



## **MINUTES**

### **REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING**

**MONDAY, MAY 4, 2020 AT 6:00 P.M.**

**CITY OF ST. AUGUSTINE BEACH, 2200 A1A South, St. Augustine Beach, FL 32080**

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**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor England called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor England led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**III. ROLL CALL**

Mayor England asked City Clerk Raddatz for roll call.

Present: Mayor England, Vice Mayor Kostka, Commissioner George (virtually), Commissioner Rumrell (virtually), and Commissioner Samora.

Also present were: City Manager Royle, City Attorney Douglas, Assistant City Attorney Lex Taylor, Police Chief Hardwick, City Clerk Raddatz, Finance Director Douylliez, Building Official Law, and Public Works Director Tredik (virtually).

**IV. ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS OF THE AGENDA**

Mayor England asked if there were any additions or deletions of the agenda.

City Manager Royle asked to add Resolution 20-11 to the agenda.

The Commission agreed and Mayor England added the item under New Business as Item 8.

Mayor England moved to Item VI, Changes to the Order of Topics on the Agenda.

**V. CHANGES TO THE ORDER OF TOPICS ON THE AGENDA**

Mayor England asked if there were any changes to the order of topics on the agenda. Being none, Mayor England moved on to Item VII, Presentations.

**VI. PRESENTATIONS**

- A. North Florida Transportation Planning Organization's Five-year Transportation Improvement Program (Presenter: Ms. Wanda Forrest, Transportation Planning Manager)

Mayor England introduced VI.A. There were some technical difficulties for Ms. Forrest's computer, so Mayor England decided to take public comments and come back to Ms. Forrest.

Mayor England came back to the item after Public Comments and asked Ms. Forrest to give her Power Point presentation (Exhibit 1).

Commissioner George advised she had no questions.

Commissioner Rumrell thanked Ms. Forrest for keeping the Commission up to date.

Vice Mayor Kostka advised she had no questions.

Commissioner Samora asked what the overall budget for the project that Ms. Forrest presented.

Ms. Forrest advised she was not sure of the budget from the Department of Transportation Work Plan in District 2 but could find out.

Commissioner Samora advised that this was the second presentation where the City of St. Augustine Beach does not have any improvements and requested that more projects be focused on this City.

Ms. Forrest advised that the City needs representation at their meetings to keep asking for improvement projects.

Mayor England asked what happened to the electric charging units.

Ms. Forrest advised that the City did not have a power source.

Discussion ensued regarding there was not a power source; having the engineer relook at Building C; and there was no communication from Northeast Planning Organization regarding this issue of no power source to the City.

Ms. Forrest advised that she would send a letter to explain what was needed as a power source and explain what needs to be done to move forward.

Mayor England opened the Public Comments section. The following addressed the Commission:

Ed Slavin, P.O. Box 3084, St. Augustine, FL, opposed the improvements to CR 313 because it is an environmentally sensitive area; complained that the Department of Transportation does not give any public transportation and advised not to give them any money.

Mayor England closed the Public Comments section and moved on to Commissioner Comments.

## VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor England opened the Public Comments section and advised that the Commission is accepting comments from the public at the meeting and virtual comments. The following addressed the Commission:

Tom Reynolds, 50 Brigantine Court, St. Augustine Beach, FL, explained that there were 790 condominium property owners in the City that are subsidizing trash pickup, which he disagrees with and advised that they are subsidizing the City \$262 per unit.

Ed Prickett, 1121 Overdale Road, St. Augustine Beach, FL, advised that the Police Department did a great job on the beach patrol and service calls.

Ed Slavin, P.O. Box 3084, St. Augustine, FL, thanked first responders, medical responders, grocery store workers, and others for their efforts; complained about City Manager Royle not attending meetings at the Emergency Operations Center and not doing his job; instruct attorneys to do the public records requests when asked from their firm and comply with Florida Statutes 119; requested to fly the rainbow flag this year; and place on the agenda in a future meeting the St. Augustine National Historical Park and National Seashore and a civil rights museum at Pier Park.

