City of Jacksonville

117 W. Duval Street
Jacksonville, FL 32202

Meeting Minutes

Monday, November 17, 2025

9:30 AM

Council Chamber,
1st Floor, City Hall

Neighborhoods, Community Services, Public Health and Safety Committee

Mike Gay, Chair
Randy White, Vice Chair
Ken Amaro
Chris Miller
Ron Salem
Michael Boylan
Tyrona Clark-Murray - Excused

Legislative Assistant: Rebecca Bolton
Council Auditor's Office: Phillip Peterson, Asst. Council Auditor
Council Research: Brandon Russell
Office of General Counsel: Mary Staffopoulos, Deputy
Office of General Counsel: Carla Schell
Administration: Bill Delaney

COUNCIL RULE 4.505 DISRUPTION OF MEETING

Any person who disrupts a regular meeting of the City Council, standing committees, special or select committees, sub-committees or any other public meeting presided over by a City Council Member may be forthwith barred, removed, or otherwise ejected, in the discretion of the presiding officer, from further attendance at that meeting. If necessary, due to the nature of the disruption, the audience may be cleared from the Council Chambers or meeting location in the discretion of the presiding officer.

Any person who refuses to leave the City Council Chamber may be subject to arrest.

Disruption of a meeting includes the following types of behaviors:

1) Any form of political campaigning or electioneering regarding a specific candidate or group of candidates in City elections;
2) Impeding the orderly progress of the meeting by shouting, yelling, whistling, chanting, singing, dancing, clapping, foot stomping, snapping fingers, cheering, jeering, using artificial noise makers or musical instruments, waving signs of any size, or engaging in any other display of excessive noise, sounds, or movement;
3) Displaying or waving signs of any sort, except where used to support the speaker's presentation at the podium, and only where the sign is 21 inches by 21 inches or smaller in size and cannot be displayed in a manner which unreasonably obstructs the view of the dais for any member of the audience, regardless of message;
4) Audible noise from cellphones or other electronic devices;
5) Consumption of alcohol or controlled substances;
6) Making vulgar or offensive remarks or gestures, or using threatening language or gestures, including but not limited to pantomiming discharging a firearm, choking, or throat-cutting;
7) Refusing to stop speaking when his or her time has expired or is otherwise directed by the presiding officer to do so due to disruptive behavior as described herein;
8) Returning to the meeting after having been removed or ejected, or attempting to do so.

Meeting Convened: 9:31 AM **Meeting Adjourned: 11:24 AM**

Attendance:
CM Arias - 2025-781 & 2025-811
CM Carlucci - 2025-781

Present: 6 - Mike Gay, Randy White, Ron Salem, Chris Miller, Ken Amaro and Michael Boylan

Excused: 1 - Tyrona Clark-Murray

Item/File No. **Title History**

1. **2024-0966** ORD Apv an Agrmt for Settlement of Fines Imposed by the Municipal Code Enforcement Brd/Special Magistrate btwn the City & Live Oak Ancient City Living, LLC, a Delaware LLC, & Directing the Mayor, or Her Desig, & the Corp Sec to Execute & Deliver the Agrmt on Behalf of the City or Auth the Agrmt to Become Effective without the Mayor's Signature; Auth the Execution of All Docs Relating to the Agrmt & Auth Tech Changes as Herein Defined; Prov for Oversight of the Agrmt by the Municipal Code Compliance Div of the Neighborhoods Dept; Req Emergency Passage Upon Intro (Staffopoulos) (Introduced by CM Carrico)
11/26/24 CO Introduced: NCSPHS, R, F
12/2/24 NCSPHS Read 2nd & Rerefer
12/2/24 R Read 2nd & Rerefer
12/3/24 F Read 2nd & Rerefer
12/10/24 CO PH Read 2nd & Rerefer
Public Hearing Pursuant to Ch 166, F.S. & C.R. 3.601 - 12/10/24

DEFER

2. **2025-0361** ORD Concerning Retiree Adjustment Payments; Incorporating Recitals; Auth a Retired Employee Adjustment Payment to Retirees & Beneficiaries of the Correctional Officers, General Employees & Police & Fire Pension Funds of the City; Prov for Funding from Pension Liability Surtax; Requiring Certification of Eligibility by the Administrator of the General Employees' Pension Plan & Executive Director of the Police & Fire Pension Plan; Prov for Timing of Payments (Reingold) (Introduced by CM White) (Co-Sponsors CMs Johnson, Gay, Carlucci, Amaro, Gaffney, Jr., Carrico, Peluso & Pittman)
5/13/25 CO Introduced: NCSPHS, F
5/19/25 NCSPHS Read 2nd & Rerefer
5/20/25 F Read 2nd & Rerefer
5/27/25 CO PH Read 2nd & Rerefer
Public Hearing Pursuant to Ch 166, F.S. & C.R. 3.601 - 5/27/25

DEFER

3. **2025-0765** ORD-MC re the Timing for Consolidated Gov't Elections & the Qualifying for Such Elections; Amend Sec 350.102 (Consolidated Government Elections) & 350.106 (Qualification of Candidates), Pt 1 (General Provisions), Ch 350 (Elections, Election Regulations, & Campaigning), Ord Code, to Modify the Timing for the 1st Consolidated Gov't Election & the Qualifying for the 1st & Gen Consolidated Gov't Elections; Prov for Codification Instructions (Pinkstaff) (Introduced by CM Carrico)
10/14/25 CO Introduced: NCSPHS, R
10/20/25 NCSPHS Read 2nd & Rerefer
10/20/25 R Read 2nd & Rerefer
10/28/25 CO PH Read 2nd & Rerefer
11/3/25 NCSPHS Amend/Rerefer 7-0
11/3/25 R Amend/Rerefer 7-0
11/12/25 CO Amend/Rerefer 17-0
11/17/25 NCSPHS Approve 6-0
11/17/25 R Approve 6-0
Public Hearing Pursuant to Ch 166, F.S. & CR 3.601 - 10/28/25

APPROVE

Aye: 6 - Gay, White, Salem, Miller, Amaro and Boylan

Excused: 1 - Clark-Murray

CM Boylan asked for an explanation of the bill. Justin Gicalone, Chief Deputy Supervisor of Elections, stated that the SOE office noticed a conflict between the ten-day extension for UOCAVA voters and a qualifying deadline. He said this bill moves the first municipal election up by two weeks to provide time to certify the election, complete the audit, and prepare ballots for overseas voters. CM Boylan asked for specific dates. Mr. Gicalone said the first election would be moved to March 9, 2027, and the second election would remain the same. They did that instead of moving the qualifying period dates, which would have started during the holiday period.

