

Thursday, August 11, 2016 – 1:30 P.M.
County Administration Building
Grace Knight Conference Room
12 Southeast First Street
Gainesville, Florida

The Alachua County Commission met in special session.

PRESENT: Chair Hutch Hutchinson; Vice Chair Ken Cornell Commissioners Chuck Chestnut, Mike Byerly, and Lee Pinkoson

ALSO PRESENT: County Manager Lee Niblock, Assistant County Manager Jim Harriot, County Attorney Michele Lieberman, and Deputy Clerk Steve Donahey

The meeting was televised live on Cox Cable Channel 12.

Call to Order at 1:32 p.m.

Adoption of Agenda (1:30PM)

Commissioner Pinkoson moved adoption of the agenda as amended. The motion carried 4-0 with Commissioner Chestnut out of the room.

Items for Possible Discussion
Discussion Item

1. FY17 Budget Development Meeting - Revenue Update, Rapid Housing Assistance, Grace Marketplace, Living Wage and Compensation Study.
Amount: N/A
Recommended Action: Provide direction to staff for any adjustment to the tentative budget and proposed millage rates.

County Manager Niblock and OMB Director Tommy Crosby presented the above item.

Commissioner Chestnut entered at 1:34 p.m.

Health Department Budget Request

Thursday, August 11, 2016 – 1:30 P.M.

Mr. Crosby stated that the Health Department is requesting additional funding to return to the 2008 levels. The funds would help serve an additional 1,200 people.

Action Items

3. Support Housing Focused Position

Amount: \$30,000

Recommended Action: Discuss and approval of \$30,000 towards a Support Housing Focused Position

OMB Director Crosby stated that the Board is requesting an additional position to assist in finding housing for the rapid housing model. The position will cost \$50,000.00 however the City of Gainesville has allocated \$20,000.00 towards the position.

Commissioner Byerly, Community Support Services Director Claudia Tuck, Housing Programs Manager Ralston Reodica, Chair Hutchinson, Commissioner Pinkoson, Commissioner Byerly , and Commissioner Chestnut presented comments.

Commissioner Cornell moved to support the Housing Focus Position \$50,000.00 and accept the City of Gainesville's contribution of \$20,000.00. The motion carried 5-0.

Grace Market Place

Chair Hutchinson recognized Attorney for the Homeless Coalition Joe Jackson and GRACE Marketplace Operations Director John DeCarmine who stated that the rapid rehousing is the direction that the program needs to head towards.

Commissioner Cornell, Chair Hutchinson , Commissioner Byerly, Jon DeCarmine, Joe Jackson , Commissioner Chestnut, Commissioner Byerly, Community Support Services Director Claudia Tuck, Commissioner Pinkoson , and Commissioner Byerly presented comments.

Commissioner Byerly moved that the County will match the City of Gainesville's funding of the Grace Market Place in the coming Fiscal Year.

Thursday, August 11, 2016 – 1:30 P.M.

Commissioner Byerly, Joe Jackson, Commissioner Chestnut Commissioner Byerly, Chair Hutchinson, Community Support Services Director Claudia Tuck , and Commissioner Pinkoson presented comments.

The motion carried 4-1 with Commissioner Pinkoson voting “Nay”.

Commissioner Cornell moved to the Grace Market Place and their partners come back in 6 months with a plan of transition to the rapid rehousing model.

County Attorney Lieberman presented comments.

The motion carried 5-0.

Living Wage

Commissioner Cornell stated that he would like to see if there is any desire of the Board to raise the County's Minimum Wage to \$13.00 an hour this hear. He stated that it would affect 54 employees and cost \$43,000.00.

Commissioner Pinkoson , Commissioner Byerly , Chair Hutchinson , Commissioner Cornell, Commissioner Chestnut, Commissioner Byerly, Jeremiah Tattersall , and Commissioner Pinkoson presented comments.

Commissioner Chestnut exited at 3:41 p.m.

Commissioner Cornell moved to take \$43,000.00 of the additional funds to increase the lowest 54 employees from \$12.50 an hour to \$13.00 an hour. The motion failed for lack of a second.

Chair Hutchinson, Paul Ortiz, Ed Griffin, Commissioner Cornell, Jeremiah Tattersall, and Commissioner Pinkoson presented comments.

Road Pavement

Commissioner Pinkoson stated that he would like to propose for consideration a funding source to pave C.R. 326, 43rd Street, and Tower Road. He would like the Board to consider it so that the projects can be started next fiscal year.

Commissioner Pinkoson moved to refer to the County Manager to return with a proposal to fund the C.R. 326, 43rd Street, and Tower Road projects on August 16, 2016. The motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Byerly requested that a cross section of each road be provided at the August 16, 2016 meeting.

Health Department Budget Request

Thursday, August 11, 2016 – 1:30 P.M.

Commissioner Pinkoson request that staff provide budget information that is easily discernable that shows how much in funding the Board have to fund some of the outstanding issues.

Vacancy List

Commissioner Byerly expressed concerns regarding the vacant position in the tree planting program. He stated that it has been vacant for years and he would like to see it filled and the work being done.

Deputy County Manager Harriot advised the Board that the County recently advertised the position and offered a candidate the job. He however refused the position because of the salary amount.

Human Resources Director Karen Gerding presented comments

2. Alachua County Cogongrass Program

Amount: \$0 to \$80,000

Recommended Action: Approve staff recommendation of program implementation with contract spraying twice a year.

County Engineer Ramon Gavarrete presented the above item. Mr. Gavarrete stated that he has worked with EPD and developed a plan to deal with the matter. They are working on mapping the sites so that the when mowing the proper procedures will be followed in the necessary areas.

He stated that staff is being trained on the proper procedures and a public outreach campaign will be launched to inform the public. The Public Works Department is recommending a limited spraying program to eradicate the problem. The funding would be solely from the Gas Tax funds. This is somewhat limiting because the funds can only be used in the right of ways. It most likely cannot be used on private properties.

County Attorney Lieberman stated that she would review the matter of Gas Tax Funding to determine specifically can be done from that funding source.

Commissioner Cornell moved staff recommendation number 1 to fund the Cogon Grass Program with \$45,000.00 from the MSTU if appropriate and the additional from the Gas Tax.

Recommendations

Thursday, August 11, 2016 – 1:30 P.M.

1. **\$80,000 Implementation**
Spray known locations twice per year
+Sign and Supply costs

2. **\$45,000 Implementation**
Spray known locations once per year
+Sign and Supply costs

3. **Public Outreach only- Media**

The motion carried 5-0.

RTS Facility

Assistant County Attorney Silvia Torres presented the above item.

Commissioner Cornell moved direct the County Manager to work with the City of Gainesville to make it available for public parking. The motion carried 5-0.

Chair Hutchinson presented comments regarding citizens expressing concerns about how the funding for the Tourist Development Funds was handled.

County Manager Niblock stated that the rules were very clear. Unfortunately the TDC Director provided some inaccurate feedback to organizations.

County Attorney Lieberman stated that at this point any attempt to correct the situation would disadvantage some organization that requested funding. She stated that the only viable option would be to scratch the process and start over from the beginning.

There being no further business before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 5:23 P.M.