Mayor England closed the Public Comments section and then went to Presentations.

#### VIII. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Mayor England asked Commissioner Rumrell.

Commissioner Rumrell advised that he had no comments.

Commissioner George advised that she had no comments.

Vice Mayor Kostka thanked Public Works Director Tredik and his team for responding so quickly to the City's parkettes which needed attention. She advised that Lakeside Park needs more attention. She reminded the citizens to complete the census when they receive it. She thanked Police Chief Hardwick and his staff for continued diligence through this COVID-19 mitigation and especially for opening the beaches during Phase 1. She mentioned that there would be a food-drive next week at the Amphitheater.

Commissioner Samora thanked the Police Department and the Public Works Department for the seamless reopening of Phase 1.

Mayor England thanked staff as well and advised that washable cloth masks are available at Ace Hardware.

Mayor England moved on to Item 1.

#### IX. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

#### X. CONSENT

None

#### XI. OLD BUSINESS

1. Emotional Support Animals: Review of Recommendation to Allow by Conditional Use Permit (Presenter: Brian Law, Building Official)

Mayor England introduced Item 1 and then asked Building Official Law to give a staff report.

Building Official Law advised that the Commission stopped code enforcement action for 120 days on this item; however, next month the 120 days will be over and he needs an answer on how to move forward.

City Attorney Douglas advised that his analysis began with Anderson vs. Blue Ash court case which states that municipalities must follow the Fair Housing Amendments Act. He explained that the burden for the modification or reasonableness would have to be weighed against the benefits that would be accrued for the plaintiff. He submitted that the Code Enforcement Board would be the proper venue. The Code Enforcement Board could take direct testimony from the Code Enforcement Inspector and the violator, which would give finding of facts based on the evidence and shall then give an order based on those facts. If the violator does not agree with the decision of the Code Enforcement Board, they could appeal to the circuit court.

Building Official Law advised that he would send this to the Code Enforcement Board and have it on the agenda for their next meeting.

Commissioner George advised that City Attorney Douglas gave a very thorough presentation and thanked him for his work on this issue.

Commissioner Rumrell advised that City Attorney Douglas did a good presentation and has no other questions.

Vice Mayor Kostka had no questions.

Commissioner Samora recapped that there will be no process for a variance accommodation, so a resident who has a violation would go in front of the Code Enforcement Board for a hearing and they will follow the Fair Housing Act guidelines and then appeal in the circuit court if they disagreed with the Code Enforcement Board's order.

City Attorney Douglas advised that was correct. He explained that the case would go to the Code Enforcement Board who will decide on any or no accommodations according to federal guidelines and an order would be written. It would then be up to the person whether to appeal the decision of the Code Enforcement Board if they do not agree to the circuit courts.

Building Official Law explained the Code Enforcement Board process. He explained that fees are not charged to the violator for the case to come to the Code Enforcement Board; however, the Code Enforcement Board can charge fees for being out of compliance with the City's codes.

Mayor England opened the Public Comments section. The following addressed the Commission:

Ed Slavin, P.O. Box 3084, St. Augustine, FL, agreed with City Attorney, but suggested the Commission consider an amendment to the codes on the process regarding this issue.

Mayor England closed the Public Comments section and then moved on to Item 2.

2. 2020 New Year's Eve Fireworks Show: Review of Update Report (Presenter: Max Royle, City Manager, and Patricia Douylliez, Finance Director)

Mayor England introduced Item 2 and then asked City Manager Royle to give a staff report.

City Manager Royle advised that the previous Communications and Events Coordinator gave her report on what went well and what needs improvement. She gave credit to law enforcement for their work as well as the Public Works Department and the volunteers. She asked for more buses and better fireworks music. He explained that Finance Director Douylliez will go over the revenues and expenses and advised that the proceeds were \$4,972.

