



Town Commission Regular Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 12, 2026 at 7:00 PM

706 NE Cholokka BLVD

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Jiana Williams called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO FLAG

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present:

Mayor Jiana Williams

Mayor Pro Tem Kevin Putansu

Commissioner Judy Galloway

Commissioner David Massey

Commissioner Ken Wessberg

Town Staff Present

Attorney A. Derek Folds

Administrator Sara Samario

ANNUAL REORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Mayor Jiana Williams passed the gavel to Administrator Sara Samario.

Administrator Samario opened the floor for nominations for Mayor.

Motion made and seconded (Putansu/Galloway) to nominate Commissioner Jiana Williams to serve as Mayor for the ensuing year; passed 5-0.

Motion made and seconded (Wessberg/Galloway) to close nominations for Mayor; passed 5-0.

The floor was opened for public comment.

Carol Young stated that she was proud of all of the commissioners and believed Mayor Williams was well qualified to serve.

Administrator Samario returned the gavel to Mayor Williams.

Mayor Williams opened the floor for nominations for Mayor Pro Tem.

Motion made and seconded (Wessberg/Galloway) to nominate Commissioner Kevin Putansu to serve as Mayor Pro Tem for the ensuing year; passed 5-0.

Motion made and seconded (Wessberg/Galloway) to close nominations for Mayor Pro Tem; passed 5-0.

The floor was opened for public comment.

Carol Young expressed support for the nomination.

Lester DesForges expressed support for the nomination.

Mayor Pro Tem Putansu thanked the Commission and stated that he looked forward to continuing to learn from Mayor Williams.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Williams explained that the minutes of May 13, 2025, showed that staff identified an omission under an item recorded as "discussion only". The official record should reflect that a motion was made and approved by the Commission.

Motion made and seconded (Galloway/Wessberg) to accept the consent agenda as submitted; passed 5-0

1. Agenda Approval
2. Amendment to May 13, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Following a review of the approved minutes from the May 13, 2025 Town Commission meeting, staff identified an omission under an item that was recorded as "discussion only." The official record should reflect that a motion was made and approved by the Commission.

The proposed amendment will correct the minutes to accurately document the action taken.

3. Regular Commission Meeting Minutes of April 14, 2026
Special Called Meeting Minutes of April 20, 2026
Amended Minutes of May 13, 2025

GUESTS

4. Micanopy Branch Library Update
Wendy Schneider, Micanopy Librarian, provided a verbal update regarding library operations, programs, and current activities.
5. Willie Mae Stokes Community Center
Bishop Christopher Stokes provided a written and verbal update regarding Community Center activities and programs.
6. Eric Atria - Alachua County Judge Candidate
Item not presented due to the candidate's absence.

CITIZEN'S FORUM

Carol Young, Seminary Avenue, thanked Bishop Stokes for recognizing Karen Hill at the new food pantry.

Patty Crass stated that she felt privileged to live in Micanopy and emphasized the importance of public participation in local government.

Joshua Lillie stated that he was born and raised in Micanopy, enjoys living in the community, and would like to become more involved in town affairs.

Raquel Vallejo introduced Joshua Lillie and encouraged his involvement in the community.

Gail Davis suggested creating a community bulletin board where residents could share skills, services, and resources with one another.

Mayor Williams commented on the Fire Station Open House and noted that sharing skills and resources locally was a positive concept for the community.

Lester DesForges complimented the recent library groundbreaking ceremony and expressed pride in the community.

Bishop Stokes announced a memorial service for Monica Fowler and stated that the Community Center would dedicate a day in her honor.

Paul Cohen stated that he possesses digital inventories of historic homes dating back to 1978 and would be willing to share them with the Town or local archives. He also expressed concerns regarding the paving of parking areas and associated stormwater requirements.

Stoney Slaton noted that Duke Energy has been replacing utility poles and asked whether the Town could request removal of abandoned cable infrastructure and remaining poles.

Margaret expressed appreciation for the community, the library, and Bishop Stokes' contributions to Micanopy.

TOWN COMMISSION LIAISON REPORTS

7. Alachua County League of Cities

Mayor Jiana Williams stated that their last meeting was canceled.

8. Alachua County Children's Trust

Mayor Jiana Williams, the trust will meet tomorrow via Zoom, and they are requesting that each town start a fundraiser to complement this program.

9. Thrasher Warehouse Board

Commissioner Ken Wessberg reported on the Thrasher Warehouse Board meeting. The Board received two estimates for replacement of the HVAC system at the Archives Building:

- Coolhouse Heating and Air – \$7,440.00
- Continental Air and Electric, LLC – \$6,945.00

The Board recommended acceptance of the proposal submitted by Continental Air and Electric, LLC. Dan Young will oversee the project.

