

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the City Commission of the City of Auburndale held October 2, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in the Commission Room of City Hall, after having been properly advertised, with the following members present: Mayor Dorothea Taylor Bogert, Commissioners: Keith Cowie, Richard Hamann, Jack Myers, and Bill Sterling. Also, present were: Assistant City Manager Amy Palmer, Assistant City Attorney Seth Claytor, City Clerk Brandon Henry, and Police Lieutenant John Cruz.

Mayor Dorothea Taylor Bogert declared a quorum present, and the Meeting was opened with prayer by Kevin Chisolm, Move Church, and a salute to the flag.

Motion by Commissioner Cowie, seconded by Commissioner Hamann, to approve Minutes of the City Commission Meeting of September 19, 2023. Upon vote, all ayes.

Assistant City Manager Amy Palmer announced that Auburndale High School's Bloodhound Bash is on October 12th.

Mayor Taylor Bogert asked if there was public comment on any item not on the agenda. There was no public comment.

She recognized Greater Auburndale Chamber of Commerce President Alex Cam and Executive Director Sandra Hall, who were in attendance.

Mayor Taylor Bogert presented a Proclamation recognizing Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Assistant City Attorney Seth Claytor read the Proclamation.

Mayor Taylor Bogert presented a Proclamation recognizing Fire Prevention Week. Assistant City Attorney Seth Claytor read the Proclamation.

Mayor Taylor Bogert closed the Regular Meeting and opened the Public Hearing.

1. PUBLIC HEARING – FUTURE LAND USE AND OFFICIAL ZONING MAP AMENDMENTS INTERSECT PROPERTIES

Assistant City Manager Palmer read the public notice. She said this item was originally tabled at the August 7th meeting, for the developer to consider the comments and discussion made during that hearing.

Community Development Director Julie Womble reiterated that the item was originally tabled at the August 7th meeting. Since then, the developer has met with staff and with community leaders such as Florida Polytechnic University and the Central Florida Development Council.

She said on November 1, 2021, the Intersect Development Group (Intersect) received a Future Land Use designation of Regional Activity Center (RAC) and Zoning classification of Industrial Planned Unit Development (IPUD) on +/-72.5 acres. The binding site plan accompanying the Industrial Planned Unit Development allowed Intersect Development Group to construct a 464,000 sq. ft. E-commerce and logistics building, two research and development buildings, and ten mixed-use commercial outparcels.

Peterson and Myers, on behalf of Intersect Development Group, has requested to establish a Future Land Use designation of Regional Activity Center (RAC) on an additional +/- 69.3 acres. In 2022, the additional property was annexed into the City and the City Commission held a Transmittal Public Hearing prior to sending the proposed Future Land Use Map amendment to the State. The State responded with no objections to the map amendment.

Intersect is requesting to modify and expand the established Zoning classification of Industrial Planned Unit Development (IPUD). Community Development Director Womble presented a slide of relevant Comprehensive Plan policies.

The modification request of the existing Industrial Planned Unit Development allows Intersect to remain consistent with the prior entitlements and provide subtle modifications to facilitate desired changes in the development. Conditions were previously placed on the binding site plan regarding the two research and development buildings being reserved solely for research and development. The request from Intersect would expand the Industrial Planned Unit Development (IPUD) onto +/-45.3 acres of the additional +/-69.3 acres of property for the project. She presented slides depicting the zoning and site plan.

The Industrial Planned Unit Development Zoning amendment came before the City Commission on August 7, 2023, and was tabled for further discussion at the meeting. Since then, the developer has met with City staff. The request would allow the applicant to construct three research and development buildings and four industrial mixed-use buildings. Community Development Director Womble presented additional slides depicting graphics of the zoning and site plan.

This would allow for 269,280 square feet in buildings space reserved solely for research and development, advanced manufacturing, health technology, financial institutions and/or information sciences. The four buildings, located on the southern portion of the subject site, would allow for industrial mixed-use including research and development, light and medium manufacturing, health technology, office space, vocational institutions, and distribution. The mixed-use would provide an opportunity for different operators to have flex space and bring in uses. Outdoor storage is prohibited. Conditions have been placed on the binding site plan showing allowed and prohibited uses. Should the developer want to make a major modification in the future, the Industrial Planned Unit Development would have to come back before the Planning Commission.

