



MICANOPY, SEMINOLE CHIEF

# Minutes

Town Commission  
Regularly Scheduled Meeting  
Tuesday • January 9, 2018 • 7:30 pm

1. Call to Order: 7:30 pm
2. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance to Flag
3. Roll Call  
Commissioners Attending:
  - Joseph Aufmuth, Mayor Pro-Tem Present
  - Troy Blakely Present
  - Virginia Mance, Mayor Present
  - Timothy Parker Present
  - Mike Roberts Present
  
  - Debbie Gonano, Town Administrator Present
  - Patty Polk, Deputy Town Clerk Present
  - Scott Walker, Town Attorney Present (arriving at 7:35)
  - Courtney Johnson, Town Attorney Absent
4. Consent Agenda Approval
  - A) Agenda Approval
  - B) Minutes of Regular Meeting of December 12, 2017
  - C) Review & Acceptance of Financial Transactions & Reports  
***Motion made and seconded (Aufmuth/Parker) to approve the Minutes and Financial Reports as submitted; passed 5-0***
5. Guests
  - A) RepresentMe – Advocacy Group: County Voting District Changes  
Newberry Mayor, Jordan Marlowe, was present with high school student government members of the advocacy group, RepresentMe. RepresentMe is petitioning the Alachua County Commission to place an amendment on the ballot which would change the County Charter to only allow for commissioners to be elected from single member districts. Single member districts would permit for only one commissioner to be elected by the electors of a district from each of the five County commission districts. Candidates would be required to live in the district for which they seek office; and therefore should be more familiar with local issues. RepresentMe, a non-partisan group, is seeking a minimum of 18,000 signed petitions to have the proposed amendment placed on the next general election ballot. Six thousand signatures have already been collected. The group dropped off blank petitions at Town Hall and was seeking Micanopy commission and elector support for their petition. The group can be found on Facebook at *RepresentMe*. Mayor Mance, Mayor Pro-Tem Aufmuth, Commissioner Roberts, and Commission Blakely individually voiced their support for the group and the single member voting district cause.
6. Citizen’s Forum
  - A) Micanopy Historical Society Archive volunteer, Fay Baird, attended to present a project on which the archive volunteers have been working for the past year. The archive is in possession of the leather-bound Micanopy Town Commission ledger books from 1888 through 1960 and have been scanning the minutes to allow access to them online through the archive website. Fay read from minutes from one of the meetings in January 1888 and detailed some other historical, but comical information that can be found in the minutes. Fay detailed that Diana Cohen had prepared two different indices summarizing the information found in those minutes. The website will get more user-friendly as time progresses.

- B) Mayor Mance announced that Eleanor Thrasher, of the Thrasher Warehouse genealogy, had passed away a few weeks ago and asked for a few moments of silence.
- C) Carolyn Wallace introduced herself as the new Micanopy library manager, replacing Beth Allerton, who retired. Ms. Wallace welcomed everybody to visit the library.

7. Citizen Board and Committee Reports

A) Planning & Historic Preservation Board

- 1) Special Use Permit & Site Plan Review – The Assembly of Deliverance Church  
Public Hearing was continued until the January 23, 2018 meeting. The P&HPB members explained to Pastor Jones that better drawings, etc. would be required by the Board at the next meeting.
- 2) Ordinance 2018-01 – Medical Marijuana Dispensary Moratorium  
The P&HPB voted to approve Ordinance 2018-01 to be sent on to the commission, but an advertised public hearing and final vote will be taken at the January 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting.
- 3) Floor Area Ration (FAR)  
The P&HPB continued to discuss and analyze the FAR contained in the code.
- 4) The required architectural drawings for the pergola project has been taken over by Ginny Beam.

B) Tree Committee

The Tree Committee will be meeting on January 17. Paul Cohen stated that the committee was looking for topics of conversation for their meetings. Mayor Mance reminded Paul that the Town has been desirous of a map of tree locations and an informational tree brochure to be provided to new residents of Town.

8. Town Attorney Report

A) Resolution 2018-01 Election Town Commission Seat #3

Attorney Walker read Resolution 2018-01 setting the 2018 Election for Town Commission Seat #3 detailing advertising, poll workers, qualifying, runoff, and other election information. Mayor Mance explained that her seat is up for re-election and encouraged interested electors to apply.

**Motion made and seconded (Aufmuth/Parker) to approve Resolution 2018-01 setting an Election for Town Commission Seat #3; passed 5-0**

B) Medical Marijuana Dispensary Moratorium

Attorney Walker clarified that the P&HPB will be asked to review the moratorium at an advertised public hearing on January 23<sup>rd</sup> and expressed his opinion that a moratorium in Micanopy will allow the state and federal governments time to determine how marijuana issues will be handled. It is expected that the Commission will see the ordinance for a first reading in February and second and final reading in March.

9. Town Administrator Report

10. New Business

A) Grace Fuller – Application for P&HPB Seat #5 expiring in December 2020

Mayor Mance relayed that Grace Fuller has shown interest in Town affairs and has been in attendance at many commission and P&HPB meetings. P&HPB Fro Warren thought that Grace’s appointment would be good addition to the Board.

