



**City Commission Special Meeting  
Tuesday, January 15, 2019  
Minutes**

**4:00 PM – Brannon Center, Brannon Civic Center,  
105 South Riverside Drive, New Smyrna Beach, FL 32168**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

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Having been duly advertised as required by law, the Special Meeting of the City Commission of the City of New Smyrna Beach, Florida, was held on Tuesday, January 15, 2019 at the Brannon Center, 105 South Riverside Drive, New Smyrna Beach, Florida 32168.

Mayor Russ Owen called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

<b>Attendee Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Arrived</b>
Jason McGuirk	Commissioner	Present	
Jake Sachs	Commissioner	Present	
Randy Hartman	Vice Mayor	Present	
Michael Kolody	Commissioner	Present	
Russell Owen	Mayor	Present	

**II. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

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Martin Danaher, 115 Lagoon Court, commented that the City Commission Workshops held on December 13th and December 14th, 2018 were good, but that the next step should be taking action on all of the items.

**III. CONTINUATION OF THE STRATEGIC PLANNING WORKSHOP**

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City Manager Brangaccio outlined the handouts.

Mike Abels, facilitator, addressed the public comment from Mr. Danaher. He stated that his role was for the Commission to discuss two major areas. He stated his role was to facilitate the Commission in their discussion.

He commented on the goals and process they would be following. He reminded the City Commission they set nineteen goals, plus one additional goal from last year. He stated they would review the goals, discuss, and determine if there were any they did not want to do and add in or if there were any new items. He suggested incorporating the Coastal Community Resiliency Recommendations and determine how each goal fits in.

Commissioner Kolody suggested beginning at the first item and reviewing each one.

Mr. Abels suggested that the City Commission should not consider item number twelve as a goal because it was more of a budget item.

## Review of Strategic Goals

### **1. Review City Charter:**

- Vice Mayor Hartman stated that he does not want a Special Election to complete this item, adding that the 2020 Election Cycle would suffice.
- Commissioner McGuirk shared that he did not think it was a top priority and commented on not having specific issues to be addressed in the current charter.
- Commissioner Sachs concurred with Vice Mayor Hartman. He asked for clarification on the charter review process. He believed it was sensible to wait until the 2020 Election Cycle to accomplish the goal.
- Commissioner Kolody commented that this was not a priority. He shared that there was so many proposed changes based upon the overwhelming way that the public commented and felt there was redirection.
- Mayor Owen commented that he believed it was a priority as a best practice for the City. He agreed to complete the goal in the 2020 Election Cycle.

### **2. Local roadwork plan:**

City Commission consensus was that this was a priority goal and that Item numbers 2, 4, 15 and 18 related to each other. They wanted the item numbers to be consolidated.

### **3. Public Safety Manning**

- Vice Mayor Hartman was comfortable with the Fire and Police Chiefs communicating their needs during the budget cycle.
- Commissioner McGuirk concurred with Vice Mayor Hartman. He commented that it was not a tremendous or pressing need.
- Commissioner Sachs stated that he thought it was a pressing need and considered the item a priority.
- Commissioner Kolody was content with the current staffing levels and wanted to wait to see what Volusia County was planning to do with the Emergency Management System.
  
- Mayor Owen commented that item numbers three and twelve were conflicting. He shared that he would continue to support having a goal that does not increase staffing, rather worked within the perimeters.

### **4. Multimodal Transport**

- Commissioner Kolody stated that he did not support City funding, but would support public funding.
- Commissioner Sachs supported partial private funding if there was a need.
- Combine city Commission consensus was that the item was not a priority and could be combined with other goals.
- Mayor Owen wanted it to become a focal point for staff.

### **5. Increase Public Participation**

- Vice Mayor Hartman shared this goal would be a great avenue for the Neighborhood Council to be involved in. He also commented on hosting more town hall meetings.
- Commissioner McGuirk was neutral.
- Commissioner Sachs supported the goal.
- Mayor Owen commented that he appreciated modern transparency. He stated that he would like more diversity and shared that the method that the City engaged citizens must change. He encouraged engaging in recent social media technology.

### **6. Density and Wetlands**

- Commissioner Kolody asked City Manager Brangaccio when the Density and Wetlands Study would be completed.
- City Manager Brangaccio stated the study would be completed on February 19, 2019.
- Commissioner Sachs stated the City was growing too fast and not in the right way.
- Commissioner McGuirk mentioned that property should be discussed.
- Vice Mayor Hartman stated that everyone was aware of the growth and did not want to add anything.
- Mayor Owen questioned if the City was building in progressive ways for coastal communities.

