CITY OF ST. AUGUSTINE

Regular City Commission Meeting
Monday, June 13, 2022

The City Commission met in formal session Monday, June 13, 2022, at 5:00 P.M. in the Alcazar Room at City Hall. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Tracy Upchurch, and the following were present:

1. ROLL CALL: Tracy Upchurch, Mayor/City Commissioner
Nancy Sikes-Kline, Vice Mayor/City Commissioner
Roxanne Horvath, City Commissioner
John Valdes, City Commissioner

Absent: Barbara Blonder, City Commissioner (excused)

Also Present: Meredith Breidenstein, Assistant City Manager
Isabelle Lopez, City Attorney
Darlene Galambos, City Clerk
David Birchim, Assistant City Manager
Reuben Franklin, Director, Public Works
Amy Skinner, Director, Planning and Building
Melissa Wissel, Director, Communications
Jennifer Michaux, Police Chief
Laura Morse, Recording Secretary

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Reverend Matt Marino, Trinity Parish St. Augustine, delivered the invocation, and Commissioner Sikes-Kline led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

2.A. Modification and Approval of Regular Agenda

Meredith Breidenstein, Assistant City Manager, requested the postponement of Item 7.A.3. until a later date. She asked for the addition of Item 14.A. to discuss a memo submitted by Commissioner Horvath[1]

MOTION

Commissioner Sikes-Kline MOVED to modify the Regular Agenda as requested. The motion was SECONDED by Commissioner Horvath and APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE.

3. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS, RECOGNITIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

3.A. Special presentation of the American flag to Renda Hall in recognition of her mother, Gudrun Hall, recipient of the 2015 de Aviles award.

Mayor Upchurch acknowledged the many accomplishments of Gudrun and Bob Hall for their decades of volunteer service to living history and the local and State community, which included founding the Florida Historic Militia. He presented the American flag flown at half-staff on Saturday, April 23, 2022, to their daughter, Renda Hall, who expressed sincere appreciation for this gesture honoring her parents.

[1] Attached to original minutes

3.B. Proclamation 2022-17: Proclaiming June 20-26 at Pollinator Week recognizing pollinator species and their significant environmental benefits.

Mayor Upchurch read the Proclamation, which was received by Glabra Skipp, Environmental Program Coordinator, who cited the Mayor's Monarch Pledge and noted www.citystaug.com/monarchbutterflies had been launched and had many resources.

3.C. Proclamation 2022-22: Proclaims June 19, 2022, as Juneteenth Day.

Mayor Upchurch reviewed the Proclamation which acknowledged the history, legacy, and culture of African Americans throughout the City, which was received by Gayle and Floyd Phillips from the Lincolnville Museum.

Ms. Phillips thanked the Commission and noted the upcoming event on June 18th at the Lincolnville Museum, which would unveil a new section of the museum, followed by a heritage luncheon at the Casa Monica. She stated St. Augustine held one of the original documented emancipation celebrations at the Governor's House in 1864 which was in the historical records.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS OR FOR AGENDA ITEMS NOT REQUIRING A SEPARATE PUBLIC HEARING

The Commission heard from the following members of the public:

- Lauren Giber
- Maureen Long
- Christy Sanford
- Wade Ross
- Evelyn Willis
- Jan Kelly
- B.J. Kalaidi

Public comment was closed.
Mayor Upchurch cited the Commission's full awareness of the exceedingly complicated homelessness issue, and noted services were needed to assist those individuals with mental health issues and drug addictions. He stated homeless individuals were created in the image of God, which placed a particular burden on City government to maintain cleanliness and safety, while understanding these individuals were human beings. He noted the insinuation the Commission was not tackling this topic was inaccurate, and three of the speakers who spoke passionately regarding the homelessness issue had left the meeting.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Breidenstein read the Consent Agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA
JUNE 13, 2022

CA.1. Preview of upcoming Commission meetings.

