

Work Session Meeting Minutes

January 23, 2023

I. Mayor James Carter called to order the work session of the Woodland City Council at 6:15 PM on January 23, 2023, at Woodland City Hall.

II. Roll call

The following persons were in attendance: Mayor James Carter, Councilwoman Allison Owens, Councilman Jeffery Mitchell, Councilman John Haralson, City Clerk Allissa Gresham, and Municipal Clerk Cynthia Powell.

III. Approval of Agenda

Councilwoman Owens made a motion to approve the agenda. Councilman Haralson seconded. All approved. Motion carried.

IV. **Guest Speaker:** Mack Salter of Salter's Treeman Service discussed the proposal he gave the City for tree trimming and cutting on the City street right-of-ways. Mr. Salter stated he would be responsible for the debris cleanup. He stated he would rake and blow all the streets and sidewalks. Mr. Salter stated he would need a place to dump the debris. He stated Ronnie Hendricks would let him pay to dump the debris on his property if the City could not provide a place. Mr. Salter stays with his crew all day to supervise the project, making certain clean cuts are done on all the trees so the City will look nice. Clerk Powell stated she contacted Attorney Byrd about the trees on Hwy. 36 and Hwy. 41. Attorney Byrd stated the GDOT would be responsible for these areas. Clerk Powell stated that most of the street right-of-ways were 60 feet except for Pleasant Hill which is 50 feet. Attorney Byrd is going to do some more research on the right-of-ways and contact Clerk Powell. Councilman Haralson and Councilwoman Owens discussed Mr. Salter cutting trees on 2nd Street and Hawkins Rd. where the roots have grown under the street and damaged the asphalt. Mr. Salter stated he could revise his proposal to include pulling up the asphalt and calling someone in to patch the damaged areas. Councilwoman Owens suggested Mr. Salter revise his proposal to include the discussed areas and street damage and give it to Clerk Powell. Councilman Haralson and Councilwoman Owens discussed where the City will get the funds to pay for the tree-trimming project. Clerk Gresham stated the funds could not be taken from the TSPLOST account per Talbot County Manager Carol Ison. Mayor Carter suggested contacting the offices of Senator Ossoff, Senator Warnock, and Congressman Bishop to schedule a representative to attend a Council meeting to discuss grant possibilities for the tree-trimming project. Councilwoman Owens suggested picking out the worst areas and trimming those areas first. Councilwoman Owens suggested removing the City well house area from Mr. Salter's proposal and contacting HWR about maintaining that area.

V. Business Discussed

- a) Clerk Gresham stated the Budget Hearing ad for the Proposed 2023 City of Woodland Budget was running for the next two weeks in the Talbotton New Era newspaper. She stated the Budget Hearing is to be held on February 13, 2023, before the regularly scheduled Council meeting.

- b) Clerk Powell discussed high usage water bills caused by the recent cold weather and pipes bursting.
- c) Clerk Powell discussed Grace Carreker's high usage water bill due to a leak on the customers' side. Clerk Powell stated Mrs. Carreker called City Hall to inquire about setting up a water bill payment plan and she stated the water leak was fixed. Councilwoman Owens suggested Clerk Powell stop the late fee on the account and contact Mrs. Carreker to ask what amount she would be comfortable paying within reason to get her water bill paid down. Councilwoman Owens and Councilman Haralson discussed giving Mrs. Carreker a one-time forgiveness on this bill. Mayor Carter suggested Clerk Powell contact Attorney Byrd on this matter.
- d) Clerk Powell discussed having a certain day of the month to do water cut-offs on delinquent accounts. Mayor Carter suggested Clerk Powell contact Attorney Byrd on this matter.
- e) Councilwoman Owens discussed properties within the City that need to be cleaned up. Clerk Powell stated the City had sent out derelict property letters to citizens in the past. Councilwoman Owens suggested contacting Attorney Byrd on the matter.

VI. Adjournment

Councilwoman Owens made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Mitchell seconded. All approved. Motion carried. Mayor James Carter Adjourned the meeting at 7:30 PM.

Minutes Submitted By: _____

Allissa Gresham

City Clerk

Approval Date