



Minutes

Town Commission

Regularly Scheduled Meeting

Tuesday • July 11, 2017 • 7:30 pm

1. Call to Order: 7:30 pm
2. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance to Flag
Mayor Mance offered a moment of silence in remembrance of resident Tom Staley.
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
 - Courtney Johnson, Town Attorney PresentMayor Mance welcomed attorneys Scott Walker and Courtney Johnson of Folds & Walker, LLC, the new attorneys.
4. Consent Agenda Approval:
 - A. Agenda
 - B. Minutes of Regular Meeting of June 13, 2017
 - C. Review & Acceptance of Financial Transactions & Reports
Motion made and seconded (Aufmuth/Parker) to approve the agenda as submitted; passed 5-0
5. Guests
6. Citizen's Forum
 - A. Resident, Bud DesForges, complimented town staff for the successful July 4th parade and great fireworks, and he recognized the public works crew for all their hard work.
 - B. Resident, Deborah Kennedy, condemned neighbors' removal of three trees without obtaining permits from Town Hall. The removal of the trees occurred in two separate incidents; both on Fridays. Ms. Kennedy inquired about enforcement provided for in the current tree ordinance for tree removal without a permit. Mayor Mance detailed that the Town is currently working with an emergency tree ordinance, which was driven by impending Duke Energy power line trimming, while we're waiting to pass a new permanent tree ordinance. We were able to enact a Vegetation Management Plan (VMP) with Duke to protect Town trees. Whereas, the emergency tree ordinance does not provide for penalties; the impending ordinance does. Ms. Kennedy suggested that in Key West, from where she had moved, the ordinance provided for penalties of \$5,000/tree.

Resident, H. Grace Fuller, complained that when traffic gets rerouted on CR-234 because of incidents on I-75, trucks looking to avoid the traffic cut through Micanopy on Seminary Avenue. The speed bumps cause the trucks to hit overhanging tree branches. Additionally, the speed limit sign is overgrown with foliage. Town Administrator Gonano offered to trim the trees and was instructed to clear the traffic signs, but not to cut overhanging tree branches. Resident, Ginny Beam, suggested that a police officer should be posted at the intersection when traffic is being rerouted, but Mayor Mance doubted that ACSO would have the personnel available to do so. It was suggested that a 'No Thru Trucks' sign could be placed at CR-234 & Seminary, but there is already a sign at that site.

Commissioner Blakely suggested that Town residents should contact Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT)

regarding the intersection at CR-234 & Seminary to have a traffic signal installed at the location. Mayor Mance suggested that improvements should be made at the intersection because of traffic associated with the school. Commissioner Roberts has been in contact with FDOT for months regarding the impending improvements to the CR-234 bypass.

- C. Resident, Shirley Payton, complained that Duke Energy was stopped by the Town from trimming the trees bordering the powerline behind her house; but because of that, she loses her power whenever the wind blows. Mayor Mance mentioned having a meeting scheduled with Duke Energy next week, and she would mention the need for the trees to be trimmed.

7. Citizen Board and Committee Reports

- A. Planning & Historic Preservation Board – Board Member David Massey was present, but passed on giving a report.

- B. Tree Committee

Board Member, Paul Cohen reported that eight pine trees near the post office have been checked by DPI and DPF and marked and approved for removal as a result of an ips (bark) beetle infestation. A drought, which weakens the trees, was thought to have been the reason for the beetle infestation and eventual killing of the trees. Additionally, a permit was issued for the MACS school to remove a water oak which had a fungus and had woodpecker holes.

- 1. Downtown Island Ad Hoc Committee

Committee Member, Ginny Beam reported that the committee, including Jerry Morris and Paul Cohen, had extensively researched tree options to find the best trees to plant in the downtown island. The committee had selected low-maintenance trees which would not interfere with the existing power lines. Sunshine 811 had been contacted for line locates, and the committee was instructed to meet with public works for sprinkler line locates prior to digging. Mayor Mance complimented the committee for their hard work. Mr. Morris distributed informational hand-outs and asked for the Commission to purchase (5) trees: (1) live oak, (1) shumard oak, (1) holly, and (2) olives at a combined cost of \$1815 (including installation).

Librarian, Beth Allerton was not a fan of the holly, but she was assured by Mr. Morris that this particular variety does not shoot out runners. Town Administrator Gonano asked about the proper time to plant, and Mr. Morris answered usually fall, but we're currently having good rainfall. The Mayor and Commissioner Roberts asked for minimal maintenance; and Ginny Beam related that a merchant volunteer will be recruited to hand water the trees with a hose. There are no warranties on the tree purchases. Ad-Hoc Committee to work with Town Administrator on the project and the plan.

