



Minutes

**Town Commission
Emergency Hurricane Irma Meeting
Tuesday • September 12, 2017 • 5:01 pm**

1. Call to Order: 5:01 pm
2. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance to Flag
3. Roll Call:
Commissioners Attending:
 - Joseph Aufmuth, Mayor Pro-Tem Present
 - Troy Blakely Present (arriving at 5:10 after roll call)
 - Virginia Mance, Mayor Present
 - Timothy Parker Present
 - Mike Roberts Absent

 - Scott Walker, Attorney Present (arriving at 5:36)
 - Debbie Gonano, Town Administrator Present
 - Patty Polk, Deputy Town Clerk Present
4. Agenda Approval:
 - A. Agenda Approval
Motion made and seconded (Aufmuth/Parker) to accept agenda; passed 3-0.
5. Hurricane Irma Clean Up
 - A. Yard Debris – Waste Pro Regular Day: Lengths of no more than 4'; Diameter of no more than 6"
Waste Pro will be here Thursday (9/14) and will be picking up, as usual. Because of the large volume of yard debris to be picked up, Waste Pro estimates that it will take a few weeks to catch up on debris pickups. A stop will be made at every customer, but debris will not be collected in its entirety at every stop; a portion of yard debris will be picked up each week until the town is clear of hurricane debris.
 - B. Contractor Cleanup
 1. Streets – Contractor Services 2016-2017 Unspent Budget \$3,000
 2. Jason Perry Proposal (352-817-6681)
 - a. \$1,000/Day for 2 people, skid steer, and 1 dump trailer
David Holton prefers this option; as he feels that the Town needs heavy equipment – not people. David and Raul would work in conjunction with Mr. Perry's crew to clear the streets and Town right-of-ways of heavy debris.
Mayor Mance stated that the Emergency Ops Center could be contacted and utilized to pick up hurricane debris. Town Administrator Gonano had contacted the EOC Center and left a message regarding municipal debris pickup. Gonano thought that the hurricane debris collection would not include a municipality, as municipalities contracted and paid for their solid waste separately from Alachua County. (*Alachua County was offering to have municipalities contract with their existing hurricane debris collection contractors and track hurricane clean-up efforts only; not provide the cleanup free of cost.*) The Mayor suggested approving a contractor up to the budgeted \$3,000 if needed, if the EOC cost-free option didn't pan out.
 - b. \$2,500/Day for 5 people, skid steer, and 2 dump trailers
Additionally, Mr. Perry has a truck with a grapple hook, if needed.

c. Availability by end of this week

Motion made (Aufmuth) to secure services to pick up large logs and clear right-of-ways at a cost not to exceed the \$3,000 already budgeted in 2016-2017.

No second.

Motion fails.

With our two public works employees working at full capacity to clear the streets, Mayor Pro-Tem Aufmuth scorned the Commission's lack of a second to secure unspent budgeted funds to clean up hurricane debris, especially at the end of the fiscal year. Town Administrator Gonano suggested that if the remaining Commission had a better idea, this would be the time to speak up.

Commissioner Parker expressed his concern that in his opinion Jason Perry's equipment was not capable (heavy-duty enough) to complete the job and that Jason was under-bidding the job. Mayor Pro-Tem Aufmuth stated that was not the Town's responsibility. Town Administrator Gonano countered that if Mr. Perry had enough confidence in his equipment and knew his limitations to bid the job, we should honor his confidence in his equipment. David Holton thought that all large debris could be cleared from the roads in two days. Commissioner Blakely wanted to know about obtaining additional bids for the hurricane cleanup. Allocating the already budgeted \$3,000 is below the cost needed to put the project out for bid. Commissioner Parker had suggested getting a volunteer crew together, and he thought that the debris should be chipped. Gonano thought chipping would be time-consuming for the public works crew. Additionally, David had specifically requested the need for heavy equipment, not help.

Mayor Pro-Tem Aufmuth showing frustration at the direction of the current discussion asked the Commission to put forth a motion to get the Town cleaned of hurricane debris. Given previous experience, the Mayor Pro-Tem understood why this meeting was necessary; but he thought that the Town Administrator should have the latitude to make the necessary decisions within the constraints of the budget to do what needs to be done.

Town Administrator Gonano mentioned that she had contacted Waste Pro, but couldn't get additional dumpsters or help because of the mass cleanup efforts going on state wide. She again asked for any recommendations from the Commissioners for the name of hurricane debris cleanup contractors. Gonano feared that if cleanup went on for too long a period of time, residents would become angry, and she invited any Commissioner to answer phone calls at Town Hall regarding slow debris cleanup. The Mayor thought that a reasonable amount of time allowed for hurricane cleanup would be two weeks.

Motion made (Aufmuth/Blakely) to secure services for emergency debris removal of large, cut logs along the Town's right-of-way with the contingency that if we can get free services from the Emergency Operations Center debris removal, then we will not have to spend the budgeted \$3,000; passed 4-0

Mayor Pro-Tem Aufmuth had suggested that Franklin Crates had been an awesome neighbor and thought about contacting O'Steen Brothers, to borrow a loader, dump truck, and labor. Town Administrator Gonano will contact O'Steen Brothers.

Gonano also mentioned that the County is expected to drop off MRE's tomorrow for distribution.

Answering Commissioner Parker, no debris will be picked up on private property. Additionally, Parker expressed his desire to get estimates for a commercial-sized chipper.

As Alachua County has received a Presidential Major Disaster Declaration, some reimbursement from FEMA is expected for both public works crew expenses and contractor expenses. Attorney Walker suggested that, despite the cost, there might not be any reimbursement from FEMA if a competitive bid process is not followed. Per Attorney Walker, no piggy-backing on County contracts is permitted for reimbursement from FEMA. Mayor Pro Tem Aufmuth expressed his belief that it would be nice to be reimbursed from FEMA, but either way, cleanup is budgeted and it is the Town's contribution to the process.

The Mayor complimented both David and Raul in their extraordinary efforts to clean the Town.

Mayor Pro-Tem Aufmuth expressed gratitude that the Town had removed the two diseased downtown cedar trees prior to the hurricane, because it is likely they would have fallen.

Town Administrator Gonano mentioned that she had spoken with Attorney Johnson who had stated that the rescheduled tentative budget hearing would not need to be advertised. Only a notice was required to be posted on the door. *(Later this was determined not to be correct, and both the tentative and final budget hearings were advertised in an accepted newspaper.)*

Bud DesForges suggested that the Town should invest in a generator for Town Hall capable of running an air conditioner and computer.

6. Adjourn: 5:55pm

MINUTES APPROVED:

As submitted _____ as amended _____ at Town Commission Meeting _____

Virginia Mance, Mayor

Debbie Gonano, Recorder