



# Town of Williston

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**Brett Williams, Mayor**  
**Kayla Jerkins, Town Clerk**  
**C. Brett Cook, Town Administrator**

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## Williston Town Council

### Regular Meeting

October 18, 2021

6:30 PM

### Minutes

The October 18, 2021 Regular Meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm. The following officials were present: Mayor Brett Williams, Councilmember Kurt Odermatt, Councilmember Annie Tyler, Councilmember William Toney, Councilmember Eric Moody, Councilmember Adadra Neville, and Councilmember Scott Valentine.

The Town Administrator Brett Cook, Town Clerk Kayla Jerkins, and Town Attorney Tom Boulware were in attendance.

Representing the media was Nikki Clingerman.

Councilmember Valentine led the invocation and Councilmember Toney led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Williams welcomed the people to the meeting. Mayor Williams thanked Pastor David Bryant and his wife for bringing a sub tray.

Mayor Williams asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Councilmember Valentine made a motion to approve the agenda. Councilmember Tyler seconded the motion.

Mayor Williams asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the previous town meeting. The minutes were dated September 14, 2021, instead the minutes should have been dated September 13, 2021. Upon correction of the date, the minutes were approved by Councilmember Neville and seconded by Councilmember Toney.

Mayor Williams asked for a motion to approve the financial reports for September 2021-information only. Councilmember Odermatt made a motion to approve the financial reports for September information only. Councilmember Tyler seconded the motion.

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## Town Council

**Kurt Odermatt Eric Moody Adadra Neville Scott Valentine Annie Tyler William Toney**

Under Public Comment, Llyod Ward, thanks the council for an open session with out ahead of time notice. Ward also thanks the council for not raising taxes, like surrounding towns. Ward asked the council for a zoning change on Academy Street. Ward wants to make a duplex and wants to know the rules and regulations for that street. Ward states that Academy Street is not a neighborhood. Ward wrote a letter for the Town Council to fit the zone for the duplex and was wondering how long would it take for a response. Ward wrote the letter in August. Ward spoke with Administrator Cook.

Mayor Williams said he did not see the letter and said Administrator Cook will take action with the Zone of Appeals to call for a meeting. Mayor Williams said that the Zone of Appeal board does not meet regularly and will have Administrator Cook be in contact with them

Administrator Cook said this will have to be an ordinance and will have to be put on the agenda twice and he will be in contact with the Zone of Appeals board. Administrator Cook said he would contact Ward if he would like to go to the Zone of Appeals' meeting.

Ward said he would like a notification when the meeting is held and said he would like to maybe start construction with in a year.

Mayor Williams thanks Ward for coming to the meeting.

Mayor Williams ask if anyone else would like to speak under Public Comment.

No one else under Public Comment addressed council.

Under Judy Taylor- Vendors and Wonderful Williston Weekend, Taylor thanks the council for doing a great job. Taylor mentions that item number six should say 100 Suits for 100 Men. Taylor says she wants Wonderful Williston Weekend to be a long run in the future. 100 Suits on October 29 at the Barnwell Airport is doing a food drive. In November 100 Suits is doing a turkey drive. 100 Suits are also going to do a toy drive, date not established yet. 100 Suits are working with Phyllis Smarts in Allendale. Taylor states that 100 Suits is for everyone, not just for lower class or higher class. If someone has a need 100 Suits wants to meet that need if they can help them.

Taylor said Vendors Food Truck and Vendors Arts and Craft want to do the event at least once this year. Taylor wants to invite the CSRA vendors and charge a fee for them to west up. Taylor wants to invite the Town of Williston, churches, and organizations to join. Taylor wants to hold the event on the road in front of NBS. Taylor thinks the location would be a good spot and wants to put up signs for advertising to let people know in advance. The advertising will bring awareness to the people and will let them show their talents. Taylor wants to hold the event every year. Taylor asked council for their thoughts.

Mayor Williams likes the spot and the area.

Councilmember Moody says a company has already asked for that spot on that day to do a vendor craft fair.

Taylor says maybe they could partner together.

Mayor Williams thanks Taylor for coming to the meeting.

Mayor Williams invites Tommy Boylston to speak.

Under Tommy Boylston, EDC Director Update, Boylston thanks the mayor and council and wants to bring up stuff that the council may not be aware of. Boylston said he is giving a general report. Boylston speaks on the closing of the Dayco plant and they are working to find a new industry to buy the building. Boylston says there are two prospects that are showing strong interest in the property, but not an offer yet.

Boylston thanks Councilmember Moody for being on their board.

Boylston spoke on the Kelly Street building. A year ago, Intelligent Life Cycle Solutions moved in. A problem EDC faced was bringing the building up to code, a lot of money was spent, but was successful and they are adding employees.

Boylston spoke on the Industrial Park in Williston has a contract with a company to redo signage for the East and West to put up lights and wanting to put up LED lights because of LED lights being cheaper.

