



DRAFT

Town Commission - Regularly Scheduled Meeting

Minutes

Tuesday, November 9, 2021 at 7:00 pm

1. Call to Order

Minutes:

Called to order: 7:00 p.m.

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
- Kiersten Ballou, Attorney Present
- Sara Owen, Town Administrator Present
- Patty Polk, Deputy Town Clerk Present

4. Consent Agenda

Minutes:

Motion made and seconded (Parker/Mance) to approve the consent agenda as submitted; passed 5-0

- Agenda Approval**
- Review & Acceptance of Financial Transactions & Reports**
- Minutes of Regular Meeting of October 12, 2021**
- Minutes Special Town Commission Meeting of October 20, 2021**
- Minutes Special Town Commission Meeting of October 27, 2021**
- Minutes Special Town Commission Meeting of October 27, 2021**

5. Guests

- Lena McNeer, Alachua County Library District**

Minutes:

Lena McNeer invited everyone to attend Storytime on the Green on Saturdays at 10:00 am at the Fire Station Playground; we only have 3 left until Winter break.

DRAFT

b. Presentation of John Land Years of Service Award

Minutes:

Eryn Russell, Ambassador, Florida League of Cities, presented Mayor Joseph Aufmuth with the John Land Years of Service Award for serving over 20 years to the Town of Micanopy. She spoke with Sara Owen and our Commissioners before the meeting, they all spoke highly of Mayor Aufmuth and his twenty years of service; there is no complacency for him.

Ms. Russell is honored to be here to present Mayor Aufmuth with a Resolution for twenty years of service. Mayor Aufmuth was very honored and stated that he couldn't have served without the town, people, and staff. He really appreciates this award. He requested pictures with his colleagues. Administrator Owen took pictures with Ms. Russell and our commissioners.

6. Citizen's Forum

Minutes:

DeDe DesForges (554 NW Seminary Ave) would like to say thank you to the Town and especially to David Holton for preparing the town for the Festival; she really appreciative.

Bishop Stokes, Willie Mae Stokes Community Center, thanked the commission for their continued support. We have a mosquito problem and they had a mosquito control company come out and spray which did not help. He's not sure what can be done but it is a huge problem. One of the lights is completely out and it is creating a safety issue; they are supervising the children in this area. All Florida Electric helped us in the past.

Stoney Slaton (104 NE Seminary Ave) questioned the well 3 progress. Administrator Owen will discuss the well during her report.

Marian Baron (108 SW Whiting St) commented on the Alachua County Commissioners, Nov 2, 2021 meeting. The commissioners reviewed the DRC process and procedures and they are working on amendments based on their discussions and using Micanopy as an example on how to not let this happen again. You can review their meeting online video on their website. A citizen questioned the status of signage and speed humps and the county commissioners are discussing signage and speed humps on county roads.

7. Citizen Board and Committee Reports

a. Planning & Historic Preservation Board

Minutes:

Marian Baron presented report.

She read the written report that she submitted, is in the meeting packets, and attached to these minutes.

Marian discussed a possible grant opportunity for historic preservation and just wanted to mention it and wondered if anyone was applying for this grant. Mayor Aufmuth stated that we've used these grants before and we can talk about it.

b. Tree Committee

Minutes:

Paul Cohen presented his report.

The other committee members are following all the steps to properly plant the trees on our Micanopy Native American Heritage Preserve (MNAHP) and they will not proceed until all procedures are followed. Paul is planning to plant a tree at the Gazebo with Nancy McCawley's, Friends of the Library member, permission to replace a tree that died after planting a few years ago.

Commissioner Roberts commented that our public works crew mows that area and you may want to consider this when planting; possibly plant in another location such as the schools. Paul will consider the schools next year.

Mayor Aufmuth read the Arbor Day Proclamation in entirety dated 9 November 2021, and now it is official.

Paul discussed the tree on SW Ed Glover St with the roots growing under the road stating that Gary Hunt is still concerned with this tree. The Commission directed town staff to paint the speed hump to make people more aware of the large speed hump; no action will be taken regarding this tree.

8. Town Attorney Report

a. First Reading of Ordinance Number 2021-04, Text Amendment to the Micanopy Comprehensive Plan

Minutes:

Attorney Ballou read the Ordinance 2021-04 on short title for first reading. At the last P&HPB meeting the board reviewed Resolution 2021-11 and recommended approval. This Ordinance adds the language on the second page. The Florida Legislature is providing this language and requiring that all municipalities add this to their comprehensive plan.

Discussion ensued.

Motion made and seconded (Parker/Mance) to accept Ordinance 2021-04 as submitted on first reading; passed 5-0

b. First Reading of Ordinance Number 2021-05, Amending Variance Review and Approval Procedures

Minutes:

Attorney Ballou read Ordinance 2021-05 on short title. This Ordinance gives the commission final approval on variances.

