



Town of Williston

Brett Williams, Mayor
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C. Brett Cook, Town Administrator

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Williston Town Council

Regular Meeting

December 13, 2021

6:32 pm

Minutes

The December 13, 2021 meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m. 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 Moody led the invocation and Councilmember Tyler led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Williams welcomed the people to the meeting.

Mayor Williams asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Councilmember Tyler made a motion to approve the agenda. Councilmember Valentine seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Williams asked for a motion to approve the Minutes for the November 8 Regular Meeting. Councilmember Neville made a motion to approve the Minutes for the November 8 Regular Meeting. Councilmember Toney seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Williams asked for a motion to approve the Financial Reports. Councilmember Moody made a motion to approve the Financial Reports. Councilmember Odermatt seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion carried unanimously.

Next on the agenda was Public Comment. There was no public comment.

Town Council

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

Next on the agenda was Recreation Football Presentation Keith Parker. Mayor Williams welcomed Coach James Hewitt. Coach Hewitt said the Town of Williston's recreation football team plays in Aiken County. The rec team skipped last year because of Covid. This past season the 11 and 12-year-old team division didn't lose a game or have an opposing team score against them, except on a kick off. The coaches don't have any son's play on their team and Coach Hewitt said the coaches did a good job coaching the team. Coach Hewitt said Coach Keith Parker will present the Town of Williston with a trophy. Coach Hewitt introduced Coach Keith Parker.

Coach Parker thanks the council members for inviting him to speak. Coach Parker mentions Coach John Depew and said he enjoyed coaching with both Coach Depew and Coach Hewitt. Coach Parker said it is his passion to coach and see young people grow up to be successful. In coaching the kids, it teaches them to respect and how to carry themselves. Playing sports helps teach the kids to be their best. The 11 and 12-year-olds made it to the championship game. They won seven games and gave up no points out of all the games. Coach Parker thanks everyone for the support. Coach Parker presents the Town of Williston with a trophy.

Mayor Williams thanked Coach Parker for speaking and the councilmembers and the mayor accepted the trophy.

Next on the agenda, "Oath of Office to Williston Police Officer Dalton Peeples." Mayor Williams introduced Officer Peeples, Officer Peeples' wife, parents, and his dear friend. Chief Rodney Pruitt held the Bible for Officer Peeples to swear over. Attorney Boulware had Peeples say an oath. The oath was: "I do solemnly affirm I am duly qualified, according to the Constitution of this State, to exercise the duties of the office to which I have been elected, and that I will, to the best of my ability, discharge the duties thereof, and preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of this State and of the United States.

As a police officer of the municipality of the Town of Williston, I will equally, fairly and impartially, to the best of my ability and skill, exercise the trust reposed in me and I will use my best endeavors to preserve the peace and carry into effect according to the law the purposes for which I have been elected. So help me God. Sworn before me this 13th day of December, 2021." Officer Peeples signed the "Oath of Office." Attorney Boulware notarized the oath.

Chief Pruitt said hiring Officer Peeples fills up the road. Pruitt said this is the first time in three years that they are full staff. The two officers Officer Epperson and Officer Peeples are working towards their certifications.

Next on the agenda, "Consider Ordinance Number 2021-6, "An Ordinance of the Town of Williston to Adopt Regulations for the Establishment of the Recreation Board" Mayor Williams asked for a motion to read by title only. Councilmember Valentine made a motion to read Ordinance Number 2021-6 by title only. Councilmember Tyler seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion carried unanimously. Attorney Boulware read Ordinance Number 2021-6 by title only. Councilmember Moody said at the last Regular Meeting, Council said the Recreation Board should allow for board members to also serve on the board that live outside of the town limits if the appointed members lived inside the school district.

Councilmember Odermatt asked if this includes members in Williston town limits.

Mayor Williams said it will include town members and members within the school district.

Attorney Boulware said the Ordinance would need to be amended.

Councilmember Moody made a motion to amend to include members outside city limits not outside town limits.

Attorney Boulware said the Ordinance would be adopted as amended if voted on.

Councilmember Valentine made a motion to adopt the Ordinance Number 2021-6 as amended.

Councilmember Neville seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried unanimously.

Next on the agenda, "Consider the recommendation from the Planning Commission to Approve Ordinance Number 2021-9, "To Alter Regulations Within the Zoning Code, Section R-15 Special Exceptions, Number 4." Councilmember Moody recluses himself from the vote and the room while the Ordinance Number is being discussed. Mayor Williams asked for a motion to read Ordinance Number 2021-9 by title only. Councilmember Valentine made a motion to read Ordinance Number 2021-9 by title only. Councilmember Toney seconded the motion. Attorney Boulware read Ordinance Number 2021-9 by title only. Mayor Williams asked for a motion to accept Ordinance Number 2021-9. Councilmember Odermatt made a motion to accept Ordinance Number 2021-9. Councilmember Tyler seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion carried unanimously. Councilmember Moody did not vote, he reclused himself.

