

## PENDING ACTIVITIES AND PROJECTS

Revised May 21, 2020

PLEASE NOTE: Some parts of this report have been shortened by the removal of outdated information.

1. **PERFORMANCE REVIEW OF POLICE CHIEF AND THE CITY MANAGER.** The reviews were discussed by the Commission at its January 14, 2020, continuation meeting. The Commission directed that that it be reminded in October 2020 to begin the reviews for the calendar year, with the reviews to be discussed at the Commission's December 7, 2020, meeting.
2. **LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS.** The ordinance for dune protection had its first public hearing and second reading at the March 2<sup>nd</sup> Commission meeting. As the City Commission's April 6<sup>th</sup> meeting was postponed because of the pandemic, the ordinance had its second public hearing and final reading at the Commission's April 29<sup>th</sup> meeting. In addition, the Building Official's proposal to allow by conditional use permit certain types of animals, such as chickens, as comfort animals, was discussed by the Commission at its March 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting. Such animals are currently prohibited in the City. The outcome of the discussion was for the Building Official and the new City Attorney to work on revisions to the proposal. At its May 4<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Commission discussed the Building Official's proposal but didn't approve it. Therefore, the prohibition remains in the Regulations.

At its June 1<sup>st</sup> meeting, the Commission will review a proposal from the Building Official to delineate the boundaries of the mixed-use district along the Boulevard.

3. **COUNTY PIER PARK.** Renovations have been completed. This topic will no longer be in this report.
4. **UPDATING STRATEGIC PLAN.** As its January 7, 2019, meeting, the City Commission decided to do the update itself with the City staff. At later meetings in 2019, the Planning Board and the Sustainability and Environmental Planning Advisory Committee provided suggestions for the plan. The Commission agreed with the City Manager's suggestions for items in the plan and asked him to include in it parking infrastructure. The City Manager has prepared a Mission Statement, a Vision Statement, a Values Statement and a list of goals and the tasks each. The Commission reviewed the plan and provided comments at its January 14, 2020, continuation meeting. The City Manager will revise the plan it back to the Commission at a future meeting.
5. **PARKING PLAN.** The City Commission has changed the focus of the parking plan from paid parking to improvements for parking on City-owned plazas and streets. The staff will draft a five-year plan and the Police Department is to determine the most effective parking regulations for the streets west of A1A Beach Boulevard. The parking plan will be provided to the Commission at a future meeting.
6. **JOINT MEETINGS:**
  - a. With the County Commission. No date has yet been proposed by either Commission for a joint meeting.
  - b. On February 10, 2020, the City Commission and Planning Board held a joint meeting. The topics discussed included communications, training for Board members, hiring a planner and providing more information to the Board. It was agreed to have a joint meeting every six

months. At its March 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting, the Commission asked that the Code Enforcement Board and the Sustainability and Environmental Planning Advisory Committee be asked for dates for a workshop meeting with the Commission.

7. **UPDATING PERSONNEL MANUAL.** At the City Commission's February 3, 2020, meeting, the City Clerk proposed two amendments to the Manual: to designate Christmas Eve and Good Friday as holidays for the City employees; and policies for to provide compensation to the employees during emergencies. The Commission approved the additional holidays but asked the City Clerk to provide revised policies for compensation for the employees during declared emergencies. The revisions will be presented at The Commission's June 1<sup>st</sup> meeting.
8. **NEW REVENUE SOURCES: NON-AD VALOREM ASSESSMENT FOR COLLECTION OF HOUSEHOLD WASTE, RECYCLING AND YARD TRASH.** For several years, the City has levied a yearly assessment of \$74 per residence that is on the property tax bill residents receive each November. The \$74 pays the costs to disposal of household wastes, etc. The proposed additional assessment will pay the costs to collect the wastes. The Commission at its June 17<sup>th</sup> meeting discussed the proposal and asked for more information. At its August 5<sup>th</sup> meeting, the City Commission postponed the topic to the September 9<sup>th</sup> meeting. By majority vote it authorized the City Manager to do the next step in the process, which is to contact the Tax Collector for the date or dates when the public hearing must be held on a resolution to adopt the assessment. At its October 7<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Commission approved continuing the steps to implement the non-ad valorem assessment in 2020 and agreed to continue the discussion to its November 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of changes to the commercial solid waste service fees. The Commission had length discussion at that meeting as well as the continuation meeting on November 6<sup>th</sup> without any decisions being reached. At its December 3<sup>rd</sup> continuation meeting, the Commission by a 3-2 vote approved a resolution to inform the Tax Collector of the City's intent to levy the non-ad valorem assessment for the collection of solid waste later in 2020. The signed resolution was sent to the Tax Collector, the Property Appraiser, and the Florida Department of Revenue.

