

TOWN OF WILLIAMSTON

July 7, 2014 Meeting Minutes

(All newspapers were informed of this meeting in compliance with guidelines set forth in the Freedom of Information Act)

I. **Call to Order**

Mayor Durham called the meeting to order at 6 p.m. All council members were present.

II. **Invocation**

Pastor Bobby Winburn led the invocation.

III. **Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor Durham led the Pledge of Allegiance with everyone participating.

IV. **Approval of Minutes**

Mayor Durham made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 2, 2014 meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Scott. All voted in favor.

V. **Public Comments**

Public comments were heard from Marnie Schwartz Hanley. Her comments were pertaining to the Williamston Ameri Corp Program.

VI. **Presentations**

Caroline Alex gave an update on the Main Street Program. She stated that the program had 61 hours of volunteered time the month of June. That converts to \$1,229.15 of in kind donations.

Chief Taylor was out of town and unable to present the Police report and Community Action Network program.

Councilman Hagood stated that the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Drive signs would be erected on the 17th of July. He stated he would give us a date on the unveiling at a later time.

Councilman Burgess stated the Sign Ordinance was still a work in progress.

Councilman Harvell stated that the Community Safety Program did not have a meeting in June.

Councilman Scott stated the Community Cleanup would be coming to a close at the end of this month.

Old Business

VII. **Second Reading of an Ordinance prohibiting locations for controlled substances**

Councilman Burgess made a motion to table the ordinance until clearer clarification could be written in the ordinance. The motion was seconded by Mayor Durham. All voted in favor.

New Business

VIII. **Planning and Zoning Committee proposal for Master Plan**

Marion Middleton, Jr. presented the council with recommendation to start the master plan. This was to include sending out Request for Qualifications, and then Request for Proposals. He suggested the town may want to get Chip Bentley with ACOG involved. Mayor Durham made a motion to accept this recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilman Burgess. All voted in favor.

IX. Request for additional space for REVIVE Church

A motion was made by Councilman Burgess to allow Revive Church to use the old clock room at the back of town hall. Revive would do some remodeling on the room at no cost to the town. The motion was seconded by Councilman Scott. All voted in favor.

X. First Reading on an election ordinance for Ward one and Ward two

A motion was made by Mayor Durham to accept the ordinance on first reading. The ordinance states that the books will open on August 7th at noon and close on August 21, 2014 at noon. The filing fee is \$50. The motion was seconded by Councilman Burgess. All voted in favor.

XI. Proclaim July 23rd as Town of Williamston Day of reading

Mayor Durham made a motion to proclaim July 23rd as the Town of Williamston Day of reading. Councilman Scott seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

XII. Resolution supporting local match for the CDBG infrastructure grant on Pinecrest Drive

A motion was made by Councilman Scott to pass the resolution to match \$50,000 from the sewer fund for the CDBG grant awarded for the Pinecrest Drive sewer project. The motion was seconded by Councilman Burgess. All voted in favor.

XIII. Resolution supporting the display of the "In God We Trust" logo in the council chambers

A motion was made by Councilman Scott to pass the resolution to support the display of the "In God We Trust" logo in the Town of Williamston Council Chambers. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hagood. All voted in favor.

XIV. Recommendations from the Parks and Recreation Committee

Kempie Shepard spoke on behalf of the Parks and Recreation Committee. The committee recommended that the ceiling be removed, and the shelter to be pressure washed for painting, and also the steps replaced. She stated this is not only for beautification, but also health issues. She stated bats were living in the ceiling and creating foul odors in the shed. She also recommended putting bird and bat houses around the facility, so they could be in their proper environment. Councilman Burgess made a motion to accept her recommendations. Councilman Scott seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

XV. Amending of the agenda

Mayor Durham made a motion to amend the agenda to discuss sidewalks and other repairs done in the Mineral Springs Park. Councilman Burgess seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

XVI. **Approval of Sidewalks and monument repair work in park**

A motion was made by Mayor Durham to approve the work done in the park by H&G Landscaping and Services. The work included sidewalks from Gossett Drive, from the bridge to road, then from the road to the spring hut. It also included repairs on the monument next to the stage. The motion was seconded by Councilman Burgess. The voted carried with Councilman Scott and Councilman Harvell opposing.

XVII. **Funding request from the Main Street Program for banners/flags**

Caroline Alex requested funding for new banners along the town's sidewalks. The request was in the amount of \$5000, with half coming from her budget and the other half from hospitality. Mayor Durham made the motion to accept the request. Councilman Burgess seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

XVIII. **Executive Session**

Mayor Durham made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss contractual matters. Councilman Hagood seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

XIX. **Return from Executive Session**

Mayor Durham made a motion to return from executive session. Councilman Hagood seconded the motion. All voted in favor. No action was taken.

XX. **Appointment of Town Attorney**

Mayor Durham made a motion to retain Lee Cole of Cox & Cole Attorneys at law as the town attorney. The motion was seconded by Councilman Burgess. The vote passed with Councilman Scott and Councilman Harvell opposing.

XXI. **Good of the Order**

Councilman Scott stated he would like the bridge and sidewalk to be replaced in the park that the town removed.

XXII. **Mayor's comments**

The Mayor recapped all the accomplishments in the past fiscal year. He mentioned the new grants that the town received, including the CDBG and the new trails project. He also gave an update on the Main Street program. He stated that the town finished up the last fiscal year under budget.

XXIII. **Adjourn**

Mayor Durham made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilman Burgess. All voted in favor.