Motion made and seconded (Galloway/Wessberg) to approve payment of an invoice from Continental Air and Electric, LLC for replacement of the HVAC system at the Archives Building.

The motion was withdrawn by consensus prior to a vote.

Motion made and seconded (Galloway/Massey) to accept the proposal from Continental Air and Electric, LLC, in the amount of \$6,945.00, for replacement of the HVAC system at the Archives Building; passed 5-0.

CITIZEN BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

10. Planning and Historic Preservation Board

The meeting was canceled in April 2026.

11. Tree Committee

Paul Cohen reported that the Tree Committee met to discuss planting an additional oak tree at the Fire Station playground and the possibility of holding another Arbor Day event.

TOWN ATTORNEY REPORT

Nothing to report.

REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE OF FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS AND REPORTS

12. Financial Reporting for Period Ending April 30, 2026

Motion made and seconded (Galloway/Massey) to accept the April 2026 financial reports as submitted; passed 5-0

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

13. Quarterly Financial Investment Update

Administrator Samario presented the update. Discussion ensued.

14. Fire Station Repurpose Workshop – Summary & Next Steps

Administrator Samario summarized public input received during the April 21, 2026 Fire Station Open House and outlined next steps, including development of a community survey to gather additional feedback regarding future use of the facility.

Commissioners discussed several potential future uses for the Fire Station, including community-oriented functions, possible Sheriff's Office presence, and leasing opportunities.

NEW BUSINESS

15. Facilities Rental for Land Remembered Production

Administrator Samario presented a request from the production team of *A Land Remembered* to use the Fire Station as a staging area and the Town Ballpark for parking during filming activities scheduled for May 20, 2026. The production team also offered educational opportunities for local students to tour the production while filming is underway.

Commissioners discussed the request, potential community benefits, and proposed facility use arrangements.

Motion made and seconded (Putansu/Galloway) to approve use of the Fire Station and Town Ballpark by the *A Land Remembered* production team for staging and parking purposes and to authorize the Town Administrator and Town Attorney to negotiate and execute the necessary agreement; passed 5-0.

Public Comment

Raquel Vallejo suggested revisiting the proposed \$500 facility rental fee.

Mayor Williams noted that the production would likely provide economic benefits to the community due to the anticipated presence of approximately 100 crew members.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

TOWN COMMISSIONER REPORTS

16. Commissioner (Seat 1) Judy Galloway

Commissioner Galloway thanked those in attendance and stated that she was honored to serve the Town. She noted the Town's continued growth and progress.

17. Commissioner (Seat 3) David Massey

Commissioner Massey thanked everyone for attending and participating in the meeting.

18. Commissioner (Seat 4) Kevin Putansu

Mayor Pro Tem Putansu noted that he was unable to attend the recent library groundbreaking ceremony due to a prior commitment. He announced that the Community Garden would host a potluck on May 30, 2026, and expressed interest in organizing a community potluck prior to the June 9, 2026, Town Commission meeting.

19. Commissioner (Seat 5) Ken Wessberg

Commissioner Wessberg congratulated Mayor Williams and Mayor Pro Tem Putansu on their appointments and stated that he was honored to serve the community.

MAYOR (SEAT 2) JIANA WILLIAMS REPORT

Mayor Williams thanked the Commission for its vote of confidence and expressed appreciation to those who attended the meeting. She encouraged continued public participation in Town affairs.

Mayor Williams reminded the public that a joint meeting with the Alachua County Board of County Commissioners would be held on June 1, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at Town Hall.

ADJOURN

PLEASE NOTE: PURSUANT TO SECTION 286.015, FLORIDA STATUTES, IF A PERSON DECIDES TO APPEAL ANY DECISION MADE BY THE COMMISSION WITH RESPECT TO ANY MATTER CONSIDERED DURING THIS MEETING, HE OR SHE WILL NEED TO ENSURE THAT A VERBATIM RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS IS MADE, WHICH RECORD INCLUDES THE TESTIMONY AND EVIDENCE UPON WHICH THE APPEAL IS TO BE BASED. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AMERICAN WITH DISABILITIES ACT, A PERSON WITH DISABILITIES NEEDING ANY SPECIAL ACCOMODATIONS TO PARTICIPATE IN TOWN MEETINGS SHOULD CONTACT THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR, 706 NE CHOLOKKA BLVD., MICANOPY, FLORIDA 32667-0137, TELEPHONE (352) 466-3121.

Mayor Jiana Williams adjourned the meeting at 8:45 pm.