



MINUTES
WORKSHOP CITY COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 19, 2005, AT 7:05 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 September 19, 2005 at 7:05 p.m., in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 116 First Street, Neptune Beach, Florida.

Attendance:

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mayor Richard A. Brown
Vice Mayor Harriet Pruette
Councilor Eric Pardee
Councilor John Weldon
City Manager Jim Jarboe
City Clerk Lisa Volpe, CMC

ABSENT:

Councilor Larry Shealy
City Attorney Christopher White

STAFF:

Community Development Director Jason Cleghorn
Assistant to the City Manager Terry Klein
Director of Finance Steve Ramsey
Director of Public Safety David Sembach
Director of Public Services Leon Smith
Deputy City Clerk Karla Strait, CMC

Call to Order/Roll Call Mayor Brown called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

PRESENTATIONS / NONE

COMMITTEE REPORTS / NONE

CITY MANAGERS ACTION LIST

City Manager Jarboe stated there were eleven uncompleted items on his Action List. He expected them to be completed by the end of October. He asked the Council if they had any questions regarding the list.

Vice Mayor Pruette questioned the status of the Florida Boulevard Landscaping project. Mr. Jarboe replied he was waiting on the City of Jacksonville to approve the funding.

Vice Mayor Pruette asked when citizens would receive the 5% rate reduction on flood insurance. Mr. Jarboe replied it should be noted on their next insurance bill.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The following citizens supported a designated area on the beach in which dogs would be allowed to run unleashed during a designated time period.

- Candy Sullivan, 220 South Street
- Joshua Bolton, 1320 South Street
- Linda Clyne, 1210 Ocean Front
- Chuck Chambliss, 1632 Strand Street
- Ann Hindman, 113 Bay Street (or any other designated area within the city)
- Madonna Williams, 207 Davis Street

The following citizens opposed allowing a designated area and time period for unleashed dogs to run on the beach.

- Mary Ann Padrta, 1030 Second Street
- Alan Martin, 1115 First Street
- Lynda Padrta, 1113 First Street
- Edith Butner, 226 Magnolia Street

Candy Sullivan, 220 South Street, also suggested increasing the hours to allow leashed dogs on the beach during the winter months, because it was dark much earlier. The following citizens supported the suggestion:

- Joshua Bolton, 1320 First Street
- Linda Clyne, 1210 Ocean Front
- Chuck Chambliss, 1632 Strand Street
- Ann Hindman, 113 Bay Street
- Madonna Williams, 207 Davis Street

PROPOSED ORDINANCES / NONE**CONTRACTS / AGREEMENTS / NONE****ISSUE DEVELOPMENT****Dogs on the Beach**

DOGS ON THE BEACH: Robert McAteer, 1731 Penman Road, proposed designating the area on the beach between Seagate Avenue and Hopkins Street to be a restricted area from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. where dog owners could allow their dogs to run unleashed. He felt the benefits would be: 1) Dogs and their owners could run and exercise, 2) dogs could play in the water, 3) dogs could play with each other, and 4) the dogs would be able to fetch. He asked Council to consider the suggestion for a 30 day trial period.

Councilor Pardee was concerned that the one block area would be overcrowded once it became well known throughout the beach cities.

Mayor Brown stated the area behind the church would be a good location because it was not residential, however, his mission tonight was only to hear the proposal.

Vice Mayor Pruette was concerned about liability issues and how the dogs would be contained within the restricted area. She suggested Mr. McAteer propose a dog park somewhere else within the city limits where the dogs could be contained. She added that she would support increasing the hours for dogs to be allowed on the beach during the winter months.

Mayor Brown voiced concern about how the designated area would be organized and controlled.

Councilor Weldon stated the proposal appeared good on the surface, but he felt it was not practical. He was open to supporting a fenced dog park elsewhere in the city. He supported increasing the hours for leashed dogs to be allowed on the beach during the winter months.

Mayor Brown thanked Mr. McAteer for his proposal and stated the Council would discuss the issue with staff.

Hurricane
Preparedness Plan

HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS PLAN: City Manager Jarboe briefed the Council on the Hurricane Preparedness Plan and each departments' duties and responsibilities during pre-hurricane conditions, evacuation procedures, and post-hurricane recovery procedures.

Councilor Weldon asked the City Manager to prepare a registry of elderly and disabled citizens to have on hand in order to provide them assistance during hurricane evacuation orders.

City Manager Jarboe replied the City of Jacksonville kept a registry of elderly and disabled citizens at the Emergency Preparedness Center. He would retrieve that information and duplicate only the Neptune Beach citizens.

Vice Mayor Pruette felt citizens needing transportation to public shelters needed to be reminded every three to four months that there would be a staging point at Fletcher High School where buses would load and transport them to safety.

