

Tuesday, May 30, 2017 – 7:00 P.M.
Town of Micanopy Chambers
Micanopy Town Hall
706 NE Chokolka Boulevard
Micanopy, Florida

The Alachua County Board of County Commissioners and the Micanopy Town Commission met in joint special session.

PRESENT: Chair Ken Cornell, presiding, Commissioners Mike Byerly, Charles S. “Chuck” Chestnut, IV, and Robert “Hutch” Hutchinson

Mayor Virginia Mance, Commissioners Troy Blakely and Tim Parker

ABSENT: Vice-Chair Lee Pinkoson

Mayor Pro-Tem Joseph L. Aufmuth and Commissioner Mike Roberts

ALSO PRESENT: County Manager Lee Niblock, Deputy County Manager James Harriott, County Attorney Michele Lieberman, Assistant County Manager Gina Peebles, and Deputy Clerk Bob Decker

Town Administrator Debbie Gonano and Town Attorney Steve Lee

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Mance opened the meeting at 7:00 P.M.

WELCOME

Commissioner Chestnut gave the Invocation.

Mayor Mance and Chair Cornell led the Pledge of Allegiance.

INTRODUCTION

Mayor Mance asked each Commissioner to introduce themselves.

1. Virginia Mance, Mayor, Town of Micanopy

Fiscal Consideration: N/A

Recommended Action: N/A

Mayor Mance welcomed the Board of County Commissioners to Micanopy.

Tuesday, May 30, 2017 – 7:00 P.M.

2. Ken Cornell, Chair, Alachua County Commission
Fiscal Consideration: N/A
Recommended Action: N/A

Chair Cornell thanked Mayor Mance for the opportunity to meet and introduced County staff to the City Commission.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

3. Approve the Agenda
Fiscal Consideration: N/A
Recommended Action: A Motion to Approve the Agenda: (a) approves any amendments to the Agenda; and (b) adopts the Agenda.

Commissioner Byerly moved adoption of the agenda. **The motion carried 4-0.**

Commissioner Parker moved adoption of the agenda. **The motion carried 3-0.**

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

4. Home Rule Discussion
Fiscal Consideration: N/A
Recommended Action: Discuss home rule issues.

Mayor Mance presented the above item.

Chair Cornell presented a brief overview of the County's communication with the State Legislature regarding Home Rule.

Commissioner Byerly presented a brief overview of Home Rule and stated that there may be a Constitutional Amendment regarding Home Rule on an upcoming ballot. He further presented a brief overview of water and stormwater regulation.

Chair Cornell recognized County Attorney Michele Lieberman who presented comments to the Board.

Commissioner Parker asked about the level of regulation on stormwater for businesses.

Commissioner Byerly presented an overview of the proposed stormwater regulations.

Tuesday, May 30, 2017 – 7:00 P.M.

Commissioner Parker presented comments regarding the stormwater study and the history of local agriculture and fertilization.

Chair Cornell recognized Water Resources Manager Gus Olmos who presented comments on water quality and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's regulation of nutrients entering waterways.

Commissioner Parker requested to know what level of regulation would impact businesses.

Chair Cornell recognized Water Resources Manager Gus Olmos who presented comments to the Board.

Commissioner Byerly presented comments regarding nitrogen and phosphorus levels in waterways.

Commissioner Parker presented comments regarding Biosorption Activated Media (BAM) stormwater treatment.

Mayor Mance presented comments regarding BAM stormwater treatment.

Commissioner Byerly presented comments regarding BAM stormwater treatment and the potential for the County to provide the material to developers at cost.

Commissioner Parker presented comments regarding retention ponds.

Chair Cornell recognized Water Resources Manager Gus Olmos who presented comments to the Board.

Commissioner Byerly presented comments regarding ways developers could potentially comply with the proposed stormwater regulation.

Mayor Mance stated that from what she has heard Micanopy should not be impacted by the proposed regulation.

Chair Cornell stated that the process has taken about a year and that County staff has met with each municipality in the County regarding stormwater regulation. He further stated that the goal of the regulation is to get input from all interested citizens.

Commissioner Chestnut stated that the Chamber of Commerce brought up concerns regarding affordable housing.

Chair Cornell recognized Water Resources Manager Gus Olmos who presented comments to the Board.

Tuesday, May 30, 2017 – 7:00 P.M.

Commissioner Hutchinson stated that it is easier and cheaper to pollute but the environment can't take the level of pollution anymore. He further stated that one solution for controlling cost is to rethink the size of retention ponds.

Mayor Mance thanked the County for the previous communication from the County regarding stormwater and Home Rule. She further stated that the Town of Micanopy is amenable to the proposed stormwater manual and the Town wants to have a voice in the process.

