

COUNCIL MINUTES
SPECIAL WORKSHOP MEETING

June 21, 2011

A special workshop meeting of the City Council of the City of Jacksonville was held Tuesday, June 21, 2011 beginning at 5:00 PM in Council Chambers of the Jacksonville City Hall. Present were: Mayor Sammy Phillips, presiding; Mayor Pro-Tem Michael Lazzara and Council Members: Jerry A. Bittner, Fannie K. Coleman, Randy Thomas, Bob Warden and Jerome Willingham. Also present were: Richard Woodruff, City Manager; Ron Massey, Assistant City Manager; Gayle Maides, Interim Finance Director; Glenn Hargett, Communications and Community Affairs Director; Mike Yaniero, Police Chief; Rick McIntyre, Fire Chief; Tim Chesnutt, Recreation and Parks Director; Earl Bunting, ITS Director; Grant Sparks, Public Services Director; Reggie Goodson, Planning and Development Services Director; Bill Ratliff, Human Resources Director; Carmen Miracle, City Clerk; and John Carter, City Attorney. *An audio recording of the Council Meeting is presently available for review in the City Clerk's Office.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Sammy Phillips called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Lazzara, seconded by Councilman Warden, and unanimously approved to adopt the agenda as amended to add property acquisition to the scheduled closed session.

MONTFORD POINT MARINE ASSOCIATION PRESENTATION

Chief Warrant Officer 5 Houston Shinal, National Monument Director, presented a short video to Council on the Montford Point Marine Monument concept outlining its design and location. Mr. Shinal stated that in June 1999, ground was broken at Camp Johnson with the intent to build a monument in honor of the Montford Point Marines. CWO5 Shinal stated that all 36 chapters of the National Montford Point Marine Association were on board to make this monument a reality. Using the PowerPoint presentation attached to the official minutes as Exhibit A, CWO5 Shinal reviewed their fund raising goal and plans. He stated that when the

current plan costs were brought down to their \$1.5 million goal, they would come back to Council asking for assistance.

Mayor and Council thanked Chief Warrant Officer 5 Houston Shinal for this informative presentation.

LAND APPLICATION UPDATE

Using the PowerPoint presentation attached as Exhibit A, Dr. Bruce Johnson, Soil Scientist with Stantec Consulting Services, Inc., presented an overview of the executive summary, recommendations of each section, and major conclusions from the February 2011 team evaluation. He stated there were over thirty separate recommendations in the report, but only three basic areas of need which included: 1) maximize fullest permitted extent and duration of wastewater irrigation, 2) perform forest management activities according to management plan, and 3) manage pre-treatment to optimize storage lagoon levels and effluent pH. Currently tree death was still extremely low at 5 to 6% and corrective actions were already being taken. Overall, the recommendations were: 1) management to reduce several stressors, 2) prompt action on targeted items to provide the greatest benefit, 3) to understand that some changes would take time, and 4) to work with nature, not against it.

Seth Ward, President of Premier Forestry & Environmental Consulting, presented the Forest Management Plan for the Land Treatment Site. Using the PowerPoint presentation, he reviewed the long term plan, why it was important to conduct forest management, and first steps.

Mayor Phillips asked if any of the lines were damaged during the controlled burn. Mr. Ward said no, but there was one small area with a smaller above ground line that developed a small pinhole and it was repaired.

Mr. Woodruff stated three more controlled burns had been planned, but were postponed due to the drought in the area. Those burns would resume when the ban was lifted. In each of the 120 management zones, there was a 25 year plan. Every year there would be many controlled burns in the fall and the spring, thinning, harvesting and constant reforestation. Council and the public would see constant work which was necessary to manage the forest, and to create a revenue stream to offset the expenditures of managing the forest. In some years there would be more revenue than expenses generated, especially during total harvesting; in other years the expenditures would be higher than revenues. Finance would be setting up very restrictive use of the revenues that came from the land application portion. If the revenues exceeded the

expenditures during the year, the remaining funds would be reserved so that in future years the revenues and expenditures would balance.

Mayor Pro-Tem Lazzara asked if financial projections would be brought to Council every year so that the financial implications for the management practices could be reviewed. Mr. Woodruff stated that it would become part of the budget process and the only reason it wasn't part of the current process was because plans were still in the process of being finalized.

Mayor Pro-Tem Lazzara asked in terms of the replacement trees, when would the ideal tree to replant be determined. Mr. Ward stated that it would be a several year process of test plots to determine the proper species. The testing was not focused on a single species, but on species best for the different types of landscape and on the market for them. There would actually be a mix of species.

