



Town of Williston

MAYOR BRETT WILLIAMS
ADMINISTRATOR BRETT COOK
KAYLA JERKINS, TOWN CLERK/ TREASURER

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Williston Town Council

Public Hearing

June 14, 2021

6:30 PM

PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES:

The public invocation began at 6:30 pm on June 14, 2021. Former Administrator Kenny Cook read the Public Comment on the Second Reading of the Proposed Budget. Former Administrator Cook asked the council to approve the budget and the amendments of the second reading. Former Administrator Cook addressed the mistake that was made on the previous amendment sheet. He addressed that the error was a typo and both of the packets given had a corrected and an error sheet to show the corrections and are in the public packet.

Administrator Kenny Cook allowed for discussion and public comment.

There was no comment from the public

The motion was given by council member Odermatt to adjourn the public hearing and the second motion was given by council member Tyler.

Mayor Williams asked if all council members were in support of the adjournment of the public hearing. All of the council members were in support of adjourning the public hearing.

Williston Town Council

Regular Meeting

June 14, 2021

6:34 PM

MINUTES:

The June 14, 2021 Regular Meeting was called to order at 6:34pm. The following officials were present: Mayor Brett Williams, Mayor Pro-Tem Scott Valentine, Councilmember Kurt Odermatt, Councilmember Annie Tyler, Councilmember William Toney, and Councilmember Eric Moody. Councilmember Adadra Neville was absent.

Former Town Administrator Kenny Cook was in attendance along with current Town Administer Brett Cook. The Town Attorney Tom Boulware was also present in addition to the Town Clerk Kayla Jerkins.

Jonathan Vickery of the People Sentinel was also in attendance.

Mayor Brett Williams called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm and welcomed everyone.

Mayor Pro-Tem Scott Valentine led the invocation and Councilmember Annie Tyler led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Williams asked for a motion from council to table item five and six to swear in police officers who recently graduated from the police academy.

Mayor Pro-Tem Valentine made a motion to table items five and six. Councilmember Moody seconded the motion. The motion was approved by Council unanimously.

Mayor Williams asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the previous town meeting. Councilmember Moody asked for a change in the minutes. He stated the minutes say “acting Mayor” and should read as just Mayor. Councilmember Toney makes a motion to approve the minutes with the correction. Councilmember Odermatt seconded the motion.

Mayor Williams asked for a motion to approve the financial reports for May 2021. Councilmember Moody made a motion to approve. Councilmember Toney seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Next Ms. Elizabeth Overton from the South Eastern Housing and Community Development made a presentation. She stated in 2016 they purchased property addressed at 103 Blacks Drive through a grant, which had a three-year compliance period during which time frame they had to keep the property. She stated now there is a clean title in hand. The South Eastern Housing and Community Development’s understanding is that the town wanted the property. She stated if the town is still interested in the property, they will sell it back to the town for \$5.00 plus closing cost. This agreement would be between South Eastern Housing and Community and The Town of Williston.

Town Administrator Brett Cook asked if there or any structures are on the property. Ms. Overton stated that there are none.

Ms. Overton asked if the Council had any questions. No questions were asked.

She then explained the Blight Elimination program. The program helps provide for low-income housing. She explained that low-income neighborhoods often use resources such as the fire department and police department. It’s not grants funded and not bound by grant restrictions. Blight Elimination funds the program. They reached out to property owners and will offer the assessed value of land up to \$15,000. Once purchased the structure will be removed. Look at the neighborhood and come up with three key elements to help. Provide quality home ownership building, single family rental unit or duplex. It increases the tax base and provides affordable housing to existing residents. She said they purchased two properties in Barnwell and used a deconstruction method which salvages the materials for their repurposing. Properties have to be zoned residential. She asked the town of Williston to help identify properties they would like to see developed and would be willing to partner with her organization on.

The Mayor stated that he looks forward to getting together and moving forward.

Ms. Overton stated the property must be in the town limits and cannot be zoned commercial at this time.

