

TOWN OF WILLIAMSTON
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
JANUARY 7, 2013
6:00 PM

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Durham. Kempie Shepard gave the Invocation and ROTC cadet Jesse Brown led the Pledge of Allegiance. All councilmen were present except for the Ward 2 seat which is vacant.

A number of Oaths of office were administered. Sharon Durham read to Dr. Mack Durham for mayor, Jimmy Harvell to David Harvell for councilman, Dale Harper to Otis Scott for councilman, Mayor Durham to Tony Taylor for police chief, James Grubbs and Kevin Marsee for police department captains, and to Steve Ellison as fire chief. Steve Ellison then introduced the fire department officers and administered the oath to them.

Continuing with the business of the council meeting Councilman Hagood made a motion seconded by Councilman Harvell to accept the minutes from the December 3, 2012 meeting. All voted in favor.

Public comments were given by Rockey Burgess, William Leach, Phillip Clardy, and Mike Looper.

Councilman Scott made a motion seconded by Councilman Harvell to amend the agenda to add voting for the mayor pro tem. During discussion, Mayor Durham said he would like to wait until the Ward 2 seat is filled. The motion did not carry with Councilman Scott voting for and Mayor Durham, Councilman Harvell, and Councilman Hagood voting against.

PLANNING & ZONING REPORT ON REZONING WILLIAMS ST. Marion Middleton, chairman of the Planning and Zoning Commission, made a recommendation to council to deny a rezoning request for 3 properties on Williams Street. The commission voted 4 – 0 to deny changing the zoning from residential to commercial. Councilman Harvell made a motion seconded by Councilman Scott to honor their recommendation. All voted in favor.

FIRE PITS Pam Owens made a request to have the current burning ordinance modified to allow for fire pits. Mayor Durham appointed Councilman Harvell, Councilman Hagood and Fire Chief Steve Ellison to look into the matter and report back at the next meeting.

FIRST READING SPECIAL ELECTION ORDINANCE Mayor Durham made a motion seconded by Councilman Scott to approve first reading of an ordinance authorizing a special election on April 2, 2013 to fill the Ward 2 seat vacancy. Filing for the office will end at noon on February 1, 2013. A \$50 filing fee applies. All voted in favor.

ATTORNEY Town attorney Richard Thompson presented information from the

PRESENTATION Municipal Association about the Mayor-Council form of government.

ACOG
PRESENTATION Doug Burns from the Appalachian Council of Governments presented information concerning the financial condition of the town. He said that although the town is not in financial trouble, if it continues to use reserved funds, it could be within a couple of years.

EXECUTIVE SESSION Mayor Durham made a motion seconded by Councilman Hagood to go into executive session for personnel and contractual matters. All voted in favor.

Councilman Scott made a motion seconded by Councilman Hagood to return to public session. All voted in favor. Mayor Durham announced that no action was taken during executive session.

LETTER OF REQUEST
TO ANDERSON
COUNTY COUNCIL
FOR SERVICES Mayor Durham made a motion seconded by Councilman Hagood for the town to send a letter to Anderson County Council requesting the investigation of the provision of detention and dispatch services. All voted in favor.

DISPOSITION OF
ADMINISTRATOR Councilman Scott made a motion to postpone any decision about the administrator's position until a full council can be seated and that the Mayor make the decision about continuing the administrator's suspension which took effect on January 2, 2013. All voted in favor.

Mayor Durham made a motion seconded by Councilman Scott to adjourn. All voted in favor. Adjournment was at 10:00 p.m.