



MEMORANDUM

Office of the City Attorney

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TO: Utility Advisory Board

DATE: December 7, 2016

FROM: Nicolle M. Shalley, City Attorney

SUBJECT: GRU Governance

The minutes of your September 14, 2016 meeting reflect that during the discussion of Item # 160085, titled UAB Vision Statement, Discussion Topics and Commission Referrals, "Member Walpole asked that staff have someone from the legal office attend a meeting and discuss what has to have approval by the City Commission under the Charter and what approval authority, if any, can be delegated to the UAB. Chair Cook asked that this be on the agenda for the December 2016 meeting."

In response, this Office has compiled the following chronology of the nearly 2 year long effort by the City Commission to study and evaluate governing board options for the City owned utilities that do business under the fictitious name "Gainesville Regional Utilities" ("GRU"). Key memoranda prepared by the Office of the City Attorney are identified in bold. In addition, each tab contains the agenda item text, minutes and back-up for that meeting.

The Memorandum in Tab 10 and Tab 14 are most responsive to Member Walpole's question. The ordinance that sets forth the functions, powers and duties of the UAB is included in Tab 19 for your reference. Should you have any questions, feel free to contact me directly at (352) 393-8747 or email shalleynm@cityofgainesville.org. In addition, I will attend your meeting on December 14, 2016.

	COMMISSION/COMMITTEE	DATE	ACTION SUMMARY
1	City Commission Meeting	1/16/14	During Commission comment, the Commission directed the clerk to schedule a workshop and special meeting on GRU governance.
2	City Commission Workshop	2/4/14	Discussed GRU governance
3	City Commission Special Meeting	2/11/14	Further discussed municipal utility governance and directed Mayor to meet with Representative Perry re GRU Governance; 2) APPA to give a presentation on governance issues at future City Commission meeting
4	City Commission Meeting	3/20/14	Further discussed utility governance and referred to City Attorney to draft ordinance based on Commissioner Poe's proposed criteria
5	City Commission Workshop	4/1/14	Discussed creating advisory board that would study utility governance Memorandum from City Attorney's Office
6	City Commission Meeting	9/4/14	Discussed creating advisory board that would study utility governance and referred the matter to General Policy Committee

7	City Commission Meeting	10/16/14	Adopted Strategic Initiative 8.2: Develop New GRU Governance and Oversight Model and Implementation Plan
8	General Policy Committee	10/21/14	Discussed GRU governance issues, referred the issue of a Citizen Rate Advisory Committee back to the City Commission to refer to a standing committee and asked City Attorney to bring back differences between an independent board and a dependent board and what governance changes would require Charter revisions
9	City Commission Meeting	11/6/14	Referred to the Regional Utilities Committee, establishment of a citizen rate review committee to review and provide input on utility rates
10	General Policy Committee	1/21/15	Discussed Memorandum from City Attorney's Office and voted to schedule a workshop regarding GRU governance.
11	City Commission Meeting	2/19/15	Discussed the proposed House Bill on GRU Governance prepared by Representative Perry.
12	City Commission Workshop	2/26/15	Held workshop to continue its discussion of GRU Governance, including presentation from Representative Perry and Representative Watson.
13	City Commission Special Meeting	3/30/15	Special meeting to discuss creation of utility advisory board – continued to 4/2/15
14	City Commission Meeting	4/2/15	Discussed Strategic Initiative #8.2, including Utility Advisory Board – and directed City Attorney to prepare ordinance. Memorandum from City Attorney's Office.
15	City Commission Meeting	7/2/15	Discussed draft language for an ordinance to create a utility advisory board and referred the matter to Regional Utilities Committee
16	Regional Utilities Committee	10/8/15	Discussed creating a utility advisory board. Voted to report back to the General Policy Committee that the board be composed of 9 members with certain qualifications.
17	General Policy Committee	10/12/15	Heard report from the Regional Utilities Committee and directed City Attorney to draft ordinance creating Utility Advisory Board that would replace the Regional Utilities Committee, Gainesville Energy Advisory Committee and the not yet formed advisory committee.
18	City Commission Meeting	11/5/15	Adopted ordinance creating Utility Advisory Board on first reading
19	City Commission Meeting	11/19/15	Adopted ordinance creating Utility Advisory Board on second reading