

**PUBLIC WORKS/PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES DESTIN CITY HALL BOARDROOM
TUESDAY, MAY 9, 2023 - 5:30 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGANCE:

Public Works Director Michael Burgess called the Public Works/Public Safety Committee to order on Tuesday, May 9, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL:

Members Present

James T. Wood, Jr.
John Green
Tom Weidenhamer
Sam Perman
John Stephens
Curtis Smith
Marcie Bell

Staff

Kim Montgomery Deputy City Clerk
Michael Burgess PW Director
JT Hart PW Deputy Director
Ryan Scott, City Engineer

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: April 11, 2023

Motion by Committee member Perman, seconded by Committee member Stephens to approve the April 11, 2023 minutes as written, passed unanimously, 7-0.

4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

5. NEW BUSINESS:

➤ **Destin Water Users – Lockwood Wernet**

Provided the members with an update on the following:

- Tracking water sales and gallons billed.
- Completed a conversion of the disinfection system from chlorine gas to liquid chlorine bleach for safety sakes of the surrounding neighbors in case there was ever a leak its safer .
- Construction for new facilities is underway and it being built to withstand new hurricane standards since hurricane Michael.
- All wells within the service areas now have generators.
- Waterline upgrades have been made to Cobia Street and they are working towards replacing all 2-inch lines with a larger diameter lines as part of their annual work program.
- Completed the installation of underground disposal and above ground irrigation at Morgan's Sports Complex.
- Performing technical studies for the 25-acre land adjacent to the Airport they purchased which will be a wet weather disposal for reclaimed water.
- Sanitary Sewer and Evaluation survey for all gravity systems for necessary

repairs on west side of the city.

- Added a Force Main near the Charles Apartments at the new right-of-way.
- Surveying all manholes and Air Release valves for conditions and evaluating what repairs that may be necessary to keep everything in good repair to prevent any sanitary sewer overflows.
- Working on their Master Plan for Water Model Project in terms of how water flows through the systems to determine if any additional lines need to be added or upsized and how to make those happen.
- Evaluating the Lift Stations throughout the city to determine if any need to be upgraded.
 - In terms of city projects, keeping a close eye on the following:
 - Cross Town Connector Project progress so they can install a new line from Benning to Beach.
 - Linear Park Project that may impact some water lines and force mains in the area as well as some right-of-way that may be needed from the city.
 - Asked to keep them in the communication loop of any new roadway projects so they can get out and perform any repairs that may be needed in roadway segments at the same time to help keep cost down.

➤ **Resurfacing & Restriping of Vintage Circle and Vintage Court**

Mr. Hart provided the members with the information on the cost and details of this project and staff is seeking their recommendation to City Council scheduled for the June 5, 2023, Council meeting agenda.

Motion to support and recommend to City Council approve the resurfacing and restriping of Vintage Circle and Vintage Court with Committee member Weidenhamer providing the second to the motion. The motion passed 7-0.

➤ **Citywide Speed Reduction**

Mr. Burgess explained the revised draft speed hump policy for their review and the steps necessary for the process of the request and the criteria to meet the threshold for the approval process and the cost.

Capt. Fulghum spoke to the members about speeding issues in the city and explained that the OCSO does not have a specific unit set aside to enforce speeding in Destin. He further explained that they have 4 people assigned to work 12-hour shifts and have the city broken down to two zones and explained how they have their officers dispatched for calls received. In addition, they have a speed trailer assigned to district three that covers the area from Duke Field, south to Okaloosa Island and east to the Okaloosa/Walton County line that is constantly rotated throughout the area and currently, is located here in Destin on Kelly Street. He also spoke of the message board they have that periodically display different messages and it gets rotated

throughout the same coverage areas of the County. He provided the members with their speeding statistics on Okaloosa Island and the in the city and how those numbers can be affected when someone speeding is stopped on the island and given ticket, that act tends to slow drivers down in the city. He also mentioned a \$50k FDOT grant they're seeking, with the assistance of the city's Grants & Projects Manager, to help address speeding and aggressive driving in the city. The grant will help fund overtime work for deputies to provide additional assistance in the city. Additionally, they place their spare unmanned vehicle in areas of the city for short periods of time in an attempt to slow the traffic down.

