

**PUBLIC WORKS/PUBLIC SAFETY
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
DESTIN CITY HALL ANNEX CHAMBERS
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2024 - 5:30 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Chairman Wood called the Public Works/Public Safety Committee to order on Tuesday, October 8, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. at the City Hall Annex Chambers, with the Pledge of Allegiance immediately following.

2. ROLL CALL:

Members Present

James T. Wood, Jr.
John Green
Tom Weidenhamer
Marcie Bell
Tammy Weidenhamer
Sam Perman

Members Absent

Curtis Smith

Staff

Kim Montgomery Deputy City Clerk
Joe Bodi, Engineering Deputy PW Director

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

➤ **August 13, 2024**

Motion to approve the minutes of the August 13, 2024, meeting was made by Committee member Bell with Committee member Weidenhamer providing the second. The motion passed 6-0.

4. NEW BUSINESS:

A) Boardwalk Under the Bridge – Conceptual Plans

According to Mr. Bodi, the plans that are being presented to them are at 30% and staff is accepting input from this committee.

Committee member Bell asked what the width of the pedestrian path is. According to Mr. Bodi, those will be a minimum of 10-foot wide. They briefly discussed the possibility of a future underground walkway similar to what is built out on 30A and the need to have them built not wide enough to allow LSV access.

Motion by Committee member Bell, seconded by Committee member to recommend that City Council move forward with the Boardwalk Under the Bridge concept as presented and to have Staff work with the Consultant towards 30% plans. Also, have staff look into applying for the Florida Sun Trail Grant money. Chairman Wood provided the second.

into the 10-foot wide pathway that is already in place that goes east/west at Sibert Ave. and Zerbe Street to the Community Center as well as connecting to the library on Sibert Ave, and the park properties on Calhoun Avenue. The Chairman then questioned if there is still the issue with the high-pressured gas lines that are under the Marler Bridge and would this project effect the Harbor One property in any way. According to Mr. Bodi, the high-pressured gas lines are no longer an issue and the only portion of the property in question that would be involved, is along the waterway to the south and north up to the street to connect with the pedestrian walkways. **With no further discussion, Chairman Wood called for the vote, and the motion passed 6-0.**

B) List of Paving Projects for Council Consideration/Approval

Motion by Chairman Wood, seconded by Committee member Perman for the Public Works / Public Safety Committee recommend the following paving projects be approved by City Council:

- **1st Street and Sibert Ave, Cross to Benning**
- **Benning Drive US98 to Calhoun revised**
- **John Ave Crystal Beach to Dolphin**
- **Pompano Street**
- **Mountain Drive Beach to Benning**
- **Carter Lane**

Chairman Wood asked why these roads were chosen. According to Mr. Bodi, these were the next roads that were listed as the being in the worst condition. Committee member Perman asked if the stripping would also be installed. According to Mr. Bodi the stripping, any new or updated signage as well as any other issues that may be discovered, would be done too.

Regarding minor repairs, such as potholes and edges of streets crumbling, Mr. Bodi reminded the members that they would need to call those in or email them to him so they can get scheduled for repairs, which are separate.

Committee member Bell asked why certain roadways are not getting striped. According to Mr. Bodi, the roads that are minor roads or residential roads, are generally not restriped. There was additional discussions regarding areas of roadways such as Harbor Lane/Planet Drive and Whippoowill that are disintegrating at the edges or have larger than normal potholes that need to be repaired. Mr. Bodi informed the members if they would email him the locations he would check where they are on the list for repairs.

5. CONTINUING BUSINESS:

➤ Stormwater/Floodplain

Chairman Wood opened this item to the public to speak on any issues they may have, with no one coming forward, he closed the public on the topic.

6. MEMBER DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Committee member Bell – Spoke how the entire roadway system adjacent to the parking lots for Winn Dixie, Target and all the other stores, are now being used as roadways to get to and from Main Street and asked if there is anything that can be done to make them safer. She also spoke of how there are a lot of people living in their cars that use those parking lots. According to Mr. Bodi, the Planning dept. would need to get involved as well as the property owners would have to agree to turn those roadways over to the city, before anything could be done.

Committee member Tammy Weidenhamer spoke of the egress' at both Hobby Lobby and the Olympus Apartments that on a daily basis, she witnesses almost crashes, and questioned if there was anything that can be done to improve the safety of the general area. According to Mr. Bodi again, the Planning dept. would need to get involved as well as checking in with the crash data from the OCSO and the private property owners.

Chairman Wood – Handed out information he created to the members regarding eBikes and the road rules that they all should be following but are not. He spoke of the three classifications for certain styles of eBikes and how they are designated, the speed they can go, and how they are powered. He also mentioned he has contacted the City Attorney and the Sheriff's office on how they should be regulated in the city per State Laws and enforcement. To him, he feels that the ones that are able to go 30mph should not be allowed on the multiuse paths and should follow the rules of the road with running lights and brake lights.

Committee member Perman spoke of the problem she sees with these motorized bicycles is being on the pathways and not following the rules of the road or stopping at intersections.

Committee member Tom Weidenhamer spoke of how the motorized bike typically are on the wrong side of the roadways and when a vehicle operator is pulling out of a side street onto Airport Road, the driver typically is looking left at the oncoming traffic to be able to pull out. Further, in his estimate, about 90% of them are riding against the traffic. He spoke of how pulling out of his subdivision at Cedar Street, there is a wooden fence that blocks the view corridor to the right of the stop sign until you pull out almost into the pathway and to him, is another reason why people should be on the roadway, going the correct direction.

