

# City of Gainesville

City Hall  
200 East University Avenue  
Gainesville, Florida 32601



## **Minutes - Final**

**April 8, 2021**

**1:00 PM**

**City Hall Auditorium**

## **General Policy Committee**

*Mayor Lauren Poe (At Large)*  
*Commissioner Reina Saco (At Large)*  
*Commissioner Gail Johnson (At Large)*  
*Commissioner Gigi Simmons (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 - 1:00 PM**

**ROLL CALL**

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

[201113.](#) **Attendance Affidavits (B)**

*Please Click on Item Number to view.*

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

*Modifications: 1) Member Comment; 2) 200718, 3) 201007, 4) 200739, 5) 201008; 6) 200989; and 7) Remove 180257.*

*Nathan Skop spoke to the matter.*

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

**Aye:** 7 - Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Simmons, Mayor Poe, Commissioner Hayes-Santos, Commissioner Saco, Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Arreola, and Commissioner Ward

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

[200995.](#) **Approval of Minutes from the General Policy Committee Meeting of March 25, 2021 (B)**

RECOMMENDATION *The General Policy Committee approve the minutes of March 25, 2021.*

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

**Aye:** 7 - Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Simmons, Mayor Poe, Commissioner Hayes-Santos, Commissioner Saco, Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Arreola, and Commissioner Ward

**MEMBER COMMENT**

*Commissioner Ward - St. John's River Water Management District laid out a plan (impact to MSL) that would cause GRU to lose 5 million,*

*10% water capacity with a vote this Tuesday. Should authorize staff to seek additional time.*

*Motion by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Commissioner Hayes-Santos: Authorize the Mayor to write a letter to the Governing Board of the St. John's River Water Management District. Motion passed unanimously.*

*Tony Cunningham, Water/Wastewater Officer spoke to the matter.*

*Nathan Skop spoke to the matter.*

## **DISCUSSION OF PENDING REFERRALS**

### **201007. Community Resource Guide (B)**

*Motion: Endorse the Resource Guide, get the students involved, and their successors involved.*

*Mayor Poe spoke to the matter.*

*Abdullah Afridi, CONTRACOVID gave a presentation.*

*Kali Blount spoke to the matter.*

**RECOMMENDATION**      *The General Policy Committee discuss and take action deemed necessary.*

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

**Aye:** 7 - Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Simmons, Mayor Poe, Commissioner Hayes-Santos, Commissioner Saco, Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Arreola, and Commissioner Ward

### **200718. Advisory Board and Committee Annual Reports (B)**

*Brent Christner, Chair of the Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Board gave a presentation.*

*Alisa Vactin and Nathan Skop spoke to the matter.*

**RECOMMENDATION**      *The City Commission receive and review the advisory board and committee annual reports and hear a presentation.*

**Heard**

### **200739. General Fund Transfer (B)**

*Motion: Set GFT for FY22 budget to drop down to 36.283 million which is option 2, and come back to the Board in the coming months to figure out a more longer term solution and what step-down we'll do from there. Motion passed 4-3. Commissioner Johnson, Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Arreola and Commissioner Simmons in dissent; and 2) Refer to Policy Research Team potential programs to mitigate impacts of rate increase on residents that are low-income. Bring back during budget meetings. Motion passed unanimously.*

*Lee Feldman, City Manager spoke to the matter.*

*Claudia Rasnick, GRU Chief Financial Officer gave a presentation.*

*Mark Benton, Accounting and Finance Director gave a presentation.*

*Ed Bielarski, GRU General Manager spoke to the matter.*

*Nathan Shop, Nancy Daren, Jo Beaty and Donald Fields spoke to the matter.*

**RECOMMENDATION**      *Hear a presentation 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:** 7 - Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Simmons, Mayor Poe, Commissioner Hayes-Santos, Commissioner Saco, Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Arreola, and Commissioner Ward

[201008.](#)

**Downtown Strategic Plan Project Update & Engagement Brief (B)**

*Sarit Sela, City Architect introduced.*

*Andrew Overbeck, Principal with MKSK gave a presentation.*

*Jo Beaty and Kali Blount spoke to the matter.*

**RECOMMENDATION**      *Hear presentation and provide input.*

**Heard**

[200989.](#)

**General Policy Committee Administration Session (B)**

**Second Quarter GPC Items**

**April 22, 2021**

1) City Elections Reform; 2) Pay Equity; 3) City Ethics Board; 4) Public Campaign Financing; and 5) Historic Neighborhood Signage.

**May 13, 2021**

1) ARP Act; 2) Loss of Affordable Housing; and 3) Mayors Charter Amendment.

**May 27, 2021**

1) GNV Green New Deal Hiring; and 2) More Women at GPD.

**June 10, 2021**

1) GRU/GG Credit Agency Reporting Policies; 2) Employment Barriers for Formerly Incarcerated; and 3)Annexation Policies.

*Note: Add a placeholder for each meeting re: State/Fed Legislative Sessions .*

**RECOMMENDATION**

*The General Policy Committee will set their agendas for the second quarter of FY21.*

**Discussed**

**Time Certain - 1:30 PM**

[180257.](#)

**Local Food System Action Plan - Key Project Updates and Discussion (NB)**

**RECOMMENDATION**

*The City Commission will hear a presentation by Grace Grows (nonprofit) on the USDA grant funded Community Food Project they are facilitating in SE Gainesville to improve food access and food sovereignty.*

**Withdrawn**

**NEXT MEETING DATE**

**April 22, 2021**

**ADJOURNMENT - 4:39 PM**