

**Minutes of Regular City Council Meeting
held Tuesday, March 2, 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 7:02 P.M.

OPENING CEREMONIES:

Invocation was by Council Member Vogelsang; 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 City Clerk Laurie Scott.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

- City Council Workshop held on February 16, 2015
- Regular City Council Meeting held February 16, 2015

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Council Member Phil Vogelsang -

- Mr. Vogelsang reported he attended the Judicial Branch Elected Officials Forum at the Courthouse.

Council Member Bruce Thomason -

- Mr. Thomason reported he attended a meeting with members of the Pride Group, which is located in the Pablo Beach South neighborhood. Several issues were discussed about signage, and homeless people. Police Chief Pat Dooley was also in attendance at the meeting and addressed those concerns at the time.

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Council Member Jeanell Wilson –

- Ms. Wilson shared she attended the Dial-A-Ride fund raiser.
- Ms. Wilson discussed the dates for the upcoming Art Walk and Car Show.

Mayor Latham –

Mayor Latham made the following announcements:

- Presented State of the City to North East Florida Association of Realtors on February 19th.
- Attended two JTA meetings concerning the Trolley (2/19 and 2/26). He stated there were many attendees from the three beach cities in attendance and we are working on improving service and frequency and ridership. The meetings are hosted by JTA's Fred Jones, and we are continuing to work to find consensus on how to make the system work better for all concerned.
- February 20th, 2015 a retirement ceremony was held for Harry Royal. He added, Congratulations and best wishes to our new Chief Financial Officer Karen Nelson.
- Represented Jacksonville Beach at the Annual Douglas Anderson School of the Arts Extravaganza.
- Attended the Dial-A-Ride fund raiser.

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR TO VISITORS:

Speakers:

- Ruth Forrest, 2729 Lois Lane, Jacksonville Beach -

Ms. Forrest submitted an Addendum to the Petition for Lakeside Gate Removal, with additional signatures.

Ms. Forrest requested the City add signage to Lakeside gate with contact information for heavy trucks so that they can be directed away from the bridge to help prolong its life.

- Curtis Loftus, 2815 St. Maartens Ct., Jacksonville Beach -

Mr. Loftus invited Council Members and the public to the Beaches Watch meeting on March 4, 2015 at 7:00 P.M. They will be presenting an overview of the 2014 Deck the Chairs event.

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Mr. Loftus notified Council Members that Deck the Chairs will be holding a meeting on March 18th at 6:30 P.M., and will be presenting a check to the Lifeguard Core. The meeting will be held at the Lifeguard Bldg.

- Ashley Young, 12560 Rock Rose Lane, Jacksonville -

Ms. Young expressed her concerns on the search protocols by the Jacksonville Beach Police Department for persons reported missing along the Intercoastal Waterway.

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL:

CITY CLERK:

CITY MANAGER:

(a) Approve Repairs of the Green on Hole #1 at the Golf Course

Motion: It was moved by Ms. Wilson, seconded by Ms. Hoffman, to approve the Repairs of the Green on Hole # 1 at the Jacksonville Beach Golf Course as described in the memorandum from the Director, Parks & Recreation dated, February 19, 2015.

Discussion:

Mr. Forbes stated the proposed repair work will remedy several factors that have contributed to the problems with the Green # 1. He further explained that:

- The soil will be replaced to a depth of 12” with a sand & peat mixture to create a better growing medium
- The irrigation system around the green will be changed to provide improved coverage when there are high winds
- The emerald dwarf Bermuda grass will be changed to TifEagle, which is a more aggressive lateral growth turf grass that is less susceptible to nematode damage
- The undulations in the green that were created for improved aesthetics will be reduced to create more pin placement options which will reduce wear

Mayor Latham inquired about the funding sources for the \$27,000 as specified in memorandum.

A brief discussion ensued regarding the maintenance of the golf course which Gary Meadors, Parks & Recreation Director addressed.

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

(b) Approve the Addition of a Part-time Staff Assistant Position to Assist with Special Events

Motion: It was moved by Ms. Wilson, seconded by Ms. Hoffman, to approve the Addition of a Part-time Staff Assistant Position to Assist with Special Events as described in the memorandum from the Director, Parks & Recreation dated February 22, 2015.

Discussion:

Mr. Forbes briefly explained that we currently have one person handling special events. We have approximately 70 events a year. Due to staff retirements and reduction in current staff's work hours due to family reasons, it is critical that we have someone trained as back up to ensure the continuity of services.

Brief discussion regarding the amount of coordination involved in organizing the special events, the budgeting sources for the position and possibly upgrading the position to full-time.

