

City of Jacksonville

117 W Duval St
Jacksonville, FL 32202



Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 1, 2021

2:00 PM

Council Chambers 1st Floor, City Hall & Virtual

Transportation, Energy & Utilities Committee

Ron Salem, Pharm. D., Chair

LeAnna Cumber, Vice Chair

Kevin Carrico

Reggie Gaffney

Al Ferraro

Joyce Morgan

Danny Becton

Legislative Assistant: Sandra Nester

Legislative Assistant: Juliette Williams

Chief Office of General Counsel: Paige Johnston

Research Assistant: Anthony Baltiero

Asst. Council Auditor: Phillip Peterson

Administration: Rachel Zimmer

Planning Dept.: Laurie Santana

If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Council with respect to any matter considered at such meeting, such person will need a record of the proceedings, and for such purposes, such person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

MEETING TIME: 2:00 P.M. – 4:30 P.M.

Physical Location: Council Chambers
City Hall
117 W. Duval Street
Jacksonville, Florida 32202

(If attending virtually, please join the meeting by 1:45 P.M.)

Meeting ID: 977 5707 7863

Meeting Password: 325095

Council Members, City staff and the public may attend the meeting at the physical location- Council Chambers, but CDC guidelines will be adhered to due to COVID-19. A mandatory mask requirement is in place for all public buildings pursuant to the COJ Emergency Executive Proclamation 2020-005, as extended.

The public will be encouraged to share general comments with individual council members by email or telephone. Public hearings and public participation are required by state statute for specific legislation. We will conduct these hearings as required by state law.

CCMeeting03092021@coj.net is the designated email for general comments to be including as a part of this meeting.

Scrivener's

Contact:
CM Salem

Meeting Convened: 2:00 P.M.

Meeting Adjourned: 3:41 P.M.

Attendance: Council Members Salem (Chair), Cumber (Vice Chair), Morgan, Gaffney, Ferraro, Carrico, Becton

Visiting: Council Members Boylan (Zoom), White (Call)

Also: Anthony Baltiero, Yvonne Mitchell - Council Research; Paige Johnston - Office of General Council; Sandra Nester, Juliette Williams – Legislative Services; Phillip Peterson - Council Auditor's Office; Melanie Wilkes, Eric Grantham and Steve Cassada – Council Support Services

Chair Salem called the meeting to order, introduced the Committee, and reviewed the items on the meeting's Agenda noting the actions to be taken for each item. Following the Agenda review, the Chair introduced the guest speaker, Laurie Santana, Chief of Transportation Planning for the City.

Laurie Santana, Chief of Transportation Planning for the City of Jacksonville gave a presentation regarding the Pedestrian and Bicycle Masterplan activities within the City, including a review of the Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator position and the current status of the attempt to fill that position. The Planning Department conducts regular development plan reviews and currently the City just updated the 2030 Mobility plan and adopted the 2045 Mobility Plan. Ms. Santana described some of the Department's functions as they relate to bicycle/pedestrian issues, including the installation and maintenance of bicycle paths on the rights-of way, the installation of mid-block crossings and Rectangular Rapid Flash Beacons (RRFBs). Examples of the Resurfacing Program were given of recently resurfaced roads that now include bicycle lanes in the Riverside area. Ms. Santana discussed the quarterly COJ Pedestrian and Bicycle Planning Newsletter titled, The Lace & Axle, that is distributed at City facilities including the public libraries. The newsletter provides information and updates about topics related to pedestrian/bicycle safety, upcoming events, programs, and more. Ms. Santana discussed the City's JAXRAX pilot program that installs "U" shaped bike racks across the City. The goal is the install the racks in commercial areas where there are limited bike rack options. More information about the program can be found online at, coj.net/pedbike. Following the presentation, Chair Salem opened the floor to questions.

