

# TOWN OF WILLISTON



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

P.O. BOX 414, Williston, South Carolina, 29853  
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WEB: [www.williston-sc.com](http://www.williston-sc.com)

**Williston Town Council  
Regular Meeting  
February 12, 2024  
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.

Alex Whitbeck from the media was present.

Attorney Thom Boulware was present.

The following officials were present: Mayor Brett Williams, Councilmember Kurt Odermatt, Councilmember Annie Tyler, Mayor Pro Tem Eric Moody, Councilmember Greg Walkup, and Councilmember Judy Taylor. Councilmember Alyson Collins.

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

Councilmember Moody led the invocation. Councilmember Walkup led the Pledge.

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. Councilmember Tyler seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Mayor Williams asked for a motion to approve the Minutes. Councilmember Taylor made a motion to approve the minutes. Councilmember Moody seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Mayor Williams asked for a motion to approve the Financials. Councilmember Walkup made a motion to approve the Financials. Councilmember Odermatt seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

**Line Item #8: Public Comment**

Barbra Christian, representing the Barnwell County STNR program said she has come before council and explained the program and the benefits the program offered. Christian made copies of the map and passed out to council. The map shows the colonies of cats. Christian said a cat colony can range from 2-3 cats to 50 cats in one area. Christian said the program runs off grants and donations. Christian said they are going to speak to all surrounding municipalities for donations.

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Christian said each cat cost \$65. Christian said 14.5% of the cats they trapped have been from Williston. Christian said a budget of \$4,400 for the year would help take care of the cats kill rate. Christian said the kill rate at the shelters went from 30-60 cats to 0 cats and in the past 10 months no cats have been killed. Christian said they are asking for help along with everyone else including the county.

Toney Hutchins, a board member for the animal shelter, said she is coming to offer a grant that came to them. The grant allows animals to get free vaccinations. Hutchins said they are hosting a vaccine clinic on March 16 at the Fire Department. The animals are to stay in the vehicles and a volunteer will be there to assist with the animal getting the vaccines. Hutchins said two vaccines will be given to the animal. Hutchins said they can only cover the first 100 dogs and the clinic will be from 10am- 1pm.

Councilmember Odermatt asked if the 5-in-1 vaccine covers Rabies as well.

Hutchins said the vaccine does not cover Rabies because a vet must give a Rabies shot.

Elizabeth Parks, a citizen from Williston, questions why trees are getting cut down by Lake Drive and the trailer park.

Mayor Williams said the lot owner is cleaning the lot.

Parks asked if someone was going to put something there.

Mayor Williams said he was not sure.

Parks asked if there were any rules on what people can do with their property and their business, because some businesses have junk out front.

Administrator Beasley said to call the Town Hall and report the property and speak with Kayla.

Adrienne Holmes, from 240 Jill St, asked if the Town can waive the 3% processing fee for online payments.

Administrator Beasley said many credit card companies charge a processing fee and for the convenience of the customer to use a credit card that is why the fee is added.

Holmes asked if the post office could pick up her bill and deliver it to the Town Hall to get around the credit card fee.

Administrator Beasley said they could try and experiment with some things.

## **Line Item #9: Recognition of Public Works Staff**

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Mayor Williams asked Public Works Director Dennis Williams to come forward. Mayor Williams said they have been trying to build back the Public Works Department and one major license is the Asbestos License. Mayor Williams said the employees handle Asbestos every day. Dantroy and Zach obtained their license and work alongside Dennis.

Public Works Director Williams said he is super excited for Zach and appreciates his hard work and he is dedicated to the job. Public Works Director Willaims presented Zach with his license.

## **Line Item #10: Approval of Events:**

Annual Parade for African American Heritage

Mayor Williams said the parade is the same route as the homecoming parade. Mayor Williams said Chief Jeep has safety concerns getting them back to the starting point if the route is reversed.

Councilmember Taylor said the parade starts at 3pm instead of 4pm.

Councilmember Moody asked why a concern is there because the Christmas Parade does the same route.

