



**MINUTES**  
**WORKSHOP CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**MARCH 19, 2001 AT 7:00 P.M.**  
**CITY HALL, 116 FIRST STREET**  
**NEPTUNE BEACH, FLORIDA**

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Pursuant to proper notice a Workshop Meeting of the City Council of the City of Neptune Beach was held March 19, 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 D. Shimp  
Councilor Ronald Patronik  
Councilor Harriet Pruette  
Councilor J. W. "Buddy" Crout  
City Manager Richard A. Linn  
City Clerk Lisa Volpe, CMC

Deputy City Clerk Karla Strait  
Assistant to the City Manager Terry Klein  
Finance Director Steve Ramsey  
Building Official Dan Arlington

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 actively working on the Third Street medians, the trees had been purchased and the shipment was delayed until the irrigation system could be installed. Mr. Linn added they were also working on getting the butterfly plaques installed throughout Jarboe Park and the Yard of the Month for March would be carried into April.

Easter Egg Hunt      ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT 2001: City Manager Linn reported that the Annual Easter Egg Hunt would be held on Good Friday, April 13, 2001, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Sunday in the Park      SUNDAY IN THE PARK 2001: City Manger Linn advised this year's Sunday in the Park would be held on April 22, 2001, and the Mayor & Council would be cooking hotdogs and hamburgers for the public.

Jax Beach Trolleys      JACKSONVILLE BEACH TROLLEYS FOR FESTIVALS: City Manager Linn reported that he received a call from Roy Paxon with the City of Jacksonville Beach. He stated they had negotiated with Jacksonville Transportation Authority to provide trolley shuttle from Jacksonville Beach to Town Center during the festivals. The cost would be \$1.00 per ride or \$2.00 for an all day pass.

**CITY MANAGERS PUNCH LIST**

- Jarboe Park Improvement      JARBOE PARK IMPROVEMENT: City Manger Linn stated the design plans for Jarboe Park had been given to Council and were reviewed at the last council meeting. Mr. Linn added that the Public Works Department had already started removing the old roofs in anticipation of the new roofs.
- Interlocal Agreement      INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR THE NAVAL AIR SHOW: City Manager Linn stated that the Interlocal Agreement for the Naval Air Show was being circulated through the signing process.
- AT&T/Broadband      AT&T/BROADBAND CLEAN UP OF CABLES: City Manager Linn reported that AT&T/Broadband had been responding quickly to the loose cable complaints and urged anyone that saw a loose cable wire to report it to his office.
- Vice Mayor Shimp stated that citizens were being charged for Broadband services before the new boxes had been put in. City Manager Linn advised he would look into the problem.

**PROPOSED ORDINANCES**

- Ordinance No. 2002-03      ORDINANCE NO. 2001-03, FLOOD PLAIN MANAGEMENT: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CODE OF CITY OF NEPTUNE BEACH, FLORIDA, AMENDING CHAPTER 27, ARTICLE VIII, DIVISION 2, FLOODPLAINS; ADDING OR CHANGING CERTAIN DEFINITIONS AND GUIDELINES REQUIRED BY THE NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
- City Manager Linn stated the Florida Department of Community Affairs had conducted a Community Assistance Visit to assess the city's Floodplain Management Regulations and as a result recommended the corrections as provided in Ordinance No. 2002-03.
- Building Official Dan Arlington explained the definitions of mobile homes, modular homes and manufactured homes. Mr. Arlington added that the ordinance was necessary in order to provide property owners with flood insurance and mortgages.
- Consensus:      **FORWARD TO THE APRIL REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING FOR FIRST READ.**
- Garbage Franchise      GARBAGE FRANCHISE ORDINANCE: City Manager Linn stated that City Attorney Christopher White was preparing an ordinance for the 10% franchise fee with BFI and would have it ready for first read at April's regular council meeting.