Commissioner Mance questioned if other towns do a similar practice. Attorney Ballou explained that while other towns close to us have similar procedures the firm had to create an ordinance to follow the Town Commission's request; she used Anna Maria's ordinance as an example.

Mayor Aufmuth stated that the P&HPB will hear the quasi judicial hearing and will make a recommendation and then the Town Commission will hold a quasi judicial hearing on the same matter. The commissions decision is final unless an appeal is requested.

Motion made and seconded (Roberts/Parker) to approve Ordinance 2021-05 as submitted; passed 4-1 (Aufmuth opposed)

Motion made and seconded (Roberts/Blakely) to call the question on the above motion on the floor; passed 5-0

Marian Baron discussed this process and would like a joint meeting to discuss ways that might improve the process and procedures instead of approving this ordinance. A meeting should be held, getting everyone's ideas and concerns before having our attorneys draft something up? She doesn't think that two quasi judicial meetings is the answer.

Discussion ensued at length.

Commissioner Roberts stated that the commission would like to review variances as they are very important to the Town after the Historical Preservation Board's makes a recommendation on variances.

Ballou will look up the timeline for how long we can push the second reading back. She would feel safest putting this off until after a joint meeting.

Commissioner Mance proposed to meet with Planning & Historic Preservation Board January 18,2022, 6:30 p.m. Commission agrees.

9. Town Administrator Report

a. Well #3 Update

Minutes:

Administrator Owen gave an update on well #3 and they are on schedule.

b. New Public Works Employee

Minutes:

Administrator Owen presented that Clay Sanders resigned and we have advertised and interviewed and we would like to hire Bret Waibel and offer him \$15.00 per hour, full time based on his experience and previous jobs.

Commission Roberts questioned the probationary period which is 6 months.

Commissioner Mance is very happy that we were able to find someone who we feel that can do the job. Commissioner Parker would like to allow our staff to hire and have authority to release them. Mayor Aufmuth would support this idea Commissioner Roberts likes the idea that the commission has the authority to hire as we are spending the peoples money. Commissioner Mance stated that we have been doing this for so long.

Motion made and seconded(Mance/Parker) to hire Bret Waibel as recommended by Administrator Owen; passed 5-0

Bishop Stokes discussed the process. Administrator Owen advertises, interviews, and recommends to the commission who to hire. Would she be able to fire an employee without the commissioners approval. First 6 month is up to Administrator. The Mayor and Town Administrator can discipline if necessary.

c. American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)

Minutes:

Administrator Owen presented the ARPA funds which we have received 50% of already. We need to tell the government how we are going to spend the money. She's not sure how detailed it will have to be. She recommends preserving our water system. Her recommendation would be to have a facilities plan to be done year by year.

Commissioner Roberts Hunter Street is not paved and this would allow putting 6" lines down this road and to provide hydrants and it would not disturb the roadway. It's the only place in town that would not ruin the road as it is not paved.

Mayor Aufmuth stated that it sounds like water is the commissions desire. Motion made and seconded (Parker/Roberts) to go with water infrastructure for the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) passed 5-0

d. Final Budget Amendments for FY 2020-2021

Minutes:

Administrator Owen presented our actual vs our budget and she adjusted our final budget to our actual. At the end of the day we had \$220,702 in excess. Motion made and seconded (Mance/Parker) to adopt the final budget as submitted; passed 5-0

10. New Business

a. Holiday Tree

Minutes:

Administrator Owen presented that the Retail Association is holding a holiday stroll on December 11, 2021 and they asked if the Town could participate. They would like the town to put up a tree in the median downtown and to decorate. Stoney Slaton (104 NE Seminary Ave) is an at large member of the Micanopy Area Artison Merchants Council, they are planning to advertise the holiday stroll to bring more sales to the merchants, a bake sale through MACS school to benefit the PTO, to bring more enjoyment and business to the town. The 3 entities are trying to consolidate their efforts to bring more business and to help MACS PTO.

Motion made and seconded (Mance/Roberts) to put up a holiday tree and to decorate in the town center; passed 5-0

Motion made and seconded (Parker/Mance) to add Holiday Tree under New Business; passed 5-0

Motion made and seconded (Mance/Roberts) to approve up to \$500 to purchase a tree and decorations; passed 5-0

11. Unfinished Business

a. Fence Estimates for Water Plant

Minutes:

Administrator Owen discussed the fence estimates.

Commissioner Roberts stated that to his knowledge this is not what we

discussed at our last meeting. We did not discuss fencing off the jail and making it separate entrance.