• Amends Sec. 350.102 (Consolidated Government elections) to:
1) Change the date of the first Consolidated Government election from the twelfth Tuesday of the year to the tenth Tuesday of the year and
2) Change the date of the general (second) Consolidated Government election from the eighth Tuesday after the first Consolidated Government election to the tenth Tuesday after the first Consolidated Government election
• Amends Sec. 350.106 (Qualification of Candidates) to establish a qualifying period beginning with the 57th day prior to the first election through noon of the 53rd day prior to the date of the first election, rather than following the qualification period established in Ch. 99 of the Florida Statutes (beginning the 71st day prior to the first election through noon of the 67th day prior to the date of the first election)

4. **2025-0781** ORD Making Certain Findings & Approp $15,000,000 from Council Contingency Accts to Subsidies & Contributions to Private Org Accts ($4,000,000) & Subsidies & Contributions to Other Govt Accts ($11,000,000) to Prov City Funding for Various Progs & Capital Projs as Follows: (1) $1,000,000 to Northeast Florida Builders Association, Inc. (NEFBA) for the NEFBA Workforce Dev Ctr, (2) $2,675,000 to Edward Waters University, Inc. (EWU) for the Living, Learning, Community Ctr, (3) $325,000 to Workforce Industrial Training, LLC (WIT) for the Operation Boost Initiative, (4) $6,000,000 to the UNF for Capital Repairs & Upgrades to Hodges Stadium & Construction of Add'l Grass Practice Fields at the Facility, & (5) $5,000,000 to FSCJ for Purchase of a Bldg at Cecil Commerce Ctr to House the FSCJ Training Institute; Auth the Mayor, or Her Desig, & the Corp Sec to Execute & Deliver Agrmts btwn the City & NEFBA, EWU, WIT, UNF, & FSCJ for the Respective Prog or Proj to Be Undertaken by Each Entity as More Particularly Described Herein; Waiving Sec 118.107 (Nonprofits to Receive Funding Through a Competitive Evaluated Award Process; Waiver & Disclosures), Pt 1 (General Provisions), Ch 118 (City Grants), Ord Code, to Allow for Direct Contracts with NEFBA & EWU (Staffopoulos) (Introduced by CM Arias) (Co-Sponsor CM Carlucci)
10/14/25 CO Introduced: NCSPHS, R, F
10/20/25 NCSPHS Read 2nd & Rerefer
10/20/25 R Read 2nd & Rerefer
10/21/25 F Read 2nd & Rerefer
10/28/25 CO PH Read 2nd & Rerefer
11/17/25 NCSPHS Substitute/Approve 4-2 (Gay, Miller)
Public Hearing Pursuant to Ch 166, F.S. & CR 3.601 - 10/28/25

SUBSTITUTE/APPROVE

Aye: 4 - White, Salem, Amaro and Boylan

Nay: 2 - Gay and Miller

Excused: 1 - Clark-Murray

The substitute was moved and seconded. Phillip Peterson, from the Council Auditor's Office, explained the substitute.

CM Salem asked how City money flows into the projects and the clawback provisions for each project. Mr. Peterson said that, for NEFBA, the funds would be reimbursed upon completion of the project. If NEFBA does not substantially complete the project, the City is entitled to full repayment of all funds disbursed to NEFBA. For EWU, he said the City is funding 37.5 percent of the costs, but clarified that this amount includes $2.6 million in the current year and $6 million for next year; if they fail to complete construction, the City is entitled to full repayment. For Workforce Industrial Training, he said payment was strictly via reimbursement, so there is no clawback provision. The funds for UNF will go to the project, and the City is entitled to full repayment if UNF fails to complete it. For FSCJ, the City will deposit funds three days before closing on the purchase of a building; if they fail to purchase the building, the City is entitled to full repayment.

CM Salem said it was his understanding that EWU had a loan they could rely on for the $6 million they intend to request from Council next year. Mr. Peterson stated he had heard the same and suggested amending their tem sheet because the 37.5 percent mentioned therein contemplates that $6 million. CM Salem said he was concerned they could not commit next year's Council to that amount. He asked for a representative from EWU to provide information about the loans and would like to see an amendment to the term sheet, if needed.

Michael West, Vice President of Operations for EWU, said the ask for this year is $2.75 million and would go toward design and planning. He said he was aware that the Council could not commit to the additional funding request for next year at this time. He said that the 37.5 percent figure was not finite and that the City would not be expected to fund anything beyond that point. CM Salem asked whether the project can be completed without additional funding beyond this year's $2.6 million ask. Mr. West said that they have a $40 million term sheet for a loan from the HBCU Capital Finance program. CM Salem asked whether they could amend the percentage from 37.5 percent to what Mr. Peterson calculates based on the new information. Ms. Staffopoulos said he could, but the introducer had an alternative he would like the Committee to consider.

CM Arias clarified that the Mayor's budget requested $8 million, which the Council removed. He said the amount requested this year was intended to get the project started on design and planning. He said he would propose to remove the $6 million from the term sheet so they are not responsible for that future appropriation. CM Salem stated that he would like the percentage on the term sheet to reflect the $2.6 million to EWU. Ms. Staffopoulos noted that, before amending the bill, the committee would need to vote on the substitute. She added that the only thing left to determine for the substitute was the completion date for the FSCJ project.

Dr. John Wall, Provost and VP of Academic Affairs, said there were multiple project components and asked which part they wanted a completion date for. Mr. Peterson said they would need to know whether the purchase of the building would occur within the current fiscal year. Taylor Meija Roberts, Director of Government and Community Relations, said they intend to purchase in the summer but no later than September 30, 2026. Mr. Peterson confirmed that they do not need to attach Revised Exhibit 6, as they intend to purchase a building in this fiscal year. Ms. Staffopoulos requested that a member of the Committee move to amend the substitute to remove item seven listed on the agenda for this bill.

An amendment to remove item seven was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously. The substitute as amended was moved and seconded. Ms. Staffopoulos then recommended voting on the substitute as amended first, then taking up any other amendments as necessary, and rolling up the amendments at the end. The substitute, as amended, passed unanimously.

The Auditor's recommended amendments were moved and seconded. Mr. Peterson explained those amendments.

CM Amaro asked if EWU has already secured the loan discussed previously. Mr. West stated that their board had just approved the President's ability to sign the term sheet, which he expects will occur in the next 4 to 5 weeks.

The Auditor's recommended amendments were approved unanimously.

The bill was moved as a substitute, amended twice, and seconded.

CM Boylan introduced an amendment that would limit the focus of the EWU component to this year's request for $2.675 million for planning, design, and permitting with the following requirements: that the City's share is no more than 37.5 percent; that EWU provide evidence that is has the balance on hand to fund the project; that disbursement of city funds be a reimbursement; that EWU reimburse the City if the community center is not realized. CM Boylan asked Mr. West for an anticipated completion date for the community center. Mr. West stated they plan to complete the project in September 2028. CM Boylan's amendment was seconded.

CM Salem said the amendment does not address his question about the percentage of the project funded by the City. He asked what the percentage would be if they only considered the $2.675 million. Mr. Peterson stated that the percentage was around 6.7 percent, but indicated that CM Boylan may have more to say on that point. CM Boylan said the amendment addresses his concern because it focuses on the current-year request for design and planning. He added that there was no commitment by the City to provide additional funding, and EWU would have to make an additional request if it sought more City dollars.

