

# City of Gainesville

City Hall  
200 East University Avenue  
Gainesville, Florida 32601



## **Minutes - Draft**

September 23, 2019

3:00 PM

Joint City/County Commission Special Meeting

City Hall Auditorium

## **City Commission**

*Mayor Lauren Poe (At Large)*

*Commissioner Helen Warren (At Large)*

*Commissioner Gail Johnson (At Large)*

*Commissioner Gigi Simmons (District 1)*

*Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Harvey Ward (District 2)*

*Commissioner David Arreola (District 3)*

*Commissioner Adrian Hayes-Santos (District 4)*

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**CALL TO ORDER - 3:01 PM****AGENDA STATEMENT****ROLL CALL**

- Present** 5 - Commissioner Arreola, Commissioner Simmons, Commissioner Hayes-Santos, Mayor Poe, and Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Ward
- Absent** 2 - Commissioner Warren, and Commissioner Johnson

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

*Modification: Switch the order of agenda items #190408 GRACE Marketplace and #190021 8th and Waldo Corridor Update.*

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

- Aye:** 5 - Commissioner Arreola, Commissioner Simmons, Commissioner Hayes-Santos, Mayor Poe, and Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Ward
- Absent:** 2 - Commissioner Warren, and Commissioner Johnson

**BUSINESS DISCUSSION ITEMS**[190323.](#)**Interlocal Agreement for Automatic Aid with Alachua County for Fire and EMS Services (B)**

This item requests the Commission approve the Interlocal Agreement Between Alachua County and City of Gainesville Regarding Automatic Aid for Fire and EMS Services.

*Alachua County Fire Chief Theus presented the Automatic Aid agreement. Asked the Commission to approve the agreement.*

*City Fire Chief Lane thanked staff for collaboration and support. Spoke in support of the agreement.*

**RECOMMENDATION**

*The Commission authorize the Mayor or designee to execute the Interlocal Agreement Between Alachua County and City of Gainesville Regarding Automatic Aid for Fire and EMS Services subject to approval by the City Attorney as to form and legality.*

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

- Aye:** 5 - Commissioner Arreola, Commissioner Simmons, Commissioner Hayes-Santos, Mayor Poe, and Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Ward

**Absent:** 2 - Commissioner Warren, and Commissioner Johnson

[190021.](#) **8th and Waldo Corridor Update (NB)**

*Assistant City Manager Dan Hoffman gave an update.*

**RECOMMENDATION** *The City Commission and the Alachua County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) discuss and take action as deemed necessary.*

**Discussed**

[190408.](#) **Funding Concept for GRACE Marketplace, Closing Dignity Village, and Rapid Rehousing & Permanent Supportive Housing (B)**

*Motion: In FY20, the City and County would each support GRACE at \$750,000; and each contribute \$250,000 toward Dignity Village; 2) In FY21, the City and County would each contribute \$750,000 to GRACE; and each would put \$500,000 to rapid re-housing and permanent supportive housing; 3) In FY22, the City and County would each contribute \$750,000 to GRACE; and increase the contribution for supportive housing to \$750,000; and 4) If the County wants to, it would take over the contract for management of GRACE Marketplace.*

*Assistant City Manager Fred Murry gave a presentation on funding strategy for homeless services: GRACE Marketplace and rapid and permanent supportive housing. Staff requests policy direction to move forward. Mr. Murry reminded Commission that City has not allocated additional funding to the funding proposal.*

*Commissioner Hayes-Santos appreciated the County Commission for funding allocated to GRACE and Dignity Village. In favor of the City and County continuing to fund homeless services together.*

*Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Ward spoke about the concern of promising funding in future budget years. Would be comfortable with the City taking over more/all of GRACE Marketplace because the current structure is unwieldy.*

*Commissioner Hayes-Santos supports increased funding for housing, but wants County to continue supporting homeless services. Spoke to population, proportion of City and County services.*

*Commissioner Simmons asked to hear input from Jon DeCarmine, Executive Director, GRACE Marketplace, on closing of Dignity Village, the impact on the operations of GRACE. Mr. DeCarmine spoke in support of homeless services and rapid re-housing. Does not have a preference regarding how the two bodies choose to fund the services; important for funders to know of the long-term commitment.*

*Commissioner Arreola spoke in favor of a five-year contract plan, but does not support proposed funding formula without more information on where the funding would go. Willing to find agreement on the upcoming fiscal year, then discuss longer-term funding solution.*

*Mayor Poe commented in favor of equal commitment to all services by the City and*

County, more equitable to share the costs. Supports continuing to jointly fund GRACE; and both City and County increasing funding for supportive housing. Proposes that the bodies agree to work on increasing the funding through the City's affordable housing plan.

Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Ward commented about splitting up the funding responsibilities. Spoke in support of going after the federal dollars for rehousing, but would like to reach an agreement today on funding for GRACE Marketplace. Spoke in support of the proposal in order to reduce the delays in the yearly funding discussion/allocation.

Motion by Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Ward, seconded by Commissioner Simmons: Accept the funding proposal going forward.

Commissioner Arreola not in support of the motion.

Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Ward commented about the GRACE oversight board. Supports moving forward to avoid same situation next year.

Commissioner Hayes-Santos asked if Mayor would support motion, otherwise support alternative motion.

Mayor Poe spoke against motion.

Commissioner Simmons spoke against the motion.

Mayor Poe commented that the amendment to the motion is not supported.

Mayor-Commissioner Ward commented. Urged Commissions to move with speed to take action today.

Fred Murry reminded Commission that CCOM adopts FY21 budget on Thursday; any changes will unbalance budget.

Jim Konish, Joe Jackson, Kali Blount, Mona Gil de Gibaja, Tamara Robbins and Elizabeth Howard spoke to the matter.

Mayor Poe restated the motion to support the proposed County Commission plan. Motion fails 3-2; Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Ward and Commissioner Simmons in support.

Mayor Poe left the meeting at 5:08 PM.

Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Ward asked Mr. DeCarmine to speak to funding difference for GRACE if proposal doesn't pass. Mr. DeCarmine responded; \$250,000 budgeted for closing Dignity Village, \$250,000 for operations.

Commissioner Hayes-Santos commented that current County budget reduces funding for GRACE; asks it to do its part for this year.

Commissioner Hayes-Santos commented that City could propose a five-year funding plan; City committed to increasing funding for supportive housing in coming years.

Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Ward commented about the funding gap.

*Commissioner Simmons moved to return to original proposal. Motion died for lack of second.*

**RECOMMENDATION**

*The City and County Commissions discuss and provide staff direction with respect to funding and homeless services as follows: 1) Continued funding for Grace Marketplace for FY2020-21 (contingent on an agreement to fund services for FY2021 and beyond); 2) City and County Homeless services funding for FY 2021 and beyond; and 3) Plan and funding request for the closure of Dignity Village.*

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

**Aye:** 4 - Commissioner Simmons, Commissioner Hayes-Santos, Mayor Poe, and Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Ward

**Nay:** 1 - Commissioner Arreola

**Absent:** 2 - Commissioner Warren, and Commissioner Johnson

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

*Joannie Ellis, Tamara Robbins and Joe Jackson spoke to the matter.*

**MEMBER COMMENT**

*Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Ward spoke to the City's budget.*

*Commissioner Hayes-Santos spoke to the Wild Spaces Public Places staff salaries.*

**ADJOURNMENT - 5:51 PM**