

City of Jacksonville

117 W. Duval Street
Jacksonville, FL 32202



Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, November 6, 2024

2:00 PM

Council Chamber,
1st Floor, City Hall

Transportation, Energy & Utilities Committee

Will Lahnen, Chair

Ju'Coby Pittman, Vice Chair - Excused

Matt Carlucci - Excused Early Departure 2:59 PM

Tyrone Clark-Murray - Excused Early Departure 3:04 PM

Reggie Gaffney, Jr.

Mike Gay

Jimmy Peluso

Legislative Assistant: Vanessa Galan

Council Auditor's Office: Edward Linsky

Council Research: Jeff Clements

Office of General Counsel: Carla Lopera

Administration: Bill Delaney

Planning Dept.: Laurie Santana

Meeting Convened: 2:00 PM

Meeting Adjourned: 3:16 PM

Attendance

Present: 6 - Chair Will Lahnen, Matt Carlucci, Tyrona Clark-Murray, Reggie Gaffney Jr., Mike Gay and Jimmy Peluso

Excused: 1 - Vice Chair Ju'Coby Pittman

Merriane Lahmeur, Vanessa Galan – Legislative Services Division; Ed Linsky – Council Auditor’s Office; Jeff Clements – Council Research Division; Carla Lopera – Office of General Counsel; Bill Delaney - Mayor’s Office

Chairman Lahnen convened the meeting and the attendees introduced themselves for the record. The Chair reviewed the agenda order and announced that there would be a presentation by the Jacksonville Transportation Authority after the agenda action items.

Public Comment

John Nooney said he supports 2024-805 but is concerned about future land use restrictions. JTA and the other independent authorities are good partners with the JSEB program. He noted there is only one public water access point on Pottsburg Creek.

Item/File No.

Title History

1. [2024-0799](#) ORD Closing & Abandoning &/or Disclaiming an Opened & Improved Portion of Maitland Ave, f/k/a 10th Street, as Estab in Plat Book 4, Pg 19 of the Plat of Arlington Heights of the Current Public Records of Duval County, FL, Located in Council Dist 1, at the Req of Arlington Church of Christ...(Wilson) (Req of Mayor)
10/8/24 CO Introduced: TEU
10/15/24 TEU Read 2nd & Rerefer
10/22/24 CO PH Read 2nd & Rerefer
11/6/24 TEU PH Amend/Approve 6-0
TEU PH Pursuant to Sec 336.10, F.S. - 11/6/24
Public Hearing Pursuant to Ch 166, F.S. & C.R. 3.601 - 10/22/24

PH AMEND/APPROVE

Aye: 6 - Lahnen, Carlucci, Clark-Murray, Gaffney Jr., Gay and Peluso

Excused: 1 - Pittman

The public hearing was opened; there were no speakers and the hearing was closed. Ed Linsky of the Council Auditor’s Office explained the amendment, which was approved unanimously via a voice vote.

AMENDMENT

- 1. Reflect access rights easement shall be retained by the City and JEA**
- 2. Correct Scrivener's**

• Closure requested to combine the lots into a single property and restrict traffic to the area

2. [2024-0800](#) ORD Apv, & Auth the Mayor, or Her Desig, & the Corp Sec to Execute a 1st Amendment to the Existing Contract with Meridian Waste Florida, LLC, Setting Rates Commencing 10/1/24, Setting Fuel Caps for FYs 24-25, 25-26 & 26-27, & Apv the Premise Count Conducted in Connection with the Rate Review; Prov a Monthly Base Rate; Prov for City Oversight by the Solid Waste Div of the Dept of Public Works (Dillard) (Req of Mayor)
10/8/24 CO Introduced: NCSPHS, F, TEU
10/14/24 NCSPHS Read 2nd & Rerefer
10/15/24 F Read 2nd & Rerefer
10/15/24 TEU Read 2nd & Rerefer
10/22/24 CO PH Read 2nd & Rerefer
Public Hearing Pursuant to Ch 166, F.S. & C.R. 3.601 - 10/22/24

DEFER

Council Member Matt Carlucci said he will be holding a noticed meeting next Tuesday on the City's solid waste fee. The Council Auditor, Office of General Counsel, and others will be present to discuss the future of that fee.

