

City of Gainesville

City Hall
200 East University Avenue
Gainesville, Florida 32601



Minutes - Draft

October 26, 2021

6:00 PM

Joint City Commission/Utility Advisory Board Special Meeting

Gainesville Regional Utilities Multi-Purpose Room

City Commission

Mayor Lauren Poe (At Large)

Commissioner Reina Saco (At Large, Seat A)

Commissioner Desmon Duncan-Walker (District 1)

Commissioner Harvey Ward (District 2)

Mayor Commissioner Pro-Tem David Arreola (District 3)

Commissioner Adrian Hayes-Santos (District 4)

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CALL TO ORDER - 6:02 PM

AGENDA STATEMENT

ROLL CALL

- Present** 5 - Commissioner Hayes-Santos, Mayor Poe, Commissioner Saco, Commissioner Ward, and Commissioner Duncan-Walker
- Absent** 1 - Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Arreola

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

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

- Aye:** 5 - Commissioner Hayes-Santos, Mayor Poe, Commissioner Saco, Commissioner Ward, and Commissioner Duncan-Walker

- Absent:** 1 - Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Arreola

[180258.](#)

Public Engagement Strategy for Public Input on the UAB's Utility Energy Policy (NB)

Yvette Carter, GRU Chief Inclusion Officer gave a report.

RECOMMENDATION *Receive an update from staff and take any action deemed appropriate.*

Discussed

[210568.](#)

Update on Commission Request to Establish a Climate Change Officer (NB)

Ed Bielarski, GRU General Manager, gave a report.

Motion: Direct the Interim City Manager and GRU General Manager to bring back a plan and philosophy of what the Climate Change Officer position would do and budget considerations.

Public Comment: Kali Blount, Nancy Darren, Donald Shepherd, Bennett Brummer and Megan Walker.

RECOMMENDATION *Receive an update from staff and take any action deemed appropriate.*

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

- Aye:** 5 - Commissioner Hayes-Santos, Mayor Poe, Commissioner Saco, Commissioner Ward, and Commissioner Duncan-Walker

Absent: 1 - Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Arreola

210567. **Conservation/EV Incentive Programs and Solar Circuit Limitations (B)**

Mayor Poe introduced the item. Requested UAB evaluate the Solar Circuit Limitations and bring back more information to the Commission.

Ed Bielarski, GRU General Manager, spoke to the item.

Motion: Refer the matter of Solar Circuit Limitations to the UAB for evaluation and to bring back more information to the City Commission; and to direct GRU staff to examine and bring back information on incentive and rebate programs (include the LEAP and Community Weatherization program).

UAB Board Chair Wes Wheeler spoke to the matter of Conservation/EV Incentive Programs.

Jim Gilmartin, Utility and Design Engineer, gave a presentation.

Commissioner Duncan-Walker left the meeting at 7:41 PM.

Public Comment: Donald Shepherd and Nancy Darren.

RECOMMENDATION *Hear presentations from staff and take any action deemed appropriate.*

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

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Hayes-Santos, Mayor Poe, Commissioner Saco, and Commissioner Ward

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Duncan-Walker, and Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Arreola

PUBLIC COMMENT

MEMBER COMMENT

ADJOURNMENT - 8:35 PM.