**The City of Williamson**

*P.O. Box 9*

*Williamson, Georgia 30292*

**Steve Fry, Mayor Tom Brown, City Council Post 3**

**Stephen Levin, City Council Post 1 Carol Berry, City Council Post 4**

**Bob Harrison, City Council Post 2 Steve Davis, City Council Post 5**

**MINUTES**

**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING**

**5 September, 2024 7:00 PM**

\*\*ALL PRESENT\*\*

1. **CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION, PLEDGE, WELCOME……**Mayor Steve Fry-7:02p
2. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA** (O.C.G A. § 50-14-1 (e) (1))-TB/SL 5-0
3. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES** (O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1(e) (2))
4. Minutes from Meetings held 1 August 2024-CB/SL 5-0
5. **FINANCIAL REPORT-**SL/SD 5-0
6. **REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENTS, COMMITTEES AND BOARDS**
7. City Clerk Report-Provided update on website progress & requested photos for addition to the new site. Advised of notice regarding potential industrial park and rock quarry in Lamar County that could impact the city and provided mayor with comment form to submit.
8. Council Member Report-**CB**: Received 9 library job applications and discussed hiring 2 part time instead of 1 full time, stating the job is more of an end of career job for retirees as opposed to a beginning of career job. TB inquired as to how the hours would be divided up and this was deliberated. BH talked about City Hall coverage and how it wasn’t necessary as he believes the clerk has it under control. Interviews to start on 9/9 with mayor and CB presiding. Asked about Mystery Dinner Theatre and Trunk or Treat. Motion to have dinner theatre at Williamson Methodist Church Oct 11th & 12th CB/BH 5-0. Further details for MDT will be available at the October meeting. Trunk or Treat scheduled for Oct 26th from 5p-8p at city park with pet parade at 5p. Motion to move October meeting from the 3rd to the 10th SL/BH 5-0.

**SL**: Noted barn at Drewry/362 started collapsing and mayor advised demolition permit was submitted.

**BH**: Discussed city not receiving distilled spirits excise tax and requested information as to why. Mayor advised the city has done everything necessary and the business is paying the tax, but the distributors are not sending funds to the city. Clerk provided details on the process and noted business owner has been working with the city to resolve the issue. Motion to send a certified letter to distributors and business owner demanding payment of excise tax or business’s alcohol license will be revoked BH/SL 5-0.

**SD**: Addressed need to clean up city hall by removing limbs and old trailer as well as pressure washing the building. Also discussed cleaning of the Huey and mayor suggested this being a project for the boy scouts. Clerk inquired about film crew’s offer to clean it once they were done; mayor will reach out. Talked about non-cardboard items being left in the cardboard-only dumpster and how boxes aren’t getting broken down resulting in overflow. Motion to approve J. Eskew’s contract with $20 hourly rate and have him clean up fallen tree at city hall CB/SL 5-0.

**TB**: Inquired about alcohol license and permit fees collected. Clerk confirmed three handler permits have been received.

1. City Attorney Report-Apprised the council of a provision that allows creation of a Code Enforcement Board that would alleviate need for a municipal judge and information will be provided for discussion at the next council meeting.
2. Mayor’s Report-Stated he is working on installing router box at park. Discussed recent car break-ins in Roundtree, noting cars were not locked and investigation is ongoing. Motion to have clerk send texts/emails to citizens through FrontDesk whenever things happen in the city that are emergency service related (fire, police, etc.) TB/SL 5-0. Requested a list by next meeting of roads that need paving/repair. Noted GPR information was sent to Carter & Sloope, and they are creating an as built water system map.
3. County Matters-Advised of proposed county tax increase and mill rate increase of .75 mills with public hearings to be held September 11th at 9a & 11a and September 24th at 6p. Noted SPLOST paving projects for Watering Hole Pass, Wood Creek, & Blanton Mill Rd. Informed city that its SPLOST funds must be spent 3 years after receipt and project list should be submitted to Clint Chastain. Recommended the city designate ARPA funds via resolution and send submission to the state by the December deadline.
4. Library Report-None
5. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
   1. Park Router and Camera Install Status Update-Addressed in Mayor’s report.
   2. City Main Waterline Project, GEFA Grant Award-Addressed in Mayor’s report.
   3. City Water System Mapping Update-Addressed in Mayor’s report.
   4. Williamson Amphitheater and Park Facilities Updates-BH messaged supplier and was advised playground equipment delivery is expected 9/9.
   5. Blighted Property Update for Drewry St. and Hwy 362 property-Attorney stated owner was responsive to notice. 106 Little St was also discussed and owner is deciding on how to proceed. Motion to modify nuisance abatement ordinance to include rental properties CB/SL 5-0. Motion to allow Code Enforcement Officer to address the council BH/SL 5-0. Mr. Yarbrough provided information regarding produce stand sign issues and noted owner was here to make things right. There was much discussion regarding permits and ordinances. It was agreed to remove all signs and for permits to be applied for and approved before installation. 364 Ashley Glen wall discussed and plat is needed to determine if a variance will be required. Council discussed Mr. Hobgood as neighborhood watch and determined it's inadvisable and therefore no signs will be purchased.
   6. Speed Hump Installation, Repair, and Locations-Mayor has marked some locations and plans to install one on Midland and one on 2nd District next week.
   7. Coggins/Park Property Status Update-Mayor met with Mr. Coggin to show boundary pins and Mr. Coggin is ready to sign quit claim deed.
6. **NEW BUSINESS**
7. Water Leak Repair Policy and Discount Available After Documented Repair-City has issued one credit per year based on wholesale water rate once evidence of repair is received. Clerk requested policy in writing.
8. LEAF Employment Applications and Vacancy Postings-Addressed in Carol Berry’s report.
9. Budget Adoption Process and Budget Hearing Date Discussion-Mayor provided timeline document with public hearings to be set for September 26th and October 10th and proposed budget to be available September 16th.
10. **EXECUTIVE SESSION: (**O.C.G.A. § 50-14) If Requested-None
11. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** None Requested
12. **ADJOURNMENT-** SL/BH 5-0 9:23p