



TOWN OF WHITE SPRINGS

“On the Bank of the Suwannee River”

MINUTES

White Springs Town Council Regular Session

Tuesday, February 10, 2026 – Town Hall Council Room

1. Mayor Tonja Brown called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance – Pastor Wade Singletary, White Springs Baptist Church

2. **Roll Call:** Council Members present: Mayor Tonja Brown, Vice Mayor Nicole Williams, Councilwoman Cheryl McCall and Councilman Robert Gamsby.

3. **Additions, Deletions, and/or Amendments to the Agenda**

Add – Item 9 – 9g – Whitfield Production

Motion made by Mayor Williams to approve the agenda with the addition of adding 9g – Whitfield Production. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman McCall and motion passed 4-0.

4. **Addition, Deletions, and/or Amendment to the Agenda**

Councilman Gamsby made the motion to table the approval of the minutes for January 5th and 13th, 2026, until next council meeting. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Williams and passed 4-0.

5. **Appointment of new member of Council- Williams or Fouhecourt**

Motion was made by Councilman Gamsby to table #5 items to between items #8 & 9. (Ms. Williams was stuck in traffic traveling from Tampa, Florida)

At 7:30 p.m. Item 5 was revisited. Councilwoman McCall had some issues with Ms. Williams and stated that she did not feel like Ms. Williams qualified to be appointed. Councilman Gamsby stated that at this time Ms. Fouhecourt was working with several committee and he felt that she should be appointed and if Ms.

Williams was elected as a council member through the election process, he would welcome her with open arms. Vice Mayor Williams addressed some of Councilwoman McCall concerns with Ms. Williams. Motion was made by Councilman Gamsby to appoint Ms. Gretchen Fouchecourt as the new Council Member, motion seconded by Councilwoman McCall and passed. 4-0.

6. Financial Report: Richard Powell of Powell Consulting

See attached report – Budget vs. Actuals: Budget_FY26_P&L-Fy26 P&L
October 2025 – January 2026

7. Presentation of Bids on Surplus Vehicles

Mr. Lee Garner, Town Manager – Vehicle #1 – Crown Victoria highest bidder was Dustin Hayes - \$1955.00. Vehicle #2 Dodge Charger – highest bidder was Charles J. Fultz, for \$3501.01 and Vehicle #3 Dodge Charger highest bidder was also Charles J. Fultz for \$3801.01. Total sales of all vehicles were \$9,257.02.

8. Citizens for the Floor (5 minutes)

George Tudor – Was upset – He felt a committee member attacked him at the last Telford Hotel meeting- (Community Redevelopment Committee).

Kathy Hicks – Lake City Florida, she is working with Mr. Bow Beauchemin at the Boat Ramp. She wants to create a Pray Box. (This item was tabled for next month's meeting for further discussion).

Pastor Wade Singletary – want to update the Town of White Springs on the First Baptist Church Benevolent funds. They have provided financial aid to families and individuals facing hardship. i.e. clothing and furniture.

The church has raised over \$23,000 in their Benevolent funds.

Johnny Claridy – Want to see if the town can assist with providing more lights near the address of 17033 Sunrise Drive. Mr. Claridy has a business there, 25A Lounge, and the area is very dark.

He stated that he wants the town to treat the area of the South side of White Springs the same as the area of the North side of White Springs.

Also, he placed a sign near 41 Highway, and the Department of Transportation had him remove it. He wants to know if he places the sign on the other side of the railroad tracks would it be ok. (Mr. Garner told him he would check with the Utility Director, Ray Vaughn).

Also, he had an issue with Sheriff Creech the way he barged into his business looking for liquor license. (Mr. Garner assured him he would speak to Sheriff Creech).

