MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
DESTIN CITY COUNCIL
MARCH 4, 2019
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 Gary Jarvis	Councilmember Prebble Ramswell
Councilmember Steven Menchel	Councilmember Chatham Morgan
Councilmember Cyron Marler	Councilmember Skip Overdier
Councilmember Parker Destin	Councilmember Rodney Braden

Destin City Staff

City Manager Lance Johnson	City Clerk Rey Bailey
Acting Public Services Director Tim Pietenpol	Deputy City Manager Webb Warren
Public Information Manager Catherine Card	Building Official Noell Bell
City Planner Lauren Witt	Stormwater Manager Michael Burgess
Parks & Recreation Director Lisa Firth	Finance Director Bragg Farmer
City Land Use Attorney Kimberly Kopp	City Attorney Kyle Bauman

CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Gary Jarvis called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. The Mayor called for a moment of silence, which was then followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Motion by Councilmember Overdier, seconded by Councilmember Braden, to approve the agenda passed 7-0 (Council members Morgan, Destin, Marler, Overdier, Menchel, Ramswell and Braden voted "yes").

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Approval of minutes of January 7, 2019 Regular City Council Meeting

Councilmember Overdier moved to approve minutes of January 7, 2019 Regular City Council Meeting; seconded by Councilmember Braden. Motion passed 7-0 (Council members Morgan, Destin, Marler, Overdier, Menchel, Ramswell and Braden voted "yes").

2. PROCLAMATIONS / RECOGNITIONS / **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. FY2018 Audit Presentation by Joseph Klimek, CPA

Mr. Joseph Klimek of EFPR Group, LLP, presented the following report for the City of Destin, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2018.

- The City of Destin remains in strong financial position as of the end of Fiscal Year 2018. The financial statements of the City fairly represent all material aspects of the financial position of the City
- Unqualified or "clean" opinions were issued on the City's financial statements
- No material weaknesses or significant deficiencies were noted in the City's internal controls over financial reporting or in the City's compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements
- The City did not reach the threshold requiring a Federal Single Audit
- The entire City was a pleasure to work with, and appropriate materials were provided in a timely manner
- At the City-wide (full-accrual) level, revenue exceed expenses by $11.8 million. The City's total net position at the end of Fiscal Year 2018 was $109,530,532
- There was a $2.9 million increase in fund balance at the general fund level
- Unassigned general fund balance has increased $3,282,737 to $6,909,267
- General fund reserves increased $503,850 from Fiscal Year 2017
- Recommends the City adopts a formal fund balance policy in their general fund to allow future City Councils to follow the prudent practice of keeping fund balance at a steady level

Councilmember Ramswell asked if the unassigned general fund balance of $6.9 million is a normal high or if they should look at better ways of dispersing the money.

Mr. Klimek noted that the $6.9 million represents 55 percent of the City's total expenditures; however, the increase was largely due to the fact some of the City's projects they budgeted for last year did not occur. He added that their recommendation of adopting a formal fund balance policy could play a key role in this case.

The City's Finance Director Bragg Farmer suggests they discuss how to spend the additional funds they have acquired this year at the next Council Visioning Session.

Motion by Councilmember Overdier, seconded by Councilmember Ramswell, to accept the Fiscal Year 2018 audit passed 7-0 (Council members Morgan, Destin, Marler, Overdier, Menchel, Ramswell and Braden voted "yes").

B. Update on Mid Bay Bridge repair Mr. Van Fuller Mid-Bay Bridge Authority

Mr. Van Fuller, Executive Director of the Mid-Bay Bridge Authority, discussed the necessary emergency repairs for the Mid-Bay Bridge. He explained that the bridge has 141 spans, with each one supported by at least six post-tensioning tendons, which are steel cables that reinforce the concrete bridge. During a routine FDOT inspection of the bridge, it found problems with some post-tensioning tendons. Of the 912 tendons in the bridge, they found 8 that are problematic. This forced FDOT to close the bridge for emergency repairs. Then Hurricane Michael came through and they had to focus attention on recovery. Following temporary repairs, the bridge has re-opened to two-axle vehicles such as cars, trucks, school buses and limited EMS and first responder equipment. Semi-trailers and commercial vehicles must use alternate routes until the permanent repairs on the bridge are completed. Permanent repairs are due to commence very soon. Materials and mobilizations have been completed. Deteriorating bridge tendons will be replaced as part of the repair project that could take several weeks to complete. During the repair, the bridge occasionally will be closed overnight (approximately midnight to 4 AM) when there is very little traffic.

