



MINUTES
WORKSHOP CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 16, 2008, AT 6:04 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 June 16, 2008 at 6:04 p.m., in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 116 First Street, Neptune Beach, Florida.

Attendance:

IN ATTENDANCE:

STAFF:

Mayor Richard Brown
Vice Mayor Harriet Pruette
Councilor Fred Lee
Councilor Eric Pardee
Councilor John Weldon
City Attorney Chris White
City Manager Jim Jarboe
City Clerk Lisa Volpe, CMC

Community Development Director Amanda Askew
Senior Activities Center Director Leslie Lyne
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 6:04 p.m.

PRESENTATIONS / NONE

CITY MANAGER'S ACTION LIST

City Manager Jarboe reported on the following:

- The old Neptune Beach Theater was in the process of being demolished and should be completely demolished by the end of the week.
- The repairs to the manholes on Third Street / A1A were still in process.
- Mayor Brown has spoken with a representative of the Florida Department of Transportation regarding the pedestrian crosswalks on Third Street / A1A.
- He was working with the City of Jacksonville regarding crosswalks for Penman Road.
- A large amount of disposed grease stopped up a lift station. The Public Service Department or Code Enforcement would start conducting monthly inspections.
- The City of Jacksonville Sheriff's Office would be providing horse patrol officers on July 4th.
- There was an increase in overtime due to the large crowds at the beach this year.

Councilor Lee questioned the progress of the new playground equipment for Jarboe Park and Futch Park. City Manager Jarboe replied the City of Jacksonville decided to go out for bid for the playground equipment.

PUBLIC COMMENTS / NONE

PROPOSED ORDINANCES

PORF

ORDINANCE NO. 2008-XX, AMENDING THE POLICE OFFICERS RETIREMENT FUND: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF NEPTUNE BEACH, AMENDING CHAPTER 2, ADMINISTRATION, ARTICLE V, EMPLOYEE BENEFITS, DIVISION 4, POLICE OFFICERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF NEPTUNE BEACH,; AMENDING SECTION 2-3436, MEMBERSHIP, AMENDING SECTION 2-347, BOARD OF TRUSTEES; AMENDING SECTION 2-349.5 OPTIONAL FORMS OF BENEFITS; AMENDING SECTION 2-349.15 DOMESTIC RELATIONS ORDERS; RETIREE DIRECTED PAYMENTS; EXEMPTION FROM EXECUTION, NONASSIGNABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY OF PROVISIONS; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

City Manager Jarboe explained this updated the plan with four options;

1. allow the police chief to opt out of the plan
2. allow DROP participant to be elected but not vote for elected trustees.
3. begin the PLOP program
4. allow direct deductions for insurance out of retirement payments.

The actuaries wrote a letter stating these changes would be no cost to the city.

Consensus: **FORWARD TO THE JULY REGULAR MEETING FOR FIRST READ.**

Qualifying Dates

ORDINANCE NO. 2008-XX, AMENDING CHAPTER 9 ELECTIONS: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF NEPTUNE BEACH, FLORIDA AMENDING CHAPTER 9 ELECTIONS SECTION 9-5 QUALIFYING OF CANDIDATES AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

City Clerk Volpe stated this change would allow the qualifying period to be before the county mailed overseas ballots. Qualifying would now be from August 25 to 29, 2008.

Consensus: **FORWARD TO THE JULY REGULAR MEETING FOR FIRST READ.**

CONTRACTS / AGREEMENTS / NONE

ISSUE DEVELOPMENT

Audit Committee

AUDIT COMMITTEE: City Manager Jarboe explained Florida Statutes now required Council to act as the Audit Committee to select the city auditor. The intent was for staff not to be involved in selecting an auditor to evaluate and rate staffs' performance. The City Clerk's office received four proposals for Council to review and consider.

Discussion ensued regarding the qualifications, experience, and proposed fees of the four submittals. It was suggested that local firms would provide better service.

Consensus: **TO INTERVIEW THE THREE LOCAL FIRMS AT A SPECIAL MEETING BEFORE THE JULY REGULAR MEETING.**

Jarboe Park Uses

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-XX: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF NEPTUNE BEACH, FLORIDA SETTING THE RULES AND STANDARDS FOR THE USE OF JARBOE PARK BY GROUPS AND ACTIVITIES.

City Manager Jarboe stated he had drafted a "Jarboe Park Use Policy" in the form of a Resolution for Council to review and consider.

Councilor Pardee stated he would like more public input regarding the park use policy.

Vice Mayor Pruette stated she would like the phrase "long term use" to be defined within

the policy.

Consensus: **FORWARD TO THE JULY WORKSHOP MEETING.**

Beaches Chapel
Tennis

BEACHES CHAPEL – FIRST COAST TENNIS FOUNDATION: City Manager Jarboe explained the First Coast Tennis Foundation has requested to reserve the tennis courts in Jarboe Park on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. to provide private tennis lessons.

Councilor Pardee stated he would like for the “Jarboe Park Use Policy” to be adopted by the Council before considering the request. He was also concerned about the Saturday 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. reservation because he felt most tennis players would like to use the courts in the morning hours when the temperature is lower.

