THE GOOD LIFE COMMUNITY

Regular City Commission Meeting
Minutes

Monday, September 09, 2013

Mayor Gib Coerper
Vice Mayor Shirley Green Brown
Commissioner Gary Hardacre
Commissioner Ben Boukari, Jr.
Commissioner Robert Wilford

City Manager Traci Cain
City Attorney Marian Rush

The City Commission held a City Commission Meeting on September 9, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. in the James A. Lewis Commission Chambers, City Hall, 15100 NW 142nd Terrace, Alachua, Florida.

Elected Officials: Mayor Gib Coerper, Vice Mayor Shirley Green Brown, Commissioner Robert Wilford, Commissioner Ben Boukari, Jr., and Commissioner Gary Hardacre.

Staff Present: City Manager Traci Cain, Assistant City Manager Adam Boukari, Planning and Community Development Director Kathy Winburn, Deputy City Clerk Alan Henderson, Finance Director Marcian Brown, Assistant Finance Director Rob Bonetti, Compliance and Risk Management Director Cap Wilson, Public Services Director Mike New and Principle Planner Justin Tabor.

Citizens Present: Arwold O'steen, Wanda O'steen, Larry Hall, Kay Hall, Aaron Hickman, Ken Holmes and Gerald Baumann.

Notice given pursuant to Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes. In order to appeal any decision made at this meeting, you will need a verbatim record of the proceedings. It will be your responsibility to ensure such a record is made.

CALL TO ORDER

Led by Mayor Gib Coerper

INVOCATION

Led by Commissioner Robert Wilford

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

Led by Mayor Gib Coerper

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Robert Wilford moved to approve the Agenda; seconded by Vice Mayor Shirley Green Brown.

Passed by unanimous consent.

APPROVE READING OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS BY TITLE ONLY

Commissioner Ben Boukari, Jr. moved to approve reading proposed Ordinances and Resolutions by title only; seconded by Commissioner Gary Hardacre.

Passed by unanimous consent.

I. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

A. Constitution Week Proclamation

Deputy City Clerk Alan Henderson presented the staff report to the Commission and asked Mayor Coerper to read the Proclamation into record.

Mayor Coerper read the Proclamation into record proclaiming September 17, 2013 – September 23, 2013 as Constitution Week.

Kay Hall, Historian for the Gainesville chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution read a letter and thanked the Mayor for the Proclamation.

City Attorney Rush commented on the Oath taken by each Attorney and members of the armed services.

II. COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS ON SUBJECT OF CHOICE

Mayor Coerper opened the floor for citizen comments.

No comments.

III. COMMITTEE REPORTS/COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS/CITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

None Scheduled

IV. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND ORDINANCES

A. Public Hearing for the Adoption of Resolution 13-26 Relating to the Levy of General City Purpose Ad Valorem Taxes for the 2013 Tax Year and Resolution 13-27 Relating to its Budget for the 2013-2014 Fiscal Year

Finance Director Marcian Brown presented the staff report to the Commission.

Mayor Coerper stated *the City of Alachua Commission convenes the Public Hearing on the City of Alachua Fiscal Year 2013-14 Proposed Millages and Proposed Budget as required by Florida Statutes, Chapters 129 and 200 and as advertised in the TRIM Notices. If anyone in our audience is here for the purpose of contesting their assessment, a petition for adjustment with the Value Adjustment Board should be filed no later than 5:00 P.M. Tuesday, September 10th, 2013. The petition forms are available in the Property Appraiser's Office. This evening we will take a number of actions related to the adoption of millages and budgets. The Final Public Hearing on these matters will be held on Monday, September 23rd, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. in this same location, Alachua City Hall Commission Chambers. I encourage you, if you have not already done so, to get a copy of the agenda so you may more easily follow the proceedings this evening. Citizen comments will be taken following the overview of the proposed budget by the City Manager and Finance Director. The City Attorney will now present an overview of the Truth-In-Millage Legislation followed by the City Manager's explanation of the proposed and rolled back millage rates.*

City Attorney Rush *stated in 1980, the Florida Legislature adopted what is known as the Truth in Millage Legislation or TRIM, as it's called. The goal of the legislation was to ensure that taxpayers were advised of the public hearings at which the local taxing authorities' budgets and millage rates are considered and adopted. Each year, the Property Appraiser completes an assessment of the value of all property and certifies to each taxing authority the taxable value of the property within its jurisdiction. Each taxing authority then notifies the Property Appraiser of its proposed millage rate, its rolled back rate and the date, time and place of the public hearing to consider the proposed millage rate and the proposed budget. Once the Property Appraiser receives the information, he sends a notice by first class mail to every taxpayer on the assessment roll. The notice contains the information from the taxing authorities as to the proposed millage rate and the time and place of the public hearing. The notice sent to taxpayers is called the TRIM notice. The TRIM notice lists what the taxes were for the prior year, what the taxes will be if the proposed budget changes are made, and what the taxes will be if no budget changes are made. This information is listed for each taxing authority. The notice also lists all voted levies for debt service. The purpose of the TRIM notice is to provide taxpayers with sufficient basic information to enable them to participate in the public hearing process.*

