



Alachua County Special Meeting

Minutes

August 1, 2023, 1:30 PM

Present: Vice Chair Mary Alford, Commissioner Charles S. Chestnut, IV, Commissioner Ken Cornell, Chair Anna Prizzia, Commissioner Marihelen Wheeler

Also Present: County Attorney Sylvia Torres, Deputy County Manager Carl Smart, Assistant County Manager Tommy Crosby, Deputy Clerk Steve Donahey

Staff Absent: County Manager Michele Lieberman, Assistant County Manager Missy Daniels, Assistant County Manager Gina Peebles, Deputy County Attorney Bob Swain, Deputy Clerk Casey Miller, Admin Kimberly Kittle, Admin Gina Peebles, Cricket

A. Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Cornell moved adoption of the agenda. The motion carried 4-0 with Commissioner Alford abstaining.

2nd Commissioner Wheeler

Chair Prizzia recognized Tamara Robbins who presented comments to the Board.

Commissioner Wheeler moved to allow Commissioner Alford to participate remotely due to special circumstances. The motion carried 4-0 with Commissioner Alford abstaining.

2nd Commissioner Cornell

B. Items for Discussion

1. Fiscal Year 2024 (FY24) Budget Development Department Review 2 - 23-00414

1. Community and Administrative Services Department

Assistant County Manager Gina Peebles presented the above item.

Mrs. Peebles informed the Board that the Agenda Office, Information Technology Services, Equal Opportunity Office, and Commissioner Services are not requesting any additional funding.

Chair Prizzia, Commissioner Cornell, Commissioner Wheeler, Communications Coordinator Mark Sexton, Parks and Open Spaces Director Jason Mauer, Assistant County Manager Tommy Crosby, Commissioner Alford, and IT Director Kevin Smith presented comments.

Chair Prizzia recognized Tamara Robbins, Commissioner Wheeler, and Assistant County Manager Crosby who presented comments.

2. Accreditation and Agenda Office

Mrs. Peebles stated that the County Manager is recommending a \$6,000 increase for the Accreditation Office for operational expenses.

3. Career Source

Mrs. Peebles stated that the Governor signed a bill to consolidate District 7 and 9. This will consolidate Columbia, Dixie, Union, Alachua, and Gilchrist Counties. Staff will return later with recommendations as the consolidation proceeds.

4. Equal Opportunity Office

5. UF/IFAS/AG Extension Office

Mrs. Peebles stated that an increase of \$2,538.00 is needed to meet the obligations under the Memorandum of Understanding with the University of Florida.

6. Visit Gainesville, Alachua County, FL

Mrs. Peebles stated that an increase of \$111,000.00 is being requested for a Tourism Marketing Coordinator which would be funded through the Tourism Development Tax.

7. Information and Telecommunication Services Department

Commissioner Alford wanted to ensure that the IT Department has the resources necessary to ensure that adequate cyber security is provided to protect the County from attacks that other government entities have been victim to.

IT Director Kevin Smith stated that adequate funding has been provided and the necessary precautions have been taken. He did warn that no system is 100% protected from being hacked.

8. Parks and Open Spaces Department

Mrs. Peebles stated that an increase of \$10,000 is recommended by the County Manager for staff increases at Camp Cuscowilla.

Commissioner Cornell and Chair Prizzia expressed a desire to have the park projects to start as soon as possible. The public supported the tax and they would like the citizens to see the results of the tax initiative. They were willing to bond the funds if necessary to get the projects started and would like to see signage placed informing the public of the projects.

Communications Coordinator Sexton advised the Board that a printer to produce the signs in house is on order and will be housed at Public Works. Once the equipment is set up work will begin on the signage.

C. Public Comments

Chair Prizzia recognized Tamara Robbins who presented comments to the Board.

Gun Summit

County Attorney Torres stated that she needs to discuss attendance of Board members at the City of Gainesville Gun Summit. She stated that it will be advertised as a public meeting and the Clerk will be in attendance. However, the Board rules require meetings held in publicly owned buildings. This hotel has public access but is not publicly owned. The Board will need to waive their rules in this matter.

Commissioner Wheeler moved to waive the rules of procedure for this one meeting. The motion carried 5-0.

2nd Commissioner Cornell

Deputy County Manager Smart stated that staff has drafted a resolution modeled after the City of Gainesville Resolution in regard to gun violence and it will be before the Board for approval shortly.

Chair Prizzia recognized Tamara Robbins who presented comments to the Board regarding the Thelma Bolton Center, Meat Processing Plant, and the rural collection center.

Waste Collection

Commissioner Wheeler stated that the Rural Collection site was offered by the City of Newberry after the City of High Springs residents were up in arms over a location in the City of High Springs. She stated the City of Newberry offered the site and she made a motion to accept the offer.

North Central Florida Regional Planning Council

Commissioner Cornell stated that Scott Koons informed him that the City of Gainesville is looking to withdrawal from the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council funding agreement. That would leave the County to fund the organization and he would like the County to gain votes if that is the case.

Chair Prizzia, Commissioner Chestnut, Commissioner Wheeler, and Commissioner Alford presented comments.

Historical Flooding Properties

Commissioner Wheeler stated that one of the families located in a legacy flooding area is going to have to sell the property to the next flooding victim. She would like to know if there has been any progress on the matter.

Deputy County Manager Smart stated that he would check with the Public Works Director on the matter.

D. Adjourn

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 2:29 p.m.