



MINUTES
WORKSHOP CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 12, 2010, AT 5:30 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 July 12, 2010 at 5:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 116 First Street, Neptune Beach, Florida.

Attendance:

IN ATTENDANCE:

STAFF:

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

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 5:30 p.m.

TMDL

TMDL – IMPROVEMENTS – BIDS: City Manager Jarboe stated this project would reduce the nitrogen entering the Intracoastal. This is an unfunded State mandate. There were a total of four bids submitted. The low bidder was WPC, Industrial Contractors. City Attorney White has reviewed the contract and recommended approval.

Councilor Weldon asked Michael Hershey, engineer for the project to address the Council regarding the four bids that were received. Councilor Weldon also questioned if WPC, Industrial Contractors were responsible.

Michael Hershey, P.E. Vice President, Applied Technology & Management, explained he worked with WPC on two previous projects and both projects turned out well. Mr. Hershey added WPC was short for Water Processing Company.

Councilor Weldon questioned if Mr. Hershey was confident WPC would execute the contract without additional change orders. Mr. Hershey stated he could not guarantee there would not be any change orders. He suggested the City create a contingency allowance to cover any change orders that may arise.

Councilor Weldon asked Mr. Hershey if he was confident that all four of the bidders bid on the same specifications. Mr. Hershey replied all the bids were within ten to

fifteen percent which is an indication that the bidders all had a fairly common understanding of the project would entail.

Councilor Weldon asked Mr. Hershey if he was confident the new technology would work and if the contractor would guarantee the work.. Mr. Hershey responded the contractors and the equipment manufactures would stand behind the project. He was confident the project would exceed the expectations required by the Department of Environmental Protection.

Councilor Weldon was concerned because Jacksonville Beach and Atlantic Beach were building new sewer plants verses this new technology. Mr. Hershey replied he was looking forward to doing a comparison of the total cost for the beach cities. He felt the City would be pleasantly surprised at the cost savings.

Mayor Pruette was concerned about rainfall overflow. Mr. Hershey replied the package plant would be kept in service as backup to supplement the treatment of the new system.

Councilor Weldon asked City Attorney White if he was comfortable with the contract. City Attorney White responded he was comfortable with the contract.

Consensus: **FORWARD TO THE FOLLOWING CONSENT AGENDA.**

Employee
Insurance

EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE: City Manager Jarboe explained the cost of employee health insurance for the same program as last year increased 30%. The new plan offered by Avmed would not increase costs for the City but would increase deductibles and the maximum out of pocket amount for employees. The new plan includes three options for employees to choose from. There was a base plan a buy up plan and a premium plan.

Consensus: **FORWARD TO THE FOLLOWING CONSENT AGENDA**

Waste Pro

WASTE PRO CONTRACT – SIDE YARD PICK – UP: City Manager Jarboe stated he was in the process of negotiating the possibility of eliminating side yard pick up. This would save the City approximately \$80,000. The savings would be placed in reserves to help offset the landfill tipping fees that may be required next year by the City of Jacksonville. He would need Council approve to negotiate a new contract.

Mayor Pruette asked when the Waste Pro contract expired. City Manager Jarboe replied the contract expired next year and we had the option to continue the contract or receive bids from other companies.

Mayor Pruette questioned how Waste Pro would assist the city in reemphasizing the importance of recycling to residents. She questioned if all the recycling material was properly disposed of or if some was taken to the dump, which would add more weight going into the landfill and therefore adding to the tipping fee charges. City Manager Jarboe explained Waste Pro would assist the city in a recycling promotion and education program that would increase participation in curbside recycling which would help decrease the volume of waste entering the landfill. Mayor Pruette asked if the tipping fees were based on weight. City Manager Jarboe responded the tipping fees would be based on poundage.

Councilor Pardee asked if there was a plan to notify the residents of the elimination of side yard pick up. City Manager Jarboe explained residents would be notified by the phone alert system, the website, newspaper, and door hangers. The change will not affect elderly and handicap residents.

Vice Mayor Lee asked if there would still be two day week pick up. City Manager Jarboe replied the two day a week pick up would remain in place.

Vice Mayor Lee asked City Manager Jarboe to try to negotiate a better contract with Waste Pro. He wanted the citizens to be aware the City was being proactive and that the money saved would be put into a reserve fund to help offset the cost of the future tipping fees.

Councilor Weldon was concerned that eliminating the curb side service would make residents believe that the rate would be decreased which is not the case.

City Manager Jarboe explained with Council approval the savings would be placed in the budget under a special reserve fund for sanitation.

Councilor Weldon encouraged the City maintain the twice a week trash collection in the future.

Councilor Tucker stated she supported eliminating the side yard trash pickup.

Consensus: **FORWARD TO THE FOLLOWING CONSENT AGENDA.**

St. Johns River

2010 LOWER ST. JOHNS RIVER TRIBUTARIES BASIN MANAGEMENT ACTION PLAN II: City Manager Jarboe explained this is an agreement dealing with cleaning the fecal matter and nitrogen gas entering Hopkins Creek. Council previously authorized \$25,000 in the budget to monitor the fecal matter in the creek.

Vice Mayor Lee asked if this cost would be shared with residents. City Manager Jarboe stated the property owners using septic tanks would be responsible. He hoped a grant would cover half the cost.

Vice Mayor Lee asked how many septic tanks were in the City. City Manager Jarboe replied there were approximately 60 that were still located in the City.

Consensus: **FORWARD TO THE FOLLOWING CONSENT AGENDA.**

Budget Meetings

City Manager Jarboe stated the first budget hearing was scheduled for Tuesday, September 7th and second hearing was scheduled for Monday, September 20th.

Adjournment

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

Harriet Pruetten, Mayor

Attest:

Lisa Volpe, CMC, City Clerk

Approved: _____