Williston Town Council
Regular Meeting
May 09, 2022
6:37 pm
Minutes

The May 9, 2022 Regular Meeting was called to order at 6:37 p.m. The following officials were present: Mayor Brett Williams, Councilmember Annie Tyler, Councilmember William Toney, Councilmember Eric Moody, Councilmember Adadra Neville, and Councilmember Scott Valentine.

Councilmember Kurt Odermatt was not present.

The Town Administrator Michael Beasley, Town Clerk Kayla Jerkins, and Town Attorney Tom Boulware were in attendance.

Representing the media was Jonathan Vickery.

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

Mayor Williams welcomed the people to the meeting. Mayor Williams welcomed Al Jenkins, Peggy and Ben Kinlaw, and Aiken County Sheriffs Office to the meeting.

Administrator Beasley asked for the amendment of the agenda to add item number fourteen “Approval to Display Signs “We Can End Gun Violence.” Mayor Williams asked for a motion to amend the agenda to add item number fourteen “Approval to Display Signs “We Can End Gun Violence.” Councilmember Neville made a motion to add item number fourteen “Approval to Display Signs “We Can End Gun Violence.” Councilmember Toney seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Williams asked for a motion to approve the April 18th, 2022 Minutes. Councilmember Valentine made a motion to approve the April 18th, 2022 Minutes. Councilmember Moody seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Williams asked for a motion to approve the Financial Report by information only. Councilmember Moody made a motion to approve the Financial Report by information only. Councilmember Toney seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried unanimously.
Under Public Comment, Mayor Williams welcomes Ben Kinlaw. Kinlaw thanks the council. Kinlaw is a representative for District 5. Kinlaw is helping with “Make Barnwell County Beautiful.” On April 2 “Make Barnwell County Beautiful” launched a Facebook page, trying to become an affiliate to the national make America Beautiful. They are working with afflictions for education, enforcement, engagement, and spotlight on litter. Kinlaw and his wife worked last Saturday to pick up litter. They need all seven municipalities involved. They need a board of 6-9 leaders. Kinlaw is asking for a person to represent Williston and one alternate so they are able to get more grants. Kinlaw said he is here tonight to encourage Williston to recruit people as a primary and alternate to serve on the board that originally launched on April 22. Allendale picked up 450 litter bags last meeting.

Mayor Williams thanked Kinlaw for speaking. Mayor Williams asked if any one else would like to speak.

Mr. Jenkins thanks council for welcoming him. Jenkins said the past Saturday they held a veterans’ program for Afghanistan veterans. States it was a good turnout. The event was to recognize all veterans.

Mayor Williams thanks Jenkins for speaking and asked if anyone else would like to speak. No other person spoke.

Next on the agenda, item number nine, “Police Chief Swearing In.” James Gainey’s son held the bible. Attorney Boulware swore Gainey in as Williston Police Chief.

Next on the agenda, item number ten, “First Reading Approval of the Budget Ordinance 2022-01.” Mayor Williams asked for a motion to read the Budget Ordinance 2022-01 by title only. Councilmember Neville made a motion to read the Budget Ordinance 2022-01 by title only. Councilmember Valentine seconded the motion. Attorney Boulware read Budget Ordinance 2022-01 by title only. Mayor Williams asked for a motion to approve Budget Ordinance 2022-01 by title only. Councilmember Moody made a motion to accept Budget Ordinance 2022-01. Councilmember Toney seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried unanimously. Mayor Williams asked if there were any questions.

Next on the agenda, item number eleven, Administrator Beasley asked for a motion to approve, “First Baptist Church Williston to host water games and recreational activities behind FBCW (Dicks Street for Crossing).” Mayor Williams asked for a motion to approve First Baptist Church Williston to host water games and recreational activities. Councilmember Toney made a motion to approve First Baptist Church Williston to host water games and recreational activities. Councilmember Moody seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried unanimously. Mayor Williams said they are going to use Academy Street and ask to close Dicks Street. They can set out cones so no threat of traffic. Councilmember Moody said to let EMT know.

Next on the agenda, item number twelve, “Approval of Schools use of Rail Trail for Graduation Event.” Mayor Williams asked for a motion to approve the schools use of Rail Trail for Graduation Event. Councilmember Neville made a motion to approve the schools use of Rail Trail for Graduation Event. Councilmember Toney seconded the motion to approve the schools
use of Rail Trail for Graduation Event. Mayor Williams asked if anyone had any questions. All were in favor and the motion carried unanimously.

Next on the agenda, item number thirteen, “Approval Fireworks: First Baptist of Williston.” Mayor Williams said each year First Baptist has a town wide event. They are asking to use the roadway out on the front lawn. If the roadway isn’t approved then they are asking if they can use the back. More people can see the front and it has been in the front for past events. Mayor Williams asked for a motion to approve the event for First Baptist of Williston. Councilmember Moody likes the front of the church. Councilmember Toney made a motion to approve the firework event for First Baptist of Williston. Councilmember Valentine seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried unanimously.

Next on the agenda, “Approval to display signs “We can end Gun Violence.” Administrator Beasley said on May 30th they are asking to display signs at the Veteran’s Park. Beasley asked to add this event because the town won’t have another meeting before the desired event date. Mayor Williams asked for a motion to approve the display signs, “We can end Gun Violence.” Councilmember Neville made a motion to approve the display signs. Councilmember Toney seconded the motion all were in favor and the motion carried unanimously. Mayor Williams asked when they will set out the signs and pick them up. Administrator Beasley said since its not a month long event how long did, they want to keep them out. Mayor Williams said until the event is over.

Mayor Williams asked for a motion to enter into Executive Session. Councilmember Tyler made a motion to enter into Executive Session. Councilmember Moody seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried unanimously. Council entered into Executive Session at 7:02 p.m. Council exited Executive Session at 7:08 p.m. with no action taken.

Next on the agenda, item number sixteen, “Administrator’s Report.” Administrator Beasley said for the waterline system installment anything over the budget must go through the Town’s budget because no other grants can be given and with prices rising the grant doesn’t fully cover the waterline installment. Beasley said that a workshop needs to be set up to discuss other matters any day of the week at 6 p.m. Councilmember Tyler asked if the time could be changed to 6:30 p.m. instead. Mayor Williams asked if they could do the workshop Monday May 23 at 6:30 p.m. and council agreed on the time.

Next on the agenda, item number 17, “Mayor’s Report.” Mayor Williams asked to post the STEM Festival. Mayor Williams said that Dicks Street behind First Baptist to Kelly Street is going to be paved and is going to ask if they could pave Elko Street and Dicks Street while paving Dicks and Kelly.

Mayor Williams said all the easements are in and they can start building.

Mayor Williams said the event on June 4th is the event on gun violence. The event will be just the Saturday in Barnwell at the Veteran’s Park.

Mayor Williams said Williston is welcoming a new business in the town limits and asked Councilmember Moody if he would like to speak on the new business coming.
Councilmember Moody said Monmouth plant is coming to Williston and will employ about 65 people. Monmouth is a rubber and plastic plant. They won't employ as many people as Dayco did and will use half the building. They are hoping to be able to lease out the other half or expand.

Mayor Williams asked for a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Moody made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Valentine seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

TOWN OF WILLISTON, SOUTH CAROLINA

________________________________________
Brett Williams, Mayor

ATTEST:

______________________________
Kayla Jerkins, Town Clerk

______________________________
Date