

MINUTES Work Session

May 30, 2023 – 6:00 PM



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

Elected Officials Present

Mayor, Amy Williford (AW)
Councilmember, Chris Lewis (CL)
Councilmember, Lucy Gamble (LG)
Councilmember, Donna Whitley (DW)

City Staff Present

Water Superintendent, Robert Gamble (RG) Chief Of Police, Chris Gilliland (CG) Utility Clerk, Wendy Morris (WM)

The Mayor and City Council met for a Work Session on May 30, 2023. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Amy Williford at 6:01 pm, stating we had a Quorum and requesting everyone to silence all electronic devices.

We have already had the invocation that was led by Water Superintendent, Robert Gamble, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilmember Chris Lewis in the Public Hearing.

Additions added to the agenda:

- Councilmember Lewis: Added raises for Keith Creel and Danny Salazar
- Councilmember Whitley: Personal change, Wanice Odell gave her resignation, and her last day will be June 13, 2023. A position will be advertised for the Clerk or hiring from within and hiring a water clerk.
- I. Citizen Comments & Discussion On Agenda Items: (Please state name & address; speaking limited to 3 minutes)
 - No Comments
- II. Business Session: (Councilmembers have the opportunity to bring items before the Council)
 Mayor Williford: We will approve the minutes on Monday at the Council Meeting. I don't have anything we will move onto Councilmember Whitley.

Councilmember Whitley: Wendy has signed up to go to Court Clerk certification class in Columbus September 20, 2023 – September 22, 2023. The cost for the class is \$200. We have already approved the hotel expense at the Council Meeting on May 8, 2023.

Councilmember Gamble: Need funds transferred of \$2500 from the Founders Day festival to help pay for the fireworks display. The total cost of fireworks this year is \$4,600.00. We are working on coming up with the other \$2,100.00. Anyone that wants to donate can drop it off with Wendy at City Hall. This is the city and citizens getting back together and having one great big community reunion. I am asking local churches to help with water and sweets and local groups to help with games. Games are for all ages. It will be July 8 and if it is rained out it will be the following Saturday July 15, 2023.

Mayor Williford: If anyone has any groups they want to play ball, feel free to.

Councilmember Gamble - WACM is working to see if the band can come back and play, if not we will need a group to come play. We can't pay them but can feed them.

Councilmember Lewis: We will need approval for Chief Gilliland's hotel for the 2023 Georgia Association Chiefs Training in the amount of \$540.00. We have already approved the cost of training. We will need approval for a new police car, our fleet has 2 cars that are a 2008 and 2009 that are having issues. The estimate on a new Police Interceptor is \$55,600. We have officer Creel that was promoted to Corporal; we are looking at a \$1 per hour raise. Officer Salazar was promoted to Lieutenant; we are looking at a \$2 per hour raise. The money to buy the police car will be coming from Redspeed cameras.

- III. Citizen Comments: (Please state name & address; speaking limited to 3 minutes)
 - Steve Sutton 123 Landon Dr.
 Inquired about if anyone has contacted the military, national guard or reserves to help with 4th of July.
 They have budget to help display and have various activities.

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- Imogene Frazier 698 Main St
 Inquiring about the last council meeting minutes and if the Chief has sent out letters for trash and rubbish in the yards of citizens within the city.
- Chief Gilliland I have been in contact with residents.
- Imogene Frazier Spoke on the ordinances of yard clean up and the steps the ordinances state that will need take place.
- Donna Whitley we have started a game plan.
- Imogene Frazier Gave 3 copies of the ordinances to Councilmember Chris Lewis.
- Mayor Williford It is important to all of us, but if the city pays for the clean up then we will have to
 take it out of the budget.
- Juan Nieves 2486 Napa Valley Dr. Villa Rica, GA
 I have a baseball academy and I am interested in seeing about renting the fields. I have kids from Carroll and Heard that I do tournaments with.
- Mayor Williford, If there are no other comments, then we are finished.

The May 30, 2023, work session ended at 6:15 pm

Amy R. Williford, Mayor

ATTEST: Clerk