



MICANOPY, SEMINOLE CHIEF

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# Minutes

## Town Commission

### Regularly Scheduled Meeting

Tuesday • October 13, 2015 • 7:30 pm

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1. Call to Order: 7:30 pm
2. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance to Flag
3. Roll Call:  
Commissioners Attending:
  - Joseph Aufmuth On Sabbatical
  - Michael Berkowitz, Mayor Pro-Tem Present
  - Virginia Mance, Mayor Present
  - Richard Shutterly Present
  - Mike Roberts Present
  
  - Debbie Gonano, Town Administrator Present
  - Stephen Lee, Town Attorney Absent with notice
  - Patty Polk, Deputy Town Clerk Absent with notice
4. Consent Agenda Approval:
  - A. Agenda Approval
  - B. Minutes of Regular Meeting September 8, and Tentative & Final Millage/Budget Hearings held on September 14, 2015 and September 28, 2015
  - C. Review & Acceptance of Financial Transactions & Reports

***Motion made and seconded (Berkowitz/Shutterly) to approve the consent agenda as submitted; passed 4-0***
5. Guests: None
6. Citizen's Forum (public comments limited to 5 minutes per speaker, please)
  - A. Vivian Sutton - Water Bill  
We have two options: A) Average the water bill for the past year for \$101.56 or B) New resolution 2015-10, which was recommended by Florida Rural Water Association, would apply the lowest possible water rate to the high usage situations.

***Motion made and seconded (Berkowitz/Roberts) to go with option A averaging the water bill to \$101.56; passed 4-0***
7. Citizen Board and Committee Reports:
  - A. Planning & Historic Preservation Board - Unavailable
  - B. Tree Committee - Unavailable
8. Town Attorney Report:
  - A. Water Charge Forgiveness Policy Resolution 2015-10 – Town Administrator presented reading Resolution 2015-10 on title only. Discussion ensued including citizens comments.

***Motion made and seconded (Berkowitz/Shutterly) to approve Resolution 2015-10 as submitted; passed 4-0***

First Reading: Ordinance 2015-03 – Super Senior Homestead Exemption – Town Administrator read on title only. Discussion ensued. Commissioner Shutterly discussed the ordinance and suggested changing the income rate to be double what the County is suggesting.

***Motion made and seconded (Shutterly/Roberts) to adopt Ordinance 2015-03 with the change to all of the \$20,000 notations to read twice the limit that the County is setting for household income as defined by general law.***

Mayor Pro-Tem Berkowitz discussed that he likes the idea of increasing the amount of income for the owners but doesn't like tying it to the County because any changes that the County may make would impact our Ordinance, and we would have to double future limits adjusted by the County. Commissioner Shutterly explained that the numbers fluctuate with the average county's income; so, as the taxing authority, the County is responsible for setting minimal income. Attorney Lee will need to work on the wording. Mayor Mance read from the County's ordinance.

***Amend the above Motion and second (Shutterly/Roberts) to reflect the \$20,000 references to "twice the adjusted annual consumer price index figures issued by the United States Department of Labor" with Attorney Lee making the changes to reflect proper wording to Ordinance 2015-03; passed 4-0***

9. Town Administrator Report: Town Administrator presented.
- A. Veterans Memorial Plaque – Dedication Day, we have the plaque and it looks good, a dedication day is required to move forward. November 14 or 21 – 10:00 am possibly. Debbie Gonano will set it up with Bud DesForges and Bob Gasehe.
  - B. Planning: Staff & Citizen Volunteers Christmas Party – Town will invite all boards and volunteers and Patty will coordinate the Christmas Party.
  - C. Parcel 16520-021-001 – 602 NW 7<sup>th</sup> Terrace Donation Complete – Demolition in November
  - D. Vendor Uncollected/Remitted Utility Service Tax – Some vendors are not remitting the 10% propane sales utility tax to the Town and Attorney Lee had suggested conducting an audit to determine the tax that should have been collected remitted.  
***Motion made and seconded (Shutterly/Roberts) to refrain from an audit and begin from this day forward to have companies collect a propane tax and remit the utility tax to the town; passed 4-0***
  - E. Duke Energy – Town Tree GPS Locator Maps & Tree Donations – Town Tree GPS Locator Maps were provided to the Town as a courtesy and will give us much detail for the next trimming, which is scheduled in three years. Duke Energy donated 75 Fringe Trees and 3 Palatka Holly trees. The Town kept 7 trees and the balance of the Fringe Trees were donated to citizens. Mayor Mance would like to say a public 'thank you' to Duke for protecting our trees during the power line trimming and for the donated fringe trees. The donated trees will be impressive and a beautiful asset for the town.
  - F. WSPP Funds
    - 1. Landscape Design Contest – Entrance Triangles & Downtown Islands – Last month the Commission directed Mrs. Gonano to design a landscape design contest.  
***Motion made and seconded (Roberts/Shutterly) to approve a \$40,000 budget for the landscape project; passed 4-0***  
Intent to compete project deadline of February 8, 2016  
Final landscape design deadline of April 4, 2016.
    - 2. Restore MNAHP to 1774 appearance with native trees and shrubs
    - 3. Ballpark Restroom Improvements
  - G. Kilbury & Sons, Inc. proposal to repair the air conditioning evaporator coil at the Fire Station at a cost of \$1000, which includes charging system with 117 ounces of R-22.

