Minutes of City Council Workshop
Downtown Parking
Wednesday, February 13, 2013 – 6:30 PM
City Council Chambers

Mayor Charlie Latham called the workshop to order at 6:37 PM.

The following City Council members were in attendance:

Mayor Charlie Latham  Steve Hartkemeyer  Jeanell Wilson
Mayor Pro-Tem Tom Taylor  Chris Hoffman
Keith Doherty  Phil Vogelsang

Also present were City Manager George Forbes, Interim Police Chief Pat Dooley, Commander Steve Corbitt, Finance Officer Harry Royal, Budget Officer Trish Roberts, Planning and Development Director Steve Lindorff, Parking Enforcement Coordinator Shannon Robeson, and Sheri Gosselin, Assistant to the City Manager.

Purpose of Workshop

The purpose of the workshop is to discuss downtown parking.

Discussion

Mayor Latham began the workshop with a brief introduction. Mayor Latham stated that the focus of this workshop was downtown parking and the City’s paid parking program. He said there would be other workshops to discuss residential parking, and low speed vehicles. Mayor Latham stated that the purpose of this workshop is not to find an overall solution at this time, but to hear from participants and those affected.

Commander Corbitt gave a brief history of the paid parking program. He went over the boundaries of the downtown area, showed the four City owned lots, and identified the three City owned lots that are in the paid parking program. Commander Corbitt presented a PowerPoint presentation (attached) that contained the history of the paid parking program and gave a detailed count of the available public spaces in the entire downtown area and in each of the three City owned parking lots in the paid parking program. He defined the two seasons (Summer and Winter) and showed the hours for paid parking during each season. Commander Corbitt stated the percentage of time (hours) for each season that the paid program is utilized and said the amount charged is $5.00, no charge for handicapped parking. He explained what the benefits have been during the hours of the paid parking program.

Commander Corbitt and City Manager George Forbes took questions from the workshop participants. Following the question and answer period, City Manager George Forbes asked the participants to get into groups and select someone to be the spokesperson for the group. Mr. Forbes asked the groups to discuss whether the current paid parking program should be continued, modified or discontinued. Each group was provided with paper and a marker. He
stated that there may be differing views and that each person should have an opportunity to speak. Workshop participants were given approximately 30 minutes discussion time.

A spokesperson from each group explained their group’s views, ideas, perceived pros and cons of the paid parking program, and possible solutions.

Mr. Forbes stated that there were great ideas all around. He said that he took notes and staff would also take the information from the group presentation pages.

Mayor Latham closed out the workshop stating that additional workshops would be set up to address residential parking, low speed vehicle parking and visitor parking. He said the Council would take all the information from the parking workshops and use it when making decisions in the best interests of the City of Jacksonville Beach, it’s residents and businesses. The Mayor thanked the participants for being a part of the solution.

The workshop was adjourned at 8:26 PM.

Submitted by: Sheri Gosselin
   Assistant to the City Manager

Approved:

/s/William C. Latham
William C. Latham, Mayor
Date: March 4, 2013