

**City of Jacksonville Beach  
Minutes of Fiscal Year 2011 Council Budget Tour  
Friday, July 30, 2010 – 1:00 PM**

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The Council Budget Tour began at 1:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

City Council members in attendance:

Penny Christian	Dick Matthews
Steve Hartkemeyer	Tom Taylor
Rick Knight	Mayor Fland Sharp

Department Directors in attendance:

Ty Edwards, Public Works	Don Ouchley, Beaches Energy
Gary Meadors, Parks & Recreation	Harry Royal, Finance Officer
Gary Frazier, Fire Chief	Bruce Thomason, Police Chief

Also present were City Manager George Forbes, Budget Officer Trish Roberts, and Assistant City Clerk Judy Bullock.

**Fiscal Year 2011 Council Budget Tour**

The FY 2011 budget tour began with a brief presentation on the General Fund Budget and Budget Issues (*on file*). The presentation also included the City's Mission, which is *Quality of Life*. Other topics covered included the City's financial condition, major budget concerns – external and internal, freezing workforce salaries, and funding from leased City facilities. Mr. Forbes concluded by informing council members that the City's budget is balanced.

**Stop 1-**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Street N. Stormwater Collection & Treatment System Project**

Public Works Director, Ty Edwards gave an overview of the project, its funding sources and function.

**Stop 2 –**

**Natural Gas System**

Beaches Energy Director Don Ouchley explained that construction on the natural gas system began in February 2010 and will continue through a portion of Fiscal Year 2011. Council members were shown where the main metering system is located and advised that the accounts could conceivably reach 200.

**Stop 3 –**

**Warren Smith Cemetery**

Parks and Recreation Director Gary Meadors updated Council members on plans to install an arched sign much like the one installed at Lee Kirkland cemetery. He added that an access road had been closed due to Beach Boulevard construction, which will provide the opportunity for additional gravesites.

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Members of the tour also viewed upgrades to Lee Kirkland cemetery, including the columbarium and cremation garden.

#### **Stop 4 –**

##### **Radio System Upgrades**

Fire Chief Gary Frazier gave a presentation on the radio system upgrades, including the fiber link to the 911 Communications Center, costs, including \$720,000 in grants. Budget Tour members were shown the new tower and provided with a tour of the new Radio Room, located in the Operations and Maintenance Facility.

#### **Stop 5**

##### **Generator Upgrade and Standby Distributed Generation**

Mr. Ouchley explained that new generator switchgear and controls would be utilized for peak-demand load reduction for the four existing generators. He added when running at peak load there is a potential to reduce power costs up to \$400,000 per year.

#### **Stop 6**

##### **Wingate Park Little League Batting Cages**

Tour members viewed the batting cages at Wingate Park while Mr. Meadors provided information on funding for the facilities (City of Jacksonville) and their use.

#### **Stop 7**

##### **9<sup>th</sup> Street South / South Beach Parkway Road Corridor Improvements**

Mr. Edwards explained the project while the tour followed the improvement corridor. He noted that there are three phases to the project which include 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue S to Osceola Avenue; Osceola Avenue to St. Johns County Line; and Beach Boulevard to 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue South, which will also include stormwater work and curbs and gutters. Mr. Edwards also advised that most of the project is funded by ARRA federal stimulus monies.

#### **Stop 8**

##### **Carver Center Ribbon Cutting and Sports Field Lights and Controls**

The next stop was at the Carver Center facility where the Mayor and Council members held a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the new neighborhood facility.

Mr. Meadors advised that a new energy-efficient lighting system for the sports fields is now in use in Carver Park, playground area, T-ball space and at the tennis courts. He added that they are turned on and off using a computer program. When activities have completed for the evening before the scheduled cut-off time, a phone call to a computerized system will shut the lights off, saving the City on energy costs.

#### **Stop 9**

##### **Wastewater Treatment Facilities Improvements**

The tour continued on to the construction site of the replacement wastewater plant. Mr. Edwards reviewed the project and stated it is approximately 75% complete. He also commented on the fact that construction of the new plant is occurring at the location of the current plant, which continues to

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function during the construction. Additionally, Pam Morgan, Chuck Hernden and Jr. Lilly were introduced.

**Stop 10**

**South Beach Park Water Play Feature**

Mr. Meadors advised that a water play feature is to be installed in the park, allowing children to run through the water to cool off during the summer months. He explained that the water would be pumped, treated and reused instead of continuous new water usage. Mr. Meadors also described a new rubber material that would be installed to replace the mulch currently under the playground equipment.

**Stop 11**

**Lake Mildred Area Stormwater Improvements**

Mr. Edwards explained the improvement project planned for the Lake Mildred area. A new stormwater pumping station would be constructed at the Sandra Drive cul-de-sac, connecting to an existing forcemain, which would direct the flow to the central basin. Mr. Edwards added that there are plans to clean the pond banks of overgrown vegetation, install a bulkhead at the northern end of the pond and removal of eroded material to increase the pond's capacity.

**Stop 12**

**Avalon Subdivision Infrastructure**

Planning & Development Director Steve Lindorff reviewed the Avalon Subdivision infrastructure project. He advised that the infrastructure is being installed in the area so that the vacant lots become buildable. Initial funding for the project is from the 1/2-cent Sales Surtax bond proceeds (\$817,097.22) which will be assessed to the property owners after the project is completed.

**Stop 13**

**Huguenot Tennis Center Court Improvements**

Mr. Meadors and Tennis Pro Jim Watford described the newly installed tennis court surface, called Plexicushion, a special blend of latex, rubber and plastic particles. Mr. Watford advised that the players love the new surface, which absorbs body shock and reduces muscle fatigue.

The Budget Tour ended at approximately 4:15 p.m.

Submitted by: Judy L. Bullock  
Assistant City Clerk

Approved:

/s/Fland O. Sharp  
Fland O. Sharp, Mayor

Date: August 16, 2010