



City of
ALACHUA

THE GOOD LIFE COMMUNITY

**Regular City Commission Meeting
Minutes
September 25, 2023**

Mayor Gib Coerper

Vice Mayor Dayna Miller

Commissioner Jennifer Blalock

Commissioner Shirley Green Brown

Commissioner Edward Polts

City Manager Mike DaRoza

City Attorney Marian Rush

The City Commission will conduct a
Regular City Commission Meeting
At 6:00 PM
to address the item(s) below.

Meeting Date: September 25, 2023

Meeting Location: James A Lewis Commission Chambers

Citizens Present: Daniel Pingree, Dennis Faust, Barry Brown, Jolene Brown, Blake Bresks, Susan Vickory, Nate Ford, Yvonne Keraval. Staff Present: Diane Amendola, Robert Bonetti, Heather Carter, Lisa Freeman, Al Jones, Tara Malone, 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 Daniel Pingree, Alachua Church of Christ.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

Led by Mayor Coerper.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Edward Potts moved to approve the agenda; seconded by Commissioner Jennifer Blalock.

Mayor Coerper opened the floor for comments.

There were no comments.

APPROVE READING OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS BY TITLE ONLY

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

Passed by unanimous consent.

I. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

A. Santa Fe High School Student Performing Arts Appreciation

Deputy City Clerk LeAnne Williams introduced the presentation.

Mayor Coerper and Mr. Jacob Massena presented the students with certificates.

II. COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS ON SUBJECTS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Mayor Coerper opened the floor for comments.

Yvonne Keraval expressed concerns about adding fluoride to the City water supply.

Mitch Glaeser congratulated Commissioner Shirley Green Brown for serving five years with her husband, Rev. John Brown, at St. Paul AME. He announced San Felasco Tech City is home to 58 companies. He expressed excitement about the positive press that the City of Alachua and Tech City businesses had received. He noted coverage in the Alachua County Today, Alachua Chronical, Main Street Daily News and most recently The Gainesville Sun. He reported the Alachua Chamber of Commerce annual gala key note speaker would be Comedian David Williams and would be held at Legacy Park on January 24, 2024.

(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

III. COMMITTEE REPORTS/COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS/CITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Youth Advisory Council (YAC) Appointments

Deputy City Clerk Williams presented the appointment.

Jolene Brown spoke about her aspirations to be part of this board.

Robert Hu spoke about his aspirations to be part of this board.

Selina Liu spoke about her aspirations to be part of this board.

Deputy City Clerk Williams conducted the ballot process, announced the vote, and made recommendations.

Vice Mayor Miller Moved to appoint Robert Hu and Selina Liu to the Youth Advisory Council with term commencing September 4, 2023 and expiring September 4, 2025; seconded by Commissioner Blalock.

Passed by unanimous consent.

IV. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND ORDINANCES

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

- A. Resolution 23-21 Relating to the Levy of General City Purpose Ad Valorem Taxes for the 2023 Tax Year; Resolution 23-22 Relating to the City's Budget for the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year; and Resolution 23-23 Relating to the 2024-2028 Capital Improvement Program

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

Mayor Coerper called to order the Final Public Hearing on the City of Alachua Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Final Millage and Final Budget.

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

City Manager Mike 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 2023-2024.

Mayor Coerper opened the floor for comments.

Dennis Faust expressed frustration about property tax increases.

Jason Moore expressed concerns on the tax increase and requested an itemized breakdown on where the taxes were going.

Mayor Coerper asked Finance & Administrative Services Director Bonetti what local agencies levied taxes.

Finance and Administrative Services Director Bonetti stated general taxes for Alachua County, Suwannee River Water Management District, Alachua County Library District, and Alachua County School Board District were taxing agencies.

City Attorney Rush stated the budget breakdown would be available online and would be itemized.

City Attorney Rush read Resolution 23-21 by title only.

City Manager DaRoza announced the City of Alachua Commission had determined that a proposed millage rate of 5.9500 mills was necessary to fund the final general budget for the City. He said the proposed final millage rate represents an increase of 19.24% from the rolled-back rate of 4.9899 mills.

Mayor Coerper asked the commissioners for questions or comments.

There were no questions or comments.

Commissioner Brown moved to adopt Resolution 23-21; seconded by Commissioner Potts.

Mayor Coerper opened the floor for comments.

There were no comments.

Passed 5-0 on roll call vote.

City Attorney Rush read Resolution 23-22 by title only.

Mayor Coerper asked the commissioners for questions or comments.

There were no questions or comments.

Vice Mayor Miller moved to adopt Resolution 23-22; seconded by Commissioner Blalock.

Mayor Coerper opened the floor for comments.

