
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the City Commission of the City of Auburndale held October 3, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. on the steps 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: City Manager Jeffrey Tillman, City Attorney Frederick J. Murphy Jr., City Clerk Brandon Henry, and Deputy Police Chief Carin Ketcham.

Mayor Dorothea Taylor Bogert declared a quorum present, and the Meeting was opened with prayer by Pastor Forest Antemesaris, Orange Street Church of Christ, and a salute to the flag.

1. POLICE CHIEF OFFICIAL OATH OF OFFICE - AUBURNDALE POLICE CHIEF TERRY STORIE

City Manager Tillman thanked the Mayor and City Commission. He acknowledged Former Mayor Tim Pospichal, outgoing Police Chief Andy Ray, Sheriff Grady Judd, and State Attorney Brian Haas – all in attendance. He acknowledged all the members of the Auburndale Police Department and the City's department directors. He thanked Chief Storie's family.

He introduced Chief Storie. Chief Terry Storie began his law enforcement career in 1986 as a Deputy Sheriff for the Burt County, Nebraska Sheriff's Office prior to enlisting in the United States Marine Corps. Following his honorable discharge as an E-4 Corporal in 1991, Chief Storie completed the Law Enforcement Academy at Polk Community College in May of 1992. He started with the Highlands County Sheriff's Office as a Deputy, before transferring to the Polk County Sheriff's Office (PCSO) in March of 1993. Upon his retirement with twenty-eight (28) years of service with PCSO and working up the ranks to the position of Captain, Storie would step into municipal police work with the Auburndale Police Department.

Chief Storie began his employment with the Auburndale Police Department as Lieutenant in February of 2022, in a succession plan to the position of Police Chief. During his tenure as Lieutenant, he has worked closely with Chief Ray and Deputy Chief Ketcham learning the operations and administration of the Department as well as building relationships with all of the officers and staff. I am very optimistic about the direction, leadership and experience that Chief Storie brings to the position of Auburndale Police Chief.

He holds an Associate of Arts Degree from Saint Leo University, a Bachelor's Degree and a Master of Business Administration Degree from Warner University. He has obtained numerous law enforcement and leadership certifications including from the Florida State University Certified Public Manager program, the Police Executive Research Forum at the Senior Management Institute for Police, and the Northwestern University, School of Police Command Staff, in which Terry was selected Class President for Class #356. He was also formerly on the Board of Directors for the Boys and Girls Club of Polk County.

City Manager Tillman said he believes Terry Storie's outstanding professional leadership qualities and nearly thirty years of law enforcement experience, including his time as a Lieutenant in the Auburndale Police Department, has produced the best candidate for the position. He said he has seen firsthand his efforts and commitment in working with other City departments, other agencies, and with Auburndale Police Department members to make the Auburndale Police Department a more professional and exciting place to work.

City Clerk Brandon Henry administered the Police Chief's Oath of Office to Terry Storie.

Tammy Storie, Whitney Tran, Tyler Moore, Brianna Storie, and Ryan Storie pinned Chief Storie.

Chief Storie thanked God and his family. He thanked Chief Ray for the opportunity. He thanked Sheriff Grady Judd for his support. He thanked Mayor Taylor Bogert, the City Commission, and City Manager Tillman for the opportunity, and vowed to maintain the professionalism of the Auburndale Police Department and to continue working with City staff. He said the Auburndale Police Department will continue to work with surrounding agencies to achieve the common goal of law enforcement and public safety. The Auburndale Police Department

will continue to work with Brian Haas and the State Attorney's Office to ensure they are able to successfully prosecute cases. The Auburndale Police Department will continue to maintain professionalism and transparency to the citizens of Auburndale, emphasizing respect and empathy. Members of the Auburndale Police Department can continue to expect an outstanding work environment, to be treated with fairness and respect, and professional development opportunities.

He thanked Chief Andy Ray, Deputy Chief Carin Ketcham, and Lieutenant Don King for welcoming him into the Auburndale Police Department. He looks forward to leading the agency.

City Manager Tillman thanked Chief Storie. He said a reception for Chief Storie and his family will be held in the Auburndale Civic Center following the ceremony.

Mayor Taylor Bogert said on behalf of the City Commission, we are excited to have Chief Storie with the City. She thanked everyone in attendance.

Mayor Taylor Bogert called for a 10-minute recess.

The City Commission, City Staff, and citizens moved upstairs for the Regular Commission Meeting.

Mayor Taylor Bogert reopened the Regular Commission Meeting at 7:28 p.m.

