



MINUTES
WORKSHOP CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 19, 2008, AT 6:10 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 May 19, 2008 at 6:10 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 6:10 p.m.

PRESENTATIONS / NONE

CITY MANAGER'S ACTION LIST

City Manager Jarboe stated the Town Center annual event "Dancin in the Street" was held Saturday May 17th and went well with no major problems.

Councilor Weldon stated he received complaints about the raucous nature and the excessive consumption of alcohol that occurred during the festival. He felt city staff needed to take that into consideration before the next "Dancin in the Streets."

Code Enforcement reported a number of street vendors set up in vacant lots without business licenses.

The parking situation in Town Center seemed to be more crowded this year especially at lunch time.

An Art Walk was held in Town Center on Thursday, May 15th.

Councilor Lee spotted and reported an alligator in Hopkins Creek. The Florida Fish and Wildlife have been contacted.

Two male suspects were recently caught painting graffiti in the area.

He would be meeting with the Florida Department of Transportation regarding utility issues on Third Street / A1A before the repaving begins.

The South Street manhole was completed and working well.

He was still waiting for permission from the Florida Department of Transportation to install a manhole on Third Street.

Councilor Lee asked City Manager Jarboe if he had heard from the Florida Department of Transportation regarding pedestrian safety. Mayor Brown stated he would follow up with the Florida Department of Transportation regarding the pedestrian safety.

Vice Mayor Pruette questioned the Kings Road Bridge project. City Manager Jarboe responded the plans were out for bids. A pre bid meeting would be held the end of May and the bid opening would be June 19th.

City Manager Jarboe informed everyone the first meeting for the Evaluation Appraisal Report process would begin on Tuesday, May 20th at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

Councilor Lee asked City Manager Jarboe if he had heard from the Penman Plaza Associates regarding the development. City Manager Jarboe replied Code Enforcement action was being pursued.

Councilor Pardee stated he visited several different countries in Europe during the last three weeks. During his visit he observed many different lifestyles and cultures. He passed around photographs he had taken of some public art that he found interesting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mary Ann Baker, 1102 First Street, stated her little dog was attacked by a pit bull and had to be put to sleep due to its injuries. She felt she should not feel threatened by other animals when walking in the neighborhood.

David Baker, 1102 First Street, was concerned about dangerous animals and felt they should be registered and muzzled while on the streets.

Leonna Sheddan, Jacksonville Humane Society Executive Director, suggested the city form a Task Force Committee to collect facts and information regarding dangerous dogs and suggest penalties. She added she would be happy to serve as a member on the Task Force Committee.

City Manager Jarboe stated after the attack the owner of the pit bull in question had the dog put to sleep.

Linda Stewart, 1309 Neptune Grove Drive West, organizer for the Art Walk, explained the issues that were brought to her attention regarding the previous Art Walk had been resolved.

PROPOSED ORDINANCES

Ord. No. 2008-XX

ORDINANCE NO. 2008-XX, AMENDING SECTION 6-17 ANIMALS CAUSING INJURY: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF NEPTUNE BEACH, FLORIDA AMENDING SECTION 6-17 ANIMALS CAUSING INJURY, ADDING SECTION (B) AND DELETING SECTION 6-29 PERSONS BITTEN MUST REPORT TO POLICE DEPARTMENT AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Vice Mayor Pruette explained this ordinance requires the owner or person in control of any animal that causes injury or harm to another person or animal to report the incident to the Public Safety Department within twenty four hours.

Councilor Weldon favored the suggestion to form a Task Force Committee.

Vice Mayor Pruette also favored the suggestion of appointing a Task Force Committee. She suggested the committee include a veterinarian, an attorney, the Director of the Humane Society, and regular citizens.

Mayor Brown stated he also favored appointing a Task Force Committee.

Councilor Pardee felt a Task Force Committee would be a proactive approach and would be important to make sure the information they provided to Council would be politically correct.

Councilor Pardee questioned why the ordinance gave the owner or person in control of the animal twenty four hours to report the incident. He felt that would give the person an opportunity to flee.

City Attorney White advised there had to be time cap otherwise the ordinance would be too vague.

Councilor Pardee questioned why the ordinance would no longer require the victim to report the incident.

City Attorney White stated the victim had the right to choose to report the incident or not and the victim should not be punished. This ordinance placed the burden on the owner or person in control of the animal causing injury.

Councilor Lee also supported appointing a Task Force Committee. He added there were also Florida State laws.

Consensus: **GATHER INFORMATION AND MOVE FORWARD WITH THE PROCESS OF APPOINTING A TASK FORCE COMMITTEE.**

CONTRACTS / AGREEMENTS / NONE

ISSUE DEVELOPMENT

720 Atlantic Blvd.

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-06: A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING PROPERTY LOCATED AT 720 ATLANTIC BOULEVARD AS A BROWNFIELD AREA FORENVIRONMENTAL REHABILITATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

City Attorney White confirmed the new site plan and site description were correct.

