

TOWN OF WILLIAMSTON  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

SEPTEMBER 14, 2009

6:00 PM

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Crout. The Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance were given by Councilman Harvell. All members of council were present.

Councilman Cole made a motion seconded by Councilman Harvell to accept the minutes from August 3, 2009. All voted in favor.

Councilman Looper made a motion seconded by Councilman Middleton to accept the minutes from the August 10, 2009 special called meeting. All voted in favor.

Chief Inman introduced five new employees in his department.

Public comments were given by Debbie Chapman who requested the Town rotate flower purchases among vendors in town; and Willie Wright who requested the Town's help in the cutting of weeds behind a church.

Councilman Looper made a motion seconded by Councilman Cole to approve a request to use the Amphitheater on Sept. 23, 2009 from 6 to 8 pm by Williamston First Baptist and several other churches. The motion carried.

**RECYCLING**      John Owen presented more information about starting a recycling program. He has talked with DHEC about getting a grant to man the center. He also said that the land would need to be surveyed to determine ownership and amount of room available.

PURCHASE GENIE LIFT	Councilman Looper made a motion seconded by Councilman Middleton to accept the lowest bid from Sunbelt Rentals for \$39,777.56. One half of the cost would come from Hospitality Tax and the other half from sanitation. All voted in favor.
OLD SCHOOL BUILDING	The Town attorney informed council that since the Lander lot was originally purchased with a grant that restricted its use to recreation, the restriction prevents the old school building from being located there. The attorney also said that a swap of other real estate that was recreational for the Lander lot could be done. Mayor Crout said that further research to find such real estate would need to be done and the issue would be discussed again at the next meeting.
PURCHASE ORDINANCE CHANGES	Councilman Middleton requested that the Town Attorney look at the Purchasing Ordinance to make sure that it applies to the budget and all other items outside the budget need to be voted on. He also wanted the Hospitality Tax to be included.
WATER RECLAMATION STUDY	Councilman Middleton made a motion seconded by Councilman Looper to approve \$9500 for Goldie and Associates to do a water reclamation study concerning using treated but non-chlorinated water for Cushman Mills. All voted in favor.
FIRST READING DRUG PARA- PHERNALIA ORDINANCE	Councilman Harvell made a motion seconded by Councilman Looper to approve on first reading a drug paraphernalia ordinance which would allow the Police Department to charge people arrested with drug paraphernalia in their possession. All voted in favor.
2ND READING MILL STREET PROPERTY	Councilman Middleton made a motion seconded by Councilman Looper to approve second reading of an ordinance to buy back 18.4 acres on Mill Street (TMS#245-00-04-008) for \$35,000. The motion carried with Councilman Harvell opposed.

SAFETY RESOLUTION	Councilman Middleton made a motion seconded by Councilman Harvell to adopt a safety resolution for the Town that is needed every time there is an election. All voted in favor.
GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE	Councilman Cole made a motion seconded by Councilman Middleton to approve a list of recommendations from the Mayor to form a grievance committee. The list of names taken from full time Town employees consists of: Tim Hood, Steve Smith, Michelle Starnes, Tony Gilreath, Doug Rutledge, and John Owen. All voted in favor.
COUNCIL CELL PHONES	Councilman Middleton made a motion seconded by Councilman Loper to approve adding council cell phones to the Administration's cell phone plan with Alltel. All voted in favor.
FLU SHOTS	Councilman Loper made a motion seconded by Councilman Harvell to approve the Town paying for flu shots in October sponsored by DHEC. The shots are \$25 per person but would be less costly to the Town than sick time. All voted in favor.
REAL ESTATE OPTIONS	Councilman Middleton made a motion seconded by Councilman Harvell to sign two resolutions concerning exercising options to purchase real estate known as Tract A-3 and Tract B-1 in Belton Township. All voted in favor.
POLICE CREDIT CARD	Councilman Middleton made a motion seconded by Councilman Loper to approve the acquisition of a \$1500 credit card for the Police Department in Chief Inman's name. All voted in favor.
PART TIME POLICE OFFICER	Councilman Middleton made a motion seconded by Councilman Loper to create a part time police officer position. The position would mostly be funded by savings in salaries and overtime in the Police Department. All voted in favor.

Councilman Middleton made a motion seconded by Councilman Harvell to go into executive session to discuss contractual matters. All voted in favor.

Councilman Middleton made a motion seconded by Councilman Harvell to return to public session. All voted in favor. No action was taken in executive session.

Mayor Crout announced that the next meeting would be on October 5<sup>th</sup>.

Councilman Middleton made a motion seconded by Councilman Harvell to adjourn. All voted in favor. Adjournment was at 7:25 pm.