

PENDING ACTIVITIES AND PROJECTS

Revised July 23, 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PLEASE NOTE: Some parts of this report have been shortened by the removal of outdated information.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. At its June 1st meeting, the Commission reviewed an ordinance from the Building Official to delineate the boundaries of the mixed-use district along the Boulevard and passed it on first reading. The ordinance had its first public hearing and second reading at the Commission's July 6th meeting. It will have its second public hearing and final reading at the Commission's August 3rd meeting.

Also, at the August 3rd meeting will be an ordinance for first reading to amend the Regulations to permit the access of private property from dead-end streets.

The Building Department staff is now preparing revisions to the Regulations to implement the new policies in the Comprehensive Plan that was approved by the state in February.

3. 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.
4. 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.
5. 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 2nd 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. At its September 14th meeting, the Commission will be asked when it wants to schedule a joint meeting with the Planning Board and SEPAC.

6. **UPDATING PERSONNEL MANUAL.** Past updates or changes have included: to designate Christmas Eve and Good Friday as holidays for the City employees; to provide compensation to the employees during emergencies; revisions to provisions in the Manual concerning equal employment opportunity, educational assistance program, Americans with Disabilities Act coordinators, records, interpretations and conflicts of interest. At the Commission's September 14th meeting, the City Clerk will present several more updates.
7. **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 17th meeting discussed the proposal and asked for more information. At its August 5th meeting, the City Commission postponed the topic to the September 9th 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 7th 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 4th 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 6th without any decisions being reached. At its December 3rd 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 4th 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 15th. However, because the Tax Collectors said specific fees as well as ranges have to be advertised, the Commission at its June 1st meeting agreed to have the public hearing on Tuesday, July 7th, with the following proposed fees: \$87 for the collection of solid waste, \$67 for disposal, and \$24 for recycling. At the July 7th meeting, the Commission approved the ranges for the collection and disposal of solid waste and recyclables, and set the rates for Fiscal Year 2021, which will begin on October 1, 2020.

At its August 3rd meeting, the Commission will be asked to approve the interlocal agreement with the St. Johns County Tax Collector for the collection of the non-ad valorem assessment.

8. **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 13th continuation meeting, the Commission approved the agreement with FPL to have 19 new lights erected. The City Manager has approved the agreement. The contract has been submitted to FPL.
9. **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 29th, 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.

10. LED STREETLIGHTS. FPL representatives presented a proposal to the Commission at its June 10, 2019, 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, 2020, 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.
11. 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. The City is waiting for the Governor to approve the budget.
 - 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. Though it is federal money, the grant is provided through the state, which has approved it. The City will now seek a consultant to design and permit the project.
 - 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. The Governor will need to approve the funding.
 - d. 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. Approval may approve the funding for this program in September 2020.
12. 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 19th meeting. The Commission said one, the 5th 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 4th and 5th Streets.
13. 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 16th meeting for money to provide parking at 16th Street and the Boulevard and 4th 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.

14. 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.
15. CHARGING STATION FOR ELECTRIC VEHICLES. The Public Works Director is working with the staff of the North Florida Regional Transportation Organization to have a charging station for the public at city hall. The Public Works Director is to meet with the company that builds the stations to discuss locations for the station.
16. FLOODING COMPLAINTS, OCEAN WALK SUBDIVISION. The subdivision is located on the east side of Mickler Boulevard between Pope Road and 16th Street. Earlier in 2020, the ditch that borders the subdivision's west side was piped. Ocean Walk residents have complained that the piping of the ditch has caused flooding along the subdivision's west side. The Public Works Director has had the Mickler and 11th Street ditches clear of debris, so as to improve the flow of water, and will propose that the subdivision be surveyed, and the City's civil engineering consultant review the project.