



**OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

**JOYCE MORGAN**  
COUNCIL MEMBER DISTRICT 1  
OFFICE (904) 255-5201  
FAX (904) 255-5230

SUITE 425, CITY HALL  
117 WEST DUVAL STREET  
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32202  
E-MAIL: JOYCEMORGAN@COJ.NET

**November 7, 2022**

**5:00 PM.**

**Noticed Meeting Minutes**

**20220621 Minutes CM Morgan and CM Ferraro RE 2022-463**

**Tuesday, June 21, 2022, 4:00 PM.**

**Topic:** This Town Hall Meeting is to provide a forum for CM Morgan and CM Ferraro to discuss the issue regarding 2022-463 dealing with a slow speed zone in a designated area of the Arlington River.

**Location:** City Hall 177 West Duval Street Jacksonville, Florida 32202 - Lynwood Roberts Room

**Attendance:** Council Member Joyce Morgan (District 1), Council Member Al Ferraro (District 2), Susan Grandin (COJ Office of General Council), Connie Holt (ECA - Al Ferraro) Sheri Webber (ECA - CM Matt Carlucci) Concerned Residents

**Council Member Joyce Morgan** – CM Morgan began by opening her Noticed Meeting by thanking everyone in attendance and introducing herself and Council Member Ferraro detailing why we are having the meeting to discuss issues on the Arlington River. CM Morgan stated that it was important for them to meet in the sunshine to figure out a way to move forward on this issue.

**Council Member Al Ferraro** – CM Ferraro introduced himself as the Waterways Chair and gave the members in attendance a brief recap on how we got to where we are. CM Ferraro went into detail on the steps that put us into our current posture. CM Ferraro talked about how he had been approached by a member of the community, particularly a member of the rowing community, who was concerned about kids participating in crew (rowing) getting hit by speeding boats. CM Ferraro, as the Waterways Chair, got with the Office of General Council and drafted legislation to have signs placed to reduce the speed on two of the bridges (University Blvd. and Cesery Blvd. Bridge) along the Arlington River. After filing legislation, it was brought to his attention that there were a number of individuals who were in opposition to the filed legislation that would reduce speeds, and he opted to defer his bill to hear from both sides to learn more about the issue.



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**Council Member Joyce Morgan** – CM Morgan next stated that even though she could not be at the last Waterways Meeting, she went back and listened to the recording. CM Morgan next introduces Attorney Susan Grandon to give a perspective from the Office of General Council’s perspective.

**Attorney Susan Grandin** – Attorney Grandin went into technical detail on why the legislation was drafted the way it was. She talked about the 300 feet on either side of the Cesery Bridge that was allowed by the state to have a slow speed zone for a bridge of that size to help increase safety.

**Council Member Al Ferraro** – CM Ferraro noted that different areas of town have different wants and needs. CM Ferraro went on to state that members of the community wanted to know if there could be a creative way to make the legislation better, like possibly having time limits on when the slower speeds would be enforced or could the legislation be on just one bridge instead of both bridges. The idea would be to do something that would work for the entire community.

**Council Member Joyce Morgan** – CM Morgan stated that she wanted to hear directly from CM Ferraro about this legislation.

**Council Member Al Ferraro** – CM Ferraro stated that the First Coast Rowing Club invited him to the club because he was really wasn’t familiar with the situation and went to their facility to check it out for himself. After seeing the situation for himself, he thought that it would be a good idea to do something because he didn’t want anyone to get hurt. After filing legislation and hearing opposition to the legislation, he wanted to be sure that everyone could live with whatever legislation was passed.

**Council Member Al Ferraro** – CM Ferraro also wanted CM Morgan to know that the reason that she wasn’t notified about the filled legislation is that, as the Waterways Chair, they look at the entire river as a whole and not individual district as they deal with the State of Florida.

**Council Member Joyce Morgan** – CM Morgan next wanted to give members of the public an opportunity to voice their concerns. CM Morgan noted that she had seven public speaker cards to speak both for and in opposition to the legislation. CM Morgan allowed a member of the public to speak on the legislation.

**Council Member Joyce Morgan** – After giving an opportunity for public comment, CM Morgan thanked everyone for their comments. CM Morgan stated that she and CM Ferraro had some work to do. Attorney Grandin did ask for an opportunity to ask a couple of questions regarding some of the comments that were made.



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**Attorney Susan Grandin** – Attorney Grandin next asked a couple of follow-up questions that she wanted to take into consideration moving forward if there were going to be possible changes to be made. Attorney Grandin next proceeded to get clarifications from neighbors in attendance.

**Council Member Al Ferraro** – CM Ferraro noted that he’s encouraged after hearing many of the neighbors and the members from the rowing club. He stated that we are moving in the right direction and is hearing a lot of commonalities. Wanted to figure out a way to keep citizens safe with the least amount of government intervention.

**Council Member Joyce Morgan** – CM Morgan agreed with CM Ferraro and thanked everyone in attendance for coming to voice their concerns regarding this very important issue.

**Meeting Adjourned: 4:59 PM**

**Minutes:** Minutes Completed by Chester A. Aikens II, ECA District 1, Completed on June 7, 2022

The written minutes for this meeting are only an overview of what was discussed. For verbatim comments for this meeting, please listen to the audio CD.

The following items have been submitted for public record. Please contact legislative services for these items:

1. Meeting Minutes
2. Meeting Notice
3. Sign In Sheets

cc: Council Members and Staff  
Margaret “Peggy” Sidman, Director/Council Secretary  
Merriane Lahmeur, Chief, Legislative Services  
Yvonne Mitchell, Chief, Administrative Services Division  
Jeff Clements, Chief, Research Division  
CITYC@COJ.NET  
Electronic Notice Kiosk – 1st Floor City Hall