CM Salem said he was concerned they were inadvertently committing themselves to additional funding by leaving the 37.5 percent in the bill. Ms. Staffopoulos clarified that CM Boylan's amendment pertains only to design and planning, so the percentage mentioned in the bill would apply only to those areas. CM Salem asked if Mr. Peterson was comfortable with the Boylan amendment. He said he was and clarified that $2.675 million was 37.5 percent of $7.1 million. He added that if the total design cost ended up being less than $7.1 million, the City would not provide the full $2.675 million, and they were not committing any future money to construction. CM Salem asked what would happen if they paid for design and the building was never constructed; Mr. Peterson said the Boylan amendment contained a clawback provision for those funds. CM Salem asked again if Mr. Peterson was comfortable with the Boylan amendment. Mr. Peterson said that he was, and that the amendment addressed the concerns CM Salem was raising. CM Salem said he would support the amendment.

CM Miller said he did not understand where they were fiscally. He said that the bill takes $15 million from a discovered $45 million for various projects and noted that they anticipate a deficit of $62 million. He said he had a problem appropriating the money given the deficit and indicated he could not support the bill without a strategy to address it. He also noted that the UNF and EWU projects should be considered among other capital projects in the budget cycle. He also said there should be greater urgency in explicitly supporting skilled trades. He indicated that he had a couple of amendments to offer.

CM M. Carlucci asked whether the $45 million was known before this year's budget process. Mr. Peterson said the fund had been growing for some time and was discussed at the start of 2025. He then asked for an update on the $3 million from the Tourist Development Council. Mr. Peterson said that would be covered in an amendment at a later time. CM Arias noted that an amendment will be introduced to address the TDC funds. CM Arias, responding to CM Miller's concerns, said that any Council Member could introduce legislation to address concerns they may have. He requested the bill be left as is but supported CM Boylan's amendment.

CM Salem requested final action on the Boylan amendment so that other amendments could be introduced. The amendment was approved unanimously.

CM Salem said he would support the bill. In response to CM Miller's concern about the deficit, CM Salem said he advocated saving $30 million of the discovered $45 million but was unsuccessful. He said they may have to cut spending during the upcoming budget process but was supportive of this bill.

CM White said this bill should stand alone and expressed his support but agreed with CM Miller's concerns. Ms. Staffopoulos requested that the amendments be rolled up. The bill was moved as substituted and seconded.

CM Miller reiterated that the deficit is known and indicated he would be more supportive if the funds were targeted at skilled trades. He said he had an amendment ready that would remove the UNF and EWU projects and add $1 million for a project referenced by Mr. Barras during public comment. He noted that the amendment seemed unlikely to receive support from the rest of the Committee. He said he would not support the bill as is.

CM Salem said they should look to the administration's quarterly reports to identify surpluses that can be applied to the deficit.

CM Amaro said he would support the legislation, and the government should be concerned about accountability as well as investment in the community. He felt confident in the bill, especially given the clawback provisions.

CM M. Carlucci said he had drawn attention to the deficit during the budget process. He added that great cities invest in themselves and said the bill would enhance the quality of life while creating job opportunities to spur economic development.

CM Miller said he wanted to invest in the city but reiterated that the budget process is the time to make decisions on capital projects.

Chair Gay said there were concerns about whether local businesses would be used to complete the projects. He also noted that the EWU and UNF projects were more aligned with capital projects than with workforce development. He said he was not supportive of the bill but reserved the right to change his vote based on deliberations in the upcoming Finance Committee meeting.

As substituted:
1. Include oversight departments in bill and term sheets
2. Correct account information within bill and attach Revised Exhibit 1 (BT)
3. Authorize carryover of funding for EWU and UNF
4. Attach Revised Exhibit 3 (EWU) to:
a. Include deadline to complete the project (9/30/28 per EWU)
b. Clarify audit rights apply to entire project
c. Require that EWU provide support showing evidence of project financing prior to commencement
d. Strike reference to FY 26/27 funding
e. Clarify that the City's proportionate share is no more than 37.5% for design, planning, and permitting
f. Clarify that City funds will be disbursed on a reimbursement basis with appropriate documentation submitted prior
5. Attach Revised Exhibit 4 (Workforce Industrial Training) to clarify City funds will only reimburse training for Duval County residents
6. Attach Revised Exhibit 5 (UNF) to:
a. Include deadline to complete the project (9/30/27 per UNF)
b. Clarify audit rights apply to entire project
c. Add that reimbursements will be on a prorata basis (City funds 50%, UNF funds 50%)
d. Add that UNF shall provide support showing they have their $6 million available to begin the project
7. Revise Exhibit 6 (FSCJ) to:
a. Add language that the purchase price cannot exceed the value identified by an appraisal
b. Extend the Recoupment Period to include 10 years from when the Training Institute begins operations, but no later than 1/1/29

• Appropriates a total of $15 million from designated Council contingency accounts established by Ord. 2025-385-E (including $12 million from an account designated for various countywide initiatives programs, including but not limited to workforce development, capital projects at Florida State College at Jacksonville, the Jacksonville University Youth Sports Program, and the Downtown Preservation and Revitalization Program and $3 million from an account designated for other countywide activities, including but not limited to the creation and/or development of affordable housing) for the following purposes:
- $1,000,000 – Northeast Florida Builders Association, Inc. – construction of a workforce development center (no required match from NEFBA; City funding provided on a reimbursement basis)
- $2,675,000 – Edward Waters University – construction of Living, Learning, Community Center (City funding up to 37.5% of the project with City dollars contributed first)
- $325,000 – Workforce Industrial Training, LLC – Operation Boost workforce training initiative (City funding provided on a reimbursement basis at a rate of $3,250 per student trained)
- $6,000,000 – University of North Florida – upgrades and construction of additional grass practice fields at Hodges Stadium (City funding limited to 50% of total project cost and provided on a reimbursement basis)
- $5,000,000 – Florida State College at Jacksonville – purchase of a building at Cecil Commerce

Center to house the FSCJ Training Institute (City funding provided prior to closing with FSCJ responsible for remainder of purchase price)
• The Edward Waters University term sheet provides for additional City funding of $6,025,000 in FY 26/27, subject to future Council appropriation
• Waives Code Sec. 118.107 (Nonprofits to receive funding through a competitive evaluated award process; waiver and disclosures) in order to authorize direct contracts with the Northeast Florida Builders Association and Edward Waters University

