



## OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEMBER JIMMY PELUSO  
DISTRICT 7  
OFFICE (904) 255- 5207  
FAX (904) 255-5230

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

### **Noticed Meeting Council Member Peluso and CM Gay RE 2023-0020 November 2, 2023 Minutes**

**Location:** Don Davis Room in City Hall located at 117 West Duval Street, Jacksonville, FL 32202

**Attendance:** Council President Ron Salem, Council Member Jimmy Peluso, Council Member Michael Gay, Council Member Michael Boylan, Council Member Will Lahnen, Chief of Procurement Division Dustin Freeman, Chief Financial Officer Anna Brosche, Office of General Council Lawsikia Hodges, Director of Public Works Nina Sickler, Executive Council Assistant Bethany Bryan, Executive Council Assistant Brooks Dame, Christopher C. Blank, Chief Operating Officer of J.B. Coxwell

**Meeting Convened:** 2:30 p.m.

Council Member Mike Gay and Council Member Peluso welcomed the attendees. Council Member Gay recognized the other Council Members present and asked attendees to introduce themselves for the record.

Council Member Gay directed the Council Members to review the amendments in the handouts. He noted amendment 1 provided a framework Owner Direct Purchases (ODP) for the Procurement Chief Dustin Freeman that items 100k and above now allowed for Chief discretion for implementation unless there were extenuating circumstances. It also allowed for 10k for Jacksonville Small and Emerging Businesses (JSEBs). They clarified that the intent is that Public Works issues a Direct Order for Public Purpose to one vendor (with a lump sum) total for the that he could approve. Council Member Salem noted the importance of processing the sales tax exemptions for the vendors and contractors promptly. Council Member Gay agreed; he suggested Public Works may need an ODP specialist.

Council President Salem shared he'd spoken to people in the industry on Amendment 1 and 3. He was pleased to see if both amendments were moved, they would be supported in committee.

Council Member Gay moved onto Amendment 3. He shared the Local business participation goal was looking at an applicable amount of \$7,000,000 or more based on 40% would be maximum of the local business participation requirement. Attorney Hodges noted the Procurement Chief has the ability to lower this to a minimum of 20%. Council Member Gay noted 40% was a goal. Council President Salem asked how many of these we had; Chief Freeman estimated 30. Council President Freeman asked if the bids were marked up by contractors bidding from outside the local area; did local contractor increase their bids knowing this? Council Member Gay reported the bid specification would show all the vendors

interested in the project. Oracle would show the supplier portal. Contractors would need to do due diligence to recruit their team. Council President Salem noted this was an improvement of a prior amendment.

Council Member Gay discussed how the bid items can be laborious and time consuming. He believes this hurts the competitive nature of Jacksonville bids. St. Johns County uses fewer bid items, and they receive more bids, even while they have a local preference, 10 vs 124 bid items. Jacksonville could create a smoother and simpler road to make it simpler for plan holders to bid. The complaint is the turnaround time to bid once contractors get their numbers can be difficult. Council Member Peluso asked about the regional affect; Council Member Gay responded the lack of regional concept has hurt other counties. Council Member Lahnen asked for the definition of local; Attorney Hodges directed to page 3 of the amendment. Council Member Peluso asked about the local business who contracts out of area contractors; Council Member Gay noted it was unlikely.

Attorney Hodges reported this amendment came with reporting; sunseting in two years. If this does not encourage competition and more bids, the Council Members can change the process with legislation.

Council Member Gay asked opened up public comment. Christopher C. Blank, Chief Operating Officer of J.B. Coxwell, asked for clarity on the 40% goal. He asked if JSEB could be 20% of that; Council Member Gay confirmed. The needles will follow each other. Attorney Hodges confirmed this was not meant to apply to state CCNA processes, or similar ones, where the State sets forth policy we must follow. Those would be excluded.

Council Member Gay confirmed Amendment 2 was going away. Council President Salem thanked Council Member Gay for his work on this. The meeting was adjourned.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 3:10 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Brooks Dame, Executive Council Assistant to Council Member Jimmy Peluso. The following items were submitted for public record and can be accessed by contacting the Legislative Services:

20231102 Noticed Meeting CM Peluso and CM Gay RE 2023-0020  
20231102 Agenda Noticed Meeting CM Peluso and CM Gay RE 2023-0020  
20231102 Minutes Noticed Meeting CM Peluso and CM Gay RE 2023-0020  
20231102 Handout 1 Noticed Meeting CM Peluso and CM Gay RE 2023-0020

cc: Council Members and Staff  
Margaret "Peggy" Sidman, Director/Council  
Secretary Merriane Lahmeur, Chief, Legislative  
Services Division Teresa Eichner, Chief, Public  
Information Division Yvonne Mitchell, Chief,  
Administrative Services Division Jeff Clements,  
Chief, Research Division CITYC@COJ.NET  
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