

**TOWN OF WHITE SPRINGS**

*“On the Bank of the Suwannee River”*

**MINUTES**

**Special Meeting Notice**

**1st Reading Ordinance 2022-001**

**June 21, 2022**

Mayor Rivers called the meeting to order at 6:35pm.

All Council Members are present: Mayor Anita Rivers, LaRita McCallum, Vice-Mayor Jacqueline Williams, Nicole Williams, and Mary Berry.

Mayor Rivers asked Town Attorney Joel Foreman to read the title of Ordinance 2022-001 and opened the floor for public comments at 2 minutes for each comment.

**Comments: recorded/written from “citizen request form” 2 minute limit**

Randolph King - I am for the ordinance to open sweepstakes here. It provides great entertainment and socializing. This cafe even gives back to our community. He also had a petition signed that he would bring to town hall.

Michael Shae - My concern is police availability. Will the HCSO be able to get to the business if there is an emergency?

Barbara Fryefield - Internet gambling is illegal and I want to know who wrote this ordinance?

Wayne Hanika - I live in Live Oak and I witnessed the crime that these cafes’ attract, it won’t be good for the town.

Beth Daniels - I’ve been here since retirement for 2 years.I am concerned abut the gambling and the police response to potential crime.

Scott Gay - I am against this and I can’t support how the ordinance is written as a homeowner and investor in the community.

Joe Levey - I can’t support this or how the ordinance is written. This will bring nothing positive to the community.

Sharon Shae - I have spent a lot of time reading this and this is bad for the community. In Live oak, the county attorney was against what he is representing tonight.

Dennis Price - The ordinance is hard to read and comprehend. What dies the word device represent?

Travis Mundun - On behalf of State Attorney, John Durrett gambling is illegal in the State of Florida, but sweepstakes are legal. There were 2 violent armed robberies from internet cafes’. Internet cafes’ don’t function legally as sweepstakes.

Lisa McDaniel - Why would the town prey on the weak and the vulnerable. This will damage and degrade our community.

Mayor Rivers asked Atty. Koberlein to come to the podium. He addressed the concerns of the citizens to say that the ordinance addresses each of them. The ordinance protects most every aspects and comments mentioned tonight.

Town Manager George stated once again the needs of the town (water system, etc) and how the town will hold these businesses accountable and if there are 3 criminal incidents the contract is voided.

Mayor Rivers asked if Atty. Foreman or the council had any comments. Council member LaRita McCallum had a question for Atty Foreman. She asked; in reference to the comment you made in Lake City concerning internet cafes’; where do you stand today? Atty. Foreman stated that his job is to advise the council on what you can do and not what you should do. Opinions don’t matter legally this is totally the decision of the council.

Mayor Rivers asked for a motion to accept the 1st Reading of Ordinance 2022-001. Vice-Mayor Jacqueline Williams made the motion to accept and approve and Council member Mary Berry seconded. Motion passed 4-1.

Mayor asked for a verbal individual vote:

**Mayor Rivers - Approved**

**Vice-Mayor J. Williams - Approved**

**Council member L. McCallum - Dis-Approved**

**Council member - N. Williams - Approved**

**Council member - M.Berry - Approved**

Adjourned: 7:13pm.

# **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 SUCH 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 ACCOMMODATIONS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS SHOULD CONTACT THE TOWN CLERK’S OFFICE NOT LATER THAN THREE DAYS PRIOR TO THE MEETING.**

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| Town Manager, Town Clerk, or Designee |

**Vanessa George, Town Manager – Audre’ J. Ruise, Town Clerk**

**10363 Bridge Street – White Springs, Fl 32096**