5. 2025-0782 ORD Honoring the Legacy & Brave Svc of Firefighter Henry Bradley to the City; Naming the City-Owned Bldg Located at 12 Catherine St, Jax, FL, in Council Dist 7, Pursuant to Sec 122.105 (Public Buildings, Public Facilities & Public Parks Naming & Renaming Procedures), Ord Code, to Be Known as the "Henry Bradley Firefighters Museum"; Waiving the Timeline Estabd in Sec 122.105 (Public Buildings, Public Facilities & Public Park Naming & Renaming Procedures), Ord Code, Pertaining to the Report & Recommendation from the Historic Preservation Sec of the Community Planning Div of the PDD & the JHPC for Naming of a City-Owned Bldg; Renaming a Roadway Currently Identified as "Catherine Street" to "Henry Bradley Place" in Council Dist 7 Pursuant to Sec 745.105 (Public Street Name Changes), Ord Code; Directing the LSD to Forward This Ord, Once Enacted, to the Public Works Dept, Dev Svcs & Traffic Engineering Divs, for Processing, Implementation, & Coordination with 911 Emerg, the JFRD, the USPS, & Other Affected Agencies & Orgs Pertaining to the Road Renaming (Pollock) (Introduced by CMs Johnson & Peluso) (Co-Sponsors CMs Boylan, Salem, Miller, Amaro, White, Gay, Freeman & Lahnen)

10/14/25 CO Introduced: NCSPHS, R, TEU
10/20/25 NCSPHS Read 2nd & Rerefer
10/20/25 R Read 2nd & Rerefer
10/21/25 TEU Read 2nd & Rerefer
10/28/25 CO PH Read 2nd & Rerefer
11/3/25 NCSPHS PH Only
11/4/25 TEU PH Only
11/12/25 CO PH Addnt'l 11/25/25
11/17/25 NCSPHS PH Amend/Approve 6-0
11/17/25 R Amend/Approve 7-0
11/18/25 TEU PH Amend/Approve 6-0
NCSPHS PH Pursuant to Ch 122 Ord Code - 11/3/25 & 11/17/25
TEU PH Pursuant to Ch 745 Ord Code - 11/4/25 & 11/18/25
Public Hearing Pursuant to Ch 166, F.S. & CR 3.601 - 10/28/25 & 11/12/25 & 11/25/25

AMEND/APPROVE

Aye: 6 - Gay, White, Salem, Miller, Amaro and Boylan

Excused: 1 - Clark-Murray

Chair Gay opened the public hearing.

Public Hearing:

Carnell Oliver expressed his support for the name change and asked for more investment in the Black community.

John Nooney expressed his support for the legislation. He expressed concern that the remainder of Catherine Street may be renamed.

Chair Gay closed the public hearing.

The amendment was moved and seconded. Mr. Peterson explained the amendment. The amendment was approved unanimously.

CM Salem asked if JFRD supported the changes. They confirmed their support, and CM Salem expressed his support for the bill.

CMs Boylan, Amaro, White, and Chair Gay asked to be added as co-sponsors.

AMENDMENT
1. Clarify that a portion of Catherine Street is being renamed
2. Clarify the various recommendations of the committees related to the street renaming
3. Include waiver of Sec. 745.105(h) to allow a portion of Catherine Street to be renamed
4. Correct current address of Fire Museum to 620 Bay St E
5. Correct scrivener's errors

• Names the City-owned building known as the "Jacksonville Fire Museum" the "Henry Bradley Firefighters Museum"
• Renames the portion of Catherine Street south of Bay Street to "Henry Bradley Place"
• Waives the timeline established in Sec. 122.105 (Public buildings, public facilities and public parks naming and renaming procedures) as it relates to the report to be provided by the Historic Preservation Section of the Community Planning Division of the Planning and Development Department within 30 days after introduction of the ordinance since the report was provided prior to introduction of this ordinance

6. **2025-0810** ORD-MC Creating a New Sec 106.330 (Direct Appropriations; Minimum Threshold), Subpt B (Special Provisions), Pt 3 (Appropriations), Ch 106 (Budget & Accounting Code), Ord Code, to Estab a Mini Threshold Amt of $25,000 for City Funding Awarded to a for-profit or not-for-profit Org by Direct Approp in Accordance with the Exemption from Competitive Solicitation Outlined in Subsec 126.108(g), Ord Code; Prov for Codification Instructions (Staffopoulos) (Introduced by CM Salem) (Co-Sponsor CM Lahnen)
10/28/25 CO Introduced: NCSPHS, R, F
11/3/25 NCSPHS Read 2nd & Rerefer
11/3/25 R Read 2nd & Rerefer
11/4/25 F Read 2nd & Rerefer
11/12/25 CO PH Read 2nd & Rerefer
11/17/25 NCSPHS Amend/Approve 6-0
11/17/25 R Amend/Approve 7-0
11/18/25 F Amend/Approve 5-0
Public Hearing Pursuant to Ch 166, F.S. & CR 3.601 - 11/12/25

AMEND/APPROVE

Aye: 6 - Gay, White, Salem, Miller, Amaro and Boylan

Excused: 1 - Clark-Murray

CM Boylan offered a floor amendment that would allow for two or more NGOs working on a collaborative initiative, with one serving as a single administrator, be added to the ordinance. He provided the rationale for the amendment, citing JaxCare Connect as an example. He also said that it would encourage collaboration between NGOs. He noted that it was a friendly amendment to the bill. The amendment was seconded and approved unanimously.

AMENDMENT
Include provision that two or more non-governmental organizations (NGOs) may jointly request $25,000 or more, but individually receive less than $25,000

7. **2025-0811** ORD-MC Concerning ACPS; Amend Sec 462.106 (Procedures), Pt 1 (General), Ch 462 (Animals), Ord Code, to Clarify Standards for Issuance of Citations; Amend Sec 462.201 (Cruelty to Animals Defined Generally), 462.203 (Neglecting or Abandoning Animals), 462.204 (Restraint by Tethering), 462.205 (Dog Fighting & Other Animal Fighting), 462.209 (Citation), & 462.210 (Taking Custody of Mistreated Animals), Pt 2 (Cruelty to or Neglecting Animals), Ch 462 (Animals), Ord Code, to Revise & Clarify Provisions Related to Cruelty, Neglect, Abandonment, & Tethering of Animals, to Specificy That Animal Fighting Activities Constitute Animal Cruelty, & to Align the Code with the Required Timelines & Procedures for Animal Custody Petitions Outlined in Sec 828.073, F.S.; Amend Sec 462.301 (General), 462.302 (Noise), 462.303 (Animals At-Large Prohibited), 462.304 (Habitual Nuisance), & 462.305 (Destruction of Property & Biting), Pt 3 (Nuisances), Ch 462 (Animals), Ord Code, to Simplify Language & Clarify Standards for Issuance of Citations; Amend Sec 462.601 (Impounding of Animals), Pt 6 (Impoundment, Surrender, Redemption & Adoption), Ch 462 (Animals), Ord Code, to Reduce the Required "Stray Hold" Period from 6 Days to 3 Days; Prov for Codification Instructions (Hartung) (Introduced by CM Arias)

10/28/25 CO Introduced: NCSPHS, R
11/3/25 NCSPHS Read 2nd & Rerefer
11/3/25 R Read 2nd & Rerefer
11/12/25 CO PH Read 2nd & Rerefer
Public Hearing Pursuant to Ch 166, F.S. & CR 3.601 - 11/12/25

DEFER

The amendment was moved and seconded. Mr. Peterson explained the amendment.

