

Tuesday, May 17, 2016 – 10:00 A.M.
John R. "Jack" Durrance Auditorium
County Administration Building
12 Southeast First Street
Gainesville, Florida

The Alachua County Board of County Commissioners met in special session.

PRESENT: Chair Robert "Hutch" Hutchinson, presiding, Vice-Chair Ken Cornell, Commissioners Mike Byerly, Charles S. "Chuck" Chestnut, IV, and Lee Pinkoson

ALSO PRESENT: County Manager Dr. Lee Niblock, County Attorney Michele Lieberman, Deputy Clerk Bob Decker

Chair Hutchinson opened the meeting at 10:02 A.M.

The meeting was televised on Cox Cable Channel 12.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Pinkoson moved adoption of the agenda.

Commissioner Cornell requested that a public comment portion be added to the agenda.

Commissioner Byerly moved the substitute motion to add a public comment period to the end of every agenda. The motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Chestnut moved to adopt the agenda with a public comment portion.

Chair Hutchinson recognized Office of Management and Budget Director Tommy Crosby who stated that the Tax Collector and Property Appraiser were unable to attend the meeting and requested their presentations be pulled from the agenda.

Commissioner Chestnut moved to adopt the agenda as modified. The motion carried 5-0.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Judiciary Budget Presentation
Amount: N/A
Recommended Action: Hear Budget Presentation.

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Office of Management and Budget Director Tommy Crosby presented the above item.

Chair Hutchinson recognized Public Defender's Office Administrative Director Dan Priscott and Office of Management and Budget Director Tommy Crosby who presented comments to the Board.

Commissioner Pinkoson moved to accept presentation of the Judiciary budget. The motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Cornell moved to direct staff to return with the planned disposition of the funds from the sale of the old Public Defender building within 90 days. The motion carried 5-0.

2. Clerk of Court Budget Presentation
Amount: N/A
Recommended Action: Hear Presentation.

Office of Management and Budget Director Tommy Crosby and Clerk of the Circuit and County Court J.K. Irby presented the above item.

Commissioner Cornell moved to approve the presentation. The motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Cornell requested that staff return with the minimum wage paid by the Tax Collector and Property Appraiser.

(The following item was removed from the agenda by motion of the Board.)

- ~~3. Tax Collector Budget Presentation
Amount: N/A
Recommended Action: Hear Presentation.~~

(The following item was removed from the agenda by motion of the Board.)

- ~~4. Property Appraiser Budget Presentation
Amount: N/A
Recommended Action: Hear Presentation.~~

5. Supervisor of Elections Budget Presentation
Amount: N/A
Recommended Action: Hear Presentation.

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Office of Management and Budget Director Tommy Crosby and Supervisor of Elections Pam Carpenter presented the above item.

Chair Hutchinson recognized Chief Deputy Supervisor of Elections Will Boyett who presented comments to the Board.

Commissioner Cornell moved to accept the presentation. The motion carried 5-0.

Chair Hutchinson recognized County Manager Lee Niblock and Deputy County Manager James Harriott who presented comments to the Board.

Chair Hutchinson requested that staff return with a list of all necessary improvements to the Josiah T. Walls building within 60 days.

Commissioner Cornell moved to direct staff to return within 60 days with the list of improvements to the Josiah T. Walls building including ADA compliance and energy conservation.

Chair Hutchinson recognized Supervisor of Elections Pam Carpenter who presented comments to the Board.

The motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Cornell requested that staff explain where and when the budgeted \$300,000.00 for solar panels would be utilized.

Chair Hutchinson recognized Office of Management and Budget Director Tommy Crosby and County Manager Lee Niblock who presented comments to the Board.

6. Sheriff Budget Presentation

Amount: N/A

Recommended Action: Hear Presentation.

Office of Management and Budget Director Tommy Crosby and Alachua County Sheriff Sadie Darnell presented the above item.

Commissioner Cornell moved to accept the presentation.

Commissioner Byerly requested two additions to the motion:

1. Staff is to be prepared to discuss and provide crime trend data.
2. County fleet staff is to prepare a response to the slide from the Sheriff's presentation regarding vehicle replacement.

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Commissioner Cornell moved the substitute motion to accept the presentation and direct staff to return with the following information:

1. Staff is to be prepared to discuss and provide crime trend data.
2. County fleet staff is to prepare a response to the slide from the Sheriff's presentation regarding vehicle replacement.

The motion carried 5-0.

COMMISSION GENERAL AND INFORMAL DISCUSSION

County Manager Lee Niblock stated that the City of Alachua requested that the May 23, 2016 joint meeting be postponed to July 11, 2016 at 6:30 P.M.

Commissioner Pinkoson requested a meeting to discuss the budget appeal.

Chair Hutchinson recognized County Manager Lee Niblock who stated that legal staff will review whether a closed door session is legal.

Chair Hutchinson stated that the Board could have a public meeting to discuss what the Board wants to do with regard to the appeal.

Chair Hutchinson recognized Communications and Legislative Affairs Director Mark Sexton who stated that Commissioners could have one on one meetings with County Legal Staff.

Chair Hutchinson stated that Commissioners could send emails with their opinions.

Commissioner Byerly stated that the Board does not know how the State will rule as there is no precedent.

Chair Hutchinson stated the issue is political and not a legal issue.

Commissioner Byerly stated the issue has political overtones but is a legal and budgetary decision.

Chair Hutchinson stated that the cabinet aide he spoke to suggested that the Board will want to sort out the issue.

County Manager Niblock stated that the County Attorney should be informed before any emails are sent amongst Commissioners.

Commissioner Cornell stated that he would suggest to agenda for public discussion a presentation by the Attorney for the Board's review.

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Commissioner Byerly stated that nothing has changed with the issue.

Chair Hutchinson stated he wished to invite the Sheriff or her representative to the meeting.

Commissioner Cornell moved to direct the County Manager to agenda for a special meeting a presentation by the County Attorney regarding the appeal and invite the Sheriff or a representative. The motion carried 5-0.

Chair Hutchinson recognized Office of Management and Budget Director Tommy Crosby who presented comments to the Board.

Commissioner Pinkoson stated that the Board did not cut positions.

Chair Hutchinson recognized County Manager Niblock and OMB Director Tommy Crosby who presented comments to the Board.

Commissioner Pinkoson stated that the issue will be determined by a political entity.

Commissioner Byerly stated that he was not sure that fiscal hawk Republicans would direct a County Commission to raise taxes. He further stated that the Board has no control where the Sheriff's money goes. He requested staff give the Sheriff's total budget.

Chair Hutchinson recognized OMB Director Tommy Crosby who presented comments to the Board.

Commissioner Cornell stated that the Board did not cut positions and that the School Resource Officer positions were merely transferred to different local law enforcement agencies.

Commissioner Byerly requested that the County Manager direct staff to be prepared to discuss I-75 relief.

Chair Hutchinson recognized County Manager Lee Niblock who presented comments to the Board.

Chair Hutchinson requested that the afternoon agenda be amended to include an item on I-75 relief.

Commissioner Cornell stated that he had a conversation with County Manager Niblock regarding Tower Road.

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Commissioner Cornell moved to direct staff to return with the latest Board direction regarding Tower Road at the next available agenda.

Chair Hutchinson recognized County Manager Niblock who presented comments to the Board.

The motion carried 5-0.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 12:01 P.M.

J.K. Irby, Clerk to the Board
of County Commissioners