Motion by Commissioner Myers, seconded by Commissioner Sterling, to approve Minutes of the City Commission Meeting and Special Workshop of September 20, 2022. Upon vote, all ayes.

City Manager Tillman said Hurricane Ian impacted the City since the last City Commission meeting. We are fortunate we can meet today. He offered prayers for everybody that has been affected by Hurricane Ian. He requested a fourth item be added to the agenda to update the Commission on the City's Hurricane Ian response.

Motion by Commissioner Myers, seconded by Commissioner Hamann, to approve the additional agenda item as requested. Upon vote, all ayes.

City Manager Tillman announced that several events have been postponed due to Hurricane Ian, including Auburndale High School's football game which has been rescheduled for October 10th. He is looking forward to the Hurricane Ian updates from City department heads. He is very proud of the City's workforce in their Hurricane Ian response.

City Attorney Murphy echoed City Manager Tillman's sentiments relating to Hurricane Ian.

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 Former Mayor Tim Pospichal, who were in attendance.

Mayor Taylor Bogert presented a Proclamation recognizing October as "Breast Cancer Awareness Month" to Fire Chief Brian Bradway. City Attorney Murphy read the Proclamation.

Mayor Taylor Bogert presented a Proclamation recognizing October 9 – 15, 2022, as "Fire Prevention Week" to Fire Chief Brian Bradway. City Attorney Murphy read the Proclamation.

2. PRESENTATION OF BIDS – BERKLEY ROAD WATER TREATMENT PLANT EXPANSION

Public Works/Public Utilities Director John Dickson said in March 2021, the City of Auburndale was notified that it would be receiving an estimated \$6.99 million dollars in American Recovery Plan Act funding. The federal

funding is restricted to eligible uses including investments in utility infrastructure. City Staff proposed the completion of several water utility projects including the expansion of the Berkley Road Water Treatment Plant.

In May 2022, the City Commission approved a bid from Grosch Drilling Enterprises to construct a third well, which was the first step to expanding the Berkley Road Water Treatment Plant. The principal features of this proposal is to construct a 12-inch, 16-inch, and 18-inch diameter raw water main, an aerator, a 1-million-gallon storage tank, well pumps, and a 6" meter and meter vault.

The existing plant is rated for 2.5 MGD peak day flow. The expansion will increase plant capacity to 4.7 MGD peak day flow. The new 1-million-gallon ground storage tank will provide additional treatment and storage capacity, enhancing the resiliency of the City's system. The new high service pump is anticipated to improve system capacities and pressure.

An invitation to bid was advertised in the local media and on September 9, 2022, the City Manager's Office received the following nine (9) bids:

- CenState Contractors, Inc \$3,371,700
- Poole & Kent Contractors \$3,430,405
- KAT Construction & Materials, Inc \$3,612,350
- Vogel Bros. Building Company \$3,659,486
- C&T Contracting Services, LLC \$3,693,190
- Prime Construction Group, Inc. \$3,953,800
- Florida Design Contractors \$3,976,400
- DN Higgins, Inc. \$4,298,000
- Cardinal Contractors, Inc. \$4,676,000

The bids were reviewed by the Public Utilities Director and the City's consulting engineer, Chastain Skillman. CenState Contractors, Inc. was the low bidder and they have completed various utility projects previously for the City.

The project is budgeted in the FY 2022/2023 Budget. Funding is currently available from the American Rescue Plan Act dollars previously received by the City.

Staff recommends awarding the bid to CenState Contractors, Inc. in the amount of \$3,371,700

Public Works/Public Utilities Director Dickson said staff was very pleased to receive this number of bidders. When we first put the well out to bid, the City did not receive any bidders and had to advertise again.

City Manager Tillman said this project will come in around or under budget. He said staff recommends awarding the bid to CenState Contractors, Inc. in the amount of \$3,371,700.

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

Motion by Commissioner Cowie, seconded by Commissioner Hamann, to approve awarding the bid to CenState Contractors, Inc. in the amount of \$3,371,700.

Commissioner Myers said it is good to see we are doing business locally and that they are the low bid. He asked to confirm if they are from Winter Haven.

Public Works/Public Utilities Director Dickson confirmed they are from Winter Haven.

Commissioner Hamann said the Fire Department will be happy with the project due to improved water pressure.

Commissioner Sterling asked if “Alternate C: Deduct the proposed ladder and safety cage on the proposed tank” was deducted from the proposed bid?

Public Works/Public Utilities Director Dickson answered yes.