Chair Cornell thanked Mayor Mance for the Town's input.

Commissioner Parker stated that he needs to communicate with citizens before reaching a conclusion.

Mayor Mance stated that the watersheds have to be protected for future generations.

Mayor Mance recognized Donald Shepherd who presented comments to the Board.

5. Wild Spaces Public Places (WSPP) Funding

Fiscal Consideration: N/A

Recommended Action: Discuss Wild Spaces Public Places (WSPP) funding.

Mayor Mance presented a brief overview of WSPP funding in the Town of Micanopy.

Commissioner Blakely requested to discuss flexibility with regard to WSPP.

Chair Cornell recognized County Attorney Michele Lieberman who presented an overview of legal WSPP expenditures.

Commissioner Blakely stated that each community has different needs and projects. He further stated that there is a grant opportunity for Micanopy and wanted to know if the Town had the flexibility to use WSPP funds as a match.

Chair Cornell recognized County Attorney Michele Lieberman who read the approved expenditures for WSPP funding and presented an overview of the State rules for expending the funds.

Commissioner Blakely stated that the Town of Micanopy has had difficulty in spending the current WSPP funds.

Tuesday, May 30, 2017 – 7:00 P.M.

Mayor Mance presented comments regarding State Law and access off of a state highway. She further stated that the Town has plans for expending the WSPP funding they have received.

Chair Cornell requested an overview of the Town's plans for WSPP funding.

Mayor Mance stated that the Town is considering refurbishing an existing building for a community center.

Chair Cornell recognized County Attorney Michele Lieberman who presented the State Law regarding expending public funds to improve private property.

Mayor Mance stated that the Town is considering adding a new building at the Park for a Community Center.

Mayor Mance recognized Town Administrator Gonano who gave a brief overview of the other proposed uses for WSPP funding.

Mayor Mance stated that the Town is considering using the funds on a playground and a basketball court.

Commissioner Hutchinson stated that funds could be used at Tusawilla Park.

Chair Cornell presented a brief overview of the other Municipalities' planned use of the WSPP funds.

Mayor Mance stated that the Town is trying to spend the funds.

Commissioner Hutchinson stated the County would help with any technical details.

Chair Cornell recognized Assistant County Manager Gina Peebles who requested the Town send her a proposed interlocal agreement once they have made their decision.

Commissioner Hutchinson stated that a trail from Micanopy to Rochelle could be helpful.

Commissioner Byerly stated that the Old Florida Heritage Highway Corridor Management Council and Senior Planner Kathleen Pagan at Alachua County Growth Management could be points of contact. He further stated that there is a southern entrance to the Barr Hammock nearby to the Town of Micanopy.

Tuesday, May 30, 2017 – 7:00 P.M.

6. Water Quality Policy & Stormwater Treatment

Fiscal Consideration: N/A

Recommended Action: Discuss water quality policy & stormwater treatment.

This item was covered under the discussion of Home Rule.

7. Transportation Topics

Fiscal Consideration: N/A

Recommended Action: Discuss transportation topics.

Mayor Mance presented a brief overview of the Town of Micanopy's transportation concerns.

Chair Cornell presented a brief overview of the County's plan to reach an agreement with the City of Gainesville to develop a long term split of the fuel tax.

Commissioner Chestnut stated that the County has given concessions twice to reach a compromise with the City of Gainesville.

Mayor Mance requested the Board of County Commissioners' help in approaching the City of Gainesville's Regional Transit Service to get satellite bus service for the Town of Micanopy.

Commissioner Hutchinson stated that the City of Gainesville will charge \$65.00 per hour for bus service.

Mayor Mance stated that she is not asking for funds from the County.

Commissioner Byerly stated that the Cities of Alachua and Archer have experience in running shuttle bus service.

Mayor Mance stated that the Town of Micanopy used to own a 15 passenger van but insurance and payroll for the driver cost too much for the Town.

Commissioner Chestnut stated that if the Town has ridership numbers it would be helpful in approaching RTS.

Mayor Mance stated the Town would have to run a survey to get ridership numbers.

Commissioner Hutchinson stated that Uber is a possibility for running a survey.

Commissioner Chestnut stated that the Transportation Disadvantaged service is another possibility.

Tuesday, May 30, 2017 – 7:00 P.M.

Mayor Mance stated that Cholokka Boulevard and Tuscawilla Road are County-owned roads and that the Town is hoping to keep the speed limit at 20 mph for pedestrian safety and other purposes. She further stated that the Town is working with the Sheriff's Office to deal with concerns regarding speeding.

