



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

April 14, 2023

5:00 PM

Noticed Meeting Minutes

20230327 Minutes CM Joyce Morgan's March Town Hall Meeting

Monday, March 27, 2023, 6:00 PM.

Topic: This Town Hall Meeting is to provide a forum to continue ongoing discussions of District 1 projects and update constituents about issues pertaining to City Council District 1.

Location: Regency Square Branch Library – 9900 Regency Square Blvd. Jacksonville, FL 32225

Attendance: Council Member Joyce Morgan (District 1), Mia Brack Library Director (Regency Branch Library) Lieutenant Greg Terrell (Jacksonville Sheriff's Office, Zone 2), Steve Long (Director of Public Works City of Jacksonville) Chester Aikens II,(ECA City Council District 1) Members and constituents of City Council District 1.

Council Member Joyce Morgan: CM Morgan opened her March Town Hall Meeting at the Regency Square Branch Library by welcoming everyone in attendance. Council Member Morgan next introduced her Executive Council Assistant Chester A. Aikens II to give the opening invocation.

Chester Aikens II: Chester Aikens II, Council Member Morgan's City Hall ECA, opened the meeting by giving the opening invocation.



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Council Member Joyce Morgan: Following the invocation, Council Member Joyce Morgan led the assembled group in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Council Member Morgan introduced Mia Brack, the Regency Square Branch Library Director, to welcome and give the assembled group information about their programming.

Mia Brack: Director Mia Brack welcomed the group assembled to her Regency Square Library branch. Director Brack next described some of the events and programming planned for the community at the branch very shortly.

Council Member Joyce Morgan: Council Member Morgan thanked Director Mia Brack for her greeting and welcoming remarks. Council Member Morgan next transitioned to the first topic of this evening's town hall meeting dealing with an update to the failed legislation regarding a potential Head Start Center at Victory Park. Council Member Morgan stated that although she initially favored this legislation, she could not support it at Council. Council Member Morgan believed an additional learning facility aimed at early education within walking distance of many residents would be an asset to our community. However, she stated that she ultimately had to change her mind after it was later revealed that there was an issue with the deed, or "deed restrictions" to the property that prohibited the land at the park for any other item other than parkland. This deed issue, therefore, prohibited the addition of the Head Start facility on this site. Council Member Morgan asked the neighbors assembled if they had questions about the situation. One question dealt with how this legislation made it so far and whether deed restriction issues even existed. Council Member Morgan stated that it was an oversight or an error, but it was great that the members of our community were there to catch the issue.

Council Member Joyce Morgan: Following her explanation of the failed Head Start legislation, she next introduced Lieutenant Greg Terrell for a Jacksonville Sheriff's Office Zone 2 update.

Lieutenant Greg Terrell - The tenant Greg Terrell thanked Council Member Morgan for the introduction and reviewed the most recent crime statistics for the previous month in JSO Zone 2. Following his crime statics report, Lieutenant Terrell reviewed the 9:00 PM routine, "ensuring all valuables, including firearms, are locked and secured away." Lieutenant Terrell stated that burglars often don't have to break into cars as their doors are already open. Lieutenant Terrell noted that the next Sherriff's Watch would occur at the Zone 2 Substation on Thursday, April 27, 2023, at 6:00 PM. Lieutenant Terrell finished by taking questions from the audience. Some of the questions from the



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audience dealt with the promptness or responsiveness of the 911 emergency operators and illegally parked vehicles on the right of way of a City of Jacksonville street.

Council Member Joyce Morgan: Council Member Morgan thanked Lieutenant Terrell for his update and introduced City of Jacksonville Public Works Director Steve Long for his monthly Public Works report.

Public Works Director Steve Long: Public Works Director Long thanked CM Morgan for her introduction. Director Long gave an update on the new Fire Station 65 at the end of Arlington Road near Atlantic Blvd. that will have the grand opening tomorrow. This station will service calls in the Woodland Acres area and other portions of the Southern end of Council District 1. He next talked about the Lone Star Road extension, which planned to connect Tredinick Parkway and Londe Start Road. Director Long stated that these plans are 90% complete and will be submitted in April; He talked about an RRFB sign on Townsend for pedestrian safety. Next, Director Long described the phase 1 outfall system that has gone out for bid to prove drainage relief for the community along Merrill Road. Director Long finished by taking questions from the group. One of the questions from the group dealt with an issue of the road patch along Merrill near the Post Office. Director Long was also asked about the upcoming improvements to Arlington Expressway, a State DOT project. Director Long thanked everyone and turned over the floor to Council Member Morgan.

Council Member Joyce Morgan: Council Member Morgan thanked Public Works Director Long for his update and gave a couple of additional updates to issues. The first issue dealt with the resurfacing project along Arlington Expressway that is planned to begin very shortly. Next, Council Member Morgan took a couple more questions and comments about the College Park project, the demolition of the old Thunderbird Hotel, and the Regency Square Mall. Following her closing remarks, Council Member Morgan informed the group that she is looking forward to everyone attending her April Town Hall Meeting, which will take place at 6:00 PM Monday, April 24, 2023, at Mount Zion UMC, 1238 Ballard Ridge Road Jacksonville, Florida 32211. Council Member Morgan thanked everyone again for attending and wished everyone a good evening.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:07 PM



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Minutes: Minutes Completed by Chester A. Aikens II, ECA District 1, Completed on April 14, 2023

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 Agenda
3. Meeting Notice
4. Meeting Sign In Sheet

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
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