

City Commission Regular Meeting
Tuesday, June 11, 2024 6:30 PM
[Agenda Packet](#) and [Video](#)

Mayor Fred Cleveland called the meeting to order. In attendance were Vice Mayor Valli Perrine, Commissioners Randy Hartman, Lisa Martin, and Jason McGuirk. Staff present were Assistant City Manager Ron Neibert, , and City Attorney Carrie Avallone.

PRESENTATION – Economic Development

Chair John Joaquin of the NSB Economic Development Task Force gave an update on the Board’s activities. The mission of the task force is to make the city a better place by diversifying our economy/tax base, to enhance public infrastructure, and to ensure a quality labor pool. He outlined several initiatives that the task force supports:

- Deering Park Innovation Center Development Project
- Airport Land Lease Development Activities
- Pickleball Facility Concept and projects
- Space Coast Innovation Concept and projects

Based on the City Commission’s May 14th approval of Ordinance 27-24, authorizing the City Commission grant exemption from City Ad Valorem Property Taxes up to 10 years for certain new and expanded businesses; the task force supports a November 5, 2024 referendum to authorize selected tax exemptions.

Chris Edwards, NSB Economic Development Director, discussed:

- the tax abatement program.
- Support for the NSB Utilities Commission’s GRIP grant proposal (energy Grid Resilience and Innovations).
- The Community Showcase Video Tour on the city website.
- The recently completed Greenlawn Manor workforce housing.
- His appreciation for the Volusia County Schools job fair whose efforts continue to mentor kids and make them aware of job opportunities.
- Team Volusia that has visited some of the commercial redevelopment sites in NSB.
- The SEV Chamber Business Expo and the job fair were events which highlighted the many city opportunities available.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

Assistant City Manager, Ron Niebert, reported on:

- Public participation concerns from the last City Commission meeting.
- The traffic/parking consultant will present a report at the June 25th meeting.
- He introduced CIP director Alan Royd and the new Finance Director, Kenneth Ebetee.
- He noted that the CIP Grant Writer position is still open.

David Ray and Kyle Fegley gave updates on the dredging projects in the city. The Turnbull Canal, south of SR 44 and the section north of Canal includes Pine Island, Deborde and Minerva. An archaeologist has been consulted. The vegetation will be removed within the canal. FDEP grant of \$3,500,000 is available. Grant money will be lost if not used. The current hold up is permits from the Army Corp of Engineers.

Public Participation

- Several speakers thanked the City Commission for their leadership in the process of hiring the new CM.
- One resident spoke about the economic benefit of passive income opportunities.
- One citizen questioned the monthly update from the parking consultant, the plan and proposals and how developers are involved. The Assistant city manager stated that the parking consultant IS providing a monthly report to staff.

Consent Agenda

7A. Resolution No. 41-24: Consider the adoption of a Resolution, which if adopted, would provide an updated fuel rate schedule for the New Smyrna Beach Municipal Airport effective 10/1/2024.

Arvin Weese, airport director, reported on the airport's process of selling fuel. There is a need to update the current rate schedule to remain self-supporting.

7 A, 7 B, 7C, 7E, 7f, 7G, 7H, 7J, 7K were unanimously approved.

7D and 7I were removed

Administrative Items/New Business

8A Consider the request from Volusia County sheriff's department for a fee waiver for use of the Brannon Center and Riverside Park for "inshore slam" on April 4 & 5, 2025.

There was much discussion on how nonprofits are granted waivers and if the fee structure in place should be strictly adhered to. No decision was reached on this item.

Item 8A was moved to the June 25th meeting.

8B City Manager Contract negotiation

Doug Thomas, CM consultant joined the meeting via ZOOM and discussed the terms and conditions (salary, benefits, employment agreement, etc.) for the City Manager position. The consultant will work with city staff and the candidate to move forward. Mayor Cleveland and Commissioner Hartman will participate and report on June 25.

MAYOR AND COMMISSION REPORTS

Vice Mayor Perrine reported on RFP audit meetings. Thanked citizens for input with CM candidate events. Commissioner McGuirk, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner Hartman and Mayor Cleveland all thanked citizens and city staff for their participation in the city manager candidate events.

City Clerk's Report

City clerk reported on interest on the city's summer internship program.

City Attorney's Report

The City Attorney reported that work continues on two lawsuits in process and on the temporary injunction filed relating to the city elected officials form 6 statuses. (This concerns conflict of interest of elected officials.)