



TOWN OF WILLISTON

Brett Williams, Mayor
Kayla Jerkins, Town Clerk
Michael L. Beasley, Town Administrator
Thomas Boulware, Town Attorney

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Williston Town Council
Regular Called Meeting Minutes
August 14, 2023
6:30 PM

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 under the SC Freedom of Information Act.

Administrator Michael Beasley was present. Town Clerk Kayla Jerkins was in attendance. Attorney Thomas Boulware was in attendance.

Mayor Williams called to the meeting to order, and he stated that there was a quorum.

Councilmember Odermatt led the invocation. Councilmember Collins led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Mayor Williams welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Mayor Williams asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Councilmember Odermatt made a motion to approve the agenda with the omission of Line Item #12: Event Presentation, due to the presenter not being present. Councilmember Valentine seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Mayor Williams asked for a motion to approve the July 10th Regular Meeting minutes. Councilmember Moody made a motion to approve the July 10th Regular Meeting minutes. Councilmember Odermatt seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Mayor Williams asked for a motion to approve the July Financial Reports by Information Only. Councilmember Collins made a motion to approve the July Financial Reports by Information Only. Councilmember Moody seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Line Item #8: Public Comment

No public comment was made.

Line Item #9: Fiscal Audit Presentation

Todd Highsmith from Highsmith and Highsmith gives highlights of the Town Audit. Highsmith says the financial statements are the town's responsibility and they give an opinion. Highsmith says the town has a clean audit for the fiscal year. Highsmith speaks on the net position. Highsmith speaks on the positive increase. Highsmith speaks on the balance sheet for the general fund. Highsmith speaks on the revenue, expense, and the

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changes in the fund balance. Highsmith says the changes in the fund balance can be because of the ARPA Grant.

Line Item #10: Ordinance 2023-3: Approval of 2nd Reading

Mayor Williams read Ordinance 2023-3. Mayor Williams asked for a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-3. Councilmember Moody makes a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-3. Councilmember Valentine seconded the motion, and all were in favor and the motion carried.

Line Item #11: Ordinance 2023-4: Approval of 1st Reading

Mayor Williams read Ordinance 2023-4. Mayor Williams asked for a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-4. Councilmember Tyler made a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-4. Councilmember Odermatt seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried. Administrator Beasley said he has spoken with the ambulance company.

Line Item #12 was taken off the agenda.

Line Item #13: Event Approvals

The homecoming committee is requesting a parade and a homecoming pep rally. Mayor Williams speaks on the route desired to take for the parade. Mayor Williams asked Police Chief Gainey if the police department could help with the event. Police Chief Gainey said agreed to help with the event. Mayor Williams asked for an approval to accept the homecoming parade. Councilmember Tyler made a motion to approve the homecoming parade. Councilmember Moody seconded the approval. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Mayor Williams said the homecoming committee is requesting a pep rally to be held in front of Meeting on Main and the Post Office. Mayor Williams said he spoke with Meeting on Main and Rodney Brown. If the pep rally is held at the desired place, then the road would have to be shut down for two days.

Councilmember Collins asked if the pep rally could be held at the football field.

Councilmember Odermatt asked if the pep rally could be held at the park.

Councilmember Tyler said the homecoming committee wants to get the community involved and give the community a boost to get excited.

Councilmember Moody said that Meeting on Main would have to shut down during the event. Councilmember Moody said every time there is another event it is on a Saturday.

Administrator Beasley said to see if the homecoming committee leader would do an alternative and meet with him.

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Councilmember Odermatt agreed with Administrator Beasley.

Councilmember Collins said events are usually on a Saturday when the business is closed.

Mayor Williams said the business is just worried about parking. Mayor Williams said they won't approve of the event just yet and said the committee is meeting on the 6th of September and the 12th of September.

Line Item #14 Police Department Update

Police Chief Gainey thanked the council for their support. Police Chief Gainey said they had one officer leave the Town of Williston and one certified officer came to fill the spot. Chief Gainey said the force is working with some burglary and larceny cases of people breaking into sheds and stolen lawn equipment. Chief Gainey said that Captain Kaney has been writing citations for yards needing to be cleaned up and has gotten positive responses. Chief Gainey said in August- July of 2021-2021 there have been 285 cases, from August- July of 2022-2023 there have been more than triple with 835 cases the force has been working on.

Mayor Williams told Chief Gainey that they appreciate the officers. Mayor Williams said an email has been sent to the county for road and sidewalk clean ups.

Line Item #15: Approval to Hire

Administrator Beasley said that a spot needs to be filled for Mark Carroll who retired. Administrator Beasley introduced Dennis Williams. Administrator Beasley said he has an opportunity to get his license and would like to hire him and for him to start tomorrow.

Mayor Williams asked for a motion to hire Dennis Williams to fill Carroll's place.

Councilmember Odermatt made a motion to approve the hire of Williams. Councilmember Valentine seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Line Item #16: Administrator's Report

Administrator Beasley and Town Clerk Jerkins are looking at charges the town is paying for and are changing some companies so the town can save around \$20,000 a year.

Administrator Beasley welcomes the new public works director. Administrator Beasley said the director can evaluate the department and hire if need be. Administrator Beasley said the beautification committee meets at 5pm before coming to the Council Meetings.

Administrator Beasley said the Recreation Department's football season is approaching and they are working hard to find the numbers. Administrator Beasley told Chief Gainey he appreciates all their hard work, and it is rare to find a full staff.

Mayor Williams asked the council if they had any questions.

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Councilmember Moody asked about the road work on Jill St and Joe Welch would like to have an update on the action taken. Councilmember Moody asked if the United Way funds have been received.

Town Clerk Jerkins said she would check the bank statements in the morning and call Councilmember Moody with an update.

Councilmember Moody asked if there is any progress on the Kennedy House.

Administrator Beasley said it would be discussed in a workshop.

Line Item #17: Mayor's Report

Mayor Williams said he missed the ones who couldn't make it to Greenville. Mayor Williams said he is speaking with SCDOT about clean ups.

Councilmember Tyler asked if it was a first come first serve.

Mayor Williams the trees and brush are, and they would have to get a list.

Councilmember Moody said him and his wife road around town and wrote down addresses.

Administrator Beasley said a date needs to be discussed for a workshop.

Councilmember Moody said Mondays are best days for him.

Councilmember Odermatt said he is in town all next week.

Councilmember Collins said Mondays are okay with her.

Mayor Williams asked for the time best suited.

Councilmember Tyler said 6:30 and Wednesdays are good for her.

Administrator Beasley said he has no conflict with any day.

Councilmember Valentine said he has no conflict with any day.

Administrator Beasley said the settlement money from SRS has been applied for.

Councilmember Valentine asked how much the settlement was.

Administrator Beasley said \$1 million.



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Mayor Williams asked if anyone had any questions. No questions were asked.

Mayor Williams asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Valentine made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Tyler seconded the motion. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned at 7:06 PM

TOWN OF WILLISTON, SC

Brett Williams, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kayla Jerkins, Town Clerk

Date