

# City of Jacksonville

117 W. Duval Street  
Jacksonville, FL 32202



## Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 12, 2024

2:00 PM

Council Chamber,  
1st Floor, City Hall

### Jacksonville Waterways Commission

*CM Mike Gay, Chair*

*CM Ken Amaro, Vice Chair - Early Departure 2:13*

*CM Jimmy Peluso - Excused*

*CM Tyrona Clark-Murray, Alternate*

*Jon Michael Barker*

*Robert Birtalan*

*Lane Burnett*

*Representative Kiyon Michael - Excused*

*Mark Devereaux - Absent*

*Andrew Fraden*

*Marc Hardesty*

*Richard Hartley - Excused*

*Richard J. Redick - Absent*

*Jill Haskell - General Public Rep - Absent*

*Jack Meeks, Ex-Officio - Absent*

*Adam Hoyles, Ex-Officio*

*Rebecca Bolton, Legislative Assistant*

*Shannon MacGillis, Office of General Counsel*

*Dr. Gerard Pinto, Jacksonville University*

*Colleen Hampsey, Council Research*

*Jim Suber, Waterways Coordinator*

**Meeting Convened: 2:01 PM      Meeting Adjourned: 2:55 PM**

**1. Call To Order**

**2.**

**Present**      9 - Chair Mike Gay, Vice Chair Ken Amaro, Alternate Tyrona Clark-Murray, Commissioner Jon Michael Barker, Commissioner Robert Birtalan, Commissioner Lane Burnett, Commissioner Andrew Fraden, Commissioner Marc Hardesty, and Ex-Officio Adam Hoyles

**Excused**      3 - Council Member Jimmy Peluso, Commissioner Rep. Kiyon Michael, and Commissioner Richard Hartley

**Absent**      4 - Commissioner Jill Haskell, Commissioner Richard Redick, Ex-Officio Jack Meeks, and Commissioner Mark Devereaux

**3. Pledge of Allegiance**

**4. Approval of Minutes**

**Motion/2nd move to approve minutes from the 8/15/2024 JWC meeting: Amaro/Clark-Murray. Approved unanimously.**

**5. JEA Update**

**Kurt Wilson, JEA, shared an update regarding the raising of power lines by the port. He said the feasibility study estimated the project cost to be \$45 million, using state and City funds. However the actual cost may be at least twice that. Mr. Wilson said the design stage should be 90% completed by November, which will provide a more actual cost for the project. He described the process to shift the lines west, with an increase in height from 175 feet to 225 feet. The estimated completion date is December 2026.**

**Council Member Amaro asked about the cost. Mr. Wilson said that right now it looks like it may be closer to \$90 million, plus \$10 million for cost overruns.**

**Commissioner Hardesty asked why the lines weren't addressed initially in conjunction with the dredging.**

**Commissioner Birtalan gave a presentation about the Harbor Waterways Special District which consists of the properties and easements associated with a canal system that is common to four independent neighborhoods in the Fort Caroline area. The District maintains the navigability of the canal system, manages the spoil site on Reed Island, and administers the regulations for the waterway.**

Contact:  
Kurt Wilson

**6. St. Johns River Status Report on Water Quality & Manatees**

**Dr. Pinto, JU, said that the salinity levels are low from the excessive rain and water levels are higher than average due to the same. He said the algae blooms are declining, and there have been 0 new manatee deaths since the last meeting.**

Contact:  
Dr. Gerard Pinto,  
Jacksonville University

## 7. Public Comment

**Lorrinn Woods, did not speak, in support for preserving the Armory building.**

**Mr. Nooney talked about public records.**

**Bill Schuetz spoke about the Hogpen Creek Special District assessments.**

## 8. New Business

**2024-0691** ORD Approp \$5,177,094.00 in Grant Funds from the FL Dept of Environmental Protection (FDEP) to Prov Funding for the Mccoys Creek Branches Project; Amend the 24-28 5-Yr CIP Appvd by Ord 2023-505-E to Reflect this Approp of Funds; Prov for Oversight by the Dept of Public Works, Engineering & Construction Mgmt Div (B.T. 24-137) (Dillard) (Req of Mayor) (Co-Sponsor CM Peluso) (JWC Apv)  
8/27/24 CO Introduced: NCSPHS, F, JWC  
9/3/24 NCSPHS Read 2nd & Rerefer  
9/4/24 F Read 2nd & Rerefer  
9/10/24 CO PH Read 2nd & Rerefer  
Public Hearing Pursuant to Ch 166, F.S. & C.R. 3.601 - 9/10/24

**This bill appropriates \$5,177,094 in Florida Department of Environmental Protection grant funds to the McCoy's Creek Branches Project. The purpose of the project is to restore the natural function of approximately 4,752 liner feet of the stream and to improve the north and south branches and the beginnings of McCoy's Creek downstream to reduce flooding in the area and improve recreational opportunities.**

**Motion/2nd move to approve: Clark-Murray/Barker**

**Approved unanimously**

**2024-0716** ORD Adopting a Large-Scale Amendmnt to the FLUM Series of the 2045 Comp Plan at 0 Pecan Park Rd & 0 Arnold Rd, btwn Arnold Rd & Jax International Airport - (229.01± Acres) - AGR & PBF to LI - Subema, LLC (R.E. # 019583-0000 & 019606-0000 (Portion)) (Appl # L-5872-23A) (Dist. 8-Gaffney, Jr.) (Parola) (LUZ) (JWC Apv)  
(Rezoning 2024-717)  
9/10/24 CO Introduced: LUZ, JWC  
9/17/24 LUZ Read 2nd & Rerefer  
LUZ PH - 10/15/24  
Public Hearing Pursuant to Sec 163.3184 (3), F.S. & Ch 650, Pt 4, Ord Code - 10/8/24 & 10/22/24

**Mr. Lukacovic, Planning Department, spoke about this item. He said the bill will change the land use to light industrial, instead of agricultural and public building facilities, on the west side of Pecan Park Road. The parcel abuts JIA property and is in keeping with adjacent land usage.**

**Motion/2nd move to approve: Clark-Murray/Barker**

**Approved unanimously**

**9. Old Business**

**a. St. Johns River Accord Task Force**

**Council Member Peluso will chair the task force, and Council Member Amaro will be a member along with Commissioners Redick and Barker, also Captain Suber and Adam Hoyles. Next meeting date not scheduled yet.**

Contact:

Council Member Peluso

**b. Derelict Vessel Task Force**

**To be chaired by Commissioner Barker. Meeting to be September 19.**

Contact:

Commissioner Barker

**c. Shoaling/Artificial Reef Task Force**

**To be chaired by Commissioner Hardesty. Next meeting date not scheduled yet.**

Contact:

Commissioner Hardesty

**d. FIND Subcommittee**

**To be chaired by Commissioner Barker. Next meeting date not scheduled yet.**

Contact:  
Commissioner Barker  
and Brian Burkett, Parks

## 10. Adjournment

**Pursuant to the American with Disabilities Act, accommodations for persons with disabilities are available upon request. Please allow 1-2 business days notification to process; last minute requests will be accepted; but may not be possible to fulfill. Please contact Disabled Services Division at: V 904-255-5466, TTY-904-255-5476, or email your request to KaraT@coj.net.**

Minutes: Colleen Hampsey, Council Research  
CHampsey@coj.net 904.255.5151  
Posted: 9.20.24 5:00 pm