, 607 South 7th Avenue, Jacksonville Beach, FL, 32250
- Robert Dotson, 535 North 3rd Street, Unit 407, Jacksonville Beach, FL, 32250
- Mick DuRocher, 41 Millie Drive, Jacksonville Beach, FL, 32250
- Joe Ralph, 824 North 8th Avenue, Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250
- Jim Overby, 21 Burling Way, Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250
- John Galarneau, 2002 Grove Street, Jacksonville Beach, FL, 32250
- Lance Folsom, 2022 North 23rd Street, Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250
- Stephen L. Thomas, 166 Del Prado Drive, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082
- Mike Reiley, 119 North 7th Avenue, Jacksonville Beach, FL, 32250
- Lieutenant Rob Emahiser, 614 North 4th Street, Unit D, Jacksonville Beach FL, 32250,

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Ocean Rescue

- William Howell, 405 Aquasious Concourse, Orange Park, FL, 32073
- Nicole Living, 14750 Beach Boulevard, Unit 14, Jacksonville Beach, FL, 32250
- Rick Knight, 827 North 8th Avenue, Jacksonville Beach, FL, 32250
- Bruce Thomason, 101 South Penman Road, Jacksonville Beach, FL, 32250
- Jeff Roegner, 1108 North 19th Street, Jacksonville Beach, FL, 32250
Mr. Roegner did not speak, but expresses his concerns on the speaker card.
- Denise Byrnes, 720 North 2nd Avenue, Jacksonville Beach, FL, 32250
- Ms. Estelle Freeman, 3335 University Boulevard North, Jacksonville, FL, 32277

Discussion: Mayor Pro-Tem Tom Taylor stated that he was at the beach at the time of the disturbance and said the Police Department performed in an exceptional manner. He emphasized our Police Department is well trained, and within an hour the crowd had been moved, there were no citizens injured, and Police were in control.

Mr. George Forbes, City Manager of Jacksonville Beach, explained his position as Chief Executive Officer of the City. He said he visits the downtown area every day of the week and sees that most people visiting the beach are well behaved - only a few cause problems. Mr. Forbes emphasized that he, Chief Dooley and the Council Members realize their duties are to make sure people are safe and enjoy their visit to the beach. He complimented the Police Department for doing an excellent job dispersing the crowd on Memorial Day. Mr. Forbes asked Chief Dooley to give his report to the citizens and Council Members.

Chief Patrick Dooley thanked the citizens in attendance, and complimented the officers that were on duty on Memorial Day. He reassured the citizens that all concerns and comments he has received from people that attended meetings, and contacted the City, have been taken to heart. He noted he is very proud of his officers, their professionalism, and grateful to the other agencies; Neptune Beach, Atlantic Beach, and JSO (Jacksonville Sherriff's Office) for their assistance. He emphatically stated he stands behind his officers and supervisors 110%, and that the decisions they made on Memorial Day were correct, as well as effective.

Chief Dooley reported that the Memorial Day events were caused by a very small number of people visiting the beach that weekend, and on that particular day. At the time of the incident, the Police Department had a total of fifteen (15) police officers on duty. Ten (10) were assigned to the downtown area, and were paid through the Downtown CAPE and Task Force funds. An additional five (5) officers were assigned for regular patrol duties throughout the City. The incident started in Boardwalk area, in the dunes around 7:20 pm. One officer who was making an unrelated arrest in the Pier parking lot, observed subjects running from the area and he observed a portion of the fight and called for assistance. Approximately fifteen (15) to twenty five (25) people were involved in that fight, at that time. As additional officers started to arrive

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on the scene, the crowd moved quickly down the Boardwalk and south to the Latham Plaza area. That is when the second incident took place. That incident was observed by the officer assigned to paid-parking, in the Latham Plaza parking lot. She saw the crowd start to run from the area, got into her car and drove toward the crowd. That is when the crowd began to disperse. At the same time, she was calling the incident in, 911 calls were also coming in to the station. In both cases the officers assigned to those areas viewed the incident and called for additional officers as the incident was unfolding. Chief Dooley commented again, how proud he was of the supervisors on duty, and that they did an excellent job of maintaining order, dispersing the crowd, and with no further injury than those involved in the fight. He said, to the best of his understanding, no one involved in the fight were residents from any of the three beaches. They are all from communities in Jacksonville. Mutual aid was called in that night from JSO, (Jacksonville Sheriff's Office), Atlantic Beach and Neptune Beach. JSO (Jacksonville Sheriff's Office) and Jacksonville Beach Police Chief, and Commanders stayed until approximately 10:00 pm to make sure the crowd left and maintained order. Jacksonville was very helpful in clearing out the southernmost end zones, from Beach Boulevard, south to 16th Street, keeping the people from loitering in the parking lots. Chief Dooley has spoken to the Undersheriff regarding this incident. Undersheriff has committed several additional officers to help through July 4th, and gave an additional eighteen (18) officers to our City over the past weekend, totaling fifty (50) officers on duty Sunday afternoon. This partnership will continue until the 4th of July, and that manpower will continue insuring this doesn't happen again. A clear message has been sent that unruly behavior will not be tolerated.

