

#160695

# City of Gainesville

City Hall  
200 East University Avenue  
Gainesville, Florida 32601



## Minutes

January 10, 2017

7:30 PM

**Joint City Commission/U of F Student Senate Special Meeting**

**U of F Reitz Union Senate Chamber, 686 Museum Road, Gainesville,  
FL**

## City Commission

**Mayor Lauren Poe (At Large)**  
**Commissioner Harvey Budd (At Large)**  
**Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Helen Warren (At Large)**  
**Commissioner Charles Goston (District 1)**  
**Commissioner Todd Chase (District 2)**  
**Commissioner Craig Carter (District 3)**  
**Commissioner Adrian Hayes-Santos (District 4)**

***If you have a disability and need an accommodation in order to participate in this meeting, please contact the Office of Equal Opportunity at (352)334-5051 at least two business days in advance. TTY (Text Telephone Telecommunication Device) users please call 711 (Florida Relay Service). For Speech to Speech (STS) relay, please call 1-877-955-5334. For STS Spanish relay, please call 1-877-955-8773. For STS French Creole relay, please call 1-877-955-8707.***

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA - 7:36 PM**

- Present** 6 - Commissioner Budd, Commissioner Chase, Mayor Poe, Commissioner Hayes-Santos, Commissioner Carter, and Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Warren
- Absent** 1 - Commissioner Goston

**AGENDA STATEMENT**

**A motion was made by Commissioner Carter, seconded by Commissioner Budd, that this Matter be Adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner Budd, Mayor Poe, Commissioner Hayes-Santos, Commissioner Carter, and Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Warren

**Absent:** 2 - Commissioner Goston, and Commissioner Chase

160651.

**Joint Meeting with the University of Florida Student Senate (NB)**

*Commissioner Chase arrived at 7:42 PM.*

*Business by Student Senate*

*Forum with Student Senate: 1) Safety (bike and pedestrian); and 2) UF Strategic Plan.*

**RECOMMENDATION**

*The City Commission conduct a joint meeting with the University of Florida Student Senate.*

**Heard**

**ADJOURNMENT - 9:46 PM**

#160695

# City of Gainesville

City Hall  
200 East University Avenue  
Gainesville, Florida 32601



## Minutes

January 12, 2017

1:00 PM

**Joint City Commission/Utility Advisory Board Special Meeting**

**Gainesville Regional Utilities Multi-Purpose Room**

## City Commission

**Mayor Lauren Poe (At Large)**  
**Commissioner Harvey Budd (At Large)**  
**Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Helen Warren (At Large)**  
**Commissioner Charles Goston (District 1)**  
**Commissioner Todd Chase (District 2)**  
**Commissioner Craig Carter (District 3)**  
**Commissioner Adrian Hayes-Santos (District 4)**

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**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA - 1:03 PM**

**Present** 6 - Commissioner Goston, Commissioner Budd, Commissioner Chase, Mayor Poe, Commissioner Hayes-Santos, and Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Warren

**Absent** 1 - Commissioner Carter

**AGENDA STATEMENT****160650. STRATEGIC VISION FOR GRU (B)**

*Agenda adopted by consensus.*

*Commissioner Chase arrived at 1:08 PM.*

*Commissioner Goston arrived at 1:15 PM.*

*Item No. 1 - Recommend that GRU get an attorney that answers to the General Manager of GRU*

- *Chair Cook: Attorney reporting to the GRU General Manager.*
- *Sandra Campbell: No financial impact.*
- *Nicolle Shalley: 1) Gave an understanding of the duties for the City Attorney's office; and 2) Nicolie Shalley will be attending all UAB meetings until the Utility Attorney is hired.*
- *Commissioner Hayes-Santos: 1) City Commission should set a policy that the UAB has an attorney at every meeting; 2) alter policy that there is an attorney over at the GRU building; and 3) alter the policy where the GRU attorney is an expert in energy matters.*
- *Commissioner Budd: 1) Be part of the Executive Management Team; and 2) new attorney to have a contractual background.*
- *Commissioner Chase: 1) Authorities of the UAB; and 2) continue to consider the decoupling of the Utility from the City.*
- *Annie Orlando: 1) UAB should have exercise oversight; and 2) add a link from the Consent Agenda to UAB's meetings.*
- *Commissioner Goston: 1) Supports anything that the UAB does to get the City back to where it needs to be.*
- *Mary Alford: 1) Set into place the same policies/procedures/processes.*
- *David Denslow: 1) Salary structure; and 2) favor of having a separate attorney that reports to the General Manager for Utilities.*
- *Robert Walpole: Legal opinions/advise (UAB needs their own attorney).*
- *Ed Bielarski listed a few of GRU's accomplishments.*

