

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, December 10, 2024 - 6:30 p.m.

1. **Call to Order, Invocation, and Pledge of Allegiance -** Mayor Williams called the meeting to order at 6:33pm. Councilor R. Williams gave the invocation and the council led the pledge.
2. **Roll Call -** Mayor Williams called the roll. Members present: Vice-Mayor Rivers, Councilors, R. Williams, Burch, and Watson. (All present)
3. **Additions, Deletions, and/or Amendments to the Agenda -** Mayor Williams added to Item 7 - Presentation; Sharon Shae. VM Rivers made the motion to add and Councilor Burch seconded. Motion passed 5-0
4. **Approval of Minutes:** November 12, 2024 - VM Rivers moved that the minutes be tabled until next meeting as the computers were down and printed only one sheet. Councilor Burch seconded. Motion passed 5-0.
5. **Financial Report:** Richard Powell of Powell Consulting - (on website)
6. **Administrative / Departmental Reports:**

**a) Town Manager Vanessa George:**

1. Update on Christmas Parade - Friday, December 6, 2024 - The parade was a success. The Town Float had gifts and candy for the youth. Bikes, stuffed animals, TV, dolls, etc. were given out. Mayor Williams has a video. Parade Marshall was Utilities Director, Ray Vaughn. Thank you to the ladies who prepared the free Chili: Jackie Williams, Cynethia Williams, Winnie Tunsil, and Patricia Brady.

**b) Public Works - Ray Vaughn:** The Dump truck is at E&H downtown, the mechanic there says that it needed a diesel mechanic and was towed to Lake City at John Wyndham’s shop. Mr. Wyndham says the motor is shot, Ray got two quotes and handed them out. Mr. Wyndham can honor the town’s tax exempt, the other mechanic cannot. It was a consensus of the town manager and council for Ray to find out about the warranty of the mechanic’s work and to also find the price of a new dump truck.

The signage at Ogburn field is shredding. He will get quotes for a new sign.

**c) Fire - Chief Steve Stith: Absent.** TM George stated that there was a call on 12/05 and FF Trent did an amazing job as an EMT. He also chose to drive the town’s Engine in lieu of his Fire Department’s Christmas Party in Lake City. That says a lot for his love and dedication to the town.

1. **Presentation:**
2. **Sharon Shae** - Sharon gave an overview of the state grant for the Historical Society. Various council members had questions. VM Mayors questioned the society’s commitment to ensure diversity. Councilor Burch questioned the diversity in the society and were they natives of White Springs. Councilor R. Williams asked if there were plaques being put within the black neighborhoods. Mrs. Shae stated that Carver would be put on a plaque located off of 41. The council questioned why, when Carver is located off of another street within the black community? Mrs. Shae said that people could drive to where Carver is located. She also stated that there were quilts at Suwannee Hardware and a mural would be painted where the quilts are. VM Rivers stated that the quilts were a part of the Black History celebration years ago and were placed at Suwannee Hardware and they could not be taken down without town approval. There was no action taken on Mrs. Shae’s presentation, she needed a letter submitted by the town. *(Mrs. Shae’s entire presentation can be found on White Springs Town Council on YouTube by Mick Shae*)
3. **Citizens from the floor:** (Request form needed - 5min. limit)
4. **Scott Gay** - Mr. Gay requested various items needed from the town’s accountant. TC Ruise asked if he could send his specific requests to her via email. He stated that he would. He also gave TC Ruise a copy of Ordinance 15-01, asked fpr a copy of the calculations on page 24 of the budget, XL docs on the wages, information on all loan payments, the revenue budget on county. He will send the requests in writing to TC Ruise.
5. **Old Business:**
6. UPDATE - HCSO/Law Enforcement Contract: Atty. Jean-Bart - Absent. TM George stated that there has been no reply from HCSO in any instance.
7. **New Business:** None

1. **Council Comments:** Mayor Williams presented Utilities Director, Ray Vaughn with a town coin for his “tireless dedication and going beyond the call of duty and service to the Town of White Springs”.

**Adjourn: 8:01pm**

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**

10663 Bridge Street, White Springs, FL 32096

Ph. 386.397.2310 l Fax 386.397.1542 **l [www.whitesprings.org](http://www.whitesprings.org) l**