Councilor Lee agreed the “Jarboe Park Use Policy” should be adopted by the Council before considering the tennis program. He was also concerned about the Saturday reservations. He asked Mr. Tingsombutyout, Executive Director First Coast Tennis Foundation, to approach the podium and address the Council.

Mr. Tingsombutyout explained the First Coast Tennis Foundation was a non-profit organization. The money collected for lessons went towards paying the professional tennis instructors and the cost of tennis balls. If necessary he would be willing to adjust the days and hours requested.

Councilor Weldon questioned the association between the Beaches Chapel Church and the First Coast Tennis Foundation.

Mr. Tingsombutyout explained Steve McCoy, Pastor of the Beaches Chapel Church, originally contacted the foundation to inquire about tennis lessons for the schools STAR Program, which involved several after school activities for their STAR students. Since Beaches Chapel Church did not have tennis courts on their premises, the First Coast Tennis Foundation approached the City to request the use of the Jarboe Park tennis courts. The tennis program would be assessable to any other groups or interested citizens as well.

Councilor Lee added Beaches Chapel would not receive any preferential treatment from the program.

Councilor Weldon suggested placing signs in Jarboe Park by the tennis courts to notify the public of the intent to reserve the tennis courts for private lessons. This would allow the regular users of the tennis courts to come to a meeting and comment to the Council on the matter.

Edi Wohlgemeth, Administrator of the Beaches Chapel STARS Program, stated the program provided after school activities that included karate, ballet, piano, guitar and art classes. She is the administrator the entire program and all the proceeds go to Beaches Chapel School. Pastor Steve McCoy is friends with Tennis Professional Brian Godfrey and that is how they learned about the First Coast Tennis Foundation. Beaches Chapel is interested in partnering with the foundation to hold a park extravaganza that would kick off the tennis program.

City Manager Jarboe stated if the program was approved by the Council the contract would be with the First Coast Tennis Foundation. He asked the foundation to formalize the agreement for consideration.

Consensus: **FORWARD TO THE JULY WORKSHOP.**

Town Center Parking TOWN CENTER PARKING: City Manager Jarboe explained he conducted a study regarding Town Center parking options. The three options were: 1) pay and display parking, 2) parking sign enforcement, or 3) parking meters.

Councilor Lee felt Town Center Parking should be uniform both in Neptune Beach and Atlantic Beach.

City Manager Jarboe stated he would continue to work with Atlantic Beach City Manager Jim Hanson, research and gather more information to present the Council at the July workshop meeting.

Vice Mayor Pruette suggested the owners of One Ocean Resort tell their employees and contractors to park their vehicles on the One Ocean Resort property.

Councilor Weldon felt the City Manager should coordinate efforts with Atlantic Beach and conduct more research. He also felt the issue should be discussed and publicized at several meetings.

City Manager Jarboe stated he would also meet with the Town Center Association regarding the parking issue.

Councilor Lee agreed the Town Center parking has been an issue. He felt the city should coordinate with Atlantic Beach and take some type of action.

Councilor Pardee stated the Sea Turtle Inn should have taken construction parking into consideration when they decided to renovate and change their name to One Ocean. He also felt the Town Center Merchants should be involved with the Town Center parking issues.

Animal Committee ANIMAL COMMITTEE: Mayor Brown stated he would like to appoint Leonna Sheddan, Executive Director of the Jacksonville Humane Society, Robert Hims, Certified Dog Trainer, and Sandy Golding to the Animal Task Force Committee.

Councilor Pardee stated the committee would also need regular citizens as well as the professionals to provide a good combination.

Mayor Brown also suggested that a law enforcement officer be appointed to the committee.

Vice Mayor Pruette stated a veterinarian and an attorney would also serve the committee well.

City Manager Jarboe explained the committee would be subject to the Sunshine Law and would need to be educated on the rules and regulations.

EAR COMMUNITY ISSUES OF EVALUATION APPRAISAL REPORT: Community Development Director Amanda Askew explained the first process of the Evaluation Appraisal Report was to hold a public workshop meeting with the Planning & Development Review Board members to identify and discuss major issues for the community.

The meeting was held on May 20, 2008 and the following list of issues were identified:

- Parking in Town Center
- Flow of pedestrian traffic and motorized traffic east of Third Street and across Third Street / A1A

- Maintain existing densities and residential character of Neptune Beach
- Redevelopment of commercial along Atlantic Boulevard and Third Street / A1A
- Encouragement of mixed-use development along Atlantic Boulevard and Third Street / A1A
- Enhance and promote pedestrian safety along Atlantic Boulevard and Third Street / A1A
- Water conservation and water reuse

Councilor Weldon asked to add "protection of conservation lands" to the list.

Councilor Pardee suggested broadening transportation to include pedestrians and bicycle traffic throughout the entire city.

City Manager Jarboe asked each Councilor to prepare a note for City Clerk Lisa Volpe or Community Development Director Askew concerning any amendments or additions to the list of issues.

Consensus: **FORWARD TO THE JULY REGULAR MEETING FOR APPROVAL.**

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:53 pm.

Richard A. Brown, Mayor

Attest:

Lisa Volpe, CMC, City Clerk

Approved: _____