

Minutes of City Council Briefing
Monday, September 9, 2024 – 5:30 P.M.
City Council Conference Room, 1st Floor
11 North 3rd Street, Jacksonville Beach, FL



The Council Briefing began at 5:30 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 (absent)

Also present were City Manager Mike Staffopoulos, Police Commander Thomas Bingham, Chief of Police Gene Paul Smith, Director of Parks and Recreation Jason Phitides, Director of Planning and Development Heather Ireland, Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Coordinator Taylor Mobbs, 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

Paid Parking

Police Commander Thomas Bingham provided a handout [on file] and summarized the current paid parking lot locations, proposed additional paid parking locations, times for paid parking and current rates. A conversation ensued regarding the information provided, parking options for employees of downtown businesses and how additional paid parking may affect the surrounding areas. Chief of Police Gene Paul Smith spoke about potential issues for offering free parking to downtown business employees and the proposed options from Commander Bingham.

The consensus of the Council was for staff to bring back more information regarding additional paid parking locations, time change for paid parking and a revised paid parking fee structure for the Council for review.

Special Events Policy

Director of Parks and Recreation Jason Phitides presented the Council with a revised copy of the proposed Special Events Policy. A conversation ensued regarding suggested edits and clarification on certain sections.

The consensus of the Council was for staff to make the suggested edits and bring the policy back to a future Council Meeting for formal consideration.

Sidewalk Dining Pilot Program Update

Director of Planning and Development Heather Ireland spoke about the Sidewalk Dining Pilot Program. Since it was a successful pilot program, Ms. Ireland suggested it be extended for five years and expanded into other areas of the downtown district.

A conversation ensued regarding the proposed areas of expansion. It was the consensus of the Council for staff to prepare an ordinance for formal consideration.

First Street Parking

CRA Coordinator Taylor Mobbs presented the Council with options suggested by the CRA to address safety concerns for pedestrians and vehicle parking along First Street in the downtown core.

A conversation ensued regarding the proposed solutions. The consensus of the Council was to schedule a joint meeting with the CRA to discuss further options for First Street.

Future Briefing Topics

Mr. Staffopoulos reviewed upcoming City Council Briefing dates and proposed topics. Mr. Staffopoulos distributed a written request [on file] from Council Member Wagner regarding a requested topic for discussion at a future City Council Briefing.

Council Member Horn asked about the status of the food truck Briefing topic. Mr. Staffopoulos stated the topic of food trucks was scheduled for the October City Council Briefing. Mr. Horn expressed concern about the lack of time to discuss all the items for the October Briefing. The consensus of the Council was to start the October 14, 2024 Briefing at 5:00 P.M.

The Briefing adjourned at 7:03 P.M.

Submitted by: Jodilynn Byrd
Deputy City Clerk

Approved:



Christine H. Hoffman, MAYOR

Date:

9/16/24