



MINUTES

Mayor & Council Meeting

March 6, 2023



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

ELECTED OFFICIALS & CITY STAFF PRESENT

Mayor, Amy Williford (AW)	Councilmember, Lucy Gamble (LG)
Councilmember, Chris Lewis (CL)	Councilmember, Donna Whitley (DW)
Water Superintendent, Robert Gamble (RG)	Chief Of Police, Chris Gilliland (CG)
Assistant City Clerk, Wanice Odell (WO)	

- I. **CALL TO ORDER BY:** Mayor, Amy Williford at 6:03 pm
 - 1. Call To Silence All Electronic Devices
 - 2. We Have A Quorum
- II. **INVOCATION BY:** Water Superintendent, Robert Gamble
- III. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE BY:** Councilmember Chris Lewis
- IV. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA BY:** Mayor Williford

Motion: Councilmember Lewis	Second: Councilmember Gamble	Vote: 3-0
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- V. **MINUTES FOR APPROVAL:**

Mayor & Council Work Session January 31, 2023 and Mayor & Council Meeting February 6, 2023

Motion: Councilmember Lewis	Second: Councilmember Whitley	Vote: 3-0
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- VI. **CITIZEN COMMENTS & DISCUSSION ON AGENDA ITEMS:** *(Please state name & address; speaking limited to 3 minutes)*
None
- VII. **BUSINESS SESSION:**

1. Zoning / Permitted Uses

Mayor Williford - I will start with the Zoning/Permitted Uses; the Planning & Zoning Committee got together with the City Attorney on some recommended some changes they suggested we look at which are as follows: Follow along on hand-out

Adding/Changing Page 1 - Auto/motor vehicle racetrack - provided that facilities are not located closer than 1000 feet to a residential district. **Auto/motor vehicle racetrack - not located to a residential district General Commercial and Changing From X (Permitted) to C (Conditional Use) for General Industry.**

Adding Page 3 - Concrete/stone cutting, fabrication (Conditional Use) - General Industry

Placed Page 4 - Dwelling, single-family detached Type III - regulated to existing non-conforming manufactured home parks. ***May want to look at Conditional for some Zones (Conditional Use) - General Industry**

Changing Page 5 - Manufacturing facility - involving the mechanical or chemical conversion of raw materials into semi-finished or finished products. **Changing From X (Permitted) to C (Conditional Use) – for those who don't understand Conditional Use, it just means we are able to say what sort of conditions we allow relating to the property.**

Page 6 - Okay so this next one is a biggie, the Quarry, Mining Facilities Do Not Add To Permitted Use Lists **X (Permitted) – Kevin Drummond wanted it under Conditional Uses – what do you all want? Council agrees just to Block this one.**

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BUSINESS SESSION - CONTINUED:

Zoning / Permitted Uses - Continued

Changing Page 5 - Recycling center w/ processing facilities - From X (Permitted) to C (Conditional Use) - General Industry

Changing Page 5 - Recycling collection station - From X (Permitted) to C (Conditional Use) - General Commercial & General Industry

Adding Page 6 - Sewerage treatment facility, public or private Conditional for (Rural Development, Single-Family Residential, Planned Residential Development, and Changed From X (Permitted) General Industry to C (Conditional) General Industry

Transfer station, solid waste **Landfill Do Not Add landfill to permitted uses (Council does not want to add)**

Motion By Councilmember Lewis to approve the permitted uses for zoning districts minus the single-family dwellings and the ones the council chose not to add.

Second: Councilmember Whitley **Vote:** 3-0

2. Councilmember Donna Whitley – If you all remember at the Work Session, we presented to the Council some new water rates and fees to get ours more in line with other local markets. Robert and I met and believe the ones we are present below are the best right now for the city. I make a motion we approve these rates.

NEW WATER DEPARTMENT FEES / DEPOSITS

New Reconnect Fee \$75.00 (No Admin Fee of \$25 & No Higher Rate For 2nd Offense)
 New Owner Deposit \$100.00
 New Renter Deposit \$200.00

RESIDENTIAL TAP CONNECTION FEES

New Tap Fee 3/4 to 1 inch = \$3,000 *Eliminated inside & outside city go to standard rate*

COMMERCIAL WATER TAP CONNECTION FEES

3/4 inch	\$3,000
1 inch	\$6,000
2 inch	\$25,000
3 inch	\$50,000
4 inch	\$100,000
6 inch	\$160,000
8 inch	\$280,000

Motion: Councilmember Donna Whitley **Second:** Councilmember Chris Lewis **Vote:** 3-0

VIII. CITIZEN COMMENTS: (Please state name & address; speaking limited to 3 minutes)

Katheryn Barber, 30 Brannon Street, Whitesburg, Ga

I have a question regarding if there is a plan to get people to clean up the junk vehicles and such in their yards. Councilmember Whitley - Actually I have been given a few letters from City Hall that we are going to go over and get some wording revised along with our Employee ~~Hand-book~~Handbook to make it clearer. We will be bringing this up at our next Work Session for review. Currently they are supposed to get a warning from the police and if they do not comply, then they go to court and they don't want to do that because usually we have photos to show the judge and the judge will give them so many days to clean up. We are working on it and springtime is coming and it's always a good time for spring cleaning. Anyone else?

