

**Minutes of City Council Briefing
Monday, October 14, 2024 – 5:00 P.M.
City Hall 1st Floor Conference Room
11 North 3rd Street, Jacksonville Beach, FL**



The Council Briefing began at 5:00 P.M.

The following City Council Members were in attendance:

Mayor: Christine Hoffman

Council Members: Sandy Golding Bill Horn (late) Dan Janson
Fernando Meza Greg Sutton John Wagner

Also present were City Manager Mike Staffopoulos, Police Commander Thomas Bingham, Chief of Police Gene Paul Smith, Community Redevelopment Agency Coordinator Taylor Mobbs, Communications Manager Jacob Board, Director of Planning and Development Heather Ireland, Senior Planner Christian Popoli, City Attorney David Migut, and Deputy City Clerk Jodilynn Byrd.

Purpose of Briefing

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

City Manager

Semi-Truck Parking Ban

Police Commander Thomas Bingham updated the Council regarding the City's options for banning semi-truck parking on State Road A1A (3rd Street). A conversation ensued, and City Attorney David Migut provided legal context.

The consensus of the Council was for Mayor Hoffman and City Manager Mike Staffopoulos to explore the possibility of contacting State legislators regarding the state statutes regulating this issue. The City's Police Department would monitor the parking of any semi-trucks to not exceed the maximum time allowed by the City ordinance. Mr. Migut would follow up with other cities for information regarding similar issues. Updated information would be provided for the Council at a future Briefing.

E-Bike Regulations

Commander Bingham addressed the Council's concerns about safety and regulations regarding E-bikes. A conversation ensued regarding other local jurisdictions' ordinances pertaining to E-bikes and options to possibly develop regulations for the City of Jacksonville Beach (COJB).

The consensus of the Council was for Police staff to gather crash statistics involving E-bikes in COJB for the past two years and to gather data from the City of Neptune Beach (CONB) in reference to the enforcement of their bike and E-bike ordinance. Staff would also draft an ordinance similar to CONB's ordinance for the Council to review at a future briefing.

Pier Entryway Art

Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Coordinator Taylor Mobbs presented the Council with two design options for the Jacksonville Beach Pier entryway. A conversation ensued regarding the status of the adjacent parking lot, which remains in disrepair. The consensus of the Council was the pier entryway design be placed on hold until the parking lot was restored.

Disposition of Downtown Property

Director of Planning and Development Heather Ireland provided the Council with information regarding the history of the empty lot owned by the CRA located at 128 4th Avenue North. A conversation ensued regarding potential uses for the lot. The consensus of the Council was to

pave the lot and make it a parking lot for low-speed vehicles, bikes and additional disabled parking spots. Staff would present a concept design to the Council at a future Briefing.

Food Truck Discussion

Senior Planner Christian Popoli addressed the Council regarding two topics in the current Mobile Food Vending ordinance.

Topic 1: A conversation ensued regarding the Council's interest in expanding the locations in the City where Mobile Food Dispensing Vehicles (MFDVs) can operate. It was the consensus of the Council for staff to prepare a draft ordinance for review at a future briefing.

Topic 2: A conversation ensued regarding code compliance with the City code of ordinances for food trucks, specifically dumping waste tanks and leaving food trucks parked overnight. Mr. Staffopoulos stated staff would conduct further research and present additional information to the Council for further discussion at a future Briefing.

Miscellaneous City Manager's Items

Communications Manager Jacob Board provided the Council with an update regarding the digital sign located on the corner of Beach Boulevard and State Road A1A (3rd Street). A handout of screen and sign options was presented to the Council. A conversation ensued regarding whether or not to update the entire sign or only the screen. It was the consensus of the Council to replace only the screen at this time.

Committee Assignment Report

N/A

Future Briefing Topics

Council Member Janson asked about the City's debris management plan for mass removal. Mr. Staffopoulos stated the city had a current and active contract.

Mr. Janson asked for information regarding the protocol for multiple incumbent council members attending and participating in a candidate forum. Mr. Migut provided an informational handout and provided the Council with his legal opinion regarding the matter and its relation to the Sunshine Law.

Council Member Sutton asked for an update on the pending lawsuit with a business on Shetter Avenue. Mr. Migut provided the Council with an update.

Council Member Golding asked about a cyber security standards update for the Council. Mr. Staffopoulos responded an update would be provided at a future Briefing.

Ms. Golding asked for information regarding the City's natural disaster emergency management plan. Mr. Staffopoulos responded an update would be provided at a future Briefing.

Ms. Golding spoke about the recently passed Public Camping Law. Ms. Golding stated that the City of Jacksonville (COJ) recently approved \$1 million for homeless outreach for the Jacksonville Fire Rescue Department (JFRD). Ms. Golding suggested staff have a conversation with COJ regarding homeless outreach for COJB. Ms. Hoffman suggested a post-election meeting with the leaders from the three beach cities and local organizations to discuss the needs of the beaches community and then arrange a meeting with COJ. Ms. Hoffman would provide the Council with an update at a later date.

Ms. Golding spoke about non-compliance issues within the City regarding short-term vacation rentals. Ms. Golding suggested the City revise the current short-term vacation rental ordinance to add stricter enforcement of compliance and property registration requirements. The consensus of the Council was for this topic to be discussed further at a future Briefing.

Council Member Wagner asked about the status of the Marketing and Communication Plan and suggested the City look into the non-emergency app being used by the City of Atlantic Beach (COAB). Mr. Staffopoulos responded a Communication and Marketing Plan would be presented at an upcoming Council Briefing, and information on the non-emergency app would be included in the update.

Mr. Wagner asked the Council to reconsider its previous decision regarding the COAB war memorial donation and to donate \$5,000 to the COAB to help fund its war memorial. It was the consensus of the Council for this item to be placed on an agenda for a future Council meeting for formal consideration.

Mr. Wagner asked about the status of allowing retail establishments to store some of their items outside. Mr. Staffopoulos stated it was included in the Land Development Code (LDC) update and would be brought to the Council for review once completed and approved by the Planning Commission.

Mayor Hoffman asked about the status of the Purchasing Policy revision and the previously provided Gantt chart. Mr. Staffopoulos stated a Council retreat would be planned for early 2025 to allow the Council to provide their high-level priorities, and an updated Gantt chart would be created from those Council priorities.

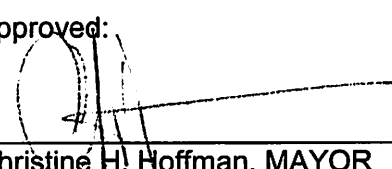
Ms. Hoffman asked for the weekly activities calendar she receives from staff be sent to all Council members.

Council Member Horn asked for a red-lined version of the LDC. Ms. Ireland stated that neither a red-lined nor a draft version of the LDC is currently available, and the updated LDC would be made available to review by all of the Council and stakeholders prior to being asked to vote on it.

The Briefing adjourned at 7:23 P.M.

Submitted by: Jodilynn Byrd
Deputy City Clerk

Approved:


Christine H. Hoffman, MAYOR

Date:

10/25/24