Finance Director Douylliez advised that the event went well overall. She explained that she will be going over some problems that happened with the vendors, such as collecting the funds ahead of time. She explained that the Tourist Development Council (TDC) has advised that the City will be getting the money for the fireworks and promotional grant assistance this year. She explained that other assistance from them is not approved yet due to COVID-19. She remarked that staff is on hold on asking for sponsorships due to a lot of the businesses being closed during this time. She commented that staff has discussed whether to scale the event back due to social distancing of COVID-19.

Commissioner George commented that the City would have to wait and see what happens in the future. She asked that staff research with other cities to see what they are doing at this time.

Commissioner Rumrell remarked that it is hard to ask for money at this time. He explained that social distancing would have to continue but suggested maybe only having the fireworks display this year instead of having vendors.

Vice Mayor Kostka agreed with Commissioners George and Rumrell. She explained that the City is on hold at this time.

Commissioner Samora congratulated everyone involved for having a fantastic event and agreed with the other Commissioners.

Mayor England asked staff to start meetings for Beach Blast Off by July and advise the Commission what the event would be. She requested that this item be put back on the Commission's agenda in August.

City Manager Royle advised that he has already asked the Communications and Events Coordinator to schedule a meeting next week to discuss this issue. He advised that the event might have to be reduced to meet reductions in revenues.

Mayor England suggested to go out to different types of sponsors who have not been so affected by the COVID-19 situation.

City Manager Royle advised that the City of St. Augustine's July 4<sup>th</sup> fireworks show, and City Manager John Regan advised that they were waiting to see about the social distancing as well, so they are not sure if they would have the event.

Mayor England opened the Public Comments section. The following addressed the Commission:

Tom Reynolds, 50 Brigantine Court, St. Augustine Beach, FL, advised that the event should be cancelled due to COVID-19 and the social distancing requirements.

Ed Slavin, P.O. Box 3084, St. Augustine, FL, asked to cancel Beach Blast Off due to social distancing and suggested asking the Florida League of Cities what they are doing.

Merrill Roland, 6281 Old Dixie Drive, St. Augustine, FL, explained that the St. Augustine Beach Civic Association owes \$4,250 for the VIP tent that they used at previous Beach Blast Off events.

Mayor England closed the Public Comments section and advised that this will be discussed by staff and staff will be getting input from lots of agencies before a final decision is made. She then moved on to Item 3.

## XII. NEW BUSINESS

3. Property and Workers' Compensation Insurance: Review of Information re: Bids and Request to Award Bid to Florida Municipal Insurance Trust (Presenter: Beverly Raddatz, City Clerk)

Mayor England introduced Item 3 and then asked City Clerk Raddatz to give a staff report.

City Clerk Raddatz advised the Request for Proposal was put out to bid on March 19, 2020 and that ten agencies were interested. Out of the ten agencies three agencies gave a proposal. The three agencies were: Florida Municipal Insurance Trust (FMIT), Preferred Risk Insurance Association, (PRIA) and Public Risk Management of Florida (PRM). She explained that there was an evaluation team which consisted of herself, City Manager Royle, and Finance Director Douylliez. She explained that a spreadsheet was done on the pertinent information. She recommended Florida Municipal Insurance Trust because of their coverage, their prices, and their stability.

Commissioner Rummell advised that he spoke with City Clerk Raddatz today and got some of the numbers and has no future questions. He explained that two of the agencies, Florida Municipal Insurance Trust and Public Risk Management of Florida have coverage for the weir pumps. He agreed with City Clerk Raddatz's recommendation.

Commissioner George explained that she was a real advocate to get quotes from other insurance companies and thanked staff on their excellent analysis. She asked if FMIT would cover the weir totally or just the pumps.

City Clerk Raddatz advised that at this point the pumps are there and they will be covered; however, the concrete structure for the weir has not been done yet so they cannot cover it as of now. She advised that Tom Conley from FMIT was on the phone to explain the coverage of the weir once built. She explained that PRM has a quote of \$500,000, which would be the full weir once completed.

Commissioner George advised that she agrees with the \$2 million coverage and agrees with the recommendations from the Evaluation Committee. She thanked them for their hard work.

