



Minutes

Town Commission

Regularly Scheduled Meeting

Tuesday • November 11, 2014 • 7:30 pm

1. Call to Order: 7:30 pm
2. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance to Flag
3. Roll Call:
Commissioners Attending:
 - Joseph Aufmuth Present
 - Michael Berkowitz Present
 - Virginia Mance, Mayor Pro-Tem Absent with notice
 - Richard Shutterly, Mayor Present
 - Mike Roberts Present

 - Debbie Gonano, Town Administrator Present
 - Stephen Lee, Town Attorney Present
 - Patty Polk, Deputy Town Clerk Present

Mayor Shutterly thanked all the Veterans for all that they have given us and it is because of them that we are able to run our meetings in open public forums.

4. Consent Agenda Approval:
 - A. Agenda Approval
 - B. Minutes of Public Hearing Assessing Liens and Regular Meeting held on October 14, 2014.
 - C. Review & Acceptance of Financial Transactions & Reports
Motion made and seconded (Aufmuth/Berkowitz) to accept the consent agenda as submitted; passed 4-0

5. Guests:
 - A. Richard Powell, CPA – Presentation of the Annual Financial Report F/Y Ended September 30, 2014
Following the annual audit, Richard Powell presented the 2014 annual financial report. Mr. Powell stated that the Town's audit had resulted in a clean opinion with no reportable findings and represented an accurate reflection of the high quality and standards of the financial practices and records of the Town. Mr. Powell reported that the Town was financially strong with net assets and fund balances of \$2,672,699.
 - B. Brian Pope, Lubee Bat Conservancy – Presentation by Mr. Pope who is the director of Lubee Bat Conservatory in Gainesville, Florida. Mayor Shutterly and Mr. Pope searched for suitable places for bat houses and chose several possible locations to present to the Commission. Possible locations include: Ballpark, Community Garden, and the Micanopy Native American Heritage Preserve. Mr. Pope has an extensive background with reptiles and bats and the areas we have chosen are ideal for bat houses. We have 13 species of bats that live in our area; one of which is the Mexican Free Tail bats that will live in areas such as caves, mines, structures, and bat houses. The Mexican Free Tail bats eat mosquitoes, love bugs, and agricultural pests that cost farmers money. The conservancy is very willing to help with educational outreach and with the kiosk design.
Bud DesForges has an electrical contractor contact who has offered to put the poles in for the three bat houses for \$4,000 including the poles. The poles will reach up to 25' from the ground and can be cut off to the proper height. Steve Barlow sells bat houses, which will hold 50,000 bats, for around \$2,900/each.
Motion made and seconded (Aufmuth/Roberts) to approve up to \$35,000 to put in the three bat houses; passed 4-0

Discussion ensued. Bats will not eat pollinators; but they do eat agricultural pests. Special suits are not necessary for staff to clean up the guano which can be used as fertilizer or thrown away.

- C. Russell Etling, Gainesville Interim Manager for Cultural Affairs-352Arts Roadmap Project - Mr. Etling presented the Alachua County 352 Arts roadmap initiative project. Mr. Etling suggested that all residents visit the *352Arts.org* website and answer the survey. This website will become a central arts and cultural calendar where everyone involved, such as the Micanopy museum and different festivals, can post their news and links to each group's website. In the spring, visitors will be able to interface with the richness of the arts and cultural community through a central directory of arts, art organizations, and art resources. Tom Brady stated that the Seminole War Foundation in Dade City has received a \$50,000 grant to produce a Seminole heritage trail booklet in which Micanopy will be listed.

6. Citizens Forum:

- A. Steve Maynard, representing the 5th grade class at Micanopy Area Cooperative School (MACS) who are hosting Light Up Micanopy again this year scheduled for December 6, 2014. Mr. Maynard asked the Town Commission to partner with MACS and make a donation of \$250 to help sponsor the event, which had 250 – 300 people attend last year. Mr. Maynard stated that last year's costs were \$650, excluding food. MACS would like to expand the event and buy more decorations. They are looking for total donations of \$500 this year. Proceeds from the event will help sponsor all 22 of the kids who want to go on the 5th Grade Washington, DC trip. The cost for each child to go on this trip is \$624, and without fundraisers, some of the children would not be able to take advantage of this opportunity.

Motion made and seconded (Berkowitz/Aufmuth) to donate \$500 to sponsor the MACS school; passed 4-0

Commissioner Aufmuth would like to have this as a line item on our budget in the future as a funded item. Layton Glenn expressed disappointment that the Commission didn't double the money being donated to the school to \$1000. Mr. Glenn thought that the Commission should help out the kids and accused the Commission of being cheap. MACS answered that they were very happy and appreciative with the \$500 being offered. Commissioner Roberts and his wife have a shaved ice machine, and he stated that they would be happy to bring it to Light Up Micanopy and give the proceeds to MACS.

7. Citizen Board and Committee Reports:

- A. Planning & Historic Preservation Board – Fro Warren reported on the October 28, 2014 meeting.

