Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the City Commission of the City of Auburndale held April 20, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the Commission Room of City Hall, after having been properly advertised, with the following members present: Mayor Tim Pospichal, Commissioners: Dorothea Taylor Bogert, Keith Cowie, Richard Hamann, and Jack Myers. Also present were: City Manager Robert Green, Finance Director/City Clerk Shirley Lowrance, City Attorney V. Patton Kee via the telephone, and Police Chief Andy Ray.

Mayor Tim Pospichal declared a quorum present and the Meeting was opened with prayer by Youth and Young Adult Pastor Alan Sheppard of Life Church and a salute to the flag.

**Motion** by Commissioner Keith Cowie, seconded by Commissioner Dorothea Taylor Bogert, to approve the Minutes of March 16, 2020, Regular Meeting. Upon vote, all ayes.

City Manager Green requested Agenda Item #5 be added to the Agenda - Resolution #2020-03 Authorizing FDOT Lighting Maintenance Agreement.

**Motion** by Commissioner Jack Myers, seconded by Commissioner Dorothea Taylor Bogert, to add Agenda Item #5 to the Agenda - Resolution #2020-03 Authorizing FDOT Lighting Maintenance Agreement. Upon vote, all ayes.

Mayor Tim Pospichal asked for public comment. There was no public comment.

1. **PUBLIC HEARING – COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDING**

Mayor Tim Pospichal closed the Regular Commission Meeting and opened the Public Hearing.

City Manager Green stated the purpose for the Public Hearing was to receive input on the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Community Development Block Grant funding cycle project priorities. In 2019, the City Commission entered into an agreement with the Town of Dundee that allowed Dundee to utilize the City of Auburndale’s FY 2019-2020 CDBG funding allocation of $86,213 to complete significant community improvements that would not have been possible if not for the two cities working together. Per the agreement, Dundee will begin reimbursing Auburndale with their full CDBG allocation starting in FY 2020-2021 and will continue reimbursing with their full allocation each subsequent year until such time as Auburndale has been completely reimbursed. The FY 2020-2021 reimbursement represents the first installment received from the Town of Dundee. The City of Auburndale is scheduled to receive an estimated $87,000 of CDBG funding for FY 2020-2021. Combined with the Town of Dundee’s estimated allocation of $23,000, the City of Auburndale will have approximately $110,000 to spend in the targeted CDBG area. He went over the proposed projects for FY 2020-2021 CDBG funding.

- Continue purchasing vacant properties for donation to Habitat for Humanity.
- Construction of a sidewalk on Main Street from US Hwy 92 to Derby Avenue.
- Construction of a sidewalk on Bennett Street from Bridgers Avenue to Charles Avenue.
- Provide additional parking adjacent to Auburndale Community Center/Gym, to be located on Cleveland Street. Proposed project may include acquisition, demolition and construction.

Staff recommendation was for approval of the proposed projects for the FY 2020-2021 Community Development Block Grant funding.

Mayor Tim Pospichal asked for public comment. There was no public comment.
Mayor Tim Pospichal closed the Public Hearing and reopened the Regular Commission Meeting.

2. APPROVAL OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROJECT

City Manager Green said staff recommended approval of the Community Development Block Grant Project funding.

Motion by Commissioner Jack Myers, and seconded by Commissioner Richard Hamann, to approve the proposed projects for the FY 2020-20221 Community Development Block Grant funding.

Commissioner Dorothea Taylor Bogert asked if this was in the order of priority.

City Manager Green said the proposed projects would depend on property availability.

Upon vote, all ayes.

3. APPROVE EXTENSION OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT AGREEMENT

City Manager Green said for more than three decades, the City has participated with Polk County in the federally funded Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. In 2014, the City Commission restated and entered a three-year Cooperative Agreement providing eligibility in the CDBG Program in the Federal Fiscal Years 2015, 2016, and 2017. The Agreement was renewed for the Fiscal Years 2018, 2019, and 2020. The renewal approved in July 2017 provided an automatic clause of Cooperative Agreement, unless the City terminated its Agreement. The action before the Commission is electing to continued participation in the CDBG program for the Fiscal Years 2021, 2022 and 2023. Staff recommendation was to inform Polk County of the City’s desire in continued participation in the CDBG Program.

Mayor Tim Pospichal asked for public comment. There was no public comment.

Motion by Commissioner Dorothea Taylor Bogert, seconded by Commissioner Keith Cowie, to inform Polk County of the City’s desire in continued participation in the CDBG Program. Upon vote, all ayes.

4. INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH POLK COUNTY – DENTON AVENUE IMPROVEMENTS

City Manager Green said for several months, the City of Auburndale, the USA Water Ski and Wake Foundation and Polk County have been working with contractors and engineers on the road rebuilding, widening, drainage modifications and resurfacing of Denton Avenue, a County maintained road. The City’s participation in the project is due to the City’s plans to connect the road network within the Lake Myrtle Sports Complex with Denton Avenue. The new driveway providing access to the USA Water Ski and Wake Foundation property also connects with Denton Avenue. Polk County permitting and access management requires the infrastructure improvements. Construction costs for the construction is $595,747.18 and includes that portion of Denton Avenue running adjacent to the properties owned by the Foundation and City (from Moss Road to the crossing of the Auburndale Trail). In August 2019, the Foundation agreed to collaborate with the City in the construction and pay its proportional costs of $63,393.70. We have received half of that payment to date. Polk County has agreed to reimburse the City $162,354.18 due to unexpected foundation/base work being required by the County. This project goes back into the last fiscal year. The City of Auburndale allocated $369,000 in the current FY 2019-2020 Budget for necessary infrastructure
improvements to Denton Avenue. The contractor is currently constructing the Auburndale Trail extension and is scheduled to start the Denton Avenue project thereafter.

The total cost breakdown is as follows:

USA Water Ski & Wake $ 63,393.70  
Polk County $162,354.18  
City of Auburndale $369,999.30  
Total $595,747.18

The proposed Interlocal Agreement provides for the County’s reimbursement. He said the Interlocal Agreement was patterned after the one we did last year on Hobbs Road. Staff recommended approval of the Interlocal Agreement.

Mayor Tim Pospichal asked for public comment.

Ashley Dampier, 27 Moss Road, said she lived there and wanted to know how this affects the residents. She asked about the water going into the lake. She said said she had looked for information on this and it has been very hard to find.

City Manager Green asked Ms. Dapier to provide Assistant City Manager Jeff Tillman with her contact information. He said Public Works Director John Dickson would contact her regarding the project to answer her questions. He said the project involved widening of the road from a small County road --from 18 to 24 feet. He said there was adequate right-of-way for the project. He told Ms. Dapier someone would show her on the maps and make contact with her tomorrow.

Mayor Tim Pospichal asked for public comment. There was no public comment.

**Motion** by Commissioner Keith Cowie, seconded by Commissioner Dorothea Taylor Bogert, to approve the Interlocal Agreement with Polk County – Denton Avenue.

Commissioner Richard Hamann said this is how government should work -- together and make things happen.

Upon vote, all ayes.

5. **RESOLUTION #2020-03 AUTHORIZING FDOT LIGHTNING AGREEMENT**

City Manager Green said the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) compensates the City of Auburndale for maintenance and operation of street lighting on the State Highway system within the City. The proposed Agreement is for a seven-year term and reflects the swap between the State and Polk County of SR 559 and Berkley Road. Due to the subsequent acceptance of maintenance from the City of that portion between Recker Highway and Polk City Road, the City now assumes the operational costs of the lighting. This impacts the current Agreement going forward by a reduction of $31,765. The current budget reflects compensation from the State at $75,520. The proposed FY 2020-2021 budget will reflect the compensation and payment from the State at $43,755. The proposed Resolution approves the Agreement and authorizes the City Manager or his designee to sign on behalf of the City and would take effect July 1, 2020. Staff recommended approval of Resolution #2020-03 authorizing execution of the FDOT Lighting Maintenance Agreement.
Mayor Tim Pospichal asked for public comment. There was no public comment.

**Motion** by Commissioner Richard Hamann, seconded by Commissioner Keith Cowie, to approve Resolution No. 2020-03 authorizing execution of the FDOT Lighting Maintenance Agreement. Upon vote, all ayes.

City Manager Green said he would like to report on the City’s efforts and the City of Auburndale’s work force as far as Covid 19. He said a lot of work has gone into this and includes setting up the Commission Room for social distancing, the signage at the front door, signage at our trails, information and communication on the City’s Facebook. He said we also have a stand-alone page related to Covid 19 on our website. He explained the changes in workforce with sending about two dozen staff home for a two-week period over two different periods of time. He said this allows us to continue the operations and if an employee were to get exposed, we have staff. We are in our second week of the second phase of employees doing this. He said one of the more popular things going on right now is Spring Clean Up Week has been extended to the whole month of April. He said we are seeing a lot of activity related to the clean up. He thanked our friends at FL Poly for using their 3-D printers to make parts for face shields. He displayed the plastic parts and told how the Library staff was assembling the face shields for use. By the end of the week, we should have 150 shields in Police vehicles and rescue units. He said we now treat every call as a viral alert.

Mayor Tim Pospichal said he would like to add to the discussion. Every week on Monday, he has had the pleasure of going with Staff to the Auburndale EOC for a conference call with the County. He said the City leaders are doing an outstanding job with our City. He said he could not thank the City Manager and Staff enough. They are doing an outstanding job and he has witnessed it.

Meeting adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

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

Shirley A. Lowrance, Finance Director/City Clerk