

**Minutes of City Council Workshop
Monday, April 28, 2014
6:30 p.m., City Council Chambers
Creating Downtown Hospitality Zones**

Mayor Latham called the workshop to order at 6:35 p.m.

The following City Council members were in attendance:

Keith Doherty
Steve Hartkemeyer
Chris Hoffman
Tom Taylor
Phil Vogelsang
Jeanell Wilson

Also present were City Manager George Forbes, and City Department Directors.

Purpose of Workshop

Mayor Latham explained the purpose of the workshop is to view a presentation for creating downtown hospitality zones, and discuss shaping a new environment for our downtown.

Mr. Latham gave a presentation (copy on file) titled ‘A Vision Plan for a Hospitable Downtown Jacksonville Beach’ reviewing the downtown accomplishments over the past 20 years. Mayor Latham stated there is a desire to create a more sociable space for all – the daytime people, the early evening people, and the late night people.

Mayor Latham introduced Jim Peters of the Responsible Hospitality Institute. Mr. Peters is a nationwide expert in creating downtown hospitality zones.

Mr. Peters gave his presentation and spoke at length about what makes a city sociable. He elaborated on the Sociable City Plan which will help to enhance the vibrancy and safety of the downtown area. Mr. Peters stated the plan will provide guidelines for addressing parking, transportation, infrastructure, special events, business recruitment, public safety, code enforcement. All these programs work together to enhance the downtown experience.

The City Manager announced there will be downtown walking tours that will take approximately two hours and are scheduled over the next few weeks. There are day time and night time tours scheduled. Mr. Forbes asked interested participants to please sign up. The sign-up sheets will also be available at the City Clerk’s Office starting April 29, 2014.

Mr. Forbes explained that the survey being distributed is for participants to complete after they do the walking tour. These surveys will help the City develop an action plan.

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Mayor Latham thanked Mr. Peters and all those who attended. There was no further discussion and Mayor Latham adjourned the workshop at 8:30 p.m.

Submitted by: Nancy J. Pyatte
Assistant City Clerk

Approved:

/s/William C. Latham

William C. Latham, Mayor

Date: May 5, 2014