

# TOWN OF WINFALL

February 12, 2024- 6:00 p.m.

## WINFALL TOWN HALL

The regular monthly meeting of Winfall Town Council was called to order by Mayor Preston White at 6:00 p.m. at Winfall Town Hall.

Those in Attendance were as follows: Mayor Preston White, Councilwoman Valery McDonald, Councilwoman Cynthia Cunningham, Councilwoman Arnetta Ormond, Attorney Crowe, Town Clerk Valerie Jackson, and CPA Richard Arnold.

1. **Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance:** Councilwoman Cynthia Cunningham gave Invocation. Mayor Preston White led the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. **Conflict of Interest:** None Declared.
3. **Approval of Agenda:** Councilwoman Cynthia Cunningham made a motion to approve of the Agenda, Councilwoman Valery McDonald second the motion and was so carried. All Ayes.
4. **Approval of Minutes:** Councilwoman Valery McDonald had a concern that Mayor White cannot make a recommendation or motion for a council person to fill a vacant seat. The recommendation should have come from a council person. The vacant seat should be nominated by Council members only. Mayor White clarified in the statement that was made by councilwoman Valery McDonald he did not make a motion to nominate Ms. Debera Long to Council. Mayor White made a recommendation according to the recording of the January 8<sup>th</sup> Council meeting. Councilwoman Cynthia Cunningham made a motion to approve the minutes with the necessary corrections, Councilwoman Arnetta Ormond second the motion and so carried, all yes.
5. **Financial Report:** CPA Richard Arnold stated that account {302.01} Misc. Income is getting low it got increased to \$500.00 so he decreased account {334.01} Mowing for \$500.00 those were the only corrections made to the budget. Councilwoman Valery McDonald made a motion to accept the Finance report. Councilwoman Cynthia Cunningham second the motion and so carried. All yes.
6. **Old Business**
  - A. **Fire Truck:** Lawyer stated there were no responses or updates on it.
  - B. **Vacant seat nomination and approval:** Councilwoman Valery McDonald nominated Ronald Smirlock, to fill vacant seat. Councilwoman Cynthia Cunningham nominated Debera Long to fill vacant seat. Councilwoman Valery McDonald motion to have Ronald Smirlock to fill seat. Cynthia Cunningham voted nay, Arnetta Ormond voted nay, Councilwoman Cynthia Cunningham made a motion to have Debera Long nominated Councilwoman Arnetta Ormond Second the motion. It was voted on and accepted that Debera Long Filled the vacant seat.
  - C. **Increase in Fee Approval:** Councilwoman Cynthia Cunningham made a motion for Conditional Use Permit increase from two hundred dollars to three hundred dollars, Councilwoman Arnetta Ormond second that motion and so carried all ayes. Councilwoman Valery McDonald made a motion to increase the sewer deposit fee to \$300 Councilwoman Cynthia Cunningham second the motion and so carried all ayes. Councilwoman Cynthia Cunningham made a motion to increase Park only fees to \$150 and Community Center and Park to \$325 with a \$75 deposit included within that cost. Councilwoman Arnetta Ormond second that motion, and so carried all ayes.

### ***New Business:***

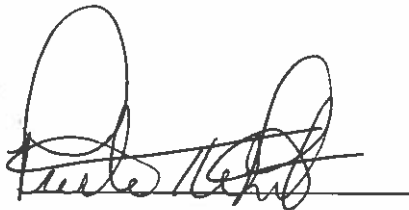
- A. *Outer Banks Pest Control Approval:*** Councilwoman Valery McDonald made a motion to continue the contract, Councilwoman Cynthia Cunningham second that motion and so carried all ayes.
- B. *Southern Software Agreement 2024-2025:*** Councilwoman Valery McDonald made a motion to continue the contract, Cynthia Cunningham second that motion and so carried, all ayes.
- C. *Contract to Audit Account Approval: Thompson, Price, Adams & Co., P. A. :*** Councilwoman Valery McDonald made a motion to continue with using TPA & Co. Cynthia Cunningham second that motion and so carried, all ayes.
- D. *North Carolina Town Planner Services Approval:*** Councilwoman Valery McDonald made a motion to continue with the services Cynthia Cunningham second that motion and so carried, all ayes.
- E. *Residential late payments:*** Councilwoman Valery McDonald made a motion that residents that are two months past due, and only pay partial of the past due must pay the remaining past due amount within 15 days or will be subject to cut off. Councilwoman Cynthia Cunningham second the motion and so carried, all ayes.
- F. *Minutes:*** Councilwoman Cynthia Cunningham made a motion to have Council Meeting Minutes done within 15 working days after the initial meeting. Councilwoman Arnetta Ormond second the motion and so carried, all ayes.
- G. *Email Policy Approval:*** Councilwoman Valery McDonald made a motion to accept the email policy, Councilwoman Cynthia Cunningham second the motion and so carried, all ayes.

### ***Departments***

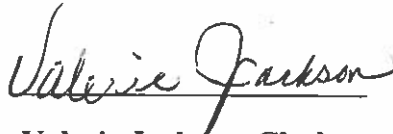
- ***Sewer:*** Valery McDonald stated everything is running smoothly now , but had a call from a resident with an issue called the town's sewer contractor. He checked it out, the issue was between the road and her house, the resident called their own plumber, and he took care of the issue.
- ***Police:*** Mayor White stated he hasn't had any issues. Mayor White also stated a few issues of people speeding through Wiggins Rd, Main St, and King Ave will try to ask the sheriff to increase the presence of them in the town.
- ***Fire:*** Representative Mr. JJ Bagwell stated there was one incident on Main St. No one was injured. Having a joint operation with Hertford, Winfall conducted a Live Burning training. Mr. Bagwell also stated the Winfall Fire Fighters Association would like to discuss with the council becoming financially separated from the Town of Winfall. Would like to know how much was in the budget for state grants and how much they have available; they would like to purchase 5 single band Motorola radios the county has switched over and 5 full sets of turnout gear. They have also had an increase in membership and would like to know how many members they can have. It is good to have but they do not have enough equipment for all the members. What they do have is out of date, and do not have enough equipment to give to everyone.
- ***Public Safety:*** Mayor White stated that he noticed a couple of potholes through the town. When the winter is over, we will pave some of the roads and get some estimates to get it done. Checking some of the ditches out see what needs to be cleaned out and what is stopped up, eventually get some of these storm drains flushed out.
- ***Zoning:*** Mayor White stated they talked about new contracts getting signed. The new Dollar General coming up, School and rezoning. Things happening in Winfall that will be positive for the community.

- **Tourism:** Mayor White stated there is a meeting being held February 20<sup>th</sup> and he will have some information to bring back to the town.
- **Recreation:** Councilwoman Valery McDonald stated she have not been notified about meetings or anything, she will try to find out what's going on if they are still having meetings.
- **Sewer:** Mayor White stated sewer prices have gone up in Hertford. They will have a workshop on the changes that are to come.
- **Grants:** None
- **Attorney:** Attorney Crowe stated there was nothing to report.
- **Administration:** Town Clerk Valerie Jackson reported that the sewer budget will have to be adjusted because of overages that the Town of Hertford are charges us and has already raised rates, so rates will have to be increased.
- **Public Comments:** Debera Long and Ron Smirlock had public Comments.

*At approximately 7:05 Councilwoman Cynthia Cunningham made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Councilwoman Arnetta Ormond second that motion and so carried, all ayes.*



**Preston White, Mayor**



**Valerie Jackson, Clerk**

***\*Minutes written by Deputy Clerk Elisha Washington\*\****