Councilmember Braden asked how the bridge got into such a bad shape and what measures are being taken to prevent a total bridge shutdown in the future.

Mr. Fuller stated that there are a number of possible causes; but, lower skilled workers doing the grouting operations and substandard construction specifications and procedures and use of inadequate materials may be to blame. However, skill requirements for workers have been upgraded. There is also new material technology in place and construction codes and design codes have been updated since then. He also noted that the Mid-Bay Bridge Authority and FDOT have agreed to take certain measures to help prevent another total bridge shutdown. Additional inspections, 100 percent inspections and regular vibration testing of all the tendons in the bridge will be performed.

Councilmember Ramswell inquired as to the typical life span of such tendons, and whether they are under or below it.

Mr. Fuller noted that according to the bridge structure engineer, the life span for the bridge and the tendons is 75 years; however, it is also subject to a life cycle repair. He also noted that the codes and construction practices are different today than they were in the past.

Councilmember Ramswell asked how often random inspections are going to be staged to ensure they avoid this type of problem in the future.

Mr. Fuller explained that by the national bridge inspection standard, a bridge inspection is required every two years. However, the Mid-Bay Bridge Authority has made arrangements with FDOT so that the Bridge Authority would conduct the inspection one year, and then FDOT would conduct a detailed inspection the following year. Vibration testing of all the tendons will be performed annually.

Councilmember Ramswell asked if the emergency repairs will affect the toll rates to go over the bridge.

Mr. Fuller stated there is no plan at this time to raise the toll rates. They have made an arrangement with FDOT where FDOT will pay for the repair of the bridge and operate and maintain the bridge on behalf of the Mid-Bay Bridge Authority; and subordinate the Bridge Authority's payments of those costs to debt service. The Bridge Authority will repay the FDOT as soon as they have the funds to be able to do so.

Councilmember Menchel asked if the other 904 tendons in the bridge that were not damaged would necessitate a more advanced inspection.

According to Mr. Fuller, vibration testing of all the tendons in the bridge will be performed annually.

Councilmember Menchel asked how many times they anticipate closing the bridge down to replace the damaged tendons.

Mr. Fuller replied they could anticipate 16 night-time closures to replace 8 tendons; one for de-tension and one for retention of each tendon.

Councilmember Menchel inquired as to the approximate cost for the bridge repair project.

Mr. Fuller replied the repair would cost anywhere between $4.5 million and $5 million; adding that the grouting materials and construction would be under the new code and new installation procedures.

C. Presentation of plan to beautify the Welcome to Destin sign on the Eglin AFB property by the Marler Bridge Mr. Allen French, Trees on the Coast

Mr. Allen French of Trees on the Coast, requests Council's permission to have Trees on the Coast, a non-profit organization, to beautify the "Welcome to Destin" sign located on Eglin property next to the Marler Bridge. He stated that the sign is the main "first impression" for the City of Destin, and that it should be beautifully landscaped. There have been at least 350,000 photos taken at this sign which are shared with families, friends and social media; which are then viewed by millions of people. It is absolutely free advertising for Destin and the Emerald Coast; and that beautifying this sign will increase the number of photos and reflect positively on Destin's image. He then showed photos of the sign before and after the landscaping efforts and explained the plans, materials and the required maintenance for the project. He further stated they would need permission from Eglin Air Force Base to be able to move forward with this project, which would require full support from the Council.

Councilmember Morgan asked for a cost estimate for the project.

According to Mr. French, it would be from $15,000 to $20,000, and they would be willing to split that cost with the City.

Councilmember Morgan suggests they asked the Tourist Development Council (TDC) to contribute to the project as well.

Councilmember Destin stated that having a letter from the City, once they obtain Eglin's approval of the project, stating they are willing to partner with Trees on the Coast on this initiative would greatly encourage TDC's participation.