Vice Mayor Kostka thanked City Clerk Raddatz for all her hard work. She explained that she requested the asset listing today and it was on the list for coverage. She commented that the only thing the City has for the weir were the pumps and that was on the asset listing. She explained that the total reconstruction costs and the adjusted FMIT value was a difference of \$413,000 and asked if the full cost would be covered by FMIT.

City Clerk Raddatz asked Tom Conley to answer Vice Mayor Kostka's and Commissioner George's questions.

Commissioner Samora asked if the rates were for a two-year term.



City Clerk Raddatz advised that they are annual rates. She explained that staff did ask for two-year terms and didn't know if the insurance agencies were able to do that. She suggested that the Commission should get the \$2 million coverage because of the weir and advised that \$5 million coverage is being overly insured for the City.

Commissioner Samora asked where the pricing is now.

City Clerk Raddatz advised that the costs have come down and FMIT also gives back a percentage of what they don't spend every year. Last year FMIT gave the City \$40,000 in grants.

Discussion ensued regarding the rates; grants that FMIT has given in the past; and whether FMIT would be able to give the grants in the future.

Tom Conley, FMIT representative, thanked the Commission for being a long-time FMIT member. He explained that the weir will be covered as it gets built; however, for now the pumps are covered. He explained that the difference between the reconstruction costs and the survey difference means nothing to the City. The City has a 90% co-insurance policy for full replacement value so if the costs are covered at 90% FMIT will pay full costs.

Commissioner Rumrell asked if the return of premium would be given this year to bring down the cost for the \$2 million coverage.

Tom Conley advised that FMIT has been giving a return on premium every year; however, it does depend on what insurance issues come up in the year. He advised if there were hurricanes, then you may not get a return on premium for that year.

Mayor England opened the Public Comments section. The following addressed the Commission:

Ed Slavin, P.O. Box 3084, St. Augustine, FL, thanked the Commission for rebidding the insurance because it has not been done in 22 years and then complained why the City Manager did not make sure the weir was covered and suggested firing him. He suggested working with the City of St. Augustine to unify purchasing to get better prices.

Mayor England closed the Public Comments section and then asked for a motion.

**Motion:** to accept staff's recommendation of \$2 million coverage with FMIT. **Moved by** Commissioner Samora, **Seconded by** Commissioner Kostka.

Roll Call was as followed:

Mayor England	Yes
Vice Mayor Kostka	Yes
Commissioner George	Yes
Commissioner Rumrell	Yes
Commissioner Samora	Yes

Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor England thanks the agencies who gave the City proposals and then moved on to Item 4.

4. Former Police Department Garage at Former City Hall: Request by Civic Association to Renew Lease (Presenter: Mr. Bill Jones, Civic Association President)

Mayor England introduced Item 1 and then asked City Manager Royle for a staff report.

Mr. Merrill Roland asked for a copy of what was being handed out, Exhibit 2.

Mayor England advised staff to give a copy to the public.

City Manager Royle advised that the Police Department moved to the new police station in 1999, then the Civic Association asked for a year to year lease for the garage after the police moved. He said that the Civic Association wanted to use it for the farmers market and other events. In 2006 the lease changed from a garage to office use. Every five-years the lease has been renewed at a cost of \$1 per year. The lease expires in August 2020. He advised that on February 19, 2020, Mr. Jones, President of the Civic Association, asked to renew the lease via email and then gave a formal request with what the building would be used for.

After an interruption from the public regarding Exhibit 3 not being given to the virtual Commissioners, Mayor England asked the Commission to not look at Exhibit 3 until Mr. Jones speaks.