Council Member Cumber asked if there is an additional budget for the inclusion of bicycle lanes in the resurfacing program. Ms. Santana said that the costs get absorbed into the program because typically the roads are already getting restriped and it is just a matter of where the stripes will go. There is an occasional cost for signage, but it ultimately gets absorbed within the resurfacing program's budget. Council Member Cumber asked if the bicycle lanes are only being installed when a resurfacing is being conducted or are areas that are targeted that need a bicycle lane getting them without a full resurfacing. Ms. Santana said that the resurfacing program is doing the bicycle lanes on their projects and occasionally will add bicycle lanes to areas to connect the gaps between bicycle lanes. Council Member Cumber shared the idea of painting the bike lanes green to provide better contrast for motorists and bicyclists and asked about the cost of the bike racks in the JAXRAX Program. Ms. Santana said that the racks cost approximately \$200-\$300 per unit. It costs a bit more for the installation because a cement slab is required. The budget of the initial pilot program was approximately \$10,000. Council Member Cumber asked if there is a City-wide plan for the distribution of the bike racks. Ms. Santana said that the goal is to have the bike racks spread across the City and not just focused on high bicycle traffic areas.

Council Member Morgan asked if the bike racks in the JAXRAX Program are a standardized size or are there different models being implemented. Ms. Santana said that the racks are all the same "U" shaped model that can store two bicycles. Depending on the area, more than one unit can be installed. Council Member Morgan

asked if any of the proposed areas for the racks are close to City parks. Ms. Santana said no because the parks typically already have bike rack options. These racks are geared toward more commercial areas of the City. Council Member Morgan asked about the number of resurfacing projects that will most likely receive bicycle lanes. Ms. Santana said that she is not sure offhand and noted that not all of the resurfacing projects overlap with the bicycle network. Council Member Morgan asked for copies of the Lace & Axle Quarterly to be delivered to her office and asked Ms. Santana to come back to give an update on the Core to Coast Program.

Council Member Gaffney asked for the procedure for requesting RRFBs within his district and asked if the process was any different for crosswalks near schools. Ms. Santana said that the best thing to do would be to contact her department with the locations and they can see if they can fit into the installation plan. As for schools, DCPS has their own particular processes and procedures for their crosswalks. Council Member Gaffney asked about the number of projects that are on the list for RRFBs installations asking if the number is in the hundreds or lower. Ms. Santana said that there are approximately 50-100 projects currently on the list.

Council Member Ferraro asked about the procedure for seeing if a road has enough bike traffic to necessitate a bike lane. Ms. Santana said it can be difficult to calculate the usage of bikes on roads without bike lanes for various reasons, including bicyclists will avoid a road that does not have a designated area for safe biking, bikes will be used on the sidewalks, or sometimes they will take a different route. Council Member Ferraro asked if there are traffic concerns that may arise from the installation of bike lanes and RRFBs, particularly as roads tend to get narrower. Ms. Santana explained that there is a process through the Department of Transportation guidelines, including conducting lane elimination assessments or road repurposing assessments where the road has to meet several criteria for consideration of augmentation. Depending on the assessments, the road may, or may not, be a good candidate for bike lanes or RRFBs. Council Member Ferraro asked about instances where there are two or more RRFBs in fairly rapid succession which can cause traffic issues. Ms. Santana said that it all comes down to the traffic assessment. Depending on the need, some areas may have more RRFB crossings. Also, if it is a State road, they may also install RRFBs in addition to the City's installations.

Chair Salem asked for an update on the process of recruiting a new Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator. Ms. Santana said that she has been in touch with the Human Resources department and asked them to keep the job listing open until filled. There are currently three candidates for the position, but the department would prefer a wider pool of candidates to choose from. Chair Salem asked about the City's policy on sidewalks and which developments automatically get them. Ms. Santana said that the Land Development Procedures Manual has requirements listed for what developments require sidewalks. For example, if it is a residential subdivision, the main line road, before it forks off to different areas, has to have sidewalks on both sides of the right-of-way. There is a separate budget, funded through the mobility plan, for sidewalk installation and repairs.