City Manager Cain stated *one of the requirements of the Truth-in-Millage legislation is to provide information about why proposed millage rates are higher or lower than the rolled back millage rates. The proposed millage for the City of Alachua is 5.5000 mills, which is 0.53% less than the rolled back rate of 5.5293 mills. Rolled back millage rate is defined as "the millage rate, which exclusive of new construction, additions to structure, deletions, and property added due to geographic boundary changes, will provide the same ad valorem tax revenue for each taxing authority as was levied during the prior year." The rolled back millage rate in the General Fund would have generated approximately $20,046 more than the proposed millage rate will. The reason that this $20,046 decreased tax revenue is recommended is to provide tax relief to citizens of Alachua during these tough economic times. Marcian Brown, Finance Director will now present an overview of the proposed budget for fiscal year 2013-14.*

Mr. Brown stated *the total City proposed budget for fiscal year 2013-14 is* ***$32,146,395,*** *which is a net decrease from the amended fiscal year 2013 budget of* ***$10,679,550****. This equates to a 24.94% decrease. This decrease is mainly due to a decrease in appropriation for enterprise funds related to the Series 2003 Bond refunding that occurred during the current fiscal year.*

Also, this total does not include any carry forward appropriations for unfinished projects. They will be included in the final budget adoption on September 23, 2013. The total budget figure is the same as was presented to the Commission at the August 26, 2013 budget workshop. Mister Mayor that concludes my comments on the proposed budgets presented to you in August 2013. I would be happy to answer any questions about the budget at this time.

Mayor Coerper opened the floor for citizen comments on 2013-14 Proposed Millage Rates and Proposed Budget.

No comments.

Mr. Brown stated *Mister Mayor, the document before you, the "City of Alachua Fiscal Year 2013-14 Proposed Budget", includes the changes that were described earlier. Any additional adjustments to this proposed budget can be made by motion at this time.*

City Manager Cain stated *Florida Statutes require that the name of the taxing authority, the millage rate to be levied, the rolled-back rate and the percentage increase over rolled-back rate be publicly announced. Accordingly, the City of Alachua Commission has determined that a proposed millage rate of 5.5000 mills is necessary to fund the proposed general City budget. The proposed millage rate represents a decrease of 0.53% from the rolled-back rate of 5.5293 mills.*

Commissioner Boukari moved to adopt Resolution 13-26; seconded by Commissioner Hardacre.

City Attorney Rush read Resolution 13-26 by title only.

Mayor Coerper opened the floor for citizen comments.

No comments.

Passed 5-0 on roll call vote.

City Attorney Rush read Resolution 13-27 by title only.

Commissioner Boukari commented on the budget message and thanked all for their work, citizens for their patients.

Vice Mayor moved to adopt Resolution 13-27 and authorize the City Manager's signature; seconded by Commissioner Hardacre.

Mayor Coerper opened the floor for citizen comments.

No comments.

Passed 5-0 on roll call vote.

B. A request for consideration of a replat of Lots 40, 48, 55, and 61 of Baywood Phase 1 B, according to the plat thereof as recorded in Plat Book 28, Pages 78 – 79 of the Public Records of Alachua County, Florida. The four (4) ±0.18 acre parcels subject to the replat are located at 14275 NW 160th Lane, 14272 NW 160th Lane, 14385 NW 161st Avenue, and 14271 NW 161st Avenue, and consist of Tax Parcel Nos. 03067-061-040, 03067-061-048, 03067-061-055, and 03067-061-061. This is a quasi-judicial hearing.

Deputy City Clerk Alan Henderson swore in all wishing to speak to the item.

Principal Planner Justin Tabor presented the staff report and PowerPoint Presentation to the Commission.

City Attorney Rush stated the Plat would be signed after all other signatures had been obtained.

Commissioner Wilford stated based upon the competent substantial evidence presented at the hearing, the presentation before the Commission, and Staff's recommendation, the Commission finds the application to be consistent with the City of Alachua Comprehensive Plan and in compliance with the Land Development Regulations and moved to approve the replat of Lots 40, 48, 55, and 61 of Baywood Phase 1B; authorize the Mayor to sign the plat acknowledging the Commission's approval and authorizes the City Attorney to sign the plat approving its legal form and sufficiency upon being presented with a plat that has been signed off by all the other authorities; seconded by Vice Mayor Brown.

Mayor Coerper opened the floor for citizen comments.

No comments.

Passed 5-0 on roll call vote.