Intersect is requesting Planned Development-H2 (PD-H2) for multi-family on the northeast portion of the development to allow for apartments and possible student housing for the nearby university. Planned Development-H2 allows for a density of up to 15 units per acre, which would allow approximately 360 units on the remaining +/-24 acres of property. The binding site plan shows a clubhouse, additional amenities, and will be required to meet all active open space and landscaping requirements per the Land Development Regulations.

As required by the Land Development Regulations for Planned Developments, the requests are accompanied by binding site plans. The requested Zoning classification of Industrial Planned Unit Development and Planned Development-H2 are compatible with the requested Future Land Use of Regional Activity Center (RAC) and is consistent with the City of Auburndale Comprehensive Plan, all Land Development Regulations, the Central Florida Innovation District, and the Joint Planning Agreement with Polk County.

The Planning Commission recommended approval of the proposed Future Land Use Map amendment – (5-0, 12/06/2022) and approval of the proposed Zoning classification of Industrial Planned Unit Development (IPUD) and Planned Development-H2 (PD-H2) – (5-0, 08/02/2023).

Assistant City Manager Palmer said the proposed Ordinances were prepared by the Community Development Department and reviewed by the City Manager's Office and City Attorney. If approved on first reading, the proposed Ordinances would be considered for second and final reading on October 16, 2023. Staff recommends approval of the proposed Ordinances amending the Future Land Use Map and Official Zoning Map.

Bart Allen, Peterson and Myers, 225 E Lemon Street, Lakeland – introduced the applicant's team. He presented a video depicting graphics of the proposal.

Dr. Randy Avent, Florida Polytechnic University, said he met Scott Brown (applicant and representative of the property owner) several years ago when he visited Florida Polytechnic University wanting to know what the University would support off Pace Road. He said Scott said if Florida Polytechnic University was not in support of it, that he would not proceed with it. Florida Polytechnic University worked with him. At the time, it was a half-million logistics facility with retail along Pace Road. There was discussion about industrial mixed-use that could

serve as Research and Development space. Scott Brown has continued to work with Florida Polytechnic and the community to shape that plan. The current plan is more attractive. We like the fact that the industrial mixed-use buildings provide a nice incubator space for companies that want to locate by Florida Polytechnic, right now they have no place to go. That is a real attraction to us. There is Research and Development office space for companies that want to do that. We talked to Scott Brown about apartments because we have a serious housing issue at Florida Polytechnic, particularly for upperclassmen. Most apartments are so far away that it is difficult for students to get to. We just wanted to come to tell the Commission that we are in support of the plan. We think it is a great thing and will really support Florida Polytechnic.

Sean Malott, Central Florida Development Council, 1725 Bartow Road, Lakeland, thanked the Commission for their commitment to the Central Florida Innovation District. We developed that vision early on as a marketing plan to create interest in this area – to grow Auburndale and Lakeland and Polk County, really hoping to get to where we are tonight, which is a true mixed-use development that has opportunities for everyone. That is exactly what is being shown tonight. He is encouraged by the commitment from Scott Brown at Intersect, being able to work with Florida Polytechnic and the community to be able to develop a product that will fit into a lot of interests. Also, a local development partner in the Ruthvens – who are involved in this project as well. They are our critical partners in a lot of projects throughout the Lakeland market. We are excited that they are interested in this location too. We are here in support, and it gives him hope for the future. This is going to be the first location for a company that wants to locate near the University, where they are going to be able to be. He hopes the Commission will support the project as well.

Mayor Taylor Bogert asked for public comment. There was no public comment.

Mayor Taylor Bogert closed the Public Hearing and reopened the Regular Commission Meeting.

2. ORDINANCE #1747 AMENDING THE FUTURE LAND USE MAP – INTERSECT PROPERTIES

Assistant City Manager introduced Ordinance #1747.

Assistant City Attorney Seth Claytor read Ordinance No. 1747 entitled: **AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF AUBURNDALE, FLORIDA, AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 752, THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN OF THE CITY OF AUBURNDALE, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE FUTURE LAND USE MAP BY RECLASSIFYING PARCELS OF LAND TOTALING +/- 69.3 ACRES FROM POLK COUNTY FUTURE LAND USE MAP CLASSIFICATION BUSINESS PARK CENTER-1X (BPC-1X) TO CITY OF AUBURNDALE REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTER (RAC); AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE (General Location: Pace Road and Bryan Lane),** by title only.