Councilmember Overdier moved to authorize staff to renegotiate the Eglin lease for the "Welcome to Destin" sign to allow Trees on the Coast to beautify the sign; and to include a letter from the Mayor stating that the Destin City Council unanimously supports the project. Councilmember Marler provided a second to the motion, which passes 7-0 (Council members Morgan, Destin, Marler, Overdier, Menchel, Ramswell and Braden voted "yes").

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS THAT ARE NOT PUBLIC HEARINGS AND ANY OTHER MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Mr. Alan French noted that the City recently planted some Irish Trees on Airport Road. The landscape company that maintains the medians might have accidently sprayed the trees with weed killer when they were spraying for weeds; in which case, the City should hold the landscape company responsible for killing or damaging some of the trees and demand a replacement for them.

4. CITY MANAGER REPORTS

A. Deputy City Manager Confirmation

Motion by Councilmember Overdier, seconded by Councilmember Menchel, to confirm the appointment of Mr. Webb Warren as the Deputy City Manager passed 7-0 (Council members Morgan, Destin, Marler, Overdier, Menchel, Ramswell and Braden voted "yes").

B. Public Services Director Confirmation

Councilmember Overdier moved to confirm the appointment of Mr. Michael Burgess as the Public Services Director; seconded by Councilmember Ramswell. Motion passed 7-0 (Council members Morgan, Destin, Marler, Overdier, Menchel, Ramswell and Braden voted "yes").

C. Selection Committee scoring of FDOT FPID # 42199323801, Airport Road Signing and Pavement Marking Project RFQ #1815 PS

According to the City Manager, the FDOT Local Agency Program (LAP) relayed their concerns to the City regarding the ranking process for the Airport Road project. They provided the following summary of the possible paths forward for the City regarding eligibility of funding for the project:

Option 1: The City chooses to leave everything "as-is" and move forward with their current recommendation. If this is done, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has indicated that they would be unable to participate due to non-compliance with the Brooks Act; in which case, the design phase of the project would be ineligible for reimbursement.

Option 2: The City can choose to remove the evaluator (Councilmember Braden) who only scored the one firm and use the remaining five scorers to develop the final ranking; if there are no conflicts with the criteria and information included in the advertisement/RFP. The new ranking would need to be reviewed by the Department to ensure compliance with the guidance provided by FHWA. Once reviewed, the City could move forward with the negotiations with the new #1 ranked firm.

Option 3: The City can choose to start all over and re-advertise

The City Manager also stated that the Brooks Act and the CFR-200 are fairly new to the City. They have to strictly abide by federal rules and guidelines. City staff may not have been completely prepared for this new process; but, he has directed staff to fix this gap in their process so they could better explain how to proceed with this type of process in the future.

Councilmember Braden stated that he has discussed this issue with the City Manager, and that he has decided to stay with his decision and not to withdraw his rankings.

Councilmember Destin moved to re-advertise the RFQ for the Airport Road Signing and Pavement Marking Project; seconded by Councilmember Menchel.

Councilmember Morgan inquired as to the basis for Councilmember Braden's decision not to withdraw his rankings.

Councilmember Braden stated that he should have ranked all the firms accordingly; but, pulling his scores now would be unfair to the others as it would change the rankings and the project would be awarded to a different firm. He feels it would be fair to everyone concern to start all over and re-advertise the project.

Councilmember Overdier stated that they need to be reimbursed for their expenses, and so option 1 is not good. He cannot support option 1 as well as it would delay the project by several months; and so option 2, taking Councilmember Braden's ranking out is the most viable option.

Councilmember Ramswell asked if they could simply do a reevaluation of the same firms that presented without having to advertise this project.

The City Manager stated that according to FDOT, there are no other options other than the three that were given.

The Mayor called for a vote on the motion, which passes 4-3 (Council members Destin, Menchel, Ramswell and Braden voted "yes"; Council members Morgan, Marler and Overdier voted "no").

D. Request for formal direction from Council regarding the February 26, 2019 Workshop

The City Manager noted that at a City Council workshop held on February 26, 2019, the Community Development Department staff presented the City Council with information regarding the ongoing 2019-2020 Evaluation and Appraisal Report (EAR) – Based Comprehensive Plan amendment process, as well as detailed information regarding current inconsistencies between the City's zoning map and Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map. The City Council is now being asked to provide formal direction on next steps in addressing the issues discussed at the workshop.