At its May 4<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Commission set the ranges for various categories of solid waste for the non-ad valorem assessment for residential property in the City and scheduled a public hearing on the ranges for Monday, June 15<sup>th</sup>. However, the Commission will be asked at its June 1<sup>st</sup> meeting to set a specific fee for each solid waste service and to change the public hearing date because the notice to the residents must include the fee, not just ranges, that the City will charge in 2022.

9. **STREETLIGHTS ALONG STATE ROAD A1A.** The City's Public Works Director, Bill Tredik, has taken the lead on this project. He is working with Florida and Light and the Florida Department of Transportation to have lights put at seven locations between the city hall and Madrid Street, opposite the entrance to the Marsh Creek subdivision. DOT has approved the lights. At its January 13<sup>th</sup> continuation meeting, the Commission approved the agreement with FPL to have 19 new lights erected.
10. **STREETLIGHT FOR ENTRANCE TO BEACH ACCESS WALKWAY.** A resident has requested that a light be put at the entrance on A1A Beach Boulevard. On January 29<sup>th</sup>, City personnel met with representatives from Florida Power and Light. The company will change the lighting as part of the conversion of the Boulevard streetlighting to LED lights.

11. LED STREETLIGHTS. FPL representatives presented a proposal to the Commission at its June 10<sup>th</sup> meeting to change the lights throughout the City to LED lights. The Commission decided it needed more information from FPL. Chief Hardwick has worked with FPL on a complete review of the lighting along the Boulevard. As its January 13<sup>th</sup> continuation meeting, the Commission approved the agreement for lighting changes subject to the following conditions: 1) to verify that the City must pay for the additional lights along the Boulevard; 2) that the City Attorney review the interlocal agreement with the County and the state; 3) that the Public Works Director and Police Chief review FPL's recommendations and be judicious about the number of lights along the Boulevard and hold off on changing any lights that might be converted to LEDs soon. The agreement with FPL for the conversion will be on the agenda for a future Commission meeting.
12. GRANTS. The Public Works Director has prepared and or will prepare applications for grants from the following agencies:
  - a. Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program, \$106,500, for restrooms at Ocean Hammock Park. City match would be \$35,500. Total project cost: \$142,000
  - b. Coastal Partnership Initiative: \$25,000, to fund planning for other improvements to Ocean Hammock Park: picnic pavilion, observation platform, playscape for children, more trails. City match would be \$25,000. Total project cost: \$50,000
  - c. Florida Resilient Coastlines Programs: to do a Vulnerability Assessment and Adaptability Plan. Total amount requested \$72,000. No match required. This will involve updating the City's stormwater model, identifying vulnerabilities, and recommending options for inclusion in a future Public Works Capital Improvements Plan.
  - d. Land and Water Conversation Fund: Application was submitted January 31, 2020, for improvements to Ocean Hammock Park. Requested amount is \$200,000 with a 50% match from the City required. The City was informed in early May that its project would not be funded. This topic will no longer be included in this report.
  - e. St. Johns River Water Management District Cost Share Program: Grant applied for in February to provide funds for the new weir at the City's Mizell Road retention pond. The amount requested is \$600,000. In April, the City was notified that its project was in line for funding. However, whether the money will be provided depends on the District appropriating it in the District's Fiscal Year 2021 budget.
13. REQUEST TO ST. AUGUSTINE PORT, WATERWAY AND BEACH COMMISSION FOR FUNDING FOR PROJECTS. The Public Works Director presented a list of projects to the Commission at its November 19<sup>th</sup> meeting. The Commission said one, the 5<sup>th</sup> Street dune walkover, might be eligible with the City paying part of the costs. The Director will present a funding request to the Port Commission at one of its future meetings for walkovers at 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Streets.
14. REQUEST FOR FUNDING FROM TOURIST DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL FOR BEACH-RELATED PROJECTS. The Public Works Director prepared a proposal to the TDC for funding for improvements to the rights-of-way of certain City-owned streets for beach visitor parking. He and the City Manager presented it

to the TDC at its March 16<sup>th</sup> meeting for money to provide parking at 16<sup>th</sup> Street and the Boulevard and 4<sup>th</sup> Street and the Boulevard. TDC members said that it was unlikely the City would receive money because of the decline in revenue from the bed tax due to the coronavirus pandemic.

15. NON-CONFORMING BUSINESS SIGNS. The City's sign code has a height limit of 12 feet for business signs. A number of businesses have signs that exceed that height. According to the code, these signs must be made conforming by August 2023. The Building Official and his staff will notify the businesses of this requirement and will work with them to bring these signs into conformity.