

**City of Jacksonville Beach
Minutes of Fiscal Year 2015 Council Budget Tour
Friday, August 1, 2014 – 1:30 PM**

The Council Budget Tour began at 1:34 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

City Council members in attendance:

Mayor Charlie Latham

Keith Doherty*
Steve Hartkemeyer
Christine Hoffman

Tom Taylor
Phil Vogelsang*
Jeanell Wilson

*Councilmembers Vogelsang and Doherty did not attend the field (bus) portion of the tour.

Fiscal Year 2015 Council Budget Tour

Budget Overview

City Manager George Forbes presented an overview of the proposed Fiscal Year 2015 budget. (Copy of PowerPoint presentation attached)

Finance & Information Systems Projects

Glenda Wagner reviewed several customer service initiatives. Ms. Wagner announced that Beaches Energy Services received national recognition from the American Public Power Association, receiving the Community Service Award.

Ashlie Gossett presented an overview of current projects. Kent Haines reviewed current IT projects and provided an overview of upcoming projects, including a program to automate the agenda process. Councilmember Phil Vogelsang asked if the program would be able to video record council meetings to put on the website. Mr. Forbes stated it was possible.

Firehouse Subs Grant for Purchase of 2 Monitor/Defibrillators

Fire Marshal Steve Sciotto stated that the fire department was awarded a Firehouse Subs grant to purchase two refurbished Zoll E-Series Monitor/Defibrillators at a cost of approximately \$16,000. The grant ensures all the Advance Life Support units in service will have the tools to help save the life of someone with cardiac problems.

Fire Marshal Sciotto advised that Duval County has requested to transfer ownership of a decontamination trailer and satellite system to the city. The City Manager stated that he would execute the documents accepting ownership. The fire department will use money from donations to purchase new mattresses for the beds the firefighters use.

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The remainder of the budget tour was conducted by visiting various sites throughout the city. Councilmembers Vogelsang and Doherty left the workshop at this time and did not attend the bus tour. Citizens attending the bus tour included Bruce Thomason, Lee Buck, Lloyd Hyatt, Lance Folsom, Georgette Dumont, and Kelsey Schurer (Kelsey is a reporter with the Beaches Leader).

2nd Street North Parking Lot

Planning & Development Director Steve Lindorff stated that a new parking lot at 2nd Street North will be built on Community Redevelopment Agency owned land and will provide an additional 90 parking spaces, as well as 8 new on street parking spaces. Included in the project is the construction of a storage building for Downtown CAPE equipment.

Councilmember Chris Hoffman asked if additional bike racks and spaces for two low speed vehicles could be included. Mr. Lindorff stated it is possible.

Lift Station #7

Public Works Director Ty Edwards shared a draft copy of a proposed Grease Interceptor Rebate Policy. Mr. Edwards stated the purpose of the program is to promote installation of grease interceptors outside of the building of existing qualified food service facilities. This will minimize adverse impacts on the city's sanitary sewer system. Mr. Forbes stated that this program is only for businesses with existing grease traps that the city is asking to upgrade.

Mr. Edwards reviewed the city's plans for improvements to Lift Station #7. The bid has been awarded for this project. Mr. Edwards stated that it was recently discovered that Beaches Energy Services had a piece of property that was previously used as a substation that was now available near the current site of Lift Station #7. The planned improvements have been put on hold pending determining the feasibility of relocating Lift Station #7 to the vacant site. The site relocation may also allow for the elimination of Lift Stations #8 & #20.

Skateboard Park

Parks & Recreation Director Gary Meadors and Mr. Forbes reviewed the site of a possible skateboard park. Mr. Meadors stated that skateboarders would be able to utilize the park for street style skateboarding, including ramps, edges and rails. Mr. Forbes stated that the site is located in an area already containing recreational activity. No parking would be provided for the site. Councilmember Jeanell Wilson asked what the cost would be. Mr. Forbes said it first needed to be determined if the Council wanted to pursue a skateboard park. If so, design and cost options would be requested. Councilmember Wilson asked about the city's liability. Mr. Forbes said Atlantic Beach and Jacksonville have more advanced parks and he believed the liability would be manageable.

Penman Road and 15th Avenue North

Mr. Edwards stated that the city is reviewing the intersection of Penman Road and 15th Avenue North to improve safety. This plan involves the city placing curbing along the road and will reduce the width

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of the driveways at Terry's Country Store, and modifications to other driveways at or near the intersection.

Operations & Maintenance Facility Remodel

Tour attendees visited the lobby of the Operations & Maintenance building. Ty Edwards introduced new Construction Project Manager Dennis Dupries. Mr. Edwards reviewed the planned improvements to the lobby area. The plan involves relocating the Purchasing Division to the first floor and moving the Public Works engineering staff to the second floor. Candidate Lloyd Hyatt asked what the cost would be. Mr. Edwards estimated \$12,000.