Councilmember Destin made the following motion; seconded by Councilmember Overdier:

1. **Bring the Zoning Map into compliance with the adopted Future Land Use Map, with the exception of areas 7 and 15, as set forth in Attachment A hereto, and as noted in the staff presentation**
2. **Update the Land Development Code based on all adopted Comprehensive Plan amendments**
3. **Create a Calhoun Mixed Use Village Zoning Category and declare a pending ordinance (see below language)**
4. **Revise the Town Center Mixed Use (TCMU) zoning category and declare a pending ordinance (see below language)**

5. **Amend the Comprehensive Plan to reduce densities in the TCMU future land use designation**

Pursuant to *Smith v. City of Clearwater,* 383 So. 2d 681 (Fla. 2d DCA 1980) a "zoning in progress is hereby announced as to the above referenced City Code and/or Land Development Code ("Code") amendments, thereby invoking the Pending Ordinance Doctrine. Consideration of all applications for development approval, including any application for development order, development order amendment, building permit, or zoning approval, which is received by the City after the date hereof, and which may be affected by the above referenced Code amendments, shall be delayed until after final implementation of the such Code amendments set forth herein above and shall, thereafter, be compliant with such Code amendments.

Councilmember Ramswell noted that looking through the Council meeting minutes of June 5, 2017, when the Calhoun Mixed Use Village zoning change was first brought before the Council, the Council decided to table it indefinitely. It seems they are now being asked to make a decision they did not want to make back in 2017.

According to Councilmember Destin, they are not adopting what was proposed back in June 2017. They are simply giving staff direction to move forward and come back with a proposal for that specific zoning area.

The Land Use Attorney explained that the zoning district is in the comprehensive plan but not in the LDC. The LDC needs to be consistent with the comprehensive plan, and so they would need to amend the comprehensive plan if they are not going to create the zoning district in the LDC.

The Mayor called for a vote on the motion, which passes 7-0 (Council members Morgan, Destin, Marler, Overdier, Menchel, Ramswell and Braden voted "yes").

E. Discussion Remote Auto Sales Ordinance

The City Manager informed the Council that Mr. Allan Turner, a prominent auto dealer in Okaloosa County, has requested the County to adopt an ordinance prohibiting the use of remote "tent" auto sales for companies that do not have a brick and mortar operation in the County. The Council has the following three options:

- The City of Destin can choose to support the ordinance drafted by the County and have that ordinance govern the City
- The City can write its own ordinance prohibiting that activity
- Do nothing

The Mayor noted that he attended an Okaloosa County League of Cities Board meeting recently, and there was a unanimous support for the County's ordinance. There are organizations that would lease a piece of property, advertise and then conduct remote "tent" auto sales events. Individuals with existing auto dealership within the County feel this is an unfair advantage because they provide jobs and pay taxes in the County, and nobody should be able to set up somewhere and start selling vehicles.

Councilmember Ramswell wants to know if RVs are classified as automobiles. She stated that RV sales are held in front of Walmart Shopping Center occasionally.

The City Attorney would obtain some clarification from the County Attorney with regards to this question.

Councilmember Overdier moved to direct City staff to review the County ordinance and send a letter of support of their ordinance to the County; seconded by Councilmember Destin.

Councilmember Morgan stated that he sees no harm in allowing people to conduct remote "tent" auto sales; adding it would be like restaurant owners leading the charge to get rid of food trucks, which he is not willing to do.

Motion passed 5-2 (Council members Marler, Overdier, Menchel, Ramswell and Braden voted "yes"; Council members Morgan and Destin voted "no").

F. Schedule of Fees Resolution 19-05

The City Manager explained that this resolution incorporates the following changes in the Schedule of Fees: Setting the fee to park in any City parking lot at $5.00 for up to 24 hours of parking, establishing a change of $600 to appeal a short-term rental grandfather application.

Councilmember Ramswell asked why page 18 of the proposed ordinance included a sexually rented business employee license when they already banned sexually oriented businesses from the City.

