



STAFF REPORT

CITY OF GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FLORIDA

TO: City Council Regular Session

MEETING DATE: January 6, 2026

FROM: Mike Null, Interim City Manager

SUBJECT: Council discussion regarding proposed Spring Park Veteran's Monument. *Mike Null*

BACKGROUND

Richard Johnson, a member of our community, has approached the City about placing a Veteran's monument in Spring Park. He is proposing to raise funds to have a Veteran's monument placed in Spring Park. Attached is a photo of a monument with similar materials. Staff has met with Mr. Johnson twice. We have recommended a monument that is more horizontal than vertical. It would be constructed of solid granite with a metal eagle at the top. It would contain the seals of each military branch, but is not intended to have a listing of names.

The city had previously desired to place a large flag pole in Spring Park and Truemont Materials had offered to provide pavers and seating around it. If Council is so inclined to move forward with this project, staff would reach out to Truemont for participation in pavers and seating around this monument. The flag pole project would continue to be pushed off pending funding.

Some of the takeaways from staff meetings with Mr. Johnson include:

Spring Park Veterans Monument

Monument Company - Brown Monuments - <https://www.brownmemorials.com/civic-veterans-memorials>

Monument Estimated Size - Approximately 20 to 25 feet in width and height.

Monument Material - Stone and Bronze

Monument Cost - Approximately \$100,000.00 to be raised by the Preservation Society - \$5,000 deposit given by Richard once approved by the city.

Monument Location - Discussed the right of the gazebo.

Inclusion of a Flagpole - 12" Flagpole for a 20x30 Flag to be incorporated into the design (I believe \$23,000 cost was mentioned but not sure who is responsible for this expense).

Foundation - Will work with company that has already quoted the city for foundation work (Bricks).

Design Approval - Final design to be signed off on by the city.

Monument Timeline - Target date was Memorial Day 2026 (This date is probably no longer possible).

Mr. Johnson estimates this project will cost around \$100,000 and plans to raise 100% of the funds so there is no expense to the City. The artist that he is working with requires a \$5,000 down-payment to provide a rendering. Mr. Johnson is willing to front this initial investment personally, if the City is generally in favor of this project. This item is presented for council discussion and direction. Mr. Johnson is not available this evening, but he wanted to move the project forward as quickly as possible.

FISCAL IMPACT

N/A.

RECOMMENDATION

Subject to Council Direction.