

RESOLUTION NO. 170512

A RESOLUTION OF THE GAINESVILLE CITY COMMISSION, ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA, IN OPPOSITION TO THE PROPOSED PHOSPHATE MINING IN BRADFORD COUNTY.

Whereas the City of Gainesville prides itself on the beauty of our natural elements of springs, lakes, and the outstanding Santa Fe River, those natural elements are essential to our way of life, we recognize that our city is dependent on the well being of surrounding areas;

Whereas HPSII, LLC, has submitted a permit application to the Bradford County Commission seeking allowance for phosphate mining on approximately 5,000 acres on what is now zoned agricultural, and seeks to mine thousands more in Union county, on lands that would straddle the New River;

Whereas Alachua county shares a border with Bradford county, divided by our shared Santa Fe River, which is fed and dependent on the New River where the proposed phosphate mining will run along;

Whereas phosphate mining will extract millions of gallons of water per day that will have an affect on groundwater, water table, and quality of water that our city owned utility, Gainesville Regional Utilities (GRU), usues to serve over 190,000 people, and have concerns that the proposed phosphate mining may cause contamination on our water source;

Whereas Alachua county worked closely with Union county and the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council to update their Land Development Regulations (LDRs) in keeping with the future vision of their county, and Union county has instituted a Moratorium on Mining in order to do so;

Whereas Alachua county has offered its resources to assist Bradford county with this monumental decision, with updating their LDRs, and with future planning for alternatives that would bring long range jobs and well being to Bradford county;

Whereas the City of Gainesville has a duty to act in the interest of its residents, defined by our environmentally friendly university town, that sees no benefit to our city but potentially an extensive detriment; and

Whereas it is the responsibility of this Board to act in the best interests of our city, and since we have received considerable opposition from our residents, NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT **RESOLVED** that the Gainesville City Commission hereby:

Requests that the Bradford County Commission denies the phosphate mining application of HPSII and enacts a Moratorium to give more time for due diligence, and suggests revision of the LDRs to be more in keeping with the regional direction for our community that shares borders.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this _____ day of November, 2017.

LAUREN B. POE
MAYOR

Attest:

Approved as to form and legality:

KURT M. LANNON
CLERK OF THE COMMISSION

NICOLLE M. SHALLEY
CITY ATTORNEY