Motion made and seconded (Aufmuth/Blakely) to approve up to \$1900 for the purchase of 5 trees; passed 5-0.

8. Town Attorney Report: Attorney Walker presented

- A. Roberts/Samarrai Property Line Issue

Attorney Walker advised that Commissioner Roberts would need to recuse himself from discussion and stated that he had spoken with Mr. Roberts and had started research on the issue. Mr. Roberts claims that Mr. Samarrai built over his property line; the case has already been to court. Mr. Samarrai currently has his property up for sale. The attorney advised that, practically, the problem could get resolved when an impending buyer cannot get clear title or financing because of the situation. Code Enforcement may need to get involved.

9. Town Administrator Report

- A. Acceptance of 2017/2018 Millage Rollback Rate 5.8114

Town Administrator Gonano presented the rollback rate of 5.8114, on which the tentative budget was prepared. She reminded the Commission that, once accepted, the millage rate could be lowered, but never raised. Mayor Mance reminded the people that the millage rate had been lowered from 8 mills to 6 mills four years ago and was further declining, somewhat slightly, due to increasing property values and acceptance of the rollback rate.

Motion made and seconded (Aufmuth/Parker) to accept the Millage Rollback Rate of 5.8114; passed 5-0

- B. Commissioner Blakely wanted to further increase Commission salaries from the current tentative increase of 6.7% to 9.1%.

Motion made (Blakely/Roberts) to increase Commissioners' salaries by 9.1% (the 2013 rate increase).

Commissioner Roberts had seconded the motion for the purpose of discussion; four Commissioners did not support the motion.

Motion was withdrawn.

Resident Bud DesForges lightheartedly asked if Mayor Mance could send a letter to Congress and ask them to follow suit. Mayor Pro-Tem Aufmuth was reminded of a cartoon that appeared years ago in the Gainesville Sun after the Micanopy Commission voted to waive their salaries to purchase air packs for the fire department. The cartoon caption read, "Are the Micanopy Commissioners trying to give politicians a bad name?"

10. New Business

A. CDBG Satisfaction of Mortgages

Town Administrator Gonano presented eight 2011 CDBG grant recipients who had, to the best of our knowledge, satisfied their grant requirements: Michael & Harry Adkins, Alfreda Bryant, Judy Galloway, Shirley Payton, Patricia Rudolph, George Woodard, Rutha Lee Jones, and Jennifer Cialona.

Motion made and seconded (Aufmuth/Roberts) to issue satisfaction of mortgages for the CDBG grant recipients; passed 5-0

B. E-261 Water Tank Repair/Replacement Estimates

Town Administrator Gonano related that Chief Modican is asking to have the cracked 1,000 gallon water tank repaired on E-261 (the 1995 engine). Chief Modican estimated that the backup engine has a useful remaining life of about 4-5 years. The engine is currently at the company that built the engine, Mid State Power Systems who has removed and estimated the repair cost. Mid State estimated the repair cost at \$4,954.80 and replacement cost at \$9,641.54. Commissioner Roberts had also obtained estimates from REV Technical Center. The REV repair cost is estimated at \$4,700 and replacement cost at \$8,775. Chief was looking to have the water tank repaired by Mid State for \$4,954.80. Mayor Mance was looking to have the repair made as soon as possible, as E-26 (the main engine) had been rear-ended in an accident on I-75.

Motion made and seconded (Aufmuth/Parker) to approve the Chief's request for repairs.

Commissioner Roberts disagreed and thought that the engine has another 20 useful years and that the tank should be replaced by REV for \$8,775 instead of repaired by Mid State at \$4,954.80. Further Commissioner Roberts didn't support that the engine had been dropped off at Mid State for an estimate prior to Commission approval. Mayor Pro-Tem Aufmuth admitted that he had no experience in these matters; but he has a Chief who does and supports the Chief's recommendation. Commissioner Roberts explained that the tank was made from a poly carbonate material, and he did not think that the welded tank would last the life of the truck. Commissioner Blakely commented that this is the second time that repairs had been made without a vote of the Commission: first the Town truck repair and now the fire engine. Mayor Mance defended the actions of the Chief in obtaining an estimate for repairs. Town Administrator Gonano expressed confusion regarding Commissioner Blakely's comment regarding the Town truck. The truck, the Town's only vehicle, needed repair and an estimate obtained and subsequent repairs were made. Resident Bob Mance summed the situation as follows: 1) spend \$5000 for repair, or 2) spend \$10000 for replacement; how long will the truck last? Who has the best advice?

