



MICANOPY, SEMINOLE CHIEF

# Town of Micanopy

## Town Commission

### Minutes Regularly Scheduled Meeting

Tuesday • August 14, 2018 • 7:30pm

---

1. Call to Order: 7:30pm

2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance to Flag

3. Roll Call

- Commissioners Attending:
- Joseph Aufmuth, Mayor Pro Tem Present
- Troy Blakely Present
- Virginia Mance Present
- Timothy Parker, Mayor Present
- Mike Roberts Absent
  
- Debbie Gonano, Town Administrator Present
- Patty Polk, Deputy Town Clerk Present
- Scott Walker, Town Attorney Absent
- Rich Maltby, Town Attorney Present

4. Consent Agenda Approval

- A) Agenda Approval
- B) Minutes of Regular Meeting of July 10, 2018 and Second CDBG Public Hearing of July 24, 2018
- C) Review and Acceptance of Financial Transactions and Reports  
***Motion made and second (Aufmuth/Mance) to approve the minutes and financial reports as submitted; passed 4-0 (except that Mayor Parker recused himself from voting on Item C) Review and Acceptance of Financial Transactions and Reports, as the financial transactions included checks written to Mittauer & Associates, for whom he had accepted employment)***

5. Guests

- A) Gregory Caudill, Candidate for Alachua County Commission District 2  
 Mr. Caudill, who has lived in Alachua County for over 20 years, graduating from Eastside High School and the University of Florida, currently lives in High Springs. Mr. Caudill is a US Army Veteran, having served in Afghanistan and England. Mr. Caudill is a small business owner, married, and father of two young children. Mr. Caudill pointed out that Alachua County has the highest effective tax rate in the State of Florida, the fourth highest cost of living, and under GRU, the highest energy costs. Mr. Caudill, who supports home rule and single-member districts, believes that the Alachua County Commission needs to realize that there's more to Alachua County than the City of Gainesville, needs to prioritize needs before wants, and needs the voice of reason. Currently, all County Commissioners are from the same political party, and Candidate Caudill believes that its time to have a dissenting voice on the Commission. Mr. Caudill believes that government exists to empower people to make their own decisions. Voters can find more information about the candidate at [gregcaudill.com](http://gregcaudill.com).

- B) Carolyn Wallace, Alachua County Library District, Micanopy Branch  
Grow Gainesville has their final program scheduled and the topic growing tomatoes in North Central Florida will be discussed; blacksmithing with Crooked Path Forge is being offered; meet the author of *The Rebels of Florida*, Leah Oxendine; and the library is offering a live online tutor for people of all ages with tutor.com.
6. Citizen's Forum
- A) Pastor Chris Stokes, Willie Mae Stokes Community Center (WMSCC)  
Pastor Chris Stokes was present to update the Town on the progress of the Willie Mae Stokes Community Center. Pastor Stokes thanked the Commission for the financial support and reported that the septic system is installed, the electrical completed, and the doors have been installed. The air conditioning is completed, and Pastor Stokes is waiting for the invoice to present for payment. The additional handicap ramp has been an ongoing problem, but he met with Oelrich Construction, who has offered to build the ramp at no cost to the Community Center. With completion of the ramp, the County will be called for a final inspection. The first shipment of Dell computers (5 lap tops and 2 desk tops) has arrived, with the television and white board expected to arrive later this week, the server at the end of the month; and installation soon to follow. He announced that Walmart donated sporting goods equipment, which he has onsite. Additionally, he is looking to the Ace after school tennis program to provide free tennis lessons to those who are interested. The WMSCC's aim is to participate in seasonal sports, and the basketball team was involved in a summer league. Pastor Stokes stated that the Center is still planning to provide tutoring, a needs assessment program, a GED program, nursing services, resume writing, and job boards, but they need to know their limitations. WMSCC volunteers gave away 66 backpacks and school supplies to school-age children this month, and donated the left-over goods to the Micanopy Academy. The Pastor is planning to have a grand opening in the middle of September and has been going door-to-door to build community support for the Center. Lisa Jones is handling their grant administration, and they are looking for volunteers for their various programs.
- B) Phyllis Erney, League of Women Voters  
Ms. Erney acknowledged that the Town had passed an Education Awareness Proclamation last month in support of public schools; although she pointed out that the sample proclamation provided to the Town by the League had been changed by the Town. The Women League of Voters is in collaboration with the Alachua County PTA, SBA Education Foundation, and the UF College of Education. Events planned for September are the showing of the film, *Backpack Full of Cash*, about the privatizing of charter schools and their negative financial impact on the public school system. A second program, *Making our Schools Everyone's Priority*, is also being offered.
7. Citizen Boards and Committee Reports
- A) Planning and Historic Preservation Board  
Board Member Grace Fuller was present, but declined to present a report.
- B) Tree Committee, Committee Member Paul Cohen  
Paul Cohen proposed a walking tree tour brochure, and he asked for people to recommend particular trees to be included. Commissioner Mance recommended using the heritage/specimen tree list as a basis to prepare the brochure; including only specific tree specimens, not all the trees on the list. Mayor Pro Tem Aufmuth agreed.
8. Town Attorney Report
- A) Request for Qualifications (RFQ) Engineer Services  
Attorney Rich Maltby had put together a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for Engineer Services using the Commission's capital improvement list prepared in June as a basis for upcoming projects. The RFQ would be used to collect information from engineers who might be interested in submitting bids for our projects as they arise. An agreement would be entered into with the vendor as the projects are ready to be completed and

when a bid is accepted by the Town. A Request for Proposal (RFP) would not be needed after release of the RFQ. Attorney Maltby related that there is a \$35,000 threshold, set by State Statute, before the need for bids would be required. Some minor changes and clarifications were to be made to the document by Attorney Maltby.

