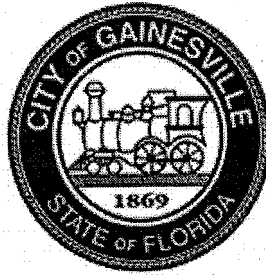


City of Gainesville

*City Hall
200 East University Avenue
Gainesville, Florida 32601*



Minutes - Draft

Tuesday, April 7, 2015

3:00 PM

City Hall, Ground Floor, Room 16

Public Safety Committee

*Commissioner Helen Warren, Chair
Commissioner Yvonne Hinson-Rawls, Member*

Persons with disabilities who require assistance to participate in this meeting are requested to notify the Equal Opportunity Department at 334-5051 or call the TDD phone line at 334-2069 at least two business days in advance.

CALL TO ORDER**ROLL CALL****ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA****APPROVAL OF MINUTES****140863. Approval of December 16, 2014 Public Safety Committee Minutes (B)****RECOMMENDATION**

The Public Safety Committee approve the minutes of the December 16, 2014 meeting minutes as submitted.

Deferred until next meeting.

DISCUSSION OF PENDING REFERRALS**140686. Reichert House Funding (B)****RECOMMENDATION**

The Public Safety Committee review budget and expenditure data compiled by the City's Budget and Finance Office and determine a course of action to be taken.

This item was referred to the Public Safety Committee during a Forfeiture Fund request to to the City Commission a portion of which was funding the Reichert House.

Reichert House Director John Alexander gave a presentation on the background of the Reichert House and its funding sources and expenditures. New Federal regulations allow only \$25,000 per year to be used for Community Program Prevention (such as the Reichert House). Additional Forfeiture Funds can still be used to purchase qualifying equipment for the Program.

The Public Safety Committee voted unanimously to: 1) request that the Mayor send a letter to the Department of Juvenile Justice requesting them commit to paying for two full time Intervention Specialist positions at the Reichert House; 2) request that the City Manager prepare a budget increment for the City Commission consideration for the two Reichert House Intervention Specialist positions in the event the Department of Juvenile Justices denies the City's request for funding; and 3) remove this item from the Public Safety Committee's Referral List.

140518. Lighted Crosswalks and Street Lighting (B)

This item is a referral from the City Commission.

RECOMMENDATION

The Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee discuss the issue of lighted crosswalks and street lighting.

UF Student Government Senate Member Michael Buchanan spoke on the issue of lighted crosswalks and street lighting in the University Context Area. Students have expressed concerns with safety at crosswalks and night time visibility in neighborhoods.

Deborah Leistner, Public Works Planning Manager stated that proposals were made in conjunction with the FY14 budget process and also the Transportation Surtax that was rejected by County voters last fall. The Public Works Department submitted a funding request for items related to bicycle and pedestrian safety, which included enhancements to crosswalks. This increment would have provided for lighted crosswalks at intersections with high volumes of pedestrian traffic, featuring the following treatments:

- Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) activated lighted crosswalks; and,
- High Intensity Activated Crosswalk (HAWK).

Street lighting along public roadways is covered in City Ordinance (Chapter 27, Section 27-29). Public Works reviews street lighting conditions based on citizen requests, verifying compliance with city code. Repairs and/or new installations are coordinated with GRU.

When appropriate, Public Works Department staff will also work with GPD staff to perform a safety analysis of the area. Tree trimming around streetlights is also helpful.

Former City Commissioner Jeanna Mastrodicasa suggested staff contact the UF Transportation Fee Group as a good source for potential funding and recommendations.

The Public Safety Committee made recommendations for 1) staff to work with Student Government to research intersections in need of lighting and options for funding sources; and 2) report back to the Committee with their findings.

140840.

Underage Drinking Ordinance (B)

RECOMMENDATION

The Public Safety Committee: 1) hear a presentation from GPD staff; and 2) discuss options for amending the ordinance to enable enforcement.

GPD Lieutenant Bruce Giles gave a presentation outlining the work the Public Safety Committee and City Commission had extensively researched and adopted revisions to the City's Underage Drinking Ordinance in February, 2013. However, due to administrative challenges, the enforcement of the ordinance has been suspended.

Lieutenant Giles reviewed options for the Committee to consider.

Business owners Ron Defilippo and Giuseppe Sabella spoke about their issues with trying to run their businesses in conjunction with City requirements. Former City Commissioner Jeanna Mastrodicasa commented on her recent observations in Mid-Town when participating in a ride-along with a GPD officer.

With time limitations on the meeting, the Public Safety Committee members voted to continue this discussion to the next meeting.

MEMBER COMMENT

None.

CITIZEN COMMENT

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next scheduled meeting is Monday, April 27, 2015 at 3:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.