



Joint City-County Commission Meeting Minutes May 22, 2023

Mayor Gib Coerper

Vice Mayor Dayna Miller

Commissioner Jennifer Blalock

Commissioner Shirley Green Brown

Commissioner Edward Potts

Chair Anna Prizzia

Vice Chair Mary Alford

Commissioner Ken Cornell

Commissioner Charles Chestnut, IV

Commissioner Marihelen Wheeler

City Manager Mike DaRoza

City Attorney Marian Rush

The City Commission conducted a
Joint City-County Commission Meeting
At 6:00 PM
to address the item(s) below.

Meeting Date: May 22, 2023

Meeting Location: James A Lewis Commission Chambers

CITIZENS PRESENT: Steve Donchey, Gina Peebles, Tim Wright, Paula Suarez, Natalie Watkins, Jay Watkins, Jazzlyn Harrell, Matthew Rooney, Darin Kilfoyl, Carol Buchanan, Kari Cronin, Kimberley Young, Donnie Young, K. Gill, Austin Blazs, Jeff Rouhier, Craig Rouhier. STAFF ATTENDING: Diane Amendola, Robert Bonetti, Adam Hall, Tara Malone, Damon Messina, Jesse Sandusky, Justin Tabor, Rodolfo Valladares, Cap Wilson, David Wisener.

Joint City-County 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 Chair Gib Coerper

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Member Jennifer Blalock moved to approve the agenda as amended; seconded by Vice Chair Dayna Miller.

Chair Coerper opened the floor for comments.

There were no comments.

Passed by unanimous consent.

Member Ken Cornell moved to approve the agenda as amended; seconded by Member Charles Chestnut.

Vice Member Mary Alford opened the floor for comments.

Member Cornell clarified that the meeting did not need to end at a time certain.

City Manager Mike DaRoza confirmed the meeting did not have a time limit.

Passed by unanimous consent.

WELCOME

Led by Vice Chair Alford.

I. AGENDA

A. Interlocal Agreement - Tree Planting Program

Assistant Deputy City Clerk Diane Amendola introduced the presentation.

Program Manager Andy Crissman, Land Conservation Program of Alachua County, provided the presentation.

Chair Coerper thanked the County Commission for the plants and trees that were planted during the Great American Clean Up.

Chair Coerper opened the floor for comments.

Vice Chair Miller stated she was pleased with the partnership.

Chair Anna Prizzia joined the meeting.

B. Infrastructure Surtax

Assistant Deputy City Clerk Amendola introduced the presentation.

Program Manager Crissman, Land Conservation Program of Alachua County, provided the presentation.

Chair Coerper asked if the County bought the rail right-of-away in the community of Santa Fe in order to convert it to trails, as this was a County plan 10 years ago.

Program Manager Crissman had no knowledge of this project.

Chair Prizzia provided information on trails.

Vice Chair Miller asked what would be the motivation for a farmer to sell land rights to the County to ensure the land was used for farming or conservation in perpetuity.

Program Manager Crissman stated it would depend on the landowner.

Chair Prizzia stated this was a way to help farming families, who were having a hard time making ends meet.

The commissioners asked other clarifying questions.

Program Manager Crissman provided the information.

Parks and Open Spaces Director Jason Maurer stated, while this was a great idea, it may need to go to the State.

Chair Prizzia asked the City Commissioners if the City of Alachua had recreation impact fees or any other impact fees.

Mayor Coerper stated the City did not have "impact fees".

Chair Prizzia stated the Parks Master Plan had been a key component for the County to explore impact fees for the parks and open spaces, with the goal in mind that it wasn't just the homeowners who were paying for the increased need for recreation.

The members discussed parks at length.

Alachua County Public Works Director Ramon Gavarrete provided the presentation.

Chair Coerper asked if County Roads 235, 235A, and 241 would be at the top of the list of roads to be considered for replacement.

Chair Prizzia stated the three roads mentioned were on a list to be discussed, but it didn't matter if the roads get repaired because of the weight they must bear daily from semi-tracker-tailor trucks traveling to and from distribution centers. She stated she discussed impact fees with City Manager DaRoza in order to help construct the roads to the standard they would need to withstand the daily weight of truck traffic.

Chair Coerper proposed the property taxes from the homeowners on 235A go to the replacement of the road as a one-time redistribution of funds.

The members discussed roads at length.

C. Fire Station Equipment and Trunk Radio System Update

Assistant Deputy City Clerk Amendola introduced the presentation.

Alachua County Fire Rescue Chief Harold Theus provided the presentation.

Vice Chair Alford asked for clarification regarding the rating.

ACFR Chief Theus provided the information.

Chair Prizzia reminded the Commission that this is a purchase that could be made with the Wild Spaces/Public Places funds.

ACFR Chief Theus stated the price of a quint is around \$1.2 million, with a 24- to 28-month build time. He added staffing would then be needed for the apparatuses.

Member Chestnut thanked the City for its support.

Chief of Staff Gina Peebles provided numbers on funding.

The commissioners asked clarifying questions.

ACFR Chief Theus provided the information.

II. COMMISSION GENERAL AND INFORMAL DISCUSSION

III. CITIZEN COMMENTS

Bruce Boarders thanked the commissioners and stated they were doing a good job. He thanked them for supporting the farmers. He thanked Commissioner Chestnut for being there for him personally.

Dave Lowney stated that over the course of the nine years, he has lived in Meadowglen, he has seen a recurring problem. He explained when something goes wrong on I-75, truck drivers come down CR 236 to get on CR 235A, which takes them through the residential neighborhoods. He asked the commissioners to keep this in mind.

Paula Suarez stated there were dogs in her neighborhood running loose.

Robert Sharpe stated the traffic at SR 235 by Mebane Middle School is traveling by too fast.

Chris Mallinson stated he was pleased with the ideas coming from the meeting. He mentioned gravel from driveways gets into the roads, which makes it difficult for bikes.

James Curington reminded the Commission to make seniors part of the plan, as everything that was discussed was important to seniors.

Richard Bryan mentioned there was a problem with large trucks parking in road right-of-way overnight.

(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.)

IV. ADJOURN

Member Blalock moved to adjourn; seconded by Vice Chair Miller.

Passed by unanimous consent.

City Commission Meeting