

City of Gainesville

City Hall
200 East University Avenue
Gainesville, Florida 32601



Minutes - Final

May 14, 2019

1:30 PM

City Commission Workshop

Gainesville Regional Utilities Multi-Purpose Room

City Commission

Mayor Lauren Poe (At Large)

Commissioner Helen Warren (At Large)

Commissioner Gail Johnson (At Large)

Commissioner Gigi Simmons (District 1)

Commissioner Harvey Ward (District 2)

Commissioner David Arreola (District 3)

Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Adrian Hayes-Santos (District 4)

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CALL TO ORDER - 1:32 PM**AGENDA STATEMENT****ROLL CALL**

Present 7 - Mayor Poe, Commissioner Ward, Commissioner Arreola, Commissioner Warren, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Simmons, and Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Hayes-Santos

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

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

Aye: 6 - Mayor Poe, Commissioner Ward, Commissioner Arreola, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Simmons, and Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Hayes-Santos

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Warren

BUSINESS DISCUSSION ITEMS[181051.](#)**GRU FY2020 Budget (B)**

Commissioner Warren arrived at 1:33 PM.

Claudia Rasnick and Ed Bielarski gave presentations.

Commissioner Warren asked a question. Todd Kamhoot responded.

Commissioner Johnson asked a question about commercial rates. Staff responded. Mayor Poe asked a follow-up question. Todd Kamhoot responded.

Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Hayes-Santos asked a question about residential rate increases. Todd Kamhoot responded.

Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Hayes-Santos suggested a request to set aside funding in this budget for analysis of engineering and a digital divide survey recommended by a consultant to the Digital Access Committee for expanding the broadband network.

Claudia Raznick asked a follow-up question about the budget suggestion. Lewis Walton responded. Ed Bielarski spoke to the matter.

Mayor Poe asked a clarifying question about the engineering study. Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Hayes-Santos responded. Claudia Raznick asked a question. Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Hayes-Santos responded.

Commissioner Johnson asked a clarifying question. Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Hayes-Santos responded. Commissioner Ward spoke to the matter of building a digital network. Commissioner Johnson responded.

Commissioner Simmons commented that the Digital Access Committee has not made any commitments. Would like to see funding from the County be used for the digital divide survey.

Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Hayes-Santos clarified that he supports setting aside the money in the budget for the study, but that it could be removed if the Commission decided not to proceed.

Commissioner Warren asked a question about the budget for the ERP. Mayor Poe spoke to the matter. Claudia Raznick responded. Commissioner Warren asked about a timeline for the ERP. Ed Bielarski spoke to the matter.

Mayor Poe spoke against moving forward with broadband without an engineering study. Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Hayes-Santos spoke to the matter. Commissioner Ward stated that the County is dedicating \$40,000 to the study.

Mayor Poe commented that the Commission should send the County a formal request. Commissioner Warren commented about asking other cities in the County to contribute. Commissioner Ward responded. Commissioner Warren commented about the timeline.

Mayor Poe asked about the status of the Alachua County League of Cities. Commissioner Johnson responded. Mayor Poe suggested giving a presentation to the Mayors. Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Hayes-Santos spoke to the matter.

Mayor Poe spoke in favor of planning for the expenditure; unsure of where to house the funds for now: \$50,000 each from GRU (GRUCOM), GG and the County. Claudia Raznick responded. Mayor Poe spoke to the matter.

Mayor Poe requested that the Clerk draft a letter to the County thanking them for their \$40,000 contribution; and also requesting an additional \$50,000 in funding for the engineering study.

Commissioner Johnson asked a question. Mayor Poe clarified that the request will be included as a funding increment, but that the Commission will still vote on the matter.

Commissioner Warren asked for a list of increment requests that have been part of the discussion.

Mayor Poe requested that the Clerk re-send the form with the increment request link to the Commissioners.

Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Hayes- Santos commented that Commissioners will bring increment requests to the May 21st Budget Meeting.

Commissioner Simmons commented about a request from GRU on budget proposals.

Claudia Raznick spoke about GRU's budget presentation.

Mayor asked the Clerk to include the GRU presentation from this meeting, with the slide showing the \$6 million GFT reduction cost, in the back-up for the budget meeting next Tuesday, May 21.

RECOMMENDATION

Hear a presentation from staff.

PUBLIC COMMENT

MEMBER COMMENT

Commissioner Warren thanked staff.

ADJOURNMENT - 2:20 PM