- There is a shed behind the Feaster building facing demolition by neglect.
- Concrete in the Town square has shown up and the P&HPB claimed that they didn't know anything about it. Tom Brady expressed his opinion that it would be appropriate to have this item presented to the P&HPB. Bud DesForges stated that it is the Veterans Memorial which was approved by the Town Commission, and he will be happy to present it to the P&HPB at their next meeting.

- B. Tree Committee – Karen Hill presented and they have two requests today related to Arbor Day.

- Arbor Day Proclamation, choosing a date, January 16, 2015 which is the same day as Florida's Arbor Day and she felt that it would be a good time to plant a tree.
- Arbor Day event, on January 16, 2015, is requesting \$50 to purchase a Blue Beach tree, also known as an American Hornbeam, and possibly plant it at the middle school.

Commissioner Aufmuth read the Arbor Day Proclamation in its entirety.

Motion made and seconded (Aufmuth/Berkowitz) to approve the request for \$50 to purchase a tree; passed 4-0

8. Town Attorney Report: Nothing to report today

9. Town Administrator Report:

- A. Water Department – Iron/Manganese Additive Comparison - Debbie Gonano asked the Commission to be more fiscally responsible to the citizens and consider changing the polyorthophosphate corrosion control additive that we put into the water. She has provided tech data sheets that show that the additives are the same; but the Town will save nearly \$1,000/year by changing the company from which the additive is purchased.

Motion made and seconded (Aufmuth/Berkowitz) to approve changing additives and use Dumont and have it be for a period of time to make sure the quality is the same; passed 4-0

- B. Fall Festival expenses – Extra firefighters were on duty and the Town paid for the extra hours. Should the Fall Festival Committee be billed for the extra personnel expense? Mayor Shutterly's opinion is that the committee should pay for the extra firefighters on duty. If we do this for this group, then do we have to do it for everyone who asks? Commission Aufmuth stated that the Festival is run by a bunch of volunteers and the costs would come out of their profits. The non-profit groups do not come to the Town and ask for money, so the great event they run is good for the Town's name.

Commissioner Berkowitz agrees that as part of the community and culture, it is a small amount to keep the profile up and have people come back to visit Micanopy. Any additional request costing money will be handled on an individual basis.

Motion made and seconded (Aufmuth/Berkowitz) to approved up to \$1,000 for added personnel and other expenditures during the Fall Festival; passed 4-0

Troy Blakely questioned which non-profit groups are involved and what do they do with the money. Fall Festival Committee will email Mr. Blakely a list of the 13 non-profit groups involved in the committee. DeDe DesForges questioned what exactly the Fire Department did extra during the Festival. Town Manager Gonano explained that there were four additional paid fire department personnel on duty both Festival Saturday and Sunday.

10. New Business:

A. Town Hall – Handicap Access – Commissioner Aufmuth discussed

During the last election, a voter reported that he could not navigate our existing handicap ramp. The Mayor directed Town Administrator to see if our ramp and entrance are handicap compliant. Commissioner Roberts discussed the difficulty in opening the other back door. Town Administrator Gonano suggested that, if required, we could possibly change the second back entrance for handicap access.

11. Unfinished Business:

A. Citizens Board Member Term Expirations – Town Administrator Gonano presented.

She has emailed and contacted all board members whose terms are expiring and reached all but one person on the Code Enforcement Board. We still have three vacant seats on the Code Enforcement Board.

Motion made and seconded (Aufmuth/Roberts) to accept the three applications we have received from existing board members; Timothy Parker (P&HPB), K. William Avery (P&HPB); and Michael Campbell (Tree Committee); passed 4-0

B. Status of RFP – Structural Red Iron Steel Maintenance Shop/Garage – Proposals due 11/11/14

We had received four letters of intent from construction companies. Today we received three proposals with bids for construction of our maintenance shop/garage building. Discussion ensued.

Motion made and seconded (Berkowitz/Aufmuth) to accept Union Lasteel's proposal adjusting for the demolition of the existing building, electrical, and tax and using a contract drafted by Attorney Lee; passed 4-0

12. Town Commissioner Reports:

- Commissioner Joseph Aufmuth: Thank you to all the veterans including some of his family members, thank you for all the freedoms that we have.
- Commissioner Mike Berkowitz: Wish everyone a happy Veterans Day, thank you to the Veterans. He has family members in the service, as well present and past.
- Commissioner Ginny Mance: Absent with notice
- Commissioner Mike Roberts: Thanked the Veterans. The Town has a problem with buzzards, and he has about 100 buzzards on his property, they are throwing up everywhere and ruining his roof and green house. Contact the Fish & Wildlife Service and the University of Florida extension office as they may be able to help.

13. Mayor Richard Shutterly Report: “Inquired of Bud DesForges about when the Veterans Memorial will be complete and will there be a presentation when it is finished?” It has been a slow process, but Bob Gashe would be pleased to do a presentation when it is complete. Thanked DeDe DesForges for a great Festival as many people were attending. The Town workers did a great job preparing the streets for the festival and cleaning up afterward.

14. Adjourn: 9:07 PM

MINUTES APPROVED:

As submitted _____ as amended _____ at Town Commission Meeting _____

Richard Shutterly, Mayor

Patty S. Polk, Recorder