

Monday, December 2, 2019 3:00 P.M.
Jack Durrance Auditorium
County Administration Building
12 Southeast First Street
Gainesville, Florida

The Alachua County Board of County Commissioners met for the Special Meeting.

PRESENT: Chair Robert "Hutch" Hutchinson, Vice Chair Mike Byerly, Commissioners Charles "Chuck" Chestnut, Ken Cornell and Marihelen Wheeler

Mayor Lauren Poe, City Commissioner Helen Warren, City Commissioner Gail Johnson, City Commissioner Gigi Simmons, City Commissioner Harvey Ward, City Commissioners David Arreola, City Commissioner Adrian Hayes-Santos

ALSO PRESENT: County Manager Michele Lieberman, County Attorney Sylvia Torres, Deputy Clerk Steve Donahey

Approval of Agenda

Chair Robert "Hutch" Hutchinson called meeting to order at 3:01 P.M.

Welcome

Introduction

Mayor Lauren Poe, City of Gainesville

Chair Robert Hutchinson, Alachua County Commission

Adoption of the Agenda

1. Adoption of the Agenda [19-0436](#)
Fiscal Consideration: N/A
Recommended Action: Approve the agenda.

Commissioner Cornell moved approval of agenda. The motion carried 3-0 with Commissioners Chestnut and Byerly out of the room.

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City Commissioner Helen K. Warren moved approval of agenda for The City of Gainesville. The motion carried 5-0 with Commissioner Johnson and out of the room.

Items For Discussion

2. 2020 Infrastructure Surtax Discussion [19-0721](#)

Fiscal Consideration: A full cent surtax should generate approximately \$23 million/year.

Recommended Action:

1. Discuss resilience priorities and provide direction to staff.
2. Direct City and County staff to make a cooperative effort coordinating outreach to community stakeholders, other municipalities, and advisory boards on surtax priorities for greater community resiliency.
3. Report back to the Commissions no later than end of March 2020, with a preliminary report and draft Interlocal agreements.

Deputy County Manager James Harriott presented above item.

City Commissioner Harvey Ward, Director of Mobility for The City of Gainesville Melissa McCreedy, City Commissioner Adrian Hayes-Santos, Vice Chair Mike Byerly, Chair Robert Hutchinson, City Commissioner Helen Warren, Commissioner Ken Cornell, City Mayor Lauren Poe and City Commissioner Johnson presented comments.

City Manager Lee Feldman presented on above item.

City Commissioner Helen Warren, City Commissioner Gigi Simmons, City Commissioner David Arreola, City Mayor Lauren Poe, and County Commissioner Cornell presented comments.

County Commissioner Ken Cornell moved the following:

1. Alachua County Staff meet with The City of Gainesville Staff to develop a list of high priority resilient community investment projects under the following major categories assuming approximately 90% of the 20 year surtax
 - a. Extension of Wild Spaces Public Places
 - b. Public Safety
 - c. Transportation
 - d. Economic opportunity in Housing
 - e. A lower Carbon Footprint

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2. Direct City and County staff to make a cooperative effort to reach out to stakeholders of the municipalities and advisory boards on surtax priorities for the greater community resiliency.
3. Preliminary draft report which would include funding opportunities prior to 2025, bring back to the Commission as soon as possible but not later than February 29, 2020.

Vice Chair Mike Byerly, City Commissioner Johnson, City Commissioner Simmons, City Commissioner Hayes-Santos, and Commissioner Cornell presented comments.

City Commissioner Hayes-Santos moved to mirror the County motion with the change to direct the city manager and staff to calculate the estimated cost of broadband would be if we use a liable cost of not running on private property and what would be the savings for the residents be and bring it back to the Board.

City Commissioner Ward, City Commissioner Johnson, City Commissioner Simmons, City Commissioner David Arreola, Vice Chair Byerly, Commissioner Warren, Chair Hutchinson and City Manager Lee Feldman provided comments

Chair of the Alachua County Housing Authority and the newest member of international research and global exchange committee for narrow Sheldon Packer, Jim Konish, Anthony Johnson, President of Women for wise growth Meg Niederhofer, Tamara Robbins, Anna Prizzia, Nancy Darren and Mark van Soestbergen presented comments.

Commissioner Byerly and City Commissioner Warren presented comments

The County Motion carried 4-1 with Commissioner Byerly in decent.

The City Motion carried 5-1 with City Commissioner Arreola in decent.