Chair Salem invited Chris Burns, Florida Bicycle Accident Attorney, to provide some comments regarding bicycle/pedestrian issues within the City. Mr. Burns opined on the state of the bicycle/pedestrian experience in Jacksonville both positive and negative and provided information, including that Jacksonville has been the most dangerous city in the USA, for pedestrians and bicycles since at least 2010, the importance of the Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator Position, the lack of coverage in the City's master mobility plan, the amount of identified safety projects that have yet to have been started or completed, and the high level of turnaround in the Coordinator position has led to a lack of institutional knowledge. Mr. Burns provided information about the percentage of projects not completed, possible funding sources, and closed with stressing the importance of finding a highly qualified person to fill the Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator position. Ms. Santana commented that the updated 2045 Mobility Plan will address many of the issues and include greater funding for projects. The Plan is currently in the process of being drafted into an Ordinance and once the Ordinance makes its way through Council, the 2045 Mobility Plan will then be implemented.

Item/File No.

Title History

1. [2020-0559](#) ORD-MC Creating a New Chapt 797 (Local Option Vessel Registration Fee), Ord Code, Adopting the Local Option Vessel Registration Fee Permitted by State Law; Setting Effective Date of New Local Option Vessel Registration Fee as 1/1/21; Directing the Chief of Legislative Svcs to Forward a Copy of the Ord Upon Enactment to the Tax Collector & to the Mayors of Baldwin, Atlantic Beach, Jax Beach & Neptune Beach; Directing the Tax Collector to Notify the State of Imposition of the New Local Option Vessel Registration Fee. (Johnston) (Introduced by CM Dennis)
9/8/20 CO Introduced: NCSPHS, TEU, F, R, JWC
9/14/20 NCSPHS Read 2nd & Rerefer
9/14/20 TEU Read 2nd & Rerefer
9/15/20 F Read 2nd & Rerefer
9/15/20 R Read 2nd & Rerefer
9/22/20 CO PH Read 2nd & Rereferred: NCSPHS, TEU, F, R, JWC
10/28/20 JWC Approve 1-7 (Fail) (Birtalan, Haskell, Burnett, Devereaux, Hardesty, Ferraro, White)
Public Hearing Pursuant to Chapt 166, F.S. & CR 3.601 – 9/22/20

DEFER (At request of CM Dennis)

2. [2020-0757](#) ORD-MC Amending Sec 655.508 (Mobility Fee Contract), Pt 5 (Mobility Fee), Chapt 655 (Concurrency & Mobility Management System), Ord Code, to Clarify the Allowance of a Mobility Fee Contract to Memorialize Credits Against Future Mobility Fee Payments for the Cost Related to the Demolition & Repurposing of an Existing Structure or Improvemnt. (Diamond) (Introduced by CM Diamond)
12/8/20 CO Introduced: NCSPHS, TEU, F, R, LUZ
1/4/21 NCSPHS Read 2nd & Rerefer
1/4/21 TEU Read 2nd & Rerefer
1/5/21 F Read 2nd & Rerefer
1/5/21 R Read 2nd & Rerefer
1/5/21 LUZ Read 2nd & Rerefer
1/12/21 CO PH Read 2nd & Rereferred: NCSPHS, TEU, F, R, LUZ
1/20/21 LUZ PH - 2/2/21, 2/17/21, 3/2/21, 3/16/21
Public Hearing Pursuant to Chapt 166, F.S. & CR 3.601 – 1/12/21

DEFER (At request of CM Diamond)

