

March 24, 2023

May
Jacqueline
Anita

To my fellow Council members:

I, the Honorable Mayor Anita T. Rivers would like to call for a vote to remove Councilwoman Nicole Williams for a lack of confidence as she is not acting in the best interest of the town's people who elected her and this council. Councilwoman (Nicole) Williams has lied to this council. My first complaint is when Ms. (Nicole) Williams made a call to 911 call during the February 14, 2023 council meeting requesting an officer. As with most meetings, there were two officers present at the time of her phone call. In fact, the 911 operator told her that there should be officers present at the meeting, which she confirmed. She continued to ask for additional officers despite the 911 operator insisting that there was an officer on site and to discuss with them. He discontinued the call.

✓ However, what really disturbed me is a comment made while on the call with 911. Ms. (Nicole) Williams can be heard stating, "Anita them going down for this", and Ms. (Nicole) Williams stated to 911 that Jacqueline Williams, Mary Berry, and I were "crooked". I perceive these statements as threats not only to our reputations but to how we do business as well. Ms. (Nicole) has created a hostile work environment for the town and specifically the council.

In addition, Ms. (Nicole) Williams has accused this council of raising the town's water rates without proof and why. Ms. (Nicole) Williams know that this is not true and can be proven with the minutes from previous meetings. Florida Rural Water Association's Andrew Greene conducted a water study August 5, 2022. This study gave a ten year break down on how much the town should charge for water and sewer. This issue was discussed in regular council meetings and budget meetings. As stated previously, this can be proven and Ms. (Nicole) Williams voted in favor of both raising the water rates and the town's budget.

In section (2.03) of the town's Charter, it gives several reasons for removal or forfeiture from office. Based on what I have presented in this letter, Ms. (Nicole) Williams has made false statements and has committed both malfeasance and misfeasance. Therefore, I recommend her removal from the council immediately as time permits.

7 days

Respectfully Submitted,

Anita Rivers
Mayor Anita Rivers

Section 2.03 Vacancies; Forfeiture of Office; Filling of Vacancies and Extraordinary Vacancies

- (a) Vacancies. A Town Council member shall forfeit his office if he:
1. Intentionally misrepresented facts which were used to determine his eligibility for election to office.
 2. Willfully violates any express prohibition of this Charter.
 3. Is convicted of a crime involving felony or moral turpitude.
 4. Fails to attend three (3) Consecutive regular meetings of the council without the Council's approval.
 5. Moves his residence from the Town of White Springs 6. For malfeasance, misfeasance or non-feasance in office.
 7. When the Town Council determines by majority vote that there is reasonable cause to believe that any Council Member is disabled so as to be unable to perform his duties, such member may be compelled to submit to medical examination by a physician of his choice, who shall render a written evaluation of such member to the Town Council. The physician's evaluation must indicate, with reasonable medical certainty, whether or not the Council Member will be able to perform his duties for a period in excess of three (3) months. A Council Member evaluated to be unable to perform his duties shall be declared to be disabled, and forfeit his office as herein provided, without his voluntary consent.
 8. The Council, upon majority vote note, shall notify the affected Council Member in writing of its intent to declare the seat forfeited for any of the reasons referenced above. The affected Council Member shall have seven (7) days from the receipt of notice to provide the Clerk with a written request for a hearing before the Council for the purpose of providing evidence in opposition to the Council's intended action. If the evidence presented is insufficient to overcome the identified reasons for forfeiture, the Council may declare the seat forfeited and vacant in which case the decision may be appealed to the circuit court.

(Filling of Vacancies) [Redacted] Council shall be filed in following [Redacted]

1. If the election is within 45 days, no action will be taken by the Town Council. The vacated seat shall be filled at the next regularly scheduled Town Election according to the provisions of Section [Redacted] and Article IV of the Town Charter.
2. If the election is more than 45 days away, the Council will nominate qualified residents and by majority vote of the remaining Council members [Redacted] one of [Redacted]



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

WHITE SPRINGS TOWN COUNCIL
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING

Town Hall Council Chambers

Tuesday, March 28, 2023 – 6:30pm

Note: I, Town Clerk, Audre' Ruise has copied and pasted a portion of the minutes that were read and approved from the February 14, 2023 minutes, referencing the passing of the first reading of Ordinances 23-01 (Wesson St.), 23-02 (Tobacco-Free), & 23-03 (Water/Sewage Rates)

I. Towanna Jelks: She stated that she was not about drama when putting on the event because she is about giving the youth an event to enjoy. She also stated that if there was a problem, she would not have the event and she is willing to work with Ms. Bryant. "We must stop all the bickering and backstabbing" and think about the kids. Vice-Mayor J. Williams asked what was the date of her event? Ms. Jelks stated that April 8, 2023, and I will work with anyone for our youth. **Note: Councilor N. Williams walked outside on the phone.**

Atty. Foreman stated that during the first billing cycle after the adoption of the second reading. Vice-Mayor J. Williams asked for any other comments; there were none. Vice-Mayor J. Williams asked for a motion to accept and adopt the first reading of Ord. 23-03. Councilor L. McCallum made the motion and Councilor M. Berry seconded. Motion passed 4-0. Vice-Mayor J. Williams closed the public hearing. Vice -Mayor J. Williams stated that all ordinances have passed the first reading 23-01, 02, & 03.

***Councilor Nicole Williams did not return until a portion of item 8.a. New Business had resumed.**

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

Vanessa George, Town Manager - Audre' J. Ruise, Town Clerk

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SPECIAL CALLED MEETING

Town Hall Council Chambers

Tuesday, March 28, 2023 – 6:30pm

Note: I, Town Clerk, Audre' Ruise has not had an opportunity type the entire minutes, therefore I have readily typed a portion of the minutes from the March 14, 2023 meeting referencing the passing of the second reading of Ordinances 23-01 (Wesson St.), 23-02 (Tobacco-Free), & 23-03 (Water/Sewage Rates)

Meeting called to order by Mayor Rivers at 6:30pm. Members present: Vice-Mayor Jacqueline Williams, Councilor Nicole Williams, Councilor Mary Berry, and Mayor Rivers. Absent: Councilor LaRita McCallum

7. Old Business -

- a. **Ordinance 2023-01 – Second Reading/Wesson Street - Atty. Foreman –** Attorney Foreman read the title of the ordinance. Mayor Rivers opened the floor for public hearing and asked for any public comments, there were none. Mayor Rivers asked for a motion to accept and adopt/pass the second