

Mayor Brown expressed she appreciated how Council worked together and had Neptune Beach at the forefront of every decision. There are great things to come, and it has been an honor to serve.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Mayor Brown adjourned the meeting at 6:38 p.m.


Corrine A. Bylund, Mayor

ATTEST:



Catherine Ponson, CMC
City Clerk



Approved: 0106/2025



MINUTES
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2024, 7:00 P.M.
NEPTUNE BEACH CITY HALL
116 FIRST STREET
NEPTUNE BEACH, FLORIDA 32266

Pursuant to proper notice, a Special City Council Meeting of the City Council of the City of Neptune Beach was held on Tuesday, December 3, 2024, at 7:00 p.m., at Neptune Beach City Hall, 116 First Street, Neptune Beach, Florida 32266.

Attendance:**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mayor Elaine Brown
Vice Mayor Kerry Chin
Councilor Lauren Key
Councilor Nia Livingston
Councilor Josh Messinger
Mayor-Elect Cori Bylund
Councilor-Elect Tim Horvath
Councilor-Elect Brent Rogers

STAFF:

City Manager Richard Pike
City Attorney Paul Waters
Chief of Police Michael Key
Chief Financial Officer Jaime Hernandez
Senior Center Director Leslie Lyne
Public Works Director Deryle Calhoun
Parks and Sustainability Director Colin Moore
City Clerk Catherine Ponson

**Call to Order/Roll
Call/Pledge**

Mayor Brown called the Special Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and Councilor Messinger led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council Comments

Mayor Brown welcomed everyone to the Special Meeting and invited current Council Members to say a few words.

Vice Mayor Chin welcomed all the incoming Councilors. He believes that they have the best interests of the City in mind. He thinks the City will be in good hands, especially when they work together and with staff. Staff is going to be their backbone and support. He thanked them for stepping up to public service and they will find it rewarding.

Councilor Key commented it had been an immense honor and privilege to serve the citizens of Neptune Beach. Three generations of her family live here. She stated Neptune Beach is a wonderful place, and she knows how much we want to preserve it. There are wonderful people and neighbors in Neptune Beach. She looks forward to what the future brings as she continues her work as an advocate for the community. She thanked everyone for their support.

Mayor Brown expressed it had been an honor to serve as mayor of this wonderful community. She could not have done it without the support of her family and husband, former mayor Richard Brown. She is grateful to the City Council, those present and those who have served over the eight years with her. Together they faced a lot of challenges, celebrated success, and created lasting memories. She pointed out that they are leaving the City with just under \$8 million in reserves and strategic plans and projects that are funded that will enhance the City in the future. Together they have made a difference.

They leave the City in capable hands of leadership and staff. She leaves with a heart full of memories and excitement of what is yet to come.

Oaths of Office

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Vic Micolucci administered the Oath of Office to Councilor Tim Horvath.

City Clerk Catherine Ponson administered the Oath of Office to Councilor Brent Rogers.

4th Judicial Circuit Judge L.E. Hutton administered the Oath of Office to Mayor Cori Bylund.

The new City Council was seated.

New Council Comments

Mayor Cori Bylund thanked everyone for coming and invited her fellow new Councilors to make remarks.

Councilor Tim Horvath expressed his gratitude and appreciation for having the ability to be in this position. He expressed gratitude to the citizens and neighbors. Neptune Beach is a small community. We are all neighbors, which is what he loves and cherishes. He is happy to have the opportunity to be a part of it in a different way. He thanked his friends and family. He is excited to get to work and be a part of this.

Councilor Brent Rogers thanked everyone who supported him. He looks forward to starting a new chapter in Neptune Beach. He is a lifelong resident and is excited for the future.

Mayor Bylund remarked she sits before everyone taking the dais for the first time as mayor with great humility and deep gratitude. She is honored to serve as the newest mayor of Neptune Beach. She appreciates the weight of the responsibility that she now carries. She is committed to working tirelessly for the City. She thanked her husband, Dan Leonard. The decision to run was hard and it affects the entire family. She recognized her youngest son and grandson. She thanked everyone who helped with her campaign.

Mayor Bylund recognized the incredible hard work and dedication of the outgoing Mayor and City Councilors. She stated that their leadership has shaped our community in many ways. Their commitment to public service has set a very high standard for all to follow. She recognized Councilor Key, Vice Mayor Kerry Chin, and Mayor Brown. She is excited to work alongside staff to continue serving our community with dedication and pride. The work they do every day is the foundation of the City. She appreciates the commitment to making our City a great place to live and work. She looks forward to building strong collaborative relationships, tackling challenges together and celebrating the successes achieved as a team.

To her Neptune Beach neighbors, she stated what matters most is unity as a community. Though there have been differences throughout the process, there is a common goal to create a brighter future for Neptune Beach. Let us move forward together with a revived sense of purpose and hope. If we all pull together, we can overcome any challenges our City faces and we will build a better tomorrow for our children and grandchildren. The road ahead may not always be easy and we will not always agree. It is through our collective strength and resilience that we will continue to grow and thrive. As we turn this page to a new chapter, let us honor the work that has come before us and together let us create a future that makes us all proud.

Councilor Livingston commented that to everyone coming in that she is excited for what the future holds and looks forward to working alongside the new Council and getting to know them better, professionally and personally.