



The Council Briefing began at 5:30 P.M.

The following City Council Members were in attendance:

<b>Mayor:</b>	Christine Hoffman (late)		
<b>Council Members:</b>	Sandy Golding	Bill Horn (absent)	Dan Janson
	Greg Sutton	John Wagner	Bruce Wouters

Also present were: City Manager Mike Staffopoulos, City Clerk Molly Alleger, City Attorney David Migut, Chief of Police Gene Paul Smith, Beaches Energy Service Electric Engineer Project Supervisor Matt Seeley, Chief Financial Officer Ashlie Gossett, 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**

**City Signage and Brand Standards Update**

City Clerk Molly Alleger presented an update on the City Signage and Brand Standard project.

A conversation ensued and Ms. Alleger stated she would continue to provide status updates to the Council as the project continues to move forward.

**E-Bikes**

City Attorney David Migut provided an update on state legislative changes affecting e-bike regulations. Mr. Migut explained future regulations are pending the Governor's approval on Senate Bill 382.

Chief of Police Gene Paul Smith spoke about crash data, enforcement challenges and resource implications of active enforcement efforts.

A conversation ensued and it was the consensus of Council to have Mr. Migut revise the draft ordinance to include careless operation language, research temporary impoundment options, and research proposed minimum age requirements and bring back the revised ordinance for formal consideration at a future City Council meeting. It was also the consensus of the Council for staff to develop a public education graphic on current e-bike rules to be shared with the community.

**Solar Program Discussion**

Beaches Energy Services Electric Engineer Project Supervisor Matt Seeley spoke about the City's net metering program through Beaches Energy Services and stated the program has reached its 2.5% peak load participation cap, preventing new rooftop solar approvals. A conversation ensued regarding options on how to move forward with the program.

A conversation ensued and Chief Financial Officer Ashlie Gossett answered questions from the Council and provided additional financial information.

It was the consensus of Council to have staff return with information regarding financial modeling on cap and rate scenarios, grandfathering implications, and customer data on system usage and turnover and bring this information back for further discussion at a future Council Briefing.

FY2027 Budget Assumptions and Calendar

Ms. Gossett presented information for the FY2027 budget assumptions including financial, revenue budget and expense budget assumptions. Ms. Gossett stated the millage rate of 3.9947 would remain unchanged.

A conversation ensued regarding the proposed FY2027 Budget Assumptions, Budget Workshop dates and an additional budget review including a voluntarily budget reduction of 1-2% for FY2027 ahead of the state-mandated 10% budget reduction exercise requirement effective for the FY2028 budget process. Ms. Gossett and Mr. Staffopoulos answered questions from the Council.

It was the consensus of Council to accept the FY2027 Budget Assumptions, Budget Workshop dates and for staff to bring back information on a proposed timeline for closure of the Tax Incremental Funding for the South End Community Redevelopment Agency district. There was no consensus to proceed with the proposed additional budget review including a voluntarily budget reduction of 1-2% for FY2027.

Committee Assignment Reports

N/A

Future Briefing Topics

Mr. Staffopoulos stated the search to fill the Director of Planning and Development position was underway and telephone interviews had been scheduled. Mr. Staffopoulos responded to a question regarding Council's involvement in the interview process by clarifying the Council is not involved in the interview process for the position.

The Briefing adjourned at 7:00 P.M.

Submitted by: Jodilynn Byrd  
Deputy City Clerk

Approved:



Christine H. Hoffman, MAYOR

Date:

0/1/26