



## **Regular City Commission Meeting Minutes January 23, 2017**

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**Mayor Gib Coerper**  
**Vice Mayor Robert Wilford**  
Commissioner Gary Hardacre  
Commissioner Ben Boukari, Jr.  
Commissioner Shirley Green Brown

**City Manager Traci L. Gresham**  
City Attorney Marian Rush

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

**Meeting Date:** January 23, 2017

**Meeting Location:** James A. Lewis Commission Chambers, City Hall

WITH MAYOR GIB COERPER ABSENT and CITIZENS PRESENT: Diana Carlson, Joe Hancock, Dietra Howard, LaDette McClain, Scott Modesitt, Patrick Reynolds, Vida Mae Waters STAFF ATTENDING: Rob Bonetti, Adam Boukari Lisa Baldree, Tara Malone, Diane Morgan, Jesse Sandusky, Chad Scott, Esperanza Smith, Rodolfo Valladares, Melanie Anne Westmoreland, Cap Wilson

### **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 Vice Mayor Robert Wilford.

Vice Mayor Wilford said that Mayor Gib Coerper would be absent. He said Commissioner Shirley Green Brown was expected.

## **INVOCATION**

Led by Vice Mayor Wilford.

## **PLEDGE TO THE FLAG**

Led by Vice Mayor Wilford.

## **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**Commissioner Gary Hardacre moved to approve the agenda; seconded by Commissioner Ben Boukari, Jr.**

Vice Mayor Wilford opened the floor for comments.

There were no comments.

**Passed by unanimous consent with Commissioner Brown being present.**

## **APPROVE READING OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS BY TITLE ONLY**

Vice Mayor Wilford said as there were no ordinances or resolutions on the agenda, there was no need for approval to reading proposed ordinances or resolutions by title only.

City Attorney Marian Rush asked that it be noted for the record that Commissioner Brown was present and on the dais.

## **I. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

### **A. 2017 Election Proclamation**

Assistant City Manager Adam Boukari introduced the item and provided the staff report.

Vice Mayor Wilford read the proclamation calling for the City of Alachua municipal election to fill a three-year term for Seat 3 to be held on Tuesday, April 11, 2017; with the polling places to be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Hal Brady Recreation Complex, the Cleather Hathcock, Sr., Community Center, and the Clubhouse at Turkey Creek.

## **II. COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS ON SUBJECTS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

Administrative Services Manager Tara Malone spoke about the upcoming fundraisers and other information about the City of Alachua Relay for Life team information.

Vice Mayor Wilford asked that Mayor Coerper and his family be remembered in prayer. He said the reason for the Mayor's absence is because of the death of his sister.

**(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. Senior Resources Advisory Board (SRAB) Appointment**

Grants Specialist Diane Morgan introduced the item and provided the staff report.

Vice Mayor Wilford asked the commissioners for questions or comments.

Commissioner Boukari extended his gratitude to those volunteers in the City who contributed their time to the advisory boards and other means of serving in their community.

**Commissioner Boukari moved to appoint Rosie Washington to the Senior Resources Advisory Board for a three (3) year term ending December 31, 2019; seconded by Commissioner Brown.**

Vice Mayor Wilford opened the floor for comments.

There were no comments.

**Passed 4-0 on roll call vote.**

B. Citizen Advisory Task Force (CATF) Appointment

Grants Specialist Morgan introduced the item and provided the staff report.

Vice Mayor Wilford asked the applicant if she would like to address the commissioners.

Applicant LaDtetre' McClain thanked the board for the opportunity to serve.

Vice Mayor Wilford asked the commissioners for questions or comments.

**Commissioner Boukari moved to accept the Citizen Advisor Task Force (CATF) recommendation to appoint LaDtetre' McClain to a term of office beginning May 1, 2016, and ending April 30, 2019.**

Vice Mayor Wilford opened the floor for comments.

There were no comments.

**Passed 5-0 on roll call vote.**

#### **IV. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND ORDINANCES**

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

A. Public Hearing – Small Cities Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2016 Grant Cycle

Grants Specialist Morgan introduced the item and provided the staff report.

Grants Specialist Morgan noted that this item and the next item were part of the same process. She said the next item would not require a second presentation, but it would require a second, separate motion. She said this item also would require two motions.

Grants Specialist Morgan introduced Summit Professional Services' Scott Modesitt provided information on the grant scopes, scoring, and processes.

Vice Mayor Wilford opened the floor for comments.

Pastor Nyron Jenkins said he thought the housing development grant would be more beneficial for the

community at the present time. He said his mother and grandmother were senior citizens who benefited from this program the last time the City received such a grant. He said it was a good program.

LaDtetre' McClain said that most of the citizens she speaks to would like to see a balance between roads and commercial development, and residential improvements and development. She said that roads had received a lot of attention, and she approved of so much of the development the City does, but she would like to see more balance through out the community in the residential development and neighborhood revitalization.

Joe Hancock said that he also thought housing should be considered. He said the County has projects it is planning for roads and parks initiatives that he thought made this a good time for the City to look at housing.

CATF Chair Diana Carlson said that when housing was chosen, the City would not be able to pick houses or neighborhoods that would ultimately benefit. She said that the applications accepted by the City under this program were individually ranked according to specific criteria outlined in the grant, and the funds must be disbursed according to that ranking until they are expended.

