



MINUTES
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
NOVEMBER 4, 2004 AT 6:00 P.M.
CITY HALL, 116 FIRST STREET
NEPTUNE BEACH, FLORIDA

Pursuant to proper notice a Special Meeting of the City Council of the City of Neptune Beach was held November 4, 2004, at 6:00 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 Manager James Jarboe
City Clerk Lisa Volpe, CMC

ABSENT:

City Attorney Christopher White

Order Call

Mayor Brown called the special meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and announced the purpose of certifying the election results.

City Clerk Lisa Volpe read the results of the elections:

MAYOR SEAT 1

Mayor Brown ran unopposed for Seat 1.

COUNCILOR SEAT 2

Connie Austin	received	556	votes
Eric Pardee	received	1819	votes
Bob Shimp	received	1496	votes

Total Votes 3871

There will be a run off between Eric Pardee and Bob Shimp on November 23, 2004.

COUNCILOR SEAT 3

Harriet Pruette ran unopposed.

REFERENDUM 35 FEET HEIGHT LIMIT:

Yes	received	3459	votes
No	received	785	votes

The referendum passed.

Moved by Pruetto, seconded by Gilbert.

Motion: **TO APPROVE THE ELECTION RESULTS OF NOVEMBER 2, 2004.**

Councilor Pruetto asked why the referendum received 4244 votes and the council seat only received 3871. City Clerk Volpe stated some people choose to leave some choices blank on their ballot.

Vice Mayor Gilbert stated the absentee ballots would be available next week at the City Clerk's office. City Clerk Volpe confirmed the ballots should arrive by Wednesday and city hall is closed on Thursday for Veterans Day. Voters can pick them up and drop them off at city hall.

Councilor Shealy stated turn out was about 60 or 70% for the election which was a good turn out.

Councilor Pruetto asked the city clerk to ask the Supervisor of elections to get the ballots out as soon as possible.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: 5 - Gilbert, Pruetto, Shealy, Weldon, Brown

Noes: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Councilor Pruetto stated that before the 2006 election she would like the council to think about having open seat elections where the people with the top amount of votes would be elected to the seats. She also would like to discuss the 50%+1 rule. There was some discussion. Mayor Brown asked that the city clerk do research with the Florida League of Cities when this topic comes before the council.

Christine Chin, 227A Margaret Street, pointed out citizens will only have seven business days to obtain absentee ballots.

City Clerk Volpe stated the earliest they could have them is Wednesday. Councilor Pruetto question the runoff only being in 2 weeks. City Clerk Volpe suggested looking at this in the charter since the 4th Tuesday is always going to be right before Thanksgiving.

Council discussed the absentee ballot process. City Manager Jarboe questioned early voting at the beach. City Clerk Volpe stated the elections office would have to have one of their people at the library and Neptune Beach would have to absorb this cost. She stated with absentee ballots available at city hall early voting was not necessary.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Richard Brown, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lisa Volpe, CMC, City Clerk

Approved: _____