Motion by Commissioner Myers, seconded by Commissioner Hamann, to approve Ordinance #1747 amending the Future Land Use Map – Intersect Properties, as read on first reading by title only.

Commissioner Cowie thanked the developer and staff for providing a better project than what was presented a few weeks ago. He appreciates that partnership. He asked if adding code regarding the Innovation District is something staff can look at?

Community Development Director Womble answered yes. We would start with putting the map of the Innovation District in our Comprehensive Plan, and then identifying the gateways. Then we would move forward with code. The Comprehensive Plan and Land Development Regulations are going to be updated over the next few years, and this is a great opportunity and time for us to incorporate the Innovation District. We do not have anything currently. If that is something you are requesting, staff can look at that.

Commissioner Cowie requests that staff look at that. There was consensus from the Commission.

Upon vote, all ayes.

3. ORDINANCE #1748 AMENDING THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP – INTERSECT PROPERTIES – IPUD

Assistant City Manager Palmer introduced Ordinance #1748.

Assistant City Attorney Seth Claytor read Ordinance No. 1748 entitled: **AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF AUBURNDALE, FLORIDA, AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 764, THE LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS OF THE CITY OF AUBURNDALE, FLORIDA, BY AN AMENDMENT TO THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP ESTABLISHING A CITY OF AUBURNDALE ZONING MAP CLASSIFICATION OF INDUSTRIAL PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT (IPUD) ON PARCELS OF LAND TOTALING +/- 45.3 ACRES; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE (General Location: Pace Road and Bryan Lane),** by title only.

Motion by Commissioner Cowie, seconded by Commissioner Hamann, to approve Ordinance #1748 amending the Official Zoning Map – Intersect Properties - IPUD, as read on first reading by title only.

Commissioner Sterling asked for clarification on the number of buildings and their uses.

Community Development Director Womble provided clarification.

Commissioner Sterling said it would be nice if there was another building for research. Once this is done, this is done forever. And the college is an economic engine for this area. Whatever we can do to enhance the college, will enhance the entire area.

Community Development Director Womble said there are allowed uses on these buildings to allow for all of those things. But it also allows for distribution. There are tenants that can come into all of these four buildings, that may meet Research and Development, or an Information Technology hub, or a Health hub. It may also be Manufacturing for high-tech. The Commission is not limiting it to just Distribution, because you are allowing other uses.

Mayor Taylor Bogert and Commissioner Hamann asked for clarification on uses for some of the buildings.

Community Development Director Womble provided clarification.

Mayor Taylor Bogert said she really likes the layout of the Research and Development buildings. It makes it feel more like a research park as opposed to the original plan. She appreciates the initiative. It is going to be conducive for Florida Polytechnic.

Commissioner Myers said he does not want the Commission to be naïve and think this is the only place that we can have Research and Development. There is vacant land on both sides of the property, on the other side of the street, the Williams property, in front of SunTrax. We have unlimited land, if the market bears it. We are not pigeonholing ourselves into this one site. There is plenty of room for other Research and Development.

Upon vote, all ayes.

4. ORDINANCE #1749 AMENDING THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP – INTERSECT PROPERTIES – PD-H2

Assistant City Manager Palmer introduced Ordinance #1749.

Assistant City Attorney Seth Claytor read Ordinance No. 1749 entitled: **AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF AUBURNDALE, FLORIDA, AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 764, THE LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS OF THE CITY OF AUBURNDALE, FLORIDA, BY AN AMENDMENT TO THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP ESTABLISHING A CITY OF AUBURNDALE ZONING MAP CLASSIFICATION OF PLANNED DEVELOPMENT-H2 (PD-H2) ON PARCELS OF LAND TOTALING +/- 24 ACRES; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE (General Location: Pace Road, Bryan Lane),** by title only.

Motion by Commissioner Hamann, seconded by Commissioner Sterling, to approve Ordinance #1749 amending the Official Zoning Map – Intersect Properties – PD-H2, as read on first reading by title only. Upon vote, all ayes.

Assistant City Manager Palmer said she appreciates the direction on the Innovation District, and staff will start looking into amending our code and incorporating Innovation District standards. She thanked Community Development Director Womble.

Mayor Taylor Bogert thanked the applicant and staff.