CA.2. THE FOLLOWING ORDINANCES ARE TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR SECOD READING ON JUNE 27, 2022:

(None)

CA.3. Reminder of Upcoming Meetings:

- June 27, 2022, 5:00pm, Regular City Commission Meeting
- July 11, 2022, 3:00pm, Special Commission Meeting to discuss the 2023 Budget Assumptions
- July 11, 2022, 5:00pm, Regular City Commission Meeting
- July 25, 2022, 5:00pm, Regular City Commission Meeting

CA.4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PRIOR COMMISSION MEETINGS:

- April 25, 2022, Regular Commission Meeting
- May 9, 2022, Regular Commission Meeting

CA.5. RELEASES OF LIEN FOR UNIT CONNECTION FEE MORTGAGE(S):

(None)

CA.6. NOTIFICATION OF PROCLAMATIONS / CERTIFICATES OF RECOGNITION ISSUED:

- Proclamation 2022-19: Proclaiming June 26, 2022, as Greek Landing Day in the City of St. Augustine. *(N. Sikes-Kline, Commissioner)*
- Proclamation 2022-20: Proclaims recognition of Ignacio "Nacho" Martinez Suarez on his retirement. *(T. Upchurch, Mayor)*

CA.7. PROPOSED PROCLAMATIONS, CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION / RECOGNITION. (COMMISSION APPROVAL REQUIRED). (TO BE READ AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING).

(None)

CA.8. Approval for the Lincolnville Museum and Cultural Center to use the City Seal in their promotional flyer and information. *(D. Galambos, City Clerk)*

CA.9. Update to establish affordable housing unit connection financing. *(D. Birchim, Assistant City Manager)*

CA.10. Confirmation of re-appointment to the General Employees' Retirement System of the City of St. Augustine, Florida (GERB). *(D. Galambos, City Clerk)*

CA.11. Invoice from Cavendish Partners, P.A. for legal services regarding the Marlowe v. City matter in the amount of $1,350.00 and invoice from Cavendish Partners, P.A. for legal services regarding the Smith v. City matter in the amount of $450.00. *(I. Lopez, City Attorney)*

End Consent Agenda

<u>5.A.</u> Additions, deletions, or modifications to Consent Agenda

(None)

<u>5.B.</u> Approval of Consent Agenda

MOTION

Commissioner Horvath MOVED to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was SECONDED by Commissioner Sikes-Kline.

<u>VOTE ON MOTION:</u>
AYES: Horvath, Sikes-Kline, Valdes, Upchurch
NAYES: None
MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

6. APPEALS

(None)

7. GENERAL PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS, ITEMS OF GREAT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE, AND OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING PUBLIC HEARINGS

<u>7.A.</u> General Public Presentations

<u>7.A.1.</u> Presentation by Chancellor, Deacon Mike Elison, Diocese of St. Augustine and Francisco Guitard, Director Instituto Nauta to discuss the installation of the blessing of the newly created sculpture of St. James the Greater, Apostle statue at the Cathedral - Basilica and the delegation trip to Spain in July.

Mayor Upchurch introduced the topic, Chancellor Deacon Mike Elison, Francisco Guitard, and Father John Tetlow.

Father Tetlow expressed excitement for the initiative in conjunction with the Sister Cities in Spain, noted the Caminos history, and invited others to attend the 'Baby Steps Camino' initiative which was a beach walk from Jacksonville to St. Augustine each December.

Chancellor Deacon Elison noted that a delegation representing St. Augustine's business, commercial, religious, and academic sectors would travel to Spain to visit the Sister Cities of Cordova, Madrid, Segovia, and Santiago de Compostela na dias. He said the Cathedral in St. Augustine would form a sisterhood with other Cathedrals in Spain and would place the City 'on the map' to promote the Caminos.

Mr. Guitard noted the twelve years he worked on the project, and he stated the Cathedral Alliance was something incredible; built with the church, which promoted legacy, culture, architecture, and music. He expressed his appreciation and noted how proud he was to share this with the City of St. Augustine. He advised the emblem of the Camino alliance would be a 'cupped' hand.

Mayor Upchurch expressed appreciation for the presentation and said the Camino went primarily across the top of Spain with numerous branches across Europe, and it was a pilgrimage dating back to the Middle Ages. He noted the connectiveness between the Camino, Aviles, and St. Augustine and stated that St. Augustine would be designated as a Camino way point, and he shared his hope that the emblem would eventually be at the front of the Cathedral and at locations throughout Europe.

The Commissioners expressed gratitude for propelling this project to fruition after many years and excitement for the element of sisterhood.

Mayor Upchurch advised that John Regan, City Manager, may attend the event as a private citizen and a Roman Catholic. He thanked the presenters and wished them a safe trip.

