



TOWN OF WILLISTON

JASON W. STAPLETON, MAYOR
ANGELA S. OVERTON, TOWN CLERK

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Williston Town Council Special Called Meeting November 21, 2013

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: Mayor Stapleton, Councilman Moody, Councilman Baxley, Mayor Pro-Tem Williams, and Councilman Cagle

Members of Council absent: Councilman Valentine and Councilman Rivers

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

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

Special Meeting for consideration of permitting a carnival with live entertainment in downtown Williston

Mr. Cook stated that the Town was approached by Mr. Norman Bolen about holding a carnival. He stated that a company called Magic Midway has requested approval for a permit to hold a carnival in downtown Williston from November 19th to November 24th. The stated purpose for this fund raiser is for Natalie Nicole Stanley of Williston. She is a 23 month old child that needs surgery in order to gain the ability to walk. He stated that when the town was contacted the proper process has not been followed. He stated that Magic Midway has paid their business license fee in the event that their request is approved. The Town ordinance says that "all carnival or street shows or any business of the like are hereby forbidden to show, parade, or otherwise engage in business without the written permission of the council." He stated that is why the special called meeting is necessary.

Mr. Cook stated that Mr. Bolen wished to have the carnival open Thursday – Sunday. He stated that council needs to decide opening and closing times, sanitary options need to be in place, and council should decide if it could run on Sunday. He stated that the options right now were to shut it down or make these decisions and approve the carnival with restrictions.

Mr. Bolen stated that he did not know all of the procedures to set up the carnival or he would have done things in advance. He stated that the family was really having a hardship and he was trying to help them out. He stated that there will be porta johns set up and trash will be cleaned up after everything is over.

Mayor Stapleton stated that the carnival operator has contacted Bradley Owens about providing security and he can be there every night but Saturday night.

TOWN COUNCIL

SAMMIE BAXLEY BRETT WILLIAMS ERIC MOODY DWAYNE CAGLE CHRIS RIVERS SCOTT VALENTINE

Attorney Boulware stated that he suggests any permit be granted only by allowing the Chief of Police the authority to pull the permit and shut the carnival down at any time if there are any problems or public safety issues.

Mayor Pro-Tem Williams asked what the hours of the carnival would be. If it would be from 10 – 2 or a full day on Saturday. Mr. Bolen stated that it would begin at 1PM and end around 11PM.

Mayor Pro-Tem Williams stated that he believes it should end around 10PM instead of 11PM. Mr. Bolen stated that things usually start winding down around 10PM.

Councilman Baxley asked how many rides there were going to be, if DHEC needed to be notified and stated that he believes that the carnival should not run on Sunday and they should shut down at 10PM each night. Mr. Bolen stated that if they are allowed to open on Sunday it would not start up until after church and there would be gospel music played.

Councilman Baxley asked if each vendor would need individual licenses. Mr. Cook stated that Magic Midway would pay \$100.00 per day and that would cover everyone.

Councilman Moody asked how the parking would be done because he did not feel that the businesses should be blocked off. He also wanted to know if the carnival has liability insurance. Mr. Bolen stated that he did not believe that parking would be problem because they will have parking available behind the rides.

Councilman Moody stated that he believes that the carnival should be held from 1-5 on Sunday so it would not interfere with church. He also asked if there is a deposit that is required for cleaning.

Mr. Cook stated that there is not a deposit required. Mayor Stapleton added that it is being held on private property and the carnival does have the permission of the property owner to hold the event. After more discussion it was decided that the carnival should open no earlier than 1PM each day and close no later than 10PM.

Councilman Moody stated that Mr. Bolen had time to plan and that this sounds like a good event for a good cause but he was disappointed that this has been brought to the council without the proper procedures being followed. Mr. Bolen apologized for that.

Mr. Cook recommended that the event be approved with a the understanding that the Chief of Police can pull the permit and shut it down with proper cause and with restrictions of operating hours from 1PM to 10PM on Thursday – Saturday and from 1Pm – 5PM on Sunday.

Councilman Cagle made a motion to accept the administrator's recommendation. Councilman Moody seconded the motion. All in favor.

Councilman Cagle thanked Mr. Bolen for trying to help medical needy children.

Mayor Stapleton thanked Mr. Bolen and stated that he hopes it is a success. He also stated that he wished to thank council for coming out of their way to hold the meeting.

Mayor Pro-Tem Williams made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Moody seconded the motion. All in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10AM.

TOWN OF WILLISTON, SOUTH CAROLINA



Jason W. Stapleton, Mayor

ATTEST:



Angela S. Overton, Town Clerk

12/9/13
Date