Commissioner Sterling asked why?

Public Works/Public Utilities Director Dickson said if we do Option A, which is the stairs, that we can deduct from 3, we do not use the ladders. If we had stayed without doing Option A, we would not get to deduct.

Commissioner Sterling asked if we are okay with the safety issues?

Public Works/Public Utilities Director Dickson answered yes.

Upon vote, all ayes.

3. APPROVE CITY COMMISSION MEETING AND HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

City Manager Tillman said the City Commission will need to adjust meetings in January and July due to National Holiday’s, and September due to proposed budget public hearing dates. All other meetings for 2023 will remain on the first and third Mondays. Staff recommends approval of the 2023 City Commission Meeting and Holiday Schedule.

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

Motion by Commissioner Cowie, seconded by Commissioner Myers, to approve the 2023 City Commission Meeting and Holiday Schedule. Upon vote, all ayes.

4. HURRICANE IAN UPDATE

City Manager Tillman thanked City employees. It was a team effort going into Hurricane Ian. He was pleased with the preparation going into the storm. He will let the department directors get into the preparation and recovery efforts. Staff is still putting in hard hours as we return to normalcy. He called up Deputy Chief Carin Ketcham for an update from the Police Department.

Deputy Chief Ketcham said the Auburndale Police Department first assessed our building to see what was needed to be safe during the storm. Police then went out to our 55+ communities to identify anyone staying behind and may require later assistance. Post-storm, most traffic signals within the City were inoperable. Fortunately, the City only had one traffic crash resulting in serious bodily injury – because there was a potential for more. Police kept extra personnel on due to the power outages, especially within our business areas. Last night, at 6 p.m. – the Auburndale Police Department resumed normal operations due to power restoration.

City Manager Tillman thanked Deputy Chief Ketcham. He said he was very proud of the efforts by the Auburndale Police Department during the power outage. He called up Fire Chief Brian Bradway for an update from the Fire Department.

Fire Chief Bradway said the Fire Department started ramping up ahead of time to ensure everything was in working order. Fire upped their staffing level on Wednesday morning – with every shift coming in. From Tuesday to Friday, the Fire Department ran eighty-five (85) 911 calls, most storm related. Fire did a “360” of the City in which crews stopped by our 55+ communities, mobile home and RV parks, nursing homes, and hospices before the storm. He referred to a photo depicting flooding at a nursing home. During the storm, crews are sensitive to wind speeds when responding to calls. Once winds reach 45+ miles per hour, crews will only run extreme circumstance calls – i.e., life or death calls. Crews responded to four or five of these critical medical calls, in partnership with the Auburndale Police Department, Sheriff’s Department, and Polk County Fire Rescue – to

ensure the right units responded to transport the patient to the hospital by any means. There were times the Fire Department may not have had an ambulance due to wind speeds. But the Fire Department had a plan to transport them in a patrol or police vehicle to get them the help they needed. Most other calls were about downed trees involving powerlines, localized flooding, etc. After the storm on Friday morning, the Fire Department returned to normal staffing levels and call load. The Fire Department also had a sandbag site before the storm. He estimated that staff distributed 15,000+ sandbags to residents. We ran out of bags, so we could have done more. Everything went smoothly. The most significant event was the accident on Havendale Boulevard that Deputy Chief Ketcham mentioned in her presentation.

City Manager Tillman thanked Chief Bradway. He called up Public Works/Public Utilities Director John Dickson for an update from Public Works and Public Utilities.

Public Works/Public Utilities Director John Dickson said it has been very busy. We probably prepared for this storm better than others in the past, especially regarding pumping down ponds. He referred to a photo depicting a pond being pumped down. The City pumped down Pilaklakah, the Bridgers area, down by Preston, Dickey Pond, and Canal Street. Even though the Canal Street pond gravity is out, we put a pump in there and pumped as low as we can get it. We even pumped down the new County pond on Bridgers. We pumped it as much as we could as it is a big volume pond and were able to get a few feet of capacity in there. Staff also fueled all our generators to ensure they were ready. We ensured we had a backup fuel supply from Love's Travel Stop. We also set up portable generator teams in advance so they would be ready to go out, depending on how many lift stations were out of power. We had two "fuel mule" teams, where they would run around with fuel tanks to fill up generators. After the storm passed, we started at 7:30 in the morning Thursday – by fueling generators and assessing how many lift stations were out. Both wastewater plants and the three water plants were on backup generator power. We had 52 lift stations without power. We utilized the City's five portable generators, borrowed one from Zephyrhills, and another from Lake Alfred. We rented five portable pumps that we rotated to different lift stations. The three generator crews and the two "fuel mule" crews each had a two-man team that worked 12-hour shifts. They would come in at 7 a.m. and work until 7 p.m. until somebody relieved them. They did that for 48-hours. Slowly but surely, power returned. We are fully powered now, but are still dealing with high wastewater flows. Everything is back to normal on the water side. We had very minimal structural damage at City facilities. We had a few electrical issues such as panels and controls at Allred Wastewater Plant, but minimal damage.