3. [2024-0805](#) ORD Apv & Auth the Mayor, or Her Desig, & the Corp Sec to Execute & Deliver a Release of the Regulatory Agrmt Encumbering the Property Located Generally at 4832 N Main St, Jax, Duval County, FL, 32206 (Capri Villas Property) which is a Portion of the Property Associated with the Capri Villas Proj & the Huron Sophia Proj Located Generally at the Capri Villas Property & 2800 Sophia St, Jax, Duval County, FL, 32254, for the Purpose of Enabling the Dev of the Proj, Including the Acquisition & Rehab of Existing Multifamily Residential Housing Facilities for Persons or Families of Low, Middle or Moderate Income, Subject to (1) the Execution & Recording of a Land Use Restriction Agrmt (LURA) for a Min of 50 Yrs on the Property, & (2) the Proj Being Responsible for Paying All Costs Associated Therewith, Including All Legal & Professional Fees; Auth the Mayor, or Her Desig, & Corp Sec to Execute & Deliver Docs & Take Further Action to Effectuate the Purpose of this Ord; Prov for City Oversight by the Housing & Community Dev Div (Dillard) (Req of Mayor) (Co-Sponsor CM Clark-Murray)
10/8/24 CO Introduced: NCSPHS, F, TEU
10/14/24 NCSPHS Read 2nd & Rerefer
10/15/24 F Read 2nd & Rerefer
10/15/24 TEU Read 2nd & Rerefer
10/22/24 CO PH Read 2nd & Rerefer
11/4/24 NCSPHS Approve 6-0
11/6/24 F Approve 6-0
11/6/24 TEU Approve 6-0
Public Hearing Pursuant to Ch 166, F.S. & C.R. 3.601 - 10/22/24

APPROVE

Aye: 6 - Lahnen, Carlucci, Clark-Murray, Gaffney Jr., Gay and Peluso

Excused: 1 - Pittman

- **New Land Use Restriction Agreement (LURA) will:**
 - **Extend 60% AMI affordability restriction through 2074**
 - **Increases affordable units from 20% to 100%**
 - **Remove age related restriction on housing**
- **Project is anticipated to include 151 units**

4. [2024-0845](#) ORD-MC Amend Sec 380.108 (Operation of Solid Waste Disposal or Management Facility), Pt 1 (Certificate of Public Convenience & Necessity), Ch 380 (Solid Waste Management), Ord Code, to Address Types of Waste That May Be Accepted at a Solid Waste Transfer Station in Duval County & to Limit the Types of Waste Auth to Be Disposed of in the Duval County Trail Ridge Landfill; Prov for Codification Instructions (Staffopoulos) (Introduced by CM Arias)
10/22/24 CO Introduced: NCSPHS, R, TEU
11/4/24 NCSPHS Read 2nd & Rerefer
11/4/24 R Read 2nd & Rerefer
11/6/24 TEU Read 2nd & Rerefer
Public Hearing Pursuant to Ch 166, F.S. & C.R. 3.601 - 11/12/24