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

Waste Collection

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-XX: A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING CERTAIN CHARGES FOR FEES FOR SOLID WASTE COLLECTION SERVICES.

Councilor Pardee felt the 4% cost of living increase for Waste Pro should not be shifted to the residents.

Councilor Lee stated he did not object to the contract itself or the cost of living increase, what he objected to was the service they provided.

Councilor Weldon stated the total amount including the 4% increase was still far below what the citizens of neighboring cities were paying for garbage pickup.

Consensus: **TO FORWARD TO THE JUNE REGULAR MEETING.**

1602/1604 First St.

FORECLOSURE OF 1602 / 1604 FIRST STREET: Mayor Brown stated this item was addressed at the previous shade meeting and should be removed from the agenda.

Art Walk

ART WALK: City Manager Jarboe stated it was beyond his authority to approve the Art Walk because he could only approve special events that were held once or twice per year. The organizer for the Art Walk was requesting to hold the event twelve times per year. Therefore, the Art Walk needed approval from the Council.

Councilor Weldon stated the Art Walk was a nice idea. He questioned whether or not the Art Walk was a benefit to the community or was it only a benefit for the business owners and Town Center. Ms. Stewart, organizer for the Art Walk, stated the Art Walk was a cultural event and gave the artists the opportunity to show their art to the community. It also gave the children the opportunity to participate in learning experiences.

Councilor Weldon asked if the event was profitable. Ms. Stewart stated this was only a way to give the artists exposure and was not profitable to her as the organizer.

Vice Mayor Pruette asked what day of the month the event would be held. Ms. Stewart replied the Art Walk would be held on the third Thursday of every month.

Councilor Pardee and Councilor Lee both supported the Art Walk.

Councilor Weldon asked to hear from the merchants that were present.

Jo Ann Adams, First Street Gallery, stated the Art Walk was good for businesses and enjoyed by the community.

Bootsy Haas, Tranquil Waters, felt the Art Walk promoted local businesses. She also asked Council to consider allowing signage.

Consensus: **FORWARD TO THE JUNE CONSENT AGENDA TO ALLOW ARTWALK TWELVE TIMES PER YEAR.**

Jarboe Park Use

USE OF JARBOE PARK BY PROFIT & NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS: Councilor Lee stated he received a request from First Coast Tennis Foundation.

Toy Tingsombutyout, Director, First Coast Tennis Foundation, explained the foundation was contacted by the Beaches Chapel Church to start a tennis program for the children and juniors in their school using the tennis courts in Jarboe Park. They would like to begin with a Tennis Play Day to introduce the program to the kids and parents. After the Tennis Play Day they would like to start teaching the school children for two hours a day on two separate days during the work week. They would also be interested in providing tennis lessons to the entire community as well.

City Manager Jarboe stated he would like to meet with Mr. Tingsombutyout, regarding the time for the school program and provide the Council with more information.

Councilor Pardee asked City Manager Jarboe to consider the impact of parking, the Green Market and the Community Garden.

Consensus: **CITY MANAGER JARBOE TO CREATE A SET OF GUIDELINES FOR USE OF THE PARK AND BRING BACK TO COUNCIL.**

Town Center Parking

LIMITING TIME FOR PARKING IN TOWN CENTER: City Manager Jarboe stated he received a request from a Town Center merchants to limit parking in Town Center. There were concerns that contractors working on the new One Ocean Resort & Spa and their

200 newly hired employees were taking up all the parking in Town Center leaving no spaces for customers.

City Manager Jarboe suggested placing a two hour parking limitation on the public parking spaces in Town Center and having the Public Safety Department hire a part time person to write citations for violations. He felt the revenue from the citations would cover the cost of the extra part time personnel.

Councilor Pardee suggested that Town Center merchants could also contribute to the cost of the part time personnel.

Councilor Weldon asked staff to speak with the hotel owners and ensure their employees would be parking on their private property.

Councilor Pardee opposed parking meters. He felt because people were paying taxes on the roads they should not be charged to park on a public street.

Vice Mayor Pruette stated she had received complaints from Town Center merchants that their customers could not find parking due to beach visitors.

Mayor Brown felt parking meters would work better and asked City Manager Jarboe to look at the feasibility.


Councilor Lee felt the numbers may not be favorable for revenue.

Consensus: **GATHER MORE INFORMATION FOR COUNCIL.**

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.


Richard A. Brown, Mayor

Attest:

Lisa Volpe, CMC, City Clerk

Approved: 6-2-08