3. Update on Fairgrounds Redevelopment [19-0747](#)
Fiscal Consideration: The County would consider a donation of the property with a reverter clause to secure the long term economic benefit to the local community. Conservatively, the economic benefit estimated at \$126,000,000 over the next 30 years.
Recommended Action: Hear presentation.

Strategic Initiatives Manager for Alachua County Sean McClendon presented above item.

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Update presented is that currently the county is in negotiations with the United States Army to occupy the Fairgrounds with a reverter clause and how this would benefit the community.

City Commissioner Johnson, County Manger Lieberman, Chair Hutchinson and Commissioner Cornell presented comment.

Commissioner Cornell moved the following:

1. Direct county staff to present the Board with comparable data to share with the community from other locations where the Army Reserves has located these type of equipment concentration sites.
2. Staff to ask the Army Reserve to help identify the necessary job skills and workforce training efforts to help our community prepare for this.
3. Staff to ask the Army Reserve to review the preliminary site plan and determine if one to three acres on the corner of Waldo and 39th could be carved out.

City Commissioner Harvey Ward, City Commissioner Helen Warren, Commissioner Wheeler, Mayor Lauren Poe, Commissioner Chestnut, Vice Chair Byerly, City Commissioner Gigi Simmons and Chair Hutchinson presented comments.

Chair Hutchinson expressed appreciation and recognition of the Army Reserves for expressing interest in locating their facility in Alachua County. City Commissioner Gail Johnson, City Commissioner Gigi Simmons, Commissioner Wheeler, Vice Chair Byerly and City Commissioner Harvey Ward presented comments.

Elaine Young, Tamara Robbins and Anthony Johnson presented comments.

The motion carried 5-0.

4. Overview of Tourist Development Tax [19-0752](#)
Fiscal Consideration: The Tourist Development Tax will generate approximately \$5.3 Million for Fiscal Year 2020
Recommended Action: Review information and request any clarification

Mayor Lauren Poe presented comments on the Tourist Development Tax and the authorized uses of this revenue as well as the discussion of the event center.

Senior Assistant County Attorney David Forziano and Tourism Manager Jessica Hurov presented above item.

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Mayor Loren Poe, Commissioner Byerly, Chair Hutchinson, City Commissioner Gigi Simmons, City Commissioner Adrian Hayes-Santos, City Commissioner Harvey Ward, Communications and Legislative Affairs Mark Sexton and Commissioner Charles Chestnut presented comments.

City Commissioner Adrian Hayes-Santos request that the County Commissioners give consideration to the downtown area for the event center location.

City Commissioner David Arreola moved to add a discussion of race and equity policies to next joint meeting.

City Commissioner Gail Johnson provided comments.

Commissioner Ken Cornell moved to add a discussion of race and equity policies to the next joint meeting.

Mayor Lauren Poe, Commissioner Marihelen Wheeler, City Commissioner Helen Warren, City Commissioner Harvey Ward, City Commissioner Gigi Simmons, Commissioner Ken Cornell, County Manager Michele Lieberman, Vice Chair Mike Byerly and Chair Robert Hutchinson presented comments.

Hotelier, Tony Sekaro and Board Member of the Tourist Development Council Adam McGovern provided comments.

Chair Robert Hutchinson left the meeting 8:15 P.M.

Hotelier, Anthony Johnson, County Manager Lieberman and The President of The Greater Chamber of Commerce President & CEO Eric Godet, Sr. provided comments.

City Commissioner Gigi Simmons presented comments.

County motion carried 4-0 with Chair Hutchinson out of the room.

City motion carried 6-0 with Commissioner Hayes Santos out of the room.

5. Joint Planning Agreements [19-0750](#)

Fiscal Consideration: NA

Recommended Action: Hear the Presentation

This item was not addressed.

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Public Comment

6. Public Comment [19-0437](#)

Fiscal Consideration: N/A

Recommended Action: Hear public comment.

Vice Chair Byerly recognized Anthony Johnson who provided comments.

Commission General Comments and Information Discussion

7. City Commission Comments [19-0438](#)

Fiscal Consideration: N/A

Recommended Action: Present comments.

No comments were provided

8. County Commission Comments [19-0439](#)

Fiscal Consideration: N/A

Recommended Action: Present comments.

Commissioner Marihelen Wheeler expressed appreciation of the City's support in her avocation of Camp McConnell.

There being no further business before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 8:32 PM.