Chief Dooley discussed suggestions made by supervisors to detour the cruising environment from Beach Boulevard to 4th Avenue North, Friday through Sunday evening, and on holidays. Cars are parking too far into the street; pedestrians are walking on the wrong side of the cars, too far out in the street. When motorcycles are parked in those spaces, there is too much interaction between car drivers and bike riders. He will recommend closing parking in that area on weekends and holidays. The Police department is working closely with Mr. Lindorff, Director of Planning and Development, regarding the vacant lots being used as parking lots. The Chief also explained that supervisors have the ability, at their discretion, to reroute traffic as they see fit, to manage cruising.

Chief Dooley said that JSO (Jacksonville Sheriff's Office) has been very helpful anytime we have asked for assistance. In the past they have been very helpful and sent officers, as they did last weekend. He said that the special units JSO (Jacksonville Sheriff's Office) has are also available to us and we use them, as necessary.

Chief Dooley discussed the trash problem in the downtown area. He asked citizens to help pick up and clean up as they can.

The Chief discussed the suggestion made from a resident about strategies used by New York City to curb crime. He explained our City does this and has been doing this for a long time. Forty one (41) arrests were made last weekend, forty (40) the

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weekend before. There are a number of things being worked on to change the behavior, which is the goal of the department. He said the community is very supportive of law enforcement, and is concerned about the City. He said again that the disturbance was caused by a small number of people, who choose to live a violent lifestyle. There have been no arrests made, but the investigation is ongoing. He also informed the audience that citizen volunteers, CPA's and COP's, have helped the department tremendously by volunteering approximately 12,000 hours in 2012. This includes helping with animals on the beach, traffic control, and parking enforcement. He invited anyone interested in helping to please come and join the civilian organization.

Mr. Vogelsang asked Chief Dooley about the tower that was purchased last year. Chief Dooley said that it was purchased last year and the funds used could only purchase certain items. He stated that this weekend the tower was used – staffed with an officer. Many times it is used and staffed by volunteers.

Mr. Doherty asked if it is possible to arrange supplemental staff with JSO (Jacksonville Sheriff's Office) to help throughout the fair weather months. Chief Dooley explained he has plans to discuss this with Jacksonville's Sherriff, and discussed the Mutual Aid Agreement. He said he is working toward an Auxiliary Police Program, consisting of ten (10) officers.

Mayor Pro-Tem Taylor called a five (5) minute recess at 8:45 pm.

The meeting reconvened at 8:47pm.

CITY CLERK

- (a) Approve the Appointment of Jacqueline Thomason as a Trustee on the Police Officers' Pension Board of Trustees.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Hartkemeyer, seconded by Mr. Vogelsang, to approve the appointment of Jacqueline Thomason to the Police Officers' Pension Board of Trustees, effective May 14, 2013, to complete an unexpired term.

Discussion: Mr. Forbes explained there are three (3) different pension boards, and this nomination is for the Police Officers' Pension Board. There are two (2) members appointed by Council, two (2) officers elected by the department employees and the 5th member, chosen by the Board. Mrs. Thomason has been interviewed and selected by the Board.

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

CITY MANAGER

- (a) Allocate \$12,000 for Fire Department Overtime

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Motion: It was moved by Mr. Hartkemeyer, seconded by Mr. Vogelsang, to approve \$12,000 for Fire Department overtime, as described in a memo from the Fire Chief, dated May 21, 2013.

Discussion: Mr. Forbes said that due to previous budget cuts in overtime for the Fire Department, the overtime monies have come short. Although Chief Frazier has implemented the Auxiliary program, in its first year, adequate overtime is needed from the General Fund.

Mr. Doherty asked Chief Frazier to explain how the new Auxiliary program is working.

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

- (b) Approve a Contract with W. W. Gay and Integrated Systems, Inc. to Install Security Cameras at City Hall.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Hartkemeyer, seconded by Mr. Vogelsang, to award RFP Number 02-1213, for the installation of a security camera system for City Hall, to W. W. Gay Fire and Integrated Systems, Inc.

Discussion: Mr. Forbes explained the current cameras in City Hall are fifteen (15) years old and are old technology. Bids were submitted and W.W. Gay was chosen.

Mr. Doherty asked if there were plans for external cameras. Mr. Forbes said there is one camera outside, for security purposes. The new system is digital and reviewing video and monitoring will be more efficient. Mr. Doherty asked if it was possible to expand the outdoor cameras. Mr. Forbes stated it would not be with this system.

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

RESOLUTIONS

ORDINANCES

- (a) **ORDINANCE NO. 2013-8029 – FIRST READING**

Mayor Pro-Tem Taylor requested that Ordinance No. 2013-8029, be read by title; whereupon Ms. Bullock read the following:

“AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE V, DIVISION 5, ‘GENERAL EMPLOYEES’ RETIREMENT SYSTEM’ OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF JACKSONVILLE BEACH; TO PROVIDE FOR A CHANGE IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE RETIREMENT

SYSTEM; PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.”

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Hartkemeyer, seconded by Mr. Vogelsang, to adopt Ordinance Number 2013-8029, which will transfer the pension administration services from the City Clerk’s Office to Human Resources.

Discussion: Mr. Forbes explained this ordinance is transferring the administration of the pension system from the City Clerk’s office and moving it to the Human Resources Department. The City Clerk’s office will remain the secretary to the Pension Boards. There will be a reorganization of personnel in the Human Resources Department to include a Benefits Payroll Administrator, without adding new personnel.

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

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business coming before the Council, Mayor Pro-Tem Taylor adjourned the meeting at 9:05 p.m.

Submitted by: Catherine Martinich
Senior Secretary

Approval:

/s/William C. Latham

William C. Latham, MAYOR

Date: June 17, 2013