READ 2ND & REREFER

5. [2024-0846](#) ORD Transferring \$6,000,000 btwn Expense Accts in the Chaffee Rd Project; Amend the 25-29 5-Yr CIP Appvd by Ord 2024-505-E to Reflect this Approp of Funds within the Proj; Declaring the Public Necessity for Acquiring Fee Simple Title, Temporary Construction Easements, & Permanent Drainage Easements, through Condemnation by Right of Eminent Domain to & Over Certain Real Property in Council Dist. 12, Such Real Property Interests Being Near or Adjacent to a Portion of Chaffee Rd S Including the Properties Listed in Exhibit 1, as Required for the Chaffee Rd Widening from Normandy Blvd to I-10 Proj; Auth the Acquisition of the Properties by Negotiation or Eminent Domain; Auth the Chief of Engineering Construction Div of the Dept of Public Works to Make a Good Faith Deposit Into the Court Registry; Auth the Chief of the Real Estate Div of the Dept of Public Works, or Her Desig, to Make Offers & Negotiate for the Purchase of the Properties, Subject to Certain Conditions; Auth the Chief of the Real Estate Div of the Dept of Public Works, or Her Desig, at the Direction of the Engineering & Construction Mgmt Div of the Dept of Public Works, to Make Offers & Negotiate Claims for Business Damages, Attorneys' Fees, & Costs Related...(B.T. 25-014) (Garrett) (Req of Mayor)
10/22/24 CO Introduced: NCSPHS, R, F, TEU
11/4/24 NCSPHS Read 2nd & Rerefer
11/4/24 R Read 2nd & Rerefer
11/6/24 F Read 2nd & Rerefer
11/6/24 TEU Read 2nd & Rerefer
Public Hearing Pursuant to Ch 166, F.S. & C.R. 3.601 - 11/12/24

READ 2ND & REREFER

6. [2024-0850](#) ORD Closing & Abandoning &/or Disclaiming an Opened & Improved Portion of the Nussbaum Dr R/W, Estab in the Plat of Jacksonville Heights North Half of Townsite, as Recorded, at the Req of Joseph Latchman & Emily (Livingston) Latchman; Prov for Appvl Subject to Conds (Dist. 9-Clark-Murray) (Dillard) (Req of Mayor)
10/22/24 CO Introduced: TEU
11/6/24 TEU Read 2nd & Rerefer
TEU PH Pursuant to Sec 336.10, F.S. - 11/19/24
Public Hearing Pursuant to Ch 166, F.S. & C.R. 3.601 - 11/12/24

READ 2ND & REREFER

JTA presentation - Mobility Works and local option gas tax

Nat Ford, CEO of JTA, introduced an update on the Mobility Works Program funded by the Better Jacksonville Plan local option gas tax. He announced that JTA is finishing off the last of the 13 Mobility Works 1.0 road projects in early December which is 2 years ahead of schedule. Mobility Works 1.0 also includes 14 corridor projects of which 7 have been completed. JTA has gotten \$34M in federal grants for the St. Johns River Ferry to completely overhaul the ferry's infrastructure and to purchase a second ferry vessel.

Mobility Works 2.0 incorporates 10 complete streets projects, two Community Mobility For All projects (countywide ADA enhancements and Northwest Jax corridor improvements) and 5 Iconic Projects, including the Emerald Trail, the new ferry vessel, and Ultimate Urban Circulator (U2C) downtown service expansion. In response to a question from Council Member Peluso, Mr. Ford said JTA is coordinating with the City bike and pedestrian coordinator in its project planning to ensure compatibility. Mr. Ford noted the authority's 75% on-time performance for the bus system with 79% satisfaction rating from riders, and an 83% satisfaction rating from Connexion paratransit system riders.

Greer Gillis, Senior Vice President of System Development and Capital Programs, gave a presentation on Mobility Works 2.0, noting that \$32M in local option gas tax has been collected for this phase to date. She reviewed the progress being made on each of the projects and reported that the federal government has granted \$147M for the Emerald Trail project and \$15.6M for a second ferry vessel. Ms. Gillis thanked the City's Public Works Department and Planning Department for their cooperation in several projects.

Ms. Gillis explained that the U2C consists of 3 phases – the Bay Street Innovation Corridor, downtown extension, and neighborhood expansions. The Autonomous Innovation Center at the corner of Bay and Jefferson Streets will service, charge and store the autonomous vehicles. Passenger service on the Bay Street Innovation Corridor will start in June 2025 with a modified 10-passenger autonomous van being built from scratch since there currently are no federally certified autonomous vehicles (AVs) available. The U2C downtown expansion is in the preliminary design and engineering phase and the Phase III neighborhood expansions phase has gotten a federal grant for initial planning and development. She described the funding that has been expended on each of the phases to date.

