

City of Woodland

Meeting Minutes

March 11, 2024

I. Call to Order

Mayor James Carter called to order the regular meeting of the Woodland City Council at 6:15 PM on March 11, 2024, at the Woodland City Hall.

II. Roll Call

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

III. Approval of Agenda

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

IV. Approval of Minutes

The February 12, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes and the February 19, 2024 Work Session Minutes were distributed.

Councilwoman Owens made a motion to approve the February 12, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes and the February 19, 2024 Work Session Minutes. Councilman Haralson seconded. All approved. Motion carried.

V. Guest Speakers

- a) **Tammy Horton** discussed the City opening up Club Court and water drainage issues in her backyard adjacent to Club Court.. Mrs. Horton stated she wanted to find out what the City was planning before she had a contractor fix the drainage issue in her yard. She stated she would be losing access to the neighbor's driveway she has been using in the near future. She stated she would need the road to be opened to have access to her backyard. Clerk Gresham stated the City was planning to scrape the road and have crush and run put down. Clerk Gresham stated she contacted Peter from the Talbot County Road Department, and he directed her to contact Talbot County Assistant Manager Ronnie Hendricks. Mr. Hendricks stated he would bring a list of contractors to City Hall for Clerk Gresham to contact. Mr. Hendricks has not delivered the list yet. Jeff Harrison of HWR Water Solutions stated he would give Clerk Gresham contact information for a contractor he knew for a quote. Jeff suggested Mrs. Horton have a drainage system put in and build her yard up to take care of the water drainage issue. Mayor Carter suggested Clerk Gresham contact John Pierce for a quote.

VI. Attorney Report

- a) Attorney Byrd stated he drafted a Conflict of Interest Letter for the CDBG grant. He stated the letter was presented in February as instructed.

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- b) Attorney Byrd stated he wanted to remind the Mayor and Council the City of Woodland now has a notebook-style version of the official City of Woodland Charter. He stated if the Mayor or Council Members wanted a copy they could contact Clerk Gresham.
- c) Attorney Byrd discussed a new proposed nuisance ordinance. Attorney Byrd suggested the Mayor and Council review the new proposed ordinance and email any comments to him. He stated he would be giving the Talbot County Magistrate Judge a copy of the new proposed ordinance to review. Attorney Byrd discussed Code Enforcement Officer options for the City of Woodland. He stated he contacted Terrell Jacobs of the GMA. Mr. Jacobs suggested contracting a person or company to do code enforcement for the City of Woodland. Mr. Jacobs stated he would research the matter and get Attorney Byrd contact information for code enforcement contractors.
- d) Councilwoman Owens discussed why Attorney Byrd charged a larger than normal fee for the February Council Meeting. Attorney Byrd stated it was because the meeting ran longer than usual. He stated he gave the City a \$300.00 discount so the bill would not be so expensive.
- e) Attorney Byrd presented Clerk Gresham with the monthly invoice for services.

Councilman Mitchell made a motion to accept the Attorney Report. Councilwoman Owens seconded. All approved. Motion carried.

VII. Grounds Maintenance Report

- a) Kane Robinson of Robinson's General Services, LLC stated Grounds Maintenance would be preparing to start cutting grass throughout the City. Councilwoman Owens discussed trimming tree limbs over hanging streets and sidewalks. Kane stated Grounds Maintenance had trimmed some trees in the 2nd Street area. Kane suggested one of the Council Members ride around the City with Grounds Maintenance to show them what areas need attention. Councilman Haralson stated he would ride with Grounds Maintenance. Councilman Haralson discussed cleaning a drain out on Pleasant Hill Street. Kane stated Grounds Maintenance would clean the drain. Clerk Gresham stated she gave the No Dumping signs to Grounds Maintenance for installation.

Councilman Haralson made a motion to accept the Grounds Maintenance Report. Councilwoman Owens seconded. All approved. Motion carried.

VIII. Water Report

- a) Jeff Harrison of HWR Water Solutions stated they repaired an old service line leak on West Pleasant Hill St. Jeff stated repairing this leak will save the City 300,000 gallons of water loss. Jeff stated the City of Woodland produced 1.3 million gallons of water and billed out 495,000 gallons of water. Water loss for February 2024 was 519,120 gallons. Jeff stated HWR will continue to replace faulty water meters.
- b) Jeff stated the EPD inspected the City of Woodland water system. He stated the only finding the EPD had was that no fluoride was being fed into the City of Woodland water. Jeff stated the City could put adding fluoride to the City water on the upcoming ballot and let the citizens vote on

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whether or not they wanted the fluoride. He stated if the City did not put it on the ballot, then he would have no choice but to feed fluoride into the water. Jeff suggested going out to the EPD website and printing information about fluoride to send out with the water bills so citizens would be informed about the pros and cons to better decide for themselves. Clerk Powell will research this matter and report back to the Council.

