

**Williston Town Council
Regular Monthly Meeting
July 9, 2012**

Minutes:

Notice of this meeting was posted at the Williston Town Hall and provided to The People Sentinel newspaper at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting in accordance with the S.C. Freedom of Information Act.

Members of Council present: Councilman Baxley, Councilman Williams, Mayor Rivers, Councilman Holmes, Councilman Valentine and Councilman Stapleton.

Members of Council absent: Mayor Pro-Tem Matthews

Mrs. Angela Overton took minutes. Mr. Tom Boulware was also present.

Councilman Baxley gave the invocation.

Councilman Stapleton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Rivers called the meeting to order, stated that a quorum of Council was present, and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Councilman Baxley made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 11, 2012 and the June 25, 2012 Special Meeting of the Town Council. Councilman Williams seconded the motion. All in favor.

Councilman Holmes made a motion to accept the Financial Report as information only. Councilman Baxley seconded the motion. All in favor.

Public Forum –

Fire Chief Milton Widener gave an update on the Fire Calls as of July 8, 2012. He stated that there are still a couple of openings in the department, but he was leaving them open just in case someone who could work days came in. He stated that right now the majority of the volunteers hold day-time jobs and can only respond in the evenings.

Councilman Baxley stated that he has had several citizens approach him about use of the Fire Department building. He wished to know if anyone could use it or if there were

rules of use. Mr. Widener explained that the building used to be open for anyone to use but a cleaning problem arose and the build was sometimes not available for the Firemen when they needed to use it. He also stated that there was a problem of people parking in front of the fire bays when it was open for public use. This hindered the trucks from getting out of the bays and getting to the fire in a timely manner. He stated that if anyone wished to use the building now they must be sponsored by a fireman and that fireman would be responsible for any damage or clean up that had to be done.

Councilman Baxley voiced the concern that the build is a public building owned by the Town and he believed that it should be open for anyone to use.

Chief Widener stated that all of the firemen voted in a meeting and that was when it was changed that someone would have to be sponsored to use the building. He stated that that was the wishes of the firemen who built the building and he believed their wishes should be considered.

Mayor Rivers stated that Chief Widener gave a good report and thanked him for his time and service.

Mayor Rivers also questioned if the agenda could be amended during a meeting.

Attorney Boulware stated that by Williston's ordinance the agenda could be amended by unanimous vote but because of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) it should not be amended and amendments be limited to emergencies only.

1. Request by Bonafied Lady Hustlers to use Town Park on August 11th for return to school activity

A representative for the Bonafied Lady Hustlers stated that they are small group that were just getting started. They have adopted a highway and raise money to try to give back to their community. They requested to use the Town Park on Saturday, August 11, 2012 to pass out school supplies and have a back to school bash for the community.

Mayor Rivers stated that he thought that was a marvelous thing to do and he appreciated their involvement in the community. He also stated that they may want to ask the Fire Department if the fire truck could be brought down and spray the kids for a little while.

Councilman Holmes made a motion to approve the use of the Town Park on August 11, 2012 by the Bonafied Lady Hustlers to pass out school supplies and have a back to school bash. Councilman Williams seconded the motion. All in favor.

2. Town Council to consider on Ordinance Amending Chapter 58 Article 2 whereby Town Parks will be closed to the public daily from dusk to dawn and occupancy prohibited with certain exceptions.
 - a. Town Administrator to propose rules for use of Town Park

Mr. Carter stated that after Coach Hewitt mentioned problems with vandalism and forwarded the suggestion that no park patrons be allowed after dark it was suggested we draw an ordinance closing the parks after dark until dawn except for sanctioned athletic events. He stated that Attorney Boulware furnished an ordinance amendment for consideration. Attorney Boulware passed out the Ordinance:

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-_____

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF WILLISTON, SOUTH CAROLINA, TO AMEND CHAPTER 58, ARTICLE II, PUBLIC PARKS, TO ADD SECTION 58-34 SO AS TO REGULATE THE HOURS WITHIN WHICH THE PUBLIC MAY BE IN A TOWN PARK.

Chapter 58, Article II, Section 58-34 shall read as follows:

Section 58-34. Parks Closed at Dark

Except as to the Railroad Park, all Town of Williston parks shall close at dark, unless reserved by permission of the Town of Williston for specific events.

DONE IN COUNCIL, this _____ day of _____, 2012.

	Mayor
First Reading: _____	_____
	Council Member

	Council Member
Second Reading: _____	_____
	Council Member

	Council Member
ATTEST:	_____
	Council Member
_____	_____
Town Clerk	Council Member

Mayor Rivers stated that the Ordinance should be read by title only.

Mr. Carter requested that the Ordinance be amended to include the rules of the Town Park. Attorney Boulware stated that the Ordinance must be read by title only then it could be amended.

Councilman Baxley made a motion to read the Ordinance by Title only. Councilman Williams seconded the motion. All in favor.

Attorney Boulware read the Ordinance by title only. Councilman Baxley made a motion to approve the reading. Councilman Valentine seconded the motion. All in favor.

