**MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 23rd, 2023**

1. Introduction CM Matt Carlucci

Council Member Matt Carlucci called the meeting to order at 2:34 p.m. and introduced Council Member Mike Gay, along with Kim Taylor and Philip Peterson from the Council Auditor's Office. He also took the time to introduce members of the public who were in attendance.

1. CM Mike Gay’s upcoming legislative priorities

Council Member Mike Gay outlined his upcoming priorities concerning Ordinance 2023-0020, focusing primarily on two amendments he is proposing and coordinating with the Mayor's administration. CM Gay mentioned that he and the administration had concluded a meeting earlier in the day and were progressing toward an agreement. CM Gay then explained the owner-direct purchasing amendment.

CM Carlucci invited the Council Auditors to share their views on the amendment. They expressed support but cautioned that staff time and efficiency should be considered when establishing a threshold for using owner-direct purchasing. In response, CM Carlucci rhetorically asked why he had never thought of such an amendment before. He then praised CM Gay for his extensive work on the bill. CM Gay noted that owner-direct purchasing is already a part of the current ordinance code, but it is not being utilized to its fullest potential.

CM Gay then discussed the second amendment he is working on for Ordinance 2023-0020, which involves a local preference option of 10%. He mentioned that there had been some resistance from larger contractors until the amendment was revised to include the broader Northeast Florida area. Since that change, the amendment has garnered much stronger support from the contractors. CM Carlucci inquired whether local preference is currently considered in decision-making. Philip Peterson from the Council Auditor's Office confirmed that it is considered to some extent in RFPs, but not to the degree that CM Gay is proposing.

1. CM Matt Carlucci’s upcoming legislative priorities

CM Carlucci gave an update on a few of his upcoming legislative priorities. He gave historical context to the Laura Street Trio and why the buildings are the heartbeat of downtown Jacksonville. He indicated that it would be coming before City Council at some point and would like to speak further with CM Gay when that legislation is brought forward. CM Carlucci also spoke to the Jacksonville History Center that is being developed by the Jacksonville Historical Society. CM Gay asked if local participation would be used by the Laura Street Trio Development, to which CM Carlucci was unsure. CM Gay said that he would like to learn more about both projects as they progress.

1. Open Discussion

Public Comments:

Carnell Oliver made a public comment regarding a local preference for minority businesses, and a potential tax exemption.

John Nooney made a public comment regarding the marina renaming for Hans Tanzler, as well as the activation of the City’s waterways.

CM Carlucci allowed Carnell Oliver to make an additional public comment, to which Mr. Oliver requested the City name something after John Nooney.

1. Meeting End

The meeting was adjourned at 3:19 p.m.