3. [2021-0064](#) ORD Naming Field at J.P. Small Memorial Park Stadium Located at 1701 Myrtle Ave, Jax, FL 32209, for Henry L. Aaron, to be Known as the “Henry L. Aaron Field at J.P. Small Memorial Park Stadium.” (Dist. 8-Pittman) (Johnston) (Introduced by CMs Salem, Pittman, Newby & R. Gaffney) (Co-Sponsored by CMs Becton, Bowman, Hazouri & Morgan)
2/9/21 CO Introduced: NCSPHS, TEU
2/16/21 NCSPHS Read 2nd & Rerefer
2/16/21 TEU Read 2nd & Rerefer
2/23/21 CO Read 2nd & Rereferred: NCSPHS, TEU
TEU PH - 3/15/21
Public Hearing Pursuant to Chapt 166, F.S. & C.R. 3.601 – 3/23/21 & 4/13/21

DEFER (Due to dates of required Public Hearings)

4. [2021-0074](#) ORD-MC Amending Sec. 129.102 (Salary of Members of Council; Salary of Council President), Chapt 129 (Compensation of City Officials & Employees), Ord Code, to Require that an Increase or Cost of Living Adjustment Approved for Council Annual Salary be Prepared as Separate Legislation from the Annual Budget Bill (Johnston) (Introduced by CM Diamond, White & Ferraro) (Co-Sponsored by CMs Cumber)
2/9/21 CO Introduced: NCSPHS, TEU, F, R, LUZ
2/16/21 NCSPHS Read 2nd & Rerefer
2/16/21 TEU Read 2nd & Rerefer
2/17/21 F Read 2nd & Rerefer
2/17/21 R Read 2nd & Rerefer
2/17/21 LUZ Read 2nd & Rerefer
2/23/21 CO PH Read 2nd & Rereferred: NCSPHS, TEU, F, R, LUZ
Public Hearing Pursuant to Chapt 166, F.S. & CR 3.601 – 2/23/21

DEFER (At request of CM Diamond)

5. [2021-0079](#) ORD Approp \$1,037,130.00 from FEMA through the State of FL Div of Emergency Mgmt. Under the Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grant Prog. to Fund the Acquisition & Installation of 7 Permanent Generators at 7 Storm Water Pump Station Sites within Duval Cty, Amending the 2021-2025 5 Yr CIP Apvd by Ord 2020-505-E to Purchase & Install Permanent Emergency Generators at the Following Locations: Hillman Dr., Myrtle Ave., Hilly Rd., Bradley Rd., Jessie St., McGrits Creek Park/Lew Brantley & Sandalwood Canal; Providing for City Oversight by the Dept. of Public Works, Public Bldgs Div (B.T. 21-038) (Staffopoulos) (Req of Mayor)
2/9/2021 CO Introduced: NCSPHS, TEU, F
2/16/21 NCSPHS Read 2nd & Rerefer
2/16/21 TEU Read 2nd & Rerefer
2/17/21 F Read 2nd & Rerefer
2/23/21 CO PH Read 2nd & Rereferred: NCSPHS, TEU, F
Public Hearing Pursuant to Chapt 166, F.S. & CR 3.601 – 2/23/21

DEFER (At request of the Administration)

6. [2021-0090](#) RESO Supporting Senate Bill 78, Designating a Portion of State Road U.S. 90/Beaver St. btwn Chaffee Rd & U.S. 301 in Duval Cty as “John B. Coxwell Memorial Highway;” Directing the Chief of Legislative Svcs to Send a Copy of this Reso Upon Adoption to the FDOT, Duval Legislative Delegation, the Senate President & the Speaker of the House. (Sidman) (Introduced by CM White) (Co-Sponsored by CMs Becton, Salem, Ferraro, R. Gaffney, Newby, Pittman DeFoor, Carlucci, Priestly Jackson, Boylan & Freeman)
2/9/2021 CO Introduced: TEU, R
2/16/21 TEU Read 2nd & Rerefer
2/17/21 R Read 2nd & Rerefer
2/23/21 CO Read 2nd & Rereferred: TEU, R
3/1/21 TEU Approve 7-0
3/2/21 R Approve 6-0

APPROVE

VOTE: The bill passed unanimously.