7.A.2. Presentation by Troy Blevins, President and Mike Davis, Vice President of Home Again St. Johns, Inc. regarding the Home Again St. Johns strategic plan.

Mayor Upchurch introduced the topic and thanked Mr. Blevins for his service to the community.

Mr. Blevins expressed appreciation for the Mayor's previous comments regarding homelessness, and he said people lost the situation's reality which required being 'more human.' He cautioned instituting rules and laws which required enforcement, and he used Denver and San Francisco as examples of cities with laws in place that lacked the ability of enforcement. He introduced Mike Davis from Home Again St. Johns, Inc.

Mr. Davis reviewed the following:

- Current process underway with the County to finalize an agreement for a $2.4 million grant to purchase land on SR 16 with plans to construct and complete a service center and emergency housing facility the first quarter of 2024
- Plans sent a clear message regarding commitment to the homeless population
- Appreciation for non-profit organizations assisting with the homelessness issue
- County had explosive growth, three hurricanes, and a pandemic which all had hindered lifestyles
- Program had many success stories and ties were strengthened with other organizations, such as the Veterans Council
- Home Again St. Johns would offer a few beds for homeless veterans
- Additional funding was necessary as services were expanded; therefore, they sought additional funding from the City

Mr. Davis introduced Ellen Walden, Executive Director, Home Again St. Johns.

At the request of Mayor Upchurch, Ms. Walden said the services provided at the service center included case management, employment activities such as job coaching and resume assistance, housing location, a mentoring program, beds up to 24 months, month to month lease options, 8 efficiency apartments, showers, washing machines, respite beds for those leaving the hospital, and food service. She noted their intention to have a facility close enough to downtown and said there would be lockers, storage, and a bike lock-up.

Ms. Walden said staff included herself, another individual, a person in training, and all others were volunteers. She continued their current location provided all the core services including case management and those job related; however, there were no showers, but they provided meals, laundry, and they would operate in this capacity until January 2024. She said they had a place for men to wash privately, and a volunteer picked up and washed the laundry to assist the homeless with clean clothes. She noted the different components of homelessness; mentally ill, people living in cars, and the disabled. She welcomed discussions with the Commission regarding solutions, and she noted her extensive research on best practices in other areas.

Commissioner Valdes thanked Ms. Walden for her efforts, and he said the harshness of homeless numbers were unknown. He questioned actions required to create a response to the demand, noted the degree of triage necessary to assist those with issues, and he asked Mr. Blevins to quantify the problem.

Mr. Blevins indicated the following:

- City had two outreach officers which was crucial for the one-on-one relationship with the homeless individual
- The human element was most important and was difficult to quantify
- United Service Center was being constructed based on placing individuals into the right program
- Continued to work with the Continuum of Care which had hundreds of community providers
- Number of beds required came down to density

In response to Commissioner Horvath regarding a real sense of the actual need, Mr. Blevins stated exact numbers could not be provided, since only those right in front of you could be helped, and there was a perpetual cycle.

Mr. Davis advised that numbers were difficult to determine and the point in time count was approximately 400; however, homeless advocates stated the number was closer to 1,000. He indicated his desire for a larger facility, noted the money may not be in the budget, and said the homeless issue was the most difficult ever experienced. He continued that some people wanted to be homeless, there was not a 'one size fixes all', and services put into place assisted individuals when they were needed.

Commissioner Valdes questioned the amount of commerce lost downtown due to the homeless situation, and he suggested they discover ways to realize this, since the money lost could be used for the service facility.

Mayor Upchurch stated there were resources available including food and clothing, there was a problem with seeing people on the streets, any community with a tourist element had these issues, and no one was going hungry. He thanked those present from Home Again St. Johns for their work and perseverance on behalf of the Commission and the community.

<u>7.A.3.</u> Wiley Page, Atkins Vice President of Transportation Planning will present an overview for the Anastasia Boulevard Complete Street Study completed by the North Florida Transportation Planning Organization.

<u>Item tabled to a later meeting.</u>

7.B. Items of Great Public Importance

(None)

7.C. Other Items Requiring Public Hearing

7.C.1. Public hearing required for the City to apply for a Small Cities Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

Denise Radovich, Grants Administration Coordinator, reviewed the City's eligibility to apply for a CDBG with the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity for an amount up to $24.8 million in FY2021, and approximately $23 million in FY2022. She reviewed the competitive process, application cycle, and activities applicable to the Grant, which met national objectives. She requested that public comment be allowed for the item.