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

(c) Approval of Program of Projects for Inclusion in the FY 2015-2016 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Application to the City of Jacksonville

Motion: It was moved by Ms. Wilson, seconded by Ms. Hoffman, to approve Program of Projects for Inclusion in the FY 2015-2016 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Application to the City of Jacksonville as described in the memorandum from the Director, Parks & Recreation dated February 10, 2015.

Discussion:

Mr. Forbes reported the City participates with the City of Jacksonville, along with the other Beach cities, in sharing the Entitlement Funding this area received from Federal Community Development Block Grants. The CDBG monies must be spent to improve the quality of life for people with low and moderate incomes. The City's portion is utilized to fund the Carver Center Program and the Community Assisted Policing Effort (CAPE) Program.

The City's CDBG FY2014-2015 grant award amount was \$138,875 to fund these two programs. Our request for full funding for these two programs at the same service level during FY2015-2016 requires approximately \$144,051. We are ranking the proposed programs by priority as follows:

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- Carver Center Program: Salary and benefits for one Recreation Supervisor, salary and workers comp for two part-time tutors would be our Priority #1.
- Community Assisted Policing Effort: Salary & benefits for one police officer would be our Priority #2.

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

Motion: It was moved by Ms. Wilson, seconded by Ms. Hoffman, to allow the City Manager the flexibility to adjust program funding levels consistent with their priority rank and to manage variations in funding by the City of Jacksonville, adjusting the City's application accordingly as described in the memorandum from the Director, Parks & Recreation dated February 10, 2015.

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

RESOLUTIONS

(a) RESOLUTION NO. 1944-2015

Mayor Latham requested that the City Clerk read Resolution No. 1944-2015, by title only; whereupon Ms. Scott read the following:

“A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF JACKSONVILLE BEACH, FLORIDA, OPPOSING SEISMIC AIR-GUN TESTING IN THE ATLANTIC OCEAN.

Speakers:

- Neil Armingeon, 224 30th Ave. S., Jacksonville Beach – spoke in support of passing the resolution
- Tom Larson, 887 Marshside Ct., Jacksonville Beach – spoke in support of passing the resolution

Motion: It was moved by Ms. Wilson, seconded by Ms. Hoffman, to adopt Resolution 1944-2015 opposing seismic air-gun testing in the Atlantic Ocean.

Discussion:

Mayor Latham explained the history of this issue as it was brought up originally last year. He recently received contact from Erin Handy with a group called OCEANA. They asked if we would show support and join along with approximate 30 other coastal communities in Florida, by passing a resolution. We put it on the agenda for consideration of the council. At the same time, Council Member Thomason reviewed other resolutions put out to the public on this issue

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and we have two to consider. One Resolution came in the packet, and the second Resolution was from St. Augustine.

Ms. Wilson expressed that she did not have enough information to vote on the resolution.

Mr. Doherty asked how long the seismic testing process has been going on and the impacts.

Mr. Armingeon, 224 30th Ave. S. Jacksonville Beach, member of the audience, spoke to the testing process and the impacts.

Mayor Latham, for additional clarification, read a statement from Congressman Ander Crenshaw's office regarding seismic surveying off the coast.

Mr. Thomason expressed concern about the conflicting language in the resolution. He offered to propose a substitute resolution.

Mayor Latham asked City Clerk to read the original and the proposed revision.

Mr. Vogelsang stated that he would support Mr. Thomason's proposal. Mr. Vogelsang recommended the resolution use the same language as the City's Resolutions. He proposed an amendment to the language as follows:

- NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL, ON BEHALF OF THE CITIZENS OF THE CITY OF JACKSONVILLE BEACH, FLORIDA, stands opposed to seismic testing in Atlantic Ocean waters until the complete evaluation of all testing options and the implementation of all proper assurances for protection of marine life.

Mr. Buck stated he would support Mr. Thomason's substitute resolution with revisions recommended by Mr. Vogelsang.

At this time, Mayor Latham requested the City Clerk to read the revised proposed Resolution, with the modifications in its entirety.

Motion: It was moved by Ms. Wilson, seconded by Ms. Hoffman to amend the Resolution to the Substitute Resolution presented by Council Member Bruce Thomason, as corrected.

Ms. Hoffman expressed concern that there is a resolution that does not reflect the City's standard resolution format and suggested that the issue be tabled until the next meeting.

Motion: It was moved by Ms. Hoffman, seconded by Mr. Vogelsang, to table the issue.

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

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ANNOUNCEMENT:

Mayor Latham recognized Boy Scout Troop #40 in attendance and thanked them for attending tonight's meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Submitted by: Laurie Scott
City Clerk

Approval:

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

Date: March 16, 2015