Public Works/Public Utilities Director John Dickson said on the Public Works side, as far as preparation goes – we went around and cleaned storm drains, tried to secure all of our facilities, and assembled "push teams". "Push teams" are a combination of Public Works and Parks & Recreation staff, equipped with a backhoe, claw truck, one chainsaw, and a flatbed truck. The reason for the one chainsaw is to keep injury risk down. Similarly to Public Utilities, we called in staff at 7 a.m. as winds died down. The Fire and Police Departments created what they call "CAN" reports, so when they were out and about, they had listed areas where trees were blocking roads. We removed 18 road blockages that were downed trees or limbs. There were four that we could not move because they had power line entanglement, especially the one on the north side of the lake that caused most concern. It took a few days to get to that one. We cleared sidewalks, and moved into City facilities and parks to clean. Now we are into the mode of debris removal. We had a good first day of that. We hit all the Sunset area, Pilaklakah/Lena Vista area, and between Bridgers and 92 from Central Elementary to the Adult School. We will move into another area tomorrow, until we can take care of the whole City. Above all, we are pleased with how it turned out.

Commissioner Myers asked where is staff taking debris?

Mr. Dickson answered that we were able to work out using the 40-acre school site behind the Shell station at Denton and Berkley. That is what made it good for short run times.

Commissioner Myers asked if we are going to burn the debris?

Mr. Dickson answered no, we are going to store it there until it gets hauled to a FEMA facility.

City Manager Tillman said when the private contractors come in to start hauling, they will go to that dump site, pick it up, and take it to a Simmers-Young type facility that would have FEMA staff monitoring for legitimate loads.

Commissioner Myers said the reason he is asking is because during his County Commission days, these storms play havoc on the capacity of landfills. With the increase in growth, he is sure they are very concerned with the capacity there.

Mr. Dickson said some municipalities choose to wait for the FEMA team to come in. He said he likes our approach where we are getting it and FEMA can get it from our site. He is very pleased the School Board worked with us on making that site available.

Commissioner Myers said he appreciates that too. You hear the people say it is better to get back to normal as much as you can.

Mr. Dickson said the favor is returned for the School Board as well. One of our priorities is clearing all the school sites, even if they are not within the City. We go to Boswell Elementary, Lena Vista, Caldwell, and Berkley Accelerated Middle School – all outside of the City but we wanted to clear them because they are really Auburndale schools. We cleared the entrances and roads so when schools open, they are ready to go.

Commissioner Hamann asked if FEMA considered using the School Board site as a FEMA site?

Mr. Dickson said they are going to open Simmers-Young. We knew we needed one right away so we can start on it, but Simmers-Young is close enough so that you do not need two FEMA sites.

City Manager Tillman said based on the comments from the County's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) calls, a lot of the haulers are going to start in the southern portions of the County and work their way north, so we really do not know when a lot of the haulers will be getting into our area. We wanted to make sure we can start with our City residents, and they can get it whenever they do get into our area from that site. He thanked Mr. Dickson for the update. He called up Parks & Recreation Director Cody McGhee for an update from the Parks & Recreation Department.

Code McGhee said what we did to start was to get all of our soft structures (such as shade canopies) down ahead of time, so we do not get any tears or it uprooting the entire structure. A lot of efforts Monday and Tuesday were to do as much of the normal maintenance as possible. Everybody was on a mower to mow as much as possible to get ahead of the storm. This put us in a good spot post-storm. Post-storm, the Parks & Cemeteries Division becomes a Public Works division and assists with the "Push Teams". They go out and get streets cleared. Lake Myrtle staff then becomes Parks staff. We focused on five areas to begin with. We hit our Downtown Park first to get it up and running. Then we moved over to the Library and Reverend Earl Wright Park. Then we focused on our two cemeteries, starting out with Auburndale Cemetery to make sure the Community Center was available, then to Auburndale Memorial Park. On Sunday, Public Works had extra staff to clear Lake Ariana Park, then we moved into the trail that afternoon. On Sunday afternoon, a message went out that all facilities in Parks & Recreation (with the exception of the athletic fields) are open. As of this morning, everything was back to normal except for Lake Myrtle and the Softball Complex. The reason we are holding off on those is because we need to allow the ground to subside from water, and because there are some damages to fences. We do not want those falling during a tournament. The crews have done a great job, they have been going from 7 to 7 every day. We are about four or five days ahead of where we were with Hurricane Irma, in terms of getting facilities open. Our buildings had minimal damage. We had some soffit damage at the Clubhouse. Our wood pavilions at Lake Ariana

