

TOWN OF WINFALL
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 9, 2023 6:00 pm.
WINFALL TOWN HALL, WINFALL, NC 27985

The regular monthly meeting of the Winfall Town Council was called to order by Mayor Fred Yates at 6:00 pm. Invocation was given by Councilman Preston White and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Fred Yates.

Those in attendance were Mayor Fred Yates, Mayor Pro-Tem Preston White, Councilwoman Valery McDonald, Councilwoman Carol Cooper, Attorney Crowe and Valerie Jackson; Town Clerk, Finance Officer Debbie Parker.

Citizens attending were: Robert Valentine, Steve McDonald, Joshua and Karina Caldwell, Cynthia Cunningham, Debra Long, Mr. & Mrs. William Evans.

Approval of the Agenda: A motion was made to **approve the Agenda** for January 9, 2023 meeting by Councilman Preston White and seconded by Councilwoman Valery McDonald and so carried.

A motion was made to **approve the Minutes** for December 12, 2022 meeting by Councilman Preston White and seconded by Councilwoman Carol Cooper and so carried.

Financial Report:

The accountant Richard Arnold reported there was one amendment, which was an increase in the Powell Bills by \$ 1,130.00. The increase was added to office supplies. It was brought to his attention with a correction that he could not transfer Powell bill funds to office supplies. He stated that he would make an amendment to increase the funds to Roads and Grounds Department and decrease the same amount in office supplies. A motion was made to approve the Financial Report by Councilwoman Carol Cooper with the corrected transfer of funds from office supplies to roads and grounds and was seconded by Councilman Preston White, and so carried.

Old Business:

- A. **Building/ Repairs:** Councilwoman Carol Cooper reported that she had met with two contractors regarding building repairs but hadn't received any estimates. After discussion Mayor Yates ask to table the building/repairs until the February meeting.

New Business:

- A. Nominating and Voting on New Council Member. Councilwoman Valery McDonald nominated Tiwaad Parker, and Councilman Preston White nominated Cynthia Cunnigham. After discussion, Councilwoman Carol Cooper suggested a public hearing for people in the community to see who was interested. Councilwoman Carol Cooper made a motion to **publicize for a new council member** and was seconded by Councilwoman Valery McDonald and so carried. Councilman Preston White was a nay. It was to be sent to the newspaper for advertisement and posted on the town's website.
- B. Debbie Parker told about the purpose behind the Christmas decorations in the Town of Winfall. She said Winfall was lit up this year. Presentations went to 1st place: Mr. & Mrs. Caldwell Family on White Street, 2nd place: Mr. & Mrs. Spafford on Windmere Street, 3rd place Mr. & Mrs. Melvin Jackson on Creek Drive, 4th place: Mr. & Mrs. William Evans on Wiggins Road, 5th place Mrs. Joyce Lee on White Street, and 6th place was Mr. & Mrs. Carson on Wiggins Road.

Other Information:

Departments:

- A. **Sewer:** Debbie Parker reported that Public Works Melvin Jackson was absent. She reported there was a problem with the pumping station on Wiggins Road.
- B. **Roads & Grounds:** Councilman Preston White reported that there was a problem of water standing on Mason Street and the resident wanted to know what can be done about it.
- C. **Public Safety:** Councilman Preston White reported that there was a stabbing last Sunday on White Street, a complaint about shots fired and a dog barking in the neighborhood. Councilwoman Carol Cooper ask if the people was calling the police.

D. Fire:
Committee Report:

Administration: Personnel Manager Brenda Dillard was absent.

Councilwoman Carol Cooper reported that an employee's personal information was disclosed in the council workshop, which cause some concern, the attorney said everything mention was of public record, and nothing was inappropriate.

Councilwoman Carol Cooper reported to Council that there was some confusion on Personnel Manger Brenda Dillard job title and role. She said they need to change the title and she was going to update the personnel policy book, and bring it to the next council meeting so that there would be less confusion. Councilwoman Carol Cooper suggested a workshop to advertise for a town manager and explore other options. Mayor Yates entertained a motion to have a workshop to discuss a town manager. Councilman Preston White said he preferred the money to go towards a police officer. Councilwoman Valery McDonald made a motion to have a workshop for a town manager and was seconded by Councilman Preston White and so carried.

Tourism: Councilman Preston White, nothing new to report.

Recreation: Councilwoman Valery McDonald reported that the next meeting would be held in February, only meets every three to four months.

Grant: Councilwoman Valery McDonald reported that she had a list of information requested by North Carolina Rural Water in order to proceed with another grant, which were the audit, rate structure, and updated financial statement, actual vs. budget.

Councilwoman Carol Cooper reported that Mr. Tiwaad Parker had agreed to join the Citizen/Grievance Advisory Committee and there would be a meeting on January 23, 2023.

Attorney: Attorney Crowe reported the deed has been recorded and transferred from Jesse Harris. Attorney Crowe reported that the letter had been sent to the Spellman's, and the owner did not respond. Therefore, the town can proceed with the estimates given to tear down the house. Mayor Yates ask Councilman Preston White to work with him on contracting Mr. Hurdle about tearing down the house.

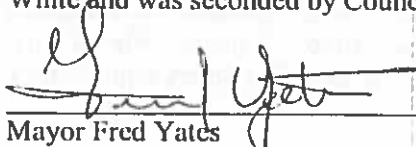
Other Information Public Comments:

Susan Ormond and Ted Riddick ask about getting permission (permit) to park a camper on Ms. Ormond property that she owns while preparing it to put a mobile home on it. The property is located at 141 two mile desert road. Mayor Yates referred them to Councilwoman Carol Cooper who handles the zoning permits.

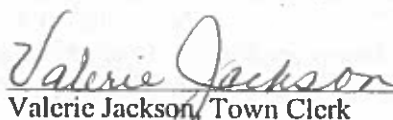
Ms. Debra Long ask questions in reference to who would choose the new council member and the public hearing. She commented on the town manager, police officer and taking in considerations of the financials. Ms. Long also ask if the final budget was completed, and reported that she had sent grants to all council members, and a copy of the Town of Hertford strategic planning.

Mr. Steve McDonald volunteered himself and Ms. Long to draft a strategic plan for the Town of Winfall with the approval of the council members. Councilwoman Carol Cooper made a motion to **give Steve McDonald and Debra Long authorization** to come up with a strategic plan, and was seconded by Councilman Preston White and so carried.

At approximate 7:30 pm. A motion was made to **adjourn** the meeting by Councilman Preston White and was seconded by Councilwoman Carol Cooper and so carried.



Mayor Fred Yates



Valerie Jackson, Town Clerk