Mr. Bill Jones, President of Civic Association, advised that Exhibit 3 is a script of what he is saying to the Commission, but appreciated Mr. Roland's concern for transparency of the meeting. He explained that the Civic Association rented the garage and painted a beach mural on the outside of the building to enhance Pier Park. He commented that the Civic Association has allowed other non-profits in the community use the facility as well. He explained that the Civic Association does not have the farmers market anymore due to St. Johns County bidding it out. He commented that the Civic Association operates the Music by the Sea concerts, City's Christmas Tree event, gives free WiFi for Pier Park, and always promotes the City. He commented that the Police Department has a need for housing their four-wheel vehicles in the garage and explained that the Civic Association would be willing to change the layout of the garage to fit the Police Department needs and could do so immediately. He commented that St. Johns County expressed an interest in the garage as well for rescue vehicles to be on the beach and suggested that St. Johns County could use the Mosquito Control property, which is less than a mile away. The Civic Association recommended forming a think tank consisting of citizens and interested parties to develop the whole property and to find funding. He requested to renew the lease for five-years at a \$1 per year with an escape clause if a need arises from the City.

Mayor England noted that the emails have been received from the members of the Civic Association to the Commission. She then asked if the Commission had any questions at this time. Being none, Mayor England asked Commander Ashlock to give his presentation.

Commander Ashlock advised that the City's Police Department and St. Johns County would like to use the garage for rescue vehicles, to shelter the vehicles from the elements, and to save time coming from the Police Department to the beach. He explained two different options and showed a presentation, (Exhibit 4).

Mayor England asked Commander Ashlock if the Police Department wants to take over the garage or if the Police Department wants to share the space with the Civic Association.

Commander Ashlock advised that the Police Department would need more space than the Civic Association has suggested. He commented that the Police Department would like the entire building because the space is not conducive to put multi vehicles in the space suggested by the Civic Association.



Police Chief Hardwick advised that he does not want air conditioning or office space and is looking for a place to store at least two ATV's in the summertime. He explained that St. Johns County rescue vehicles are bigger because they carry patients. He commented that all the local agencies around us do not have storage either and explained that the Police Department's ATV's were in the elements under the parking garage at Embassy Suites for two to three years. He explained that he has three ATV's that need protection, which are stored at Embassy Suites and the Police Department. One of the ATV's was unserviceable and is now at Public Works.

Discussion ensued regarding storing the vehicles closer to the beach and service calls at night are handled by police officers.

Mayor England opened the Public Comments section. The following addressed the Commission:

Tom Reynolds, 50 Brigantine Court, St. Augustine Beach, FL, wanted the garage to be a police substation and not just for storage. He asked the Commission not to renew the lease.

Merrill Roland, 6281 Old Dixie Drive, St. Augustine, FL, advised that the Civic Association has a sponsor that owns a storage facility; the Civic Association did not get a permit or inspections for their construction in 2006; Civic Association has been subletting and is against the contract; Civic Association came in last place in the bidding process for the farmers market; the Civic Association does not provide WiFi; and is not a good security risk to take.

Ed Slavin, P.O. Box 3084, St. Augustine, FL, advised that the insurance rates will not be the same with the Police Department and the Civic Association sharing the same building; and Police Department needs to be on the beach because of the COVID-19. He requested that the Police Department take over the building.

Mayor England closed the Public Comments section and asked for any further Commission discussion.

Vice Mayor Kostka explained that at the time the lease was made, there was no need for the garage. She advised that the City needs to take care of their resources and it takes time for the Police Department to go to calls on the beach because they have no storage at the beach, which could make a difference to someone's life. She agrees with sharing the space with St. Johns County and believes that the Police Department does have a need and should take the garage over. She explained that City should rent facilities at fair market value and advised that her storage unit 10 x 25 feet is \$125 a month.

Commissioner Samora advised that the garage is sought after and agreed with Vice Mayor Kostka that times have changed and there is a need for the Police Department. He commented that we need to take care of the City's needs first, St. Johns County needs second and if something can be worked out with the Civic Association that would be fine. He advised that it could be for the Police Department only if they need it, but if they want to share with St. Johns County it's fine.

Commissioner George commended the Civic Association for their community involvement and their teamwork on problem solving this issue. She agreed with the other Commissioners and advised that public safety is the City's number one priority, especially now and preservation of City assets are important as well. She pointed out that the City's Land Use Regulations do not allow storage facilities or office spaces and because the Civic Association

does not have the farmers market, it might be illegal to allow them to lease the property. She agreed with public safety first but thanked the Civic Association for all they do in the community.

