

Joint Meeting of the City of New Smyrna Beach and the NSB Utilities Commission April 27, 2023

[Meeting Video Link](#)

Attendees: New Smyrna Beach Utilities

NSBUC: Chairman - J. Davenport, and Commissioners R. Hawes, L. Conrad, J. Smith, L. Kelly,
General Counsel – T. Cloud, CEO – J. Bunch

City of NSB: Mayor – F. Cleveland and Commissioners R. Hartman, J. McGuirk, L. Martin, V. Perrine.
City Manager – K. Resheidat

Opening of Joint Workshop:

Mayor Cleveland opened the meeting and welcomed both Commissions. NSBUC Chairman Davenport commended the leadership of CEO Bunch. The ability for the two commissions to work together has been monumental and successful. City Manager Resheidat praised the leadership and working relationship with both staff and city management.

Revisit Septic Sewer Study Presentation - Brad Blaise Engineer/Mead & Hunt

As a part of the city's 3-year strategic plan, a consultant presented a proposed priority list. The city made a review of Septic service within the city a top priority. A project to convert septic tank users to city sewers could take 20-25 years depending on the funding sources. Targeted are areas where UCNSB wastewater collection system could be extended to serve on-site septic systems. The priority areas in the city were ranked by 9 different factors. Five Planning areas were identified constituting 2,682 on-site septic systems within the City and Utilities Commission area. Weighted were the costs to retrofit and the environmental costs. There was much discussion surrounding scoring factors and the need for funding. Aqua Golf and Silver Sands were chosen for the pilot program. The challenge is to source the many funding opportunities available and get priority ranking from the DEP and SJWRM. The conceptual costs for the two projects were:

- Aqua Golf – Construction \$2-3M. \$14,500-\$21,800 per parcel.
- Silver Sands – Construction \$6.5-7.5M \$12,400 - \$14,300 per parcel.

The next steps call for SRF (State Revolving Fund) facility plans and funding for site & route surveys, design, permitting, public participation, bidding and construction. Chairman Daveport issued a "Call to Action" for coming up with a set plan and acting on it.

Capital Improvement Projects – Todd Alexander Capital Improvement Project Manager

Mr. Alexander showcased at a high level 8 capital improvement projects where the city has collaborated with NSBUC. Timelines for starts and stops vary by project. Funding needed for some projects is ongoing. They are as follows:

- Washington St. Streetscape
- Barracuda Bridge/Barracuda Blvd.
- Quay Assisi
- North Atlantic Stormwater
- 5th St. Bridge
- SR44 and US 1 Median Landscaping
- Electric Vehicle Charging – 5 stations total, 4 online and one slated for completion by Sept 2023

Presentations/Topics - NSBU (General Manager-CEO) J. Bunch

1. **Central Office Building\Western Utilities Complex\Fleet & Field Ops/w/costs. J. Couillard, Director, Engineering & Information Technology.** Ms Couillard gave a brief background of the land owned by the NSBU on SR 44(853 acres) aka Western Complex. The relocation of the Fleet Maintenance facility located on the city's Swoope St. site enables the city to complete its boat ramp and adjacent parking plans. Cost estimates were given for the planned relocation of the Canal St Headquarter Building to the WUC.

There was discussion among the city and UC commissioners about the future of the current headquarters, the selloff of specific parcels in the WUC, and different methods of funding to alleviate the high costs of renovations of the existing headquarters and the build out of the WUC. NSBUC was looking for some guidance since budget meetings begin in June and the City Commission approves the UC's budget. Mr. Bunch summarized that NSBUC will include estimates for Swoope St. site in the FY 2023-2024 Budget and will review the estimates for the WUC build out. Both are strategic long-term plans.

2. **Electric Reliability Improvement Program (ERIP) J. Couillard.** Ms. Couillard summarized the program as "Improving system-wide electric reliability performance and customer experience to targeted levels aligned with industry benchmarks." Through preventative maintenance and capital investments, the ERIPO Program has shown record performance ever for Q1-Q2 2023. Yearend goals for 2024 will be achieved by the end of 2023.
3. **NSBUC Modernization Program/Roadmap Update – J. McMurray, Director Strategic programs.** Mr. McMurray gave a high-level overview of the Modernization background and how it focuses on strategic projects. Key points are the support of the Utilities Commission vision, introduction of advanced technology, increased operational efficiencies, address evolving customer expectations, regulatory requirements, and prepare for the future. He has utilized consultants to establish a pyramid for a multi-stage modernization plan starting with foundational programs at the base.
 - a. A Crew Manifest log gives system operations the ability to view customer outages calls & "predictive devices out of power" maps. 91% of the city was without power at the height of Hurricane Ian and 97% had their service restored within 72 hours.
 - b. He reviewed the 5 new EV charging stations with 4 operational and the 5th set to go live in September.
 - c. The Work & Asset Mgt system replaces the paper dependent system and allows road crews and linemen the ability to send and receive orders and communicate electronically.
 - d. The NBSUC Fiber project has completed a ring of fiber cables around the city that will improve meter reading for both electric and water. This removes the need for on-site property visits.
 - e. An Advanced metering & Smart grid project gives the NSBUC tools to help conserve water and energy, give customers tools to view hourly consumption and give them tools to better manage their electricity consumption, fewer estimated bills, outage notifications and minimize truck rolls – reducing emissions. It is a "Planned, cost effective investment strategy leveraging industry best practices.
4. **Water Sustainability Update – J. Grusauskas, Director, Water Resources** Mr. Grusauskas reviewed the NSBUC plans to address future water supply needs. They are:
 - a. performing best practices for inspection and maintenance to extend useful life and ensure the health of raw water wells.
 - b. making significant investment to increase capacity and to extend the life of the Glenco Water Treatment Plant and the Wastewater Reclamation.

- c. There is an approved Alternative Water Source (AWS) plan that will provide future portable water capacity.

Mr. Bunch and Mr. Resheidat each complimented the collaborative nature of the two commissions to work toward common goals. They both charged each other with establishing action plans for the septic to sewer project. They will work with their respective staffs and meet again to present the plans.