**Motion made and seconded (Aufmuth/Mance) to accept the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for Engineering Services with minor changes (insurance clarification, duplications, etc.); passed 4-0**

9. Town Administrator Report

A) Millage/Budget Public Hearing Dates:

- 1) Tentative Budget Hearing September 10, 2018 @ 6pm
- 2) Final Budget Hearing September 24, 2018 @ 6pm

B) Preliminary Budget

- 1) Review of preliminary budget

Town Administrator Gonano reported that expected ad valorem taxes had increased in the upcoming year by almost \$25,000 as a result of taxes to be received on personal property; specifically equipment stored at Osteen Brothers. Property values are set for real estate and property each January 1<sup>st</sup>, and fiscal year 2018/2019 will be the first year since purchasing the property from Franklin Crates that the Town will benefit from this particular taxpayer.

- 2) Capital Outlay – Lightning Ground Fault & Surge Protection Quotes

Because of the recent lightning strikes, Commissioner Mance asked for the Town Administrator to obtain estimates for lightning rod/lightning grounding and surge protection for Town Hall and Town Administrator Gonano had included \$10,000 into next year's budget based on six estimates received this month. Gonano wanted to delay any purchase until the next fiscal year, so that we might submit receipts to the insurance 50/50 TIPS reimbursement program and hopefully receive a 50% rebate on our purchase; thus she suggested delaying picking an actual vendor until the September meeting.

C) *Meet Me in Micanopy* – Micanopy Native American Heritage Preserve Brochure

Town Administrator Gonano presented the 4<sup>th</sup> brochure in the *Meet Me in Micanopy* series dealing with the Interpretive Trail at the Micanopy Native American Heritage Preserve. Grace Fuller asked why certain houses were not included in the Historic Tour brochure and it was explained that information had been excerpted from previously prepared documents, updated, and arranged into the current brochure.

10. New Business

A) Young Marines Red Ribbon Week Proclamation

Per request of the Young Marines, Mayor Parker read a proclamation declaring October 23-31<sup>st</sup> as *Red Ribbon Week*. Principal Brenda Maynard, Micanopy Area Charter School, was present for the reading and Mayor Parker offered to attend an event at the elementary school and present the children with bookmarks and stickers celebrating Red Ribbon Week.

In response to the attendance and content of Ms. Erney's presentation earlier pertaining to taxpayers' dollars and charter school funding, Commissioner Mance expressed her gratitude that we have two highly-rated charter schools in the Town of Micanopy. Principal Maynard reminded those in attendance that both charter schools in Micanopy are not-for-profit facilities.

11. Unfinished Business

A) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Status

Town Administrator Gonano reported that the application and related information for the CDBG Housing Rehabilitation Grant had been supplied to Fred Fox Enterprises for submission to the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO), and that the application had been hand delivered on August 13, 2018, the submission due date. Per Mr. Fox's previous estimate, awards would be decided no later than mid-December.

12. Town Commissioner Reports

- Mayor Pro Tem Aufmuth – The Mayor Pro Tem congratulated the Mayor on his hard work and new position, and he acknowledged that the Town has been peaceful.
- Commissioner Blakely – complimented all the Town employees for their hard work.
- Commissioner Mance – agreed and supported the two previous Commissioners’ comments.
- Commissioner Roberts – absent.

13. Mayor Parker

The Mayor reported on the status of the water plant renovation. Unfortunately, the 30HP pump in Well #2 was unable to be removed and replaced with the new 40HP pump as planned, as a result of scaling in the shaft which prevented the turbine from being safely removed. If the turbine were to get lodged in the shaft, it could make the well unusable, requiring a new well to be drilled. The control panel was reconfigured to work with the new 40HP pump in Well #1 and the existing pump in Well #2. Town Administrator Gonano reflected that she was waiting to hear from US Water to determine if the pump vendor will allow the unused atypical 40HP pump (\$3,200 possibly less a restocking fee) to be returned for credit. Resident Bud DesForges, suggested that the Town be proactive and consider drilling a new well. Commissioner Mance agreed, and Mayor Parker asked Town Administrator Gonano to put the item on the November agenda to begin discussion.

14. Adjourn 8:54pm

---

**MINUTES APPROVED:**

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

---

**Timothy Alvin Parker, Mayor**

---

**Debbie Gonano, Town Clerk**