

inflationary pressures or cutting core Services. Fiscal year 2025 capital expenditure budget was reduced by \$20 million without scuttling safety or reliability concerns rather simply

deferring these expenditures over a longer period of time the end result is a budget that provides customers with an immediate pause in any utility base rate increases and the effect on future years are projected to result in lower than projected base rate increases as those numbers are actually uh being developed as we speak, also told the some of the expenditure reductions over the next 10 years uh from these actions um could total between \$100 and \$125

million. Was there drama last night sure. We hold uh business meetings where the public gets a ringside seat to witness the sausage being made it happened tonight it's the only way we

can talk about issues under the sunshine laws. It wasn't pretty but it was effective it's an essential necessary part of governing the utility uh I'd be remiss if I didn't address some concerns expressed by employees uh my comments were never and are never intended to reflect on Gru's Rank and file the folks that dig the ditches that work the deck plates that roll the trucks balance the books my comments were limited to discussions at hand and my frustration with some within management who in my opinion were not adhering to business principles or displaying the proper modum of self-reflection versus deflection so I'm sorry if I showed any disrespect to the

vast majority of Gus's finest and in doing so and in so doing so offended any of my fellow directors so that's all I really had to say tonight um with that we go to General Public comment.

JK: Mr chair Jim Konish I prepared a packet for you I'd like to walk you through it I um worked with James coats a lot of people did and I was making carefully crafted public records requests kind of in concert with him and my public records requests are have been ignored and these these this is the information you're going to need to deal with the SLAs or lack thereof in writing so I would like you to look at these and I I think you'll be offended and that this has to be dealt with I want the information I want the information I have a readout of the meeting that I'm going to skip you know I noticed some things that were a little weird I I've written a letter to the governor dear Governor DeSantis Alachua County nonpartisan citizens have:

- one challenged the gru electric biomass airport permit
- two challenged the PSC need to determination for the gru electric biomass plant
- three forced a Sunshine Law redo of the gru electric biomass contract four work with

Keith Perry and Chuck Clemens to pass a local and special Bill to create a competent Gru Authority that you that you have appointed HB 1645 2023

- five work with Keith Perry to obtain an unflattering operational audit of Gru
- Please exercise your appropriate powers to protect Gru rate payer stakeholders from a rogue Gainesville City commission you know we might have to clean things up across the street the

governor has the prerogative and the power to do so and if they keep poking the bear he's going to kick butt and take names is my prediction I'm predicting that here tonight. The brilliant expose of a city commission that is taking more money than the utility makes brought by you Ed I want to put this in perspective I brought Keith Perry the predecessor 1325 House Bill, 49 pages

Mr Walker has it I want to read you one line from this from this um bill that the voters turned down "until 1122 a current former or elected official in the city or county having held office

after January 1st 2000 is disqualified from serving on Perry's Authority that's a legislative determination that the people that ran this utility in the ditch are the people sitting in our our local offices both on both sides of the street that really puts it in perspective thank you.

DM: Debbie Martinez, I hated that director Carter had to leave but anyway nature called um yeah the things happen um there he is he's he's right off your right should wonderful wonderful we we held up the meeting for you director Carter I was hoping you'd be able to make it back again hope you didn't hold the meeting for me absolutely we did I'm again I'm Debbie Martinez and I want to thank chair B for trying to take bold action to protect Gru customers at um the meeting on Monday to Mr Bs credit he was able to make some progress in helping Gru customers and we all should be very grateful to that.

I expect members of the Gainesville City commission will continue to threaten gr to threaten the gru Authority with fear tactics in hope to continue having Gru customers fund their massive staff

JK: Mr chair Thank you for maintaining order and decorum um I'm curious um on the IT SLA we're going to get 6 million in fy4 when we had agreed to just 2.9 Million so where does the additional \$3 million come from and um one way we could get that is just to pause the 1.2 million transfer to in this fiscal year not only deal with this SLA loss but all the other SLA losses such as as they breached their MOU to pay the county street lights that's just a breach they agreed to pay it they didn't pay it they got 250,000 for Akerman to file a lawsuit devoid of Merit like Tony resisted it but you know the position he was in what I what I say to you is that um I just want to know where does he come to 6 million in fy2 24 where does the additional 3.1 or two million come from yeah would you like to answer