- c) Clerk Powell distributed the Water System Totals Report and the Delinquent Account Report for February 2024. The water report shows the total billed was \$7181.25 and the total received was \$8573.95.

Councilman Haralson made a motion to accept the water report. Councilwoman Owens seconded. All approved. Motion carried.

IX. Open Business

- a) Attorney Byrd stated the sidewalk ordinance was discussed during the Attorney Report.
- b) Clerk Powell updated the Mayor and Council on the status of Georgia Power installing LED lighting at the park. She stated the contact person for Georgia Power was preparing to install the LED lighting at City Hall and the park. Clerk Gresham updated the Mayor and Council on the status of Spectrum installing WiFi at the park. She stated she received an email stating the construction team was reviewing the order and someone would be in contact with City Hall this week.
- c) Councilwoman Owens discussed the City of Woodland holding the Spring Fling with or without vendors. Councilwoman Owens discussed the Council voting on hiring the Al Mitchell Band to perform at the City of Woodland Spring Fling on April 20, 2024, in the amount of \$900.00. Councilman Haralson made a motion to hold the City of Woodland Spring Fling and to hire the Al Mitchell Band to perform in the amount of \$900.00 to be paid with the Community Park account and hire one off-duty deputy for security. Councilwoman Owens seconded. All approved. Motion carried. Attorney Byrd suggested Clerk Gresham contact Andy Kober about bringing his train kiddie ride to the Spring Fling and contacting the City of Pine Mountain clerk to acquire a list of food trucks they have used for festivals.
- d) Clerk Powell discussed purchasing the \$1299.99 ice machine from Amazon for the park. Councilwoman Owens made a motion to purchase the \$1299.99 ice machine from Amazon for the park. Councilman Carter seconded. All approved. Motion carried. Clerk Gresham discussed purchasing two toddler swings for the park from Amazon for \$80.99 each. The Council voted to purchase the toddler swings in the February 12, 2024 Council meeting pending a price quote. Clerk Gresham will purchase the two toddler swings. Clerk Gresham discussed purchasing signs to put alongside the highway for Spring Fling. Councilwoman Owens suggested customizing the signs with City of Woodland and Clerk Gresham or Clerk Powell adding the other information as needed for different events. Clerk Gresham will purchase 6 of the signs from Amazon. Councilwoman Owens discussed renters not thoroughly cleaning the Community Building and suggested someone do a walk-through before giving the security deposit back to them. Councilman Carter discussed

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taking the Community Building rental security deposit from \$250.00 to \$150.00. Councilwoman Owens made a motion to change the Community Building rental security deposit from \$250.00 to \$150.00. Councilman Haralson seconded. All approved. Motion carried.

X. New Business

- a) Clerk Gresham discussed Mayor Carter attending the 2024 Annual GMA Convention on June 21- June 25, 2024 in Savannah, GA. Clerk Gresham stated she needed to register Mayor Carter for the convention on March 27, 2024. Councilwoman Owens made a motion to approve Mayor Carter to attend the 2024 Annual GMA Convention on June 21- June 25, 2024 in Savannah, GA. Councilman Mitchell seconded. All approved. Motion carried.
- b) Clerk Gresham discussed ARPA money stating that \$33,000.00 of the ARPA money would be used for the 2023 CDBG match and this would leave a balance of \$81,029.09 in the ARPA account. Clerk Gresham stated the Council would need to discuss projects the balance could be used for. The Mayor and Council tabled this discussion for the March 18, 2024 Work Session.
- c) Councilman Haralson made a motion to table the blighted property, burned property, and junk cars in yards and on streets discussion for the April 08, 2024 Council Meeting. Councilwoman Owens seconded. All approved. Motion carried.

XI. Clerk Report

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

XII. Executive Session: No Executive Session was needed.

Councilman Haralson made a motion to pay the bills. Councilwoman Owens seconded. All approved. Motion carried.

XIII. Adjournment

Councilwoman Owens made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Mitchell seconded. All approved. Motion carried.

Mayor James Carter adjourned the meeting at 8:17 PM.

Minutes Submitted By: _____

Allissa Gresham

City Clerk

Approval Date