

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                      Dan Janson (Absent)  
Greg Sutton                      John Wagner (via phone)                      Bruce Wouters

Also present were Police Commander Thomas Bingham, Police Chief Gene Paul Smith, Director of Parks and Recreation Jason Phitides, Chief Financial Officer Ashlie Gossett, City Attorney David Migut, Director of Planning and Development Heather Ireland, 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**

**Annual Paid Parking Review**

Police Commander Thomas Bingham and Police Chief Gene Paul Smith provided the Council with a summary [on file] of the 2025 paid parking program for the City. A conversation ensued regarding the program. Mr. Bingham and Mr. Smith answered questions from the Council.

**Update Code of Ordinances Chapter 20**

Director of Parks and Recreation Jason Phitides provided the Council with a summary of recommended amendments to Chapter 20 – Parks and Recreation of the City’s Code of Ordinances. Mr. Phitides stated the objective of the amendments was to improve safety, clarity, and consistency across all park facilities. It was the consensus of the Council for staff to bring the updated Code of Ordinances, Chapter 20, back to the Council for formal consideration at an upcoming City Council meeting.

**Purchasing Ordinance and Manual Update Project**

Chief Financial Officer Ashlie Gossett provided the Council with an update on the Purchasing Ordinance and Manual Update project. A conversation ensued regarding the proposed policy changes and the draft Procurement Manual. Ms. Gossett, City Manager Mike Staffopoulos and City Attorney David Migut responded to questions from the Council.

It was the consensus of the Council for the updated Procurement Manual and Purchasing Ordinance be presented to the Council for formal consideration at an upcoming City Council meeting. Mr. Migut would provide clarifying information regarding specific questions of the Procurement Manual to the Council at the time of formal consideration.

**P3 Feedback**

Mr. Staffopoulos provided an overview of the Public-Private Partnership (P3) project for the redevelopment of the Latham Plaza parking lot, referencing the documents previously emailed to the Council for review [on file].

Mr. Migut addressed the question from Council Member Wagner regarding whether a Council Member could serve on the review committee for the P3 project Request for Proposal (RFP) process. Mr. Migut summarized his opinion as outlined in his prior email response [on file].

A conversation ensued regarding the RFP timeline and process. Director of Planning and Development Heather Ireland, Mr. Staffopoulos, and Mr. Migut answered questions and provided clarification to the Council.

It was the consensus of the Council for staff to prepare a timeline outlining the next steps in the process and provide it to the Council for review.

#### Board Appointments

Mayor Hoffman recommended the Council narrow the list of eligible board applicants for the upcoming expiring and vacant board seats. A conversation ensued, during which Deputy City Clerk Jodilynn Byrd answered questions from the Council. The Council agreed to reduce the list of eligible applicants to be considered for appointment at an upcoming City Council meeting.

#### Committee Assignment Report

Council Member Golding provided an update on House Bill 145, regarding Sovereign Immunity.

#### Miscellaneous City Manager's Items

Mr. Staffopoulos informed the Council he would be sending them a copy of the new proposed franchise agreement between the City of Jacksonville Beach, doing business as Beaches Energy Services, and the City of Neptune Beach. Mr. Staffopoulos provided information and a timeline of the approval process for the franchise agreement.

#### Future Briefing Topics

Mr. Migut stated he was tasked with an annual review of the Legislative Policy Manual and had no proposed changes at this time. He invited the Council to contact him directly with any proposed changes they may have.

Ms. Golding discussed potential upcoming legislation related to property taxes and noted many residents are unaware of the details and amounts the City of Jacksonville Beach receives from these taxes. She emphasized the opportunity to raise public awareness and educate the community about property taxes. A discussion ensued regarding the legal limitations on providing information about property taxes prior to a potential ballot initiative. Mr. Migut clarified the current restrictions and stated he would conduct additional research and report back to the Council with further information.

Ms. Hoffman requested an update regarding the city-wide signage project. Mr. Staffopoulos stated the project would be up for discussion at a future council briefing.

Council Member Sutton requested an update on the park assessment project and a timeline for the various related projects. Mr. Staffopoulos stated most of the work was expected to be included in the 5-year Capital Improvement Plan, but he would confirm with Director of Parks and Recreation Jason Phitides and provide the Council with updated information.

Council Member Horn suggested a Take 2 Tuesday be done, highlighting the recent portion of the Urban Trails project completed on Jacksonville Drive.

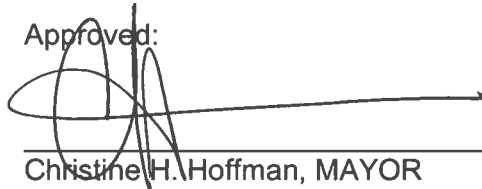
Mr. Horn requested an update on the proposed passive park at South Beach Parkway and Jacksonville Drive. Mayor Hoffman suggested holding a joint meeting between the City Council and the Community Redevelopment Agency to discuss the passive park, along with other projects. Mr. Staffopoulos stated the joint meeting would be scheduled for the second quarter of the fiscal year, between January and March 2026.

Council Member Wouters asked for clarification regarding the width of the new sidewalk as part of the Urban Trails installed on Jacksonville Drive. Mr. Staffopoulos responded the width of the sidewalk was increased from 5 feet to 8 feet.

The Briefing adjourned at 7:13 P.M.

Submitted by: Jodilynn Byrd  
Deputy City Clerk

Approved:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Christine H. Hoffman', written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and includes a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Christine H. Hoffman, MAYOR

Date:

12/11/25