Mayor Williams said because pf getting everyone back to the starting point.

Councilmember Taylor said they like the reverse route because there are more room and people won't have to line up in front of peoples' homes behind NAPA.

Councilmember Tyler said they should start from the school and head back.

Councilmember Moody says he sees more room when people start at the school and like the Christmas parade when it is over people are on their own to get back to the original location.

Mayor Williams asked for a motion to accept the parade as presented with the reversed route.

Councilmember Taylor made a motion to approve the event. Council member Walkup seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Easter Egg Hunt

Mayor Williams said the event is put on by the Town and the town property on March 30<sup>th</sup> at 1pm.

Councilmember Moody asked why we must approve their own events.

Mayor Williams said it is more to bring awareness.

Mayor Williams asked for a motion to approve the Annual Easter Egg Hunt. Councilmember Tyler made a motion to approve the Annual Easter Egg Hunt. Councilmember Odermatt seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

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## **Line Item #11: Policy Approval**

Regarding public access video, audio, and recording on Municipality property.

Mayor Williams reads the “purpose.” Mayor Williams asked for a motion to approve the policy. Councilmember Walkup made a motion to approve the policy. Councilmember Tyler seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Councilmember Taylor asked how page four worked.

Mayor Williams said if they are disruptive, the town can put them on a trespassing notice for 24 hours.

Councilmember Taylor asked if they come into a function and they get escorted off, then they can’t come back to the function.

Mayor Williams said no, the policy puts in place so that people can’t act belligerent and then they get escorted off. This policy isn’t for town functions. The policy is for the Town Hall Lobby during office hours.

## **Line Item #12: Resolution 2024-01 Approval**

To mutually appoint two members to the 2024 Capital Projects Sales Tax Commission.

Mayor Williams reads Resolution 2024-01. Mayor Williams asked for a motion to approve Resolution 2024-01. Councilmember Tyler made a motion to approve the 2024-01 Resolution. Councilmember Taylor seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

## **Line Item #13: Administrator’s Report**

Administrator Beasley congratulates the Public Works Department and he said he appreciates the hard work the Public Works Director puts in. Administrator Beasley said they have begun work to update the fire hydrants. Administrator Beasley said they have ordered 5 and it takes 8-10 weeks to come in. Administrator Beasley said they are updating the Town Library’s bathrooms to make ADA compliant. Administrator Beasley said he received the contracts for Water Systems today. Administrator Beasley said a preconstruction meeting will be held and ground break will happen soon. The SCIPP project will update the liners and liners. The recreation department will meet with Hillary Hindman to collaborate with projects to benefit the recreation department. Administrator Beasley said workshop dates for the budget and capital sales tax will be coming up soon.

## **Line Item #14: Mayor’s Report**

Mayor Williams introduced the Elite Sports Football Team and their coaches. The head coach said in March 2022 the Elite Sports Football Team started with basketball and now they have football.



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Coach said that when he was 8 years old peewee football was cut out. The head coach recognizes the team's many accomplishments. The Elite Sports football team played in a Superbowl league and an Allstar League. Head Coach of the Elite Sports Football team thanks the community for their support and the players.

Mayor Williams said to the council to start thinking about a workshop date. Mayor Williams said the Kennedy House is up for sale and has had some people interested in the house.

Councilmember Walkup asked for an update about the citizen's complaint about yard debris.

Administrator Beasley said he contacted S&S Disposal because they are scheduled to pick up yard debris.

Councilmember Walkup asked if any feedback has been heard about the brush over the sidewalks.

Mayor Williams said he contacted the county.

Councilmember Taylor asked if the council participated in the African American Heritage Parade.

Mayor Williams said the council does.

## **Line Item #15: Adjournment**

Mayor Williams asked for a motion to adjourn the February 12 Regular Meeting. Councilmember Tyler made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting. Councilmember Moody seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

The Regular meeting was adjourned at 7:18 pm.

TOWN OF WILLISTON, SC

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Brett Williams, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Kayla Jerkins, Town Clerk

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Date