Councilmember Morgan noted that sexually oriented businesses can still operate in the Industrial Zoning District.

Motion by Councilmember Overdier, seconded by Councilmember Menchel, to adopt Resolution 19-05 and the associated Schedule of Fees for Fiscal Year 2019 passed 7-0 (Council members Morgan, Destin, Marler, Overdier, Menchel, Ramswell and Braden voted "yes").

G. City of Destin Appointee for Crab Island Committee

The City Manager stated that the County recently announced the formation of the Crab Island Committee to oversee some of the rules and regulations that are going to take place on Crab Island. They also announced the process by which they are going to appoint the members to this committee. One of the seats will be an appointee by this Council. It could be a member of this Council or a member of the public. He continued there is an application process on line with some guidelines for individuals filling out an application.

The Mayor announced he has filled out an application and is interested in seating on the Crab Island Committee. He also stated he has spoken with some of the County Commissioners and that they would prefer the City appoints an elected official to this committee.

Councilmember Morgan stated that he would be willing to appoint the Mayor, but he would like to know whether or not he is in support of the resolution the City previously sent to the County with regards to commercial activities on Crab Island.

The Mayor remarked that not everybody wants to ban commercial activities on Crab Island; but, because of public outcry, the County Commission is forming a committee of stakeholders, non-stakeholders and elected officials to possibly come up with some viable solutions to this issue. He continued that if appointed to this committee, he would be taking on an issue that affects the entire County as well as tourism in the City. He is willing to represent the City's interest, but also to try to find some common ground to allow the Crab Island vendors to remain in business if they are willing to capitulate and not abuse the privilege.

Councilmember Morgan expressed concern the composition of the Crab Island Committee lends itself to being very friendly to the Crab Island vendors. He wants the City of Destin representative to have very moderating influence and able to represent the City's interest on this issue.

The Mayor stated that he does not have any particular interest on Crab Island; but, being a fair-minded person, he would try to find some compromise whereby the vendors could still provide the service and make a living in a way that would benefit the community.

Councilmember Morgan asked how the Mayor feels about the prohibition of alcohol sales on Crab Island.

The Mayor replied he would not agree to a compromise on this issue; adding there are certain alcohol license requirements which cost restaurant owners such as himself a lot of money and no one should be able to circumvent the State and federal regulations regarding the sale of alcohol.

Councilmember Morgan moved to appoint Mayor Jarvis to the Crab Island Committee; seconded by Councilmember Overdier.

Councilmember Menchel stated that commercial activities on Crab Island have a great impact on the City of Destin, and that they should look into the possibility of having a larger representation on this committee besides just one person. He also stated that two Destin citizens had already contacted him and expressed their willingness to serve in the committee.

Councilmember Ramswell noted that Mr. Mike Buckingham has also expressed interest in serving in the committee and had already submitted his application to the County. She stated that as a businessman and Chairman of the Harbor CRA Advisory Committee, Mr. Buckingham is also well qualified to serve in this capacity and that he should be considered for appointment as well.

Councilmember Braden noted it was the City who initiated this action by their unanimous vote to recommend to the County to regulate commercial activity on Crab Island; adding that according to the City Charter, the Mayor is supposed to support the Council's decision.

The Mayor contends that the resolution adopted by this Council recommends the County regulates but not completely eliminates commercial activity on Crab Island. But he supports the City's recommendation to ban the distribution of alcoholic beverages on Crab Island.

According to the City Manager, the Council can choose to vote tonight or wait until the next meeting to appoint someone to the committee; and that the person they appoint will actually serve in the committee. There will also be three at-large positions –a recreational user, a person involved in livery vessel business, and a vendor.

Councilmember Ramswell offered a substitute motion to postpone appointment of a Destin representative to the Crab Island Committee to the March 18, 2019 City Council meeting to give Council adequate time to review and consider any membership applications. Councilmember Braden provided a second to the motion, which passed 6-1 (Council members Morgan, Destin, Overdier, Menchel, Ramswell and Braden voted "yes"; Councilmember Marler voted "no").