Cunningham: I can address it so it's um and I I realize that it's misleading on the slide it's 3 million in fiscal year 24 so we have \$2.9 million budgeted it is saying that uh per the language in the law about hey you have an SLA that you're not they're not paying full Freight for so we so I I would look to Mark and claudy but I think maybe through the GFT would be a way to recover that and then in fiscal year 25 it is that they're paying that they're paying that amount um for the service

B: but but you've only budgeted 2.9

Cunningham: we just, can I talk one day it's like we don't know what the budget we don't know where all this is going let's be conservative we budgeted the 2.9 cross so

B: So what he's saying is in in my analysis I thought that the shortage was only in fiscal year 24 but after their analysis they're saying that it's in fiscal 24 and 25 so it's six and but but

JK: What I think sir is that because we were short of 3 million in this fiscal year now is the time to put the pause button on the transfer which is 1.2 million a month and rake that in in this fiscal year and that'll give you some money to do targeted rate relief to make them pay up this fiscal year that's a Banana Republic over there and in terms of setting up their own ID Department I see little or no chance of that thank you sir yeah thank you

B: Any further public comment uh with that we'll is there any more discussion about the changes on okay with that we'll have a vote all those in favor of Mr Carter's motion say
[Unanimous Aye]

Motion passes.

Kungle: Thank you Mr chair next item if finished with that one is attorney comments there's a point think we need to

C: okay I apologize I I was just going through the vast things that we just went through uh I think there's a point of for clarification that might need a motion but it could be assumed that the new chair of the board will negotiate with the interim General Manager on package and everything and bring it back to the board at the next meeting I think that's an assumption I mean or do we want a motion on that I just want to look to the attorneys we can't leave tonight without it Something.

?: it it would not hurt to put that in a motion for another time.

C: if you don't mind sir you're you're going to get your record here I'd like to make a motion that this board authorized the incoming chair Mr Lawson to negotiate with the incoming GM uh CEO Ed belarski on the package as intermin general

manager and bring it back to the board at the next meeting whatever the board decides we'll go retroactive to day one I'll second with that do we have any public comment

JK: Mr chair Jim Konsih is this your compensation sir or is this the severance package for Mr Cunningham?

B: it's for him sir okay that's etched in okay right right right Mr Cunningham is to receive is already yep part of okay historical record um

JK: I have confidence that Mr Larson can handle this they'll do the right thing.

C: [okay motion passes] thank you sir thank you now you have the floor as the attorney

Walker: thank you chair i would like to publicly um state to Tony Cunningham what what a pleasure it's been to work with him um when we came on board he made himself very available to us he's included Us in his executive board meetings my view is every time we've come away from one of the executive level meetings that he has we have clear Direction and and more knowledge and legal staff as to what it is that we're doing and I just want to thank him for that um the other thing that I wanted to do real briefly is introduce our attorney group to some of the new members Mr Folds and I have been practicing here in Gainesville for 40 years together he's been practicing longer than I I think he's up around pretty close to 60 years in the practice of law now but uh or knocking on the door of that Danielle Adams is seated to his left behind um Daniel is Daniel Pinkus he's a third-year law student at University of Florida he's one of our summer clerks and frankly brilliant uh he want to go to uh another year of tax school at at the University of Florida

after he finishes and only the best and the brightest get into the UF tax program so we're keeping our fingers crossed for Daniel on that but you may see his name on some things or see him and and I just wanted to introduce him to you of course you've met Kiersten Belum and she's all of this group does work in the in the local government work that we do and so we just wanted to come over and introduce ourselves to you thank you

Kungle: I have one additional quick update for the board the um at the last meeting that I attended unfortunately I wasn't able to be here on Monday um we received uh a direction to draft a letter to the supervisor of elections office you all should have seen that um in your inboxes we have a couple of edits um from staff a couple of clarifying points so we'll be making those um I'll send it out again and then we expect that that'll be ready to send over to the supervisor of election I just wanted to let you know where we are with that that's all for me.

S: very good question for the attorneys uh I just had one um is it possible that our future director that we can have discussion items without public comment since we don't have the opportunity to discuss that is that a chair's obligation to have public comment all the time or can he just we have discussion amongst themselves without the inter and so we can get a better feel for where we stand on an issue.

Kungle: The public comment is required only on the motion so you're welcome to have discussions um as long as you don't take official action there doesn't have to be public comment but it is up to the chair to determine whether or not they want to take public comment okay thank you

?: Mr chair the next item is business discussion items the first of which is 2024 486 legal services for Gru with the