

New Smyrna Beach City Commission Meeting
Oct. 23, 2018

1. Mayor James Hathaway and Commissioner Judy Reiker gained praise from their colleagues for their dedication and contributions to New Smyrna Beach at their last meeting before two new members of the City Commission are seated in November.

The City Commission voted to name the City Commission's meeting chambers as the "James W. Hathaway Commission Chambers" in honor of Hathaway, who grew up in New Smyrna Beach.

Mayor Hathaway graduated from New Smyrna Beach High School, then Stetson University in DeLand. He was first elected to the City Commission in 1994 and served four, four-year Commission terms until 2012. Hathaway then made an unsuccessful run for Volusia County Council. After a couple years away from politics, he ran for mayor of New Smyrna Beach in 2014 and was elected to the seat.

Commissioner Reiker originally was elected in 2009. She served for two, four-year terms, including an additional year when the city switched to even-year races. Both Hathaway and Reiker declined to run for reelection.

2. The City Commission voted unanimously to approve a consultant's proposal to study the city's density calculations as they relate to wetland and/or waterway areas being counted to calculate the potential building density of commercial and residential projects.

City officials said this is a follow-up to the study conducted earlier this year on landscaped buffer requirements along SR-44. The consulting firm S&ME, Inc. submitted a \$22,731 proposal to do the work, which was accepted. That money will come from the city's budget for professional services.

3. City Commissioners listened to a presentation from the Southeast Volusia Chamber of Commerce about a marketing initiative aimed at bringing jobs in technology and other high-paying fields to Southeast Volusia.

The initiative is a combined effort of the cities of New Smyrna Beach, Edgewater and Oak Hill, acting as a unified economic community. A primary focus of the effort will be the creation of a web site that recruiters can use to attract desirable businesses.

4. The City Commission agreed unanimously to declare Oct. 28 as Jimmy Harrell Day to honor the life and legacy of Harrell, who served as a vocational agriculture teacher for 31 years.

Allen Chapel AME Church contacted city officials to say the church would be honoring the Jimmy Harrell for his contributions to the community on Oct. 28 at the 11 a.m. church service. Harrell and his wife, the late Mary S. Harrell, were active members of the Allen Chapel AME Church. The Harrells also worked to establish the Mary S. Harrell Black Heritage Museum.

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