



MINUTES
SPECIAL WORKSHOP CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 7, 2004 AT 6:30 P.M.
CITY HALL, 116 FIRST STREET
NEPTUNE BEACH, FLORIDA

Pursuant to proper notice a Special Workshop Meeting of the City Council of the City of Neptune Beach was held June 7, 2004, at 6:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 116 First Street, Neptune Beach, Florida.

Attendance

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mayor Richard A. Brown
Vice Mayor James Gilbert
Councilor Harriet Pruette
Councilor Larry Shealy
Councilor John Weldon
City Attorney Christopher White
City Manager James Jarboe
City Clerk Lisa Volpe, CMC

STAFF:

Assistant to the Building Official Piper Turner
Director of Finance Steve Ramsey
Director of Public Services Leon Smith
Deputy City Clerk Karla Strait, CMC

Order Call

Mayor Brown called the special workshop meeting to order at 6:40 p.m. and announced the purpose of the meeting was to decide the design for the Kings Road Bridge.

Kings. Rd. Bridge

KINGS ROAD BRIDGE REPLACEMENT DESIGN: Mayor Brown stated there were safety concerns with the way the bridge was to be designed and cost issues. City Manager Jarboe reviewed that the discussion had centered on where to put walkways on the bridge. City Manager Jarboe introduced Gregory Nettuno, P.E. Vice President of North Florida Operations, G.A.I. Consultants who would answer questions. Mr. Jarboe emphasized that the city needed a consensus from council so that the project could be started since the cost of steel was going up everyday.

Vice Mayor Gilbert understood there was some concern for a separation between vehicles and pedestrians. The current bridge is 16 feet wide. Vice Mayor Gilbert questioned why four feet could be added for pedestrians for a total of 20 feet instead of a 24 feet design. Mr. Nettuno answered the span type is premade and comes in 8 feet sections. That is the reason for 24 feet. The city is not saving money by going to 20 feet span since a half span would be needed. If you use 6 feet spans you lose the safety section and you would not save a significant amount of money. The cost is \$120 per square foot, the total cost approximately being \$330,000.

Councilor Shealy's only concern was the safety of the kids walking and fishing. He felt the bridge project needed to start as soon as possible.

Councilor Pruette was also concerned for safety. She explained she would like a handrail between vehicles and pedestrians.

Councilor Weldon asked what was the cost difference between 24 feet and 20 feet. Mr. Nettuno answered it would not be saving much by making it narrower than 24 feet. He prefers to protect the sidewalk with a handrail and rail on top of wall. Mr. Nettuno explained there is no expectable DOT standard for just a rail for safety. Vice Mayor Gilbert commented the pedestrian walk way would be on the west side. Mayor Brown suggested making the sidewalk smaller. Mr. Nettuno stated 5 feet was used regularly for ADA requirements.

Councilor Pruette asked if it were possible to make both sides safe for pedestrians. Mr. Nettuno stated it would not be safe to make travel lanes 12 feet without any shoulder. Councilor Weldon commented it was better to have one side very safe than two sides unsafe. The city could enforce no fishing on one side of the bridge. Mr. Nettuno offered to add signs.

Consensus: **THE MIDDLE DESIGN SUBMITTED WHICH ALLOWED FOR A 5 FOOT PROTECTED SIDEWALK ON THE WEST SIDE WITH RAILING ON TOP OF THE BARRIER AND A 12 FOOT TRAVEL LANE WITH A SHOULDER ON EACH SIDE.**

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Richard Brown, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lisa Volpe, CMC, City Clerk

Approved: _____