**Motion made and seconded (Aufmuth/Roberts) to approve the appointment of Grace Fuller to the P&HPB; passed 5-0**

B) Fire Department Furniture Purchase

Chief Modican was seeking permission to purchase a new sofa and (2) recliners at a cost of approximately \$1300 to replace the worn, broken furniture currently being used by the fire fighters at the fire department. Town Administrator Gonano had worked with Chief to find adequate furniture at a reasonable cost.

**Motion made and seconded (Aufmuth/Roberts) to approve purchase of a sofa and (2) recliners for the fire department at a cost not to exceed \$1300; passed 5-0**

C) Fuel Tax Distribution

Town Administrator Gonano relayed that the Alachua County BOCC and the City of Gainesville have been renegotiating the distribution of the local 11 cent fuel tax for the past several years. Attorney Walker summarized that State statutes provide two ways to divide fuel tax proceeds: 1) by Interlocal Agreement (ILA), or 2) the default formula whereby each municipality averages its transportation expenses over the past five years (*figured as a percentage of all such total municipality transportation expenditures.*) Under State statutes (#2 above) requiring the averaging of transportation expenses, the City of Gainesville would get a lion's share of the money, as it receives support of the Regional Transit System (RTS) from both Alachua County and the University of Florida user fees, explaining the reason for negotiations between Alachua County and the City of Gainesville. The County and Gainesville have apparently reached an agreement on 90.8% of the total fuel tax revenue, and they are asking for the eight smaller County municipalities to meet tomorrow morning to decide how to more equitably distribute the remaining 9.2% of the fuel tax allocations among themselves. Assuming there is no hope of renewing the current ILA, Attorney Walker recommended using the averaged five years of expense methodology and filing an appeal (which would be an exceedingly expensive venture, but perhaps in conjunction with some of the other municipalities) to the Administrative Commission, who is the Governor of the Cabinet. Attorney Walker thought that if we have been consistent in previously spending our gas tax revenue, we should be protected. (*However, review of the County-compiled fuel tax expense methodology distribution schedule shows Micanopy losing 80% of its fuel tax revenue based on that methodology; as our expenses are averaged as a total of all municipal expenses, including Gainesville and Alachua County.*) Mayor Mance stated that she would call on her friendships with other elected officials and would be willing to unite the Alachua County League of Cities and travel to Tallahassee to help resolve the matter. Other factors affecting our argument such as tourism, commuter traffic, local gas stations with generators, and the 67 miles of territory serviced by Micanopy will more than likely have no effect on the discussion. Answering Grace Fuller, Commissioner Blakely stated that a charter change for single member districts would have proven useful in this kind of a negotiation process. The ILA has been approved and signed by the County and is awaiting signature by Gainesville. Once Gainesville has signed the agreement, an opposing municipality would have 21 days to file an appeal.

11. Unfinished Business

A) Mittauer & Associates Water Plant Renovation Status

Town Administrator Gonano relayed that Mr. Mittauer reported that since awarding the water plant renovation project to US Water Services, the construction contracts and bonds had been sent to the contractor for execution and that the executed contracts had been returned and received. The construction contract documents had been sent to Attorney Walker for review and approval on December 19<sup>th</sup>, and Mittauer is awaiting a response. Upon approval from the attorney, a pre-construction conference will be scheduled where a Notice to Proceed will be issued so that construction may start. Attorney Walker reviewed and made some changes to the contract and ensured that the performance bonds were in effect.

***Motion made and seconded (Aufmuth/Parker) to approve a contract with Mittauer & Associates with accepted language change; passed 5-0***

B) Firehouse Playground Status

Shipment of the playground equipment from Pro Playgrounds has been delayed, as the selected color was not in stock. Receipt of the equipment is expected by the end of the first week in February. The borders and mulch have been received. Pro Playgrounds has offered a 'Single Spring See Saw' (valued at \$477) in their natural color theme to compensate us for the delay.

12. Town Commissioner Reports

- Commissioner Joseph Aufmuth:  
Happy New Year and congratulations to the Mayor for a short meeting and stepping in to perform mayoral functions
- Commissioner Troy Blakely:  
Very much in support of the proposed charter change amendment for single member voting districts
- Commissioner Parker:  
Happy New Year. Looking forward to upcoming year, but will be absent from the February meeting. Appreciation to staff for all they do. Thanks to all for showing an interest and attending the meeting.
- Commissioner Mike Roberts:  
Has been in contact with 'Wreaths Across America' to get wreaths placed in the Micanopy and Hayes Memorial cemeteries. Looking for support and volunteers for this project.

- 13. Mayor Ginny Mance Report  
Best wishes for Happy New Year and recent holidays. Town is looking good. Thank you to staff for all you do.
  - 14. Adjourn: 8:48pm
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**MINUTES APPROVED:**

As submitted \_\_\_\_\_ as amended \_\_\_\_\_ at Town Commission Meeting \_\_\_\_\_

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Virginia L. Mance, Mayor

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Debbie Gonano, Recorder