

**City of Jacksonville Beach
Minutes of City Council
FY2020 - Budget Workshop
Thursday, August 8, 2019 – 5:00 P.M.
City Council Conference Room, 1st Floor
11 North 3rd Street, Jacksonville Beach, Florida**

City Manager Mike Staffopoulos called the Budget Workshop to order at 5:04 P.M.

The following City Council Members were in attendance:

Mayor: William C. Latham (absent)

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

Also present were Chief Financial Officer Ashlie Gossett, Director of Beaches Energy Services Allen Putnam, Director of Parks and Recreation Jason Phitides, Golf Course Superintendent Trevor Hughes and Golf Professional Bruce Mohler.

Beaches Energy Services

Director of Beaches Energy Service Allen Putnam stated the mission of Beaches Energy Services (BES) is to provide reliable energy services at a competitive price with superior customer service, "Above and Beyond the Expected." BES services over 35,000 meters.

Mr. Putnam reviewed the Accomplishments for FY2019 highlighting the following:

- Completed negotiations to install 18,480 feet of natural gas main extension to the Shoppes at Palm Valley
- Continue to maintain service outage time to less than half of the average for the Southeast United States and selected Florida Municipal Power Agency (FMPA) members

Mr. Putnam highlighted the following areas:

- System reliability
- Customer Service
- Customer growth trends
- Rate comparison
- Energy efficiency and conservation
- Performance measures

Mr. Putnam stated current long-range load projection studies indicate FMPA has adequate generation resources for the next eight years. The price of natural gas and regulatory compliance would drive future costs for Beaches Energy.

Mr. Putnam stated the City is constantly pushing for change at the Florida Municipal Power Agency (FMPA) to update the strategic plan to focus on the following priorities:

- Paying off all of the All-Requirements Project debt in 20 years or less

- Replacing the all-requirements model with a project-based model to build and operate generation facilities
- Preparing the Agency for the future by limiting the amount of new power generation built and relying on distributed generation resources.

Mr. Putnam reviewed regulatory issues stating reliability and security of electric service to the customers is essential to the Beaches Energy Services operations. A field inventory of assets has been completed to provide an accurate assessment of age, condition, and configuration for the existing distribution system. Programs have been developed to systematically address maintenance and underground cable replacements. These programs provide the details and processes required to address the aging infrastructure and improve service reliability. Mr. Putnam stated, the main focus over the next three to five years would be transmission lines and substation equipment.

Mr. Putnam outlined the Capital Projects for FY2019 highlighting the following:

- Overhead line rebuild (Landrum Lane) [Ponte Vedra Beach]: Replace existing wood poles with concrete poles
- Overhead line rebuild (Roscoe Blvd.) [Ponte Vedra Beach]: Replace existing wood poles with concrete poles
- Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) server upgrade
- Specify, bid, procure and begin implementation of an Outage Management System
- SCADA video wall
- Installation of new 224 MVA transformer at the Sampson substation

Mr. Putnam reviewed the Capital projects (recurring) and the Operating projects highlighting the project to convert overhead lines to underground.

Mr. Putnam reviewed the Operating projects highlighting the Centralized TOP (Transmission Operator) Agreement.

Mr. Putnam stated BES currently has over 300 natural gas customers. Tampa Electric Company (TECO) currently has contracts to provide natural gas management service for BES. These agreements have a five-year term with an option to renew. The contract was renewed in 2015 and would be evaluated in 2020.

Mr. Putnam also stated the BES fee structure would be reviewed in the near future.

Parks and Recreation

Director of Parks and Recreation Jason Phitides reviewed the Parks and Recreation Department mission statement and the organization. Mr. Phitides stated there are 11 Divisions within the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Recreation Administration Division

Mr. Phitides stated the Administration Division is responsible for the management of all recreation activities throughout the City. The athletic programs throughout the City are extremely popular and have participants from multiple counties.

Ocean Rescue Division

Mr. Phitides stated the FY2020 budget includes a reclassification of a part-time Lieutenant to a full-time position. The Ocean Rescue Division is responsible for supervising approximately four (4) miles of beach.

Ground Maintenance Division

Mr. Phitides stated the Grounds Division utilizes approximately 25% of the Department's budget and the majority of that amount is distributed to the labor contract for the janitorial service as well as the landscaping services.

Mr. Phitides stated two staff members were added last year to help maintain the City's parks and recreation facilities.

The responsibility of the City's two cemeteries falls under this Division of Parks and Recreation. Mr. Phitides stated currently the City has almost reached its limits in available burial plots in both cemeteries. There are six (6) burial plots remaining in the H. Warren Smith cemetery and five (5) burial plots remaining in the Lee Kirkland cemetery.

Mr. Phitides stated the membership to the dog park has doubled since the installation of the artificial turf. He also addressed the issue of sand spurs at the dog park and stated by moving a part of the fence to eliminate the specific grass patch will help with the sand spur problem.

Tennis Center Division

Mr. Phitides stated the City's Board of Adjustment denied the requested variance to replace the basketball court with an eighth tennis court. Mr. Phitides explained the variance denial was due to the concern of taking away the only basketball court in the City east of A1A. Video cameras have been installed at the basketball court to help monitor and document the usage of the basketball court. After data is collected, Mr. Phitides stated a recommendation would be brought to Council regarding the updated information. Mr. Phitides stated the additional tennis court could be built but in a different location if needed. Mr. Phitides stated the need for the additional tennis court is still there as the play has increased by 24%.

Carver Center

Mr. Phitides stated the Carver Center added additional programs for adults such as pilates and more yoga classes.

Mr. Phitides stated the Carver Center is partially funded by the Community Development Block Grant. The Center received approximately 75% of the requested funding. The General Fund would make up any funding shortfalls.

Oceanfront Facilities Division

Mr. Phitides stated the custodial services for the restrooms had been increased during holidays and weekends. Due to heavy use in season (March through September), the hours have also been extended to allow more time for cleaning.

Community Center and Exhibition Hall

Mr. Phitides stated the revenue for the Community Center and Exhibition Hall averages about \$30,000 annually. The Community Center and Exhibition Hall is used for group and family events as well as business meetings.

Special Events

Mr. Phitides stated the Special Events Division is funded by the Conventional Development Fund and by the General Fund. Mr. Phitides stated the recent revision of the Special Events policy which included a rate increase, was intended to cover the entire cost of the Special Events Division, but it still does not.

Golf Course

Golf Course Facility Manager Bruce Mohler stated the overall goal of the course is to offer a private golf club experience at municipal course rates. Mr. Mohler stated the culture and perception of the City's golf course is terrific according to online Golf Advisor reviews. Mr. Mohler stated the upgraded technology at the course works great. The Starters and Rangers can keep track of each customer and personalize their experience by addressing them by their first names.

Mr. Mohler stated several groups and tournaments use the course each week. The groups and tournaments include a wide range of people from different areas and age groups (hotel guests, senior citizens, junior leagues, college groups, and high school and middle school students).

Mr. Mohler highlighted the golf course goals as follows:

- Become a self-sustaining enterprise
- Maintain & enhance operational efficiency
- Preserve the condition of the course

Golf Course Superintendent Trevor Hughes mentioned the following upcoming projects:

- Clear broken glass from two specific areas on the course
- Repair wooden bridge decking
- Make continuous irrigation upgrades
- Purchase new mower

The Workshop adjourned at 6:18 P.M.

Submitted by: Jodilynn Byrd
Administrative Assistant

Approved: _____


William C. Latham, Mayor

Date: _____

08/19/19