➤ **Speed Hump Policy Revision**

In discussing the speed hump policy revision, the members discussed at length the different perimeters of how the speed hump policy is affected by the surroundings whether its an HOA condominium setting or the standard neighborhood and the requirements necessary to meet the standards outlined, in order go on to Council for approval.

Mr. Burgess added that he and Mr. Hart will work closely with the City Engineer to come up with establishing the criteria to be completely scientific and objective.

➤ **Indian Trail Speed Hump Request**

Mr. Burgess explained a citizen who spoke at the April 17th Council Meeting about wanting them and as a result, City Council directed staff to start the process for them to be installed on Indian Trail. He pointed out that Indian Trail is 10,000 feet long with no stop signs, except at the Main Street, and would like to know exactly where they need to go, adding that would be a tremendous help because he hasn't been able to communicate with that individual. According to Committee member Stephens, he is positive it would be west of Main Street, the same location where the lady who came and spoke at a recently past meeting about wanting sidewalks installed.

Committee member Green spoke of a citizen who approached him and questioned if the stop sign at Main Street and Indian Trail could be made into a 3-way stop. Mr. Burgess stated that he would speak to the City Engineer and get his opinion and report back.

Committee member Smith added that a warrant analysis for stop signs would first need to be done before deciding to have one installed. Committee member Green reminded the members of the incident with Kolton, who perished from being hit by a car at Main Street and Kelly and how that area also did not warrant a three way stop but they were installed because of that accident, and he would not want to see anything similar happen before getting them installed.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT:

➤ **Stormwater & Floodplain Management Issues - Comments from the Public**

There was no public comment.

8. CONTINUING BUSINESS:

➤ **Public Works and Emergency Management Update – JT Hart**

- Hydra gates have been purchased for the harbor pump.
- Restriping from Crystal Beach Drive to Luke Avenue and Hwy 98 is in progress.
- Resurfacing on Scenic Hwy. 98 is finished, and the striping and crosswalks are on schedule to get put down.
- Additional Pedestrian Lights are in the purchasing process.
- Boring estimates at Four Prong Lake in Destin is under evaluation by all parties involved.
- Indian Trail Sidewalk request is on hold since it is included in the Mobility Plan that Council will be reviewing.
- Provided the members with the Okaloosa County Sheriff's April Statistics. Chairman Wood asked for those to be provided to the members in their packet.

9. OLD BUSINESS:

➤ **Member Comments:**

• **Committee member Stephens** – Reported that the Harbor Capacity Study Committee has recommended the installation of petroleum absorption pads in the storm drains along the harbor. Mr. Burgess explained there are three already in place. Committee member Stephens also spoke of a smell emanating around Harbor Docks. Mr. Burgess explained what happens when there's not been any rain and how they have that area on schedule to get cleaned with the equipment they have scheduled to rent in the next few weeks.

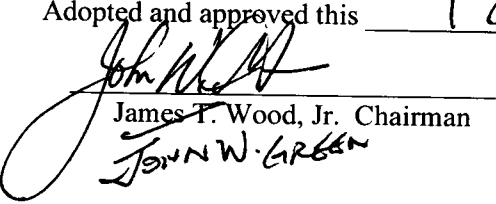
• **Committee member Bell** – Thanked staff for installing the loading and unloading signs at the end of Gulf Shore Drive and how its improved.

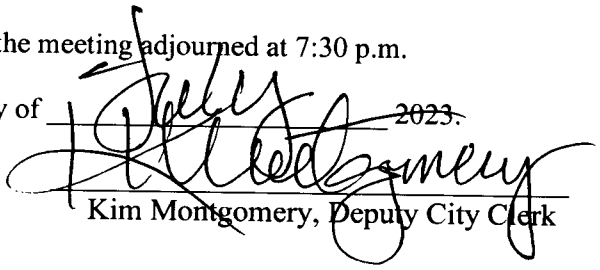
• **Chairman Wood** – Spoke of experiencing how short the crosswalk countdown is at Main Street and 98 Palms and how it needs to be increased for those that don't or can't walk that fast, to have enough time to get across safely.

➤ **ADJOURNMENT:**

Having no further business at this time, the meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Adopted and approved this 18th day of July 2023.


James T. Wood, Jr. Chairman


Kim Montgomery, Deputy City Clerk