

City of Woodland

Meeting Minutes

February 13, 2023

I. Call to order

Mayor James Carter called to order the regular meeting of the Woodland City Council at 6:15 PM on February 13, 2023, at the Woodland City Hall.

II. Roll call

The following persons were in attendance: Mayor James Carter, Mayor Pro Tem Ebonye Holt, Councilman T. L. Carter, Councilman John Haralson, Councilwoman Allison Owens, Councilman Jeffery Mitchell, City Clerk Allissa Gresham, Municipal Clerk Cynthia Powell, and City Attorney Gary Byrd.

III. Approval of agenda

Mayor Pro Tem Holt made a motion to approve the agenda. Councilwoman Owens seconded. All approved. Motion carried.

IV. Budget Hearing

Mayor Carter called the Public Hearing to order at 6:17 PM to discuss the FY 2023 Proposed Budget. Regular Session resumed at 6:20 PM.

Mayor Pro Tem Holt made a motion to adopt the FY 2023 Proposed Budget. Councilman Haralson seconded. All approved. Motion carried.

V. Approval of Regular Minutes, Executive Session Minutes, and Work Session Minutes

The Regular Meeting Minutes and Executive Session Minutes from January 09, 2023, and the Work Session Minutes from January 23, 2023 were distributed.

Mayor Pro Tem Holt made a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes. Councilman Carter seconded. All approved. Motion carried.

Mayor Pro Tem Holt made a motion to approve the Executive Session Minutes. Councilwoman Owens seconded. All approved. Motion carried.

Councilwoman Owens made a motion to approve the Work Session Minutes. Councilman Mitchell seconded. All approved. Motion carried.

VI. Guest Speakers: None

VII. Attorney Report

- a) Attorney Byrd stated he prepared a Budget Resolution to continue with the 2022 budget until the 2023 budget was voted on. Attorney Byrd asked Clerk Gresham to email him a copy of the signed Budget Resolution.

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- b) Attorney Byrd stated he prepared and sent the Oath of Office to the Talbot County Probate Judge for Mr. John Haralson. Attorney Byrd asked Clerk Gresham to email him a copy of the sign Oath of Office.
- c) Attorney Bryd stated he had discussed the letter of Rodney Steverson concerning his neighbor dumping with Clerk Gresham. Clerk Gresham was to follow up by contacting the Talbot County Sheriff's Department for enforcement. Clerk Gresham stated she contacted the Talbot County Sheriff's Department but has not been contacted back about the matter.
- d) Attorney Byrd presented Clerk Gresham with the monthly invoice for services.

Mayor Pro Tem Holt made a motion to accept the attorney report. Councilman Haralson seconded. All approved. Motion carried.

VIII. Water Report

- a) Jeff Harrison of HWR Water Solutions stated the City of Woodland produced 1.7 million gallons of water and billed out 935,000 gallons of water. Jeff stated HWR fixed a two-inch main leak on 2nd Street, a service line leak on Hawkins Rd., and a leak on Martin Luther King. HWR is in the process of standing the blue concrete markers back up that mark the valves within the City. Jeff stated the City is still losing approximately 600, 000 gallons of water a month and he is actively looking for leaks. They looked in the Pleasant Valley Rd. area this week. They found that all the meters in that area were off and concluded the leak was not in that area. They will continue to look for leaks in other areas. Jeff discussed an active water line to the Woodland Memorial Cemetery. Attorney Byrd stated the City had turned over ownership of the cemetery to a private nonprofit Cemetery Board. Mayor Pro Tem Holt suggested HWR cut the cemetery water line off immediately. Mayor Pro Tem Holt stated the Cemetery Board should be paying for the water if someone wanted to use it. HWR will search for the line to cut the water to the cemetery off. Attorney Byrd stated the Council needed to notify the Cemetery Board before cutting the line off. Skip Woodall attended this evening's Council meeting and stated he was a cemetery board member. Mr. Woodall asked the Mayor and Council to write a letter of intent to formally end the water supply to the Woodland Memorial Cemetery Association. Mayor Pro Tem Holt stated a letter would be provided. Mr. Woodall will email Clerk Gresham with the Woodland Memorial Cemetery Association information.
- b) Clerk Powell distributed Water Systems Totals Report for January 2023.
- c) Clerk Powell stated she had not heard back from Grace Carreker about water bill payment arrangements. Clerk Powell stated she contacted Kelly Bowles about water bill payment arrangements. Mrs. Bowles stated she could pay \$50.00 on her bill plus her current payment.

