



**MINUTES**  
**WORKSHOP CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**JULY 6, 2009, AT 5:45 P.M**  
**CITY HALL, 116 FIRST STREET**  
**NEPTUNE BEACH, FLORIDA**

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Pursuant to proper notice a Workshop Meeting of the City Council of the City of Neptune Beach was held July 6, 2009 at 5:45 p.m., in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 116 First Street, Neptune Beach, Florida.

Attendance:

IN ATTENDANCE:

STAFF:

Mayor Harriet Pruette  
Vice Mayor John Weldon  
Councilor Fred Lee  
Councilor Eric Pardee  
Councilor Kara Tucker  
City Attorney Christopher 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

Call to Order/Roll Call Mayor Pruette called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m.

**ISSUE DEVELOPMENT**

San Pablo Island

**SAN PABLO ISLAND:** Mayor Pruette explained Atlantic Beach Mayor John Meserve intended to introduce a Resolution to the Atlantic Beach Commission supporting the use of the term "San Pablo Island" when referring to Atlantic Beach, Neptune Beach, and Jacksonville Beach. She asked other Council members how they felt about the suggestion.

Councilor Tucker felt it was a good concept to name the island. She was unsure about the name "San Pablo" and felt the name should be considered by the citizens.

Vice Mayor Weldon stated San Pablo was the original name of the island. He felt it was a great idea and former Jacksonville Mayor Delaney deserved credit for the suggestion.

Councilor Pardee disagreed with the use of the term "San Pablo Island" unless the beaches' cities were considering becoming a separate County from Jacksonville. He felt people were familiar with the location of Jacksonville and would not recognize where San Pablo Island was located. He also felt part of Neptune Beaches' identity was associated with the Jacksonville Beaches, Duval County and the Jacksonville Jaguars.

Councilor Lee felt it was a viable idea that should be taken into account carefully. He agreed there should be public input.

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

Nitrogen

NITROGEN REDUCTION OVERVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS: City Manager Jarboe explained a joint study with Atlantic Beach was conducted to determine if they could jointly handle the nitrogen reduction requirements mandated by DEP at a shared cost. The study concluded this was not feasible due to the daily limitation of 1,000,000 gallons of sewer acceptance for Atlantic Beach.

The consulting engineers have recommended the use of a "fixed film media" process to reduce nitrogen levels. This would be the least expensive method to meet the Department of Environmental Protection's required level of nitrogen reduction.

Councilor Lee asked City Manager Jarboe to reconfirm that the request for proposals would include a guarantee that the project would work. City Manager Jarboe stated "yes" and it would probably be bonded.

Councilor Lee was concerned about the cost of the project and questioned if grants would be pursued. City Manager Jarboe responded he has already been in contact with the local government affairs concerning grants. The cost was now 1.5 with a 20% contingency fund for unexpected costs.

Councilor Pardee agreed the "fixed film media" method was the best option. He was concerned there would be more unfunded State mandates in the future.

Councilor Tucker also supported the "fixed film media" method.

Mayor Pruette thanked City Manager Jarboe and the engineers for taking time to speak individually with Council members.

For the Record Vice Mayor Weldon asked Mr. Hershey, the contract engineer for the project, to confirm that he was confident that the system was the most cost effective method. Mr. Hershey replied that was correct. He added Neptune Beach was fortunate to have excess tank capacity to work with.

Vice Mayor Weldon questioned if the upgrade to the sewer and wastewater system would be covered by the increased utility rate structure currently in effect or if it would require an additional rate increase. City Manager Jarboe replied the upgrade should be covered by the current rate. However, a new utility rate study would be conducted for the upcoming budget.

Vice Mayor Weldon asked Mr. Hershey if he was confident the existing infrastructure was adequate to sustain the new upgrade for at least twenty years. Mr. Hershey responded "yes", however, some piping and equipment improvements would be necessary.

Consensus: **FORWARD TO THE FOLLOWING REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING.**

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:05 pm.

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Harriet Pruette, Mayor

Attest:

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Lisa Volpe, CMC, City Clerk

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