Scott Brown, Intersect Development Group, concurred. The name Intersect alludes to the intersection of the community, the municipalities, and the developer. They would all intersect together for a good development. We are super excited about this. He really does think we will look back on this and say this was a great idea. It is a true example of intersection.

Assistant City Attorney Claytor reminded the Commission that SB 250 prevents the City from adopting any kind of policy, regulation, restriction, code, or amendment to its Comprehensive Plan that would be more restrictive or burdensome on development until at least October 1, 2024.

5. ORDINANCE #1757 AMENDING THE FUTURE LAND USE MAP - AUBURN LAKES PROPERTY

Community Development Director Womble said Dan Lewis of Ridge Project Management, LLC, on behalf of Lee Saunders of Auburn Lakes, LLC, is requesting to amend 9.11 +/- acres from a Future Land Use of Medium Density Residential to Neighborhood Activity Center. The applicant is also looking to amend the Zoning of General Residential-2 (RG-2) to a Planned Development Commercial-1 (PD-C1). In March 2022, the subject site received a Future Land Use of Medium Density Residential and Zoning of General Residential-2 (RG-2) to accommodate a multi-family and single-family subdivision. The City has approved a Developer's Agreement for the entire proposed site's wastewater usage due to upgrades needed to support development.

The applicant is requesting the Future Land Use and Zoning change to accommodate an 85-unit hotel. The site plan also depicts pool amenities to service the hotel and adequate parking per the Land Development Regulations requirements. The property is surrounded by natural wetlands creating a natural buffer to any future residential to the south.

As required by the Land Development Regulations for Planned Developments, this request is accompanied by a binding site plan. The proposed binding site plan meets all requirements for parking, landscape buffers and building setbacks per the Land Development Regulations. The requested Future Land Use of Neighborhood Activity Center and Zoning classification of Planned Development Commercial-1 is consistent with the City of Auburndale Comprehensive Plan and all Land Development Regulations.

The Planning Commission recommended approval of the proposed Future Land Use of Neighborhood Activity Center and Zoning classification of Planned Development-C1 (PD-C1) – (5-0, 09/05/2023).

Assistant City Manager Palmer said the proposed Ordinances were prepared by the Community Development Department and reviewed by the City Manager and City Attorney. The proposed Ordinances were approved on September 19, 2023 and are being considered for second and final reading. Staff recommends approval of the proposed Ordinances amending the Future Land Use Map and Official Zoning Map – Auburn Lakes.

Assistant City Attorney Seth Claytor read Ordinance No. 1757 entitled: **AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF AUBURNDALE, FLORIDA, AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 752, THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN OF THE CITY OF AUBURNDALE, FLORIDA, BY AMENDING THE FUTURE LAND USE MAP RECLASSIFYING A PARCEL OF LAND TOTALING +/- 9.11 ACRES FROM CITY OF AUBURNDALE FUTURE LAND USE CLASSIFICATION MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL TO CITY OF AUBURNDALE FUTURE LAND USE CLASSIFICATION NEIGHBORHOOD**

ACTIVITY CENTER; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE (General Location: Old Dixie Hwy. and Polk County Prkwy.), by title only.

Mayor Taylor Bogert asked for public comment. There was no public comment.

Motion by Commissioner Sterling, seconded by Commissioner Cowie, to approve Ordinance #1757 amending the Future Land Use Map – Auburn Lakes, as read on second and final reading by title only. Upon vote, all ayes.

6. ORDINANCE #1758 AMENDING THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP - AUBURN LAKES PROPERTY

Assistant City Manager Palmer introduced Ordinance #1758.

Assistant City Attorney Seth Claytor read Ordinance No. 1758 entitled: **AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF AUBURNDALE, FLORIDA, AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 764, THE LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS OF THE CITY OF AUBURNDALE, FLORIDA, BY AN AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING MAP BY REZONING A PARCEL OF LAND TOTALING +/- 9.11 ACRES FROM GENERAL RESIDENTIAL-2 (RG-2) TO PLANNED DEVELOPMENT COMMERCIAL-1 (PD-C1); AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE (General Location: Old Dixie Hwy. and Polk County Prkwy.),** by title only.

Mayor Taylor Bogert asked for public comment. There was no public comment.

Motion by Commissioner Cowie, seconded by Commissioner Hamann, to approve Ordinance #1758 amending the Official Zoning Map – Auburn Lakes, as read on second and final reading by title only. Upon vote, all ayes.

