

The Council Briefing began at 6:00 P.M. The meeting was held via video conference using the Zoom platform.

The following City Council Members were in attendance:

**Mayor:** William C. Latham

**Council Members:** Keith Doherty (absent)      Georgette Dumont      Sandy Golding  
Christine Hoffman      Cory Nichols      Phil Vogelsang

Also present was City Manager Mike Staffopoulos.

### **Purpose of Briefing**

The purpose of the briefing was to update the Council Members about ongoing items in the City.

### **City Manager**

#### **Additional \$25,000 Low Income Homestead Exemption**

Mr. Staffopoulos stated the City had been contacted by Duval County Property Appraiser Jerry Holland in regards to an additional \$25,000 Low Income Homestead Tax Exemption. Mr. Holland requested Jacksonville Beach, Atlantic Beach, Neptune Beach, and the Town of Baldwin to consider adopting the additional exemption.

The consensus of Council was to bring the request for the \$25,000 Low Income Homestead Exemption to Council for formal consideration at an upcoming Council meeting.

#### **Jacksonville Drive Sidewalk Extension**

City Project Engineer Kayle Moore and the Project Manager of Hanson Professional Services, Brian McKee, presented information [on file] regarding the addition of an urban trail to the north side of Jacksonville Drive. Conversation ensued regarding the design and cost estimates. The consensus of Council was to proceed with the next steps to install one urban trail on the north side of Jacksonville Drive.

#### **Budget Assumptions**

Mr. Staffopoulos reviewed the Budget Assumptions for FY2021. Chief Financial Officer Ashlie Gossett was available to answer any questions. There were no concerns from Council regarding the Budget Assumptions.

#### **Fireworks for the Fourth of July**

Mr. Staffopoulos stated the contract for purchasing fireworks for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July must be signed 30 days prior to the event date. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the social distancing requirements, Mr. Staffopoulos asked Council for guidance regarding the decision of canceling the event or proceeding with the regularly scheduled event. Council agreed to discuss the 4<sup>th</sup> of

July fireworks at the June 1, 2020, Council meeting and make a decision on whether or not to proceed with the event.

City Operations

Mr. Staffopoulos stated on Monday, May 11, 2020, all employees working remotely should have returned to their physical work location. Personal Protective Equipment and Sanitation Stations have been established for all employees. Social distancing is being practiced within the work environment.

Mr. Staffopoulos stated the next phase for re-opening would be to open City facilities to the public and resuming regular business practices. The targeted date for re-opening the City facilities to the public is June 1, 2020.

Conversation ensued regarding Council meetings/briefings, Board meetings, and Special Magistrate hearings resuming and being open to the public. The consensus of Council was to continue virtual Council meetings and briefings until the end of June. In-person meetings are not supported at this time due to social distancing guidelines still being in effect.

The briefing adjourned at 7:30 P.M.

Submitted by: Jodilynn Byrd  
Administrative Assistant

Approved:



William C. Latham, MAYOR

Date: 5/20/2020