Next on the agenda, "Consider Resolution 2021-4, "A Resolution of the Town Council of Williston, South Carolina, Establishing a Plan for the use of Rescue Plan Act Funds." Mayor Williams asked if Administrator Cook wanted to speak on the Resolution. Administrator Cook said the funds received by SC Legislators are referred to as the American Recovery Act. The distribution is based on population. One of the categories listed is premium pay. Premium pay allows council to expend the funds, nothing coming out of the General Fund, many other places are doing it. Varies on the amount, a certain amount can go to Public Works, General Fund. The funds can be directed any way council sees fit.

Mayor Williams asked if the Resolution can be adopted up to \$5,000. Administrator Cook said he put \$4,000 thinking the farthest the amount can go up to is \$4,000. Mayor Williams asked if the Resolution needs to be changed to \$5,000. Attorney Boulware said if council wants to increase the amount to \$5,000, then the Resolution would be amended. Mayor Williams asked for a motion to read the Resolution 2021-4 with the modification change from \$4,000 to \$5,000 in tier one, with the attachment included by title only. Councilmember Odermatt made a motion to read Resolution 2021-4 with the attachment and the amended \$4,000 to \$5,000 to tier one. Councilmember Tyler seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion carried unanimously. Attorney Boulware read Resolution 2021-4 by title only. Mayor Williams asked for a motion to accept the Resolution 2021-4 with the modification change from \$4,000 to \$5,000 in tier one, with the attachment included. Councilmember Neville made a motion to accept Resolution 2021-

4 and the attachment. Councilmember Toney seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion carried unanimously.

Next on the agenda Consider Appointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Administrator Cook said the recommends council to have the board have 4-7 people to serve. They have to live in town limits. Mayor Williams said he knows one lady who wants to help, but she's been out of town. Administrator Cook said he will put the Appointment on the agenda next month. Councilmember Tyler asked if they could bring a name next month. Mayor Williams said yes. Mayor Williams nominated Jaimie Still to serve on the Board. Councilmember Odermatt nominates Jaimie Still to serve. Councilmember Tyler seconded the nomination.

Administrator Cook said the COG and Zoning after appointment have to have three hours of continuing education and then earn six hours.

Clingerman said she is in Aiken school district, but has a Williston address and asked if she is able to serve on this committee. Mayor Williams said not for this board because this board requirement is for town limits. Councilmember Moody nominated MaryAnne Walkup. Councilmember Tyler made a motion to accept MaryAnne Walkup's nomination. Councilmember Odermatt seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. All were in favor.

Next on the Agenda "Administrator's Report." Administrator Cook said the CDBG grants on demolition is waiting to proceed assuming in the next 30 days. Councilmember Moody asked who was the contractor. Administrator Brett said he would pull it after the meeting. Councilmember Moody asked if Administrator Cook had the prices for a pickleball court. Administrator Cook said no, and he was looking at places. Councilmember Moody said there were two abandoned basketball courts that might fit for a court. Councilmember Moody asked for the status on the disc golf course. Administrator Cook said the survey was done and will have plats within the next few days.

Next on the Agenda, "Mayor's Report." Mayor Williams thanked everyone for participation for the events on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Mayor Williams said the Town Tree Lighting was good and the Citizen of the Year was announced and he is the youngest the town has had. Mayor Williams thanked everyone who set up for the event. Mayor Williams said the town parade had over 100 participants and the parade lasted 1 hour and 15 minutes. The town has had positive feedback and thanks everyone that was involved. Mayor Williams said the Christmas Lunch is going to be December 17, Meeting on Main is catering at 12. Mayor Williams invites the Councilmembers and Mayor Williams wishes everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Councilmember Tyler said a person in the community asked why the light poles weren't decorated.

Mayor Williams said its one of his goals and last year a lot were vandalized.

Administrator Cook said Dominion is going is going to be cutting the trees in town about 80%. Dominion is supposed to manicure what they cut and if they don't then to let him know. The tree cutting will start in 2022.

Mayor Williams said that Rodney King is working on cleaning up the road.

Councilmember Moody asked if council will be serving the employees at the luncheon this year.

Mayor Williams said yes and that we will fix our plates last.

Mayor Williams asked for a motion to go into Executive Session. Councilmember Tyler made a motion to enter Executive Session. Councilmember Valentine seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried unanimously.

The councilmembers entered into Executive Session. The vote was made for Police Chief Rodney Pruitt to remain as Chief of Police until such time as a successor can be appointed and at such time, he will become a part-time investigator/patrolman for the Town at a salary to be agreed upon through the end of the current fiscal year unless re-appointed. The Regular Meeting ended at 7:16.

Kayla Jerkins, Town Clerk/ Treasurer

TOWN OF WILLISTON, SOUTH CAROLINA

Brett A. Williams, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kayla Jerkins/ Town Clerk/ Treasurer

Date