Boylston spoke on the Town of Blackville and getting trees cut. He stated that a lot of the small trees were left behind from the tree cutting company. Boylston wants trees cut for the Town of Williston around the parks to show prospects and activity. Boylston said there are a lot of activity and interest in the Town of Williston. Boylston said EDC is almost at a point that they don't have any more buildings to show and they are at a standstill. They have a lot of land for buildings to be done and will be the focus in the future. The first focus is the Dayco building.

Boylston spoke on the Old Duncan building in Blackville. The building sat vacant for 10 years, EDC did a lot of work and brought in Pine View buildings. Pine View buildings brought a lot of jobs to the area.

Boylston said Mox Facility building came available last year. It's a clean, nice building. Real estate marketed it and recently Cascade has leased that building for storage.

Boylston said Swiss Krono, Cascade, and SRS are employment opportunities in this area.

Boylston said a drive-in movie theater is coming to the area. A person is working on that project. The theater is not opening soon, but it is in the works. The theater will be located outside the City of Barnwell.

Boylston said YMCA pool project is a great asset and has acquired the funds to do the project.

Councilmember Moody said the YMCA pool is not a membership pool and anyone can go to it.

Mayor Williams said that Boylston job is very important and he is the liaison for the Towns. Mayor Williams said the activities for the Plants are a huge excitement for the Town. Mayor Williams thanks Mr. Boylston for coming to the meeting.

Under Hillary Hindman- Axis 1, Mayor Williams welcomes Hillary Hindman to the meeting. Hindman said the coalition granted a small grant to improve fitness. Hindman said she partnered

with Kenny Cook and Cook said that Disc Golf was a huge interest. Hindman said Councilmember Moody called and said it has been a huge interest in the town to expand the course and at Hindman's meeting they agreed to expand the disc golf course for the Town of Williston.

Mayor Williams said its great and the town has some land. Mayor Williams said with an 18-basket course Williston can host tournaments, which brings awareness to the Town. Mayor Williams commented about the course having a pond and it being a good feature. Mayor Williams said the course is good for all ages and for everyone to enjoy. Mayor Williams thanks Councilmember Moody for making the phone calls.

Under Consider Lease Extension with Medshore, Mayor Williams asked if Administrator Cook would like to speak on the subject.

Administrator Cook said the lease extension is an agreement that escalates the rent per year. Administrator Cook said he worked with Attorney Boulware and its an extension contract for three years.

Attorney Boulware said the contract is a \$100 addition a month for the first year, the second year is a \$200 a month addition, and the third year is a \$300 addition per month.

Administrator Cook said that Medshore has approved the contract agreement on their end.

Mayor Williams asked for a motion to approve the lease extension with Medshore.

Councilmember Moody made a motion to extend the lease extension with Medshore.

Councilmember Toney seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

Under Approval of Ordinance 21-7, Business License Ordinance, Mayor Williams made a motion to read Ordinance 21-7 by title only.

Councilmember Neville made a motion to read ordinance 21-7 by title only.

Councilmember Tyler seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

Attorney Boulware read Ordinance 21-7 by title only.

Administrator Cook said the whole state has been working on the ordinance to make all the cities and towns standard, so the businesses can pay the same amount across towns. Businesses can go online and can pay the fee. MASC made the model ordinance mandatory.

Mayor Williams asked for a motion to approve Ordinance 21-7.

Councilmember Moody made a motion to approve Ordinance 21-7.

Councilmember Valentine made a second.

The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Williams thanked Town Clerk Jerkins for taking the time to learn the business license process.

Under Consider Ordinance Number 2021-6 “An Ordinance of the Town of Williston to Adopt Regulations for the Establishment of the Recreation Board, Mayor Williams made a motion to read by title only.

Councilmember Toney made a motion to read Ordinance Number 2021-6 by title only.

Councilmember Tyler seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

Attorney Boulware read Ordinance Number 2021-6 by title only.

Administrator Cook said an issue arose at the planning session about what can be done with the limited funds for a betterment for the Rec Department. The idea would be to set up a volunteer board.

Mayor Williams made a motion to consider Ordinance 2021-6.

Councilmember Moody made a motion to consider Ordinance 2021-6.

Councilmember Toney seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Williams asked if there were any questions.

No questions were asked.

Under ``Consider Resolution 2021-003 “To Amend the 2022 Operating Budget, Mayor Williams made a motion to read Resolution 2021-003 by title only.

Councilmember Valentine seconded the motion to read Resolution 2021-003 by title only. And the Motion Carried Unanimously.

Attorney Boulware read Resolution 2021-003 by title only.

Mayor Williams invited Fire Chief John Melton to the podium.

Chief Melton said the FEMA Grant is for up to \$400,000.00. and there is a smaller grant from the Forestry Department. The grant requires a match of 5% for a total match of \$20,000.00. Chief estimates the truck he would like to purchase will cost \$365,000 - \$375,000. After discussion, Chief Melton said the FEMA Grant would not be awarded until the 2022 budget, and thus could be removed from the Budget Resolution.

Administrator Cook said money is typically budgeted annually for the forestry grant but was not done so this year and asked for the budget resolution to be approved.

Chief Melton asked for approval of the \$4,778 to match the forestry grant for the equipment on the brush truck.

Mayor Williams asked for a motion to consider the omission of the FEMA Grant for 2022 and to consider Resolution 2021-003.

