



Special Strategic Planning/Land Use and Parks Committee Meeting

Wednesday, May 8, 2019, 9:49 a.m.
City Hall, Council Chambers
116 First Street, Neptune Beach, FL 32266

Summary/ Recap

Members In Attendance:

Vice-Mayor Fred Jones, Chairman, Strategic Planning
Councilor Josh Messinger, Chairman, Land Use and Parks
Mayor Elaine Brown

Staff In Attendance:

Amanda Askew, Deputy City Manager
Peter Kajokas, Finance Director
Leon Smith, Public Works Director
Megan George, Deputy Public Works Director
Catherine Ponson, City Clerk

Call to Order

Vice Mayor Fred Jones called the special joint meeting to order at 9:49 a.m.

Third Street and Atlantic Boulevard to Seagate Avenue—Beautification, Pedestrian Safety and Operations

Vice Mayor Fred Jones explained this was a special joint committee meeting of the Strategic Planning and Land Use and Parks Committee. He recognized Land Use and Parks Chairman Josh Messinger and Mayor Elaine Brown.

He stated that this was a great opportunity to explore the Third Street and Atlantic Boulevard concept being developed by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) which is programmed for funding.

Mayor Brown explained that this project had been talked about two years ago and is now being planned. She added that the City wants to do something for pedestrians. She suggested communicating with the project manager to see what else could be done for safety.

Councilor Messinger stated that there appears to be room for beautification and trees in the intersection and this should be incorporated for quality of life. He also remarked about what could be done to improve aesthetics and more importantly pedestrian safety.

Chairman Jones commented that the next step would be to communicate with FDOT as it has been approved for funding and it is in the TIP (Transportation Improvement Program).

Mayor Brown suggested making a “wish list” to present to a Transportation Planning Organization meeting and focus on what the City would like to see in that area. Pedestrian safety should be at the top of that list.

Vice Mayor Jones remarked that adding what the City wants, including medians, refuge islands and landscape lighting, to this project would be cost effective.

Councilor Messinger suggested working with City staff to begin compiling the list and schedule another joint meeting, possibly in June, and fine tune the list at that meeting for presentation to the TPO in August. This should include countermeasures and solutions. Public input from citizens who have been negatively impacted should be included as well statistics from the Police Chief be included.

Mayor Brown announced a call for volunteers at Jarboe Park to contribute and get ideas on how to be involved. She suggested scheduling a meeting to begin this process and make it work in conjunction with the City. She also introduced clearing the calendar in July for meetings unless a special meeting would need to be scheduled.

Public Comment

Chuck McCue, 1908 3rd Street, Neptune Beach, spoke regarding spoke regarding concrete medians, proposed traffic lights on Atlantic Boulevard, and a proposed bike trail from the 500 Atlantic area along the creek to Jarboe Park.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.