



MINUTES

Mayor & Council Meeting

November 13, 2023



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)
 Councilmember, Kim Arnell (KA)

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 regular meeting on November 13, 2023. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Amy Williford at 6:05 pm, stating we had a Quorum and requesting everyone to silence all electronic devices.

Attorney Kevin Drummond swore in the newly elected official Robert Kim Arnell.

The first order of business was the Approval of the Meeting Agenda; Mayor Williford asked for a Motion to approve the agenda. **Motion By:** Councilmember Lewis, **Second By:** Councilmember Arnell, **Motion Approved** with No Objections.

Minutes For Approval:

Work Session Minutes - September 26, 2023

Mayor & Council Meeting Minutes – October 2, 2023

Motion to approve Minutes **Motion By:** Councilmember Lewis, **Second By:** Councilmember Gamble, **Motion Approved** with No Objections.

Citizen Comments & Discussion on Agenda Items: None

Business Session:

Mayor Williford: Coin Operated Machine Ordinance.

Chief Gilliland: This ordinance has been adopted by several Jurisdictions. The ordinance will limit the number of machines allowed and will require the stores to obtain different permits. It will allow the Police Department to regulate the operation of the machines.

Motion to Approve Coin Operated Machine Ordinance **Motion By:** Councilmember Lewis **Second By:** Councilmember Arnell, **Motion Approved** with No Objections

Councilmember Whitley: Motion to approve a \$2 hour pay raise for Robert Gamble and \$1.50 hour pay raise for Tim Robison in the Water Department **Motion By:** Councilmember Whitley **Second By:** Councilmember Lewis, **Motion Approved** with No Objections (**Lucy Gamble: Abstained**)

Councilmember Gamble: Festival of Trees will be on December 2, 2023, the same day as Breakfast with Santa. Santa will arrive in the Rec. Center at 9:00am. On November 30, 2023, from 4pm – 6pm and December 1, 2023 anytime after lunch we will be decorating the trees. We are accepting donations of trees, lights, and ornaments. We would like to have 10 decorated trees to give away to 10 families.

Rates for renting out the rec. center need to be updated and more in line with our surrounding area as well as the rules for renting the rec center need to be updated. After looking at surrounding areas the newly suggested rates are - Lobby \$60 with a \$50 deposit, Lobby and Kitchen \$150 with a \$50 deposit, Lobby, Kitchen, and Gym \$220 with \$65 deposit. These rates are based on 3 hours. Additional hours will be more per hour.

Councilmember Whitley: Suggested on waiting to raise the rates until after the rec center is remodeled.

Mayor Williford: Suggested on tabling this until December.



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Motion to table until December **Motion By:** Councilmember Gamble **Second By:** Councilmember Lewis, **Motion Approved** with No objections.

Councilmember Lewis: The Police Department has a quote to purchase a 40ft container with a lockbox in the amount of \$2,895.00, this will be used to store secure documents and evidence. This is to be paid for out of Redspeed. Motion to approve the purchase of the 40ft container with Lockbox **Motion By:** Councilmember Lewis **Second By:** Councilmember Whitley, **Motion Approved** with No objections.

Councilmember Lewis: The Police Department has received a quote for a GBI Fingerprint Scanner in the amount of \$4,434 to be paid for out of RedSpeed.

Chief Gilliland: The Rapid ID Fingerprint Scanner will identify individuals without Identification and those who give false identifications.

Motion to approve the purchase of The GBI Fingerprint Scanner. **Motion By:** Councilmember Lewis **Second By:** Councilmember Whitley, **Motion Approved** with NO objections.

Councilmember Lewis: Motion to approve a \$2 hour raise for Chief Gilliland, \$1 hour raise for Officer Purcell, Lieutenant Salazar and Corporal Creel. **Motion By:** Councilmember Lewis **Seconded By:** Councilmember Gamble, **Motion Approved** with NO objections.

Citizen Comments:

Kathryn Barber (Brannon St): Questioned how the police department is doing on property clean up?

Chief Gilliland: The Police Department has handed out 1st notices. The next step will be to issue citations to those that have not complied.

Imogene Frazier (Main St): The property at 688 Main St, I would like the City of enforce what is in the ordinance and make this property owner clean up. The north side of the property is full of weeds, brush, and briars.

Mayor Williford: We cannot enforce a homeowner to clean up natural vegetation, but we will have Chief Gilliland go take pictures.

Mayor / Council / City Staff Comments: (Mayor Will Go Around Asking For Any Comments)

Councilmember Whitley - None

Councilmember Gamble – Whitesburg Community Thanksgiving will be this Sunday November 19, 2023 @ 6:00pm in the gym. Rev. Cook with Ephesus Baptist Church can answer any questions that pertain to the dinner. Also, WACM will be giving out Thanksgiving meals on Thursday November 16, 2023.

Councilmember Lewis - None

Councilmember Arnell – There is a new camper at the of Newnan Street that someone is living in, the Police Department may want to look into.

Water Superintendent Gamble – The Water Department is doing well. The department has received an award from the CDC.

Chief Gilliland - None

Assistant City Clerk Wendy Morris - None

Mayor Williford – Little Giant Farmers Market is selling bags of groceries for \$6.00, these bags will be donated to WACM to help the food pantry.



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Mayor Williford, If there are no other comments, I need a motion we adjourn. **Motion By:** Councilmember Lewis made a motion to adjourn., **Second By:** Councilmember Arnell, **Motion Approved** with No Objections.

The November 13, 2023 Mayor & Council Meeting ended at 6:57 pm.

Amy R. Williford, Mayor

ATTEST: Clerk

UNOFFICIAL