



**MINUTES**  
**WORKSHOP CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**MONDAY, MARCH 18, 2024, 6:00P.M.**  
**NEPTUNE BEACH CITY HALL**  
**116 FIRST STREET**  
**NEPTUNE BEACH, FLORIDA 32266**

Pursuant to proper notice, a Workshop City Council Meeting of the City Council of the City of Neptune Beach was held on Monday, March 18, 2024, at 6:00 p.m., in Council Chambers, City Hall, 116 First Street, Neptune Beach, Florida, 32266.

**Attendance****IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mayor Elaine Brown  
Vice Mayor Kerry Chin  
Councilor Lauren Key(*absent*)  
Councilor Nia Livingston  
Councilor Josh Messinger(*absent*)

**STAFF:**

City Manager Richard Pike  
City Attorney Zachary Roth  
Police Commander Liam Toal  
Public Works Director Deryle Calhoun  
Parks and Sustainability Director Colin Moore  
Chief Financial Officer Jaime Hernandez  
City Clerk Catherine Ponson

**Call to  
Order/Roll Call**

Mayor Brown called the workshop meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and Councilor Livingston led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**Public  
Comments**

Dreanna Bane, daughter of Renée Faure who lives at 600 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Neptune Beach, stated there was an ongoing concern regarding the water pooling on Myrtle Street between 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. She has been told the issue would be resolved shortly.

Pat Hazouri, 207 Florida Boulevard, Neptune Beach, stated she was concerned with code enforcement around construction jobs. She also stated her concern with the prospect of JEA coming in and taking over water and sewer to assist with the 500 Atlantic development.

Wanda Sauls, 126 Cedar Street, Neptune Beach, spoke regarding recent changes in the garbage service. She stated she had spoken with a driver who informed her that garbage and recycling would not be picked up separately. There is a smaller truck in that area. She added that there was no notification of any changes.

Vice Mayor Chin commented that there had been no change in the service and the City Manager would look into what was going on.

Britt Lowry, 1912 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Neptune Beach, stated his neighbor had clear cut their lot. The house is abandoned. There are cars in the driveway, and no one is living there. He added that when the clear cutting was done, they crossed over into his property line. He was told to come to this meeting to have this addressed.

**ISSUE DEVELOPMENT****FY 24 Budget  
Update**

Chief Financial Officer Jaime Hernandez gave an update of the budget from October 1, 2023, through February 29, 2024. His report provided a budget to actual comparison summary of year-to-date revenues and expenditures for the General Fund, Special Revenue Funds, and Enterprise Funds for the City of Neptune Beach.

Mr. Hernandez advised that the City collects about 85% of the property taxes in the first quarter (October-December) of the fiscal year. As of February 29, 2024, the City has collected \$3,789,637 of the forecasted revenue of \$4,232,307.

Vice Mayor Chin commented that the report states that the City has collected 34.86% of the franchise fee. He questioned if we are projected to receive the rest by the end of the fiscal year. He also questioned the Intergovernmental Revenues from the state that have been in arrears mentioned in the report.

Mr. Hernandez stated that when the contract for solid waste collection was negotiated, the franchise fee went away. There are only two months of franchise fees in this fiscal year. He also stated that the shared revenues from the state are received after they close the quarter.

Councilor Livingston remarked that the City has received 89.54% of the property taxes and we are at 50% in some of the other revenue categories. She questioned if the City is optimistic for the rest of the year?

Mr. Hernandez replied that revenues can fluctuate according to the period. Once we reach the middle of the year around the end of March, revenue streams become steady.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS****Public Comment**

Pat Hazouri, 207 Florida Boulevard, Neptune Beach, commented on her treatment by a Councilmember. She stated that there is decorum for public speakers and questioned the decorum of Councilmembers.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS****Council  
Comments**

Vice Mayor Chin informed everyone that Neptune Beach resident Doodle Cinotti is safe in Haiti. She is waiting for the rest of her team so she can return home.

Mayor Brown shared that a group of woman professionals from Armenia had attended City Hall earlier that day. Mayor Brown and City of Jacksonville Beach Mayor Christine Hoffman answered questions from the group on women in leadership. The delegation is from the Open World Leadership Foundation and hosted by Rotary International.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the workshop meeting adjourned at 6:29 p.m.



Elaine Brown, Mayor

ATTEST:



Catherine Ponson, CMC  
City Clerk

Approved: 04-01-2024