Public hearing was opened, and the Commission heard from the following members of the public:

- Lauren Giber
- B.J. Kalaidi

Public hearing was closed.

Commissioner Sikes-Kline noted this satisfied a public notice requirement for the availability of public funding and was to obtain feedback and not to choose or propose a project.

Ms. Radovich advised that if the Commission approved the request, the next step would be to look for opportunities, and this presentation was to show an opportunity existed. She stated she would submit the application by the deadline, then return to the Commission for approval and a second public hearing, which allowed public input on suggestions for how to spend the grant funds.

MOTION

Commissioner Sikes-Kline MOVED approval of proceeding with the Grant application. The motion was SECONDED by Commissioner Horvath.

VOTE ON MOTION:
AYES: Sikes-Kline, Horvath, Valdes, Upchurch
NAYES: None
MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

8. ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS – PUBLIC HEARING REQUIRED

8.A. Ordinances – Second Reading

(None)

8.B. Ordinances – First Reading (only if required by law)

(None)

8.C. Resolutions – Public Hearing (only if required by law)

(None)

9. ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS - NO PUBLIC HEARING REQUIRED

9.A. Ordinances – First Reading

(None)

9.B. Resolutions

9.B.1. Resolution 2022-18: Creates a City poet laureate.

Darlene Galambos, City Clerk, reviewed the Resolution initiated at the April 11th meeting by Commissioner Horvath. She noted her research on creating these positions which had been assimilated and submitted as suggestions to Isabelle Lopez, City Attorney.

Ms. Lopez reviewed each of the questions received and provided feedback:

- Item C "the Poet Laureate *will write* an original…..": This should be changed to "*may write*" which provided flexibility to the Poet Laureate if there was an event they chose not to write a poem
- Ownership of the works and limiting Poet Laureate's ability to publish their work in periodicals: This was not a work for hire, and the City would not own or control the copyright; therefore, it allowed the City to reproduce and publish the Poet Laureate works at no cost
- City Manager to review the City Poet Laureate works, which did not include all the works; This was included since those works would be deemed government speech and would include language and topics control

Mayor Upchurch said in the current climate, it was impossible to ask the City Manager to review a work of art to ensure it did not upset five City Commissioners and the public, and this 'flew in the face' of what poetry and art were about.

Ms. Lopez advised these suggestions were intended to be symbolic of the City as a legal entity, the City could be a speaker, and as a municipality should allow some measure of control over the City's own speech through these poems and follow case law for government speech.

Commissioner Horvath suggested they present the poem in the Commission packet prior to their reading, which could then be addressed if there was a problem. She was advised by Ms. Lopez it was at the Commission's discretion, and if they chose to call this the City's government speech, which was a term to describe expression, it provided a level of control to the Commission as deciders of policy to determine whether they wanted to be, or not be, associated.

Mayor Upchurch questioned whether this provision was found in other model examples of community Poet Laureates, and he was advised by Ms. Lopez this was an evolving area of the law, and she intended to cover it.

Ms. Galambos noted that a California City had signed a contract with their Poet Laureate which included hefty provisions regarding oversight and ownership.

Mayor Upchurch questioned the language in Item E "*at no cost to the City of St. Augustine*". He was advised by Ms. Lopez that she was unaware of the intent with the compilation of poems over time, and should the City want to publish a book of Poet Laureate works, they would not be required to pay the Poet a fee for the copyright use of the works.

Mayor Upchurch indicated his vision of a Poet Laureate writing on several items unrelated to City designated holidays; therefore, he was reluctant to include the list of holidays and suggested more generic and wide-ranging language. He questioned if 'Item B' should state "*The Poet Laureate served at the pleasure of the Commission*" and he also stated if a Poet Laureate went rogue, there should be a mechanism for replacement.

Ms. Lopez said the Mayor's suggestions were options, and the idea was to create a schedule for the City Clerk to know when to appoint a new Poet Laureate. She read Section H which included the application parameters, selection, and compliance with City procedures and the Poet Laureate program. She noted in Section G the City could make an individual designation or program as determined by the Commission, which meant they could end the program or remove someone from the Poet Laureate position.

