

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the City Commission of the City of Auburndale held August 18, 2025, 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, Vice Mayor Alex Cam, Commissioners: Keith Cowie, Jordan Helms, and Bill Sterling. Also, present were: City Manager Jeffrey Tillman, City Attorney Frederick J. Murphy Jr., City Clerk Brandon Henry, and Police Chief Terry Storie.

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

Motion by Vice Mayor Cam, seconded by Commissioner Cowie, to approve Minutes of the City Commission Meeting of August 4, 2025. Upon vote, all ayes.

City Manager Jeffrey Tillman announced that school is back in session – he thanked the Police and Fire Departments for their assistance in slowing traffic in school zones. He announced that the new speed indicator signs have been installed.

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

1. CONSIDER PIGGYBACK PROPOSAL – SOUTHERN FORCE MAIN REROUTE PHASE I

City Manager Tillman said in May 2023, the City's consulting engineer, Chastain-Skillman, completed the Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility Service Area Study that identified needed sewer collection system improvements to support new development. The Southern Force Main Reroute Project was one of the improvements identified in the Study. The Southern Force Main Reroute Project redirects an 18-inch sewer force main along the west side of the Polk County Parkway directly to the Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility bypassing the Regional Master Liftstation. He referred to a graphic depicting the project.

Phase I of the Southern Force Main Reroute Project constructs the force main from the Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility to the Tenoroc Fish Management Area (Tenoroc) property. An additional easement is necessary to construct the force main across the Tenoroc property, which is planned as Phase II, and will complete the project. An application has been submitted to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for the easement.

To expedite Phase I of the Southern Force Main Reroute Project, the City has received a piggyback proposal from Killebrew, Inc. in the amount of \$2,137,023.66 based upon a utilities construction services contract competitively awarded to Killebrew by Polk County. The Fiscal Year 2024 & Fiscal Year 2025 Budgets allocated \$3,400,000 for the entire Southern Force Main Re-route Project. The City has had favorable experience with Killebrew, Inc. on several utility projects including Phase I of the Gapway Force Main Project.

Chastain-Skillman has reviewed the proposal and determined the quote corresponds to the allocated budget. The proposal was also reviewed by the Special Projects Director, City Manager, and City Attorney.

Staff recommends approval of the piggyback proposal from Killebrew, Inc. in the amount of \$2,137,023.66 and authorize the City Manager to execute a General Piggyback Purchasing Agreement for Phase I of the Southern Force Main Reroute Project.

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

Motion by Commissioner Cowie, seconded by Commissioner Helms, to approve the piggyback proposal from Killebrew, Inc. in the amount of \$2,137,023.66 and authorize the City Manager to execute a General Piggyback Purchasing Agreement for Phase I of the Southern Force Main Reroute Project. Upon vote, all ayes.

2. RESOLUTION #2025-03 ADOPTING LOCAL MITIGATION STRATEGY

City Manager Tillman said the City of Auburndale has been an active participant in the Polk County Local Mitigation Strategy Committee for several years. The Committee has established a comprehensive, coordinated planning process to eliminate or decrease the City's vulnerability to the human and economic costs of natural disasters. This process is known as the Local Mitigation Strategy. The Committee has identified and prioritized a number of proposed projects needed to reduce the impacts of future disasters in Polk County, including Auburndale. Mr. Tillman said it helps us get grants at the federal level.

The proposed Resolution accepts and approves Auburndale's portion of the Updated Polk County Plan. The City also agrees to pursue funding to implement the proposals and to continue support of the Polk County Plan.

The proposed Resolution was prepared by the City Manager's Office using a draft provided by Polk County Emergency Management and reviewed by the City Attorney.

Staff recommends approval of the proposed Resolution.

City Attorney Frederick J. Murphy Jr. read Resolution No. 2025-03 entitled: **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF AUBURNDALE, FLORIDA ADOPTING THE 2025 POLK COUNTY MULTI - JURISDICTIONAL LOCAL MITIGATION STRATEGY UPDATE**, by title only.

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

Motion by Commissioner Sterling, seconded by Vice Mayor Cam, to approve Resolution No. 2025-03 adopting Local Mitigation Strategy.

Mayor Taylor Bogert said this helps put us out there to get more information about grants.

Upon vote, all ayes.

3. RESOLUTION #2025-04 AGREEMENT FOR GRANT FUNDING WITH STATE OF FLORIDA

During the 2025 Florida Legislative Session, the Florida Legislature appropriated \$750,000 for the development of Lake Ariana Park Improvements. The funding will assist in developing facilities located on property leased from the State to include a boat ramp, dock, pier, playground equipment, sand volleyball courts, pavilions, and restroom facilities.

The appropriation is administered by the Land and Recreation Grants Section within the State of Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Division of State Lands. The Division of State Lands requires the adoption of a resolution by the Auburndale City Commission to enter into a contract agreement for the grant funding.

The proposed Resolution authorizes the City Manager to execute the contract agreement with the State of Florida. The proposed Resolution was prepared by the City Manager's Office and reviewed by the City Attorney.

Staff recommends approval of the proposed Resolution.

City Attorney Frederick J. Murphy Jr. read Resolution No. 2025-04 entitled: **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF AUBURNDALE, FLORIDA; AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT AGREEMENT FOR GRANT FUNDS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE**, by title only.

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

Motion by Commissioner Helms, seconded by Commissioner Cowie, to approve Resolution No. 2025-04. Upon vote, all ayes.

4. RESOLUTION #2025-05 NAMING LAKE MYRTLE DOG PARK – DR. BILL STERLING DOG PARK

Mayor Taylor Bogert read Resolution No. 2025-05 naming the Lake Myrtle Dog Park after Commissioner Dr. Bill Sterling.

Motion by Vice Mayor Cam, seconded by Commissioner Cowie, approving Resolution No. 2025-05. Upon vote, all ayes.

Commissioner Sterling expressed his appreciation and gratitude.

The City Commission shared their stories and honored Commissioner Sterling.

The Meeting was adjourned at 7:23:11 p.m.

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



Brandon Henry, City Clerk