



# Town Commission - Regularly Scheduled Meeting

## Minutes

Tuesday, December 14, 2021 at 7:00 pm

1. Call to Order 7:00 pm
2. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance to Flag
3. Roll Call

### Minutes:

Commissioners Attending: • Joseph Aufmuth, Mayor Present

- Troy Blakely Present
- Virginia Mance Present
- Timothy Parker, Mayor Pro-Tem Present
- Mike Roberts Present
- Andrea Parker, Attorney Present
- Sara Owen, Town Administrator Present
- Patty Polk, Deputy Town Clerk Present

### 4. Presentation of Chief Micanopy Lithograph

#### Minutes:

Mayor Aufmuth presented the lithograph donated by Remzey Samarraai reading the Town's Proclamation on the occasion of the Town of Micanopy's Bicentennial. Governor DeSantis sent the Town with a letter of best wishes acknowledging the Town of Micanopy on this Celebrate Micanopy Day. Mayor Aufmuth also read the supporting documents for the lithograph. The meeting had a short recess for our reception in honor of our Lithograph and Bicentennial celebration.

### 5. Consent Agenda

#### a. Agenda Approval

##### Minutes:

Administrator Owen recommended adding 2 agenda items under #6. Guests, C. Coilin Murphy, Children's Trust of Alachua County and d. Bishop Stokes, Micanopy Community Remembrance Project.

Motion made and seconded (Mance/Parker) to amend the agenda as amended; passed 5-0

#### b. Minutes of Regular Meeting of November 9, 2021

##### Minutes:

Motion made and seconded (Mance/Roberts) to approve the meeting minutes of November 9, 2021 as submitted; passed 5-0

**c. Review & Acceptance of Financial Transactions & Reports**

**Minutes:**

Motion made and seconded (Mance/Blakely) to accept the financial transactions & reports as submitted; passed 5-0

**6. Guests**

**a. Lena McNeer, Alachua County Library District**

**Minutes:**

Lena McNeer, Micanopy Branch Library Manager, gave her report presenting a new streaming service available to all Alachua County residents, its called Hoopla, you can stream music, movies, tv shows, and access comics all through your phone.

**b. Savannah Kirwin - CDBG Well Project Update**

**Minutes:**

Savannah Kirwan, Kimley Horn, gave an update on well #3. Water quality testing has been done and currently the well is at 198 feet which is a little deeper than well #1 and they are waiting for water quality reports. The project is on schedule.

**c. Colin Murphy, Children's Trust of Alachua County**

**Minutes:**

Colin Murphy, Executive Director, Alachua County Children's Trust, introduced himself and Chair Lee Pinkoson. The Trust was established in November 2018 to Facilitate equitable access and opportunities for all children and families in Alachua County to ensure every child reaches their maximum potential.

**d. Micanopy Community Remembrance Project**

**Minutes:**

Bishop Stokes, Willie Mae Stokes Community Center, discussed recent events at the Willie Mae Stokes Community Center; 30 people received the Maderna booster vaccine and 150 people have received the flu vaccine.

Some of the Remembrance Committee members present are Bishop Stokes, Jiana Williams, H. Grace Fuller, Wendi Lin Bartels, Bill Harlan, and Melony Barr. They are a sub committee of the Alachua County Remembrance Committee. The committee would like to have a ceremony at the old jail located inside the fence at the water plant. Cleaning the jail and having a ceremony there is desired but not necessary to the soil ceremony. Mayor Aufmuth stated that the committee is welcome to contact Town Hall staff to obtain access to the jail for their own observation.

Bill Harlan spoke about their desire to incorporate the old jail into some of their

ceremonies. They will do a Soil Ceremony in March 2022. They would like to clean up the jail and have a ceremony there but it is not necessary to the ceremony they will hold. The soil collection ceremony is simply a way for the descendants of the lynching victims to be close to their ancestor. The soil is meant to represent the ground over which the person was hung. The jail would be another location. These efforts are situated within the larger Alachua County Remembrance Project through a partnership with the Equal Justice Initiative (EJI) Wendi Lin Bartels invited everyone to attend their next meeting. Just Mercy is a movie based on this concept.

Administrator Owen stated that Mariah Justice, Certified Local Government, has recommended restoring the old jail.

Motion made and seconded (Mance/Parker) to move forward with the soil ceremony; failed 1 (Aufmuth)- 4 -(Mance,Roberts,Parker,Blakely opposed)  
4 jars of soil would be the desired amount. Discussion ensued at length.

## **7. Citizen's Forum**

### **Minutes:**

Stoney Slaton (104 NE Seminary Ave), member of the Micanopy Area Artisan Merchants Council, Thank you to everyone who participated in our Micanopy Stroll. The Micanopy Area Cooperative School (MACS) safety patrol earned money for their Washington DC trip.

## **8. Citizen Board and Committee Reports**

### **a. Planning & Historic Preservation Board**

#### **Minutes:**

P&HPB has nothing to report

### **b. Tree Committee**

#### **Minutes:**

Paul Cohen presented that the Tree Committee planted a tree near the Gazebo, took pictures, and sent them in for Tree City USA.

Another tree planting will be held on December 18, 2021 - 11:00 am at the Micanopy Native American Heritage Preserve (MNAHP) to mark the bicentennial of the Town of Micanopy. Gary Ellis found no artifacts when he performed the shovel test and will submit a report to the Tree Committee.

## **9. Town Attorney Report**

### **Minutes:**

Welcome back Attorney Parker. She is glad to be back and to see everyone.

## **10. Town Administrator Report**

### **a. Fire Engine Repairs**

#### **Minutes:**

Administrator Owen presented - Our backup fire engine needs to be repaired

before we can get our main engine repaired. Minimum of \$10,000.00 for both engines. Discussion ensued.