Bishop Stokes stated that the discussion was to table the discussion and then, after we find out how much it will cost for fencing ,and then we will proceed with the discussion.

Discussion ensued at length.

Motion made and seconded (Roberts/Mance) to repair the existing fence that is in disrepair at the water plant; passed 4-1 (Aufmuth opposed) Mayor Aufmuth directed Administrator Owen to get prices to repair the fence and an appropriate gate.

Motion made and seconded (Roberts/Blakely) to not fence in the jail; passed 4-1 (Aufmuth opposed)

Point of order to un-table a motion and reconsider the tabling motion made at our October 12, 2021 is to renew the motion and second from a previous meeting. Motion made and seconded (Parker/Blakely) to enclose the old jail with a fence compatible with the current fence Commissioner Blakely withdrew his motion Motion dies for lack of a second.

Discussion ensued at length.

Commissioner Mance does not think this is a place that should have visitors or events. An historic marker may be a more proper way to honor this historic building. She would like to have the building accessed and repaired and painted. Mayor Aufmuth stated that this topic came up because of the event that the Micanopy Community Remembrance Committee would like to hold at our old jail. Bishop Stokes thinks that you all are thinking this will become a tourist attraction and it will not. Mayor Aufmuth is a history buff and seeing a part of history is more satisfying than a marker outside of the fence.

Bishop Stokes' offered to have the committee go in and clean up the jail at no expense to the town. They would clean the outside of the jail; not the inside.

Their ceremony would be a handful of dirt and not a core sample. Bishop Stokes would like to come to the next meeting with his committee to discuss their desire to have a ceremony at the old jail in January 2022.

Motion made and seconded (Mance/Blakely) to proceed with estimates on the refurbishing of the old jail, not the metal works just the concrete works by a professional; passed 5-0

Mayor Aufmuth directed Administrator Owen to obtain estimates on refurbishing the concrete of the old jail.

b. Resolution Number 2021-09, Authorizing the Town to Participate in the Florida Municipal Investment Trust

Minutes:

Mayor Aufmuth read Resolution 2021-09 on short title. Motion made and seconded (Roberts/Mance) to approve Resolution 2021-09 as submitted; passed 5-0

c. Arbor Day Proclamation

Minutes:

Mayor Aufmuth completed this during the Tree Committee report.

12. Town Commissioner Reports

a. Commissioner (Seat 2) Tim Parker

Minutes:

It was a good discussion today regarding the old jail. He thinks that its important to preserve our monuments to preserve our history whether it is good, bad, or indifferent.

He is thankful to the Town Administrator for the grants we've received and the ability to look forward to improving the Town's infrastructure.

Covid 19 seems to be getting better. He thanked everyone for being here.

b. Commissioner (Seat 3) Ginny Mance

Minutes:

She wanted to share with her report this evening the points that were made at the Alachua County board meeting. The County Commissioners do realize that our Town's residents were not listened to properly and they were examining their process. If the code is wrong then change it. They see the difference between professionals vs residents. The regulations are that they can only listen to professionals. DRC regulates themselves; the county does not regulate them. The applicant found a loop hole in the zoning and the county has a Moratorium to change this for the future limiting buildings to 3000 square feet. Mayor Aufmuth thanked Commissioner Mance for diligence and your representation for the town. Commissioner Mance thanked Mayor Aufmuth for twenty years of service and thank you for all the meetings, patience, and organization of the meetings. It has been a pleasure working with you.

c. Commissioner (Seat 4) Troy Blakely

Minutes:

Thanked Bud and DeDe DesForges for all they do as our most loyal diligent volunteers.

d. Commissioner (Seat 5) Mike Roberts

Minutes:

Inquired about our holiday meal next month. Patty Polk responded that we will send an invitation to everyone through an application called Perfect Potluck and we will hire DeDe DesForges to bake some ham and turkey for us.

inquired about the estimates for our roof repair at the Micanopy Native American Heritage Preserve (MNAHP). Patty Polk responded that we are waiting for our third estimate and they will be presented at our next meeting.

Stacy Hall will start the survey on our property at the ball park.

13. Mayor (Seat 1) Joe Aufmuth Report

Minutes:

Stated that it is 21 years but who's counting. Laughter all around. It is a pleasure to serve and he thanks everyone for their confidence and volunteerism. Thank you very much.

We were donated a nice lithograph by a former commissioner, Remzey Samarri . He has been very active with framing the lithograph and working on a Proclamation with the Governors office and hopefully we will be presented with a proclamation to celebrate December 14th as Micanopy days for our 200th anniversary. Hopefully this will be presented at our next meeting.

14. Adjourn

Minutes:

Meeting Adjourned 9:36 p.m.

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.