

Thursday, April 12, 2018 – 6:30 P.M.
High Springs City Hall
23718 West US Highway 27
High Springs, Florida

The Alachua County Board of County Commissioners and High Springs Town Board of Commissioners met in joint special session.

PRESENT: Chair Lee Pinkoson, Vice-Chair Charles “Chuck” Chestnut, Commissioners Robert “Hutch” Hutchinson, Mike Byerly and Ken Cornell

City of High Springs Mayor Scott Jamison, Vice Mayor Linda Jones, City Commissioners Gloria James, Nancy Lavin Linkous and Byran Williams

ALSO PRESENT: County Manager Michele Lieberman, Assistant County Manager Carl Smart, Assistant County Manager Gina Peebles and Deputy Clerk Stephanie Sisney

ABSENT:

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 P.M.

WELCOME INTRODUCTION:

1. Gloria James, Mayor, City of High Springs
Fiscal Consideration: N/A
Recommended Action: N/A

The City of High Springs Commissioner introduced themselves.

2. Lee Pinkoson, Chair, Alachua County Commission
Fiscal Consideration: N/A
Recommended Action: N/A

The Alachua County Commissioners introduced themselves.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

3. Approve the agenda
Fiscal Consideration: N/A
Recommended Action: A motion to Approve the Agenda: (a) approve any amendments to the agenda; and (b) adopt the Agenda.

Commissioner Cornell moved to adopt the agenda. The motion carried 3-0 with Commissioners Byerly and Hutchinson out of the room.

City Commissioner Nancy Lavin Linkous moved to adopt the agenda. The motion carried 5-0.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

4. High Springs to Newberry Rail Trail Update
Fiscal Consideration: This item is a presentation only and has no fiscal impact.
Recommended Action: Hear a brief presentation on status of the High Springs to Newberry Rail Trail corridor acquisition

Chris Dawson presented the above item to the Boards.

Commissioner Hutchinson entered the room at 6:35 P.M.

High Springs Mayor Jamison presented comments.

Public Comments:

Sue Weller and Chris Dawson presented comments to the Boards.

5. ALS High Springs Fire Department
Fiscal Consideration: N/A
Recommended Action: Listen to the City's presentation.

High Springs Fire Chief Bruce Gillingham presented the above item to the Boards.

Commissioner Byerly entered the room at 6:41 P.M.

Commissioner Cornell presented comments.

Public Comments:

Bruce Mores and Harold Theus presented comments to the Boards.

Mayor Jamison presented comments.

6. High Springs CRA District Extension
Fiscal Consideration: In FY2018, Alachua County issued a CRA payment of \$81,832. A potential extension would have a fiscal impact to the County's General Fund until 2031.

Recommended Action: Table request by the City of High Springs to extend CRA District to include Douglass neighborhood until BoCC discusses and approves the extension of the City's CRA development plan after 2018 expiration.

City of High Springs Manager Ed Booth and City Commissioner Linkous presented the above item to the Boards.

Commissioner Byerly and Commissioner Pinkoson presented comments.

7. NW 210th Lane Boat Ramp Improvements

Fiscal Consideration: N/A

Recommended Action: Listen to the City's NW 210th Lane Boat Ramp Improvements presentation and have a discussion.

City of High Springs Manager Ed Booth and Parks and Recreation Director Charlie Houser presented the above item to the Boards.

Mayor Jamison, Commissioner Hutchinson, Commissioner Cornell, Chair Pinkoson, Mayor Jamison, Chair Pinkoson and Commissioner Hutchinson presented comments.

Commissioner Hutchinson moved the following:

1. To look at a prioritized list and make sure we are applying for Florida Boater Improvement Program (FBIP) grant funding, prioritizing our boat ramp improvement programs.
2. Come up with a priority list that includes the cooperation of municipalities.

Commissioner Cornell presented comments.

Public Comment:

Abe Grossen presented comments to the Boards.

The motion carried 5-0.

8. Wild Places, Public Spaces Presentation
Fiscal Consideration: Not to exceed \$350,000 funded through the County's Wild Spaces Public Places allocation.
Recommended Action: Discuss Wild Spaces Public Places Joint Project

City of High Springs Manager Ed Booth and Park Director Robert Basford presented the above item to the Board.

Commissioner Hutchinson and Commissioner Cornell presented comments.

Update Repairs to Boat Ramp

Charlie Houder presented the above item to the Board.

City Commissioner Byran Williams, City Commissioner Linkous, City Commissioner Williams, Commissioner Cornell and Chair Pinkoson presented comments.

Public Comments:

Bruce Mores presented comments to the Boards.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

9. Public comments
Fiscal Consideration: N/A
Recommended Action: Hear public comments.

Dorothy Benson, Carol Fernandez, Mona Gil De Gibaja and Bruce Mores provided comments to the Boards.

COMMISSION GENERAL COMMENTS AND INFORMAL DISCUSSION

10. County Commission comments
Fiscal Consideration: N/A
Recommended Action: Hear County Commission comments.

Commissioner Byerly discussed the Chair letter that will be sent that will describe the Green Infrastructure Master Plan. It would be a good idea to think ahead and link each trail up. The idea is a long term vision that includes each municipality to participate in connecting the trails.

Commissioner Cornell thanked the City of High Springs for allowing the County Commissioner to participate in a Joint Meeting.

Commissioner Hutchinson stated that last year the County made a commitment to receive mental health first aid training. After seeing the impact that it has had the County has extended the opportunity to surrounding municipalities to attend the same training.

Chair Pinkoson thanked the City of High Springs for everything the city does that makes the County what it is and allows Alachua County to be such a wonderful place.

11. City Commission comments

Fiscal Consideration: N/A

Recommended Action: Hear City Commission comments.

No comments were presented.

There being no further business before the Boards, the meeting was adjourned at 7:34.