9. **New Business:**

a. Adopt Resolution No. 2026-22 Create Community Redevelopment Committee

Motion was made by Vice Mayor Williams to change the name of the Telford Committee to Community Redevelopment Committee; motion was seconded by Councilwoman McCall and passed 5 – 0.

b. Approve Agreement with Law Clerk (Tentative) - Motion was made by Councilman Gamsby to authorized Mayor Brown to executive the agreement with Law Clerk (Tentative) and motion was seconded by Councilwoman McCall and passed 5-0.

c. Adopt Proclamation for Black History Month – 2026. Mr. Garner read the Proclamation for Black History Month. Motion made by Vice Mayor Williams to adopt Proclamation for Black History Month – 2026, motion was seconded by Councilwoman McCall and passed 5-0.

d. Mr. Garner, Town Manger announced joint meetings with County and Municipal Officials for 2 p.m., February 17, 2026, at County Commission Annex – Jasper Fl, to discuss Fire Agreements, Emergency Management and Code Enforcement countywide and other items of interest. Mr. Garner also stated that the town of Jennings, Florida is requesting this meeting with all cities official staff. Mayor Brown is asking every council member to attend.

e. Discuss Resolution 2026-23 – Meeting Decorum for council and public meetings, including staff members. Attorney Leslie Jean-Bart read the Resolution 2026-23 and discussed the do and don't of the resolution, what is expected of the citizens and staff members. Motion was made by Vice Mayor Williams to approve Resolution 2026-23; motion was seconded by Councilman Gamsby and passed 5-0.

f. Set Park Hours with new mural on Hwy 41. Mr. Garner asked Mr. Beauchemin to discuss this matter. Mr. Beauchemin is asking the Town to approve the hours of one and half hours before daybreak to open the park and close the park at one and half hours after sunset. Questions were presented to Mr. Beauchemin – who will open and close the park's gates? He stated that he is sure that the Hamilton County Police Department would be responsible for opening and closing the gates, since they are patrolling the area. He would speak to Sheiff Creech.

g. The Council took a 5-minute Recess.

Whitfield Production – Benita Brown read her concerns regarding the profit made by Whitfield Production Fall Concert. She feels the town and Hamilton County Police Department is responsible for the low profits. After the reading of her document – The Town members stated No Comments at This Time.

10. Staff and Council Reports/Comments:

Mr. Lee Garner, Town Manager – Mr. Garner told Councilwoman McCall, he is working on her 119 Request, however, the report she is requesting has personal info that can not be reveal and he would need to time to figure out how to provide the report to her.

Mr. Garner discussed the Fla League of City Meeting in Hollywood Florida, on August 13-15, 2026. He needs to know who plans to attend.

In his absence, Mr. Ray Vaughn is appointed Acting Town Manager.

Currently, there is a No Burn Notice for the Town.

Ray Vaughn, Utility Director – Absent, Mr. Garner discussed that Ray would soon be needing funds to repair or replace the self-start pump/well.

Attorney Leslie Jean-Bart – She created the Town of White Springs Quarterly Compliance and Financial Report form the town will soon start to use. This form will be submitted quarterly – when the quarterly reports will start will be discussed farther.

Attorney Jean-Bart discussed Public Records 119 Request. What a council member might receive for a 119 Request could be totally different from a citizen's request. She strongly advised council members to please not share their 119 requests with anyone, because this is against the Sunshine Rules and could be a violation. If a council member shares a 119 request this could be a liability for the Town.

When requesting a 119, everyone will be treated the same, because the Town must record and keep track of every 119 request.

Vice Mayor Williams – Wanted to let everyone know that the Telford Hotel Committee name is now changed to The Community Redevelopment Committee.

Councilman Robert Gamsby – Updated everyone on the 720 letters he sent out regarding the Town of White Springs, that unfortunately he has only received back maybe 20 responses. He learned a lot from this.

He wanted everyone to know that the next Comprehensive Meeting is scheduled for February 11, 2026, 6 p.m. and he is encouraging everyone to attend.

Councilman Gamsby asked Attorney Jean-Bart did she send a letter to Ms. Shirley Alridge, former council member regarding paying back the funds she received. Attorney Jean-Bart told him no, she is still working on the letter.

Councilwoman Cheryl McCall – stated that she has problems understanding finance report, that why she needs to ask so many questions. Attorney Leslie Jean-Bart told her maybe the quarterly reports that we will start using will help her.

Councilwoman Fouchecourt – Thanked everyone for allowing her to join the council board. Attorney Jean-Bart told her that she would provide a binder pertaining to the Town.

Motion made by Vice Mayor Williams to adjourn at 9:30 p.m., motion seconded by Councilman Gamsby and passed 5-0.

Adjourned – 9:30 p.m.

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 SUCH 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 ACCOMMODATIONS TO PARTICIPATE 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

Elmon Lee Garner, Town Manager

10363 Bridge Street – White Springs, FL 32096