Chair Cornell recognized Deputy County Manager James Harriott who stated that when he was the County Engineer he determined that the speed should stay at 20 mph.

Commissioner Parker stated that a part of Tuscawilla Road is 30 mph.

Mayor Mance requested a sign for a Sandhill Crane crossing on Tuscawilla Road if the County could install it.

Mayor Mance recognized Town Administrator Debbie Gonano who recommended a wildlife crossing sign.

Commissioner Parker requested the procedure for lowering the speed limit.

Chair Cornell recognized Deputy County Manager James Harriott who described state guidelines for setting speed limits.

Commissioner Parker stated that there is a great deal of pedestrian traffic on Micanopy streets.

Mayor Mance stated that residents on Tuscawilla Road would appreciate wildlife crossing signs.

Without objection the Board directed staff to review lowering the speed limit on County Roads in Micanopy and installation of wildlife crossing signs.

Commissioner Byerly gave a brief overview of sidewalks on Cholokka Boulevard leading up to 441 and requested the Town's position on sidewalks.

Mayor Mance stated that the Town received a great deal of concerns with regards to sidewalks on Cholokka Boulevard.

Mayor Mance recognized Bud DesForges who presented comments regarding sidewalks.

Mayor Mance stated that the Town of Micanopy may consider adding the issue of sidewalks to the next election.

Tuesday, May 30, 2017 – 7:00 P.M.

Mayor Mance recognized DeDe DesForges who presented comments regarding sidewalks.

Commissioner Blakely stated that one concern with sidewalks was the historic character of the Town.

Mayor Mance recognized Donald Shepherd who presented comments to the Board.

Commissioner Parker requested to know the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) plans for the sidewalks.

Mayor Mance stated that FDOT was very amenable to the concerns of local residents in terms of avoiding existing trees.

Commissioner Byerly stated that sidewalks as part of a linear park would be eligible for WSPP funding.

Mayor Mance requested that Town Administrator Gonano add the topic of sidewalks to the next Town meeting.

Mayor Mance recognized Don Dewer who presented comments regarding the speed limit on Southwest First Street/Whiting Road.

Mayor Mance stated that the Town is working with the Sheriff's Office to reduce speeding through Micanopy.

Commissioner Byerly requested that the speed bumps be painted yellow.

Town Administrator Gonano stated that the County requested that the Town not paint the speed bumps.

Mayor Mance stated that the speed bumps would be resurfaced and then white chevrons would be added.

Commissioner Parker stated that he would request the speed bumps be painted yellow.

Chair Cornell recognized Deputy County Manager James Harriott who stated that there is a color convention that Public Works has to follow.

Commissioner Hutchinson stated that yellow paint might make drivers think they can't cross.

Tuesday, May 30, 2017 – 7:00 P.M.

Chair Cornell recognized Deputy County Manager James Harriott who stated that County Public Works could use thermoplastic road markings.

Mayor Mance stated that the bulk of Micanopy's traffic is during the day.

Commissioner Byerly stated that even Micanopy residents occasionally hit the speed bumps at a higher rate of speed.

Mayor Mance stated that speed bumps painted yellow are easier to see.

CLOSING COMMENTS

8. Public Comments

Fiscal Consideration: N/A

Recommended Action: Hear comments from the public.

Mayor Mance recognized Bud DesForges who thanked the County Commission and staff for coming and St. Johns River Water Management District Intergovernmental Coordinator Jim Troiano who stated that the Water Management District is offering grants for farmers for water saving technologies. He invited interested parties to visit the Water Management District's website at <http://www.sjrwmd.com/> for more information.

Mayor Mance requested that Town Administrator Gonano inform the public of the grant opportunity.

9. Commission Comments

Fiscal Consideration: N/A

Recommended Action: Hear Commission Comments.

Mayor Mance thanked the Board of County Commissioners for coming and offered any help the Town can provide. She further thanked staff for coming and providing assistance to the Town of Micanopy.

Commissioners Byerly and Chestnut thanked the Town for having the Board of County Commissioners.

Commissioner Chestnut stated he hoped the Boards would meet again next year.

Mayor Mance stated that she understood that it was budget season and that she would attend BoCC meetings when she could.

Commissioner Byerly stated that the County/City meetings are usually held in the first few months of each year.

Tuesday, May 30, 2017 – 7:00 P.M.

Commissioner Blakely thanked the County Commissioners for attending and bringing County staff.

Chair Cornell thanked County staff for the help they provided and thanked the Town of Micanopy for having the Board of County Commissioners.

ADJOURN

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9:06 P.M.

Jesse K. Irby, II, Clerk to the Board
of County Commissioners