

City of

Jacksonville Beach

City Hall

11 North Third Street

Jacksonville Beach

FL 32250

Phone: 904.247.6268

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www.jacksonvillebeach.org

NOTICE OF SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday, April 8, 2021, at 5:00 P.M.

CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER

The City Council will hold a Special Meeting on **Thursday, April 8, 2021, at 5:00 P.M.** in the Council Chamber at City Hall to discuss the following items:

- Acceptance of City Attorney's resignation and advertise for the position of City Attorney.

Council Members in attendance may include:

Mayor: Christine Hoffman

Council Members: Georgette Dumont Sandy Golding Dan Janson
Fernando Meza Cory Nichols Chet Stokes

Please note: Council members in attendance at this meeting may vary, according to their schedules.

NOTICE

In accordance with Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes, any person desirous of appealing any decision reached at this meeting may need a record of the proceedings. Such person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 286.26, Florida Statutes, persons with disabilities needing a special accommodation to participate in this meeting should contact the City Clerk's Office at (904) 247-6299 no later than one business day before the meeting.

You may use this website <http://www.jacksonvillebeach.org/publichearinginfo> to find information concerning the hearing process. This information is also available in the City Hall first floor display case.





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CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM	
TO:	Mayor and City Council
FROM:	Mike Staffopoulos, City Manager
DATE:	April 7, 2021
SUBJECT:	Acceptance of City Attorney Resignation
	City Attorney Recruitment Initiation

BACKGROUND

The City Council adopted Resolution No. 2081-2021 on March 31, 2021. This Resolution started the process for termination of the City Attorney for cause, suspended him from his official duties, and authorized the City Manager to take all steps necessary to effectuate the intent of the Resolution consistent with the Employment Agreement and the City Charter, including contacting Mr. Ambrosio to determine if there is an alternate means of resolving this matter.

Cliff Shepard, the City's attorney on this issue, received the following resignation from Mr. Ambrosio on April 7, 2021:

"Following our conversation this morning, in accordance with the letter and notice sent to me by the City of Jacksonville Beach, City Manager and Deputy Manager, dated April 1, 2021, I hereby submit my resignation as City Attorney for the City of Jacksonville Beach, effective immediately. Conditioned upon payment of the accrued leave, base salary and employee benefits to the extent outlined in the April 1, 2021 letter and notice."

The conditions referenced by Mr. Ambrosio are consistent with the actions taken by City Council at the March 31, 2021 meeting. Staff recommendation is for Council to formally accept the City Attorney's resignation under the conditions stipulated.

Staff is also seeking authorization to post the City Attorney recruitment. If authorized, staff will advertise for no less than thirty (30) days, and will discuss the applicant screening and interview process at the April 26, 2021 Council Briefing.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The financial impacts of the above actions can be discussed at the Special Council Meeting on April 8, 2021.



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REQUESTED ACTIONS

Accept/Reject the City Attorney's resignation, effective immediately, conditioned upon payment of the accrued leave, base salary and employee benefits as outlined in the letter and notice to Mr. Ambrosio dated April 1, 2021, and authorize staff to advertise for the position of City Attorney.

ATTACHMENTS

- Letter from the City Manager to Chris Ambrosio dated April 1, 2021
- Notice to Chris Ambrosio of rights and responsibilities upon termination



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April 1, 2021

Christopher Ambrosio
2233 Seminole Rd. #3
Atlantic Beach, FL 32233

Mr. Ambrosio,

The City Council held a special meeting on March 31, 2021 to consider Resolution No. 2081-2021 commencing termination of your employment in accordance with Section 5(B) of your Employment Agreement. The Resolution was adopted by a vote of 7-0, as required by Chapter VI. Section 34 of the City Charter: *City Attorney; appointment by council; removal*. A copy of the Resolution is attached to this letter.

Under the provisions of the City Charter, Section 34, you have the right to reply in writing to this Resolution and, if you request it, the Council will fix a time for a public hearing upon the question of your removal. Your removal from the position of City Attorney will not occur until adoption of the final Resolution, which shall not be adopted for at least thirty (30) days from your receipt of this Resolution, and until such public hearing has been held, if requested. The City requests that you provide any request for hearing within fourteen (14) days of receipt of this notice. If you wish to discuss resigning your position and avoiding an adversarial removal process, we have designated Cliff Shepard, whom you know, to undertake those discussions and he has been fully apprised on this matter. Cliff can be reached on his cell at (407) 765-1159, or by email at cshepard@shepardfirm.com.

Any reply or request for a hearing should be submitted in writing to:

Mike Staffopoulos, City Manager
City of Jacksonville Beach
11 North Third Street
Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250



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Effective April 1, 2021, you are suspended from your duties as City Attorney. During the period of suspension, your pay shall continue until the effective date of termination, in accordance with Section 34 of the City Charter. Compensation for your regularly scheduled hours will be paid using your accrued personal, vacation, and sick leave. After all accrued leave is exhausted, the City will continue to pay your base salary until the effective date of your termination. Any additional compensation including insurance supplement, automobile allowance, bar certification stipend, and pension opt-out supplement will be terminated effective April 2, 2021.

Please see the attached notice regarding your termination of benefits and other employment information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Michael J. Staffopoulos". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Michael" being the most prominent part of the script.

Michael J. Staffopoulos, PE, ICMA-CM
City Manager, City of Jacksonville Beach

Cc: Mayor and City Council
Karen Nelson, Deputy City Manager
Clifford B. Shepard, Esq.



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To:	Christopher Ambrosio, Employee ID 2078
From:	Karen Nelson, Deputy City Manager
Subject:	Notice to Employee Upon Termination

This is to inform you of your rights and responsibilities regarding your employee benefits upon termination.

Your insurance benefits will terminate on May 31, 2021. If you wish to continue your health, dental, or vision insurance beyond that date, you must complete and return the COBRA forms that will be mailed to your home from Infinisource COBRA Services. Forms should arrive in the mail 7-14 days after May 31, 2021. Insurance premiums will be paid directly to Infinisource COBRA Services, not the City of Jacksonville Beach. Should you elect to continue your coverage, the following monthly insurance premiums will be payable to Infinisource beginning June 1, 2021:

Health	\$704.54
Dental	\$45.05
Vision	\$5.51

For questions related to health, dental, or vision insurance, contact:

Courtney Rolison, Group Benefit Account Coordinator at Abentras
904-285-3300
Courtney@abentras.com

For questions related to your ICMA 457 account, contact:

Adam Ferguson, ICMA-RC Retirement Plan Specialist
1-866-328-4672
AFerguson@icmarc.org

Your W-2 will be mailed to you after the end of the calendar year. If you have a change of address prior to January 2022, contact Karen Nelson: knelson@jaxbchfl.net.