Mayor Phillips asked if Council would be receiving information on a periodic basis. Mr. Woodruff stated Staff was looking at a quarterly update either via the management report or at a workshop.

Mayor Phillips stated that with this investment in taxpayer dollars, the management program was an essential operation that needed to be continued.

RECREATION MASTER PLAN

Using the PowerPoint presentation attached as Exhibit A, Tim Chesnutt, Recreation and Parks Director, reviewed the recommended structure presented in the Comprehensive Master Plan. The basic structure started with the hub concept where the largest parks serve as "destinations". The next tier would be the community parks, with the last tier being neighborhood parks.

Mr. Chesnutt stated the City received a copy of the completed Military Task Force Commission Report which would become an addendum to the City's Master Plan. The addendum took a regional approach and made recommendations for a collaborative effort between the Base, Onslow County and the City. Specific recommendations were made for joint use facilities. Locations identified for this combined effort included Onslow Pines Park and possibly Tarawa Terrace.

Concepts for Phillips Park, Jack Amyette Park, Northeast Creek Park, and the Commons and Richard Ray Park were presented. Mr. Chesnutt discussed their current uses, major assets,

proposed uses, transition plan and vision for the parks. He asked Council to consider accepting the Master Plan independent of the concepts, as the site plan concepts were for illustration only.

Mr. Woodruff stated that when the Master Plan Study was commissioned, more was expected from the consultant than was received. Individual studies of the four parks were prepared by Staff who worked with the Recreation and Parks Commission to create a transition plan. By looking at the user and opportunity patterns of all the parks, Council could rebuild what the City currently had, or given the fact that Jacksonville had changed since the original money was invested, the parks could be used in a different way. The first park Staff would like to implement was Jack Amyette. Council would be provided a site plan on the redevelopment of the land area within the next 30 days. Mr. Woodruff stated that the studies prepared by Staff on the four conception plans would have cost about \$35,000 for a consultant group to prepare.

Mayor Phillips stated that what Staff had provided was what Council was looking for from the Master Plan from the beginning and he commended staff on creating a better product.

Councilman Bittner stated there was a lot to consider and felt more discussion was needed.

Mayor Phillips stated he would like to see a workshop dedicated totally to the Recreation Master Plan.

Councilman Willingham stated he would like the analysis of the removal of the ball fields from Phillips Park to be substantial and objective. He was in favor of modifications and updating, but did not want to see structures that could be used torn down without logic and significant review. He stated the rearranging of Jack Amyette made sense.

Councilman Bittner stated that since the City didn't own the land around Jack Amyette, there needed to be an agreement with the Board of Education guaranteeing the use of the facilities for at least the life of the investment before an investment was made to redo the basketball courts and ball fields.

Mr. Woodruff stated that the City Attorney had already drafted an Interlocal Agreement containing an amortization schedule and language about use and priority of use.

Councilman Warden asked if grants available to Parks and Recreation were contingent upon having an accepted Master Plan or just having a Master Plan. Mr. Chesnutt stated he was unsure, but not having a Master Plan in any form had hurt us. Councilman Warden asked if grant opportunities would be missed if Council took extra time to consider the adoption of the

Master Plan. Mr. Chesnutt stated that this was the time of year Staff would be looking for grant opportunities, and he should have a more definitive response within a month.

Mayor Phillips asked that the Master Plan be brought back to Council in the form of a formal workshop where Council would have time for discussion of the ideas and concepts. Mr. Woodruff also suggested that a tour of recreational facilities for Council would be beneficial. Council agreed.

CLOSED SESSION

A motion was made by Councilman Bittner, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Lazzara and unanimously approved to recess the Special Meeting at 6:30 PM in order to convene a Closed Session for the purpose of consulting with the attorney in order to preserve the attorney client privilege pursuant to General Statute 143-318.11, subsection (a-3) and regarding property acquisition pursuant to General Statute 143-318.11, subsection (a-5).

RECONVENE

Mayor Phillips reconvened the Special meeting at 6:58 PM and announced that no reportable action had been taken in closed session.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Lazzara, seconded by Councilman Warden, and unanimously adopted to adjourn the meeting at 6:59 PM.

Adopted by the Jacksonville City Council in regular session this 19th day of July, 2011.

Sammy Phillips, Mayor

ATTEST:

Carmen K. Miracle, City Clerk