Mayor Williams thanked Ms. Overton for attending the meeting.

Next Mr. Andre Carthens asked permission to do a fundraiser for Rocky Brown. He indicated they are trying to help the family. They would like to do a boot drive at the town stop lights on Main Street. They have been doing other fundraisers such as selling tickets for dinners.

Mayor Williams stated we can't take action tonight and asked if this would be a onetime only event. Mr. Carthens stated yes, the fundraiser is a onetime event.

Dalton Mundy of the Williston Disc Golf Club spoke next. He gave a report on the club's recent tournament. He stated the club has 35 members. He said that 18 players from Williston and 30 players from outside of Williston played in the event. They raised \$2,350.

Mundy then presented the check to the Town Administrator Cook. Mundy then passed out towels to the council and thanked them for their support.

Mayor Williams then allowed former Administrator Kenny Cook to speak on the appointment of the Town Clerk. Mr. Cook went through the search after Pamela Davis left the post. He stated that Kayla Jerkins' start day was today. He then asked the Council to appoint her Town Clerk.

Mayor Williams then asked for a motion for Jerkins to be appointed as the new Town Clerk.

Motion was made by Councilmember Odermatt to appoint Jerkins as the Town Clerk.

The motion was seconded by Councilmember Moody and carried unanimously.

Mayor Williams then asked for a motion to read by title only Budget Ordinance 2021-01.

Councilmember Odermatt made a motion to read by title only. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Tyler.

Mayor Williams asked for a motion of approval for the second reading of budget ordinance 2021-01. Motion to approve was made by Councilmember Moody and seconded by Councilmember Odermatt. The motion was carried unanimously.

Mayor Williams then asked for a motion to read by title only Ordinance 2021-02 Sewer Rate Ordinance.

The motion made by Councilmember Odermatt and seconded by Councilmember Tyler. The motion was carried unanimously.

Mayor Williams then asked for a motion to approve the second reading of the Sewer Rate Increase Ordinance 2021-02.

That motion was made by Councilmember Moody and seconded by Councilmember Odermatt. The motion was carried unanimously.

Mayor Williams asked for a motion to read Water Rate Increase Ordinance 2021-03 by title only.

That motion was made by Councilmember Odermatt and seconded by Councilmember Tyler.

The Mayor then asked for a motion to approve Ordinance 2021-03.

The motion to approve was made by Councilmember Odermatt and seconded by Councilmember Tyler. The motion was carried unanimously.

Mayor Williams asked for a motion to approve Resolution 2021-04 for Participation in the Lower Savannah COG Home Consortium.

Mayor Williams asked for the resolution to be read. Attorney Bouleware read the Resolution.

Mayor Williams asked for a motion to approve Resolution 2021-04.

Motion to approve was made by Councilmember Odermatt and seconded my Councilmember Moody. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Williams asked for a motion to approve the contract for solid waste with S&S Disposal.

Motion to approve was made by Councilmember Moody and seconded by Councilmember Toney.

Mayor Williams recognized former Administrator Kenny Cook and thanked him on behalf of the town and welcomed the new Administrator Brett Cook. Mr. Kenny Cook informed all this would be his last council meeting.

Administrator Cook gave no formal report but stated he is enjoying Williston and is looking forward to getting many tasks performed in house by the town.

Cook stated he has met with most of the Town's contractors and is working to get to know the water system. In addition, he stated he has drafted several ordinances for future meetings and looks forward to working with Council to establish goals.

Mayor Williams addressed the recent water line break.

He then announced he won't be able to attend the upcoming Municipal Association Meeting and training at Hilton Head.

The Mayor thanked the schools for the graduation walk and once again recognized Kenny Cook for his years of service to Williston.

Kenny thanked the Council for their support and for being easy to work with and for.

Mayor Williams then made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Tyler and carried unanimously.

TOWN OF WILLISTON, SOUTH CAROLINA

Brett A. Williams, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kayla Jerkins, Town Clerk/Treasurer

Date