

## OCEAN HIGHWAY & PORT AUTHORITY



Port of Fernandina

Miriam R. Hill -Commissioner, District 1  
Danny Fullwood - Chairman, District 2  
Scott Hanna - Secretary/Treasurer - District 3  
Carrol Franklin - Commissioner, District 4  
Mike Cole -Vice Chairman, District 5

Joint Workshop Minutes

February 23, 2022

The Ocean Highway and Port Authority (OHPA) of Nassau County and the City of Fernandina Beach City Commission met in a Joint Workshop, Wednesday, February 23, 2022, in Chambers of the James S. Page Government Complex, 96153 Nassau Place, Yulee, Florida 32097.

In attendance on behalf of OHPA: Chairman Fullwood, Vice Chairman Mike Cole, Secretary/Treasurer Scott Hanna, Commissioner Miriam R. Hill, Administrative Office Manager Rossana Hebron, and OHPA Attorney Patrick Krechowski. Commissioner Carrol Franklin was not in attendance.

In attendance on behalf of the City of Fernandina Beach: Mayor Michael A. Lednovich, Commissioner Bradley Bean, Commissioner Chip Ross, City Clerk Caroline Best, City Attorney Tammi Bach, and City Manager Dale L. Martin. Vice Mayor Len Kreger and Commissioner David Sturges were not in attendance.

Chairman Fullwood called the Joint Workshop to order at 6:00 PM and led the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

**1. Opening Remarks:** Chairman Fullwood welcomed City of Fernandina Beach Commissioners and expressed the desire to work together in the interest of benefiting all Nassau County residents. Mayor Lednovich thanked OHPA Commissioners for the opportunity to meet and for their collaboration on the recent channel realignment. Mayor Lednovich noted the City's objective is to maintain its citizens quality of life while OHPA's objective is a thriving Port. Despite opposing objectives, Mayor Lednovich expressed the desire to move forward in good faith.

**2. Discussions:** Commissioner Ross asked that OHPA take steps to manage frequent truck traffic on Escambia Street, a dirt road, not equipped to accommodate heavy vehicular traffic. Commissioner Hill noted OHPA is in discussions to queue Port truck traffic outside of the Historic District.

Following additional discussion, OHPA noted citizens who witness truck infractions are encouraged to email complaints to [ourcommunity@worldwideterminals.com](mailto:ourcommunity@worldwideterminals.com) for expedient resolution and will consider installing "no trucks allowed" signage on Escambia Street.

Commissioner Ross noted the Florida Ports 2020-2024 Five Year Plan indicates the Port has a 500,000 square foot warehouse and 1000' pier extension planned. OHPA Commissioners stated they had not seen the referenced Plan and are not familiar with cited

projects.

Commissioner Ross explained recent cruise ship passengers were shuttled into the downtown area in full size motor coaches which created problems on the City's narrow Historic District streets. Commissioner Hanna stated OHPA has already made arrangements to use trolly's in the future.

Commissioner Ross requested the trash along the eastside of RR tracks, near the warehouses, be removed. Chairman Fullwood stated he will ask the warehouse manager to address the litter and Commissioner Cole indicated he would speak with the Port Operator regarding the "adopt a road" cleanup program.

Commissioner Ross inquired why OHPA Attorney Krechowski was of the opinion the Port has not received any benefits from the City since it opened. Mr. Krechowski noted the matter is pending litigation and will not be discussed at this time. City Attorney Bach stated she and Mr. Krechowski have been in discussions and initial pleadings have been filed.

Commissioner Bean noted trucks to/from the Port often have trash blowing out of them. Commissioner Hanna acknowledged truck debris is not appropriately tied down which is under discussion with the Port Operator and vendors. Commissioner Hill requested complaints be emailed to [ohpanc@gmail.com](mailto:ohpanc@gmail.com).

Chairman Fullwood requested City support related to the Port accommodating small scale, less than 200 passenger, cruise ships which benefit the City's economy. Following discussion Mayor Lednovich and Commissioner Ross indicated they would like additional details related to passenger travel (upon disembarking), a defined route, and limiting cruise ship trips, prior to issuing a letter of support. City Clerk Best was directed to place this matter on a future City Commission Workshop agenda for discussion.

Mayor Lednovich inquired about the status of the Port Master Plan as it relates to the Port increasing profits without expanding its footprint. OHPA Commissioners indicated Reynolds, Smith, and Hills (RSH) an architecture, engineering, consulting firm, is currently preparing a comprehensive study which will include stakeholders/residents in an effort to develop a Port Master Plan that will benefit the entire county.

**3. Final Remarks:** OHPA Commissioners and City Commissioners thanked one another for the opportunity to meet, open dialog/discussion, thanked members of the public for attending, and achieved consensus to meet June 2022, in City Hall Commission Chambers, 204 Ash Street, Fernandina Beach, FL 32034.

There being no further matters before the Commissions', the Joint Workshop was adjourned at 7:17PM

*Caroline Best*

3/22/22

Submitted: City Clerk Caroline Best

*Danny Fullwood*  
OHPA Chairman Fullwood

Date: *03/09/2022*