

**Minutes of Regular City Council Meeting  
held Tuesday, January 20, 2015 at 7:00 P.M.  
in the Council Chambers, 11 North 3<sup>rd</sup> Street,  
Jacksonville Beach, Florida.**



**CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor Charles Latham called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM.

**OPENING CEREMONIES:**

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

**ROLL CALL:**

Mayor: William C. Latham

Council Members: Lee Buck                      Keith Doherty                      Christine Hoffman  
                                 Bruce Thomason                      Phil Vogelsang                      Jeanell Wilson

Also present was City Manager George Forbes, and Acting City Clerk Nancy Pyatte.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was moved by Ms. Wilson, seconded by Ms. Hoffman, and passed unanimously, to approve the following minutes as presented:

- Special City Council Meeting held December 10, 2014
- Regular City Council Meeting held December 15, 2014

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Council Member Keith Doherty –

- Mr. Doherty talked about the South Beach Parkway road closure and the need to expedite the improvements in the area to relieve the traffic congestion and improve safety.

Council Member Lee Buck –

- Mr. Buck agreed with Mr. Doherty and extended his appreciation for all the effort put into the beautification project.

Council Member Bruce Thomason –

- Mr. Thomason shared he attended the Martin Luther King Celebration at St. Paul's By The Sea Episcopal Church on Sunday, that recognized Dr. King's life and work for improvement to race relations.

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Mayor Latham –

Mayor Latham made the following announcements:

- On December 16, 2014 he attended and participated at the City's Annual Employee/Retiree Christmas Party at the Community Center. He thanked everyone who helped with organizing the event, cooking and serving.
- The Mayor had lunch with Mayors Brown, Totman (Baldwin), and Woods (Atlantic Beach) on December 18, 2014. He thanked Mayor Brown for continuing to maintain an open dialogue with all of the Beach cities.
- Judge Mahon invited the Mayor to attend several adoption finalization ceremonies at the Duval County Courthouse on December 19, 2014. It was an honor to represent Jacksonville Beach at such an important and emotional ceremony.
- The Police and Fire Departments held a very successful Christmas Party at the Turner Ace parking lot on December 20, 2014. Heartfelt thanks to our First Responders for providing such a great event for our local kids.
- On Sunday the Mayor attended the Martin Luther King Celebration at St. Paul's By The Sea Episcopal Church. The event was coordinated by former Mayor Mike Borno and was truly an amazing celebration of the life of Martin Luther King. Several members of the clergy from sever churches, guest speakers, and several choral groups from local churches and UNF made the ceremony particularly impactful.
- The Mayor thanked Kurtis Loftis for a successful and fun 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Deck The Chairs event.

**COURTESY OF THE FLOOR TO VISITORS:**

**MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL:**

**CITY CLERK:**

**CITY MANAGER:**

(a) Monthly Financial Reports – Month of December 2014

Motion: It was moved by Ms. Wilson, seconded by Ms. Hoffman, to approve the Monthly Financial Reports for the Month of December 2014, as presented.

Roll call vote: Ayes - Buck, Doherty, Hoffman, Thomason, Vogelsang, Wilson, and Mayor Latham; motion carried unanimously.

(b) Introduction of Directors

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Mr. Forbes announced that David Carlin resigned this morning from his position as the new Planning and Development Director. Mr. Carlin was offered and accepted a job with the FAA in New York.

The City Manager introduced Allen Putnam, Beaches Energy Services Director. Mr. Putnam gave a powerpoint presentation (on file) to the Mayor and Council of his graphic biography.

(c) Approve the Annual 26.2 with Donna Marathon

Motion: It was moved by Ms. Wilson, seconded by Ms. Hoffman, to approve the 26.2 With Donna Marathon as detailed in a memo from the Police Chief Dooley dated January 9, 2015.

Donna Hicken addressed the Mayor and Council and thanked the City of Jacksonville Beach for all their assistance with the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual 26.2 With Donna Marathon. Ms. Hicken talked about how the funds from this event are used to end breast cancer and the continued efforts and work by Dr. Edith Perez here in Jacksonville. Ms. Hicken stated that it is anticipated there will be more advancements to end breast cancer in the next five years than there have been in the past fifty years! She closed stating that this event brings the attention of the world to our area.

