

**Minutes of City Council Briefing
Monday, July 10, 2023 – 5:00 P.M.
City Council Chambers, 1st Floor
11 North 3rd Street, Jacksonville Beach, FL**



The Council Briefing began at 5:02 P.M.

The following City Council Members were in attendance:

Mayor: Christine Hoffman

Council Members:	Sandy Golding	Bill Horn	Dan Janson
	Fernando Meza	Cory Nichols	Greg Sutton

Also present were City Manager Mike Staffopoulos, Director of Public Works Dennis Barron, Chief of Police Gene Paul Smith, and City of Jacksonville Chief of Engineering and Construction Management Robin Smith.

Purpose of Briefing

The purpose of the Briefing was to update the Council members about ongoing items in the City.

City Manager

City Manager Mike Staffopoulos recognized two Florida League of Cities representatives in the audience, Tara Taggart and Michaela Metcalfe.

Penman Road Concept Reviews

Mr. Staffopoulos provided a brief background of the Penman Road project. Director of Public Works Dennis Barron stated he and Council Member Sandy Golding are the designated City contacts for the Penman Road project. Mr. Barron introduced City of Jacksonville (COJ) Chief of Engineering and Construction Management Robin Smith, who reviewed a PowerPoint presentation [on file] of the conceptual plan for the Penman Road Project.

A conversation ensued regarding the conceptual plan. Mr. Smith explained the next steps were for him, additional COJ staff members, representatives from Peters & Yaffee Transportation & Traffic Engineering Firm, and possibly other local officials to attend a public open house for the community. Mr. Smith stated the public open house would be scheduled within the next month.

City Council Representation to Outside Agencies

Mr. Staffopoulos reminded the Council if they are having conversations or engaging with outside agencies, please share the information with all City of Jacksonville Beach (COJB) elected officials. Mr. Staffopoulos explained the Council Briefing process allows elected officials to be assigned individual tasks or be a point of contact for individual projects or specific initiatives taking place. No contact should be made if an elected official is not the appointed individual.

Council Member Nichols asked about the follow-up status with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) regarding semi-truck parking on A1A. Chief of Police Gene Paul Smith stated he would follow up for more information. Mr. Nichols stated he would also follow up as he is the point of contact for this initiative.

Mr. Staffopoulos reviewed the protocol for elected officials contacting department heads directly versus going through the City Manager's office. An action item was discussed to include the City Manager in receipt to emails sent to all City Council members.

Future Briefing Topics

Mr. Staffopoulos reviewed the calendar printout [on file] of upcoming Council Briefings and the proposed topics.

Ms. Golding asked for clarification regarding the recently passed Senate Bill 718, referencing prohibiting an initiative or referendum process regarding any land development regulation. A representative in attendance from the Florida League of Cities stated she would research the topic for more information and report back to the City. Mr. Staffopoulos stated the City Attorney would also research the topic and report back to the Council with additional information.

Miscellaneous topics

Mayor Hoffman reported the COJB is scheduled for beach renourishment in March 2024. She stated the renourishment cost share is based on how many parking units are available, and the count includes bike racks.

Mayor Hoffman spoke about the recent resignation and upcoming expiring terms of the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA). She reminded the Council interviews for CRA applicants would be held on August 4th and August 9th, 2023.

Mr. Staffopoulos reminded the Council of the joint Council and CRA meeting scheduled for July 24, 2023. Mr. Staffopoulos asked the Council if they wished to discuss the Latham Plaza redesign project at the joint meeting. The consensus of the Council was to discuss the Latham Plaza redesign project.

Mr. Nichols asked about the Request for Proposal (RFP) status for the proposed parking garage next to Latham Plaza. Mr. Staffopoulos responded the RFP had been drafted and should go out for bid in the upcoming months.

Ms. Golding asked Mr. Barron for an update regarding the 4th Street project. Mr. Barron provided an update regarding the 4th Street project and other projects within the City. It was suggested by the Council for Public Works staff to work with the Communications Manager Jacob Board to post a detailed update regarding the Public Works projects on the home page of the City's website.

The Briefing adjourned at 6:50 P.M.

Submitted by: Jodilynn Byrd
Deputy City Clerk

Approved: _____

Christine H. Hoffman, MAYOR

Date: _____

7/17/23