

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
DESTIN CITY COUNCIL
NOVEMBER 28, 2022
CITY HALL ANNEX COUNCIL CHAMBERS
6:00 PM**

The Council of the City of Destin met in regular session with the following members and staff present:

Destin City Council

Mayor Bobby Wagner
Councilmember Jim Bagby
Councilmember Terésa Hebert
Councilmember Dewey Destin

Councilmember Johnny King
Councilmember Torey Geile
Councilmember Matthew Sweetser
Councilmember Kevin Schmidt

Destin City Staff

City Manager Lance Johnson
City Clerk Rey Bailey
Building Official Noell Bell
Code Compliance Director Kim Corbin
Community Development Director Louis Zunguze
Grants/Project Manager Jeffrey Cozadd
Land Use Attorney Kimberly Kopp

Deputy City Manager Webb Warren
Library Director Wen Livingston
Finance Director Krystal Strickland
Public Works Director Michael Burgess
City Engineer Ryan Scott
City Attorney Kyle Bauman

CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Pro Tem Dewey Destin called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Pastor David J. Butler of the Faith Assembly Christian Church in Destin gave the invocation, which was then followed by the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

INAUGURATION OF INCOMING MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS

Okaloosa County Commissioner Mel Ponder administered the Oath of Office to the new City of Destin mayor and council members.

- Mayor Bobby Wagner
- Councilmember Jim Bagby
- Councilmember Torey Geile
- Councilmember Matthew Sweetser

ELECTION OF MAYOR PRO TEM

Motion by Councilmember Bagby, seconded by Councilmember Hebert, to appoint Councilmember Dewey Destin as the Mayor Pro Tem passed 7-0 (Council members Schmidt, King, Hebert, Bagby, Destin, Geile, and Sweetser voted "yes").

AGENDA APPROVAL

Councilmember Schmidt moved to approve the agenda; seconded by Councilmember Hebert. Motion passed 7-0 (Council members Schmidt, King, Hebert, Bagby, Destin, Geile, and Sweetser voted “yes”).

- 1. PROCLAMATIONS / RECOGNITIONS / SPECIAL /PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS / ANNOUNCEMENTS**
- 2. PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- 3. CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Miscellaneous Road Striping Services, authorization to renew contract
- B. Miscellaneous Concrete Services, authorization to renew contract
- C. Capital Project Status
- D. Operations Financial Report
- E. Approval of minutes of October 17, 2022 Regular City Council Meeting
- F. Draft Minutes of Boards and Committee Meetings

Councilmember Hebert moved to approve Consent Agenda items 3A thru 3F, as printed above. Councilmember King provided a second to the motion, which passes 7-0 (Council members Schmidt, King, Hebert, Bagby, Destin, Geile, and Sweetser voted “yes”).

4. CITY MANAGER REPORTS

A. Announcements

1. 36th Annual Christmas Tree Lighting is scheduled for Thursday, December 1st, at 6:00 PM, at the Destin Community Center.
2. Young members of the community can participate in building snow globe with the Destin Library staff on Tuesday, December 6th.
3. Showing of Tim Burton's *The Nightmare Before Christmas* at the Destin Library on Friday, December 9th
4. 38th Annual Destin Christmas Parade to be held on Saturday, December 10th at the normal parade route from Main Street to Stahlman Avenue. This year's theme is *Elf on the Shelf*.
5. Holly Jolly Evening at Winter Wonderland, featuring Santa Claus on Wednesday, December 14, from 6-8 PM at the Destin Library.

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- A. Second reading of Ordinance 22-17-CC - Post Certificate of Occupancy Building Inspections Ordinance

The City Attorney read proposed Ordinance 22-17-CC by title, and then presented it to the city council on first reading.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF DESTIN, FLORIDA, PROVIDING FOR AMENDMENTS TO THE CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR COMPLIANCE WITH STATE LAW; AMENDING THE CODE TO ADD PROVISIONS FOR POST-OCCUPANCY INSPECTIONS OF CONDOMINIUMS AND COOPERATIVES; PROVIDING FOR PURPOSE; PROVIDING FOR DEFINITIONS; REQUIRING MILESTONE INSPECTIONS; PROVIDING FOR ENFORCEMENT BY CITY; PROVIDING FOR FINDINGS OF FACT; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION INTO THE CODE OF ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTING PROVISIONS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The mayor opened a public hearing to receive comments for or against the proposed ordinance. Having none, the mayor closed the public hearing portion of this item and send the matter over to the city council for their discussion and consideration.

Councilmember Hebert moved for approval of Ordinance 22-17-CC on second reading; seconded by Councilmember Bagby. Motion passed 7-0 (Council members Schmidt, King, Hebert, Bagby, Destin, Geile, and Sweetser voted "yes").

- B. Second reading of Ordinance 22-20-CN - an ordinance of the City of Destin, Florida approving the form and authorizing execution and delivery of an amended interlocal agreement between the city and Okaloosa County to facilitate the city's acquisition of certain beach property and the development or redevelopment of such property for public recreation and tourism purposes, and to establish the respective financial obligations of the city and county associated therewith.