*Jim Konish, Ray Washington and Robin Baxley spoke to the matter.*

*Item No. 2 - Visit rate structure for both relief and for economic opportunity*

- Chair Cook: Different rate structures for the relief of the economic disadvantage/business opportunities.*
- Mary Alford: Look at connection fees and allowing some gradient of charges based on the cost of the home.*
- Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Warren: Incentives for landlords to reduce energy efficiency.*
- Commissioner Budd: 1) Incentives for Enterprise Zones (connection charges) and for the UAB to come up with suggestions/creative ideas with the Utility; and 2) Housing stock - make affordable.*
- Commissioner Hayes-Santos – 1) UAB to use their expertise to create policies to make GRU/City better; and 2) look at budget and rates.*
- Commissioner Goston: 1) Advantages of Enterprise Zones (developers are being hurt statewide); and 2) requests that the UAB and Chamber get with other cities to see how they logistically formulated their Enterprise Zones.*
- Commissioner Chase: UAB needs to focus on making an impact.*

*Item No. 3 - Improve community outreach*

- Chair Cook: Not enough good coverage to tell folks how good GRU is.*
- Commissioner Goston: Need better community outreach.*
- Mary Alford: Promote job opportunities working for GRU.*

*Item No. 4 - Unfunded mandate transparency*

*Commissioner Goston left at 3:02 pm.*

- Mayor Poe: UAB needs a more detailed level of budget.*
- Annie Orlando: Accountability for GRU to implement programs.*
- Sandra Campbell: Transfers of GRU/City (potential savings).*
- Commissioner Chase: Unfunded mandates.*
- Commissioner Hayes-Santos: 1) Transparency towards GRU budget; and 2) GRU/General Government work together on priorities list.*
- Tony Cunningham: GRU works with General Government (looking at whole neighborhoods).*
- Annie Orlando: UAB is getting a lot more transparent.*
- Robert Walpole: Unfunded mandates affect rates in the long-term.*

*Item No. 5 - Long term strategy in the face of huge disruptive factors such as distributed generation and battery storage of electricity*

- *Mayor Poe: Industry/new business opportunities.*

*Item No. 6 - Expansion of service in basic products such as natural gas and other possibilities taking #5 into account*

*Commissioner Budd left at 3:29 pm.*

- *Commissioner Hayes-Santos: Expansion of Broadband internet services (long-term financial).*
- *Commissioner Chase: GRUCom future will be the largest decision to make in the future.*
- *Annie Orlando: Companies that are delivering internet services are bigger than GRU (companies should be more accountable).*

*Item No. 7 – Attracting and retaining talent (Human Resources)*

- *Mayor Poe: 1) Work on priorities, starting a new pay study, look at turnover rates, and get methodology of pay study to the UAB.*
- *Sandra Campbell: - Salary survey, benchmarking, recognize employee's needs.*

*Eugenia Allen was introduced as the new Human Resources Director.*

*Discussion Items not on list*

- *Commissioner Hayes-Santos: Priorities for the UAB: 1) GRU Urban Design Standards; 2) 21st Century Utility in GRU and how that is implemented; and 3) how things are structured in the UAB (yearly topics).*
- *Mary Alford: Safety and environmental concerns.*
- *Commissioner Chase: Make sure UAB is involved in future discussions of GREC.*
- *Annie Orlando: Annual report.*

*Motion by Commissioner Hayes-Santos, seconded by Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Warren: Clerk to schedule a joint meeting with the topic being the budget. Motion passed 4-0. Commissioners Goston, Budd and Carter absent.*

**RECOMMENDATION**

*Discuss the UAB's and the City Commission's priorities for GRU and combine them into a strategic vision for the Utility.*

**Action: As shown above or discussed.**

**ADJOURNMENT - 4:00 PM**