



Town Commission Regular Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 13, 2026 at 7:00 PM

706 NE Chokolka BLVD

CALL TO ORDER

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

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO FLAG

ROLL CALL

Mayor Jiana Williams, present

Mayor Pro Tem Kevin Putansu, present

Commissioner Judy Galloway, present

Commissioner David Massey, present

Commissioner Ken Wessberg, present

Town Staff

Attorney A. Derek Folds

Administrator Sara Samario

Deputy Town Clerk Patty Polk

CONSENT AGENDA

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

1. Agenda Approval
2. Regular Commission Meeting Minutes of

GUESTS

3. Micanopy Branch Library Update

Micanopy librarian Wendy Schneider delivered a verbal presentation.

4. Willie Mae Stokes Community Center Update

Bishop Stokes gave a written and verbal presentation.

CITIZEN'S FORUM

Public Comment (public comments limited to 2 minutes per speaker, please)

Bud DesForges is happy to see so many people here. They have worked on the new food pantry at the Willie Mae Stokes Community Center, and it will be dedicated to Karen Hill, who started the original food pantry on NW Eastaulkee Ave.

Gail Davis asked for a round of applause for Bishop Christopher Stokes; she is impressed with all he does.

Raquel Vallejo stated that this is an amazing time for Micanopy; thank you to all who have worked so diligently.

Derek Watts introduced himself, he is Jianas father, and stated that everyone has been great in Micanopy.

Stephanie Sutton with EDA introduced herself and is here for an agenda item.

Michelle Sheffield of the Alachua County Sheriff's Department introduced herself and informed everyone about upcoming plans from Sheriff Scott. Administrator Samario will add her to the agenda under Guests.

Brenda Maynard, MACS, wished everyone a happy New Year. She thanked Bishop Stokes for his support of the children. Deputy Gallop is teaching MACS grades 1 and 5 RAD students, and they plan to conduct a demonstration and training session for women.

Stephani Bartsch participated in a RAD class and recommends that every woman take one. She invited everyone to the Plant Exchange on the third Saturday of each month at the Gazebo.

Bud DesForges, Thrasher Warehouse President stated that they rescheduled their meeting until this Thursday.

TOWN COMMISSION LIAISON REPORTS

5. Alachua County League of Cities

Mayor Jiana Williams has nothing to report.

6. Alachua County Children's Trust

Mayor Jiana Williams discussed the opioid task force and the billboards on 75 Interstate. Check out the website hopeforalachua.org

7. Thrasher Warehouse Board

Bud DesForges, Thrasher Warehouse President, announced that they will meet on Thursday at their rescheduled meeting.

CITIZEN BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

8. Planning and Historic Preservation Board

Administrator Samario gave a verbal report. 12/16/2026 Planning & Historic Preservation Board meeting, the board held a quasi-judicial hearing for Micanopy Area

Cooperative School (MACS) application for a final site plan review and a special use permit; both were approved.

Final site plan review for the Micanopy Community Center was approved at the special-called Planning & Historic Preservation Board meeting, 1-12-2026.

9. Tree Committee

Paul Cohen, Tree Committee member, they are meeting on 1/22/2026.

TOWN ATTORNEY REPORT

10. Ordinance 2026-01

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF MICANOPY, FLORIDA, PROVIDING FOR AN ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE FOR THE REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF CERTIFIED RECOVERY RESIDENCES CONSISTENT WITH FLORIDA SENATE BILL 954 (2025) AND FEDERAL FAIR HOUSING LAWS; AMENDING CHAPTER 25, ARTICLE I OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES TO CREATE SECTION 25-13; PROVIDING AN ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF CERTIFIED RECOVERY RESIDENCES; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Attorney A. Derek Folds spoke on the Micanopy Area Cooperative School (MACS) appeal. The Final Site Plan and the Special Use Permit were approved on December 16, 2025, and the appeal was filed on January 5, 2026, within the appeal timeline.

A special-called meeting of the Town Commission was set for January 26, 2026, at 6:00 pm to hold the appeal hearing.

Attorney A Derek Folds read Ordinance 2026-01 on short title for first reading. Discussion ensued.

Motion made and seconded (Putansu/Galloway) to approve Ordinance 2026-01 on first reading; passed 5-0

REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE OF FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS AND REPORTS

11. Financial Report for Period Ending December 31, 2025

Administrator Samario presented the financial reports for the period ending December 31, 2025; discussion ensued.

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

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

12. Town Administrator Report

Administrator Samario reported that the election qualifying period for Commission Seat #4 and Seat #5 is January 26 through January 29, 2026, during regular office hours.

Broadband: fiber is now installed, and they are accepting new customers; Cox has not yet started its major push.

Duke Energy is going to be trimming Hwy 441, NE Cholokka Blvd, Seminary Ave, and N Division St. Members of the tree committee met with Duke. Door tags have been distributed in Micanopy. The tag shows serious tree trimming; this will not be done in Micanopy.

Interviewing for our open Administrative Secretary position will begin tomorrow.

Discussion on paving Bay Ave ensued at length. We have received only one paving bid from O'Steen Brothers. Attorney Folds discussed the process and we will advertise on our website.

NEW BUSINESS

13. Proposed Investment Policy

Administrator Samario explained the policy, which will allow us to capture more investments. Discussion ensued at length.

Attorney Folds read Resolution 2026-01 on short title and recommended approval.

Motion made and seconded (Galloway/Massey) to approve Resolution 2026-01 as submitted; passed 5-0

14. Proposed Planning Agreement with EDA

Administrator Samario presented the planning agreement. Discussion ensued at length.

Motion made and seconded (Putansu/Galloway) to allow Administrator Samario to move forward with an agreement with EDA and bring an actual schedule to our next meeting; passed 5-0

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

TOWN COMMISSIONER REPORTS

15. Commissioner (Seat 1) Judy Galloway

Commissioner Galloway greeted everyone with a happy New Year. She apologized for missing the December meeting due to illness. She's looking forward to this year. We do well for our small town. Give yourselves a hand. Thank you very much.

16. Commissioner (Seat 3) David Massey

Commissioner David Massey wished everyone a Happy New Year and thanked everyone for being here.

Plant exchange is on the third Saturday of the month from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm at the Gazebo. Everyone is welcome.

17. Commissioner (Seat 4) Kevin Putansu

Commissioner Kevin Putansu hopes everyone had a wonderful Christmas. The next potluck will be announced.

18. Commissioner (Seat 5) Ken Wessberg

Commissioner Ken Wessberg is looking forward to this year and the upcoming community garden. This past year, a lot has gone on. The annex house on Tuscawilla Ave. The firehouse will open soon. Thank you very much.

MAYOR (SEAT 2) JIANA WILLIAMS REPORT

Mayor Jiana Williams wished everyone a happy New Year. On January 21, 2026, the Alachua County Remembrance Committee will display the 8 completed quilts. Stephanie has talent and shared it on this quilt.

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 8:54 pm