Park took a hit on their roofs. Anything else is very minimal. All our building rentals will be available this weekend. We are pushing to have Lake Myrtle and youth sports available mid-week this week. We just have to get ahead on the fence damage. He is really proud. Public Works and Parks & Recreation work well together to assist each other. Community Redevelopment Agency staff came in to go through all the sidewalks around Downtown businesses to push the leaves and debris out onto the streets for the street sweepers, in order to make Downtown as normal as possible. This weekend, we will turn into more of a Streets crew to go into areas to clear out debris, to back up Public Works. So when people walk out of their houses, it really does look like the storm did not come through.

City Manager Tillman said he wanted to compliment Mr. McGhee because one of the ideas he brought to him was to do a movie in the park during the power outages. About midday we made a post that we would hold this event. It was a great idea and was very well received.

Parks & Recreation Director McGhee said that at about noon, he was getting a lot of reports of people that may have had electricity but no internet – and thus did not have much to do. We quickly scoured to see if anyone else in the County was holding events, we did not see any. He said he called City Manager Tillman to tell him that we have all the equipment available and power from the Light Tower to hold a movie in the park. We had about 150 people attend. It was encouraging because we had several people say they were from Bartow, north Lakeland or Winter Haven, so word got out. They were able to get out to watch a good family movie. We coordinated with our vendors to give out snacks. It was a well-attended and good timed event. There was also good weather.

City Manager Tillman thanked Mr. McGhee.

Mayor Taylor Bogert said that was an excellent idea.

City Manager Tillman called up Community Development Director Julie Womble to provide an update from the Community Development Department. Ms. Womble is a new director and has not been with the City during a hurricane operation, so he appreciates her efforts to learn Auburndale's way of doing things. This also applies to Finance Director Christopher Reeder.

Community Development Director Womble said she worked in several different Emergency Operations Centers throughout her career, and she notes Auburndale's ran very smoothly. It was a pleasure to be a part of that, to see the communication amongst everyone. The Community Development Department spent Wednesday getting our software correct and doing a crash course/retraining in conducting damage assessments. Staff is trained annually through the County, but we do not use it every day. Staff spent Wednesday working on our phones and iPads to ensure things are set to go, so that when we return to work, we can send our teams out. We had three teams that assessed every structure in the City, whether it was commercial or residential. She presented a screenshot of the software used during the damage assessments. We had to identify whether a structure was minorly affected, majorly affected, destroyed, or inaccessible. She referred to a structure that was destroyed at the mobile home park by Lake Ariana Shores. For the structures that were affected, we had to address what type of damage it was. The software allowed us to take a picture of each assessment. By late afternoon Friday, we were completed with the damage assessment. The team worked really well together, and she was very proud of the work they did. We also had one of our Permit Technicians work in the City's Emergency Operations Center to answer calls and assist with Spanish translation. She presented photographs of damage within the City. She said she reached out to the Mayor to see if a local church or other organization could help. She has heard there will be a tarp program, but we have not received information yet. There was damage at Jannus Circle, a lot of signs down at US 92, and flooding at homes near Deen Blvd. We had a lot of people ask what the City is doing, how everybody is doing, and if there is damage anywhere else? Being on the road alongside other teams such as Fire and Police got to reassure a lot of residents. She is very proud of the team and the work they did.

Commissioner Myers asked if people were living in the homes on Lake Ariana that were damaged/destroyed?

Community Development Director Womble answered yes. The residents in those two buildings stayed with someone else as they noticed the roof picking up. They are currently there. One woman asked if they needed a tarp. Ms. Womble said she likely needed more extensive repairs and encouraged her to contact local construction companies.

