

New Smyrna Beach City Commission Meeting

April 9, 2019

Mayor Owen and Commissioners Kolody, Sachs, and McGuirk present;
Commissioner Hartman-excused

Resolution 12-19 Adoption of a Voluntary Resolution to discontinue the use of Single Use Plastics and Polystyrene Products

The Resolution was passed unanimously. However, later in the meeting during the First Reading of Ordinance No. 17-19, which would prohibit the use of Single-use plastics on City Property, after more discussion, the decision was made to continue the First Reading of this Ordinance to the June 11 meeting in order to clarify the wording for events and vendors using the Brannon Center. The Commissioners decided to use caution enforcing this Ordinance on city property so as not to discourage use of the Brannon Center, and to give the community and businesses adequate time to become informed and encouraged to comply with voluntary discontinuance of one-time plastics.

Phase II Affordable Housing- The Commission was asked to approve a commitment of a \$75,000 contribution for Phase II of the Affordable Senior duplex housing project located at Julia and Dimmick, upon the approval of the Housing Authority's application for SHIP funds. Phase I is already under construction. The request was unanimously approved. Commissioner Kolody supported this request, but also asked that 2 other areas of the community be considered in the future for Affordable Housing. The mayor and other two commissioners agreed that this was an important future need.

2nd Reading Ordinance No. 14-19 to amend Chapter 18 -Animals

Police Chief Coffin, Animal Services expert Megan Wilk, and 2 representatives from the Southeast Volusia Co Humane Society addressed the Commission regarding the need to modify the current animal control ordinance, specifically to change the holding period for animals to 3 days so that they can be adopted sooner. The discussion became very lengthy as to whether this was too short a period for animals to be reclaimed by their owners and what to do if the animal did not have a chip, tattoo, or identification. After assurance that animals are seldom euthanized and only as a very last resort, a compromise was reached that the holding period would be 7 days if the animal had ID or could be returned to its owner; and 3 days if no owner could be located. The vote to modify the holding period times was approved 3-1 with Commissioner Sachs voting no.

There was also much discussion from the Commissioners and the public about tethering animals. Currently, the wording in the Ordinance states "tethering is discouraged." It was agreed that the tethering language in the Ordinance may be modified at a future date. Commissioner Kolody questioned the need for language in the Ordinance to control "free-range roosters." Chief Coffin stated that roosters would come under the category "nuisance" animals.