Commissioner Sikes-Kline questioned the Resolution, which had a reference of no cost to the City; however, subsequent text recognized funding for projects and this was unclear. She questioned the availability of honorary and said this was expected with other programs, and she was advised by Ms. Galambos the various funding sources were noted in the different Resolutions, and this was not included since there were quite a few non-funded voluntary positions throughout the City. She requested clarification on the Poet Laureate compensation.

Commissioner Horvath advised there would be no out-of-pocket money spent by the Poet Laureate. She said from the outreach the first year would indicate the amounts, and some money should be reserved for travel, education, and printing expenses.

Commissioner Valdes expressed satisfaction with the Poet Laureate idea, but he questioned the mechanics of how a poem written by a Poet Laureate reached the public. It was suggested by Ms. Galambos that the Communications Department manage the disbursement of the poems to the public.

Ms. Galambos requested clarity on the Commissioner's concerns, which she said could be modified.

Mayor Upchurch summated the comments of the Commission:

- Concern with expense reimbursement
- Concern with listing specific holidays, which should be more broad
- Poet Laureate would be seen as a cultural guide; therefore, their ability to present other's poems as they deemed appropriate was good
- Clarify Item E so the City would have the right to publish poems without compensation to the Poet Laureate; however, the City would not attempt to own the copyright
- Preferred removal of Item F, with intention to address a rogue poet in other ways

Ms. Galambos expressed confidence that the Communications Department would manage any issues with a rogue poet.

Commissioner Horvath clarified the Poet Laureate would draft poems for events and provide outreach to the schools for the promotion of poetry and art.

Commissioner Sikes-Kline stated that all great cherished cities had great poets writing about that City. She continued the Poet Laureate's work was being endorsed when they were in public places, they represented the City, and she commended Commissioner Horvath for the idea.

Mayor Upchurch said the public would perceive that the message from the Poet Laureate was endorsed by the event. He summated that the City provided the Poet Laureate a platform during events that made the community richer. He said they would not be required, but encouraged, and he noted Flagler College had become more open and inclusive, poems were regularly read at graduation in lieu of a benediction, and this could be explored for the Poet Laureate. He noted his love for the Poet Laureate idea; however, he was not prepared to vote on the item and believed the Commissioner's concerns were made clear.

Ms. Lopez advised that optional language for the Commission's review would be provided at the next Commission meeting.

MOTION

Mayor Upchurch MOVED to table Resolution 2022-18 to a future meeting to allow City staff to make necessary revisions to the Resolution. The motion was SECONDED by Commissioner Horvath and APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE.

Mayor Upchurch advised the public could speak regarding the topic during opening public comments at the next meeting, and they could also communicate with City staff or Commissioners by email.

9.B.2. Resolution 2022-19: Adopts the Mobility Fee Administration Manual.

Amy Skinner, Director, Planning and Building, stated the Manual was a requirement to implement mobility fees, and it explained the process which determined how mobility fees were calculated and applied. She noted this was through a Resolution so that it could be easily amended and updated, as necessary.

Commissioner Sikes-Kline thanked Ms. Skinner and noted the items listed under Page 4 '*dynamic parking management strategies*' were great; however, they needed to make employee parking needs the priority.

Mayor Upchurch said this was a starting point, and as the mobility fees were worked through and used, the procedures may require modification.

MOTION

Commissioner Sikes-Kline MOVED to approve Resolution 2022-19. The motion was SECONDED by Commissioner Horvath.

VOTE ON MOTION:
AYES: Sikes-Kline, Horvath, Valdes, Upchurch
NAYES: None
MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

10. STAFF REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

10.A. Review of the options for the Fish Island logo.

Reuben Franklin, Director, Public Works, reviewed the two options presented in the Commission packet, and he cited the differences. He said two public meetings occurred for input on the logo and public solicitation had narrowed these options. He requested a Commission decision so they could move forward with the creation of panels and completion of the management plan for Fish Island.

The Commission was favorable to placement of the orange on the logo, based on its significance to the State of Florida and the history of Fish Island.

MOTION

Commissioner Horvath MOVED to accept the design with the orange on it. The motion was SECONDED by Commissioner Sikes-Kline.

VOTE ON MOTION:
AYES: Horvath, Sikes-Kline, Valdes, Upchurch
NAYES: None
MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

Mayor Upchurch thanked Mr. Franklin for his leadership on the item.

