



OBSERVER CORPS REPORT
New Smyrna Beach City Commission
Reported by Rice S. Wagner

January 13, 2026

The NSB City Commission started the year with a presentation by Rob Salazar, head of the Leisure Services Dept. (formally Parks and Recreation). He introduced Finn, the city's new mascot, who will be used to promote the involvement of the department in the community. Fees are increasing (ex. \$2 for pickleball) in order to fund expanding demands for upgrades to areas such as the Babe James Community Center, the Brannon Center and the Coronado Civic Center. A new position, Natural Resources Manager, was created and filled by Tony Miller. He has extensive experience with a 20 year career in water management, as well as 15 years as a consultant and work with developing site plans. He will be soliciting public input and addressing local concerns.

NSB held a Community MLK March on Monday, January 19th, leaving from the Mary Harrell Black Heritage Museum at 314 N. Duss St. and returning to the Babe James Community Center.

The NSB Safari Club will be holding a Pro-Am Surf and Skate Contest. The Skate event will take place on Canal Street on April 9th from 4-10 and the Mike Martin Pro-Am Surfing Contest will be at the Inlet on April 10-12.

On Jan. 26 there was an organizational meeting at the First Presbyterian Church promoting Alateen. The group will be active in providing children, 8-19, with help aimed at dealing with adults who have problems with drinking and drugging. The doors will be open every Monday night from 6:30 to 7:30 and all are welcome.

The NSB Chamber of Commerce will hold a meeting on February 3rd at 10:00 AM in order to create a master calendar for the community. Organizations are welcome to send a representative to help coordinate dates and times of activities. In addition, on the 3rd at noon there will be the first State of the City presented at the Brannon Center. The talk will include the mayors of NSB, Edgewater and Oak Hill.

Commissioner Brian Ashley has volunteered to join the Opioid Abatement Funding Advisory Board.

All items on the Consent Agenda were approved.

Quasi-Judicial Hearings covered a residence above a store (approved), change of land use to allow for a boat/RV facility (continued to March 24) and development of 6 detached homes near Walgreens (approved).



Two positions were filled on the Building Trades Examining Board and there is at least one opening on both the Economic Development Advisory Board and the Utilities Commission Board.

Sand is being pumped from Rattlesnake Island to the central and south beach areas. This may hinder access in certain areas until the project is complete.

Mayor Cleveland will be going to Tallahassee the week of January 26th and will be addressing SB180 as well as a proposed bill that would amend some of the restrictive parts of SB180. In addition, there are other bills that would make home rule even more restrictive (ex. Blue Ribbon Bill). Starting with the next commission meeting the city attorney's office will present a formal report on ongoing activity in Tallahassee.