



MINUTES
WORKSHOP CITY COUNCIL MEETING
NOVEMBER 15, 1999 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 November 15, 1999, at 7:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 116 First Street, Neptune Beach, Florida.

Attendance:

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mayor George F. Vaughn, Jr.
Vice Mayor Edward S. Jones
Councilor Thomas A. Tankersley
City Attorney Christopher A. White
City Manager Richard A. Linn
Acting City Clerk Lisa Volpe

Dir. of Public Safety William Brandt
Dir. of Public Services John Galen

ABSENT:

Councilor Ronald Patronik
Councilor Robert D. Shimp

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

For the Record City Manager Linn read into the record a letter from Ronald Patronik:
"I will not be able to attend the workshop of 15, Nov, 1999 due to the death of my father.
Please excuse my absence. Please read this into the record."

City Manager Linn stated that Councilor Shimp was not able to attend due to a previous engagement.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Traffic Safety TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE: Laura Schultz, Chairman of the Traffic Safety Committee, spoke on recommendations for the future of the committee, which has completed what it set out to do. She submitted the committee's final report.

IBBC ISH BRANT BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE: City Manager Linn announced that the Ish Brant Beautification Committee public forum had very poor attendance. The committee is concerned they are taking on too many projects that they can not keep up with. Laurie Anderson has found 2000 wax myrtles to donate to Jarboe Park. The Third Street median is on their agenda. Mr. Linn is looking to PBS&J for an estimate on a watering system for the medians.

Christmas events Mayor Vaughn announced that Christmas in the Park would be held on December 10, 1999 from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. December 17, 1999 is the rain date. The Santa Parade will be held on Saturday, December 18, 1999 beginning at 9:30 a.m.

CITY MANAGERS PUNCH LIST

Local Mitigation City Manager Linn reported that the work is completed by that Local Mitigation committee

and when the final report is submitted a copy will be available. Some of the information was used in the Jarboe Park Grant Application.

Roadway between the Kmart and Scotty's shopping centers	John Weldon, Chairman of the Planning and Development Review board is attempting to negotiate a compromise.
Bike Path Penman Road	Councilman Holland wrote a letter as to where the project is on the list. Mr. Linn will double check on the Florida Blvd. portion.
Shuttle Bus Stop	Kmart: has already started landscaping to incorporate the shuttle bus stop.
Graffiti	The Mayor asked that Jim Meyer's complaint of sidewalk graffiti be added to the punchlist.

PROPOSED ORDINANCES: NONE

CONTRACT/AGREEMENTS - NONE

Lease of Fire Trucks	<u>LEASE OF FIRE TRUCKS:</u> City Manager Linn asked for direction on what to do with the fire trucks.
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For the Record	Mayor Vaughn read the following editorial from the Beaches Leader newspaper, November 12, 1999 edition:
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Surprise. Surprise. Surprise. Only an innocent like TV's Gomer Pyle could have been surprised by the recent developments in Atlantic Beach fire fighting.

A house burned pretty badly a couple of weeks ago. There were several reasons why the inferno was so bad.

It did not help that it took a little longer than usual to get firefighters on the scene, though.

Seems the Jacksonville dispatcher wasn't sure that the Beach Avenue address was at the Beaches. It was just a minor confusion and quickly solved Jax fire officials promise. Maybe.

But that is hard to swallow since the first thing all children learn about fires is that every second counts every second.

Atlantic Beach city officials decided last summer to ask the county to provide fire protection services. They turned over their equipment and personnel to the county.

In exchange for an annual stipend to the county, the city was promised advanced life saving services and better paid, better trained fire fighters.

Too bad, that no one thought to make sure the arrangement included maps and training for the dispatchers--a critical link in fire fighting.

In what promises to soon be called the good old days, Atlantic Beach firefighters used to work directly for the citizens of Atlantic Beach. They responded to dispatches from local personnel well trained and familiar with Beach addresses.

It may not have been a perfect system. And, yes, the increased life support services are certainly a good idea. And, sure, the city's fire fighters are all getting paid more.

But, all of this would still have been possible if Atlantic Beach retained control of the fire department.

Public safety- and that means police and fire protection - is a primary duty of a municipality. When it abdicates its responsibility, it is reasonable to ask the question why does the municipality exist?