7. ORDINANCE #1759 AMENDING THE FUTURE LAND USE MAP – CLINGERMAN PROPERTY

Community Development Director Womble said as a result of annexation, the City has received a request to amend the City of Auburndale's Future Land Use from Polk County Future Land Use of Linear Commercial Corridor (LCC) to City of Auburndale Future Land Use of Commercial Corridor on +/- 4.28 acres. The developer also requests to establish a Zoning classification of Commercial Highway (CH). The proposed use is for a plant retail nursery.

The amendments are consistent with the existing commercial development of the surrounding properties. The requested Future Land Use and Zoning Map amendments are consistent with the City of Auburndale's Comprehensive Plan and Land Development Regulations.

The Planning Commission recommended approval of the proposed Future Land Use of Commercial Corridor and the Zoning classification of Commercial Highway (CH) – (5-0, 09/05/2023). Staff recommends approval of proposed Ordinances amending the Future Land Use Map and Official Zoning Map – Clingerman.

Assistant City Manager Palmer said the proposed Ordinances were prepared by the Community Development Department and reviewed by the City Manager and City Attorney. The proposed Ordinances were approved on September 19, 2023 and are being considered for second and final reading. Staff recommends approval of proposed Ordinances amending the Future Land Use Map and Official Zoning Map – Clingerman.

Assistant City Attorney Seth Claytor read Ordinance No. 1759 entitled: **AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF AUBURNDALE, FLORIDA, AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 752, THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN OF THE CITY OF AUBURNDALE, FLORIDA, BY AMENDING THE FUTURE LAND USE MAP RECLASSIFYING 1 PARCELS OF LAND TOTALING +/- 4.28 ACRES FROM POLK COUNTY FUTURE LAND USE CLASSIFICATION LINEAR COMMERCIAL CORRIDOR (LCC) TO CITY OF AUBURNDALE FUTURE LAND USE CLASSIFICATION COMMERCIAL CORRIDOR (CC); AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE (GENERAL LOCATION: US Hwy 92 W. and Polk Pkwy.),** by title only.

Mayor Taylor Bogert asked for public comment. There was no public comment.

Motion by Commissioner Hamann, seconded by Commissioner Sterling, to approve Ordinance #1759 amending the Future Land Use Map – Clingerman, as read on second and final reading by title only. Upon vote, all ayes.

8. ORDINANCE #1760 AMENDING THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP – CLINGERMAN PROPERTY

Assistant City Manager Palmer introduced Ordinance #1760.

Assistant City Attorney Seth Claytor read Ordinance No. 1760 entitled: **AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF AUBURNDALE, FLORIDA, AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 764, THE LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS OF THE CITY OF AUBURNDALE, FLORIDA, BY AN AMENDMENT TO THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP BY ESTABLISHING AUBURNDALE ZONING MAP CLASSIFICATION OF COMMERCIAL HIGHWAY (CH) ON 1 PARCEL OF LAND TOTALING +/- 4.28 ACRES; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE (General Location: US Hwy 92 and Polk Pkwy.),** by title only.

Mayor Taylor Bogert asked for public comment. There was no public comment.

Motion by Commissioner Cowie, seconded by Commissioner Sterling, to approve Ordinance #1760 amending the Official Zoning Map – Clingerman, as read on second and final reading by title only. Upon vote, all ayes.

9. INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT WITH SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Assistant City Manager Palmer said the City of Auburndale Police Department and Fire Department currently use a computer aided dispatch and records management system that allows for access to and sharing of state and national criminal justice information.

Both Police and Fire departments have previously entered into separate Interagency Information Sharing Agreements with the Polk County Sheriff's Office (PCSO). These Agreements provide the guidelines, processes and restrictions needed to protect the integrity of the data system.

In July 2020, the Interagency Agreement merged and superseded the previous Agreements and named the City of Auburndale, for and on behalf of the Police Department and Fire Department, as party to the Interagency Agreement with the Sheriff's Office. The proposed Agreement also incorporates the Criminal Justice User Agreement between the Sheriff's Office and the Florida Department of Law Enforcement.

This three-year Agreement will become effective upon approval and will remain in force until the Florida Department of Law Enforcement has determined that a new agreement is required with the Polk County Sheriff's Office. At such event, the Polk County Sheriff's Office will submit new information.