There were no comments.

Passed 5-0 on roll call vote.

City Attorney Rush read Resolution 23-23 by title only.

Mayor Coerper asked the commissioners for questions or comments.

There were no questions or comments.

Commissioner Blalock moved to adopt Resolution 23-23; seconded by Commissioner Potts.

Mayor Coerper opened the floor for comments.

There were no comments.

Passed 5-0 on roll call vote.

V. AGENDA ITEMS

A. FY 2024 Compensation Plan

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

Mayor Coerper asked the commissioners for questions or comments.

Vice Mayor Miller asked where she could locate the strike through attachment.

Human Resources Director Malone provided her copy for review.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Proposed FY-2024 Compensation Plan; seconded by Commissioner Blalock.

Mayor Coerper opened the floor for comments.

There were no comments.

Passed 5-0 by roll call.

B. Ratification of First Amendment to 22/23 APD Collective Bargaining Agreement

Compliance and Risk Management Director Cap Wilson introduced the item and made recommendations.

Commissioner Potts moved to ratify the First Amendment to the FY 2022/2023 – FY 2024/2024 City of Alachua Police Department-FOP Collective Bargaining Agreement, Previously ratified by the APD Collective Bargaining Unit to Authorize and Direct Execution of three Copies by the Mayor; seconded by Vice Mayor Miller.

Mayor Coerper opened the floor for comments.

There were no comments.

Passed 5-0 by roll call.

C. City Strategic Plan - FY 2024

Economic Development Manager David Wisener introduced the item and made recommendations.

Commissioner Blalock moved to adopt the City Strategic Plan FY-2024; seconded by Commissioner Brown.

Mayor Coerper opened the floor for comments.

There were no comments.

Passed 5-0 by roll call.

VI. COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS ON SUBJECTS NOT ON THE AGENDA

There were no comments.

(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.)

VII. COMMENTS FROM CITY MANAGER AND CITY ATTORNEY

City Manager DaRoza thanked the Santa Fe High School symphonic ensemble for the performance. He thanked Finance and Administrative Services Director Bonetti and his staff for preparing the budget. He congratulated the new Youth Advisory Council members on their appointment. He announced former Public Services Director Rodolfo Valladares was named the new Assistant City Manager.

City Attorney Rush congratulated Mr. Valladares on being named Assistant City Manager. She stated she enjoyed the Santa Fe High School symphonic ensemble.

VIII. COMMISSION COMMENTS/DISCUSSION

Commissioner Potts congratulated Mr. Valladares on his new position as Assistant City Manager. He attended the Alachua Chamber Luncheon, UF Lastinger Center for Learning New Worlds Reading open house at Alachua Elementary and the UF Eye Opener Breakfast. He announced the Alzheimer's walk would be October 21, 2023 at Trinity United Methodist Church, and Octoberfest would be held at the Audi car dealership in Gainesville on the same day from 11:00am- 4:00 pm.

Commissioner Brown thanked Minister Pingree for his prayer, the Santa Fe Band for their performance and the citizens who spoke and expressed their concerns. She congratulated Mr. Valladares on his new position. She attended the Alachua Chamber Meeting, UF Lastinger Center for Learning New Worlds Reading open house at Alachua Elementary and the Relay for Life kick off meeting.

Commissioner Blalock stated it was a fantastic decision to make Mr. Valladares the Assistant City Manager. She met with City of Newberry's Mayor Jordan Marlow on the Opioid Task Force on finalizing where funds would be utilized.

Vice Mayor Miller congratulated Mr. Valladares and thanked the Youth Advisory Council applicants. She thanked all the City Staff for their dedication and hard work. She stated she appreciated the citizens comments.

Mayor Coerper stated the UF New worlds reading program was an asset to Alachua Elementary and the community. He attended the Dance Alive event at Legacy Park Multipurpose Center. He congratulated Mr. Valladares on his new position.

ADJOURN

Commissioner Potts moved to adjourn; seconded by Commissioner Blalock.

Passed by unanimous consent.

Mayor Coerper adjourned the meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

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- A. RFB 2023-05 Mowing & Landscaping Services for Legacy Park (Phases I and II) Award

- B. Mutual Aid Agreement for Operational Assistance Between the City of Gainesville Police Department and the City of Alachua Police Department
- C. August 28, 2023, City Commission Meeting Minutes
- D. RFB 2023-04 Mowing & Landscaping Services for Designated Downtown City Properties and Martin Luther King Blvd (US 441) Medians

ATTEST:

CITY COMMISSION OF THE
CITY OF ALACHUA, FLORIDA



Mike DaRoza, City Manager/Clerk



Gib Coerper, Mayor