



MINUTES
WORKSHOP CITY COUNCIL MEETING
OCTOBER 15, 2001 AT 7:00 P.M.
CITY HALL, 116 FIRST STREET
NEPTUNE BEACH, FLORIDA

Pursuant to proper notice a Workshop Meeting of the City Council of the City of Neptune Beach was held October 15, 2001 at 7:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 116 First Street, Neptune Beach, Florida.

Attendance:

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mayor Richard A. Brown
Vice Mayor Robert A. Shimp
Councilor Ronald A. Patronik
Councilor Harriet Pruette
City Manager Richard A. Linn
City Clerk Lisa Volpe, CMC

Director of Public Services John Galen
Finance Director Steve Ramsey

ABSENT:
City Attorney Christopher White

Call to Order/Roll Call The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7.00 p.m.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

IBBC

ISH BRANT BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE: City Manager Linn reported the Ish Brant Beautification Committee was working on the Third Street medians. The Public Services Department had installed the taps. The contractor was ready to start on the irrigation system but the permit had expired. A letter was sent to the Florida Department of Transportation requesting an extension of the permit. The committee was also working on installing a barricade at Seagate and First Street and had met with Jacksonville City Councilman Jerry Holland regarding the bike path.

Jarboe Park Pond

FENCING OF THE POND IN JARBOE PARK: Mayor Brown referred to a letter to the editor suggesting that the pond in Jarboe Park be fenced in for the safety of the children. City Manager Linn had not had the chance to look into fencing the pond, however he felt the cost may be prohibitive. He was not sure what safety measures it would improve because the water level was very shallow and there were problems keeping enough water in the pond for the fish to survive. Director of Public Services John Galen stated that there had not been a fence around the pond for 50 years and because one person felt it needed to be fenced in should not make it a reality. Mr. Galen added that the pond was dry most of the time. City Manager Linn felt placing a fence around the pond could give parents a false sense of security.

CITY MANAGERS PUNCH LIST

Waters Edge Drive

DRAINAGE ON WATERS EDGE DRIVE: City Manager Linn circulated a set of photos of the work that the Public Services Department had completed along Bartalome Road.

They had cleared out the culvert, redefined the swell and placed lime rock on Pine Street to elevate it, and dug a ditch beside it to channel the water. The last photograph was of the culvert pipe that J.T.A. would be installing at the end of Bartalome Road. He had spoken with the J.T.A. project manager and the contractor was scheduled to start Wednesday of this week.

Jarboe Park

JARBOE PARK IMPROVEMENTS: City Manager Linn explained that the remaining photos were of Jarboe Park. The photos showed the resurfaced tennis courts and the new playground equipment. Vice Mayor Shimp asked if a fence would be installed around the smaller children's play area. City Manager Linn responded that a plastic border would be placed around it to keep the sand in. City Manager Linn added that the playground equipment was part of the state contract and was the same equipment used all over the state and was considered safe for the different age groups. He felt a fence was not necessary around the smaller children's play area however we could revisit the issue after the improvements were completed.

Roadway between Shopping Centers

ROADWAY BETWEEN SHOPPING CENTERS: City Manager Linn had spoken with the representatives of both shopping centers and they would be meeting with him at 1:00 p.m. on the afternoon of November 19, 2001.

Bike Path

BIKE PATH ALONG PENMAN ROAD: City Manager Linn reported that Chairman of the Ish Brant Beautification Committee Dayne Etherton, himself, and a representative of the City of Jacksonville Engineering Department had met with City of Jacksonville Councilman Jerry Holland to discuss the culverts along Florida Boulevard. The City of Jacksonville had not reviewed the designs and had no knowledge of the project. Mr. Linn wrote a letter to the Department of Transportation asking them to furnish the designs to the City of Jacksonville for their review.

Naval Air Show

NAVAL AIR SHOW: Councilor Pruette asked City Manager Linn how the Air Show would affect Neptune Beach. City Manager Linn responded that Lt. Kelly had been attending the meetings and the Department of Transportation, Jacksonville Sheriff's Office and all the beaches would be cooperating in maintaining the traffic and the crowds.

PROPOSED ORDINANCES/NONE

CONTRACT/AGREEMENTS/NONE

ISSUE DEVELOPMENT

Personnel Policy

AMENDMENT TO THE PERSONNEL POLICY: City Manager Linn explained that with the unionization of most of the City Hall employees there were only seven job titles remaining that were not covered by a union contract and required an update of the personnel policy. The revised policy included salary adjustments because they had not been adjusted in four years.

Senior Citizen Director

Vice Mayor Shimp stated that the Senior Center Director was under a grant and would only last as long as the grant would support it, therefore the position should not be included in the personnel policy. Councilor Patronik, Councilor Pruette and Mayor Brown agreed the position of Senior Citizen Director should be stricken from the personnel policy.

Deputy Finance Director

City Manager Linn stated the position of Deputy Finance Director was included in the old policy but was not currently filled. He had included it in the revised policy to give Director of Finance Steve Ramsey additional flexibility in hiring a new Accountant. Vice Mayor Shimp asked if it could be stipulated somewhere that there could not be a Deputy Finance Director and an Accountant on staff at the same time. Mr. Linn responded that

was stipulated in the budget because only one position was budgeted. Vice Mayor Shimp asked City Clerk Lisa Volpe to note that the position of Senior Center Director be stricken from the personnel policy and stipulate that there would be either a Deputy Finance Director or an Accountant and not both at the same time.

Councilor Pruette asked the City Manager if all new employees were approved by the council. Mr. Linn responded the only positions that required council approval were the Police Chief, the Finance Director, and the Public Service Director. City Manager Linn clarified that the Senior Center Director would be removed from the personnel policy and if there is a Deputy Finance Director there could not be an Accountant at the same time.

Consensus: **MOVE TO THE NOVEMBER 5, 2001, CONSENT AGENDA FOR APPROVAL IF THE CHANGES ARE MADE.**

Construction
Dumpster

REQUEST TO PLACE CONSTRUCTION DUMPSTER ON BEACH ACCESS – NORTH STREET: City Manager Linn stated the request had been withdrawn because the requester found a site on his own property to place it.

Christmas Tree
Lighting

TOWN CENTER CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING EVENT- DECEMBER 1, 2001- REQUEST TO CLOSE FIRST STREET: City Manager Linn explained he received a call from the Town Center Merchants requesting the city to close First Street from 12:00 p.m. on December 1, 2001, the day of the Christmas Tree Lighting for a festival. Mr. Linn added that no alcohol would be allowed.

Consensus: **APPROVED THE CLOSING OF FIRST STREET ON DECEMBER 1, 2001 FOR THE TOWN CENTER CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING.**

Public Comments

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY/NONE

Councilor Pruette announced that someone had brought her a birthday cake and invited everyone to have some refreshments.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Richard A. Brown, Mayor

Attest:

Lisa Volpe, CMC, City Clerk

Approved: _____