Commissioner Rumrell agreed with all the Commissioners regarding public safety. He thought that it was great that St. Johns County could utilize the space as well and would like to build bridges with them. He commented that if the City and St. Johns County does not need all the space, then a discussion could be done with the Civic Association.

Mayor England explained that the City needs should come first; however, the Civic Association has worked and has been a benefit to the City for years and so if the City takes back the garage, the City should help them out month to month if they are going to share space. She wanted to give more time to the Civic Association to find another location.

Vice Mayor Kostka disagreed with Mayor England. She advised that the City is not able to put stipulations on what the Police Department should use the space for. She explained that the lease does not expire until August 2020 and for 15 years they have had the building for free. She commented that the Commission must put the City's needs first. She suggested giving the building to the Police Department and letting the lease expire.

Commissioner Samora said that the City's needs come first, County second and the Civic Association third. He commented that there are three months for the them to work it out, which is enough time. He said if the Civic Association needs more time, the Commission could discuss it then.

Commissioner George advised that the Police Department and Civic Association have time to work out the details. She commented that safety must come first and the concerts and other events that the Civic Association put on are not essential. She agreed with the lease being terminated.

Commissioner Rumrell agreed with Commissioners Samora and George, which is a good compromise for everyone. He asked if the Police Department takes the lease over, do they have sole discretion of who they allow to use the building.

Vice Mayor Kostka advised that the Police Department does not need a lease but wanted that confirmed by the City Attorney.

Assistant City Attorney Douglas advised that it would not be a lease to the Police Department because it was an asset of the City.

Police Chief Hardwick asked the Commission to allow the Police Department and St. Johns County lay out the footprint of the building and see if there is any space left over. He explained that he does not want to sublease the building.

Mayor England asked for a motion.

**Motion:** to allow the lease between the Civic Association and the City of St. Augustine Beach to expire at the end of the term and turn the use and control of the building over to the Police Department to prioritize shared use with County Fire and Rescue, Marine Rescue, the Public Works Department, and Beach Services. **Moved by** Vice Mayor Kostka.

Commissioner George advised that she would second the motion if Vice Mayor Kostka would amend the motion to allow the lease to expire. She asked for clarification if the use must be determined.

City Attorney Douglas advised that the motion does not have to include the use.

Vice Mayor Kostka agreed and amended her motion.

**Motion:** to allow the lease to expire between the Civic Association and the City of St. Augustine Beach. **Moved by** Vice Mayor Kostka, **Seconded by** Commissioner George.

Roll call as follows:

Mayor England	YES
Vice Mayor Kostka	YES
Commissioner George	YES
Commissioner Rumrell	YES
Commissioner Samora	YES

Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor England moved on to Item 5.

5. Budget Matters: Review to Date of Effect of the Pandemic on the Fiscal Year 20 Budget and Discussion of Preliminary Preparation for the FY 21 Budget (Presenter: Patty Douylliez, Finance Director)

Mayor England introduced Item 1 and then asked Finance Director Douylliez to give a staff report.

Finance Director Douylliez gave a quick update on the current budget. She explained that through March expenditures are 49.5%, which is on track; however, COVID-19 could cause the revenues that were expected not to come in for this year. She commented that none of the Finance Directors in the other cities know how to project the decrease in revenues because revenues come in two months behind. She remarked that she cannot give the Commission an update until the revenue checks come in from Florida Power and Light and the State of Florida in June. The Office of Economic and Demographic Research is being watched because that is where the revenue numbers are given to the Finance Directors. She remarked that there is a spending freeze within the City currently and changes have been made, such as having the Police Department get their gas from Public Works instead of fuel cards. She explained that the FY21 budget has been started; however, the State of Florida is expecting a delay in revenues. She explained that the City needs to reach out to the State of Florida for some of the relief monies given to the state in order to make the City whole going forward. She advised that she will update the Commission monthly on the revenue numbers and where the City is at. She explained that 11.9% comes from state revenues, 10.3% comes from Florida Power and Light franchise fees and electric tax, and the bulk of taxes come from ad valorem taxes. She advised that 59% of the revenues comes from outside of the City as ad valorem taxes. She noted that the solid waste franchise fees are coming in which helps.

