



MICANOPY, SEMINOLE CHIEF

# Town of Micanopy

## Town Commission

### Minutes Regularly Scheduled Meeting

Tuesday • September 11, 2018 • 7:30pm

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1. Call to Order: 7:30pm  
Mayor Parker called for a moment of silence to acknowledge the victims of the attack on September 11, 2001.
  2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance to Flag
  3. Roll Call
    - Commissioners Attending:
    - Timothy Parker, Mayor Present
    - Joseph Aufmuth, Mayor Pro Tem Present
    - Virginia Mance Present
    - Mike Roberts Present
    - Troy Blakely Present
    - Debbie Gonano, Town Administrator Present
    - Patty Polk, Deputy Town Clerk Present
    - Scott Walker, Town Attorney Present
    - Rich Maltby, Town Attorney Absent
  4. Consent Agenda Approval
    - A) Agenda Approval
    - B) Minutes of Regular Meeting of August 14, 2018 and Tentative Millage/Budget Hearing of September 10, 2018
    - C) Review and Acceptance of Financial Transactions and Reports
    - D) 2019 North Central Florida Regional Planning Council Annual Agreement Renewal  
**Motion made and second (Mance/Aufmuth) to approve the minutes and financial reports as submitted; passed 5-0**  
Attorney Walker read Mayor Parker’s submitted Form 8B Memorandum of Voting Conflict for Municipal Public Officers into the record for the Mayor’s recusal to vote in August on the financial transactions, as the transactions included checks written to Mittauer & Associates, Inc. from whom the Mayor had accepted employment.
  5. Guests
    - A) Carolyn Wallace, Alachua County Library District, Micanopy Branch  
Author of *Florida*, Lauren Groff, will be speaking about her book. Next week the Micanopy Branch will be hosting *Wildlife on the Prairie*, concentrating on Paynes Prairie wildlife. The Grow Gainesville program will be discussing microclimates with meteorologist, Alex Calamia. A mermaid story program for children will be offered, with a real-life mermaid present. The library is also offering *Botanical Illustrations* for adults who would like to learn to draw botanical illustrations; but registration is required in advance so that the supplies necessary are available to all participants.
  6. Citizen’s Forum
    - A) Sally Stein, Volunteer Director Micanopy Tutoring, thanked the Commission and citizens for their financial and, otherwise, support for the past 15 years. The program offers tutoring to children K-12<sup>th</sup> grade, and is well known throughout Alachua County. Attendees of the Micanopy Tutor Program have gone on to college and good jobs, contributing to the success of the local community. The program hosted 30

children for the summer program and currently has 39 regular students enrolled in the fall program. Ms. Stein asked for the Town's continued financial support again this year. Commissioner Mance, supported by the citizens present at the meeting, acknowledged Sally Stein's contributions to the Tutor Program. ***Motion made and seconded (Aufmuth/Mance) to approve funding the annual \$1,000 tutor program donation; passed 5-0***

- B) Resident, Grace Fuller acknowledged the Little Food Pantry, which had been started by a Town resident. Additionally, she commented about the lack of dates on the Fall Festival posters, to which Dede DesForges answered that the omission is intentional, as the posters and T-shirts are identical and the purchasers of the t-shirts don't like dates on the shirts.
  - C) Paul Cohen asked regarding the road closure to remove three dead trees from Mike Campbell's property.
7. Citizen Boards and Committee Reports
- A) Planning and Historic Preservation Board  
Board Member, Grace Fuller, summarized that a Certificate of Appropriateness was issued for the new roof on the doctor's office, Floor-Area-Ratio (FAR) was discussed for which the Board is awaiting information from the Town attorney, and the Board continues to work on the sign ordinance.
  - B) Tree Committee, Committee Member Paul Cohen  
Board Member Paul Cohen questioned the location of the 'Council Oaks'; and it was explained that there had been landmark twin live oaks located on the *Barr-Smyth House* property on Ocala Avenue which were commonly referred to as the 'Council Oaks' (*first documented in 1883 and were referred to as Chief Micanopy's Council Oaks.*) One of the oaks had split and fallen during a hurricane, and the second oak tree died in recent years. Additionally, Paul asked about palm tree removal on Hwy. 441, and Commissioner Roberts explained their removal as a result of the dangers they presented to vehicles veering off the highway. Mr. Cohen was asked to prepare a draft list of trees and return it to Town Hall.
8. Town Attorney Report
- A) No report.
9. Town Administrator Report
- A) Millage/Budget Public Hearing Dates:  
Final Millage/Budget Hearing September 24, 2018 @ 6pm  
The Tentative Millage/Budget Hearing had been held on September 10 @ 6pm. Mayor Pro Tem Aufmuth recommended that everybody check out the 2018-2019 Budget Message prepared by Town Administrator Gonano, which had been posted to the Town website.
10. New Business
- A) Lightning Protection Grounding System and Ground Fault Protection  
Because of the recent lightning strikes, Commissioner Mance had asked for the Town Administrator to obtain estimates for lightning rod/lightning grounding and surge protection for Town Hall. Town Administrator Gonano had been able to obtain 6 estimates, varying in the scope of work to be completed, and ranging in price from \$6,250 - \$12,825. Gonano recommended Bonded Lightning Protection (\$7,600) as the only vendor who had made an actual visit to the site and had also included quotes for surge protection. Gonano stated that the work will be completed in October so that we might submit receipts to the insurance 50/50 TIPS reimbursement program and hopefully receive a 50% reimbursement on our purchase.  
***Motion made and second (Mance/Aufmuth) to approve Bonded Lightning Protection at \$7,600 as vendor for the lightning rod/lightning grounding and surge protection; passed 5-0***
11. Unfinished Business
- A) Sale of Unused Water Pump  
Town Administrator Gonano explained that in conjunction with engineering and the recently completed water plant renovation, the Town had purchased two 40HP motors to replace the two existing 30HP motors operating the water pumps. Replacement of the turbine in Well #1 (originally drilled in 1968) went according to plan, but the existing turbine got stuck in Well #2 (originally drilled in 1976) as a result of