Motion made and seconded (Mance/Parker) to approve up to \$14,000 to repair the backup Engine for the Fire Department. Discussion ensued. Above Motion amended and Seconded (Mance/Parker) to approve up to \$14,000 to repair both Engines for the Fire Department; passed 5-0

## **11. New Business**

### **a. Resignation of Ann Baird from the Planning & Historic Preservation Board**

#### **Minutes:**

Ann Baird, Planning & Historic Preservation Board Member's term is expiring December 2021.

Motion made and seconded (Roberts/Parker) to accept Ann Baird's resignation; passed 5-0

### **b. Planning & Historic Board Member Application**

#### **Minutes:**

James Gray has submitted his application to become a member of our Planning & Historic Preservation Board. Mr. Gray is not in attendance tonight because of a previous engagement. Steve Elder gave James Gray a great recommendation.

Motion made and seconded (Roberts/Blakely) to appoint Mr. James Gray to the board; passed 5-0 Discussion ensued. Amend above Motion and Seconded (Roberts/Blakely) to appoint Mr. Gray starting in January 2022; passed 5-0

Marian Baron is a current board member and her term is expiring December 2021 and she has submitted her application to the P&HPB.

Motion made and seconded (Blakely/Parker) to appoint Marian Baron to the P&HPB; passed 5-0

## **12. Unfinished Business**

### **a. Roofing Estimates for Building at Micanopy Native American Heritage Preservation**

#### **Minutes:**

Administrator Owen presented the estimates to re-roof the building at the Micanopy Native American Heritage Preserve (MNAHP) Discussion ensued. Ms. Owen stated that this project may be done using Wild Spaced/Public Spaces funds. She recommends out sourcing this work as our Public Works Supervisor is very busy with current duties.

Motion made and seconded (Roberts/Blakely) to have David Holton, Public Works Supervisor, do this roof inhouse; fails 1 Aye(Roberts) 4 opposed(Mance,Parker,Blakely, Aufmuth)

Mayor Aufmuth discussed the possibilty of using Wild Spaces/Public Places and Administrator Owen will find out.

Motion made and seconded (Parker/Mance) to table this topic until next month;

passed 5-0

Mayor Aufmuth commented that our new Town Administrator is one heck of a participant for the Town of Micanopy, and not to say that anyone was any less. She is doing things of her own volition that will directly benefit the Town in the future and she is asking nothing for it even with his urging.

### **13. Town Commissioner Reports**

#### **a. Commissioner (Seat 2) Tim Parker**

**Minutes:**

Tim Parker agrees with Mayor Aufmuth that our Town Administration is doing a great job. We made it through another year. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to everyone; if you are traveling be safe.

#### **b. Commissioner (Seat 3) Ginny Mance**

**Minutes:**

Ginny Mance feels that we are approaching the end of an error with our current Mayor Aufmuth for 21 years of service. Thank you to Bud and DeDe DesForges for the great food and the beautiful spread for the reception. As always you did a great job with smiles on your faces. Thank you to our Town Administrator for all you do to bring the Town together as a community. Thank you to Stoney Slaton and the Micanopy Area Artison Merchants Council. The Micanopy Stroll turned out great. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

#### **c. Commissioner (Seat 4) Troy Blakely**

**Minutes:**

Troy Blakely said that about the only thing he has to say after all Ginny said is Amen. Our P&HPB is doing a fantastic job and he thanks them. Also our Tree Committee is doing a great job. Thank you to Sara Owen and Patty Polk. Our Public Works crew is doing a great job. Merry Christmas to all and to all a good night. Laughter all around.

#### **d. Commissioner (Seat 5) Mike Roberts**

**Minutes:**

Mike Roberts stated that the town looks beautiful and great. He thinks that we should not forget the reason for the season - Jesus.

### **14. Mayor (Seat 1) Joe Aufmuth Report**

**Minutes:**

Mayor Aufmuth will say this to his dying breath, Micanopy is all about volunteers. We couldn't do it without volunteers and people that love the town and really help and support the town. It is great to have the people in this town.

He must say that at work, at UF, they are going through a period of diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice. While all of our experiences are different and we certainly cant have the experience that some people have had and that their ancestors have had.

He is certainly becoming more and more aware of those things and how they have affected other people lives and the challenges that they face. Some people were repressed and things happened to them that were unjust. He doesn't think that four shovels full of dirt to put in a jar will harm the town. He hopes that future mayors and commissions will open support to these people who are asking for this remembrance.

## **15. Adjourn**

### **Minutes:**

Meeting Adjourned: 9:00 pm

*PLEASE NOTE: PURSUANT TO SECTION 286.015, FLORIDA STATUTES, IF A PERSON DECIDES TO APPEAL ANY DECISION MADE BY THE COMMISSION WITH RESPECT TO ANY MATTER CONSIDERED DURING THIS MEETING, HE OR SHE WILL NEED TO ENSURE THAT A VERBATIM RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS IS MADE, WHICH RECORD INCLUDES THE TESTIMONY AND EVIDENCE UPON WHICH THE APPEAL IS TO BE BASED. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AMERICAN WITH DISABILITIES ACT, A PERSON WITH DISABILITIES NEEDING ANY SPECIAL ACCOMODATIONS TO PARTICIPATE IN TOWN MEETINGS SHOULD CONTACT THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR, 706 NE CHOLOKKA BLVD., MICANOPY, FLORIDA 32667-0137, TELEPHONE (352) 466-3121.*

Contact: Sara Owen (townhall@micanopytown.com (352) 466-3121) | Minutes published on 01/09/2022, adopted on 01/11/2022