



**TOWN HALL MEETING
FEBRUARY 22, 1999, AT 7:00 P.M.
CITY HALL, 116 FIRST STREET,
NEPTUNE BEACH, FLORIDA**

Pursuant to proper notice a Town Hall Meeting of the City Council of the City of Neptune Beach was held February 22, 1999, at 7:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 116 First Street, Neptune Beach, Florida.

Attendance: The following Council members and staff were in attendance:

Mayor George F. Vaughn, Jr.	City Manager Richard A. Linn
Vice Mayor Thomas A. Tankersley	City Clerk Becky E. Hanks CMC/AE
Councilor Edward S. Jones (late)	Director of Public Safety William Brandt
Councilor Ronald D. Patronik	
Councilor Robert D. Shimp	

Order Call The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Public Hearing PUBLIC HEARING – JARBOE PARK MASTER PLAN: The Mayor opened the meeting by stating that the purpose of the Town Hall Meeting was to receive public input regarding the Master Plan of Jarboe Park.

Comments from the Public Richard Fail, 510 Oak Street, expressed disappointment that a group of citizens would fight improvements to Jarboe Park and commented that last year's Sunday in the Park did not have enough chairs for the citizens to sit and eat.

Terry Easton, Mothers of the Beaches, submitted a petition in favor of restrooms at Jarboe Park. She stated that Mothers of the Beaches opposed restrooms only being opened part of the time.

Harriet Pruette, 217 ½ Magnolia Street, submitted a survey with opinions from residents on whether or not to have restrooms in Jarboe Park. She stated that the City should deal with more important issues such as infrastructure.

Elizabeth Sipple, 719 Davis Street, complained that unsupervised children were at Jarboe Park especially after school, and expressed concern that the City would spend \$15,000 on trees.

Claire Zaiser, 109 Davis Street, opposed restrooms in Jarboe Park due to the liability and requested that Council return to the original seating arrangement for Town Hall Meetings.

Council Discussion

- Port-a-lets illegal – According to documentation from David Jones, Environmental Supervisor with the Florida Department of Health, port-a-lets, by law, could only be temporary in one location for a period of not more than 120 days.
- Citizens should vote on the issue at the next election of whether or not to build restrooms in Jarboe Park.

- Cut an outside door to the restroom in the Water Plant to be utilized by the citizens, on a trial basis for six months. However, the City Manager explained that due to security and chemicals stored in that building, this was not a feasible option with the City or the EPA.
- Utilize the Girl Scout Hut bathrooms or tap into their water line to build an additional bathroom outside of that building.
- Use the Girl Scout bathrooms for special events only.
- Modify lease with the Girl Scouts to include the use of their bathroom facilities for special events only.
- Previous restrooms in the Park were demolished.
- Cost to City may be too great.
- A concern would be having a Police Officer available to lock the bathrooms at night.
- Continued cost of restrooms would be too high.
- Sec. 4.05, City Charter states that the City shall be prohibited from reducing the size of any parks or parklands without prior approval of the voters.
- Restrooms must be in compliance with ADA.

On the Record Mayor Vaughn stated, on the record, that in his opinion constructing restrooms in Jarboe Park would not be reducing parks referenced in Sec. 4.05 of the City Charter.

The meeting recessed at 8:34 p.m. and reconvened at 8:44 p.m.

Presentation of Master Plan of Jarboe Park Brett Godard, landscape architect, did a presentation on the Master Plan of Jarboe Park to Council and the citizens. Whereupon, a lengthy question and answer discussion ensued. The general consensus to reducing cost by approximately \$100,000 was, as follows:

- Keep the theme as a small town, local neighborhood park.
- Eliminate band shelter.
- Reduce some landscaping.
- Provide no more parking.

The Master Plan was subject to change, as needed.

Adjournment There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

George F. Vaughn, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:

Becky E. Hanks, CMC/AAE, City Clerk

Approved: _____