CM Miller asked about the effect of the reduced stray hold. Mr. Peterson said that currently, ACPS has to hold a stray for 6 days before they can find another shelter to take the animal; this bill would reduce that to 3 days. CM Miller then asked for confirmation from a representative from ACPS, citing concerns about euthanizing animals. Michael Bricker, Chief of Animal Care and Protective Services, confirmed that it was just a reduction in the stray hold period and would allow them to process adoptions and transfers to other facilities more quickly.

CM Arias said he proposed the bill, which opens up space at shelters across the city, and that the standard across the state is a three-day hold. He said that there is some concern that the bill will lead to more euthanized animals, but he plans to have community meetings to clear up that concern.

CM Amaro asked which entities can receive animals from the City. Mr. Bricker said there is no limit on how long they can hold animals, but the bill allows them to get animals adopted more quickly.

Ms. Staffopoulos said the bill is marked for action, but they could defer it, adding that they only have one more cycle before the end of the calendar year. Mr. Bricker said he was amenable to deferral if that allowed for more public education.

Chair Gay deferred the bill.

AMENDMENT
1. Clarify where fine revenue generated under Part 3 is deposited
2. Strike reference to law enforcement within Sec. 462.203(c)(1)
3. Revise Sec. 462.205(f) to reference the fines established in Part 18 of Ch. 462
4. Conform the criteria for animal noise nuisances
5. Strike Sec. 462.306
6. Correct scrivener's errors

• Amends Part 1 (General), Part 2 (Cruelty to or Neglecting Animals), and Part 3 (Nuisances) of Ch. 462 (Animals) to:
- **Standardize the procedures for issuing citations**
- **Revise and clarify provisions related to cruelty, neglect, abandonment, restraint, and fighting of animals**
- **Revise the timeline for animal custody petitions to align with the timeline established in the Florida Statutes**
- **Clarify provisions related to nuisances and eliminate the excessive noise carve out for "animal facilities"**

• Amends Sec. 462.601 (Impoundment, Surrender, Redemption and Adoption) to reduce the stray hold period from 6 days to 3 days

8. **2025-0814** ORD Approp $56,203.89, Including $39,000.00 from the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Prog - Contractual Svcs Acct to the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Prog - Salaries Part Time Acct, & a Budgetary Adjustment to Correct Negative Bals in the Amt of $17,203.89; Auth Positions (R.C. 26-014) (B.T. 26-016) (Smith) (Req of Mayor)
10/28/25 CO Introduced: NCSPHS, F
11/3/25 NCSPHS Read 2nd & Rerefer
11/4/25 F Read 2nd & Rerefer
11/12/25 CO PH Read 2nd & Rerefer
11/17/25 NCSPHS Approve 5-0
11/18/25 F Approve 6-0
Public Hearing Pursuant to Ch 166, F.S. & CR 3.601 - 11/12/25

APPROVE

Aye: 5 - Gay, White, Salem, Miller and Amaro

Excused: 1 - Clark-Murray

• Authorizes 1,300 part-time hours for collecting and analyzing grant related data

9. **2025-0815** ORD Auth the Mayor, or Her Desig, to Execute: (1) a 2nd Amend & Restated Hotel Redev Agrmt Among the City, DIA, & Shipyards Trustee Jacksonville, LLC, Successor by Assignment to Shipyards Hotel Jacksonville, LLC f/k/a Shipyards Hotel, LLC, which Amends & Restates the Previously Authd Amend & Restated Redev Agrmt Consistent with the Improvements Previously Authd by Ord 2022-871-E to, in Pt, Recognize Increased Mini Required Capital Investment for the Hotel Improvements, & Increase the Max Amt of the Previously Authd REV Grant by an Add'l $6,000,000; (2) a Revised Marina Support Bldg Lease to Recognize Certain Rights of the Restaurant Operator... (Sawyer) (Req of DIA)
10/28/25 CO Introduced: NCSPHS, R, F
11/3/25 NCSPHS Read 2nd & Rerefer
11/3/25 R Read 2nd & Rerefer
11/4/25 F Read 2nd & Rerefer
11/12/25 CO PH Read 2nd & Rerefer
11/17/25 NCSPHS Amend/Approve 6-0
11/17/25 R Amend/Approve 7-0
11/18/25 F Amend/Approve 6-0
Public Hearing Pursuant to Ch 166, F.S. & CR 3.601 - 11/12/25

AMEND/APPROVE

Aye: 6 - Gay, White, Salem, Miller, Amaro and Boylan

Excused: 1 - Clark-Murray

The amendment was moved and seconded. Mr. Peterson explained the amendment. The amendment was approved unanimously.

The Auditor's recommended amendment was moved and seconded. Mr. Peterson explained the amendment. CM Salem presumed payment would occur at completion of the project. Steven Diebenow said that they would be comfortable with that. He noted that a portion of the project will be paid for by Iguana before it begins, which is the design and civil engineering work. He said that John Sawyer intends to withdraw the funding agreement and then introduce another piece of legislation that will create a CIP project and take money from the state. CM Salem moved an amendment to require payment upon completion of the project, which was seconded. The amendment was approved unanimously.

Ms. Staffopoulos stated that the amendment counted as an amendment to the Auditor's recommended amendment. The Auditor's amendment, as amended, was moved and seconded. It was approved unanimously.

CM Salem asked why there was a desire to have two 10-year contracts rather than four 5-year contracts. Mr. Diebenow said that when they went to market, prospective tenants were requesting 10-year terms. CM Salem asked if the second 10 years are automatic. Mr. Peterson said the first renewal is at the developer's request, and the second renewal would be a joint decision between the City and the developer. Mr. Diebenow also said there were high operational standards for tenants under the agreement.

Mr. Diebenow asked if John Sawyer's amendment had been put up for discussion. Ms. Staffopoulos said that they were not aware of such an amendment. Mr. Diebenow briefly explained the amendment that pertained to the funding agreement. Mr. Peterson said he received them but was not sure which Council Member would introduce them. Mr. Diebenow noted that he thought CM Salem would introduce them and said that OGC and DIA proposed the amendments. Ms. Staffopoulos said if CM Salem intended to offer those changes, she recommended taking them up in Finance. CM Salem asked if the Auditor's office was in agreement. Mr. Peterson said they had one concern but were comfortable with the other parts of the amendment. CM Salem said he was fine with moving the amendment but wanted to get copies to the Finance Committee as soon as possible. Mr. Diebenow said one of the outstanding issues was an easement related to a drainage pipe, and they had withdrawn their objection to that item, deferring to OGC's language. Mr. Peterson said he will prepare a summary of those amendments for the Finance Committee.

CM Boylan said he would like to see the amendments before the Rules Committee.

Ms. Staffopoulos requested that the amendments be rolled up.

