



TOWN OF WHITE SPRINGS
“On the Banks of the Suwannee River”

MINUTES

WHITE SPRINGS TOWN COUNCIL

Regular Council Meeting

Town Hall Council Chambers

Tuesday, February 13, 2024 - 6:30 p.m.

1. **Call to Order, Invocation, and Pledge Allegiance to Flag** - Mayor Rivers called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. TC Ruise gave the Invocation and the Council led the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. **Roll Call** - Mayor Rivers called the roll. Members present: Mayor Rivers, Vice-Mayor Williams, Councilor Pope. Members absent: Councilor Burch.
3. **Additions, Deletions, and/or Amendments to the Agenda** - None
4. **Approval of Minutes:** January 23, 2024 - Vice-Mayor Williams made the motion and Councilor Pope seconded. Motion passed 3-0.
5. **Financial Report:** Richard Powell of Powell Consulting - see attached
6. **Administrative / Departmental Reports:**
 - a) Town Manager - TM George spoke with Woody Woodard last week about the building an additional unit on the site. His question at the last council meeting was to approve the new building with the same zoning as the previous buildings were zoned as “special exception”. TM George asked for the council approval of the zoning request. Vice-Mayor Williams made the motion as Councilor Pope seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

b) Public Works: Ray Vaughn - UD Ray Vaughn needed approval for 3 invoices. American Pipe & Tank: \$3500; Barneys Pumps: \$13,040; and Zach Conomos: \$6,720. Vice-Mayor Williams made the motion to approve each individual invoices. Councilor Pope seconded. Motion passed 3-0. (see attached)

c) Fire: Chief Steve Stith- FC Stith was absent but sent in his report and read by TM George. (see attached)

7. Presentation: None

8. Citizens from the floor: (Request form needed - 5min. limit)

1. Sharon Shae - The White Springs Historical Preservation Society has been reactivated. Woody Woodard donated the new directional signage off Bridge street. Walking Tours will be done by Tay Dickinson and registration will take place at Suwannee Hardware. The town welcomed Tay Dickinson and her family. The group would also like to spruce up the Imoglee Park. A Dental bus will be in White Springs on 02/24/2024. (see attached flyer)

2. Christavia Dickinson - She has lived in White Springs for 4 years, but still uses their Jacksonville, FL mailing address. She is a business owner and loves the rich culture of White Springs and has always been an advocate for small towns and communities. Mayor Rivers invited her to get in touch with the office and join some of the town committees.

3. Scott Gay - retracted his request

4. Ashley Bryant - She is sponsoring an Easter Egg Hunt for the community at Ogburn field on Saturday, March 23, 2024 from 2pm to 5pm and wanted to make sure that the bathrooms were open to the public.

5. Beth Daniels - She asked the town if the signage would be redone off of Hwy 41? Ray told her that he called the name on the bottom of the sign to get quotes and the business stated to him that they did not own the sign. Beth mentioned that she and others could help with the lettering.

6. Brandon Stubbs - He wanted to request a meeting with the town manager on the pre-application process. TM George said yes, and to give her a call tomorrow to confirm.

9. Old Business: None

10. New Business:

a) Balch Litigation - Proposed Settlement - TM George as contacted by Balch to consider the annexation proposal by the county. There was no consensus at this time as the council would discuss at a later date.

b) Filling Vacant Seat - TC Ruise stated that as of today's date there had been no community interest in filling the vacant seat of the council. S. Gay asked how long would the be opened if filled. TC Ruise stated they candidate would have to register for the election in April. N. Williams stated why would the town need a request for candidacy? Sharon Shae said that the candidate would need to apply within the 45 days. Which TC Ruise stated yes, she is correct.

c) Approval to Solicit Attorney Joel Foreman Full-Time - TM George wanted permission from the council to ask for Attorney Foreman to consider being hired at full-time status. The council agreed and voted 3-0 in favor of TM George to contact Atty Foreman.

d) Inter-local Agreement - Fire Assessment (HamCo) - TM George signed the agreement for the 1 cent sales tax with Hamilton County. The portion for the town would be in the \$60K range.

11. Council Comments: None

Adjourn: 7:25pm

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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