

City of Gainesville

City Hall
200 East University Avenue
Gainesville, Florida 32601



Minutes - Final

June 10, 2021

1:00 PM

Roberta Lisle Kline Conference Room

General Policy Committee

Mayor Lauren Poe (At Large)
Commissioner Reina Saco (At Large, Seat A)
Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Gail Johnson (At Large, Seat B)
Commissioner Desmon Duncan-Walker (District 1)
Commissioner Harvey Ward (District 2)
Commissioner David Arreola (District 3)
Commissioner Adrian Hayes-Santos (District 4)

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CALL TO ORDER - 1:03 PM**ROLL CALL**

Present 6 - Commissioner Hayes-Santos, Commissioner Saco, Commissioner Ward, Duncan-Walker, Commissioner Arreola, and Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Johnson

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Modification: 1) Strike Item No. 201093 (Annexation Policy); and 2) Hear Item No. 201088 (Loss of Affordable Housing) at 3:30 PM or later.

Public Comment: Brian O'Brien and Nathan Skop.

A motion was made by Commissioner Arreola, seconded by Commissioner Hayes-Santos, that this Matter be Adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Poe, Commissioner Hayes-Santos, Commissioner Saco, Commissioner Ward, Duncan-Walker, Commissioner Arreola, and Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Johnson

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[210057.](#)

Approval of Minutes from the May 13 and May 27, 2021 General Policy Committee Meetings (B)

RECOMMENDATION *The General Policy Committee approve the minutes of May 13 and May 27, 2021.*

A motion was made by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Commissioner Arreola, that this Matter be Approved as Recommended. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Poe, Commissioner Hayes-Santos, Commissioner Saco, Commissioner Ward, Duncan-Walker, Commissioner Arreola, and Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Johnson

DISCUSSION OF PENDING REFERRALS

[200351.](#)

2021 State Legislative Update - Summary of the End of Session Report (B)

Fred Murry, Assistant City Manager introduced the item.

Ryan Matthews, State Lobbyist, Peebles, Smith & Matthews gave a presentation.

Nicolle Shalley, City Attorney spoke to the matter.

Public Comment: Brian O'Brien, Nathan Skop and Donald Shepherd.

RECOMMENDATION *The City Commission hear a presentation from the City's state lobbying firm regarding the 2021 legislative session.*

Heard

[210067.](#)

Director Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (Equal Opportunity Director) Interim and Appointment Search Discussion (B)

Motion: Advertise for an interim Director of Office of Equity and Inclusion, including internal and former City employees. Commission will consider and approve the job description prior to hiring for the permanent position. Advertising will begin on June 28, 2021.

Steve Varvel, Interim Human Resources Director spoke to the matter.

Public Comment: Brian O'Brien, Armando Grundy-Gomes and Donald Shepherd.

RECOMMENDATION *The City Commission discuss the two recruitment processes, provide direction to staff and take action as appropriate.*

A motion was made by Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Hayes-Santos, that this Matter be Approved, as shown above. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Poe, Commissioner Hayes-Santos, Commissioner Saco, Commissioner Ward, Commissioner Arreola, and Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Johnson

Nay: 1 - Duncan-Walker

[201089.](#)

Natures First Policies (NB)

Motion: Upon the sunset date of the Zero Waste Subcommittee, transition to a subcommittee for Natures Policies.

Commissioner Arreola gave a presentation.

Morgan Spicer, Policy Research Fellow gave a presentation.

Public Comment: Brian O'Brien, Debbie Martinez and Donald Shepherd.

RECOMMENDATION *The General Policy Committee discuss.*

A motion was made by Commissioner Arreola, seconded by Commissioner Hayes-Santos, that this Matter be Approved, as shown above. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Poe, Commissioner Hayes-Santos, Commissioner Saco, Commissioner Ward, Duncan-Walker, Commissioner Arreola, and Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Johnson

[210080.](#)

Chapter 164 Dispute with Alachua County (NB)

Motion: 1) the City drop the Chapter 164 challenge; 2) Rescind the City’s letter to the Treasury Department; and 3) Readvertise the mediation meeting as a joint meeting of the City and the County; and have a high-level discussion about the use of federal dollars for projects that benefit the City and the County.

Mayor Poe introduced the item.

Public Comment: Brian O’Brien

RECOMMENDATION *The General Policy Committee discuss.*

A motion was made by Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Ward, that this Matter be Approved, as shown above. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Poe, Commissioner Hayes-Santos, Commissioner Saco, Commissioner Ward, Duncan-Walker, Commissioner Arreola, and Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Johnson

[201093.](#)

Annexation Policy (B)

This is a request for the General Policy Committee to hear a presentation from staff on past annexation efforts and discuss components of an annexation policy.

RECOMMENDATION *The General Policy Committee 1) receive a presentation from staff and 2) discuss and take action deemed appropriate.*

Withdrawn

[201088.](#)

Loss of Affordable Housing (NB)

Motion:

- 1. Add to Housing Action Plan a focus on creation and preservation of low and very low-income housing.*
- 2. Staff bring back information about where the LIHTC properties are in Gainesville. Explore the possibility of developing relationships and a source for replacing existing housing subsidies.*

3. *Discuss with the County the possibility of setting aside funds for temporary housing vouchers.*
4. *“Know your rights” campaign including enforcement of source of income discrimination in the renters’ rights ordinance.*
5. *Amend ordinance to include: Under lawful source of income, landlord or any agent may only consider the portion of rent the holder of the Section 8 voucher (or other funding subsidy) is required to pay out of pocket.*
6. *Schedule a Special Meeting with UF to address the campus development agreement, including housing and other impacts.*
7. *Restructure the investigation process to include time-sensitive investigations (from the Office of Equity & Inclusion).*

Commissioner Johnson introduced the item.

Jeremiah Tattersall, Alachua County Labor Coalition, spoke to the matter.

Ty Loudd, property manager, spoke to the matter.

Jonathan Orsini, University of Florida, spoke to the matter.

Fred Murray, Assistant City Manager, spoke to the item.

Lee Feldman, City Manager, spoke to the item.

Andrew Persons, Director of the Department of Sustainable Development, spoke to the matter.

Public Comment: Donald Shepherd and Nathan Skop

RECOMMENDATION *The General Policy Committee discuss and take action deemed necessary.*

A motion was made by Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Hayes-Santos, that this Matter be Approved, as shown above.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Poe, Commissioner Hayes-Santos, Commissioner Saco, Commissioner Ward, Duncan-Walker, Commissioner Arreola, and Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Johnson

PUBLIC COMMENT

Donald Shepherd

Nathan Skop

MEMBER COMMENT

Commissioner Arreola discussed electronic scooters.

Mayor Poe proposed designating one GPC meeting per quarter to be an open format opportunity for each Commissioner to have 30 minutes to present ideas and topics to the full Commission. To be discussed further at the next GPC administrative session.

NEXT MEETING DATE - July 22, 2021

ADJOURNMENT - 5:40 PM