The proposed Interagency Agreement was prepared by the Office of Legal Affairs for the Polk County Sheriff's Office and reviewed by the Police Chief, Fire Chief, City Manager and City Attorney. Staff recommends approval of the Interagency Agreement with the Polk County Sheriff's Office.

Mayor Taylor Bogert asked for public comment. There was no public comment.

Motion by Commissioner Sterling, seconded by Commissioner Cowie, to approve the Interagency Agreement with the Polk County Sheriff's Office.

Commissioner Myers asked if there will be a fiscal impact to the City?

Assistant City Manager Palmer answered no.

Upon vote, all ayes.

10. STREET CLOSURE REQUEST – FALL-O-WEEN FESTIVAL

Assistant City Manager Palmer said the City has received a request to temporarily close a street in the downtown area to accommodate the very successful Chamber of Commerce Fall-O-Ween Festival on Thursday, October 19, 2023 from 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. This event is well attended each year and has good participation from the local merchants.

To make the event safer and more pedestrian friendly, the City and Chamber are requesting to permit temporary closure of W. Park Street from Main Street to Pilaklakah Avenue from 3:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. This allows detouring of traffic from the area during setup and cleanup of the event.

The closing will allow the main activity related to the event to be held in a “safe zone” in the downtown area and closed to vehicle traffic. Staff has no objections to the request and recommends approval.

Sandra Hall, Executive Director, Greater Auburndale Chamber of Commerce, made a presentation regarding the event. She thanked City staff for their help.

Commissioner Myers asked to clarify the location.

Sandra Hall and Parks and Recreation Director Cody McGhee clarified the location.

Mayor Taylor Bogert asked for public comment. There was no public comment.

Motion by Commissioner Cowie, seconded by Commissioner Hamann, to approve the Street Closure Request. Upon vote, all ayes.

11. APPROVE 2024 CITY COMMISSION MEETING AND HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Assistant City Manager Palmer said City staff is presenting the City Commission Meeting and City Holiday Schedule for 2024. The City Commission will need to adjust meetings in January due to a National Holiday, and September due to proposed budget public hearing dates. She presented the calendar. Staff recommends approval of the 2024 City Commission Meeting and Holiday Schedule.

Mayor Taylor Bogert asked for public comment. There was no public comment.

Motion by Commissioner Sterling, seconded by Commissioner Hamann, to approve the 2024 City Commission Meeting and Holiday Schedule. Upon vote, all ayes.

12. APPROVE ITEMS RELATED TO 2023 MUNICIPAL ELECTION

City Clerk Brandon Henry said the 2023 Municipal Election will be held on Tuesday, November 7, 2023. All voting will be held at the Auburndale Civic Center 115 W Park Street from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. A Notice of the Precinct Location and Sample Ballot will be mailed to all households with registered voters in the City of Auburndale. The Polk County Supervisor of Elections Office will handle absentee ballots for the election.

The City Commission (not including any commissioners on the ballot or those actively participating in a campaign) will meet as the Canvassing Board to canvass the absentee ballots and the City Election at the Elections Operations Center, 70 Florida Citrus Blvd., Winter Haven on election night. The City Commission will meet for a Special Meeting at City Hall on Thursday, November 9, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. to certify the results of the election.

Additionally, the City Commission as the Canvassing Board will meet on Tuesday, November 14, 2023 at 11 a.m., at the Elections Operations Center, to conduct the post-election audit.

City of Auburndale Commission Minutes October 2, 2023

Additionally, SB 7050, passed this year, requires mandatory signature verification training for Canvassing Board Members. Staff will be reaching out regarding the completion of this requirement.

In accordance with the City Code, the City Commission is requested to approve the following:

1. Approve Certificate as to Qualifying of Candidates
2. Authorize Official Ballots to be prepared - 2,000 ballots (including 100 walk-in/test ballots) (Based on previous elections and current population). The Supervisor of Elections Office orders vote-by-mail ballots separately based on number requested.
3. Authorize the necessary poll workers
4. Appoint the City Clerk to act on behalf of the Canvassing Board relative to ballot testing and other related election matters.

Staff recommends approval of the items related to the 2023 Municipal Election.

Mayor Taylor Bogert asked for public comment. There was no public comment.

Motion by Commissioner Cowie, seconded by Commissioner Sterling, to approve items related to the 2023 Municipal Election. Upon vote, all ayes.

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:02:47 p.m.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Minutes are true and correct.



Brandon Henry, City Clerk