



Regular City Commission Meeting Minutes
September 9, 2024 at 6:00 PM

Mayor Gib Coerper
Vice Mayor Edward Potts
Commissioner Shirley Green Brown
Commissioner Dayna Miller
Commissioner Jennifer Ringersen

City Manager Mike DaRoza
City Attorney Marian Rush

Meeting Location: James A. Lewis City Commission Chambers
15100 NW 142 Terrace
Alachua, FL 32615

CITIZENS PRESENT: Jim Curington, Jackie Johnson, Mike Gamble, Tanya Floyd,
Karyn O'Quinn, Dietra H. Sherman, Michele Lee.

STAFF ATTENDING: Diane Amendola, Robert Bonetti, Kyler Burk, Michael Carrillo,
Heather Carter, Lisa Freeman, Corey King, Tara Malone, Damon Messina, Jesse
Sandusky, Donna Smith, Rodolfo Valladares, LeAnne Williams, Tyler Williams, Cap
Wilson, Kathy Winburn, David Wisener

City Commission Meeting

Notice given pursuant to Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes. In order to appeal any decision made at this meeting, you will need a verbatim record of the proceedings. It will be your responsibility to ensure such a record is made.

CALL TO ORDER

Led by Mayor Gib Coerper.

INVOCATION

Led by Pastor Josh Moon, River of Life Church.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

Led by Mayor Coerper, with Commissioner Shirley Green Brown absent.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Vice Mayor Edward Potts moved to approve the agenda; seconded by Commissioner Jennifer Ringersen.

Mayor Coerper opened the floor for comments.

There were no comments.

Passed by unanimous consent.

APPROVE READING OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS BY TITLE ONLY

Commissioner Dayna Miller moved to approve the reading of proposed ordinances and resolutions by title only; seconded by Commissioner Ringersen.

Passed by unanimous consent.

I. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

A) 2024 CONSTITUTION WEEK PROCLAMATION

Deputy City Clerk LeAnne Williams introduced the proclamation.

Kay Hall, Vice Chair of the Americanism Committee for the Florida State Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, thanked the Commission and received the proclamation.

Mayor Coerper stated he admired the ladies of the Florida State Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

B) RENEWAL OF THE ONE MILL FOR SCHOOLS

Deputy City Clerk Williams introduced the proclamation.

Jackie Johnson, Director of Communications and Community Initiatives, gave the presentation and introduced the principals: Kelly Armstrong, Santa Fe High School; Mike Gamble, Mebane Middle School; Holly Burton, Alachua Elementary; and Tanya Floyd, W. W. Irby Elementary.

Mayor Coerper asked if the Symphonic Band could come again.

Deputy City Clerk Williams stated they were scheduled for October.

Commissioner Ringersen asked if the eighth graders from Mebane Middle School continue to go to Santa Fe High School to take a foreign language.

Principal Armstrong stated his school was doing an onsite/online program this year, but the school would look to return to an in-person program soon.

Commissioner Shirley Green Brown joined the meeting and welcomed Director Johnson and the principals.

Commissioner Ringersen asked if the flyer could be passed out at O2B Kids.

Director Johnson provided the rules.

II. COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS ON SUBJECTS NOT ON THE AGENDA

(Please Limit to 3 Minutes. Any citizen who is unable to speak at this time will have an opportunity to speak at the end of the meeting)

Mayor Coerper opened the floor for comments.

There were no comments.

III. COMMITTEE REPORTS/COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS/CITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

A) APPOINTMENT TO THE EDUCATION TASK FORCE (ETF)

Deputy City Clerk Williams presented the appointment.

Dietra H. Sherman spoke about her aspirations to be part of this board.

Deputy City Clerk Williams conducted the ballot process and announced the vote, and Dietra H. Sherman received the majority of the votes.

Commissioner Brown moved to appoint Dietra H. Sherman to the Education Task Force, for a three-year term expiring July 24, 2027; seconded by Commissioner Ringersen.

Mayor Coerper opened the floor for comments.

There were no comments.

Passed 5-0 by roll call.

B) APPOINTMENT TO THE PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD (PZB)

City Attorney Marian Rush read Resolution 24-15 by title only.

Deputy City Clerk Williams presented the appointment.

Deputy City Clerk Williams read a letter from Susan Sloan.

Joe Hancock spoke about his aspirations to be part of this board.

Deputy City Clerk Williams conducted the ballot process and announced the vote, and Susan Sloan received the majority of the votes.