AMENDMENT
1. Correct current Marina Support Building annual rent from $1 to $100
2. Include missing Section 3 (Designation of Authorized Official and DIA as Contract Monitor) and Section 4 (Oversight Department)
3. Correct scrivener's errors
4. Place revised agreements On File to:
a. Revise the Hotel RDA to:
i. Update description of Marina Support Building consistent with changes to the amended lease agreement
ii. Update addresses from "Gator Bowl Blvd" to "East Bay St" as needed
iii. Clarify timeline for option to enter into Marina Management Agreement and Marina Support Building Lease
iv. Clarify deadline for completion of Marina Improvements, Bulkhead Improvements, Pier Improvements, Riverwalk Improvements
v. Strike conflicting language regarding Developer's responsibility for funding the cost of the Traffic Calming Improvements
vi. Clarify Developer's contribution for Traffic Calming Improvements will occur at completion
b. Revise the Marina Support Building Lease to:
i. Reference second amended and restated Hotel RDA
ii. Update addresses from "Gator Bowl Blvd" to "East Bay St" as needed
iii. Require 30 days' notice by tenant for scheduling large events on the Events Lawn
iv. Include definition of capital repair and capital maintenance
c. Revise the Marina Management Agreement to reference second amended and restated Hotel RDA within whereas clauses
d. Revise the Riverwalk Improvements Cost Disbursement Agreement to correct scrivener's errors
e. Correct scrivener's errors
f. Remove Office Building Redevelopment Agreement and duplicate copies of exhibits
g. Include Disbursement Request Form (Exhibit Z to Hotel RDA)

DISCUSSION POINT
The proposed change to the term of the Marina Support Building Lease Agreement would allow the manager and restaurant subtenant to operate for a maximum period of 20 years without mutual approval by the City. The original agreement provided for mutual agreement after the initial 5-year period.

Hotel Redevelopment Agreement
• Increases the minimum private capital investment from $334,552,000 to $373,962,000
• Increases the minimum direct costs from $281,947,000 to $321,357,000
• Increases the REV Grant from $50,581,200 to $56,581,200
• Adds provision regarding the construction of Traffic Calming Improvements on Bay Street, obligating the Developer to pay the cost of the improvements (less any State Grant received by the City), and provides for a dollar-for-dollar reduction in the REV Grant in the event the Developer's contribution toward the Traffic Calming Improvements (exclusive of the State Grant) is less than $6,000,000
• Clarifies the Developer is obligated to pay the balance of the FIND Grants only if demanded by the Florida Inland Navigational District or other applicable authority administering the FIND Grants
• Revises the performance schedule to a) extend the completion date for the Hotel to 6/30/27 (currently 12/31/26 as extended by the former DIA CEO), b) extend the completion date for the Marina Improvements, Bulkhead Improvements, Pier Improvements and Riverwalk Improvements to 8/30/26 (currently 7/10/26), and c) extend the completion date for the Marina Support Building Improvements to the earlier of the opening of the Hotel Improvements or 8/30/26 (currently 6/30/26)
• Removes the ability for the DIA Board to approve a 6-month extension and re-authorizes the DIA CEO's authority to approve a 6-month extension

Marina Support Building Lease Agreement
• Revises the initial term from 5 years to 10 years with a 90-day extension to allow for build-out of restaurant
• Revises the renewal options from five additional 5-year periods if mutually agreed upon to two additional 5-year periods at tenant's sole discretion followed by two additional 5-year periods if mutually agreed upon
• Revises the annual rent from $100 to $15,000 less tenant's annual Events Lawn maintenance expense
• Adds provision that any restaurant sublease must require the tenant to operate a minimum of 5 days per week for a minimum of 8 hours each day
• Adds provision that tenant's responsibility for capital maintenance and capital repairs is limited to funding allocated from the Room Surcharge
• Adds language that the City is responsible for funding capital maintenance and capital repairs in the event they exceed funding allocated from the Room Surcharge
• Allows restaurant subtenant to make non-structural alterations of up to $50,000 annually without City's prior consent (currently $25,000 annually)
• Adds provision that tenant shall maintain the events lawn and the City shall be responsible for any capital repairs, including resodding
• Adds provision that in the event the restaurant closes, the tenant shall have up to 18 months, with one, consecutive, 6-month extension if requested, to enter into a new restaurant sublease

Marina Management Agreement
• Revises the initial term to a 10-year term ending with the expiration of the initial Submerged Land Lease ("SLL")
• Revises the extension options from 5-year periods as mutually agreed upon, subject to a total

term limit of 30 years, to one 10-year term at manager's election and one additional 10-year term as mutually agreed upon (all subject to State's extension of the SLL)
• Requires that marina manager provide pump-outs free of charge if allowed under the SLL
• Clarifies allowable use of marina revenues, expands use to include back-of-house area, equipment, and facilities serving the marina
• Revises transient slip rental restrictions to a) allow rental of transient slips outside of special events subject to Parks Department approval of rental rates and b) revise the rental duration to 5-day period and no more than 10 days per calendar month (currently 3-day limit with no monthly maximum)
• Defines capital improvement project and clarifies City's responsibilities include dredging
• Allows for termination if manager does not substantially complete construction of the Marina Improvements and Pier Improvements as required in the RDA

Riverwalk Improvements Cost Disbursement Agreement
• Adds definition for Riverwalk Landscaping Improvements
• Allows for substantial completion of Riverwalk Improvements, exclusive of Riverwalk Landscaping Improvements, for the purpose of dedicating the improvements to the City and opening such improvements for use by the public
• Requires Riverwalk Landscaping Improvements to be substantially completed on or before the Hotel Improvements Completion Date

• DIA has calculated an updated ROI of 1.13 for the Hotel component of the overall Kids Kampus project (ROI under Ord. 2022-871-E was 1.12)
• Additional legislation will be required to appropriate State funding received by the City for the Traffic Calming Improvements and create a new CIP project for this purpose
• Continues to waive the Public Investment Policy to authorize an increase in the Hotel REV Grant

10. **2025-0834** ORD Approp $200,000 from the TSIT Information Technologies - Other General Govt Svcs Contractual Svcs Acct, Previously Appropd by Ord 2025-532-E for the JaxCode4Change Prog, to the Youth Empowerment City Council Special Committee - Contingency Acct to Make the Funds Available for Recommendation for Future Approp by the City Council Special Committee on Youth Empowerment (Staffopoulos) (Introduced by CM Freeman)
11/12/25 CO Introduced: NCSPHS, F
11/17/25 NCSPHS Read 2nd & Rerefer
11/18/25 F Read 2nd & Rerefer
Public Hearing Pursuant to Ch 166, F.S. & C.R. 3.601 - 11/25/25

READ 2ND & REREFER

11. [2025-0835] ORD Apv, & Auth the Mayor, or Her Desig, & Corp Sec to Execute & Deliver That Certain License Agrmt btwn the City, as Landlord, & Jacksonville Motorcycle Safety Training, Inc., as Tenant, for an Initial Term of 1 Yr, with Two 1 Yr Renewal Options, for the Use of Circle B Parking Lot in Cecil Commerce Ctr, Located Generally at the Intersection of Lake Newman St & McCarthy Way, Jax, FL, with a Monthly Base Rent of $207 Per Month; Prov for Oversight by the OED (Dillard) (Req of Mayor)
11/12/25 CO Introduced: NCSPHS, F
11/17/25 NCSPHS Read 2nd & Rerefer
11/18/25 F Read 2nd & Rerefer
Public Hearing Pursuant to Ch 166, F.S. & CR 3.601 - 11/25/25

