

Council Briefing Notice

Monday, July 12, 2021

5:30 PM

Via

Video Conference

City of

Jacksonville Beach

City Hall

11 North Third Street

Jacksonville Beach

FL 32250

Phone: 904.247.6268

www.jacksonvillebeach.org

City Manager Mike Staffopoulos will conduct a **Council Briefing** to update the City Council about ongoing items in the City. The briefing will include, but not be limited to the following topics:

1. Proposed Media Communication Language
2. Florida League of Cities Policy Committee
3. Future Briefing Topics
4. Committee Assignment Report

The July 12, 2021, City of Jacksonville Beach, City Council Briefing will be conducted using video technology. The City is providing numerous options for public attendance at the briefing as listed on page 2 of this notice. The public is not invited to speak or present on any matter or topic at the briefing.

Council Members in attendance at the virtual briefing may include:

Mayor: Christine Hoffman

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

Please note: Members in attendance at any briefing may vary according to their schedules.



INSTRUCTIONS FOR VIEWING

The following CMT options are available to view and listen to the July 12, 2021, City Council Briefing:

1. View the meeting using the Zoom Platform:

Use this link to view the meeting starting at 5:30 P.M. on Monday, July 12, 2021: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81239322112>. When you click on the link, you will be prompted to download software for whatever platform or device you are using. To download the software in advance, visit this web site: <https://zoom.us/download>.

2. Listen to the meeting via phone:

You may listen to the live meeting audio from your phone by dialing 1-301-715-8592. When the meeting ID is requested, enter 812-3932-2112 and then press the # key. There is no participant ID number. If you are asked for this, press #. When dialing in by phone, your line will be automatically muted for the duration of the meeting.

3. Hearing or speech impaired access:

Contact the agency using the Florida Relay Service, 1-800-955-8771 (TDD) or 1-800-955-8770 (Voice).

4. View and listen to a video of the meeting online:

Access the meeting by visiting the City of Jacksonville Beach YouTube Channel: [YouTube Channel for the City of Jacksonville Beach](#).

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 286.26, Florida Statutes, persons with disabilities needing special accommodation to participate in this meeting should contact the City Clerk's Office at (904) 247-6299, no later than one business day before the meeting or by sending an email to CityClerk@jaxbchfl.net.



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CITY COUNCIL BRIEFING ITEM	
TO:	Mayor and City Council
FROM:	Mike Staffopoulos, City Manager
DATE:	July 6, 2021
SUBJECT:	Proposed Media Communications Language
	Legislative Policies Manual, Attachment A: Code of Ethics for Elected Officials, Section G. Communication

BACKGROUND

At the February 22, 2021 briefing, Council indicated there should be guidance for elected officials related to communications with the media. Specifically, when media communications should be relegated to the Mayor and/or City Manager versus individual Councilors.

The conversation indicated that issues of community-wide or organizational impact should likely be referred to the Mayor or City Manager, with all other media contacts being open for response by individual Councilors. Staff has added language in the Legislative Policies Manual, Attachment A: Code of Ethics for Public Officials, G. Communication, 2 and 3, to meet Council's intent. Examples are embedded within the new language as a guide for the reader.

If this language meets Council's intent, staff will make the appropriate modification to the Legislative Policies Manual, Attachment A, amend the document currently posted to the City's website, and distribute the amendment to all affected persons.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no financial impact for amending the Legislative Policies Manual.

COUNCIL DIRECTION REQUESTED

- Does City Council concur with Administration's proposed amendments to the Legislative Policies Manual as provided herein?

ATTACHMENTS

- Legislative Policies Manual, Attachment A: Code of Ethics for Public Officials, G. Communication - *Revised*

G. Communication - Revised

1. Public officials shall publicly share with the body substantive information that is relevant to a matter under consideration by the Council or boards, commissions, and committees, which they may have received from sources outside the public decision-making process. In the context of quasi-judicial proceedings, before final action or vote are taken on the matter, the public official must disclose any ex-parte communication he or she received, identifying the party and the substance of the subject matter that was communicated. Any written form of ex-parte communication must be made a part of the record before final action or vote is taken.
2. The media will, from time to time, contact public officials requesting an interview, asking questions or requesting information. Public officials should use the following guide when replying to or deferring media requests:
 - a. Media requests for items or issues affecting the entire community or governmental organization should be deferred to the Mayor and/or City Manager for address.
Example - Request from media for on-camera interview regarding impacts of COVID-19 to the City and City Hall operations.
 - b. Media requests for items or issues specifically related to a public official or their actions should be addressed by the individual contacted.
Example - Media asking questions of a Councilor regarding a proposal made by that Councilor at a briefing/meeting.
3. All public officials should understand the impacts of their communication with the media as related to all subsections of this Code, to include but not be limited to impacts to quasi-judicial proceedings, creation of conflict of interest, and disclosure of confidential information.
Example - Media asks a Councilor their opinion on an item coming before the Planning Commission and City Council for a quasi-judicial hearing. The Councilor states they "will not approve the project under any circumstance." The statement is made prior to the public hearing and presentation of evidence, and outside the requirement to make a finding of fact based on competent and substantial evidence. This statement may now become the basis of a legal challenge in the event the project is denied.



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CITY COUNCIL BRIEFING ITEM	
TO:	Mayor and City Council
FROM:	Mike Staffopoulos, City Manager
DATE:	July 6, 2021
SUBJECT:	Florida League of Cities (FLC) Legislative Policy Committee Reporting

BACKGROUND

The FLC has five Legislative Policy Committees (Committees) that set the legislative agenda for the FLC and Florida's 411 municipalities on an annual basis. The Committees and Council/Administration representations, are:

- Finance, Taxation & Personnel – Fernando Meza
- Land Use & Economic Development – Chet Stokes
- Municipal Administration – Sandy Golding and Mike Staffopoulos
- Transportation & Intergovernmental Relations – Cory Nichols
- Utilities, Natural Resources & Public Works – no representation

Each committee is staffed by local elected and appointed officials and FLC staff. The first meeting of each Committee was held on June 11, 2021 where attendees were able to see a list of possible issues to prioritize over the next two meetings. The purpose of this briefing is for Council to discuss each Committee's priority list from the first meeting and determine if there is any consensus for the upcoming July 16, 2021 Committee meeting.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no cost to participate on a Committee. Costs incurred would consist of travel costs to and from the meetings, which are held in Orlando.

COUNCIL DIRECTION REQUESTED

- For Council discussion.