scaling in the shaft. The well driller did not want to forcibly remove the turbine, thereby possibly damaging the shaft, causing the well to be unusable. This prevented the turbine from being replaced and prevented upgrading the 30HP motor to a 40HP motor. Because of this situation, the Town has a brand-new factory 40HP electric motor which will not be used (suggested asking price \$3,000). Additionally, the used 30HP electric motor taken from Well #1 could also be put up for sale (asking price \$500). The pump vendor declined return of the motor, and it was determined by the US Water Rep, Tony, David and the Town Administrator that it would be pointless to store the new motor, and it would be best to sell the motor while it retains significant value. Town Administrator Gonano planned to ask Florida Rural Water (FRW) for help in selling the motors, or possibly emailing other municipalities listed in the Florida League of Cities membership manual. As the discussion had veered off topic, Mayor Pro Tem Aufmuth wanted to call the question.

**Motion made and second (Aufmuth/Roberts) to approve call of the question; passed 5-0**

**Motion made and second (Aufmuth/Roberts) to approve sale of both the new 40HP motor and used 30HP motor; passed 5-0**

Town Administrator Gonano had been told by FRW that it would not be possible to drill a new well on the same site, as the DEP would not permit a new well to be drilled within 500' of an existing septic system. It was proposed that Well #2 could be re-drilled to a 16" diameter, the existing shaft pulled, and another shaft inserted into the re-drilled well. US Water had recently drilled a new well at a cost of \$75,000 (not including equipment). Commissioner Mance summarized that any other option would require purchasing property, constructing a building, expanding the water line infrastructure, etc. Answering Commissioner Roberts' questions, Commissioner Mance related that she had met with Park Manager Donald Forgione regarding the possible acquisition of the state-owned property at CR234 and Hwy. 441. A long-term lease on that property would be possible. However, because of the relative simplicity of re-drilling, it could be the most fiscally responsible option available. Bud DesForges recommended that the Town be proactive and devise a plan for replacement of Well #2. Mayor Pro Tem Aufmuth wondered if the tank at O'Steen Brothers (Franklin Crates) could be used as a backup water supply for the Town. But, the system might not use potable water or meet DEP standards.

12. Town Commissioner Reports

- Mayor Pro Tem Aufmuth – Thanks to the volunteers. As reported in the Annual Budget Message, the average citizen to employee ratio is 93:1; comparatively, Micanopy's operating ratio is 150:1.
- Commissioner Mance – Again, Commissioner Mance wanted to remember all the fallen from the September 11, 2001 attack. Things are going smoothly in Town, and she's glad that the water plant renovation has been completed.
- Commissioner Roberts – Alachua County has not wired the lights at CR234 and Hwy. 441 because of a lack of funding. Hopefully, it will be completed soon.
- Commissioner Blakely – Expressed his opinion that the Town needed to be proactive and that a backup plan for replacement of Well #2 needed to be addressed sooner than later.

13. Mayor Parker

- 1) A Proclamation of the Town of Micanopy for *John R. Beville Recognition Day* as September 11, 2018.
- 2) A Proclamation of the Town of Micanopy *Declaring September as Hurricane Preparedness Month*. The FEMA website has good information which can be downloaded. Answering Commissioner Blakely, Town Administrator Gonano stated that she and the Mayor would work together to assemble hurricane preparedness information for purposes of distribution to residents. Commissioner Mance requested that the Town Administrator research if annual training previously offered by the County was still available.

14. Adjourn 8:30pm

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**MINUTES APPROVED:**

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

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Timothy Alvin Parker, Mayor

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Debbie Gonano, Town Clerk