Commissioner Brown moved to appoint one member to the Planning & Zoning Board and adopt Resolution 24-15, to be finalized to include the name of the appointed member: Susan Sloan; seconded by Commissioner Ringersen.

Mayor Coerper opened the floor for comments.

There were no comments.

Passed 5-0 by roll call.

IV. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND ORDINANCES

(Presentations, other than the applicant, please limit to 3 Minutes)

- A) RESOLUTION 24-12 RELATING TO THE LEVY OF GENERAL PURPOSE
AD VALOREM TAXES FOR THE 2024 TAX YEAR; AND, RESOLUTION 24-
13 RELATING TO ITS BUDGET FOR THE 2024-2025 FISCAL YEAR
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
QUALITY OF LIFE
COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT
STRENGTHEN COMMUNITY SERVICE
FUNDING SOURCE - GENERAL FUND
FUNDING SOURCE - INTERNAL SERVICES FUND
FUNDING SOURCE - ELECTRIC FUND
FUNDING SOURCE - WATER FUND
FUNDING SOURCE - COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT TRUST FUND
FUNDING SOURCE - MOSQUITO FUND
FUNDING SOURCE - WASTE WATER FUND
FUNDING SOURCE - OTHER
FUNDING SOURCE - GRANTS**

Finance & Administrative Services Director Robert Bonetti introduced the item and provided the staff report.

City Manager Mike DaRoza commended Finance & Administrative Services Director Bonetti and his staff Tyler Williams, Katelynn Bayles, Heather Carter and Regina Reed for their hard work on making sure the budget document met the standards that were required by all accounting auditing procedures, while also meeting the vision of the City Commission. He also thanked all City staff. He noted three priorities within the budget:

1. Infrastructure growth, diversity, and sustainability
2. Public Safety
3. Recreation and Culture Department Enhancement

Mayor Coerper called to order the Public Hearing on the City of Alachua Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Final Millage and Final Budget.

City Attorney Rush provided an overview of the Truth-in-Millage Legislation (TRIM).

City Manager DaRoza explained the General City Final and Rolled Back Millage Rates.

Finance & Administrative Services Director Bonetti presented an overview of the final budget and adjustments for Fiscal Year 2024-2025.

Mayor Coerper opened the floor for comments.

Jim Curington stated he wasn't sure he understood the difference between mills, dollars and housing appraisals, but every tax makes it difficult for average citizens.

City Attorney Rush read Resolution 24-12 by title only.

City Manager DaRoza announced that the City of Alachua Commission had determined that a tentative millage rate of 5.9500 mills was necessary to fund the tentative general City budget. He said the tentative millage rate represents an increase of 7.95% from the rolled-back rate of 5.5119 mills.

Mayor Coerper asked the commissioners for questions or comments.

There were no comments.

Commissioner Ringersen moved to adopt Resolution 24-12; seconded by Commissioner Miller.

Mayor Coerper opened the floor for comments.

There were no comments.

Passed 5-0 on roll call vote.

City Manager DaRoza offered to meet with Mr. Curington to discuss his concerns.

City Attorney Rush read Resolution 24-13 by title only.

Mayor Coerper asked the commissioners for questions or comments.

There were no questions or comments.

Vice Mayor Potts moved to adopt Resolution 24-13; seconded by Commissioner Ringersen.

Mayor Coerper opened the floor for comments.

There were no comments.

Passed 5-0 on roll call vote.

Mayor Coerper called for adjournment of the public hearing.

Commissioner Miller moved to adjourn the public hearing; seconded by Commissioner Ringersen.

Passed 5-0 on roll call vote.

- B) ORDINANCE 24-13, FIRST READING: AMENDING THE CITY'S BUSINESS INCENTIVE PROGRAM IN ORDINANCE 20-01 BY ADDING AN INCUBATOR/ACCELERATOR ENTRANT LEASE SUBSIDY AND ADJUSTING THE DURATION OF THE INCUBATOR/ACCELERATOR GRADUATE LEASE SUBSIDY (LEGISLATIVE)**
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
FUNDING SOURCE - GENERAL FUND
STRENGTHEN COMMUNITY SERVICE
COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT
QUALITY OF LIFE

City Attorney Rush read Ordinance 24-13 by title only.

Economic Development Manager David Wisener introduced the item and provided the staff report.

Commissioner Miller asked for clarification regarding the timing of businesses entering and leaving certain aspects of the Business Incentives Program.