**CONTRACT/AGREEMENTS**

- CDBG Grant      COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT REVISED: City Manager Linn explained that he wanted to use the Community Development Block Grant to open a Senior Activity Center that would provide services and programs for residents of Neptune Beach age 62 and older.
- Consensus:      **TO ALLOW CITY MANAGER LINN TO SIGN AND MOVE FORWARD WITH THE GRANT FOR APPROVAL.**

**ISSUE DEVELOPMENT**

- Vacuum Sewer Trip **VACUUM SEWER RESEARCH TRIP TO GERMANY:** Vice Mayor Shimp felt that council members should be allowed to accompany City Manager Linn and Jim Miller on the trip to Germany in order to be as informed as possible about the vacuum system technology. Vice Mayor Shimp added that it would not be illegal for Roediger to reimburse the city and that the trip would not sway his vote on the bids.
- Councilor Patronik stated the purpose of the trip was to look at the long-term effect of the vacuum system. Councilor Patronik felt the council could not be swayed because the contractors that bid on the project would choose their own suppliers and Jim Miller, Mr. Linn, and City Attorney White would look at the bids first and make a recommendation to council. Councilor Patronik stated he would not take the trip because of the Sunshine Law.
- Councilor Pruette was concerned about ethical questions relating to the influence of the trip. Councilor Pruette felt that other contractors might protest and delay the project. Councilor Pruette asked City Manager Linn to justify why he needed to go to Germany.
- City Manager Linn explained the technology had been proven in Europe for the last 20 to 30 years and was new to the United States. Mr. Linn added that Roediger had offered to reimburse the city for expenses for the council members, the engineer, and himself to visit Germany to look at the track record and speak with experts about the vacuum sewer system.
- On the Record Councilor Pruette stated on the record she had spoken with over one hundred citizens and all but one said they did not feel that the city should pay for the trip to Germany. Councilor Pruette gave her consensus for the trip, as long as Roediger would pay for it.
- Councilor Crout was not opposed to the Germany trip as long as it did not cost the city and taxpayers any money.
- Contingency Line Expenditure **APPROVAL OF \$1,375 EXPENDITURE FROM CONTINGENCY LINE ITEM:** City Manager Linn reported that the computer used by accounts payable had stopped working and had to be replaced. Mr. Linn requested approval of a budget adjustment/transfer for \$1,375 from the contingency fund.
- Consensus: **FORWARD TO THE APRIL REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING FOR APPROVAL.**
- Town Hall Meetings **TOWN HALL MEETINGS:** Councilor Crout asked council to consider discontinuing the Town Hall meetings immediately following the Workshops explaining that the public already had the opportunity to speak at the end of the Workshop.
- Consensus: **TO DO AWAY WITH THE TOWN HALL MEETINGS.**
- Public Comments **PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY**
- Lynda Padrta, 1113 First Street, cautioned council to beware of language changes and loop holes in the floodplain ordinance. Ms. Padrta was also concerned that the new Senior Activity Center would duplicate services that were currently offered at a nearby Senior Center. Ms. Padrta also felt that the city should pay for the Germany trip not Roediger.
- Chris Oakley, 620 Camellia Terrace Drive, asked if the engineer's contract held him

responsible for information that was not included in bids so that the city did not have to pay for his errors. Mr. Oakley agreed that the trip to Germany was needed. He felt that Public Works Director John Galen and members of his staff should be going because they would be the ones dealing with the water and sewer on a day-to-day basis and they needed to understand the system.

Jim Miller, PBS&J, explained that the reason for the trip was to look at the long-term effect of the vacuum sewer system and added that they were also looking at pipe bursting and other options that would save the city money.

Councilor Crout asked Mr. Miller why the water lines that were originally part of phase 1 of the master plan were moved back. Mr. Miller replied that the council set the priorities and moved it back in order to get east of Third Street completed. Mr. Miller added that he would do a summary plan that would inform the council where the project was and what was lined up for the future.

Anthony Mazzola, 529 Birch Street, felt that if Roediger was allowed to pay for the Germany trip that citizens would lose respect for city officials and if the trip was necessary that the city should pay for it.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

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Richard A. Brown, Mayor

Attest:

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Lisa Volpe, CMC, City Clerk

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_