Councilor Pardee agreed the elderly and disabled needed to be provided assistance. He felt the Hurricane Preparedness Plan held people accountable and was very thorough.

Councilor Pardee cautioned citizens on the dangers of generators and the need to have them installed by a licensed electrician.

Park Place Apts.

PARK PLACE APARTMENTS FENCING: Roger Van Dusen, 131 32nd Avenue, Jacksonville Beach, and Fred Cattar, 1501 Big Tree Road, Neptune Beach, both of whom had partial ownership in Park Place Apartment buildings stated they had spoken with the other owners regarding the possibility of converting the apartments into condominiums. They had also hired an attorney to help guide them through the necessary steps. The owners were in agreement of fencing the property facing Third Street, but would like to consider all options for fencing while at the same time converting the property to condominiums. They should have a proposal before Council within a few months.

Councilor Weldon stated he appreciated their efforts and hoped the Council would hear back from them within a timely fashion.

Kings Rd. Bridge

KINGS ROAD BRIDGE REPLACEMENT: City Manager Jarboe stated there were still problems with heavy trucks crossing the Kings Road Bridge. The Florida Department of Transportation suggested posting a 15 Ton Weight Limit sign on the bridge, which Public Works was working on completing. He would be meeting with Jacksonville Beach City Manager George Forbes next week in an effort to arrange to have the back entrance, from Jacksonville Beach, opened for the heavy truck traffic.

Councilor Weldon was concerned about the liabilities of personal injuries and vehicular damages. He felt the replacement of the bridge should not be dismissed just because the previous bids were too high. He felt a plan of action needed to be implemented for the replacement Kings Road Bridge.

Councilor Pardee agreed with the 15 Ton Weight Limit and with having the heavy trucks enter the area through the rear entrance, however, he opposed the permanent opening of the rear entrance.

City Manager Jarboe explained the Florida Department of Transportation still had outstanding projects waiting to be completed. Contractors were back logged due to last year's hurricane season. He stated if the Council wished to move forward with replacing the bridge they should follow through with the current design on hand. A new design would cost in excess of \$200,000. The total amount for the replacement could be in excess of one million dollars. He proposed Council draft a Resolution asking for the City of Jacksonville Beach to contribute to the funding or authorize Mayor Brown write a letter to the Mayor of Jacksonville Beach requesting they contribute.

Mayor Brown stated the City of Jacksonville Beach needed to be notified immediately of the intent to close the Kings Road Bridge to heavy trucks weighing in excess of 15 tons so they could arrange the opening of the rear gate entrance.

Councilor Weldon asked the Council if they agreed to the following consensus, in which they all agreed.

Consensus: **TO AUTHORIZE MAYOR BROWN TO WRITE A LETTER TO THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF JACKSONVILLE BEACH REQUESTING THEIR COUNCIL SERIOUSLY CONSIDER SUBSTANCIAL AID IN THIS PROJECT AND ALSO NOTIFYING THEM THAT WE HAVE LIMITED THE LOAD CAPACITY TO 15 TONS AND THEREFORE ARE GOING TO NEED ACCESS THROUGH THE BACK GATE FOR UNTIL THE BRIDGE IS REBUILT.**

Consensus: **DIRECT THE CITY MANAGER AND FINANCE DIRECTOR TO REPORT WITHIN 30 DAYS AT THE OCTOBER WORKSHOP MEETING WITH FINANCING OPTIONS FOR MOVING FORWARD WITH THE CONSTRUCTION OF THIS BRIDGE.**

Permissible Uses Table

TABLE OF PERMISSIBLE USES DISCUSSION: City Manager Jarboe stated Councilor Weldon had suggested the discussion of the Table of Permissible Uses go before the Planning and Development Review Board for a recommendation to Council.

Consensus: **TO FORWARD THE DISCUSSION OF THE TABLE OF PERMISSIBLE USES TO THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD.**

Ord. No. 2005-20

ORDINANCE 2005-20, AMENDING CHAPTER 27, SIDEWALKS & BIKEWAYS: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF NEPTUNE BEACH, FLORIDA AMENDING THE EXISTING CHAPTER 27, SECTION 27-479 SIDEWALKS & BIKEWAYS AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mr. John Bracato, owner of Caribbee Key, stated he would provide an off duty police officer to be on his premises, between the hours of 10:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, if he were allowed to extend the hours of operation for the outdoor seating area from 10:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

Councilor Weldon stated he would also add to the contract that guests must be completely out of the area by 11:00 p.m.

Consensus: **FORWARD TO THE OCTOBER REGULAR MEETING FOR SECOND READ AND PUBLIC HEARING AND AMEND THE CONTRACT TO ALLOW FOR THE HIRING OF A POLICE OFFICER FOR APPROVAL.**

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Richard A. Brown, Mayor

Attest:

Lisa Volpe, CMC, City Clerk

Approved: _____