

MINUTES

City of Whitesburg

Mayor and Council Meeting

March 7, 2022 – 6:00 p.m.

Council Chambers, 50 Booster Field Drive, Whitesburg, Georgia 30185

I. CALL TO ORDER

1. Silence All Electronic Devices
2. Ascertain Quorum

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT: Mayor Amy Williford, Councilmember Lucy Gamble, Councilmember William Smolar, Councilmember Chris Lewis, and Councilmember Donna Whitley.

II. INVOCATION – Water Superintendent Robert Gamble

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Councilmember William Smolar

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

APPROVED: Motion – Smolar, Second - Lewis. Vote: 4-0.

V. MINUTES APPROVALS

- Mayor and Council Meeting – February 7, 2022
- Work Session – January 25, 2022
- Public Hearing – 2022 Budget

APPROVED: Motion – Smolar, Second - Whitley. Vote: 4-0.

VI. CITIZEN COMMENTS AND DISCUSSION ON AGENDA ITEMS

- Mr. Kim Arnell inquired as to whether the City had completed a traffic study at the Whitesburg Elementary school zone or were they relying on RedSpeed. Chief Gilliland discussed the benefits of the system and that he has gotten good reviews. The system will be used only when the school is in session. RedSpeed has already conducted the speed study and those results indicated that in just one day there were 380 speeders. Chief Gilliland stated that there will be no costs to the City for installation of the device.
- Citizens complained about their dissatisfaction with the roundabout.

VII. BUSINESS SESSION

1. Appointment of Mayor Pro-Tem

The Mayor and Council discussed appointment of a Mayor Pro-Tem. Councilmember Smolar suggested Councilmember Chris Lewis as a nominee.

APPROVED: Motion – Smolar, Second - Whitley. Vote: 3-0.

2. RedSpeed Professional Services Agreement (Traffic monitoring at School Zones)

Chief Gilliland discussed a professional services agreement with RedSpeed for traffic monitoring at school zones.

APPROVED: Motion – Lewis, Second - Smolar. Vote: 4-0.

3. Discussion of Gymnasium

Councilmember Gamble advised that she wants the Recreation building updated and repairs made to the bathrooms. She also stated that she needs a storage area for equipment for the potential flag football and t-ball teams. Mayor Williford advised Councilmember Gamble that price quotes are required for any upgrades that were needed. Also discussed were aspects of the budget and which projects were eligible for SPLOST and which were not. Councilmember Smolar advised Councilmember Gamble that she had not requested funds in writing for the Recreation building repairs/upgrades. Councilmember Smolar also stated that SPLOST funds are not a part of the City's budget, and that research will need to be conducted as to which projects are eligible for SPLOST funds and which are not.

VIII. CITIZEN COMMENTS

- Citizens in attendance requested a document that includes the job duties of the Mayor and Councilmembers. Councilmember Gamble advised that there is a document available that indicates the duties of the Mayor and Council.
- Request was made to add the wording "Water Department" to the City's water bills.
- Request was made to add a copy of the City's budget to the City's website.
- Matthew Parker advised that he was recently working on improvements to Martha Arnold's property located on Main Street and was shut down from the job by the Police Department for not having any permits. Mr. Parker stated that the four days without work caused harm to he and his family. Councilmember Smolar stated that the Carroll County Codes Department advised that the Police Department to shut the project down because permits had not been obtained to do the project.

IX. MAYOR, COUNCIL, AND CITY STAFF COMMENTS

- Councilmember Lewis advised that crime has been reduced since Chief Gilliland has taken over the Police Department.
- Councilmember Whitley advised that speed has also been reduced.
- Councilmember Lewis advised those in attendance that you have to trust those that you have elected to represent you.
- Councilmember Smolar advised that he cares about the City of Whitesburg, but it is a thankless job.
- Water Superintendent Gamble stated that another series of testing needs to be conducted for volume and pressure in order to provide water for the new Dollar General Store.
- Water Superintendent Gamble also advised that his email address had been removed from the 811 contact list.
- Chief Gilliland provided the monthly Police Department reports. Stated that store clerks have noticed less crime related issues with their businesses. Advised that the two (2) new Public Safety vehicles should be arriving soon.
- Councilmember Whitley advised that she learned a lot at the recent Newly Elected Officials Training held in Athens.
- Councilmember Lucy Gamble informed those in attendance of the upcoming cooking classes at the Senior Center. Inquired as to where to obtain quotes for signs. Mayor Williford advised Councilmember Gamble to obtain quotes. Councilmember Gamble stated that she is still working on the streetlight issues at the new subdivision.
- Councilmember Lewis states that the Police Chief would soon be obtaining quotes for ammunition.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no additional business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Amy R. Williford, Mayor

ATTEST: Clerk

The Agenda for each Mayor and Council Meeting is available for review in the City Clerk's office located at 60 Booster Field Drive, Whitesburg, GA 30185 and on the City's website at www.whitesburg-ga.com at least five (5) business days prior to a Mayor and Council Meeting. A summary of Agenda items acted upon is available within 48 hours of the meeting at the address and website listed above. Minutes to any previous meeting (once adopted) are available upon request or may be viewed on the City's website, www.whitesburg-ga.com. The City complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If you need special assistance at a meeting, the City will try to accommodate you in every reasonable manner. Please call (770) 834-0848 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday at least 48 hours prior to the meeting if special assistance is needed.