



**MINUTES
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2026, 6:00 P.M.
NEPTUNE BEACH CITY HALL
116 FIRST STREET
NEPTUNE BEACH, FLORIDA 32266**

Pursuant to proper notice, a Regular City Council Meeting of the City Council of the City of Neptune Beach was held on Monday, April 6, 2026, at 6:00 p.m, at Neptune Beach City Hall, 116 First Street, Neptune Beach, Florida 32266

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mayor Cori Bylund
Vice Mayor Nia Livingston
Councilor Tim Horvath
Councilor Josh Messinger
Councilor Brent Rogers

STAFF:

City Manager Richard Pike
City Attorney Paul Waters
Chief of Police Michael Key
Chief Financial Officer Jaime Hernandez
Public Works Director Deryle Calhoun
Community Development Director Heather Whitmore
Parks and Sustainability Director Colin Moore
Project Manager Blake West
City Clerk Catherine Ponson

Call to Order/Roll Call

Mayor Bylund provided the invocation, led the Pledge of Allegiance, and called the meeting to order.

PRESENTATIONS

NBPD Employee of the Year

Chief of Police Michael Key and Commander Liam Toal presented the Neptune Beach Police Department 2025 Employee of the Year to Officer Sean M. Kramer. Chief Key highlighted Officer Kramer's attributes, including his supervisory duties, professional development, contributions to agency improvements, and selfless service to the department and community.

Medal of Exceptional Duty

Chief Key and Commander Gary Stucki presented the Medal of Exceptional Duty to Detective Sergeant William E. Torres for his demonstration of leadership, professionalism and dedication of the highest order.

National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week

Mayor Bylund read and presented a proclamation recognizing April 12-18, 2026, as National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week.

Beaches Kiwanis Club Presentation

Beaches Kiwanis Club President Lynne Oliver and Past President Karl Price presented a \$10,000 gift to Neptune Beach for outdoor music therapy equipment in Jarboe Park, helping to create a space where children of all abilities can explore, connect, and thrive.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes Made by Livingston, seconded by Horvath.

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING:

March 2, 2026, Regular City Council Meeting

March 16, 2026, Special City Council Meeting

March 16, 2026, Workshop City Council Meeting

March 16, 2026, Town Hall Meeting

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: 5 – Horvath, Livingston, Messinger, Rogers, and Bylund

Noes: 0

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public Comments Christopher West, 106 Hall Place, Neptune Beach, commended the Neptune Beach Police Department for their efforts in reaching out and working with him and neighbors regarding complaints from the noise at Pete's Bar.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Report City Manager reports can be located on the City of Neptune Beach website at: <https://www.nbfl.gov/city-manager/pages/city-manager-reports>

ORDINANCES

Ord. No. 2025-19, BES Agreement Ord. No. 2025-19, Second Read and Public Hearing. An Ordinance Granting to the City of Jacksonville Beach, Florida, Doing Business as Beaches Energy Services, Its Successors and Assigns, the Right and Franchise to Operate an Electric Transmission and Distribution System in the City of Neptune Beach and to Construct, Maintain, Operate and Extend Electric Transmission and Distribution Lines in the Public Rights-of-Way of said City; Providing the Terms and Conditions of Such Franchise; Providing Terms and Conditions for the Undergrounding of Electric Facilities Within the City of Neptune Beach; Providing for Monthly Franchise Fee Payments to the City of Neptune Beach; Providing for Either Party's Right to Terminate the Franchise Agreement Created Hereby under Specified Circumstances; Providing for Repeal of Inconsistent Provisions in Other City Ordinances; and Providing for an Effective Date

Public Hearing Mayor Bylund opened the floor for public comment. There being no comments from the public, Mayor Bylund closed public comment.

Councilor Horvath pointed out that this is a 30-year agreement and there is no CPI adjustment for inflation.

Made by Messinger, seconded by Livingston.

MOTION: TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 2025-19, GRANTING A FRANCHISE AGREEMENT TO BEACHES ENERGY SERVICES

Roll Call Vote:
Ayes: 5-Livingston, Messinger, Rogers, Horvath, and Bylund
Noes: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Ord. No. 2026-03, Fence Height Ordinance No. 2026-03, First Read and Public Hearing, An Ordinance of The City of Neptune Beach, Florida, Amending the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 27, Unified Land Development Regulations; Article V, Accessory Structures and Uses, Section 27-330, Fences, Walls and Hedges; Providing Codification, Conflicts, Severability, and Providing an Effective Date (Increase height restriction from six to eight feet)

Public Hearing Mayor Bylund opened the floor for public comment. There being no comments from the public, Mayor Bylund closed public comment.

Community Development Director Heather Whitmore explained this is a request to change the height restriction of residential fences from six feet to eight feet.

Councilor Horvath reported he had several residents question why eight-foot fences could not be an option for privacy. He added that he wanted to bring before Council for discussion.

Council discussion included frequency of eight-foot requests, commercial corridor exceptions, community character concerns, prior Community Development Board review and a blanket change versus case-by-case basis.

Made by Horvath.

MOTION: TO APPROVE ORDINANCE NO. 2026-03 AT FIRST READ

Councilor Horvath's motion died for lack of a second.

