

The City of Williamson

P.O. Box 9

Williamson, Georgia 30292

Steve Fry, Mayor
Stephen Levin, City Council Post 1
Bob Harrison, City Council Post 2

Tom Brown, City Council Post 3
Carol Berry, City Council Post 4
Steve Davis, City Council Post 5

MINUTES REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING 15 June 2023 7:00 PM

All council except Stephen Levin in attendance, and henceforth notated by their initials

- I. **CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION, PLEDGE, WELCOME.....** Mayor Steve Fry: 7:06pm
- II. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA** (O.C.G A. § 50-14-1 (e) (1)) SD/TB 4-0
- III. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES** (O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1(e) (2))
 - A. Minutes from Meeting held 4 May 2023 SD/TB 4-0
- IV. **FINANCIAL REPORT:** MF reported \$750,612 in the city's general fund, \$248,931 in the water fund, and the SPLOST has not changed with \$91,198.
- V. **REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENTS, COMMITTEES AND BOARDS**
 - A. City Clerk Report: Cost of stamps is set to increase again on July 9 with forever stamps becoming \$0.66 and post card stamps becoming \$0.51. There was discussion regarding possible incentives being offered to citizens that enroll in e-billing. TB asked about being provided with Planning Commission meeting information and agendas; clerk advised that she does not receive that information to pass along.
 - B. Council Members: **TB:** Mr. Nicholson from Freedom Builders was in attendance to discuss the model home in Ashley Glen. HOA president Keith Crawford advised on security, signage, and resident input. MF suggested the HOA create a list of terms to have on file. There was much discussion that resulted in approval of the model home with stipulations. Noted that GA BBQ put in an addition and inquired if there was a building permit on file; there was not. Stated trash truck seen at the ice house was from Premier and asked why, since they have an AmWaste can. Commented on multiple cars being parked at a property off Williamson/Zebulon Rd. Advised that Barnstormer's offered to host the annual Wisteria Festival.
SD: Reported he will not be attending the GMA conference but will be in town if he's needed. Stated that the park looks good to which MF reported the bathrooms had minimal vandalism recently and a police report was filed.
BH: Said GDOT put out crush and run along Highway 362 where there were holes at turns and asked if there could be a more permanent solution implemented. Advised that the ice house trash issue was not the city's responsibility to resolve, but the owner's. Inquired if the city was aware of the two B&Bs in town which resulted in discussion of short-term rentals. MF advised that he had previously provided a sample short-term rental ordinance for review that was not acted upon. Asked about new hire at the library. TB noted that recommendations should have been given to all council to which CB advised there was only one candidate.
CB: None.
 - C. City Attorney Report: Rob Morton not in attendance
 - D. Mayor's Report: Advised of the increase in garbage service fees to the city with implementation of newly renewed contract with AmWaste. Discussed one bin solution that would alleviate the need for recycling bins. Noted cameras on new trash trucks catching citizens throwing illegal items in their trash bins such as motor oil and paint cans. The city will need to send out a reminder that only household garbage is allowed in bins. Motion to increase citizen rate to \$18.50 per can and \$6.00 per additional can CB/BH 4-0.
 - E. County Matters: Rob Morton not in attendance

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- F. Library Report: 295 patrons, \$47.50 income, 73 book donations; Requested update regarding critter issue. Motion to approve repairs contingent upon electrical inspection by Virgil Herndon TB/BH 4-0.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Annual City Auditor Bids: MF reported only one bid was received from Mauldin & Jenkins and their cost would be \$25,500 annually. Discussion resulted in the decision to keep looking and extend the deadline for RFP to July.
- B. Water System Audit and GEFA Assistance Pre-Application Progress: MF reported the city did not qualify for GEFA due to high home & income values and stated ARPA funds can be used. Noted that ARPA funds must all be used by 2025. Advised of \$5,000 cost to have environmental clearance done prior to commencement of installation of new trunk line. TB inquired as to what exactly the fee was for, and MF will speak with Carter & Sloope for details.
- C. Williamson Amphitheater and Park Facilities Updates: MF spoke with rep from Southside Steel, and advised they would be able to start work by September. Reported AmWaste is willing to fund most of the cost of completion of the amphitheater to give back to the community. Discussion of plan review and need to pick a design. TB expressed concern over the cost of upkeep and having adequate parking. BH led further discussion about using funds to install other citizen usable amenities.
- D. Continued Blighted Property Discussions and Progress: 85 Little St has been vacated and work is underway.
- E. GA Hwy 362 Traffic Control Update: No new information available.
- F. GIRMA 2023-2024 Quote Review: Auto portion updated to remove coverage and policy was renewed.
- G. Purser Circle Traffic Pattern Update: MF spoke with Debbie Raider at the bus garage and reported they still might not go down street even if it was one-way.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Receipt of Zoning Recommendations from Planning Commission: Postponed to July, Planning Commission meeting was cancelled. Concerns expressed due to letter received from Georgia Oilman's Services in which a corrective action plan was requested regarding soil/water contamination from leaking fuel storage tanks.
- B. Public Hearing Concerning Potential Zoning Actions: Same as above.

*Meeting was wrapping up and CB advised council needed to address date of July meeting. Motion to move July meeting to the 13th CB/TB 4-0

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION: (O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3, If needed) None

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT: None Requested.

X. ADJOURNMENT: TB/SD 4-0 8:33pm

- XI. Note:** Council was leaving, and Mayor realized he had forgotten to address the need to vote on proposed text amendments to the city's zoning ordinance. The council was called back in and discussed. Motion to change wording from "special exception" to "special use permits" per state legislation CB/SD 4-0.