

COUNCIL MINUTES  
SPECIAL WORKSHOP MEETING

March 26, 2015

A special workshop meeting of the City Council of the City of Jacksonville was held Thursday, March 26, 2015 beginning at 5:15 PM in Meeting Rooms A and B of Jacksonville City Hall. Present were: Mayor Sammy Phillips presiding; Mayor Pro-Tem Michael Lazzara and Council Members: Randy Thomas, Bob Warden, Angelia Washington and Jerome Willingham. Councilman Jerry Bittner was out of town and unable to attend. Also present were: Richard Woodruff, City Manager; Ronald Massey, Deputy City Manager; Glenn Hargett, Assistant Manager for Communications and Community Affairs; Carmen K. Miracle, City Clerk; and John Carter, City Attorney.

\*A video recording of the Council Meeting is presently available for review on the City's website.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Sammy Phillips called the meeting to order at 5:17 PM.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Councilwoman Washington, seconded by Councilman Willingham, and unanimously approved to adopt the agenda as amended to add Presentation A - Proclamation-Dr. Georgella E. Wright Day.

PRESENTATION

PROCLAMATION- DR. GEORGELLA E. WRIGHT DAY

Mayor Phillips read a Proclamation naming May 14, 2015 as Dr. Georgella E. Wright Day in the City of Jacksonville recognizing the contributions Dr. Wright as a devout mother, grandmother, and citizen of the City of Jacksonville. Dr. Wright is an acknowledged author and deeply involved with several non-profit organizations including the Onslow Women's Shelter. Following the reading of the Proclamation, Dr. Georgella E. Wright accepted the Proclamation.

MEETING TOPIC

NCDOT MUNICIPAL AGREEMENT-BEIRUT MEMORIAL GROVE

In 2013, the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) constructed a Beirut Memorial Grove to replace aging Bradford Pear Trees planted along Lejeune Boulevard. Site

conditions as well as other contributing factors caused the initial NCDOT tree planting to fail, and over the past year, staff worked with community stakeholders and the NCDOT to develop a project for restoring the Grove. To ensure the project would be successful, a new tree species (Chinese Pistache) was selected to compliment site conditions and City staff would complete the work to guarantee proper workmanship. The restoration project would replace all 273 trees, apply chemical treatments to control weeds and revive sod, and included 12 months of comprehensive maintenance funded by NCDOT. In 2009, City Council agreed to provide long-term maintenance of landscaping enhancements for the Jacksonville Bypass (the U-2107 project) that included the Beirut Memorial Grove following the 12-month period.

If approved by Council, the Secretary of Transportation agreed to request the Board of Transportation approval on April 2, so restoration work could commence immediately. NCDOT would reimburse the City for all restoration costs up to \$180,000.

A motion was made by Councilman Willingham, seconded by Councilman Warden, and unanimously approved to adopt the Budget Amendment and authorize the City Manager to execute the NCDOT Municipal Agreement.

Ordinance 2015-07, Bk. 12, Pg. 327

#### ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilwoman Washington, seconded by Councilman Thomas, and unanimously adopted to adjourn the meeting at 5:29 PM.

Adopted by the Jacksonville City Council in regular session this 7th day of April, 2015.

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Sammy Phillips, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Carmen K. Miracle, City Clerk