Radio System Upgrade

Tour attendees visited the Dispatch Center located in the Police building. Police Chief Patrick Dooley explained the necessity to upgrade the 800 MHz Motorola Radio System. Chief Dooley explained that the radios will be losing support from Motorola. Plans have also been made in the Capital Improvement Plan over the next four years to replace the three consoles in the Dispatch Center. Councilmember Wilson asked if seizure funds could be used. Chief Dooley replied it is possible. Mr. Forbes stated that seizure funds are used for community programs and would not be enough to fund this purchase. He stated he would set aside funds in the year end budget mod for the next four years to purchase the equipment.

South Beach Redevelopment Projects

Mr. Edwards advised that a change order is being executed to add about 11 parallel parking spaces in front of Seabreeze Elementary School. Also, he pointed out the change order included several improvements in the Seabreeze area that are outside of the redevelopment district and will be paid for with existing road maintenance funds. Mr. Edwards reviewed various infrastructure improvements underway or planned in the South Beach Redevelopment area.

Water Plant #2 Storage and Utility Building and Boom Arm Mower Replacement

Tour attendees toured the maintenance and storage facility currently under construction at Water Plant #2. A Boom Arm Mower that is in the budget was also displayed.

Improvements in the Ocean Terrace Area

Mr. Lindorff reviewed planned improvements to South Beach Parkway. He stated the Community Redevelopment Agency has reached a tentative agreement with the property owner at the southwest corner of South Beach Parkway and Jacksonville Drive. Acquisition of the property will facilitate the improvement in traffic safety providing a dedicated right turn lane onto the Sanctuary Parkway onramp to J. Turner Butler Boulevard.

Councilmember Wilson asked if the traffic light was going to stay at its current location. Mr. Lindorff replied yes. Ms. Wilson asked if there would be a right turn only at the exit of the shopping center.

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Mr. Lindorff advised they are looking into it. Mr. Thomason asked if there would be another traffic study after the improvements are complete. Mr. Lindorff stated there were no plans for another traffic study since the new developments underway were included in the traffic study.

Tour attendees went by the site of Trader Joe's.

Ty Edwards explained where two 72" stormwater lines run under the shopping center, but that there are no manholes for access to clean out the lines. The Redevelopment District will be funding a project to place manholes in the parking lot. The access manholes are included in the design underway for Median Landscape Improvements on South Beach Parkway and Jacksonville Drive.

Property Purchases at 16th Avenue South and 6th Street

Mr. Edwards explained that this low lying, naturally wet area consists of six private lots. Several years ago, Council approved staff to proceed in purchasing the lots. So far, the city has purchased three lots and now has agreement on the price for the fourth lot.

Downtown Redevelopment Projects and A1A Water Main Improvements

Mr. Edwards reviewed the Downtown Redevelopment Infrastructure Improvements. Councilmember Steve Hartkemeyer asked if the city planned to expand the 12th Avenue South Stormwater Basin. Mr. Edwards replied the basin would be improved within the existing footprint. Mr. Hyatt asked if the city would maintain the existing outfalls to the ocean. Mr. Edwards stated the outfalls would be maintained for emergencies. Councilmember Chris Hoffman asked if there was an equivalent drainage system on the north side. Mr. Forbes replied the 8th Street drainage channel to Hopkins Creek is the major drainage area for property north of Beach, west of A1A, and east of Penman Road. Mr. Forbes stated that the city is working with the DOT as the 8th Street drainage channel is owned by DOT. They are currently spending hundreds of thousands of dollars to do a drainage study at our request.

Oceanfront Park Restrooms

Mr. Lindorff reviewed the plan to replace the port-a-lets with a restroom facility. Ms. Wilson asked if the building had to be on the side adjacent to the condominiums. Mr. Lindorff replied the restroom facility will provide a more appealing visual. Ms. Hoffman asked if a shower could be included. Mr. Lindorff replied that it could.

Mayor Latham asked if it was possible to trim the overgrowth by the walkovers at 16th Avenue. Mr. Edwards said he would look at it. He stated that the walkovers are actually on DEP state owned property.

Note

Staff attending bus tour: City Manager George Forbes, Planning & Development Director Steve Lindorff, Public Works Director Ty Edwards, Parks & Recreation Director Gary Meadors, Police Chief Pat Dooley, Human Resources Director Karen Nelson, Budget Officer Trish Roberts,

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Accounting Supervisor Ashlie Gossett, Payroll/Benefits Administrator Ann Meuse, and Assistant to the City Manager Sheri Gosselin.

The Budget Tour ended at approximately 4:13 p.m.

Submitted by: Sheri Gosselin
Assistant to the City Manager

Approved:

William C. Latham, Mayor

Date: August 18, 2014