Mayor England advised that the City is going to lose sales tax.

Financial Director Douylliez advised that there was an increase of sales tax in March because of bulk purchasing. She explained that Florida Power and Light taxes could be a loss of \$20,000 a month if there are no commercial revenues; however, there might be an increase in residential taxes because more people are at home.

Commissioner George thanked Financial Douylliez for doing all she can and for the update.

Commissioner Rumrell suggested to go to the federal and state representatives to see if the City could get some of the relief funds. He asked Police Chief Hardwick to schedule a meeting with Congressman Waltz and Congressman Rutherford, who he knows very well. He offered to speak with those he knows as well to try to get the relief funding as soon as possible. He also suggested to have the City of St. Augustine and St. Johns County ask as a group for the funding.

Commissioner Samora agreed with Commissioner Rumrell and asked staff to act when the federal assistance is available and support any way the Commissioners can individually. He explained that Finance Director Douylliez did a great job in identifying the sources of revenues that are expected to decrease but wants to have more scenarios to be presented to the Commission. He asked for 30%, 50%, 60% best and worse guess scenarios.

Finance Director Douylliez advised that she will do the scenarios, but asked that the Commission not to hold her to the numbers.

Vice Mayor Kostka thanked Finance Director Douylliez and advised that she was disappointed in the City Manager for not standing with her because it falls under his job description. She explained that the Investments Fund pay for part of the City's bills during the year and then when the property ad valorem taxes come in it is paid back. She explained that the General Fund and the Investment Fund are considered the General Fund. She advised that April 2020 was the third best month for the stock market since World War II and she hoped that there will be an improvement in the investments. She explained that the federal recovery money is going from the federal level to the state level, so the representatives for the State of Florida should be contacted to help our City. She advised that our City is based on tourism and 50% of people have cancelled their summer vacations already. She commended staff on all the steps that were taken already and advised that the auditor said that there needs to be a healthier emergency fund before COVID-19 hit. She advised that this should be kept in mind as the City moves forward in the next budget year.

Mayor England opened the Public Comments section. The following addressed the Commission:

Tom Reynolds, 50 Brigantine Court, St. Augustine Beach, FL, advised that the City does not have a large reserve because of waste disposal subsidies.

Mayor England closed the Public Comments section and asked for any further Commission discussion. Being none, Mayor England moved on to Item 6.

6. Increasing Building Department Fees: Request to Approve Resolution 20-09 (Presenter: Brian Law, Building Official)

Mayor England introduced Item 1 and then asked Building Official Law to give a staff report.

Building Official Law recapped the proposed changes in fees which were in the Commission's packages in red.

Commissioner Samora asked if the fees can start in 90 days instead of immediately.

After a discussion, the Commission agreed to the effect date to go into effect August 1, 2020.

Mayor England opened the Public Comments section. Being none, Mayor England closed the Public Comments section and asked for a motion.

**Motion:** to approve Resolution 20-09 with the effective date of August 1, 2020. **Moved by** Mayor England, **Seconded by** Commissioner Samora. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor England	YES
Vice Mayor Kostka	YES
Commissioner George	YES
Commissioner Rumrell	YES
Commissioner Samora	YES

Mayor England moved on to Item 7.

7. St. Johns County Local Mitigation Strategy Plan: Approval of Resolution 20-10 to Adopt  
(Presenter: Brian Law, Building Official)

Mayor England introduced Item 7 and asked Building Official Law for his report.

Building Official Law advised that this would allow the City to apply for the Hazard Mitigation Grant which has funded 100% of the weir. He explained that this is for natural hazards.

Mayor England asked if the pandemic would be covered by this Local Mitigation Strategy Plan.