Judy Skipper, 255 Maint Street, Whitesburg, Ga - Do we have a Dog?

Chief Gilliland - Yes, we do. Mrs. Judy - I've never seen her, what's her name? Chief Gilliland - Molly



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She is still in training, there is a lot of training per Federal Government to get her and her trainer ready for certification, so they have been doing a lot of training. Okay, so what about someone receiving a Speeding Ticket at 12 noon. **Chief Gilliland** – Okay, I'm going to go over the ticketing process here in just a few minutes.

Mrs. Judy – Oh, okay then I'm done.

Chief Gilliland - I've been asked a lot about Stevie, best I understand he is improving and did need to have a partial amputation of his leg and is supposed to be moved from ICU to a regular room and is hoped to be move to Carrollton for rehab. We did have several families in the community to donate food and fuel cards.

We've had other donations made and I will be going to Wal-Mart later today and get other gift cards to help the family. The numbers for February our short month were 145 citations (mostly registration issues).

In reference to speed camera - they do run for the entire day while children are in school. Lights will flash between 6:40 am - 7:40 am and 2:20 pm - 3:20 pm and the speed limit is 25 miles per hour (trigger speed for a ticket is 36 miles per hour). If you travel in front of the school zone between 7:40 am and 2:20 pm the speed limit is 35 miles per hour (trigger speed for a ticket is 46 miles per hour), which is where your 12-noon time frame will fall. Here's a few stats that will hopefully explain why we chose to run the cameras all day, for instance from the start of the day at 6:40 am until the camera shut off after school at 3:20 pm in the month of February our shortest month, there were a total of 1, 203 violations in the southbound lane only. The worst part is we've had numerous speeds at 60-plus miles per hour in a 35-mile speed limit zone

The highest speed recorded thus far has been 67 miles per hour in a posted 35 miles per hour zone that occurred on Feb. 15th at 9:49 am. There were 204 northbound violations. The total amount of citations issued by the cameras for the month of February from Monday to Friday were 1, 407; this number right here should be the answer to why we have chosen to have a speed camera in front of our school, there is no way and officer can address every speeder. Fourteen hundred speeders in a 28-day period is ridiculous. Another issue that has resulted from the camera use is illegal passing in those zones; we've had several issues over the last several months for passing in a no-passing zone. This is happening because someone is slowing down because of the school cameras and the person behind them couldn't care less and passes in a no-passing zone.

Mayor Williford – are you all clear on that now Mrs. Judy? Mrs. Judy - Yes, thank you.

Superintendent, Gamble - – Nothing

Councilmember Whitley - Nothing

Councilmember Gamble - On April 3rd, Linda from Two Rivers will be presenting a Financial and Public Safety Workshop from 11am -1pm; we will still have our regular meeting on the 3rd Monday.

Mayor Williford – I'll be bringing this up at the Work Session, it has been brought to my attention that several of our roads and streets are missing street and speed limit signs. A lot of our streets don't even have speed limits, we need to figure out what they are and get it posted. Any of our citizens that have street signs that are laying on the ground or you cannot read and need to be put up or replaced, need send a list to Wendy or Wanice at City Hall so we can get them on our list. Officer Creel is working on this list and is doing a great job. I know Spectrum is working on the internet still so just bear with them.

Councilmember Lewis - Still working on the tree with Rodrigues. Officer Creel was promoted to Corporal tonight so if you see him be sure to congratulate him, he is doing a great job.

IX. MAYOR / COUNCIL / CITY STAFF COMMENTS:



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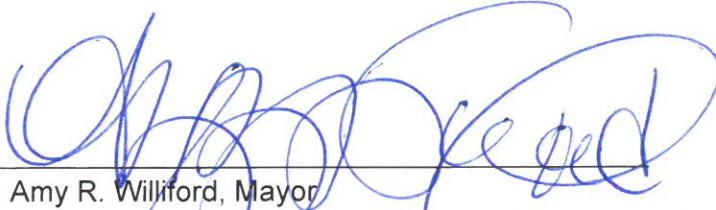
X. ADJOURNMENT BY: Mayor Williford

Motion: Councilmember Lewis

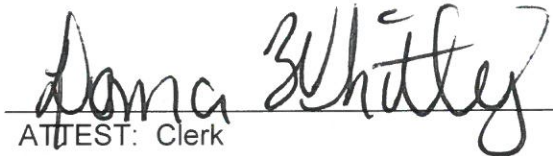
Second: Councilmember Gamble

Vote: 3-0

Ending Time: 6:36 pm



Amy R. Williford, Mayor



ATTEST: Clerk

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