

The Council Briefing began at 5:30 P.M. The meeting was held via video conference using the Zoom platform.

The following City Council Members were in attendance:

Mayor: Christine Hoffman

Council Members:	Georgette Dumont	Sandy Golding	Dan Janson
	Fernando Meza	Cory Nichols	Chet Stokes

Also present were City Manager Mike Staffopoulos, Chief Finance Officer Ashlie Gossett, Director of Parks and Recreation Jason Phitides, Director of Planning and Development Heather Ireland, and City Attorney Sandy Robinson.

Purpose of Briefing

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

City Manager

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding Allowable uses and Staff Recommendations

City Manager Mike Staffopoulos explained as part of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), the City of Jacksonville Beach was awarded \$11,834,170 in Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (CLFRF) from the federal government (distributed over two years), plus an additional \$3,000,000 as a sub-recipient from the City of Jacksonville (FY2022 only). Mr. Staffopoulos stated the City of Jacksonville funds require full expenditure by September 30, 2022.

Mr. Staffopoulos explained staff held several internal meetings to discuss the eligibility and restrictions of funds and performed a comparison of eligibility against existing CIP (Capital Improvement Plan) projects and the City's Strategic Plan.

Mr. Staffopoulos reviewed a list of multiple projects proposed by staff [on file] that met the eligibility requirements while conforming to expenditure deadlines at the federal and City of Jacksonville levels.

Conversation ensued regarding the proposed projects. It was the consensus of the Council for staff to continue planning expenditures from the provided list of priorities. Mr. Staffopoulos informed the Council to inform Administration of any other suggested expenditures.

Gonzales Parks Redesign Concept Plan

Director of Parks and Recreation Jason Phitides stated several outreach efforts were completed to gain community input on the redesign of Gonzales Park. The results from the community feedback were provided to the consultant, and with the direction staff received from the August 9, 2021, City Council Briefing, a new design was presented to the Council [on file].

Conversation ensued regarding the new design and additional suggestions. It was the consensus of the Council for staff to begin the process of developing specifications for construction bids.

Proposed Development Input – North Beach Townhomes PUD

Director of Planning and Development Heather Ireland stated Jacksonville Wealth Builders (JWB) was seeking to redevelop the entire block south of Gonzales Park [proposed site plan on file].

Ms. Ireland reviewed the two primary concerns upon receiving the initial submission of the preliminary site plan from JWB. Ms. Ireland stated JWB met with City staff several times, with no resolution of the two outstanding issues. At the last meeting between JWB and City staff, JWB asked if the City would consider vacating 10 feet of Right of Way (ROW) on the north and south side of the property to accommodate dedication of utility easements to Beaches Energy Services and, by moving the private property lines further north and south, removing encroachments into the corner sight visibility triangles.

Conversation ensued regarding options for the proposed request from JWB.

Mr. Staffopoulos stated there was no consensus of the Council regarding this topic. Due to many unanswered questions, staff would put together more details regarding the proposed development and present the additional updated information to Council at a future briefing after the first of the year.

Committee Assignment Reports

Council Member Golding stated she attended the Florida League of Cities Legislative Conference and would be sharing information from the conference with the Council.

Council Member Janson stated he attended the recent City Quarterly Pension Board meeting. Mr. Janson explained a discussion regarding alternative investments for supporting the pension occurred. He stated due to ordinances and other issues, the topic would not move forward or require any additional action at this time.

Future Briefing Items

Mr. Janson suggested a discussion regarding a program for park dedication for fallen first responders. There were no objections from the Council regarding future discussion of this topic.

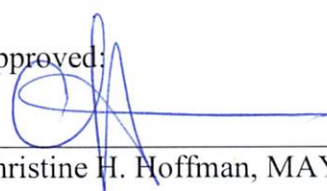
Ms. Golding stated the City Manager sent emails to the Council a few months ago regarding a potential Code of Ethics violation. Ms. Golding requested to further discuss and resolve the topic at a future briefing. Conversation ensued regarding clarification on how to best discuss and resolve the issue without violating the Sunshine Laws. Mr. Staffopoulos explained the options available. It was the consensus of the Council to use the two specific situations as examples in upcoming Code of Ethics training.

The Briefing adjourned at 7:21 P.M.

Minutes of City Council Briefing
Monday, November 22, 2021

Submitted by: Jodilynn Byrd
Deputy City Clerk

Approved:


Christine H. Hoffman, MAYOR

Date:

12/6/21