Is anyone really surprised that a county dispatcher does not know the Beaches area all that well?

It's nice to see an Atlantic Beach commissioner push for an answer to the question of how often Jacksonville fire trucks stationed at Seminole Road go west of the Intracoastal

Waterway to answer calls for service. It's a fair question.

During the course of a recent conversation, a fireman told me that the department brass have directed firefighters to make sure Atlantic Beach gets "great service" during the first year of this arrangement. That begs the question of what about the following years?

If a dispatcher can't locate a Beach home during this "honeymoon" period, as decreed by the brass, can we really expect to get better?

Questions that need answers. That seems to be the motto of the county run Atlantic Beach Fire Department, uh substation.

The questions come as no surprise to those of us who questioned the whole transfer in the first place.

After Council discussion Mr. Linn was asked to research options and find if there was any prior consensus by council to lease the fire trucks.

ISSUE DEVELOPMENT

K-mart Vehicles for Sale

K-MART VEHICLES FOR SALE: Mayor Vaughn voiced his concern of all the different vehicles for sale in the parking lot. Mr. Linn stated that our police can enforce the state law and that Dan Arlington has ticketed and towed some vehicles although it has been decided that it is a police matter not a code violation. Mayor Vaughn asked City Attorney Chris White to draft an ordinance for him to sponsor to end this problem. Vice Mayor Jones pointed out that the new landscaping at the shopping center should end the problem.

Town Center

TOWN CENTER MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT UPDATE: City Manager Linn stated that Jacksonville will draw up the three party agreement based on a contracting out of landscaping maintenance. The water costs will be shared. Jacksonville may add a ten year buy out clause.

Tony Young

TONY YOUNG: Mr. Linn reiterated, as written in his memo, that animal control had taken every action possible and it is now up to Mr. Young to fill out a complaint affidavit. Mayor Vaughn asked the city manager to contact Mr. Young.

Incidence of Community Significance

INCIDENCE OF COMMUNITY SIGNIFICANCE: City Manager Linn stated he has informed the Director of Public Safety and Public Service to notify him as soon as they are notified about any incidents of community significance.

Hurricane Floyd

HURRICANE FLOYD-BOIL WATER ADVISORY: Mayor Vaughn stated his concern that Dr. Goldhagen from the Duval County Health Department had told him that the advisory had been lifted over the weekend. He played following tape:

Verbatim:

The following message is a message that was recorded on Mayor George Vaughn's home telephone answering machine, ah at approximately 2:30 p.m. Wednesday, September 22, by Dr. Jeff Goldhagen of the Duval County Health Department relative to the boil water advisory that was issued in Neptune Beach following Hurricane Floyd. -

George, this is Jeff Goldhagen. Can you give me a call you can reach me at 750-1707 my office number is 630-3320. The facts are not quite the way they were presented in the newspaper. Um we had actually spoken with Jack Russell on Thursday and given Jack the ok to lift the advisory if the laboratory results that came back on Saturday was fine and then all we requested was for him to fax the results back to us so it was available on Monday. So we had talked to him on Thursday to give him the ok to lift the advisory ah based on normal biological levels on Saturday ah I don't want to get into a who said who to who when and so on I will come out and talk with the city council. But apparently, we had worked that option out. If you give me a call again 750-1707 work number is 750-

1707. I look forward to it thanks byebye.

City Manager Linn stated that the city took every reasonable action possible to lift the boil water command earlier but the Health Department would not cooperate until Monday. Mayor Vaughn requested that better communication be set up incase this type of incident occurs again.

City Clerk

CITY CLERK VACANCY UPDATE: City Manager Linn reported that the ad was placed in the two local papers, the Shorelines and Beaches Leader, and in the Florida League of Cities Datagram and so far only three resumes have been submitted.

Landscape Plan-
Mayport Flyover

LANDSCAPE PLAN- MAYPORT FLYOVER: The council discussed the Florida Department of Transportation's landscape plan. Mayor Vaughn will let FDOT know the council's comments.

Public Comments

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:

Ralph LaPerna, 2507 Watersedge, asked the council to consider landscaping that would act as a noise barrier along the Mayport Flyover.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

George F. Vaughn, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:

Lisa Volpe, Acting City Clerk

Approved: _____