Vice Mayor Kostka agreed to move forward with Resolution 20-10.

Mayor England advised that the City relies on St. Johns County for local mitigation on everything.

Commissioner George had no comments.

Commissioner Rumrell had no comments.

Commissioner Samora had no comments.

Vice Mayor Kostka asked to let the Commission know if they would consider COVID-19 in their local mitigation strategy.

Building Official Law advised that he would let the Commission know.

**Motion:** to approve Resolution 20-10. **Moved by** Commissioner Samora, **Seconded by** Commissioner George.

Mayor England	YES
Vice Mayor Kostka	YES
Commissioner George	YES
Commissioner Rumrell	YES
Commissioner Samora	YES

Motion passed unanimously.

8. **ADDED ITEM - Temporary Outdoor Seating Resolution 20-11**

Mayor England introduced the Item 8 and asked Building Official Law for his staff report.

Building Official Law advised that the City Attorney wrote the resolution and he added certain conditions to the resolution to allow temporary outdoor seating for the City's restaurants. He recommended that he would have the authority to approve temporary outdoor seating, make sure handicap parking, fire extinguishers, maximum size of tents, etc. He explained that it would sunset when Governor DeSantis gives restaurants 50% seating capacity or to the end of the year.

Vice Mayor Kostka thanked Building Official Law for doing this.

Mayor England asked if it could be limited to 30-days.

Building Official Law advised that it be limited to what the Commission wants.

Commissioner Samora asked to not exceed the seating capacity of the restaurant. He was concerned over the capacity of the sewers.

Building Official Law advised that he would add a clause not to extend the restaurant's seating capacity.

Commissioner George advised that this is good government.

Commissioner Rumrell agreed with Commissioner George.

**Motion:** to approve Resolution 20-11. **Moved by** Mayor England, **Seconded by** Commissioner George.

Mayor England	YES
Vice Mayor Kostka	YES
Commissioner George	YES
Commissioner Rumrell	YES
Commissioner Samora	YES

Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner George requested that Resolution 20-11 would be given to all the businesses.

Building Official Law advised that he spoke with a lot of the business owners already and they support Resolution 20-11 and he would be going to all the businesses tomorrow and explaining Resolution 20-11 to them.

Commissioner Samora advised that he would drop it to the Florida Restaurant and Lodging Association.

Mayor England moved on to Item XIV.

#### XIV. STAFF COMMENTS

Mayor England asked Police Chief Hardwick for comments.

Police Chief Hardwick advised that driving on the beach is under discussion and he will inform the Commission when or if it changes. He wants to get through Mother's Day first before it is decided.



Discussion ensued regarding whether Police Chief Hardwick has spoken to other jurisdictions on when they are releasing restrictions on their beaches; keeping St. Johns Sheriff Department and Putnam County Sheriff's involved in the discussions; limiting the driving on the beach; and youth being destructive.

City Manager Royle explained that after the meeting on April 29<sup>th</sup> the Commission decided to hold a public hearing on the non-ad valorem solid waste collection and asked when the Commission would be available. He explained that he needs the date to advertise and send letters to every homeowner who would be subject to the non-ad valorem assessment.

After discussion the Commission agreed to June 15, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

City Clerk Raddatz apologized for being out on April 29<sup>th</sup> due to emergency surgery. She also asked the Commission if they still want to go out to bid for the medical insurance due to the COVID-19 situation. She explained that she did check with several agencies that want to bid on the insurance and most of them said they are not sure what will happen to the insurance rates in the next year.

The Commission agreed to move forward on the Request for Proposal for Medical Insurance.

Public Works Director Tredik advised that the beach is open, and the Public Works staff is back to their normal schedules. He mentioned that the crosswalk flags are out, and landscaping is now being done.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor England asked for a motion to adjourn.


**Motion:** to adjourn. **Moved by** Mayor England, **Seconded by** Commissioner Samora. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor George adjourned the meeting at 9:27 p.m.



Margaret England, Mayor

ATTEST:



Beverly Raddatz, City Clerk