Mr. Carter made the following suggestion for Town Park Rules:

1. Respect other park visitors
 - a. No loud music
 - b. No foul language
2. No motor vehicles inside park fence except Town equipment

He stated that the following should be in Ordinances concerning the Park:

1. No alcoholic beverages. §58-12
2. Park must be vacated at dark. §
3. No skateboarding except in designated areas.

Mr. Carter then passed out the following two options for rental of the Town Park Shelter.

Rental Policy for Town Park Shelter

The Shelter at Town Park can be reserved with two options.

- The first option is reserved use of the shelter with no guaranteed availability of facilities nor cleaning of shelter facility. Electrical service will be available at the Shelter. There will be no charge for this type of rental reservation and it will be limited to two hours. All requests for use of the Shelter should be made through Town Hall.
- The second option is for use of the restroom facilities and shelter with cleaning service provided. There will be a charge of \$60.00 for a four hour period.
 - The rental fee will include cleaning of the restrooms prior to the rental period and immediately after. In addition the Shelter will be swept and tables cleaned immediately prior to use by the renter.
 - Payment will be made by check or other method to Ms. Retha "Monk" Brown. A phone
 - number will be provided to the renter for a contact person

Only the Town Board or Mayor may waive the rental charge due to the civic nature of the event and if it serves a larger public purpose, is open to the public and sponsored by a non-profit entity. The Town will then be responsible for cleaning the facility prior to use.

All reservation are made on a "first-come first-served" basis.

Renters will be provided with park rules and contact information when making reservation under option 2. Option 1 renters will be provided with park rules.

In the event of cancellation due to weather conditions, rental payments will not be refunded but the event can be rescheduled upon availability of the shelter. If unable to reschedule within a reasonable amount of time a full refund will be made. In the event of cancellation solely at the renter's request a refund will be made, but only with a minimum of 48 hours notice to the Town and Ms. Brown.

Mr. Carter stated that the Rental Policy for the Park would not be a rule just a guideline.

Mayor Rivers stated that he agreed with option one but did not agree with the two hour time limit.

Councilman Holmes wanted to know why the second option was limited to a four hour time period. Mr. Carter stated that this was put in because multiple people have asked to use the shelter on the same day and that would allow the Town to have two people use it in one day.

There was further discussion on the fees and hours and it was decided that Mr. Carter amend the Rental Policy and bring it back before Council in the August 2012 meeting.

3. Appointments to Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals

Mr. Carter stated that the Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals appointments are coming up this month and next. He gave the following list of members whose terms are expiring and stated that all have indicated they would be willing to accept another 3 year appointment:

Zoning Board of Appeals:

Sam Holmes August 1, 2009-
12490 Main Street July 31, 2012
Williston, SC 29853

Jenna Muse August 1, 2009 –
13310 Main Street July 31, 2012
Williston, SC 29853

Planning Commission:

Lee Davis September 1, 2009 –
297 Davis Bridge Rd August 31, 2012
Williston, SC 29853

Elaine Stroman September 1, 2009 –
1461 Elko Street August 31, 2012
Williston, SC 29853

Mayor Rivers requested Mr. Carter's recommendation for the re-appointment of the members for the 3 year terms.

Mr. Carter stated that he would recommend the terms be re-appointed.

Councilman Holmes made a motion to re-appoint Mr. Holmes and Ms. Muse to the Zoning Board of Appeals and to re-appoint Mr. Davis and Ms. Stroman to the Planning

Commission for a three year term. Councilman Valentine seconded the motion. All in favor.

4. Consideration of a proposal to conduct audit services from Mr. Larry Bokor, CPA and Mr. Tim Cornelison, CPA.

Mayor Rivers asked if there would be an increase in the fees for the audit this year. Mr. Carter replied that there would not be an increase from last year.

Councilman Williams made a motion to allow Mr. Bokor and Mr. Cornelison to conduct the Town Audit again this year. Councilman Baxley seconded the motion. All in favor.

Administrator's Report

Mr. Carter stated that he wished to follow up on the PARD Grant that was discussed at the June meeting. He stated that the Town should hear by July 15th if the grant would be received or not. He stated that because of the length of time the playground equipment has been in use the grant may be used to replace or update the equipment. He stated that he had received all of the signatures required for the grant and it had been sent off so now the Town just had to wait to see if it would be approved.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Rivers stated that he and Mr. Carter would be attending the Regional Advocacy Meeting August 9th, in Orangeburg, SC. He stated that the meeting would go over political topics the Town would be following in the coming months.

He also stated that three members of the Council attended the Annual MASC meeting in Myrtle Beach. He stated that they all learned a lot from the meeting and appreciated the Town sending them.

Council Comments

Councilman Baxley stated that he would like to repeat his concerns of the Fire Department building not being open for public use. He stated that he believes that it will be a problem in the future.

Councilman Williams thanked the Town for sending him to the MASC meeting and stated that he learned a lot that would hopefully help him be a better Councilman.

Councilman Holmes made a motion for the June 11, 2012 Council meeting to adjourn. Councilman Valentine seconded the motion. All in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM.

TOWN OF WILLISTON, SOUTH CAROLINA

Thomas R. Rivers, Mayor

ATTEST:

Angela S. Overton, Town Clerk

Date