Aye: 7 - Salem, Cumber, Gaffney, Ferraro, Morgan, Becton and Carrico

7. [2021-0094](#) RESO Regarding COJ's 2021 List of Priority Projects Related to Transportation Improvements; Providing a Recommendation to the North FL Transportation Planning Organization (TPO). (Johnston) (Introduced by CMs Newby, DeFoor & White) (Co-Sponsored by CMs Morgan & Pittman)
2/9/21 CO Introduced: TEU, R
2/16/21 TEU Read 2nd & Rerefer
2/17/21 R Read 2nd & Rerefer
2/23/21 CO Read 2nd & Rereferred: TEU, R
3/1/21 TEU Approve 7-0
3/2/21 R Approve 7-0

APPROVE

COMMENTARY: Council Member Ferraro asked to put forward a floor amendment that would change the numbering of the projects on the priority list. Currently, the "Normandy" project is number one on the list and the "Main Street" project is number two. Council Member Ferraro wants to move the "Main Street" project to the number one spot to hopefully help to secure project funding. A discussion was had regarding whether or not the ordering of the projects on the list had any bearing on whether or not the project would receive funding. Council Member White, the co-sponsor of the bill, is the Council Member for the district that houses the "Normandy" project. Council Members Cumber and Salem felt uneasy changing the priority list without Council Member White's input. After consideration and consultation with Paige Johnston, Office of General Counsel, Council Member Ferraro withdrew his floor amendment and Chair Salem deferred the bill. Seeking further clarification, the Chair asked Bill Killingsworth, Chief of Planning and Development, to explain the priority list. Mr. Killingsworth said that the numbers on the list are for internal tracking purposes and do not have a bearing on the possible funding. The Normandy and Main Street projects are always listed as numbers 1 & 2 because they are very expensive projects that keep rolling over because funding is not available. If funding through the state becomes available, the projects have to be on the list, the order is irrelevant. With this new information, and with the approval of Council Member White who called into the meeting, Chair Salem reopened the bill to be voted on as is.

VOTE: The bill passed unanimously.

There was a discussion about what happens to CRA funds and CRA funded projects after the CRA "sunsets". Susan Grandin, Office of General Counsel, explained that the funds go back into the General Fund and if a project was funded out in advance, the project will continue to be funded even if the funding CRA sunsets.

8. [2021-0100](#) ORD Auth the Borrowing from the City's Commercial Paper Facility and/or Issuance of Fixed-Rate Debt in the Max Amount of up to \$100,000,000 to Provide Funding for the Wastewater System Improvement Program; Approp \$100,000,000 to the Water/Wastewater System Fund; Amending 2020-504-E, the FY 20-21 Budget Ord, to Replace the Schedule B4 in Order to Allow for the "Water/Wastewater System Fund;" Amending the 2021-2025 5-Yr CIP Approved by Ord 2020-505-E to Provide Funding for the Project Entitled "Water/Wastewater System Fund;" Providing for Quarterly Reports to Council. (Sidman) (Introduced by CP Hazouri) (Co-Sponsored by CMs Carlucci, Pittman, DeFoor & Dennis)
2/23/21 CO Introduced: NCSPHS, TEU, F
3/1/21 NCSPHS Read 2nd & Rerefer
3/1/21 TEU Read 2nd & Rerefer
3/2/21 F Read 2nd & Rerefer
Public Hearing Pursuant to Chapt 166, F.S. & C.R. 3.601 – 3/9/21

READ 2ND & REREFER

9. [2021-0110](#) ORD Auth the Granting of a Non-Residential Solid Waste Collection & Transportation Franchise to GFL Solid Waste Southeast, LLC Pursuant to Chap 380 (Solid Waste Management), Part 6 (Nonresidential Solid Waste Collection & Transportation Franchises), Ord Code; Providing for Oversight by the Dept of Public Works, Solid Waste Div. (Staffopoulos) (Req of Mayor)
2/23/21 CO Introduced: TEU, F
3/1/21 TEU Read 2nd & Rerefer
3/2/21 F Read 2nd & Rerefer
Public Hearing Pursuant to Chapt 166, F.S. & C.R. 3.601 – 3/9/21