READ 2ND & REREFER

12. [2025-0836] ORD re a Partial Ad Valorem Property Tax Exemption for Rehab of a Local Landmark Located at 525 Beaver St, Owned by 525 Beaver, LLC; Prov for Exemption From that Portion of Ad Valorem Taxation Levied by COJ on 100% of the Increase in Assessed Value Resulting from the Qualifying Improvement Proj, Pursuant to Sec 780.303, Ord Code; Prov for an Exemption Period of 10 Yrs Beginning on January 1st of the Year Following the Year in which the Council Enacts this Ordinance, Pursuant to Sec 780.304, Ord Code (Schell) (Introduced by NCSPHS)
11/12/25 CO Introduced: NCSPHS, F
11/17/25 NCSPHS Read 2nd & Rerefer
11/18/25 F Read 2nd & Rerefer
Public Hearing Pursuant to Ch 166, F.S. & C.R. 3.601 - 11/25/25

READ 2ND & REREFER

13. [2025-0837] ORD Approp $50,000.00 in State Grant Funding from the State of FL, Dept of State, Div of Historical Resources to Fund an Updated Historical Survey of North Riverside; Purpose of Approp; Apv & Auth the Mayor, or Her Desig, & the Corp Sec to Execute & Deliver a Grant Agrmt with the State of FL, Dept of State, for the Purpose of Prov the Grant Funds to the City; Prov for Oversight by the Planning Dept (B.T. 26-019) (Reingold) (Req of Mayor)
11/12/25 CO Introduced: NCSPHS, F
11/17/25 NCSPHS Read 2nd & Rerefer
11/18/25 F Read 2nd & Rerefer
Public Hearing Pursuant to Ch 166, F.S. & C.R. 3.601 - 11/25/25

READ 2ND & REREFER

14. **2025-0838** ORD Concerning the Creation of a Dependent Special Dist for the Commercial Properties Along 103rd St from Blanding Blvd to Cecil Commerce Center; Directing the Chief of the Legislative Svcs Div to Distribute Petitions to Commercial & Business Owners within the Proposed Wonderland Dist (Reingold) (Introduced by CM Johnson)
11/12/25 CO Introduced: NCSPHS, R, F
11/17/25 NCSPHS Read 2nd & Rerefer
11/17/25 R Read 2nd & Rerefer
11/18/25 F Read 2nd & Rerefer
Public Hearing Pursuant to Ch 166, F.S. & C.R. 3.601 - 11/25/25

READ 2ND & REREFER

15. **2025-0839** ORD Approp $50,000.00 in State Grant Funding from the State of FL, Dept of State, Div of Historical Resources to Fund the Mayport Village Oral History & Wayfinding Tour; Purpose of Approp; Apv & Auth the Mayor, or Her Desig, & the Corp Sec to Execute & Deliver a Grant Agrmt with the State of FL, Dept of State, for the Purpose of Prov the Grant Funds to the City; Prov for Oversight by the Planning Dept (B.T. 26-020) (Reingold) (Req of Mayor)
11/12/25 CO Introduced: NCSPHS, F
11/17/25 NCSPHS Read 2nd & Rerefer
11/18/25 F Read 2nd & Rerefer
Public Hearing Pursuant to Ch 166, F.S. & C.R. 3.601 - 11/25/25

READ 2ND & REREFER

16. **2025-0840** ORD-MC Amend Sec 37.106 (Department of Police Services), Pt 1 (Organization), Ch 37 (Office of the Sheriff), Ord Code, to Create a New Technology & Operational Support Div within the Dept of Police Svcs; Prov for Codification Instructions; Req 1 Cycle Emergency Passage (Staffopoulos) (Req of Sheriff)
11/12/25 CO Introduced: NCSPHS, R
11/17/25 NCSPHS Emergency/Approve 6-0
11/17/25 R Emergency/Approve 7-0
Public Hearing Pursuant to Ch 166, F.S. & C.R. 3.601 - 11/25/25

EMERGENCY/APPROVE

Aye: 6 - Gay, White, Salem, Miller, Amaro and Boylan

Excused: 1 - Clark-Murray

The emergency was moved and seconded. It was approved unanimously.

The bill was moved as an emergency and seconded.

CM Amaro asked for a JSO representative to speak to the bill. He asked if the Sheriff was creating a new position. Gabby Young, JSO, stated that the Sheriff is creating a new division with a third section that will house all technology-related functions, all under one Chief. CM Amaro asked if there was someone in mind; she confirmed that there was. She added that this is being passed as an emergency because they have parallel appointments and need the section established so they can appoint a Chief.

CM Salem asked how many people would be housed in the division. Ms. Young stated that they are taking sections that were under Investigations or Police Services and placing them all in Police Services. She estimated around 40 positions. He asked if this would be the smallest division. She did not provide an exact count but stated that they would be taking units focused on body cameras, fingerprinting, drones, and the like, and placing them under one section.

• Per JSO, a police officer position will be reclassified for the new division chief position. The difference of $143,764 will be absorbed within JSO's budget for fiscal year 25/26.
• The nature of the emergency is that the Sheriff would like to have the new Technology and Operational Support Division established and operational by January 2, 2026. A one cycle emergency will allow the new Division to be established in the Code prior to Council's confirmation of the appointed Chief to oversee the Division.

17. **2025-0841** ORD Auth the Mayor, or Her Designee, to Execute: (1) a 1st Amdt to the 2nd Amended & Restated Redev Agrmt, Previously Authd by Ord 2025-103-E, Among the City, DIA & MOSH; & (2) a 1st Amdt to the Museum Improvements Costs Disbursement Agrmt btwn the DIA & MOSH, to Align Performance Schedules & Reduce the Parking Obligation from 75 Parking Spaces to 30 Parking Spaces, & to Authorize the CEO of the DIA, the Director of Public Works, & the Director of Parks, Recreation & Community Svcs to Administratively Apv the Final Parcel Legal Descriptions for the Proj Parcel, Joint-Use Parcel & Park Parcel; Prov for City Oversight of the Proj by the Dept of Public Works & the Dept of Parks, Recreation & Community Svcs; Auth the Execution of All Docs Relating to the Above Agrmts & Transactions, & Auth Tech Changes to the Docs (Sawyer) (Req of DIA)
11/12/25 CO Introduced: NCSPHS, F
11/17/25 NCSPHS Read 2nd & Rerefer
11/18/25 F Read 2nd & Rerefer
Public Hearing Pursuant to Ch 166, F.S. & C.R. 3.601 - 11/25/25