Mayor Latham expressed his gratitude for all the work and he is very proud of this event.

Discussion ensued about procedures in place in case of an extreme weather event that would interfere with the marathon.

Chief Dooley reviewed the route/maps noting there was a slight course change.

Roll call vote: Ayes - Doherty, Hoffman, Thomason, Vogelsang, Wilson, Buck, and Mayor Latham; motion carried unanimously.

(d) Approve a Concept Plan for a Skate Park at South Beach Park

Motion: It was moved by Ms. Wilson, seconded by Ms. Hoffman, to approve the concept plan for a skate park to be located in South Beach Park, as described in the memorandum from the Director Parks & Recreation dated January 9, 2015.

The Mayor called Tony Hall, who completed a speaker request card for this item.

Tony Hall, 1567 Plantation Oaks Way, addressed the Mayor and Council about the skate park. Mr. Hall owns and operates Jax Beach Surf Shop, 221 North 1<sup>st</sup> Street. Mr. Hall stated it is important to keep in mind that a project of this type is not always about using the cheapest bid. He said skate parks require specialty concrete. It has to be right from the start or it will be an unused skate park.

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Tony Hall and his associates that were present – noting they have 160 years of combined experience in skateboarding - recommended a Florida company owned and operated by Tim Payne, who has designed and built skate parks throughout the US and abroad as well. He referenced their website, TEAMPAIN.COM, to view the company's product. Mr. Hall also talked about the importance of creating a fencing system around the park.

Tony Hall thanked the Mayor and Council, and City Staff for getting this project started and all their work to keep improving our city. Mr. Hall said he especially wanted to thank former Councilmember Tom Taylor, for his continued interest and support of the skate park over the past eight years.

The City Manager reviewed this project noting this is the third concept plan for a skate park. This proposed plan will be constructed at South Beach Park, where there is a pond that the City no longer needs to maintain for stormwater permits. It will feature a skate bowl and an area for street skating, as shown on the map (attached). There is already plenty of parking and restrooms at this location. Mr. Forbes stated this will be funded through South Beach Redevelopment.

Discussion ensued about on the following topics:

- Prioritizing and starting the development phase as soon as possible – don't wait another 8 years
- Fencing for the 'street skate' area so skaters don't go onto the sidewalk or the road
- Liability waivers
- Use local experience and expertise
- Keep 'user friendly' – no charge to use

The City Manager addressed the liability concerns. He said that state law requires anyone 17 years or younger must have a parent/guardian sign a waiver and they must wear a helmet. Mr. Forbes said this park could be set up the same way we do the dog park – using a key-fob system. This skate park will be geared towards beginners and intermediates.

Roll call vote: Ayes - Hoffman, Thomason, Vogelsang, Wilson, Buck, Doherty, and Mayor Latham; motion carried unanimously.

(e) Accept the Information on the Police Department Policy on Self Report Crash Forms

Motion: It was moved by Ms. Wilson, seconded by Ms. Hoffman, to accept the information on the Police Department policy on Self Report crash forms.

Mr. Forbes stated this is a change in police work that is happening throughout the state of Florida and he reviewed the criteria listed for drivers to complete a Self Report crash form on-line at [www.flcrash.com](http://www.flcrash.com). Drivers are still required to notify law enforcement of the crash and an officer will report to the scene and provide this information to the drivers. In the event someone does not have access to a computer or the ability to complete the forms online, the

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Jacksonville Beach Police Department will continue to assist/complete the driver report of a crash.

Chief Dooley stated this online Self Report crash forms process is State mandated. It will be a time saver for both the drivers and the police department. Chief Dooley reported that the traffic crash numbers are down. For last year 2014, there were 939 reported crashes, and 339 of those were processed through this system.

Voice vote resulted in all Ayes from the Council members; motion carried unanimously.

**ANNOUNCEMENT:**

The Mayor announced that on Wednesday, January 28, 2015, at 11:00 AM, at the new Public Works Water Plant Division Maintenance Facility, there will be a dedication ceremony to the memory of John Birch, a long-time valued City employee. John passed away on August 30, 2014

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Submitted by: Nancy J. Pyatte  
Acting City Clerk

Approval:

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William C. Latham, MAYOR

Date: February 2, 2015