READ 2ND & REREFER

10. [2021-0112](#) ORD Approp \$3,127,492.00 to Fund a One-Way to Two-Way Street Conversion of Portions of Adams St. & Forsyth St.; Purpose of Approp.; Providing for Oversight by the DIA.
(B.T. 21-043)(Staffopolous)(Req of Mayor)
2/23/21 CO Introduced: TEU, F
3/1/21 TEU Read 2nd & Rerefer
3/2/21 F Read 2nd & Rerefer
Public Hearing Pursuant to Chapt 166, F.S. & C.R. 3.601 – 3/9/21

READ 2ND & REREFER

11. [2021-0114](#) ORD Amending Ord 2019-888-E to Provide for a Carryover of so that the “Roosevelt/Edgewood - Artwalk & Lighting” Proj. can be Completed Following Constructn Delays; Providing for an Amendmnt to the Reverter Language Provide for in 2019-888-E; Providing for Retroactive Applicability; Providing that there are no other Changes to Ord 2019-888-E. (Johnston) (Introduced by CM DeFoor)
2/23/21 CO Introduced: NCSPHS, TEU, F
3/1/21 NCSPHS Read 2nd & Referer
3/1/21 TEU Read 2nd & Rerefer
3/2/21 F Read 2nd & Rerefer
Public Hearing Pursuant to Chapt 166, F.S. & C.R. 3.601 – 3/9/21

READ 2ND & REREFER

12. [2021-0118](#) ORD Approp. \$14,384,362 of City Funds & \$12,500,000 of JEA Funds to Provide Funding for The Christobel Neighborhood Septic Tank Phase Out Proj.; Purpose of Approp.; Providing a Carryover of Funds from Yr. to Yr. until such Funds are Expended or Lapse According to the Agreemnt; Amending 2020-504-E, the FY 2021 Budget Ord., to Replace Schedule B4, the FY 2020-2021 CIP Projs. Funded via Borrowing, to Authorize the Borrowing and/or the Issuance of Debt for the Water/Wastewater System Fund Proj.; Amending the 2021-2025 5Yr. CIP Prog. Apvd. by Ord 2020-505-E to add the Proj. entitled “Water/Wastewater System Fund”; Auth the Mayor, or his Designee, and Corp.Secretary to Execute & Deliver a 2nd Amendmnt to the Interagency Agreemnt btwn the City of Jax & JEA dated 3/22/2016; Providing for Constructn. (B.T. 21-053) (Sawyer) (Req of Mayor & Co-Introduced by CVP Newby, CMS Pittman & Priestly Jackson)
2/23/21 CO Introduced: NCSPHS, TEU, F
3/1/21 NCSPHS Read 2nd & Referer
3/1/21 TEU Read 2nd & Rerefer
3/2/21 F Read 2nd & Rerefer
Public Hearing Pursuant to Chapt 166, F.S. & C.R. 3.601 – 3/9/21

READ 2ND & REREFER

PUBLIC COMMENT: Cornell Oliver opined on the potential usage of CRA funds and the idea of tapping Tallahassee for funding opportunities to fund local projects.

NOTE: The next regular meeting will be held Monday, March 15, 2021.

*******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.

Rollcall

Present: 7 - Chair Ron Salem, Vice Chair LeAnna Cumber, Council Member Reggie Gaffney, Council Member Al Ferraro, Council Member Joyce Morgan, Council Member Danny Becton and Council Member Kevin Carrico

Minutes: Anthony J. Baltiero, Council Research Assistant
abaltiero@coj.net (904) 255-5157
Posted March 4, 2021 9:00 a.m.