

**Minutes of Regular City Council Meeting
held Monday, February 16, 2015 at 7:00 P.M.
in the Council Chambers, 11 North 3rd Street,
Jacksonville Beach, Florida.**



CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Charles Latham called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

OPENING CEREMONIES:

Mayor Latham asked for a moment of silence for Councilmember Lee Buck who was in the hospital; followed by the Salute to the Flag.

ROLL CALL:

Mayor: William C. Latham

Council Members: Lee Buck (absent) Keith Doherty Christine Hoffman
Bruce Thomason Phil Vogel sang Jeanell Wilson

Also present was City Manager George Forbes, City Clerk Laurie D. Scott and Asst. 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:

- Regular City Council Meeting held February 2, 2015.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor Latham –

Mayor Latham made the following announcements:

- Congratulations to Sandy Golding and St. Francis Animal Hospital for a successful “Chariots of Fur” event on February 7th. It gets bigger and better each year, and Cookie and I are looking forward to next year’s event already.
- Great turnout for the Bowl-A-Thon tournament for the Beaches Exchange Club. I want to thank all the council members that participated, Phil Vogelsang, Bruce Thomason, Lee Buck, Keith Doherty and City Manager George Forbes. We had a great time and earned approximately \$5,000 for the Exchange Club’s campaign against child abuse.

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- Congratulations to World of Beers for their grand opening on Sunday February 8th. I was honored to “tap the cask” at the event.
- At the TPO on Tuesday, I’m proud to announce that the Board approved JTA’s request to add funding to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) for discretionary funding for the St. John’s River Ferry in an amount exceeding four million dollars.
- I was honored to represent Jacksonville Beach at the annual “State of the Beaches” luncheon sponsored by the Chamber.
- Congratulations to Jacksonville Beach resident Donna Deegan for successfully completing the 8th Annual 26.2 with Donna Breast Cancer Marathon.

Councilmember Jeanell Wilson –

- Attended a meeting in Mayport on Thursday where efforts are underway to designate Mayport Community Fishing Village and some surrounding areas as a CRA (Community Redevelopment Area).
- Attended reception on Friday for 26.2 with Donna for Breast Cancer at One Ocean.

Councilmember Phil Vogelsang –

- Attended the Bowl-A-Thon along with other council members.
- Participated in Jacksonville Beaches Flag Football League. Announced their team was the league champions for the second year in a row. Thanked local Jacksonville Beach business Pita Pit for their sponsorship.

Councilmember Keith Doherty –

- Commented that he was in agreement with the sentiments expressed by Ms. Wilson on the information on the Community Redevelopment for Mayport. For years it has been referred to as Historic Mayport and it needs to be a tourist destination. Hopefully the consequence of redevelopment would be to bring in more visitors and provide security for the ferry’s future.
- Attended the Bowl-A-Thon along with other council members.
- Attended the Chariots of Fur event. Remarked it was well attended by individuals and families and hopes it grows in the future.

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR TO VISITORS:

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Mayor Latham read the following policy regarding public comments:

“This portion of the agenda is designed to allow citizens an opportunity to bring matters to the attention of the City Council. It is not reasonable to expect that the Council will engage in or debate or deliberate about matters on which Council has not received any prior information as part of this agenda. Before addressing this Council, please state your name and address for the record. You are asked to limit your comments to five (5) minutes. Public comment cards are conveniently placed at the entrance to the Chambers and should be submitted to the Clerk at the far left of the dais.”

Speakers:

- Tony Hall, 1567 Ashford Oaks Way, Jacksonville Beach, addressed the City Council regarding Cradle Creek boardwalk needing repairs, designating bike lanes for 13th Avenue S. and 16th Avenue S., and inquired as to the possibility of starting the construction of the Street Course first for the Skate Park. Additionally, Mr. Hall suggested the City and the Police Department should start to prepare for the upcoming spring break and summer seasons.

Mayor Latham explained the bicycle issue is being sponsored by the TPO (Transportation Planning Organization). The City was able to obtain a quarter million dollar grant for an engineering study to determine where the bike paths need to be. The majority of the roads in the city are state roads and we need to coordinate requests through state agencies.

The City built the access road from Lakeside Drive to Seagate Avenue to be used for emergency purposes. The gate at Lakeside Drive received considerable discussion. Some citizens requested that the gate be permanently opened, while others would like it to remain closed.