Councilmember Neville asked if this would be for the 2022 fiscal year budget.

Mayor Williams said it would be for this fiscal year.

Councilmember Tyler made a motion to omit the FEMA Grant of \$20,000.00 from the resolution and to approve the \$4,778.00 for the Forestry Grant.

Councilmember Moody seconded the motion to omit the FEMA Grant of \$20,000.00 from the resolution and to approve the \$4,778.00 for the Forestry Grant. The motion carried unanimously.

Under Establish Time and Route for Halloween, Mayor Williams said the Covid numbers are going down and Mayor Williams asked council to make a decision together. Mayor Williams said that if they incorporate the railroad then traffic would be a problem. Mayor Williams said the park was a good turnout. Mayor Williams spoke on establishing a time and said some churches are having a fall festival or church on Halloween. Mayor Williams brought up October 30, 2021 from 6 pm- 8pm. Mayor Williams said residents can still give out candy. Mayor Williams said the Academy Street sidewalk people can walk in a loop and also on Dicks Street people can walk in a loop, so people can finish where they started.

Administrator Cook said a couple of churches wanted to get involved and want to do a trick-or-treat.

Councilmember Neville asked how people could sign up and asked if an announcement could be put on the town sign.

Councilmember Moody said he liked the idea for Saturday October 30, because a church is doing an event in the IGA parking lot on October 31, so it would be two events that the Town can go to.

Mayor Williams asked if the event should be a drive through or a walk.

Councilmember Neville made a motion to have a walk-through event on October 30 at Academy Street Park in celebration of Halloween.

Councilmember Moody said they would need people to help manage it.

The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Williams asked council to put it on Facebook for advertising. Mayor Williams asked Town Clerk Jerkins to put it on the Town Sign and Town Facebook page.

Under American Rescue Plan Funding Premium Pay for Employees, Mayor Williams asked Administrator Cook to explain.

Administrator Cook said it is funding that can be used to recoup revenues, expenses on utilities and other things. Administrator Cooks said that it is extra funding and sees jurisdictions for employees around \$1,000-\$2,000 and it being the easiest way to spend funds. \$700,000 should come by the end of the week and \$1.4 million total. After the \$700,000 Administrator Cook is unsure when the other \$700,000 will happen or if it has to be requested.

Mayor Williams said it is a good way to give to the employees.

Administrator Cook said he would put the item on the agenda for November.

Under Williston Employee Polices Handbook Requirements pertaining to leave and accrual rates, Mayor Williams ask Administrator Cook what the polices are.

Administrator Cook said according to the Employee Handbook employees are not able to roll over time. Administrator Cook said sick leave only accumulates and has an unlimited roll over, annual leave (vacation leave) does not allow roll over. Administrator Cook said a lot of companies allow for 160-340 hours to roll over. When a company doesn't allow for a roll over it can hurt productivity in the field because multiple employees take off at one time.

Councilmember Odermatt asked if the vacation time is not used, then can the town cash it out.

Administrator Cook said it is not written in the manual. Administrator Cook said most places allow roll overs, but Williston is not allowing any to carry forward.

Mayor Williams said he asked Administrator Cook to research it to make it clear and this is something to think about.

Under Establish a Date for Annual Christmas Parade, Mayor Williams said December 12, 2021 at 4pm is the time being discussed for the Christmas Parade. Mayor Williams said the route would start by the high school and end by the BP gas station, usually people fork off and go back. Mayor Williams asked for a motion to approve the Annual Christmas Parade.

Councilmember Moody made a motion to approve the Annual Christmas Parade.

Councilmember Tyler seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

Under Administrator's Report, Administrator Cook made a mention of the American Plan. Administrator Cook said the CBDG plan to execute a contract this week and needs a title search. Administrator Cook said he spoke with the engineer and with the water line to expand and come around the first of November will hold a meeting/ contact the citizens that the Town hasn't heard from. Administrator Cook said the next step would be to meet with Zoning.

Under Mayor's Report, Mayor Williams said the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> week of the month of November to put applications out for the Citizens of the year and to put it on the Town Sign.

The LED Lights around town are almost done and have received a lot of compliments, it saves the town \$6,000 a year.

In two weeks, the election is coming up and Mayor Williams encourages people to vote.

Mayor Williams said the Halloween event is October 30 from 6pm-8pm, but kids can still go house to house.

Councilmember Moody asked Administrator Cook about the American Rescue Plan if the sewage can be extended past Elko Street on Peach Tree Lane.

Administrator Cook asked if Elko is forced fed and how much of an extension.

Councilmember Moody said maybe a quarter of a mile.

Administrator Cook said the grant can be used for that.

Councilmember Neville asked Administrator Cook if he could give council a document of what the funds can go to.

Administrator Cook said he would have a document made.

Under Adjournment, Councilmember Moody made a motion to adjourn the meeting.  
Councilmember Tyler seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm

Kayla Jerkins, Town Clerk

TOWN OF WILLISTON, SOUTH CAROLINA

ATTEST:

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Kayla Jerkins

Town Clerk

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Date

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Brett A. Williams, Mayor