Parker withdrew his second of the above motion.

Resident David Massey replied that the welded poly carbonate tank repair would hold.

Parker left his second of the above motion stand; vote fails by roll call 2-3 (Roberts, Blakely, & Parker opposed)

Motion made and seconded (Roberts/Parker) to replace the tank by REV Technical Center.

Mayor Mance related that the total REV estimated cost is \$8,775, and Town Administrator Gonano reminded the Commission that there would probably be a charge from Mid State; Mayor Pro-Tem Aufmuth answered that the charge would be immaterial; there would be charges no matter where the vehicle had been taken.

Motion passed 3-2 by roll call (Mance & Aufmuth opposed)

C. Florida Bar Audio Ethics Course

Attorney Courtney Johnson had offered to hold an ethics course for all elected officials that would satisfy state requirements in lieu of purchasing the audio tapes for each Commissioner to listen to separately. The meeting would also be open for committee member and citizen attendance. Attorney Johnson will coordinate a schedule with Town Administrator Gonano.

11. Unfinished Business

A. Traffic Study Update

Town Administrator Gonano had no additional information to report, as she had been unable to communicate with ACSO. Gonano will attempt to contact the police department again.

B. Water Plant – Engineer Schematic

Mittauer & Associates assessed the water treatment plant equipment and decided to work towards putting together a proposal of schematics for future water plant needs. The existing equipment, although functional, is mostly outdated.

C. Employee Evaluation Procedure

Mayor Mance produced a Town Administrator employee evaluation template which she had received from Gib Coerper from the City of Alachua. The Mayor suggested that each Commissioner should separately complete the evaluation form and that results should be forwarded to Attorney Walker's office for compilation. Alternatively, the Mayor has previously sat with the Town Administrator and performed the evaluation. Results of the evaluation would be brought

back and reviewed in a public meeting. All employee evaluations are public record.

Motion made and seconded (Aufmuth/Roberts) to accept the presented template; passed 5-0

Completed forms could be mailed or emailed to Attorney Johnson.

D. Wild Spaces & Public Places Matching Grant – Recreation Building

Mayor Mance summarized last month's discussion; and the Commission was looking for additional information regarding design and costs for the recreational building.

The Mayor summarized the grant funding options for upcoming projects: 1) completion of the downtown island using remaining 2008 WSPP funds, 2) any remaining 2008 funds would be used towards the Firehouse Playground Park, and 3) the recreational building would use the 2016 matching grant funds.

Mayor Pro-Tem Aufmuth asked what progress had been made with the Firehouse Playground Park. Town Administrator Gonano answered that Firehouse Playground Park design had been turned over to the P&HPB. Mayor Pro Tem Aufmuth's intent last month was to use Town general funds to complete the park, if necessary.

Motion made and seconded (Aufmuth/Parker) to complete the Park using unrestricted funds; passed 5-0

Commissioner Parker questioned the Mayor regarding 'linear parks,' which would otherwise be described as sidewalks.

E. Ordinance No. 2017-01 Tree Ordinance

Mayor Mance, because of the late hour, wanted to table the discussion regarding the tree ordinance, but otherwise summarized the history of the existing proposed ordinance. The Mayor recalled a workshop and other meetings where the ordinance had been discussed at length. Specimen trees had been mapped by GIS coordinates and a 25' buffer from the centerline of the roads proposed by people with strong property rights beliefs. It is thought that the 25' buffer would protect trees on the Town's right-of-ways. The Mayor stated that a main intent of the tree ordinance is to protect the trees from utility trimming. Although the current emergency ordinance does not, the proposed ordinance provides penalties for persons not obtaining a tree permit.

12. Town Commissioner Reports:

- Commissioner Joseph Aufmuth:
Good to see a large citizen turnout and it's a pleasure working with everybody.
- Commissioner Troy Blakely:
Pass.
- Commissioner Timothy Parker:
Thanked everybody for coming, providing their input, and appreciates the efforts of the Commission.
- Commissioner Mike Roberts:
Would like to consider the remodeling and expansion of the firehouse when designing the Firehouse Playground

13. Mayor Ginny Mance Report:

- The Mayor suggested that Commissioner Tim Parker act as the liaison for the Thrasher Warehouse Preservation Corporation Board.

Motion made and seconded (Aufmuth/Roberts) to appoint Tim Parker as liaison to the Thrasher Warehouse Preservation Board; passed 5-0

14. Adjourn: 9:50pm

MINUTES APPROVED:

As submitted _____ as amended _____ at Town Commission Meeting _____

Virginia Mance, Mayor

Debbie Gonano, Recorder