H. Announcements

The City Manager made the following announcements:

- Early voting for the City's Special Election is March 4-8, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Crestview and Shalimar locations
- Special City Election is on Tuesday, March 12th
- Destin Library is closed on Friday, March 8th for staff training day
- Thank you to Noell Bell for attending the meeting for Louis on her birthday
- The City Manager will be out of the office on March 14-15. Mr. Webb Warren will be in charge

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Second reading of Ordinance 18-24-CN – Acquisition of 607 Sandalwood for the Cross-Town Connector

The City Attorney read Ordinance 18-24-CN by title, and then presented it to the City Council on second reading.

> AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF DESTIN OF OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA, RELATING TO THE PURCHASE OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY FOR THE CROSS TOWN CONNECTOR; PROVIDING FOR AUTHORITY; PROVIDING FOR FINDING OF FACT; PROVIDING FOR CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL OF A CONTRACT FOR PURCHASE OF TOWNHOME UNIT, LOCATED AT 607 SANDALWOOD DRIVE, DESTIN, FLORIDA; 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 and turned the matter over to the City Council for their discussion and consideration.

Motion by Councilmember Overdier, seconded by Councilmember Marler, to approve Ordinance 18-24-CN on second reading passed 6-1 (Council members Morgan,

Destin, Marler, Overdier, Menchel and Ramswell voted "yes"; Councilmember Braden voted "no").

B. Second reading of Ordinance 18-25-CN – Acquisition of 601 Sandalwood for the Cross-Town Connector

The City Attorney read Ordinance 18-25-CN by title, and then presented it to the City Council on second reading.

> AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF DESTIN OF OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA, RELATING TO THE PURCHASE OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY FOR THE CROSS TOWN CONNECTOR; PROVIDING FOR AUTHORITY; PROVIDING FOR FINDING OF FACT; PROVIDING FOR CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL OF A CONTRACT FOR PURCHASE OF TOWNHOME UNIT, LOCATED AT 601 SANDALWOOD DRIVE, DESTIN, FLORIDA; 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 and turned the matter over to the City Council for their discussion and consideration.

Councilmember Overdier moved to approve Ordinance 18-25-CN on second reading; seconded by Councilmember Marler. Motion passed 6-1 (Council members Morgan, Destin, Marler, Overdier, Menchel and Ramswell voted "yes"; Councilmember Braden voted "no").

C. Second reading of Ordinance 19-01-LC – Provides for an amendment to Land Development Code Section 9.06.04., relating to the location of swimming pools

The City Attorney read Ordinance 19-01-LC by title, and then presented it to the City Council on second reading.

> AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF DESTIN, FLORIDA RELATING TO THE LOCATION OF SWIMMING POOLS; PROVIDING FOR FINDINGS OF FACT; PROVIDING FOR AN AMENDMENT TO LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE SECTION 9.06.04; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION INTO THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE; 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 and turned the matter over to the City Council for their discussion and consideration.

Motion by Councilmember Menchel, seconded by Councilmember Marler, to approve Ordinance 19-01-LC on second reading passed 7-0 (Council members Morgan, Destin, Marler, Overdier, Menchel, Ramswell and Braden voted "yes").

D. CORE Engineering & Consulting on behalf of Old Town Cottages Dev. LLC; Brad Shoults, requesting approval of a Planned Unit Development and Major Subdivision identified as "Southern Oaks." The proposed single family subdivision includes 10 lots and associated infrastructure improvements. The proposed project is generally located south of Calhoun Avenue, addressed as 138 and 146 Calhoun Avenue. Property can also be identified by Okaloosa County Property Appraiser's Parcel I.D. numbers 002S220310000D072B and 002S220310 000D0720. The total site area is 1.43 acres, more or less.

The Land Use Attorney announced that the applicant has withdrawn the application for consideration at this time; adding that this item is continued indefinitely until they resolve some outstanding issues with Waste Management.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Village Baptist Church ROW request for Annual 5k/10k Run/Walk

Councilmember Marler moved to approve Consent Agenda item 6A, as printed above, seconded by Councilmember Overdier. Motion passed 7-0 (Council members Morgan, Destin, Marler, Overdier, Menchel, Ramswell and Braden voted "yes").

