



Regular City Commission Meeting Minutes
March 10, 2025 at 6:00 PM

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

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: Brenda Phillips, Connie Meyer, Tom Hubbard, Elliott Welker,
Ben Boukari, Rudy Rothseiden.

STAFF ATTENDING: Diane Amendola, Robert Bonetti, Kyler Burk, Michael Carrillo,
Carson Crockett, Lisa Freeman, Damon Messina, Tony Love, Charles Nahrwold, Jesse
Sandusky, Donna Smith, Rodolfo Valladares, LeAnne Williams, Tyler Williams, Cap
Wilson, 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 James Bramblet, Calvary Baptist.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

Led by Mayor Coerper.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Shirley Green Brown requested the Consent Agenda Item be moved to Item E.

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

Mayor Coerper opened the floor for comments.

Tamara Robbins thanked Commissioner Brown for moving the item.

Passed by unanimous consent.

APPROVE READING OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS BY TITLE ONLY

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

Passed by unanimous consent.

I. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

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.

Brian Crawford of Concept Companies gave an update on Momentum Labs.

III. COMMITTEE REPORTS/COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS/CITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

A) APPOINTMENT TO THE SENIOR RESOURCES ADVISORY BOARD (SRAB)

Deputy City Clerk LeAnne Williams presented the appointment.

Deputy City Clerk Williams conducted the ballot process and announced the vote, with Asia Eichmiller receiving a majority of the votes.

Mayor Coerper asked the commissioners for questions or comments.

There were no questions or comments.

Commissioner Brown moved to appoint Asia Eichmiller to the Senior Resources

Advisory Board; 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)

V. AGENDA ITEMS

- A) FACILITY USE AND TRAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF ALACHUA POLICE DEPARTMENT AND SANTA FE COLLEGE INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC SAFETY**

Chief of Police Jesse Sandusky introduced the item and made recommendations.

Thomas Ackerman provided additional information.

Mayor Coerper asked the commissioners for questions or comments.

Mayor Coerper spoke highly of the program at Santa Fe College.

Vice Mayor Potts moved to authorize the Mayor and City Manager's signature by entering into an agreement between the City of Alachua Police Department and Santa Fe College Institute of Public Safety for facility use and training; seconded by Commissioner Williams.

Mayor Coerper opened the floor for comments.

Ms. Robbins asked about Flock Street Cameras and spoke against it.

Passed 5-0 by roll call.

- B) RESOLUTION 25-04: URGING THE FLORIDA STATE LEGISLATURE TO ENACT LEGISLATION TO PROVIDE A PUBLIC RECORDS EXEMPTION FOR MUNICIPAL CLERKS AND EMPLOYEES WHO PERFORM MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS WORK OR HAVE ANY PART IN CODE ENFORCEMENT FUNCTIONS OF A CITY.**

City Attorney Marian Rush read Resolution 25-04 by title only.

Deputy City Clerk Williams introduced the item and made recommendations.

Mayor Coerper asked the commissioners for questions or comments.

Commissioner Ringersen moved to adopt Resolution 25-04; seconded by Commissioner Brown.

Mayor Coerper opened the floor for comments.

Ms. Robbins asked for specifics on whom this legislation was intended to affect.

Deputy City Clerk Williams provided the information.

Passed 5-0 by roll call.

- C) RESOLUTION 25-05: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF ALACHUA, FLORIDA, OPPOSING SENATE BILL 1416 PREEMPTING MUNICIPAL ELECTION DATES; REPEALING ALL RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

City Attorney Rush read Resolution 25-05 by title only.

Deputy City Clerk LeAnne Williams introduced the item and made recommendations.

Mayor Coerper asked the commissioners for questions or comments.

Mayor Coerper stated the State continually attempts to take control from cities and give it to the State through legislation like this.

Commissioner Ringersen moved to adopt Resolution 25-05; seconded by Commissioner Williams.

Mayor Coerper opened the floor for comments.

Ms. Robbins stated she would like to see the City move the date of the runoff elections so that there would be more time between elections.

Rudy Rothseiden stated he would like to see the election date coincide with the General Election.

Passed 5-0 by roll call.

- D) SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN GOVINDA CAROL, SIX OTHER PLAINTIFFS, AND THE CITY OF ALACHUA, IN CASE NO.: 2022-CA-3623, IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA (REFERRED TO BELOW AS THE "CASE")

City Attorney Rush introduced the item and provided the staff report.

Mayor Coerper asked the commissioners for questions or comments.

There were no questions or comments.

Commissioner Ringersen moved for the City Commission of the City of Alachua to approve the attached Settlement Agreement and authorize the Mayor, Clerk, and City Attorney to sign it; seconded by Vice Mayor Potts.

Mayor Coerper opened the floor for comments.

