



MINUTES
WORKSHOP CITY COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 25, 2002 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 February 25, 2002 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 James Gilbert
Councilor Ronald A. Patronik
Councilor Harriet Pruette
City Manager Richard A. Linn

Deputy City Clerk Karla Strait, CMC
Assistant to the City Manager Terry Klein

ABSENT:
City Clerk Lisa Volpe, CMC
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 irrigation system was installed in the Third Street medians and the palm tress and wildflowers would be installed on March 4th . The committee was also looking at the Bike Path Beautification.

CITY MANAGERS PUNCH LIST

Jarboe Park

JARBOE PARK IMPROVEMENTS: City Manager Linn reported the handicap swing and the footbridge were on order and would be installed within two weeks.

Bike Path – Penman Road

BIKE PATH – PENMAN ROAD: City Manager Linn stated he attended a meeting on January 17th. The Florida Department of Transportation was handling it.

Vice Mayor Shimp asked about shrubs around the new lift station in Jarboe Park. City Manager Linn stated they were supposed to have already planted some.

Councilor Pruette asked for the water project to be placed on the punch list.

PROPOSED ORDINANCES

Ordinance 2002-02

ORDINANCE NO. 2002-02 ESTABLISHMENT OF A STORMWATER UTILITY COUNCILOR GILBERT. Councilor Gilbert stated this issue keeps getting pushed back

and the funding available now through the local option gas tax is depleting quickly with no other source in place. The surrounding communities already have this tax. He stated while no one may want to raise taxes but they can not let the funds deplete. He suggested raising within a period of years to an eventual break even point. He asked that incentives be made for people to use less impervious surfaces. City Manager Linn stated PBS&J had completed a stormwater report last year. The numbers that were being suggested are based on this report. The fund being used now for services had a \$1.1 million amount in 1996 and this past year it is down to \$448,000 and within four years the city will be broke in that fund.

For the record Mayor Brown stated this was pretty much a state mandate to have a Stormwater Utility and a dedicated source of revenue. City Manager Linn stated it is mandated to have a certain level of services regardless of where the money comes from.

Vice Mayor Shimp had concerns for everyone paying the same amount when not everyone had the same benefit. The city needs to encourage people to build less impervious service. He felt there should be two different rates; one for east and one for west of Third Street.

Councilor Pruette stated she wanted a workshop solely on stormwater. She also found the code stated driveways had to be paved. She felt this caused some of the problem. She also wanted to know what the five year plan was. City manager Linn stated we did have a Storm Water Master Plan.

City Manager Linn stated all commercial property would be divided by the ERU's and have to pay the majority of the total utility. He explained that PBS&J had written what they felt was the most fair way for the utility to be set up.

Councilor Pruette asked if the city could get help from other agencies to fund this. City Manager Linn did not think so.

Vice mayor Shimp asked why each lot could not be taken separately. City Manager Linn stated it could be completed that way but it would be very costly to survey each property.

Councilor Gilbert felt there should be incentive and there should be permits for pouring concrete.

Mayor Brown pointed out that the storm water utility does not only deal with flooding problems in one area of town it also dealt with maintenance, street sweeping, and processing of stormwater throughout the city.

Councilor Patronik discussed using zones to make the rate fair throughout the city or charging per dwelling unit. City Manager Linn stated staff had some recommendations for changes to make it easier to bill. Councilor Pruette asked if the fee could be folded into property taxes.

Consensus: **TO HAVE A SPECIAL WORKSHOP ON STORM WATER UTILITY.**

CONTRACT/AGREEMENTS

Utility Improvement
Project

RECOMMENDATION FOR SELECTION OF ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES PUBLIC SERVICES FACILITIES. City Manager Linn stated the Public Services Facilities was in much needed repair and replacement. He felt it was the best way to spend Better Jacksonville money. He was in favor of a design build method. Staff agreed to use the firm that Jacksonville Beach used. City Manager Linn asked council to start negotiating or for them to make a presentation to council.

Consensus: **TO ALLOW THE CITY MANAGER TO NEGOTIATE WITH PGH/VARGAS ARCHITECT/ENGINEERS FOR THE PUBLIC SERVICES FACILITY.**

ISSUE DEVELOPMENT

Emergency Generator **PURCHASE OF EMERGENCY GENERATOR:**

Smart Trailer **PURCHASE OF A "SMART TRAILER" SPEED INDICATOR UNIT.**

City Manager Linn suggested putting the Smart Trailer off until budget time and using contingency money to buy the generator, which is very necessary. The generator in use now is extremely unreliable. Council discussed the purchasing of both items.

Consensus: **TO MOVE THE EMERGENCY GENERATOR TO THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING AND TO DELAY THE SMART TRAILER UNTIL THE NEXT BUDGET SEASON.**

Jarboe Park shower **INSTALLATION OF SHOWER UNIT AT JARBOE PARK - COUNCILOR PATRONIK:**
Councilor Patronik stated it was just a spicket for hosing off after volleyball games. City manager Linn stated the same thing was tried at the lifeguard station and was a maintenance problem. Councilor Patronik stated a hose spicket was fine so no maintenance problems would start.

Flooding
First Street **FLOODING – FIRST STREET – COUNCILOR PRUETTE:** Councilor Pruette explained she understood not much could be done except for maybe some signage. Discussion ensued.

Public Comments

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Ralph LaPerna, 2507 Watersedge Drive, asked if JEA could be fined by our city for standing water. Mayor Brown stated he and the city attorney met with JTA and they said they would meet with JEA. There was discussion concerning the problem.

Joanne Waddill, Oleander Street, asked questions concerning flooding.

Lynda Padrta, 1113 First Street, discussed concerns about the Stormwater Utility and the property taxes. She felt that concrete should be permitted and new residents should get local information packets. She also stated flooding concerned all residents.

Ron Powell, 1830 Nightfall Drive, stated his concern for paying for services he would not benefit from since his neighborhood had no stormwater system. He did not mind paying a fee as long as he could see some benefit.

Jean Powers, 215 Florida Blvd, asked if council would allow the residents to speak after each topic.

Roy Dees, 1720 Lighty Lane, thanked the council for the work they do and the abuse they take.

Ralph LaPerna, 2507 Waters Edge Drive, suggested stenciling Flood Area on the street.

Councilor Pruette asked the city manager for an update on the Kings Road Bridge at the next meeting. Vice Mayor Shimp hoped Councilor Gilbert's foot felt better.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Richard A. Brown, Mayor

Attest:

Lisa Volpe, CMC, City Clerk

Approved: _____