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

A. Councilmember Braden

Councilmember Braden announced he continues to receive compliments on the Building Department staff's performance; with one person stating that the speech Community Development Department Director Louis Zunguze gave at the Future Land Use Map workshop was simply outstanding.

B. Councilmember Ramswell

Councilmember Ramswell inquired as to the status of the beach property acquisition; stating she has been contacted by a potential seller.

According to Deputy City Manager Webb Warren, the property appraiser has informed him the appraisals should be completed within the next two weeks. They will try to bring this back to the City Council for discussion at the next Council meeting if they have all the appraisals done.

The Mayor added that Councilmember Destin has informed the Tourist Development Council (TDC) that the City will be requesting funding for this project; and that he is scheduled to give a presentation to the TDC at their March meeting.

C. Councilmember Menchel

Councilmember Menchel asked the City Manager to contact FDOT and request they consider placing a divider between the westbound and east bound lanes of traffic on Hwy 98, for safety reason.

Councilmember Menchel stated that with the City's special election coming up in one week, and just in case this is his last Council meeting, he would like to take this opportunity to thank the Council for appointing him as interim Council member back in January. He urged the citizens to go out and vote. He also urged everyone to be patient with City staff; adding they have a lot of new employees, but the current staff is doing a fantastic job. He continued there are more cooperation now between staff and the Council, and that things are moving forward in a positive direction.

D. Councilmember Overdier
E. Councilmember Marler

Councilmember Marler noted that tall black poles are being erected in the rights-of-way throughout the City by AT&T, starting in front of Coyote Ugly Saloon. He continued that several of the affected property owners have contacted him complaining about it, stating they did not receive an advance notification from either AT&T or the City. He asked why the City is allowing this to happen.

The Land Use Attorney noted there is a new law passed requiring certain jurisdictions to allow small cell wireless facilities to locate in their rights-of-way; and that the City adopted an ordinance regulating them. She continued that these facilities will be placed in the City's rights-of-way subject to their ordinance. She also stated there is a process in the ordinance that deals with registration requirements, and they would need to determine if that process has been followed.

F. Councilmember Destin

Councilmember Destin suggests they amend their budget adoption process making it much more of an open collegiate process where the Council is much more involved. Currently, the budget is proposed by staff a few weeks before the statutory deadline. A massive document is created and presented to the Council. It is the Council's job to appropriate the money, but the process does give the Council enough time to provide inputs and incorporate them into the budget. He suggests a process whereby they schedule several budget workshops where the department heads can come and give the Council their priority items that need to be budgeted for the upcoming fiscal year. The Council could then go through the process together with the Finance Director and City Manager and build the budget from start to finish.

Councilmember Ramswell stated they would need to schedule the Visioning Session prior to the budget workshops.

The Finance Director noted they open the budget up for input from the department heads in April and the Visioning Session is usually scheduled at the front end of the budget process. He continued they would probably need to schedule several budget workshops starting in June/July timeframe. By that time they would have the property tax and revenue base information from which to create the budget.

The City Manager stated that they plan to move forward with the Council Visioning Session in late April on a date that would work for everybody; and then schedule another Visioning Session shortly after the start of the new fiscal year in October to discuss some ideas very early in the year so that staff could start doing the research and getting an early start on the next budget cycle.

Councilmember Destin suggests they schedule several budget workshops following the Visioning Session to discuss departmental budgets as well as funding for capital projects.

Councilmember Ramswell noted that in the previous Strategic Visioning Sessions, they set out the immediate goals, 10 year goals, 20 year goals and so forth. The last time that happened was in 2016, and she would like to see that happen on a yearly basis.

G. Councilmember Morgan
H. Mayor Gary Jarvis
I. Land Use Attorney
    1. Update on commercial events ordinance

The Land Use Attorney noted that the commercial event ordinance was scheduled to be heard on second reading tonight; however, they have discovered the need to make some minor modification to it to close out a loophole. She continued that in addition to prohibiting the commercial weddings, it was suggested that they limit the number of any weddings at a resident to maybe 3 a year. They will bring the ordinance back to the LPA this month and then present it before the City Council in April.

J. City Attorney

Having no further business at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Gary Jarvis, Mayor

ATTEST:

Rey Bailey, City Clerk

CITY OF DESTIN SEAL FLORIDA