

TOWN OF WHITE SPRINGS

“On the Banks of the Suwannee River”

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MINUTES

WHITE SPRINGS TOWN COUNCIL

 Regular Council Meeting

Portable Building Site

Tuesday, November 12, 2024 - 6:30 p.m.

1. **Call to Order, Invocation, and Pledge of Allegiance -** Mayor Williams called the meeting to order. Councilor R. Williams gave the invocation and the council led the pledge of allegiance.

1. **Roll Call -** Mayor Williams called the roll. Members present: VM Rivers, Councilors Williams and Watson. Members absent: Councilor Burch. (Burch arrived at 7:11pm as acknowledged by the Mayor)
2. **Additions, Deletions, and/or Amendments to the Agenda - NONE** VM Rivers motion to accept agenda as print and Councilor R. Williams seconded. Motion passed 4-0.
3. **Approval of Minutes:** October 8, 2024 VM Rives made the motion to accept the minutes as written and Councilor Watson seconded. Motion passed 4-0.
4. **Financial Report:** Richard Powell of Powell Consulting - Financial statement will be posted on the website.
5. **Administrative / Departmental Reports:**
6. **Town Manager Vanessa George:** Asked Attorney Jean-Bart to address the letter from HamCo on code Enforcement. Atty. Jean-Bart read the letter and mentioned that the fee or any changes to the agreement would be “written mutual agreement”. TM George acknowledged Comm. Erixton and he stated that he felt that there would be no action by HamCo commission.
7. Update on possible new town hall building financing - Our grant writer, Shannon Williams stated that the legislature meeting was pushed back due to the election. They will re-open Nov 15 to Dec 15. She is asking for $3M as they will re-convene in February and we should hear back by March and get final approval by July. She has also asked that the town get 3 quotes on buildings/property.
8. EDA Proposal Update - TM George and TC Ruise will meet on December 12th.
9. Christmas Parade - Friday, December 6, 2024 - TC Ruise stated that there was an unfavorable conversation with the new Ranger at Stephen Foster. The town will take a new route this year. TM George has sent the letter to DOT for road closure and route. TC Ruise has sent letter to Sheriff and the flyer on the website. Don Wilson is willing to assist if the town wanted to serve chili, etc. To adivise. We will await the reply from DOT/HCSO. She also stated that we needed council approval and minutes to document for DOT approval. TM George stated that we have to have HCSO approval as well. VM Rivers made the motion and Councilor R. Williams seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

**b) Public Works, Ray Vaughn: Absent**

1. Update on storm damage, clean-up, and debris - No info
2. Update on Town water and sewer system - The Water Treatment Plant needs a motor. The part is rare as it is attached to the aerator. It will take 16 weeks to build the part. If the town purchased a new part it would be much more. Ray has already contacted DEP on the issue. The Dump Truck needs repair. It is at E&H and will be towed to Lake City. TM George asked if the 1 cent tax passed in HamCo and VM Rivers stated yes. Comm. Erixton was unsure about what the municipalities would get in funding.

**c) Fire, Chief Steve Stith:** Hurricane Repairs - Absent TM George stated that the Fire Station was not insured at the time and is currently insured. The repairs will be paid out of pocket by the town.

1. **Presentation: None**
2. **Citizens from the floor:** (Request form needed - 5min. limit)
3. Arthur Orcutt - Mr. Orcutt had a complaint about various illegal off the road vehicles ans speeding on Diamond Street. He also asked the town to erect speed limit signage on the street. He was told during purchase of his home that the street was private. He was then told from Ray and TC Ruise that the street was NOT private.
4. **Old Business:**
5. Diamond Platt Update - TM George stated that the SRWMD had sanction NFPS and the town would await the outcome.

1. HCSO/Law Enforcement Contract: Atty. Jean-Bart - A letter had been submitted to HCSO and the town will await their response. The vehicles have value and the town can get paid the value if the vehicles are not return.
2. **New Business:** None

1. **Council Comments:** Mayor acknowledged Councilor Burch’s arrival at 7:11p. Atty. Jean-Bart gave the council a copy of the Ordinance pertaining to “town historical committee” to discuss at the next meeting.

**Adjourn: 7:00pm**

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 Date

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

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