C. Resolution 13-28, A Resolution of the City Commission of the City of Alachua, Florida, Relating to the Maintenance of the TK Stormwater Basin; Establishing the Rate of Assessment; Reimposing the Maintenance Assessments; Approving the Updated Maintenance Assessment Roll; Providing for Collection of the Assessments Pursuant to the Uniform Assessment Collection Act; Providing for the Effect of this Resolution; Providing Severability and an Effective Date

City Attorney Rush read Resolution 13-28 by title only.

Assistant City Manager Adam Boukari presented the staff report to the Commission.

Commissioner Hardacre moved to adopt Resolution 13-28; seconded by Commissioner Wilford.

Mayor Coerper opened the floor for citizen comments.

No comments.

Passed 5-0 on roll call vote.

D. First Reading Of Ordinance 13-13, An Ordinance of the City of Alachua, Florida; Amending Section 38-102(A)(1) Increasing the Monthly Customer Charge for Each Metered Point of Connection to the City Water System and Section 38-102(A)(3) Increasing the Water Consumption Charge(s) for Residential, Including Residential Irrigation, and Nonresidential (Commercial, Industrial, Fire Line and Irrigation) Service; Providing for the Repeal of All Ordinances in Conflict; Providing for Severability; Providing for Inclusion in the City Code; and Providing an Effective Date

City Attorney Rush read Ordinance 13-13 by title only.

Public Services Director Mike New presented the staff report and PowerPoint presentation to the Commission. Mr. New stated items D and E are companion items and will share a PowerPoint presentation.

The Commission discussed the proposed Water Rate increase.

Vice Mayor Brown moved to approve Ordinance 13-13 on first reading; seconded by Commissioner Boukari.

Mayor Coerper opened the floor for citizen comments.

No comments.

Passed 5-0 on roll call vote.

E. First Reading Of Ordinance 13-14, An Ordinance of the City of Alachua, Florida to Amend Section 38-140(A)(2), Wastewater Usage Charges; to Increase Usage Charges for Residential Customers and Nonresidential (Commercial and Industrial) Customers; Providing for the Repeal of All Ordinances in Conflict; Providing for Severability; Providing for Inclusion in the City Code; and Providing An Effective Date

City Attorney Rush read Ordinance 13-14 by title only.

Public Services Director Mike New presented the staff report and PowerPoint presentation to the Commission.

The commission discussed the proposed Wastewater Rate increase.

Commissioner Boukari moved to approve Ordinance 13-14 on first reading; seconded by Commissioner Wilford.

Mayor Coerper opened the floor for citizen comments.

No comments.

Passed 5-0 on roll call vote.

V. AGENDA ITEMS

A. Boundary Adjustment Act Consideration

Planning and Community Development Director Kathy Winburn presented the staff report to the Commission.

Mayor Coerper commented on a conversation with Representative Perry in reference to the Boundary Adjustment Act and stated a Resolution would be drafted provided that all Alachua County municipalities concurred.

Vice Mayor Brown moved to support the repeal of the Boundary Adjustment Act; seconded by Commissioner Boukari.

Mayor Coerper opened the floor for citizen comments.

No comments.

Passed 5-0 on roll call vote.

VI. COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS ON SUBJECT OF CHOICE

Mayor Coerper opened the floor for citizen comments.

Jeanette Hinsdale commented on Santa Fe College's Constitution Celebration scheduled for September 17th -19th and provided a background on one of the speakers.

VII. COMMENTS FROM CITY MANAGER AND CITY ATTORNEY

City Manager Cain thanked all the staff for their hard work with the FY 13/14 Budget.

VIII. COMMISSION COMMENTS/DISCUSSION

Vice Mayor Brown commented on a BBQ hosted by W.W. Irby PTA scheduled for September 19, 2013 from 4pm-6pm and encouraged all to participate. Vice Mayor Brown also commented on her attendance of the 3 Million Safe Miles celebration at Wal-Mart Distribution Center honoring driver Johnny Roberts for his achievement and her attendance at Mr. Welch's services. Vice Mayor Brown asked the City Manager to consider honoring the Welch family for the contributions to the City by Mr. Welch. Vice Mayor Brown commented on the senior news letter and thanked the staff responsible for the publication.

Commissioner Wilford and City Manager Cain stated Ms. Diane Morgan and the Senior Resource Advisory Board were the responsible parties for the senior news letter and thanked each of them for their contributions.

Mayor Coerper stated Mr. Welch and his contributions to the community were important and stated he passed on the same day of his birth 100 years later. Mayor Coerper stated Mr. Welch always had a smile to offer and will be missed.

ADJOURN

Commissioner Boukari moved to adjourn; seconded by Vice Mayor Brown.

Passed by unanimous consent.

Meeting adjourned at 7:38 pm.

ATTEST:

Traci L. Cain, City Manager/Clerk

CITY COMMISSION OF THE
CITY OF ALACHUA, FLORIDA

Gib Coerper, Mayor