Committee member Green spoke of requiring a bicycle license requirement and a test needs to be put in place.

Mr. Bodi spoke about sharrows that are bike/road sharing designs that get placed on the roadways that alert the public that the roadways are bike sharing roadways and suggested they reach out to the Community Development Department regarding them.

Chairman Wood agreed and suggested getting the information out via the City's Public

Information Director. He also mentioned that in order for the laws to be enforced, they have to be addressed in an ordinance, that addresses all the requirements of road usage and required devices. Adding that he would make an appointment with the City Attorney to discuss and welcomed the members to do their due diligence in researching the same concerns.

Committee member Bell spoke of how in St. Petersburg, Florida, they have signage throughout the city in areas that eBikes are prohibited in the St. Pete Beach area, they call them micromobility bikes. Additionally, any of them that are under the category of Class 3, requires persons to carry a driver's license. She also suggests getting Mayor Wagner involved with the Florida League of Cities to possibly start a statewide movement.

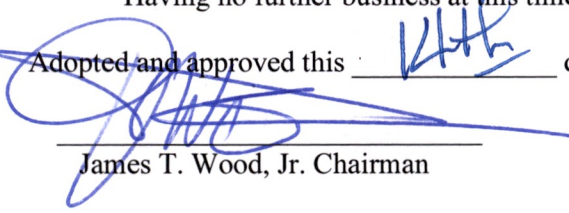
Committee member Tammy Weidenhamer spoke of how easy it is to purchase the lower class eBikes but make improvements to it to make the bike a Class 3 eBikes, and how hard it would be to enforce.

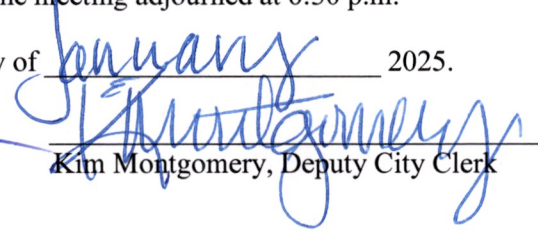
Chairman Wood also noted the fact that they want to be sure language is written into any ordinance so that motorized wheelchairs and similar devices don't unintentionally be made unlawful. He mentioned how his is going to be project to work towards with future discussions.

7. ADJOURNMENT:

Having no further business at this time, the meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Adopted and approved this 14th day of January 2025.


James T. Wood, Jr. Chairman


Kim Montgomery, Deputy City Clerk

COMMITTEE MEMBER CODE OF ETHICS

AS A MEMBER OF THE Public Works & Safety COMMITTEE, I WILL

- ◆ REPRESENT THE INTEREST OF ALL CITIZENS REPRESENTED BY THE CITY OF DESTIN.
- ◆ NOT USE THE CITY COUNCIL OR MY SERVICE ON THIS COMMITTEE FOR MY OWN PERSONAL ADVANTAGE OR FOR THE INDIVIDUAL ADVANTAGE OF MY FRIENDS OR SUPPORTERS.
- ◆ APPROACH ALL COMMITTEE ISSUES WITH AN OPEN MIND, PREPARED TO MAKE THE BEST DECISION FOR THE WHOLE CITY.
- ◆ SUPPORT AND PROMOTE COMMITTEE DECISIONS ONCE CONSENSUS IS REACHED.
- ◆ DO NOTHING TO VIOLATE THE TRUST OF THOSE WHO APPOINTED ME TO THE COMMITTEE OR OF THOSE WE SERVE.
- ◆ FOCUS MY EFFORTS ON THE MISSION OF THE COMMITTEE AND NOT MY PERSONAL GOALS.
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M. VanVleck-Bell

YOUR SIGNATURE

M. VANVLECK-BELL

PRINTED NAME

1/14/25

DATE

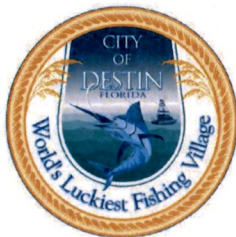
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SIGNATURE OF COMMITTEE CHAIR

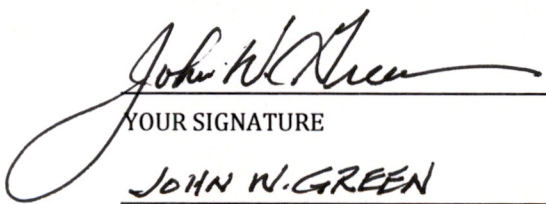


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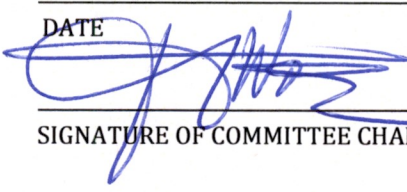
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YOUR SIGNATURE

JOHN W. GREEN
PRINTED NAME

JANUARY 14, 2025
DATE


SIGNATURE OF COMMITTEE CHAIR

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YOUR SIGNATURE

James T. Weedon

PRINTED NAME

1/14/25

DATE

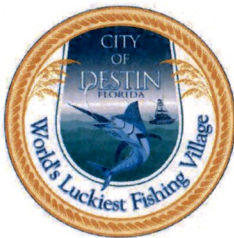
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Tom Weidenhamer

YOUR SIGNATURE

Tom Weidenhamer

PRINTED NAME

1/14/2025

DATE

[Signature]
SIGNATURE OF COMMITTEE CHAIR