Ord. No. 2026-04, Easements Ordinance No. 2026-04, First Read and Public Hearing, An Ordinance of the City of Neptune Beach, Florida, Amending the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 18, Streets, Sidewalks and Other Places; Article I, Section 18-5, Abandoning or Private Use of Public Property or Rights-of-Way; Providing Codification, Conflicts, Severability, and Providing an Effective Date (Adds Easements).

Public Hearing Mayor Bylund opened the floor for public comment. There being no comments from the public, Mayor Bylund closed public comment.

Ms. Whitmore stated that the Code requires an appraisal when there is a right-of-way or real property vacation. There is no language regarding easements. This would account for the public valuation of the land transaction, whether it is an easement or a right-of-way vacation.

Councilor Messinger requested language be added to clarify that this applies to easement and rights-of-way vacations and does not affect routine right-of-way permits.

City Attorney Paul Waters advised a change could be made between first and second reading and he will provide a draft.

Made by Messinger, seconded by Horvath.

MOTION: TO APPROVE ORDINANCE NO. 2026-04 AT FIRST READ WITH DIRECTION THAT STAFF MODIFY AS INSTRUCTED DURING DISCUSSION

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: 5-Rogers, Horvath, Livingston, Messinger, and Bylund

Noes: 0

MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

Vehicle Purchase
Using Fines and
Forfeitures Funds.

Request to Utilize Surplus Fines and Forfeiture Funds for Vehicle Purchase.

Chief Key reported there is an approximately nine-year-old vehicle that needs about \$12,000 of mechanical issues fixed. This exceeds the value of the vehicle itself. He is requesting to utilize \$38,000 from fines and forfeiture funds. Council approval is required for use of these funds. A budget amendment will be necessary as those funds had already been encumbered for shooting range improvements. The amendment will be on a later agenda.

Public Comment

Mayor Bylund opened the floor for public comment. There being no comments from the public, Mayor Bylund closed public comments.

Made by Messinger, seconded by Livingston.

MOTION: TO APPROVE REQUEST TO UTILIZE SURPLUS FINES AND FORFEITURE FUNDS FOR VEHICLE PURCHASE

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: 5-Horvath, Livingston, Messinger, Rogers, and Bylund

Noes: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Impact Fee Study
RFP

Approval of Request for Proposals for Development Impact Fee Study.

Made by Horvath, seconded by Messinger.

MOTION: TO APPROVE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR DEVELOPMENT IMPACT FEE STUDY

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 5 – Livingston, Messinger, Rogers, Horvath, and Bylund

Noes: 0

MOTION CARRIED

CRA Consulting
Service RFP

Approval of Request for Proposals for Community Redevelopment Area Consulting Service.

Made by Messinger, seconded by Rogers.

MOTION: TO APPROVE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AREA CONSULTING SERVICE

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: 5 – Messinger, Rogers, Horvath, Livingston and Bylund

Noes: 0

MOTION CARRIED

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilor Horvath clarified that at the last meeting he stated that Neptune Beach puts approximately half a million dollars into the Town Center. He had been looking at a document that was for a three-year period.

Councilor Rogers proposed soliciting commercial brokers to provide opinions of value for the City Hall property to have a discussion about potential relocation.

Councilor Rogers commented he had concerns with the way the previous agreement for fire water flow was approved and the language for the green water tank at 580 Atlantic Boulevard. He appreciated that Atlantic Beach is now being judicious for the new agreement in making sure that it is in the best interest of all residents of the beach.

Councilor Rogers expressed that Neptune Beach should communicate with Atlantic Beach and Jacksonville Beach on a joint response regarding the Live Local Act and potential tax-exemption issues.

Mayor Bylund commented that she, Vice Mayor Livingston and Councilor Horvath have expressed their disappointment in the legislature and the erosion of home rule to legislators. She agreed people should be contacting our representatives.

Vice Mayor Livingston added it is important for everyone to know the small percentage of legislators who served locally. Keeping representatives aware of how it affects citizens on a day-to-day basis is very important.

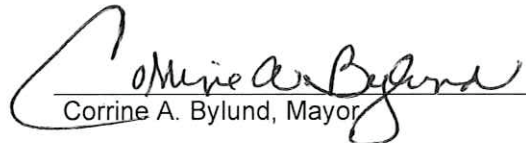
Councilor Messinger reported increasing parking pressure on First Street. There are people circling and looking for free parking and blocking driveways. He stated that Council should look at a mechanism that would make residential side streets for residents and guests only. First Street would be for paid parking. Neptune Beach residents would be free.

Mayor Bylund stated that this topic would be added to the April 20 workshop agenda to receive public comments.

Mayor Bylund announced on Saturday, April 25, Neptune Beach Elementary is having a Manatee 5K on the beach at 9:00 a.m., followed by the dedication of the Larry Hobbs Lifeguard Station at 11:00 a.m. The Opening of the Beaches Parade is scheduled for Sunday, April 26th at 2:00 p.m.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Mayor Bylund adjourned the meeting at 7:00 p.m.


Corrine A. Bylund, Mayor

ATTEST:



Catherine Ponson, CMC
City Clerk



Approved: 05-04-2024

****These minutes reflect the actions taken and portions of the discussion during the meeting. To review the entire discussion concerning any agenda item, please go to: <https://www.nbfl.gov/minutes-and-agendas>, and click on the video for the meeting in question.***