READ 2ND & REREFER

18. [2025-0842] ORD Approp $80,000 from the Municipal Dues & Affiliation Contingency Acct to the Dues & Subscriptions Acct to Pay the City's FY 25-26 Contribution to the Jacksonville Black Chamber of Commerce in the Amt of $26,666.67, to the First Coast Hispanic Chamber of Commerce in the Amt of $26,666.67, & to the Asian Chamber of Commerce of North Florida in the Amt of $26,666.66; Prov for Oversight by the OED (Staffopoulos) (Introduced by CM Arias)
11/12/25 CO Introduced: NCSPHS, F
11/17/25 NCSPHS Read 2nd & Rerefer
11/18/25 F Read 2nd & Rerefer
Public Hearing Pursuant to Ch 166, F.S. & C.R. 3.601 - 11/25/25

READ 2ND & REREFER

19. [2025-0856] ORD-MC re the Homelessness Initiatives Commission; Amend Sec 86.104 (Functions, Powers & Duties), Ch 86 (Homelessness Initiatives Commission), Ord Code, to Extend the Deadline to Create a 5-Yr Strategic Plan; Prov for Codification Instructions (MacGillis) (Introduced by CM Peluso)
11/12/25 CO Introduced: NCSPHS, R
11/17/25 NCSPHS Read 2nd & Rerefer
11/17/25 R Read 2nd & Rerefer
Public Hearing Pursuant to Ch 166, F.S. & C.R. 3.601 - 11/25/25

READ 2ND & REREFER

20. [2025-0858] ORD Entitled the "SNAP Gap Relief Act"; Approp $2,000,000, Including $1,000,000 from a Special Council Reserve Contingency Acct Created by Ord 2025-385-E & $1,000,000 from General Fund Operating Reserves, to the Feeding Northeast Florida - Subsidies & Contributions to Private Org Acct, to Provide Funding to Regional Food Bank of Northeast Florida, Inc. d/b/a Feeding Northeast Florida (FNEFL) for the Purchase & Distribution of Food to Duval County Residents, Subject to Certain Conds as Described Herein; Prov for Reverter; Waiving Sec 118.107 (Nonprofits to Receive Funding through a Competitive Evaluated Award Process; Waiver & Disclosures), Pt 1 (General Provisions), Ch 118 (City Grants), Ord Code, to Allow for a Direct Contract with FNEFL; Auth the Mayor, or Her Desig, to Negotiate an Agrmt with FNEFL to Carry Out the Purposes of this Ord & Further Auth the Mayor, or Her Desig, & the Corp Sec to Execute & Deliver on Behalf of the City a Grant Agrmt btwn the City & FNEFL as Described Herein; Prov for Oversight by the Neighborhoods Dept; Req Emergency Passage Upon Intro (Staffopoulos) (Introduced by CMs Johnson, Pittman & Gaffney, Jr.)
11/12/25 CO Introduced: NCSPHS, R, F
11/12/25 NCSPHS Withdraw 6-0
11/17/25 R Read 2nd & Rerefer
11/18/25 F Withdraw 6-0
Public Hearing Pursuant to Ch 166, F.S. & C.R. 3.601 - 11/25/25

WITHDRAW

Aye: 6 - Gay, White, Salem, Miller, Amaro and Boylan

Excused: 1 - Clark-Murray

Ms. Staffopoulos stated that the bill was initially filed as an in-and-out emergency, and the Council approved adding it to committee agendas and taking it up as a one-cycle emergency. She said they were unable to meet the statutory requirements for public hearings. She provided two options for the legislation going forward: take up the bill as an emergency, then deny the emergency, which would put it through the regular process, or move the emergency and withdraw the bill to allow CM Johnson to reintroduce. She said CM Johnson preferred the bill be withdrawn so he could file a new emergency bill. She said the bill contemplated a government shutdown, which had since ended, and that the bill would need to be modified to reflect this change in circumstances. She also said that they could withdraw the bill.

Withdrawal was moved and seconded. CM Salem asked Susan King from Feeding Northeast Florida to provide an overview of their needs going forward. Ms. King thanked the Council for their effort in assisting the food bank and those in the community. She said they immediately made commitments for loads of food and are arranging with agency partners to deploy those items as they arrive. She said they have distributed an additional 1.1 million pounds of food, above their usual level. She said they have met the crisis and may have averted it since the shutdown has ended. She said SNAP benefits should be available in Florida by the end of the week. She said they planned a mass distribution at Cecil Field, anticipating 1,000 people, but they received only a quarter of that number. She said she cannot promise they won't return with a funding request, but she believes the current crisis has been averted.

CM Boylan agreed with the prudence of moving forward. He referred to a 2020 donation of $1 million to United Way for the First Coast Relief Fund during the COVID pandemic. He agreed with Ms. King that there may likely be future crises.

CM Amaro thanked Ms. King for her candor and responsibility in saying they were not in as dire need for the extra money. Chair Gay concurred.

AMENDMENT
Revise Emergency to One-Cycle Emergency

• Feeding Northeast Florida would be the sole entity to purchase food and they could partner with other entities for the distribution of said food throughout Duval County
• Authorizes Feeding Northeast Florida to retain up to 5% of funds reimbursed to cover administrative costs
• Funds were to be reimbursed at a maximum of $33,333 per day and would remain available for a period of 60 days or until the federal government shutdown has ceased
• Authorized the Mayor, or her designee, to negotiate a grant agreement in an amount not-to-exceed $2,000,000 with the terms of the ordinance and subject to the provisions of Chapter 118, Parts 1 through 5
• The nature of the emergency is that residents of Duval County who rely on SNAP and similar federal government funded food benefits are face an immediate food shortage crisis arising from the federal government shutdown

NOTE: The next regular meeting will be held Monday, December 1, 2025.

*******Note: Items may be added at the discretion of the Chair.*******

Pursuant to the American with Disabilities Act, accommodations for persons with disabilities are available upon request. Please allow 1-2 business days notification to process; last minute requests will be accepted; but may not be possible to fulfill. Please contact Disabled Services Division at: V 904-255-5466, TTY-904-255-5476, or email your request to KaraT@coj.net.

Public Comment:

Carnell Oliver commented on 2025-0858. He recommended supporting Black farmers as a way to address dependency of SNAP benefits and broader food insecurity. He also took issue with non-profits receiving the money.

John Nooney spoke about 2025-0966, 2025-0361, 2025-0815, 2025-0834, 2025-0834, 2025-0836, 2025-0837, 2025-0838, 2025-0839, 2025-0841, 2025-0842, and 2025-0856.

Lance Fout, President of the North Florida Building Construction Trade Council, spoke about 2025-0781 and requesting slowing down to include other workforce development organizations and apprenticeship programs.

Kirk Barras, Training Director of Jacksonville Plumbers and Pipefitters, expressed similar sentiments regarding 2025-0781 and requested reaching out to all registered apprenticeship programs. He also provided details of his program and its expansion.

Ruben Velazquez, Training Coordinator of North Florida Sheet Metal Workers, requested that his apprenticeship program be considered for funding as part of 2025-0781.

Minutes: Brandon Russell, Council Research
brussell@coj.net, (904) 255-5137
Posted: 11/24/25, 2:23 p.m.