

TOWN OF WILLIAMSTON
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 5, 2010
6:00 PM

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Crout. The Invocation was given by Mayor Crout and the Mayor led the Pledge of Allegiance. All members of council were present except for Councilman Harvell.

Councilman Cole made a motion seconded by Councilman Looper to accept the minutes from March 1, 2010. All voted in favor. Councilman Middleton made a motion seconded by Councilman Looper to accept the minutes from the March 10, 2010 special called meeting. All voted in favor.

Captain Brown introduced Daniel Stipe a new Police officer who will be replacing Mark Leckie who left the department. He then introduced Chris Brewer who will replace Richard Willett as Code Enforcement Officer. He also recognized David Fazzone and Chris Brewer for their work in combating DUI's.

Danette Hanks introduced the new Miss Williamston Teen, Lauren Waynick, who gave a brief speech about her platform on fire prevention.

There were no public comments.

The Police Department report was presented by Captain Brown.

EXECUTIVE SESSION Councilman Looper made a motion seconded by Councilman Middleton to go into executive session to hear legal advice concerning the Town's wrecker ordinance. All voted in favor. Councilman Middleton made a motion seconded by Councilman Cole to return to public session. All voted in favor. No action was taken in executive session.

THIRD READING – A third reading on the wrecker ordinance was necessary to add a day
WRECKER ORDINANCE time fee of \$85, a night time fee of \$100, and a business location
CHANGES either in the Town or within 2 miles. Councilman Looper made a
 motion seconded by Councilman Middleton to accept the ordinance
 on third reading. All voted in favor.

FIRST READING – Councilman Middleton made a motion seconded by Councilman
TEMPORARY SIGN Looper to approve first reading of a temporary sign ordinance which

ORDINANCE	prohibits portable signs but allows temporary signs with certain restrictions. Town attorney Richard Thompson will add exemptions for political signs. The motion carried with Councilman Cole voting against.
SECOND READING OF WATER & SEWER RATE INCREASES	Councilman Middleton made a motion seconded by Mayor Crout to approve second reading on the water and sewer rate increase ordinance that will take effect in March 2011. All voted in favor.
SECOND READING OF A BAN ORDINANCE FOR A WATER/SEWER REVENUE BOND	Councilman Looper made a motion seconded by Councilman Middleton to approve second reading on the BAN ordinance. All voted in favor. The Bond Anticipation Note in the amount of \$2,743,000 for a construction loan which will be paid back by the RUS loan/grant. This interim financing will be at 2.63% for 12 months from BB&T Bank. The Town does not receive the money directly but it is placed in an account where the RUS will disperse funds as needed. The Town will only pay interest on the amount of each draw on the account.
RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH FEES FOR FOI'S	Councilman Middleton made a motion seconded by Councilman Looper to approve a resolution on FOI fees of 25 cents per copy plus the amount of labor based on the lowest paid employee doing the work. All voted in favor.
FIRST READING GARBAGE FEE REDUCTION ORDINANCE	Councilman Middleton made a motion seconded by Councilman Looper to approve first reading of an ordinance to lower the garbage fee from \$8.00 to \$7.00 to be effective upon the first billing period after the second and final reading of this ordinance. During discussion, Administrator Phyllis Lollis pointed out that the change would result in a \$25,000 revenue reduction. All voted in favor.
SPRING WATER PARK UPGRADES	Councilman Cole made a motion seconded by Councilman Middleton to approve the expenditure of up to \$125,000 from the hospitality tax fund for Phase I improvements to Spring Water Park. All voted in favor.
ADDITIONAL GAZEBO	Discussion was held about adding a second gazebo in the park across the creek next to Gossett Drive. Councilman Middleton made a motion seconded by Councilman Looper to table the discussion until pictures and drawings are available. All voted in favor.
SIDEWALKS	Mayor Crout gave an update about the sidewalk repairs in Town and

there was some discussion about fixing the walk in front of the Pink House.

RENAME WATER
DEPARTMENT

Mayor Crout presented his idea to rename the water department to the "Greater Williamston Water and Sewer District" because the Town serves customers outside of the Town limits. Councilman Middleton made a motion seconded by Councilman Cole to approve the renaming. All voted in favor.

UPDATE ON STATUS OF
THE WASTE WATER
TREATMENT PLANT

Town Administrator Phyllis Lollis announced that there would be a Pre-Bid Conference on April 21 for Phase Ia. Councilman Cole made a motion seconded by Councilman Middleton to contract with Goodwyn, Mills and Cawood, Inc. for them to provide operation and maintenance for the Town's Waste Water Treatment Plant. They will also train Town employees to run the plant.

During the Good of the Order, Mayor Crout stated that the newly re-started recycling program is going very well. He also announced that the Town's health insurance rate for 2011 will be going up 21.6% or about \$40,000. The Mayor further stated that a grant application for the Phase II Downtown Revitalization Program has been sent in. The sidewalk project is complete, thanks to Senator O'Dell for sending it our way. In other news, the Mayor said that some businessmen were going to reopen the Mount Vernon plant in May to use for a textile distribution center. He also stated that Main Street is scheduled for paving at the end of July and first of August.

Councilman Looper stated that he had learned of a company that has been allotted some grants for them to perform energy audits on school and municipal buildings. The grants would also provide for fixing of problems found.

Councilman Middleton made a motion seconded by Councilman Looper to adjourn. All voted in favor. Adjournment was at 7:12 pm.