

OFFICIALS PRESENT: Danny Dunagan, Zack Thompson, George Wangemann, Sam Couvillon, Barbara Brooks, Juli Clay
STAFF PRESENT: Bryan Lackey, Angela Sheppard, Abb Hayes, Denise Jordan

Mayor Dunagan called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM and served as the presiding officer.

CITY MANAGER ISSUES:

City Manager Bryan Lackey commented on setup changes to expand social distancing during the COVID-19 pandemic.

COVID-19 Staffing & Continuity of Operations Plan Update

Water Resources Director Linda MacGregor displayed photographs celebrating Water Resources employees. Operations are continuing following the Center for Disease Control safety guidelines with modifications as needed.

Public Works Director Chris Rotalsky indicated the department developed an emergency plan for the COVID-19 pandemic. He displayed photographs celebrating Public Works employees working through uncertain times.

Mr. Rotalsky commented on citizens voluntarily taking garbage to the curb and expressed a desire for this to continue. He proposed providing citizens that participate with a 96-gallon rolling garbage can (free of charge) to make this an easier task. This will help the Solid Waste Division manage increased volumes.

COVID-19 Social Media Communications Efforts

Public Relations Manager Christina Santee summarized various communication mediums designed to share information with the community.

Council Member Clay extended appreciation for the extra effort to communicate with different dialects.

Downtown Task Force

Convention & Visitors Director Robyn Lynch indicated tourism has been significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Efforts are underway to encourage partners that Gainesville will be ready when it is safe to reopen. She commented on the Main Street Task Force's virtual meeting to discuss best options for reopening downtown. In closing, Ms. Lynch shared a draft version of the Downtown Gainesville History Hunt.

Rolling Garbage Carts

City Manager Bryan Lackey thanked Public Works for accelerating the purchase of rolling carts.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

City Manager Bryan Lackey requested an Executive Session to discuss litigation & personnel.

Motion to close the Work Session at 9:48 AM to enter an Executive Session to discuss litigation and personnel matters.

Motion made by Council Member Thompson

Motion seconded by Council Member Wangemann

Votes favoring the motion: Thompson, Wangemann, Couvillon, Brooks, Clay

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Motion to close the Executive Session at 11:15 AM.

Motion made by Council Member Wangemann

Motion seconded by Council Member Thompson

Votes favoring the motion: Thompson, Wangemann, Couvillon, Brooks, Clay

MAYOR/COUNCIL ISSUES:

Council Member Brooks

1. Extended condolences to the family of the late John W. Morrow, Sr. former Council Member and Mayor of Gainesville as they grieve the loss of his widow, Emily Morrow, and his brother, Charles Morrow.
2. Announced District 2 Public Health is providing free drive thru COVID-19 tests at Allen Creek Soccer Complex. Appointments are required.

Council Member Thompson

Thanked the citizens for their cooperation during the COVID-19 pandemic noting everyone's life has changed.

Council Member Wangemann

1. Thanked his wife for making masks and caps for healthcare providers.
2. Provided a Keep Hall Beautiful ex-officio report.
3. Commented on his assistance with a food distribution to the Hispanic Alliance.
4. Commented on working with Solid Waste employees earlier this week.
5. Reported he will be helping with a tornado cleanup this weekend in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Council Member Couvillon

1. Shared positive feedback about the Water Resources Department.
2. Provided a Housing Authority ex-officio report.

Mayor Dunagan

1. Nominated Brian Daniel to replace Perry Barnett on the Development Authority and nominated Emily Lawson for reappointment to the Chicopee Woods Area Parks Commission. Placed on the May 5, 2020 Council Meeting Consent Agenda.
2. Reminded everyone to practice social distancing.

ADJOURNMENT: 11:25 AM

/dj

C. Danny Dunagan, Jr., Mayor

Denise O. Jordan, City Clerk