Summit Professional Services' agent Scott Modesitt provided more information on the housing program opportunity and the homeowner selection criteria and process. The commissioners also discussed the restrictions placed on the homeowners' rights to sell or devise their property in the event of receiving the award, the time allowed for a homeowner to accept, or to withdraw in the event of receiving an award, and the administrative costs to the City and the homeowners to process the applications.

Dietra Howard said she had spoken to perhaps 25 people of lower income families. She said they told her they understand the process and that every one would not benefit, but the support was for the housing rehabilitation program as well as some resurfacing of strategic roads in their neighborhoods.

Stan Richardson asked for further clarification on the different grant opportunities and award types on the agenda. Summit Professional Services' Modesitt explained that it was the same grant in two different grant cycles. Mr. Richardson said that citizens have been telling him that we would like to see some kind of community or recreational center on the Merrillwood side of town. He said this would serve the interests of the library as he said it is now stressed and overburdened with the number of youth it is serving.

Commissioner Boukari asked to be excused from the meeting immediately due to a family emergency.

Commissioner Brown said that most of the citizens she spoke with on this issue were also in favor of the housing rehabilitation. She said it had been a while since the City had done any neighborhood revitalization, and she could support that choice if the grant funds were available.

Commissioner Hardacre said that he thought the money was set-aside and the plans were already moving forward for the City roads. He said there was a lot the City still wanted to do, but that the City was on track in that area. He said he would support the housing rehabilitation, but he would like to see the economic development initiative push for the businesses.

Vice Mayor Wilford said that like the other commissioners he thinks that the grants should be pursued according to where and how the funds can be used most expeditiously and to the best benefit of the most citizens. He said he was always supportive of roads, and did not want to negate the importance or the scope of the taxing opportunities inherent in economic development.

**Commissioner Brown moved to direct the Administration to proceed with the 2016 regular**

**CDBG application to the DEO; seconded by Commissioner Hardacre.**

Vice Mayor Wilford opened the floor for comments.

There were no comments.

**Passed 3-0 on roll call vote; with Mayor Coerper and Commissioner Boukari being absent.**

**Commissioner Brown moved to direct the Administration to proceed with the 2016 economic development category; seconded by Commissioner Hardacre.**

Vice Mayor Wilford opened the floor for comments.

There were no comments.

**Passed 3-0 on roll call vote.**

**B. Public Hearing – Small Cities Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2017 Grant Cycle**

Grants Specialist Morgan reminded the commissioners that there would be no separate presentation for this item, but it would require the two motions for the 2017 grant cycle.

Vice Mayor Wilford opened the floor for public comments.

One unidentified male engaged in discussion with the commissioners regarding the specifics of the grant and the benefits to the business owner as well as to the City.

**Commissioner Brown moved to direct the Administration to proceed with the 2017 regular CDBG application to the DEO; seconded by Commissioner Hardacre.**

Vice Mayor Wilford opened the floor for comments.

There were no comments.

**Passed 3-0 on roll call vote.**

**Commissioner Brown moved to direct the Administration to proceed with the 2017 economic development category; seconded by Commissioner Hardacre.**

Vice Mayor Wilford opened the floor for comments.

There were no comments.

**Passed 3-0 on roll call vote.**

**V. AGENDA ITEMS**

**A. Law Enforcement Commemorative Service Award**

Alachua Police Department Administrative Services Manager Malone introduced the item and provided the staff report.

**Commissioner Hardacre moved to authorize conveyance of ownership for service firearm to retired Officer Lisa Baldree; seconded by Commissioner Brown.**

Chief Chad Scott spoke in appreciation and congratulations to retired Officer Baldree. He presented her with her service revolver.

Retired Officer Baldree briefly addressed the dais to express her appreciation for the Alachua Police Department, the City Commission, and the City staff and citizens.

The commissioners, City Manager Traci Gresham, and City Attorney Rush expressed their appreciation for retired Officer Baldree's career in the City , and wished her best wishes for the future. City Manager Gresham offered her congratulations and said she was pleased that Ms. Baldree would be continuing in the APD Communications department.

**Passed 3-0 on roll call vote.**

## **VI. COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS ON SUBJECTS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

Stan Richardson said he wanted to thank Ms. Baldree for her service to the City. He said he would like to know what the criteria is that the City uses to determine the order and scope of road repairs. He expressed his support again for a youth center on the Merrillwood side of town.

**(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**

## **VIII. COMMISSION COMMENTS/DISCUSSION**

Commissioner Brown said she wanted to thank all the citizens who came out to tonight to share their views. She said citizen input was always valued; even when not everyone could be satisfied.

Commissioner Hardacre said the Suwanee River Water Management District and the Saint Johns River Water Management District sent their thanks for the use of the City's commission chambers for their joint meeting. He said he was pleased with the attendance and the media coverage of the meeting.

He spoke of his commitment to roads and his approval of the plan the City has for managing its road repairs.

Vice Mayor Wilford said he thought the turnout for the joint Water Management Districts meetings was excellent. He also spoke on the City's commitment to roads, and the funding that has been set aside each year to paving the roads. He said the turnout, the presentations, and the food at the Martin Luther King, Jr., Day celebration were all great.

## **ADJOURN**

**Commissioner Hardacre moved to adjourn; seconded by Commissioner Brown.**

**Passed by unanimous consent.**

# **CONSENT AGENDA**

## **CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

A. Santa Fe College Drainage Easements

ATTEST:

CITY COMMISSION OF THE  
CITY OF ALACHUA, FLORIDA

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Traci L. Gresham, City Manager/Clerk

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Gib Coerper, Mayor