## **7. Variance Process**

- Commissioner McGuirk shared that commercial variances are brought before the City Commission and that residential variances are brought before the Planning and Zoning Board.
- City Commission consensus was to discuss if the criteria decisions should be left to the Planning and Zoning Board.

## **8. Fiscal Impact of New Development**

City Commission consensus was that this goal was very important and it was a priority that was unanimously supported by the Commissioners.

## **9. US1 Redevelopment**

- City Commission consensus was that this goal was very important and it was a priority that was unanimously supported by the Commissioners.
- Commissioner Kolody added that he was not in favor of smaller scale projects and that he felt this goal was very important and wanted it to remain on the list.

## **10. Partnership with the Utilities Commission New Smyrna Beach**

- Vice Mayor Hartman wanted attention focused on the Historic West Side during the ISBA discussions between the City and UCNSB.
- Commissioner McGuirk concurred with Vice Mayor Hartman.
- Commissioner Sachs concurred with Vice Mayor Hartman and added that he does not understand the inner workings of how the UCNSB and its various departments interact with the City. He asked if the UCNSB could help with Class II Stormwater.
- Commissioner Kolody stated that the City needed to drastically improve our relationship with UCNSB. He felt that the City was taken advantage of during the last meeting due to the City having to fund the deferred maintenance for fire hydrants. He stated that the City was more than equal to UCNSB. He added that solar panels should be included on our public buildings. He commented on the outdated lighting at the Sports Complex and requested an analysis of the cost to replace the current lighting with LED Lighting. He was concerned about the Williamson Extension and hoped it would not run directly through current wetlands.

## **11. Plan for the AOB Site**

- City Manager Brangaccio shared that there was a schedule in the agenda packets contingent on receiving a FIND Grant.
- Commissioner Kolody wanted a minimal plan and suggested retaining it for public use.

## **12. Do not Raise Millage**

- Commissioner Kolody suggested a change to balance income and expenses.

## **13. Code Enforcement**

- Commissioner Kolody liked the Special Magistrate process and stated it was key in many areas.
- Commissioner Sachs commented on issues being heard by the Magistrate and Appellate Court.
- Commissioner McGuirk stated that the City needed better code enforcement.
- Vice Mayor Hartman commented on the enforcement of Planned Unit Developments. He wanted to ensure developers were abiding by regulations. He added that he filed a code enforcement complaint in the past and never received feedback.
- Mayor Owen stated it was important to follow up so that they know what action was taken.

## **14. Incubator Concept**

- Vice Mayor Hartman was in favor of this goal and stated that more businesses should stop depending on the residential tax base.
- Mayor Owen commented on the need to be actively engaged on what is growing up around them. He added that if they did not have a vision, it would never happen.

### **15. Transportation Impact Fees**

City Commission consensus was that this goal was very important and it was a priority that was unanimously supported by the Commissioners.

### **16. Reduce the Carbon Footprint**

- City Commission consensus was that this goal was very important and it was a priority that was unanimously supported by the Commissioners.
- Commissioner Kolody remarked that this goal tied in with the UCNSB Partnership Goal.

### **17. Sustainable Water Sources**

- City Commission consensus was that this goal was very important and it was a priority that was unanimously supported by the Commissioners.
- Vice Mayor Hartman wanted to resolve the issues before the situation worsened.
- Mayor Owen remarked that it was about sustainability and they had to fight for what was right for the citizens.

### **18. Sidewalks and Trails**

*City Commission consensus was to include this item into Item No. Four: Multimodal Transport*

### **19. Class II Estuary**

- Commissioner Kolody believed the goal belonged in the category of overall water quality. He wanted us to work with two upstream communities.
- Commissioner Sachs stated that as a small business owner, he supported creating requirements for developers and no differentiating between small and large business owners and developers.
- Mayor Owen hoped for a common middle ground. He suggested looking to City Staff for some parameters.

*City Commission consensus was to include this item into Item No. Six: Density and Wetlands*

### **20. Social Equity**

- Vice Mayor Hartman mentioned organizations coordinate efforts according to the specific need. He mentioned the Salvation Army's misuse of state diverted funds. He believed this was a long term issue and shared that other private organizations should step up to the plate prior to the City stepping up to the plate.
- Commissioner Sachs shared that he was very compassionate about the City and the homeless issue and believed this was a priority issue.
- Commissioner Kolody stated that the City should be ready to address it. He believed that the City was concentrating affordable housing in one place. He requested a report on how the City funds, totaling \$25,000 are used for the homeless programs.
- Mayor Owen mentioned the First Approach Program and stated that some cities had succeeded in the program.

## **IV. OTHER BUSINESS**

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No Action.

## **V. ADJOURNMENT**

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With no other business to discuss, Mayor Owen declared the meeting adjourned at 7:42 PM.