Chairman Lahnen asked if the federal grants received by JTA will free up local option gas tax (LOGT) revenues for other projects. Mr. Ford said there is a substantial local match requirement from the gas tax for the Emerald Trail federal grant, which will be distributed on a reimbursement basis. The Emerald Trail project must be completed within 6 years and the second ferry vessel must be procured within 3 years, so the local option gas tax revenue is already insufficient to meet the local match needs for those two grants for the next few years, much less be available for use other projects. U2C Phase I is fully funded; Phase II will be paid for over 30 years of LOGT and other funding is being sought. 30% design of Phase II will be complete by the end of 2025 and that will provide a better cost estimate for that phase. Mr. Ford said the work being done on Phase I on Bay Street is providing lessons that might allow Phase III, the at-grade extensions to neighborhoods, to take place before Phase II.

Council Member Gay thanked JTA for its good work on the Faye Road and Alta Road projects and said more work is needed on Yellow Bluff Road and other projects on the Northside. Council Member Matt Carlucci asked about the autonomous vehicle company coming to Jacksonville and the status of the project. Mr. Ford said the announcement was made in early September that Holon, a German company, is coming to Jacksonville to build the first federally certified autonomous shuttles that meet Buy American standards and which will be exported worldwide. FSCJ has announced a new curriculum in autonomous vehicles and technologies to train workers for this growing industry. Council Member Lahnen asked what other projects could be undertaken if grants received were able to free up local funds for other uses. Mr. Ford said that would have to be worked out via an amendment to the existing interlocal agreement between the City and JTA for the current project list.

Council Member Peluso asked about the typical speed for the AVs downtown; Mr. Ford said 25 mph. In response to a question from Mr. Peluso about whether there are federal time limits on making progress on the U2C, Mr. Ford said the last letter JTA got from the federal government said the City is liable for at least the depreciated value of the Skyway and possibly the whole \$100M original grant if the project is abandoned. Mr. Peluso said he can't envision the federal government trying to recoup a grant made in the 1980s for a technology that never got past the initial 3 demonstration projects. He asked if the AVs can deal with street flooding as sometimes happens in the stadium area. Mr. Ford said the system is being designed to deal with those situations and the on-board attendant and/or the AIC control center will be able to control the vehicle's response to that situation. In response to a question from Mr. Peluso, Mr. Ford said the AVs could operate much faster than 25 mph when on the retrofitted Skyway structure instead of at-grade because that is a dedicated structure with no obstacles. Mr. Peluso asked for ridership figures for the Riverside Avenue lunchtime shuttle pilot project and for the future ridership projections on the Bay Street corridor. He also asked for figures on the ridership of Miami's People Mover system, one of the other two pilot projects from the 1980s. Mr. Peluso described a golf cart-based free transit system in downtown Norfolk and suggested that it might be a much more cost-effective method of moving people than expensive AVs.

Council Member Peluso asked if there is a scenario where poor ridership on the Bay Street Innovation Corridor would cause a cancellation of that service or of Phase II given its cost and other potential uses for the funds. Mr. Ford said JTA constantly evaluates its services and adjusts accordingly. He said part of JTA's success at getting federal grants is that the agency lives up to its commitments and has a track record of producing what it applied for in the grants, which increases its credibility for getting future grants.

Public Comment

Barry Cotter said all JTA vehicles need to have the capacity to carry bicycles, including the U2C, because that increases the mobility of riders to get to their end destinations.

NOTE: The next regular meeting will be held Tuesday, November 19, 2024.

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

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Jeff Clements - Council Research Division
jeffc@coj.net 904-255-5137
Posted 11.8.24 11:15 a.m.