The citizen’s comments in this matter are as stated:

- Ruth Forrest, 2729 Lois Lane, Jacksonville Beach, presented Council with a petition and spoke for removal of the gate.
- Maryann Pease, 1714 Indian Woods Drive, Neptune Beach, spoke for keeping the gate open.
- Pat Heilmann, 1857 Kings Road, Jacksonville Beach, spoke for keeping the gate open.
- Nani McLathery, 2080 Lakeside Drive, Jacksonville Beach, spoke for keeping the gate open.
- Michael Mayes, 2015 Lakeside Drive, Jacksonville Beach, spoke for keeping the gate closed.
- Kevin Brown, 1833 Kings Court, Jacksonville Beach, spoke for keeping the gate closed.
- Reenie Murphy, 1870 Nightfall Drive, Neptune Beach, spoke for keeping the gate closed.
- Gary Rouse, 2014 Lakeside Drive, Jacksonville Beach, spoke for keeping the gate closed.
- Lisa Rouse, 2014 Lakeside Drive, Jacksonville Beach, spoke for keeping the gate closed.
- William Randolph, 1835 Nightfall Drive, Neptune Beach, spoke for keeping the gate closed.
- Marlene Shad, 2056 Lakeside Drive, Jacksonville Beach, spoke for keeping the gate closed.
- Mary Frosio, 1830 Nightfall Drive, Neptune Beach, spoke for keeping the gate closed.
- Cheryl Carleton, 2055 Lakeside Drive, Jacksonville Beach, spoke for keeping the gate closed.
- George Langstaff, 1852 Nightfall Drive, Neptune Beach, spoke for keeping the gate closed.

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- Dave Polovina, 2069 Lakeside Drive, Jacksonville Beach, spoke for keeping the gate closed.

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL:

- (a) Presentation of Resolution of Esteem to Harry Royal by Mayor Latham.
Mayor Latham read and presented the resolution to Mr. Royal.

CITY CLERK:

CITY MANAGER:

- (a) **Acceptance of the Independent Auditor's Report on the General Purpose Financial Statements of the City of Jacksonville Beach for the Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2014.**

Motion: It was moved by Ms. Wilson, seconded by Ms. Hoffman, to approve the Independent Auditor's Report on the General Purpose Financial Statements of the City of Jacksonville Beach for the Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2014.

Discussion: Mr. Forbes reported that the Council met at a workshop prior to this meeting to discuss the auditor's report. The auditor's report stated the city is in excellent financial condition. One of the highlights of the report was the city's pension reform.

Mr. Joe Welch of Purvis & Gray reported the City received an unqualified opinion on their financial statements and the audit showed no findings of non-compliance. Mr. Welch complimented the council, management and Mr. Royal's staff for their hard work.

Ms. Wilson expressed interest in receiving this report earlier to allow time to properly review the information.

Mr. Forbes acknowledged her request, and advised the council receives their copy as soon as it is put together.

Mr. Doherty suggested it would be a good idea to follow Mr. Forbes' lead in proceeding with financial caution, even though we had a good year.

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

- (b) **Monthly Financial Report – Month of January 2015**

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Motion: It was moved by Ms. Wilson, seconded by Ms. Hoffman, to approve the Monthly Financial Report – Month of January 2015.

Discussion: Mr. Forbes reported the Finance Department will be submitting the auditor's report to the Government Financial Officer's Association for the Certificate of Achievement Award for Financial Reporting. He stated we have received this award consecutively for twenty years. Last year we were only one of 1,908 cities, (36,010 cities in the United States) that received this award nationwide and it has to do with the efforts of Mr. Royal.

Mayor Latham complemented Mr. Royal on the excellent job he has done in putting together the final financial report.

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

(c) Appointment of One Councilmember to Serve on the General Employees' Pension Board of Trustees

Motion: It was moved by Ms. Wilson, seconded by Ms. Hoffman, to approve Councilmember Thomason to serve on the General Employees' Pension Board of Trustees.

Discussion: Mr. Forbes explained the city has three (3) pension boards - police, fire, and general. On the General Employees' Pension Board there are five (5) trustees on the board. Two (2) are appointed by the City Council, two (2) are elected by the general employees and those four appoint a fifth Trustee. Mr. Forbes advised we have been short one member for some time, and Mr. Forbes asked Councilmember Thomason if he would accept the appointment, and Councilmember Thomason agreed.

Ms. Hoffman stated for the record that it is an honor to serve on the General Employees' Pension Board as the second city councilmember and is looking forward to serving with Mr. Thomason in their efforts to continue to get the unfunded liability down through sound investment policies.

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

(d) Authorize the City Manager to Sign the Transmission Operator Alliance Agreement Establishing Orlando Utilities Commission (OUC) as the Transmission Operator ("TOP") for Beaches Energy Services, and Approving the Alliance Agreement

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Motion: It was moved by Ms. Wilson, seconded by Ms. Hoffman, to approve authorization for the City Manager to Sign the Transmission Operator Alliance Agreement Establishing Orlando Utilities Commission (OUC) as the Transmission Operator (“TOP”) for Beaches Energy Services, and Approving the Alliance Agreement.

