



MINUTES
WORKSHOP CITY COUNCIL MEETING
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE SPECIAL MEETING
MONDAY, JULY 17, 2023, 6:09 P.M.
NEPTUNE BEACH CITY HALL
116 FIRST STREET
NEPTUNE BEACH, FLORIDA 32266

Pursuant to proper notice, a Workshop City Council Meeting of the City Council of the City of Neptune Beach was held on Monday, July 17, 2023, at 6:09 p.m., in Council Chambers, City Hall, 116 First Street, Neptune Beach, Florida, 32266

Attendance**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mayor Elaine Brown
Vice Mayor Kerry Chin
Councilor Lauren Key
Councilor Nia Livingston
Councilor Josh Messinger (*via CMT*)

STAFF:

City Attorney Zachary Roth
City Manager Richard Pike
CFO Jaime Hernandez
Public Works Director Deryle Calhoun
Parks and Sustainability Director Colin Moore
Interim Police Chief Michael Key
Community Development Director Heather Whitmore
City Clerk Catherine Ponson

**Call to
Order/Roll Call**

Mayor Brown called the workshop meeting to order at 6:09 p.m.

AWARDS/PRESENTATIONS/RECOGNITION OF GUESTS / NONE

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

**City Manager
Report**

City Manager Richard Pike reported that he and CFO Jaime Hernandez have been working on the FY 24 budget and will begin meeting with department heads. He announced Thursday, July 20, 2023, would be the Annual Hurricane Preparedness Meeting. Representatives from City of Jacksonville, Baldwin and the Beaches would be attending the annual tabletop exercise.

**Interim
Police Chief
Report**

Interim Police Chief Michael Key reported on the following:

- The e-bike enforcement campaign has kicked off. This includes handing out warnings and brochures to educate citizens of the laws that regulate the use of e-bikes. There is also partnership with Fletcher High School, Neptune Beach Elementary, and Beaches Chapel, to have Neptune Beach Police Officers in those schools to educate, provide lecture and hold question and answer sessions with those students.
- The 4th of July holiday was successful with no major incidents to report.

- Since July 1st, 2023, Ocean Rescue has had three lost people, 14 first aid cases, 11 preventative water actions, and seven rip current related issues. He added that Ocean Rescue is reporting that heat is the major concern.
- The Narcan rollout has taken place. This medicine saves lives during an overdose.
- He presented the June crime statistics report.

Senior Center
Update

Public Works Director Deryle Calhoun reported the Senior Center project is on schedule. The deck is up. The foundation was first and has been signed off on. Notice to Proceed was issued in mid-May with substantial completion in 90 days and full completion in 120 days.

Mr. Calhoun advised that the Bal Harbour stormwater system work would begin the last week of August. A flyer would be distributed to homes along the route.

Parks and
Sustainability
Report

Parks and Sustainability Director Colin Moore announced the next Public Meeting for the Penman Road project would be Wednesday, August 16th, 2023, from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. at Jacksonville Beach City Hall, 11 3rd Street N., Jacksonville, Florida 32250.

The jaguar in the Beaches Town Center would be removed to be repainted on Wednesday, July 19, 2023. The project should take about 60 days.

The pressure washing in Beaches Town Center would take place the following week after hours. The merchants have been notified.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

TIP Committee

Mayor Brown reported there would be a meeting of the Transportation and Infrastructure Planning Committee in August.

PROPOSED ORDINANCES

Spending
Threshold

Proposed Ordinance, An Ordinance of the City of Neptune Beach, Florida, Amending Chapter 2, Article VI, Section 2-377, Competitive Bidding; Written Contracts, Providing for Severability; and Providing an Effective Date.

Mr. Calhoun stated that he has been coming to Council for project approval numerous times. He said that the threshold amount of \$10,000 should be adjusted to account for inflation.

City Attorney Zachary Roth pointed out that the amount had previously been \$25,000 and moved down to \$9,999.00.

Vice Mayor Chin expressed that he supports this in order to get things done quicker. He does request that Council be apprised of when a big purchase is made and for what purpose if questions arise.

Mr. Pike confirmed Councilor Key's inquiry that he would be given the authority to make the decision rather than coming to Council.

Mr. Roth pointed out that there may be items that have already been budgeted for and laid out, but the actual estimate has not been procured. The department head could move forward with getting the contract.


Councilor Messinger commented that this is straightforward. This is what was historically done. Based on all of the improvements at Public Works and other places, the City Manager will do well with this change in authority.

CONSENSUS: MOVE FORWARD FOR FIRST READ

Adjournment The workshop meeting adjourned at 6:24 p.m.


Elaine Brown, Mayor

ATTEST:


Catherine Ponson, CMC
City Clerk

Approved: 08/07/23