Mayor Pro Tem Holt made a motion to approve the water report. Councilman Carter seconded. All approved. Motion carried.

IX. Open Business

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- a) Clerk Gresham updated the Council on the progress with River Valley Regional Commission regarding applying for the CDBG grant. She received an email from the Regional Planner, Ian Perry stating the RFP advertisement is currently underway in the Talbotton New Era newspaper and the Georgia Procurement Registry. The advertising period will end on March 06, 2023. All valid proposals should be delivered to River Valley Regional Commission by then.
- b) Clerk Gresham updated the Council with a price quote for the City of Woodland flag of \$258.00.
- c) Clerk Powell updated the Council on the tree trimming within the City. She distributed quotes from Salter's Treeman Service and Johnson Lawn, Landscape, and Tree Service. The Council decided to review the quotes and discuss them at the February 20, 2023 Work Session. Mayor Carter stated he contacted Commissioner Ken Chapman to have the prisoners do the tree trimming but had not heard back from him yet. Mayor Carter stated he would contact Commissioner Chapman again before the Work Session. Councilman Carter suggested contacting Assistant County Manager Ronnie Hendricks about using the prisoners.
- d) Councilman Carter updated the Council on the City of Woodland Community Building renovations. He stated there were no updates at this time. Councilman Carter and Councilwoman Owens will visit the City of Woodland Community Building this week to see what progress has been made.

X. New Business

- a) The letter City Hall received from Rodney Steverson was discussed during the Attorney Report. Mr. Steverson attended this evening's Council meeting and the Council agreed to give him the floor to express his concerns. Mayor Carter and Councilman Carter stated they would speak to Mr. Steverson's neighbor about the matter. Councilman Haralson stated he would contact the Talbot County Sheriff's Department to speak with Sheriff Johnson about the matter. Attorney Byrd and Clerk Gresham will be contacted with the results and Clerk Gresham will email Mr. Steverson with the outcome.
- b) Clerk Powell discussed storm drains within the City needing to be cleaned. Jeff of HWR Water Solutions stated he did not have the equipment to clean the storm drains. Jeff will contact United Rental to get a price quote for a Hydrovac.

XI. Clerk Report

- a) Clerk Gresham presented the month's financial reports.

Mayor Pro Tem Holt made a motion to approve the Clerk Report. Councilman Carter seconded. All approved. Motion carried.

XII. Executive Session

Mayor Pro Tem Holt made a motion to begin executive session to discuss personnel matters. Councilman Carter seconded. All approved. Motion Carried.

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Those present for the executive session were as follows:

Mayor James Carter, Mayor Pro Tem Ebonye Holt, Councilman T.L. Carter, Councilman John Haralson, Councilwoman Allison Owens, Councilman Jeffery Mitchell, City Clerk Allissa Gresham, Municipal Clerk Cynthia Powell, and City Attorney Gary Byrd.

Executive session began at 7:21 PM.

Mayor Pro Tem Holt made a motion to return to regular session. Councilman Mitchell seconded. All approved. Motion carried.

XIII. Regular Session

Regular session resumed at 7:28 PM

Mayor Pro Tem Holt made a motion to pay the bills. Councilman Carter seconded. All approved. Motion carried.

XIV. Adjournment

Mayor Pro Tem Holt made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Mitchell seconded. All approved. Motion carried.

Mayor James Carter adjourned the meeting at 7:35 PM

Minutes Submitted By: _____

Allissa Gresham

City Clerk

Approval Date