Mr. Rothseiden asked if this meant tiny homes were not permitted and the City Code would remain unchanged.

City Attorney Rush affirmed this understanding.

Passed 5-0 by roll call.

**E) RFQ 2025-01 HATHCOCK COMMUNITY AND HISTORICAL CENTER
DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION SERVICES**

Purchasing Specialist Donna Smith introduced the item and made recommendations.

Mayor Coerper asked the commissioners for questions or comments.

Commissioner Brown asked when the qualifying packets were received.

Purchasing Specialist Smith stated on February 4, 2025, at 3:00 p.m.

Commissioner Brown asked where each firm was located.

Purchasing Specialist Smith provided the information.

Commissioner Brown asked who was on the selection committee and how those on the committee were selected.

Purchasing Specialist Smith provided a detailed explanation of the process.

Commissioner Brown stated she couldn't read the signatures and requested that, in the future, the selection committee print their names as well as sign-in.

Purchasing Specialist Smith stated the members of the selections committee were Rodolfo Valladares, David Wisener, and Damon Messina.

Commissioner Williams moved to accept the ranking as presented by the Selection Committee, authorize and direct staff to enter into negotiations with Monarch Design Group for the Hathcock Community and Historical Center Design and Construction Services, and upon agreed negotiations, authorize the City Manager to enter into a professional services contract with Monarch Design

Group; seconded by Commissioner Ringersen.

Mayor Coerper opened the floor for comments.

Ms. Robbins thanked Commissioner Brown for moving this item to the agenda. She stated since the signatures weren't clear, the names of the selection committee should be placed in the record. She recommended the Commission look into Wild Spaces Public Places for a matching grant. She asked if the neighboring property had been purchased. She asked if the historic building would be preserved. She asked for the cost of the project.

City Manager Mike DaRoza and Assistant City Manager Rodolfo Valladares provided additional information.

Commissioner Ringersen asked where Monarch Design was located.

Assistant City Manager Valladares provided the information.

Mr. Rothseiden spoke highly of Monarch Design.

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.

Mr. Rothseiden asked if the City had received resumes from qualified planners. He asked how the remaining planner was handling the workload. He stated two of the city planners who had left contacted him and told him they felt pressured to do things they didn't feel comfortable doing. He requested the Commission pursue the facts of what happened and not let it go.

Bryan Buscher stated he requested an inventory report, which was to be provided to the Commission at the February 24, 2025, meeting. He stated he had difficulty getting the report.

Ms. Robbins thanked Vice Mayor Potts and Commissioner Brown for remaining steadfast in trying to discover what happened to the Planning Department. She requested the Commission pursue this action. She asked about live-streaming City Commission meetings.

Ben Boukari stated that the Cleather H. Hathcock Senior Community Center facility, a double-wide trailer, was given to the City from the County and that too much money had already been spent on it. He spoke of how the City had been investigated for other

issues, and nothing came of it.

VII. COMMENTS FROM CITY MANAGER AND CITY ATTORNEY

City Attorney Rush stated David Theriaque thanked the Commission for passing Item D.

City Manager DaRoza stated he attended the Alachua Chamber of Commerce Luncheon, where the City received a \$15,000 donation, which would be mainly used for scholarships to sports programs at Legacy Park. He congratulated Ms. Eichmiller.

VIII. COMMISSION COMMENTS/DISCUSSION

Commissioner Rignersen stated she attended:

1. training with the Florida League of Cities
2. the Basketball Banquet for 14 and under
3. Stick a Fork in Cancer at Mia Apá Restaurant

She congratulated Chief of Police Sandusky on the partnership with Santa Fe College.

She announced the Great American Cleanup would be May 5, 2025, at 7:00 a.m.

Commissioner Brown thanked:

1. the citizens who spoke
2. Pastor Bramblet for the invocation

She stated she attended:

1. Stick a Fork in Cancer at Mi Apá
2. Florida Black Caucus
3. Special Olympics

Vice Mayor Potts thanked the citizens who spoke. He stated he attended:

1. Alachua Chamber of Commerce Luncheon
2. Stick a Fork in Cancer at Mi Apá
3. Builders Association Luncheon
4. Ralph Cellon's funeral
5. Boilermaker Ball in Indianapolis, IN

Mayor Coerper thanked the citizens who spoke. He stated he attended:

1. the Basketball Banquet for 14 and under
2. Ralph Cellon's funeral
3. Alachua Learning Academy as a volunteer

ADJOURN

Commissioner Rignersen moved to adjourn; seconded by Vice Mayor Potts.

Passed by unanimous consent.

CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda items represent routine City operations and business. These items are approved

at the beginning of the Regular City Commission meeting upon approval of the meeting agenda.

ATTEST:

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



Mike DaRoza, City Manager/Clerk


Gib Coerper, Mayor