



TOWN OF WHITE SPRINGS
"On the Banks of the Suwannee River"

MINUTES

WHITE SPRINGS TOWN COUNCIL
Regular Council Meeting & Organizational Meeting

Town Hall Council Chambers

Tuesday, October 11, 2022

6:30 p.m.

1. **Call to Order/Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance** - Mayor Rivers called the meeting to order at 6:30p. Town Clerk Audre' Ruise led the prayer and the council led the pledge.

2. **Roll Call - Councilors present:** Mary Berry, Nicole Williams, and Anita Rivers. **Absent:** Jacqueline Williams and LaRita McCallum. Quorum is established.

3. **Additions, Deletions, and/or Amendments to the Agenda** - Mayor Rivers stated to move 7.a. to after #3. Kathy Baker/Jordan Associates is from Jacksonville and the council wanted to move her up so she could travel back to Jacksonville. Councilor Nicole Williams stated to add 7.e. "Town Committees" to the agenda. Mayor Rivers asked for a motion to accept the additions/deletions to the agenda. Motion was made by Nicole Williams and seconded by Mary Berry. Motion passed 3-0.

4. **Citizens from the floor:** (Request form needed - 5min. limit)

Barbara Fryfield - Ms. Fryfield asked how many sweepstake applications were given from the town. Mayor Rivers stated that there were only two permits approved. Should there be any stores approved the stores could only operate up to 4 machines. Ms. Fryfield also asked what was the CDBG 504 Policy? Kathy Baker stated the policy was specific to ADA (American Disabilities Act) and that the policy has to be in place through the grant process and procedures.

Megan Carter - Ms. Carter is petitioning the town for zoning changes for four various properties (see attached). Atty. Foreman stated that he will review the documentation and return his recommendation to the council at a later date. He also stated that there was not an active planning and zoning board and that the council would act as a planning and zoning board.

Sylvester Warren - Mr. Warren commented to the council to proceed wisely with the petition that was just presented and to review with extreme caution on what the town would be responsible for.

Adrienne Sachse - Mrs. Sachse has requested the town to close a portion of Wesson St. The town would need to vacate the land abandoned. Atty. Foreman stated that he would research the request and advise her with the necessary information. He also stated that there would be a public hearing process and advise the council at a later date.

Sharon Shae - Mrs. Shae stated that the Suwannee Bicycle association will hold a racing event October 27-30, 2022 and that she would email the town the schedule of events.

5. Presentations: None

6. Approval of Minutes: Mayor Rivers asked for a motion to accept the minutes; Nicole Williams made the motion to approve the minutes and Mary Berry seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0

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7. Old Business - None

8. New Business

- a) **CDBG Evaluation/Grant Administration - (moved to after #3)** - Kathy Baker with Jordan and Associates was in attendance to answer any questions from the community/council. Town Manager George asked the council to review the booklet sent on behalf of Jordan and Associates. Ms. George also read excerpts from the booklet so the council could make an informed vote on the bidding process. Ms. George asked Atty. Foreman did the council have to go through the bidding process because there was only one bid returned to the town.

Atty. Foremn answered and stated, NO, that the council did not have to go through the process. He also stated that if the council was to go through the process they could award any number points on their sheets and the council could make a motion to unanimously accept the one only bid and award to the bid that was sent in. Mayor Rivers asked for a motion to accept Jordan and Associates as the grant administrators for the TOWS CDBG grant. Mary Berry made the motion and Nicole Williams seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Kathy Baker asked to speak and stated that she appreciated the vote of confidence in hiring Jordan and Associates as the grant administrators and she will call Town Manager George on the town making contact with DEO.

- b) **Reading/Adoption of CDBG 504 Policy Resolution** - Mayor Rivers read the title of the resolution and asked the council to make a motion to adopt. Mary Berry made the motion and Nicole Williams seconded. Motion passed 3-0.
- c) **Reading/Adoption of Resolution "Old Fashion Day"** - Mayor Rivers read the title of the resolution and asked for a motion to adopt. Nicole Williams made the motion and Mary Berry seconded. Motion passed 3-0.
- d) **Town Ordinance Request** - CivCom Hamilton Tobacco Free - Shauna Adams (Hamilton County Coordinator) has requested the town to adopt a tobacco free policy through a town ordinance. Ms. Adams will return to present the ordinance at the next council meeting in November.
- e) **Town Committees** - (added to the agenda) Councilor Nicole Williams wanted to know the status of the town's committees. Town Clerk Ruise stated that there were no current active town committees and that only two citizens had re-applied to the planning and zoning board. Ms. Williams also stated that she thought the town had voted to allow former fire fighters, Thomas Brazil and Kevin Pittman to get the training for 4 employee fire fighters. Mayor Rivers stated that she was not aware, nor did Mary Berry.

9. Departmental/Administrative Comments

a) **Public - None**

b) **Departments:**

Town Manager - Staff is currently working on the CDBG by gathering information needed for the grant. The town will be meeting with the county to discuss the fire department on Tuesday, October 18, 2022 at 4:00pm. Funds from the sweepstakes will allow the town to hire 4 part-time fire fighters. The town will also post a vacancy announcement in the Riverbend newspaper for Code Enforcer/Building/Zoning Inspector.

Utilities Director - Town has hired a maintenance worker. Vacancy was posted in Riverbend, Library, fb, town website and office board.

Fire Department - Announced that a former fire fighter, Robert Marvin from Jasper had passed and to keep the family in your thoughts and prayers. He is thankful for the monies appropriated by the town and that all personnel needed to be certified when they apply. He currently has another potential interview. Minor repairs were made on the engine truck. The chief vehicle is being repaired along with the generator. Two radios are now on the inventory list along with 3 AEDs (1 at the offc). He is working daily to bring the town FD at the level comparable to other small towns and being able to hire more fire fighter is a great opportunity for the town.

Council - None

Adjourn: 7:37pm

IF A PERSON DECIDES TO APPEAL ANY DECISION MADE BY THE TOWN COUNCIL, WITH RESPECT TO ANY MATTER CONSIDERED AT THIS MEETING, THAT PERSON WILL NEED A RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS, AND FOR PURPOSE THAT PERSON MAY NEED TO ENSURE THAT A VERBATIM RECORD INCLUDES THE TESTIMONY AND EVIDENCE UPON WHICH THE APPEAL IS TO BE BASED. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) PERSONS NEEDING SPECIAL ACCOMODATIONS TO PARTICPATE IN THE COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS SHOULD CONTACT THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE NOT LATER THAN THREE DAYS PRIOR TO THE MEETING.



Town Manager, Town Clerk, or Designee

