



**Regular City Commission Meeting
Minutes
August 14, 2023**

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

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: August 14, 2023

Meeting Location: James A Lewis Commission Chambers

CITIZENS PRESENT: Lauri Frienson, Jim Currington, Sanja Ward, Teryann Peters, Linda Stroud, Delia White, John Brown, Wanda J. Burnette-Walker, Evelyn Kock, Robbin Abbott, Linda Massee, Mary Sanzo.
STAFF PRESENT: Diane Amendola, Robert Bonetti, Brenda Dean, Carson Crockett, Tara Malone, Jesse Sandusky, Rodolfo Valladares, 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 Reverend John Brown, St. Paul AME Church.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

Led by Mayor Coerper.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Vice Mayor Dayna Miller moved to approve the agenda; seconded by Commissioner Jennifer Blalock.

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 Edward Potts moved to approve the reading of proposed ordinances and resolutions by title only; seconded by Commissioner Blalock.

Passed by unanimous consent.

I. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

There were no special presentations.

II. COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS ON SUBJECTS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Mitch Glaeser with San Felasco Tech City announced Vobile Group limited would be the next business to occupy space in SFTC. He introduced Director of Special Projects for Vobile, Britt Woodall.

Vobile Director Woodall stated he was present on behalf of Vobile CEO Yangbin Wang and was excited to bring the business to Alachua.

Adam Boukari expressed his excitement with new companies coming into the City of Alachua. He expressed the importance of economic development in the City as it would provide opportunities for families to acquire jobs and careers within the City.

(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

IV. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND ORDINANCES

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

A. Ordinance 23-05, First Reading; Amending Code Section 38 - Utility Rates Water & Wastewater

City Attorney Marian Rush read Ordinance 23-05 by title only.

Public Services Director Rodolfo Valladares introduced the item and made the presentation.

Mayor Coerper asked the commissioners for questions or comments.

Mayor Coerper thanked Public Services staff for their solution-minded thinking and delivering reliable services to the citizens of Alachua.

Vice Mayor Miller thanked Public Services Director Valladares for his informative and detailed presentation. She thanked Public Services staff for all their hard work and dedication to the City of Alachua.

Commissioner Blalock stated she agreed with her fellow commissioners and appreciated the City staff professionalism.

Commissioner Blalock moved to approve Ordinance 23-05 on first reading and schedule second and final reading for August 28, 2023; seconded by Commissioner Edward Potts.

Mayor Coerper opened the floor for comments.

Sonya Ward expressed concerns with inflation and asked if fees would be directed to just the water and utility funds.

Public Services Director Valladares explained the fees for water would be directed to the Water Department and waste water fees would go to Waste Water. He also explained the City did not utilize utility accounts which crossed funds.

Linda Stroud inquired whether the City tests for PFAS chemicals.

Public Services Director Valladares stated the City does test for the chemicals and was working with the EPA and the new guidelines.

Passed 5-0 roll call.

V. AGENDA ITEMS

- A. RFB 2023-01 CDBG Neighborhood Revitalization - Alachua Hills Subdivision Paving and Repaving Project Award

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

Commissioner Blalock moved to Accept the bid from Watson Construction, LLC of RFB 2023-01 and Authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Watson Construction Company, LLC and to issue a Purchase Order in the amount not to exceed \$865,562.00; seconded by Commissioner Edward Potts.

Mayor Coerper opened the floor for comments.

There were no comments.

Passed 5-0 by roll call.

- B. Renewal of Commercial and Group Health Insurance Packages

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

recommendations.

Commissioner Potts moved to renew the City Commercial insurance package with Florida Municipal Insurance Trust (FMIT) at the base premium up to \$706,014 the FMIT Group Health Insurance plan at the base premium of \$1,484,709; the Dental, Vision, Life and Employee Assistance Program group plans at a combined base premium of \$60,548; the storage tank liability, law enforcement death and disability policies (now including "at work" coverage for all City employees at a maximum base premium of \$4,000), and direct the City Manager to sign appropriate contract documents; seconded by Commissioner Shirley Green Brown.

Mayor Coerper opened the floor for comments.

Christopher Mallinson thanked Mr. Wilson for working hard to get the insurance costs down.

Passed 5-0 by roll call.

VI. COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS ON SUBJECTS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Delia White expressed concerns about the speed of semi trucks down CR 235A. She stated she reached out to the trucking companies and Alachua Police Department.

John Brown stated he was pleased there would be new projects in Alachua Hills. He would like to see information of the upcoming changes to utility rates better distributed throughout the community.

(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 Mike DaRoza thanked Reverend Brown for his prayer and the citizens for coming and speaking. He congratulated SFTC and welcomed Vobile. He stated within 47 months SFTC brought in approximately 60 companies to the City of Alachua. He attended the Chamber Luncheon and the Florida League of Cities Annual Conference. He announced the City of Alachua's Youth Advisory Council Won the Florida League of Cities Community Service award contest for a third time in 4 years. He shared his condolences regarding the passing of former City of Alachua employee Harry Dillard and CATF board member Ruth Elaine Green.

VIII. COMMISSION COMMENTS/DISCUSSION

Commissioner Potts attended the Florida League of Cities Annual Conference, the Alachua Chamber Luncheon, and the North Florida Regional Planning Council meeting. He announced August 24, 2023 the Ronald McDonald House would hold it's new facility opening.

Commissioner Brown thanked Rev. Brown for his inspirational prayer. She attended the Back to School Backpack event at Hal Brady Recreation Complex and the Florida League of Cities Annual Conference. She extended thoughts and prayers to the family of the late Mrs. Green.

Commissioner Blalock reminded citizens to pay attention to the roads as school was back in session. She attended the Just Between Friends Sale which was held at Legacy Park Multipurpose Center and the Florida League of Cities Annual Conference.

Vice Mayor Miller asked for citizens to keep the families of Maui, Hawaii in their prayers and asked that if citizens were going to make donations they double check to verify where their donations would be going as to not become victims of scammers.

ADJOURN

Commissioner Blalock moved to adjourn; seconded by Vice Mayor Miller.

Passed by unanimous consent.

CONSENT AGENDA

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

- A. June 12, 2023, City Commission Meeting Minutes
- B. June 26, 2023, City Commission Meeting Minutes
- C. July 24, 2023, City Commission Meeting Minutes
- D. July 24, 2023, City Commission Workshop Minutes
- E. Solar Power Purchase Agreement Amendment

ATTEST:

CITY COMMISSION OF THE
CITY OF ALACHUA, FLORIDA



Mike DaRoza, City Manager/Clerk



Gib Coerper, Mayor