The City Attorney read proposed Ordinance 22-20-CN by title, and then presented it to the city council on first reading.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF DESTIN, FLORIDA APPROVING THE FORM AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF AN AMENDED INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY AND OKALOOSA COUNTY TO FACILITATE THE CITY'S ACQUISITION OF CERTAIN BEACH PROPERTY AND THE DEVELOPMENT OR REDEVELOPMENT OF SUCH PROPERTY FOR PUBLIC RECREATION AND TOURISM PURPOSES, AND TO ESTABLISH THE RESPECTIVE FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS OF THE CITY AND COUNTY ASSOCIATED THEREWITH; REPEALING CONFLICTING RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The mayor opened a public hearing to receive comments for or against the proposed ordinance.

Mr. Bill Reddington, a Destin resident, asked the council to re-engage with the owner of the property at the Shores of Crystal Beach; noting that the property owner spoke before this council at their last meeting explaining the reasons the previous contract negotiations have fallen through. He stated that the Public Land Trust has expressed interest in purchasing the property, however, they want to tack on a 5 percent payment which they called "donation" as part of the negotiations. It equates to about \$400,000 based on the value of the property. He stated that the city acquiring that property will accomplish the goal of having more beach accesses available to the residents. He added that the price of properties in Florida are at a longtime high and that they are not expected to go down anytime in the near future.

Having no further comments from the public, the mayor closed the public hearing portion of this item and send the matter over to the city council for their discussion and consideration.

Councilmember Hebert requests city staff reaches out to the Trust for Public Land and inquire into the possibility of reducing the “donation” that they are charging the property owner as part of the negotiation for the purchase of his property at Crystal Beach from 5% to 1% of the total value of the property.

Councilmember Destin moved for approval of Ordinance 22-20-CN on second reading; seconded by Councilmember Bagby. Motion passed 7-0 (Council members Schmidt, King, Hebert, Bagby, Destin, Geile, and Sweetser voted “yes”).

Councilmember Schmidt noted that the motion that passed on first reading of this ordinance was in two parts: *“To approve Ordinance 22-20-CN on first reading and to authorize the City Manager to encumber the city’s portion of the county’s design services contract C19-2748-PW, task orders 5 and 7 in the amount of \$327,426.84.”* Going forward, he would like staff to provide separate agenda items pertaining to a subject of this magnitude.

6. COMMENTS / PRESENTATIONS FROM MAYOR, COUNCIL, LAND USE ATTORNEY AND CITY ATTORNEY

A. Councilmember Matthew Sweetser

B. Councilmember Torey Geile

1. Staffing vacancies and needs for the Visioning Session

Councilmember Geile would like issues relating to city staff vacancies be a topic of discussion in the upcoming City Council Strategic Visioning Session

C. Councilmember Destin

D. Councilmember Bagby

E. Councilmember Hebert

F. Councilmember King

G. Councilmember Schmidt

1. Proposed RFQ for Post Certificate of Occupancy Building Inspections

Councilmember Schmidt moved to bring above item back at a January 2023 city council meeting. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Hebert and passed 7-0 (Council members Schmidt, King, Hebert, Bagby, Destin, Geile, and Sweetser voted “yes”).

2. Electric Bicycles on Sidewalks

Councilmember Schmidt moved to direct the City Manager to work with staff to bring back some ideas and information on what other municipalities in Florida are doing to regulate electric bicycles, and work with the Public Works/Safety Committee on possibly creating a similar ordinance in the City of Destin. Councilmember Hebert provided a second to the motion, which passes 7-0 (Council members Schmidt, King, Hebert, Bagby, Destin, Geile, and Sweetser voted “yes”).

Councilmember Sweetser commented that he would support banning any electronic vehicles from operating on sidewalks, but he would also recommend placing a high priority on repairing the sidewalks that badly need repair around the City of Destin.

3. Public Information Officer Job Opening

Councilmember Schmidt stated that he would like to see the Public Information Officer job description put more emphasis on educating the public about the great things the City of Destin is doing as well as the accomplishments of the community as a whole.

Councilmember Schmidt highlighted the following critical priorities of the City Council:

1. *Offer livable wages and benefits to attract and maintain high caliber qualified staff.*
2. *Work with stakeholders to pursue a Destin City Center.*
3. *Complete a two-lane cross-town connector.*
4. *Public beach acquisition initiative.*

He commented that they seem to put more emphasis on priority #4 more so than the other top priorities, and that staff has been given an “unlimited leash” in obtaining more public beach accesses. He recommends having some discussions about putting a tighter control over some of the council’s objectives.

H. Mayor Bobby Wagner

I. Land Use Attorney

J. City Attorney

1. Request to call an executive session in the case of Brenden Johnson v. City of Destin, et al, Okaloosa County Circuit Court Case Number 2020 CA 003168 F

Motion by Councilmember Destin, seconded by Councilmember Hebert, to schedule a Council Executive Session on Monday, December 12, 2022, at 5:30 PM passed 7-0 (Council members Schmidt, King, Hebert, Bagby, Destin, Geile, and Sweetser voted “yes”).

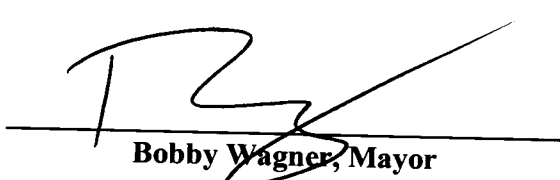
7. PUBLIC COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 7:05 PM.

ATTEST:


Key Bailey, City Clerk


Bobby Wagner, Mayor