11. ITEMS BY CITY ATTORNEY

(None)

12. ITEMS BY CITY CLERK

(None)

13. ITEMS BY CITY MANAGER

(None)

14. ITEMS BY MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Horvath provided the Commission with a memo pertaining to the City fountain in front of the Alcazar Hotel.[2] She reviewed the fountain's condition, options for repair or replacement, and she noted her research with companies that could assist with the process which she narrowed to Wonderland Products, Inc., who could restore the fountain with use of a passthrough for a crane at a cost of $22,000. She expressed concern with the aluminum swans.

[2] Included with permanent record packet

Commissioner Valdes stated the estimate to remove and add a small spray fountain was contingent on the piping underneath and other factors. He noted the potential for destruction with the removal and restoration proposal and suggested a fallback position to revert to the original Henry Flagler 'bubble up'. He said they were looking at a difference of $22,000 or $10,000 to replicate the original fountain.

Commissioner Horvath asked the Commission for permission to borrow the money from the reserves for the $22,000, which could be repaid in the next year's budget process. She believed the fountain was iconic, it was in much of the City literature, and she preferred to restore it which should be done prior to the upcoming holiday season.

Mayor Upchurch noted his trust for Commissioner Horvath's judgment and professional expertise on the topic. He expressed concern that the prior meeting had a tangled conversation regarding the entrance signs and costs for repair or replacement, and he believed this topic fell into the same category; therefore, he was confused why this topic did not present the same issue. He urged the Commission to set this decision aside until they had the entrance signs proposal. He said these topics all went to preserving the cultural and architectural integrity of the community.

Commissioner Sikes-Kline indicated her support of the restoration which she considered an emergency repair, and she said this did not set a precedent since these types of issues were handled in the past. She said they should proceed forward with the work and take an inventory of all public statuary and objects, which would be a reminder of the necessity to take better care of these items. She considered the fountain a civic asset and noted the City's responsibility to care for it and understand its condition, just like the streets, entry signs, Swing Park, and the Waterworks Building.

Commissioner Horvath agreed that an inventory was important; however, the fountain was a pressing need, which she did not categorize with the entrance signs, which were far more expensive than $22,000.

Commissioner Valdes said this was not an urgent situation, and they should wait for an opinion on imminent failure of the fountain statue.

Mayor Upchurch noted the entrance signs could be bulldozed for $5,000 each, and this fountain deterioration did not occur overnight. He said the Commission should request that City staff return with the additional information at the next meeting.

MOTION

Mayor Upchurch MOVED that this matter be tabled until their next meeting and that they direct City staff at the same time to bring back revised proposals for the entrance signs. The motion was SECONDED by Commissioner Sikes-Kline and APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE.

Commissioner Sikes-Kline noted the importance to continue discussions regarding homelessness, panhandling, vagrancy, and mental health. She was unsure how to address these issues, and suggested they hear directly from the City police resource officers. She appreciated the Mayor's comment made after public comment regarding homelessness and the human issue, she said people thought they had solutions to this complex topic, and she would speak with the City Manager to further discuss the situation.

Commissioner Sikes-Kline questioned City representation for the Continuum of Care and was advised by Ms. Breidenstein that an outreach officer attended their meetings. She believed there was a strong need to communicate with the community the significant homeless enforcement issues, and the City could not arrest their way out of them. She noted the City Attorney had placed a great *Frequently Asked Questions* on the City's website, which perhaps should be updated.

Mayor Upchurch volunteered to meet with the City Manager regarding the homeless issue and the next steps. He noted the point in time count had been published, he planned a summer trip to Key West to obtain ideas beneficial to the City, and there should be a shelter of some nature.

Commissioner Valdes cited his personal experiences with the homeless, which had involved police officers but no arrests, and he said 99% 'were off their medications' and harmless. He was unsure how to handle the problem and suggested plain clothed police officers, and he stated they needed to find the money and the will to make this work.

Mayor Upchurch said there was a lot of time spent collectively digesting the topic of enforcement, the second item was their next steps, and the third item would be an update on the point in time count, which was lower this year than last.

Commissioner Sikes-Kline noted the St. Johns County point in time count was on the Continuum in Care website, the chronically unsheltered homeless numbers had gone up, and this information would assist with guiding them.

15. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 P.M.[3]

T. L. Upchurch

Tracy Upchurch, MAYOR

Darlene Galambos

Darlene Galambos, CITY CLERK

[3] Transcribed by Laura Morse