City Manager Tillman said the damage assessment was a very coordinated effort and he was really pleased to see Ms. Womble's team work as well as they did together, to split up the City into different zones. He said Ms. Womble updated zone maps going into the storm, and he appreciated her efforts. Her team operated great. He called up Assistant City Manager Amy Palmer. One of the things we tasked Ms. Palmer with was oversight of communications, both internal and external. She did a great job coordinating with our Communications Manager Seth Teston and City Clerk Brandon Henry, as well as Permit Technician Janeysha Pinero-Maldonado from Community Development. It was a great team and were able to get a lot of information out to residents.

Assistant City Manager Palmer said she is not a Communications expert. She gave kudos to Mr. Teston for his leadership. We get our communications out mainly through social media and the City website. Mr. Teston worked very closely with Mr. Henry and Ms. Pinero-Maldonado on some of the messages we wanted to get out to residents. They sourced a lot of their content from other local governments, such as the safety messages we distributed. Ms. Pinero-Maldonado helped with translating a lot of those messages into Spanish and updating the website with the important phone numbers people needed before and after the storm for assistance. We also staffed the City's Emergency Operations Center. We opened a call center at the Emergency Operations Center before the storm and post-storm. On Thursday, the calls started coming in as power was restored. They were reporting lift stations that were backing up, sewage in yards, flooding, trees down, and other damages. We successfully manned those telephones and would dispatch information to other department directors.

City Manager Tillman said he appreciated her leading that team. There was a lot of information to process. It was great coordination with staff. He called up Information Technology (IT) Director Jee Hoon Kim to speak to setting up the Emergency Operations Center and other Information Technology issues during the storm.

Director Kim said the Information Technology team quickly set up the Emergency Operations Center on Monday evening through Tuesday morning. The most important item was to set up the phones so that the Communications table could quickly receive and dispatch calls to the appropriate departments. We encountered several issues which were dealt with accordingly, and took notes to improve for future hurricanes.

City Manager Tillman said Information Technology is such a vital task of what we do. Otherwise, the phones do not work, the calls with the County do not work. We could not operate out of the Emergency Operations Center without Information Technology. Mr. Kim was there from beginning to end and really made sure things worked with different staff, such as computer or phone efforts. He appreciates his efforts. He thanked Mr. Kim. He called up Finance Director Christopher Reeder to present an update from the Finance Department.

Finance Director Reeder said his role is now starting. Everybody up until now does front end work such as preparing the City. Once we get through the storm, Finance rolls in. Our job is to gather all the documents and information, and to start working with FEMA once they assign their staff to Auburndale for all the reporting that is going to happen. We are working through payroll right now, which is the biggest task now. We have spent close to 2,600 overtime hours in about four days with all our staff in just the recovery efforts, not accounting for preparation ahead of time. We have had about 11 building claims that we are assessing to determine whether they will become a claim. As Parks & Recreation Director McGhee said, most of our buildings had minor damage. It is likely they will be below deductible, given that it is a named storm. We will pay out of pocket for those, but it is better to have that than to have significant claims and losses. Overall, the City is in a good position. He has been utilizing the history of Irma to gain a roadmap of where to go. We will definitely reach out to fellow cities

for direction and assistance. We will get through payroll, then start working on FEMA reporting, along with all the other items that come with the fiscal year end.

City Manager Tillman said the Commission has a new budget in front of them. We started a new budget on Saturday, so there are a lot of things transitioning. Mr. Reeder is doing a great job getting his hands around it. He is positive he will get everything just like it should be.

Commissioner Hamann agreed. City Manager Tillman thanked Mr. Reeder.

City Manager Tillman said Mr. Reeder mentioned the importance of reaching out to our partners. To that, City Manager Tillman said Thursday morning he received a phone call from the City Manager of Zephyrhills, who offered assistance. By midday, we received a generator from them to help us pump lift stations. There were several partners that came forward to help Auburndale, such as the School Board with the debris site, Love's Travel Stop with fuel, Brack Shack and Firehouse Subs with donated food for staff. We will have lunch for City employees on Wednesday at the Civic Center and for the next couple weeks as we work through recovery, to express our gratitude.

City Manager Tillman concluded staff's presentation.

Mayor Taylor Bogert said it was her first time in the Emergency Operations Center as Mayor. She said she cannot express how incredibly impressed she has been with leadership and staff as she went around town. It was amazing to watch the teamwork and directors step up to lead by example, doing what they would ask anyone else to do. It was incredibly impressive, and the movie night was a huge success. On behalf of the City Commission, she thanked staff. They did an amazing job and there is work still ahead, but we appreciate everything staff has done.

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:20:25 PM.

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



Brandon Henry, City Clerk