

TOWN OF WILLIAMSTON
PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING AND REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
JUNE 2, 2014
6:00 PM

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Durham and Pastor Jeremy Sargent gave the Invocation. Mayor Durham led the Pledge of Allegiance. All councilmen were present.

Councilman Burgess made a motion seconded by Councilman Scott to approve the minutes from the May 5th regular monthly meeting. All voted in favor.

Public comments were heard from Daniel Gamble, and Chris Trotter. There were no comments concerning the FY 2014 – 2015 budget.

Caroline Alex said there are Main Street Program tee shirts available for \$10. She also said they had over 40 volunteer hours last month and that she spent 5 days at the national conference in Detroit where she learned numerous things.

Chief Taylor gave a report on police department activities. He said they are working on a new ordinance to aid in drug arrests. He reported on the foster care event. He and Captain Marsee reported on the police budget and how the Police Department came under budget this year.

Councilman Hagood said he received word from Senator O'Dell's office that the resolution to dedicate a portion of North Hamilton Street in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. has passed both the House and Senate. The next step involves Rep. Anne Thayer contacting SCDOT to get a timeline on sign preparation. He said an agenda for a ceremony is ready and a date will be selected when the signage is ready to be unveiled.

Councilman Burgess said they are still working on the draft sign ordinance as well as a new ordinance for controlled substances at locations.

Councilman Harvell said Anderson County Community Response Team has shown an interest in starting a group of volunteers in Williamston and they will be meeting with them in the future for further discussion. Captain Marsee was recently a guest instructor at the Career Center and taught the police explorers a 16 hour course. The police explorers will be assisting at events in the future on a volunteer basis.

Councilman Scott gave an update on community clean-up. He said they will be finishing up at the end of this month and he urged citizens to get any items out for pick up on the week following the receipt of the yellow door hanger.

SECOND READING OF FY 2014 – 2015 BUDGET Councilman Scott made a motion which was seconded by Councilman Burgess to approve second reading of the FY 2014 – 2015 budget. All voted in favor.

REQUEST FOR Chairman of the Main Street Advisory Board, Lee Cole, explained the

FUNDING FROM MAIN STREET ADVISORY BOARD CHAIRMAN LEE COLE different committees which exist under the Board and requested seed money for each of the committees. The Organization Committee needs money for advertising. The Promotion Committee needs funds for posters, brochures, flyers and advertising. And the Design Committee's job is to help beautify the town by working with business owners. The main project they need money for is to beautify the main gateways into town. The money is being requested to come from the Hospitality Fund. Councilman Burgess made a motion seconded by Councilman Hagood to approve the funding request totaling \$4,460 for all committees. All voted in favor.

FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING LOCATIONS . . . Councilman Burgess made a motion seconded by Councilman Hagood to approve first reading on an ordinance to prohibit locations for controlled substances. All voted in favor.

Mayor Durham made a motion which was seconded by Councilman Hagood to enter into executive session to discuss a personnel matter. All voted in favor. After the executive session, Mayor Durham made a motion seconded by Councilman Burgess to return to public session. All voted in favor. The mayor said no action was taken

During the good of the order, Councilman Harvell said that some swings for handicapped kids in the park need to have safety straps on them and that a table still needs to be moved. The mayor said the Town just received a PARD grant and prices on improving our playground in the park, one of the improvements being a toddler play area. The Born Learning Trail will also have some toddler interactive areas associated with it.

Councilman Hagood and Caroline Alex introduced Dawgs by George a new business in town and announced a ribbon cutting ceremony on Tuesday June 10th.

Councilman Scott recommended getting metal no smoking signs made for the park because someone keeps tearing the others down. He also noted that people are parking on the grass in the park even though there are signs to the contrary.

Mayor Durham encouraged people to look at the park improvements and to come out for the Party in the Park events as well as the 4th of July celebration which will be on July 5th this year. The fireworks display this year will much longer and improved over recent years. The mayor also said that a young man by the name of Steven Hernandez did the improvements for the amphitheater by widening the stage, pouring a dance floor, and putting down sod. Mayor Durham went on to say that the Town has implemented its special projects days on Wednesdays and Thursdays. This will be a time of focusing on various beautification projects such as trimming tree limbs, fixing potholes, and clean up of public property. The Mayor expressed his appreciation for all veterans and active military members and their service to the country.

Mayor Durham made a motion seconded by Councilman Scott to adjourn. All voted in favor. Adjournment was at 7:17 p.m.