Discussion: Mr. Forbes explained New NERC Critical Infrastructure Protection (“CIP”) standards (Version 5), present significant challenges to electric utilities. On the transmission side, many utilities, particularly small to mid-sized operators, have yet to deploy robust NERC Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP) programs and will struggle to meet the requirements of CIP Version 5.

Following several months of discussion and negotiation, a mutual agreement has been reached among Beaches Energy Services (member), Orlando Utilities Commission (member/agent), and Kissimmee Utility Authority (member), to adopt a Transmission Operator Alliance Agreement (“Alliance Agreement”).

This Alliance Agreement, which introduces operational and administrative efficiencies into each member’s operations and compliance efforts, will save thousands of dollars for the customers of all three member utilities, significantly reduce the risk of operational and cyber security regulatory compliance violation penalties, and avert the need for additional Beaches Energy staff to deal with the growing compliance workload.

Beaches Energy Services analysis shows an up-front cost savings of more than \$1.46 million dollars by entering into the agreement versus implementing our own solution. Additionally, an estimated cost savings of \$190,000 per year in operating and maintenance costs will be saved by adopting this agreement.

Mr. Forbes reported that late Friday afternoon, after the City Council agenda had already been approved and distributed, he received [from OUC] the agreement with minor red-lined changes. The red-lined changes were for the most part, errors in spacing, misspellings, capitalizations, and non-capitalizations. No substantial changes were made to the agreement. Mr. Forbes presented the changes for the record.

Brief discussion followed about the Executive and Operational Committees, who are our representatives for these committees, costs, potential risks, liabilities and opportunities for other utilities to join the partnership. Mr. Forbes and staff addressed those concerns.

Mayor Latham recognized Mr. Forbes and staff for their advance work on this project. Their ability to pull together a great opportunity to save us money speaks well of their ability to look ahead proactively at what faces us and take the right steps.

Mr. Forbes expressed gratitude and appreciation for Mr. Steve Lancaster's hard work.

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

(e) Ratify the Amendment to the Collective Bargaining Agreement with Laborer's International Union of North America (LIUNA), Local 630, Effective March 1, 2015

Motion: It was moved by Ms. Wilson, seconded by Ms. Hoffman, to Ratify the Amendment to the Collective Bargaining Agreement with Laborer's International Union of North America (LIUNA), Local 630, Effective March 1, 2015.

Discussion: Mr. Forbes explained two (2) minor changes to the union contract positions. First, creating a Senior Permit Specialist in the Building Department, and make a job change to re-do the job description for the person who is in charge of our Traffic Markings/Signage Supervisor and to address the additional duties this position will have in the future. Other actions included moving two (2) union supervisory positions to non-union positions. This move has already been approved by the union.

Mr. Thomason inquired as to the difference between the titles of Traffic Paint and Traffic Markings.

Mr. Forbes explained that the Traffic Markings/Signage Supervisor will be doing several additional duties such as the problems we've had with graffiti. He will be moved up to crew leader status and will be working on graffiti maintenance, traffic markings, and traffic control signs, stop signs, and yield signs.

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

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION NO. 1943-2015

Mayor Latham requested that the City Clerk read, Resolution No. 1943-2015, by title only; whereupon Ms. Scott read the following:

**“A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE CITY OF JACKSONVILLE
BEACH POSITION CLASSIFICATION AND PAY PLAN FOR
MANAGERIAL, PROFESSIONAL, ADMINISTRATIVE AND
UNCLASSIFIED (NONUNION) CITY POSITIONS, EFFECTIVE
MARCH 1, 2015.”**

Motion: It was moved by Ms. Wilson, seconded by Ms. Hoffman, to adopt Resolution No. 1943-2015, amending the City of Jacksonville Beach Position Classification and Pay Plan for Managerial, Professional, Administrative and Unclassified (non-union) city positions, effective March 1, 2015.

Mr. Forbes reported that this will establish pay grades for classifications for the Property and Procurement Officer, the System Administrator/Public Safety, the City Clerk and the Business Relations/Conservation Coordinator positions.

Ms. Wilson confirmed we are not adding new employees – but rather reorganizing and providing a couple of people with raises they deserve.

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

ORDINANCES:

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business coming before the Council, Mayor Latham adjourned the meeting at 8:48 p.m.

Submitted by: Laurie D. Scott
City Clerk

Approval:

/s/William C. Latham
William C. Latham, MAYOR

Date: March 2, 2015