Economic Development Manager Wisener provided the information.

City Manager DaRoza provided additional information.

Commissioner Miller moved to approve Ordinance 24-13 on the first reading and schedule a second reading for September 23, 2024; seconded by Commissioner Ringersen.

Mayor Coerper opened the floor for comments.

There were no comments.

Passed 5-0 by roll call.

V. AGENDA ITEMS

A) RESOLUTION 24-14 TK STORMWATER BASIN MAINTENANCE ASSESSMENT ANNUAL RATE RESOLUTION

City Attorney Rush read Resolution 24-14 by title only.

Finance and Administrative Services Director Bonetti introduced the item and provided the staff report.

Mayor Coerper asked the commissioners for questions or comments.

There were no questions or comments.

Vice Mayor Potts moved to adopt Resolution 24-14; seconded by Commissioner Brown.

Mayor Coerper opened the floor for comments.

There were no comments.

Passed 5-0 by roll call.

B) CITY MANAGER ANNUAL PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

Human Resources Director Tara Malone introduced the item and made recommendations.

Mayor Coerper asked the commissioners for questions or comments.

There were no questions or comments.

Commissioner Ringersen moved to approve the City Manager's Annual Performance Evaluation; seconded by Vice Mayor Potts.

Mayor Coerper opened the floor for comments.

Mr. Curington stated he knew how difficult it was to evaluate one's own performance, and it was a reflection of those supervisors under him. He stated an 8.2 rating was a good rating, leaving room for improvement, and he was pleased with Mr. DaRoza's performance as City Manager.

Passed 5-0 by roll call.

VI. COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS ON SUBJECTS NOT ON THE AGENDA

(Please Limit to 3 Minutes. Any citizen who did not speak during the Citizen Comments period at the beginning of the meeting may do so at this time.)

Mayor Coerper opened the floor for comments.

There were no comments.

VII. COMMENTS FROM CITY MANAGER AND CITY ATTORNEY

City Manager DaRoza thanked:

- Mr. Curington for the comments
- Pastor Moon for the invocation
- City Staff for the tentative budget

He congratulated:

- Education Task Force Member Dietra H. Sherman
- Planning and Zoning Board Member Susan Sloan

He stated he attended the groundbreaking at NW 86 Dr. for the expansion of infrastructure.

VIII. COMMISSION COMMENTS/DISCUSSION

Commissioner Miller announced the Senior Showcase on Tuesday, October 15, 2024, at 10:00 a.m., at Legacy Park. She congratulated Project Manager Linnelle Stewart, who had obtained her Master's degree in Business with a specialty in Project Management.

Commissioner Brown thanked Pastor Moon for the invocation. She stated she attended:

- The Senior Resources Advisory Board meeting

- The groundbreaking for NW 86 Dr.
- The Troop 88 ribbon-cutting for the new Boy Scout hut

She congratulated:

- Education Task Force Member Dietra H. Sherman
- Planning and Zoning Board Member Susan Sloan

Commissioner Ringersen stated there was a new reading program at Alachua Learning Academy. She thanked Chief of Police Jesse Sandusky for keeping Alachua safe.

Vice Mayor Potts stated he attended:

- Alachua Chamber Luncheon
- University of Florida Eye Opener Breakfast

He congratulated Mayor Coerper on the construction and completion of the Troop 88 Scout Hut project. He stated it was Mayor Coerper who pushed this project forward, through the pandemic, and would not let it die, and the hut looks wonderful.

Mayor Coerper stated it took six years to get the scout hut completed. He stated it took time and money from many people, and the Lions Club was a great supporter of the project. He asked people to come to the Senior Showcase on Tuesday, October 15, 2024, at 10:00 a.m., at Legacy Park.

City Manager DaRoza announced a Music and Art Program (MAP) Open House for youth on September 14, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. at Legacy Park.

ADJOURN

Commissioner Ringersen moved to adjourn; seconded by Commissioner Potts.

Passed by unanimous consent.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

- A) JULY 22, 2024, CITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
- B) AUGUST 12, 2024, BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT MEETING MINUTES
- C) AUGUST 12, 2024, BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES
- D) AUGUST 12, 2024, CITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

E) AUGUST 26, 2024, BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES

F) AUGUST 26, 2024, CITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

G) TRAINING MOU W/ALACHUA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

ATTEST:

**CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF
ALACHUA, FLORIDA:**



Mike DaRoza, City Manager/Clerk



Gib Coerper, Mayor