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|  | **OFFICE OF THE** **CITY COUNCIL** |  |
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**SPECIAL AD HOC COMMITTEE ON JACKSONVILLE’S**

**NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT AND COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**April 18, 2016**

**4:00 p.m.**

**City Hall**

**117 W. Duval St., 1st Floor**

**Lynwood Roberts Room**

**Attendance:** Council Members Garrett Dennis (Chair) (arr. 4:12p), Bill Gulliford, John Crescimbeni, Al Ferraro, Tommy Hazouri (arr. 4:25p), and Joyce Morgan

**Also**: Paige Johnston – General Counsel’s Office; Robert Campbell – Council Auditor’s Office; Sam Mousa, Alli Korman Shelton, Jordan Elsbury, E. Denise Lee, and Marlene Russell – Mayor’s Office; Crystal Shemwell - Legislative Services Division; Yvonne P. Mitchell – Council Research Division

See attached sign-in sheet for additional attendees.

Council Member Gulliford called the meeting to order at 4:01p.m. The meeting began with introductions of committee and attendees.

**Donation Bins Update**

The subcommittee met on Thursday, April 14th. The draft is being updated to incorporate suggestions/comments discussed in the meeting. CM Crescimbeni stated committee will meet again to finalize the draft for presentation.

**Solid Waste Updates**

Mr. Robert Campbell distributed a summary of hauler contracts regarding bulky waste; and a C.A.R.E. issue update. The contract requires the contractor to provide at least once a week, a separate collection service for residential waste, including bulky waste. Additionally, if bulky items are too large for pick up, the driver must provide customer with notification and contact customer service to schedule a special collection on the following business day. The C.A.R.E. chart depicted complaints and requests for specific time periods per recycling company.

In response to CM Crescimbeni inquiry, Ms. Monica Cichowlas of 630-CITY stated that 6000 more calls pertaining to solid waste have been received between March 1, 2016 and April 17, 2016 as compared to the same time period last year. Thus, it has caused extended wait times for customers.

The committee held extensive discussion pertaining to bulky waste collections and lack of performance from the haulers in regards to the contract. Mr. Will Williams of Solid Waste Division commented the automated haulers are the ones with the biggest issues. He stated one of the resolutions involves incorporating a dedicated route for bulky waste collection. Mr. Sam Mousa of the Mayor’s Office expressed the necessity of an immediate resolution for the existing problem at no additional cost to the City. The committee agreed the contract provisions require the haulers to address the issue. CM Crescimbeni shared his concern about an observation of Republic SWS employees during a pickup and suggested timing of service may attribute to drivers missing collections. Mr. Steve Crawford of Waste Pro and Mr. Andy Barker of Republic-SWS commented that the number of calls, increased volume of waste, and adequate personnel were a few of the reasons for the backlog. Mr. Barker informed the committee he had just added an additional twelve drivers to his roster. Mr. Campbell stated that tagged bulky waste is picked up the next business day. Both representatives agreed to submit Mr. Williams a strategic plan by Friday, April 22nd that would address the current issue and provide a long term solution.

CM Gulliford announced that the Special Committee on Solid Waste would be convening in the next couple of weeks. The committee will review previous recommendations and other solid waste issues for better service for all entities.

**Assignments**

Monica Cichowlas – provide the number of solid waste calls during March 1, 2015 and April 17, 2015 and March 1, 2016 and April 17, 2016; and track the number of solid waste calls for the next week

Steve Crawford – submit number of bulk pickups, number of tags issued, calls reported by drivers and received by customers for past twelve months

Andy Barker - submit number of bulk pickups, number of tags issued, calls reported by drivers and received by customers for past twelve months; and provide improved service specific to yard waste in the Arlington area by Friday, April 22nd

**2015-519**

CM Gulliford stated legislation is in committee cycle.

**Administration Update**

Ms. E. Denise Lee provided an updated report on fight blight initiatives and the systematic property inspections for review. The Fire Department has completed two community outreach events. The events were held in District 3 (CM Bowman) and District 14 (CM Love). The Tire & Sign Buyback flyers will be available within the week for distribution. Posters will be provided to Council members for their districts. All advertisement is being handled through the Office of Public Affairs.

**Public Comment**

Tracie Thornton distributed a spreadsheet and copies of pictures of properties with blighted issues. She encouraged the committee to set goals and determine the common issues within all districts. Additionally, she requested action be taken by the City to address habitual violators, increase tougher penalties, and include hiring additional employees, if necessary.

Next meeting will be May 2, 2016 in the Lynwood Roberts room. There being no further business, meeting was adjourned at 5:49 p.m.

Yvonne P. Mitchell, Council Research Division

Posted 04.20.16 1:30 p.m.