***Motion made and seconded (Berkowitz/Roberts) to accept the Kilbury & Sons, Inc. proposal to repair the A/C at the Fire Department; passed 4-0***

10. New Business:
- A. Citizen Board Term Expirations – December 31, 2015
    - 1. Tom Brady, P&HPB
    - 2. Megan Forbes, P&HPB
    - 3. Julie Penrod-Glenn, P&HPB
    - 4. Ralph Dispagno, Code
    - 5. Discussion – 5 Member Planning & Historic Preservation Board

Discussion ensued. Mayor Mance discussed the fact that the commission had voted to scale down the P&HPB from a 7 member board to a 5 member board; but the changes to the Land Development Code were inadvertently not made. We are one member short already because Bill Avery resigned. Stuart Smith will be moving when his house is sold. Commission agrees to continue with a 7 member P&HPB because they felt that enough citizens were interested in serving. The commission directed Town Administrator Gonano to send out renewal applications to anyone with a seat expiring at the end of the year.

- B. Florida Regional Compact Initiative – Mayor Mance presented with Commissioner Shutterly assisting. Discussion ensued regarding the possible ability to accomplish common goals through united municipalities. More information to follow when it becomes available.
- C. Alachua County Forever Program Ballot Measure – Mayor Mance presented reading the proposed ballot measure. Discussion ensued. As per the County’s request to assess the proposed ballot language, the commission decided that the ballot measure was misleading as to the intended use of the entire amount of funds collected from the taxpayers and, furthermore, that the ballot language should reflect as much information as is known regarding the proposed tax increase by the proposer.

***Motion made and seconded (Shutterly/Roberts) not to support the Alachua County Forever Ballot Program proposed ballot language as it is misleading in its entire intent; passed 4-0***

- D. Proposed Cell Phone Tower on Parcel #16488-000-000 – Mayor Mance wanted to know the proposed cell phone tower’s potential effect on historic properties. If you wish to comment or wish to be considered a consulting party please respond within 30 days. The commission directs Town Administrator to let the cell phone people know that we have addressed this item and have no problem with it.
- E. FLC-Legislative Proposal on Election Date Changes – Mayor Mance presented and discussion ensued. The municipality has the right to set its own election dates; and as home rule, we have the right to control our own election dates.

***Motion made and seconded (Shutterly/Berkowitz) to support the Florida League of Cities’ fight against this bill; passed 4-0***

- F. Micanopy Middle School Burglary – Commissioner Berkowitz discussed that someone stole all the computers from the school, and he would like to donate the budgeted \$500 to help replace their computers. \$2500 worth of computers were stolen and the school’s insurance deductible is \$5000; so the insurance won’t cover the loss.

***Motion made and seconded (Roberts/Berkowitz) to donate \$750 to the Micanopy Middle School to help replace computers for the school; passed 4-0***

- G. New Recreation Program Ideas – Ricky Dale and Dennis Allen – Discussion ensued in regard to starting a recreation program. Commission would like more information at our next meeting.

11. Unfinished Business:

- A. Urban Reserve and Interlocal Agreement (ILA) – Tabled until next meeting.

12. Town Commissioner Reports:

- Commissioner Joseph Aufmuth: On Sabbatical.
- Commissioner Mike Berkowitz: Nothing
- Commissioner Mike Roberts: Nothing
- Commissioner Richard Shutterly: Valerie Shutterly presented her idea to get the community together by having a community Thanksgiving dinner as is held in Evinston, FL, with residents sitting on quilts at town hall. Mrs. Shutterly read a letter that she wrote in support of the Town hosting an annual outdoor community Thanksgiving dinner, with the Town supplying the turkeys and more. Citizens can bring a dish to pass. Commission summarized that the town staff spends time with their families on Thanksgiving and believes it is short notice for planning for this year. Mayor Mance likes the idea, would welcome ideas on who will organize it, recruitment of volunteers, and what date would work better than on Thanksgiving Day. Commissioner Shutterly discussed that the Thrasher Warehouse building would be a great venue for this event.

- 13. Mayor Virginia Mance Report: Dedication for Sally Guthrie was last Thursday, October 8<sup>th</sup>. After the passing of Sally, her husband, Ed Geers, designated Micanopy Tutoring, a project of the Friends of the Micanopy Library, Inc., to receive donations in Sally’s memory. Sally was a founding member of Micanopy Tutoring and served as Tutoring Board Chairman for many years. The outpouring of donors resulted in nearly \$5,000 in donations for Micanopy Tutoring.

- 14. Adjourn: 10:00 pm

**MINUTES APPROVED:**

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

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**Virginia Mance, Mayor**

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**Patty S. Polk, Recorder**