



**TOWN OF THUNDERBOLT
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2023
6:00 PM
REVISED**

AGENDA HEARING

Public has five minutes per person to ask questions or comment on any agenda item.

Mayor Williams called the public comment period to order at 6:02 pm.

Stella Lavin, 3125 Robertson Ave, asked if the recovery resolution is a fire fee. It was explained this is for recovery of cost from insurance companies when there is an accident.

Anna Maria Thomas, Museum Society, corrected the dates on their outdoor event permit. The March date is the 25th, not the 24th and there will not be an April event, due to their participation in the Blessing of the Fleet.

Dana Williams spoke on attending the 8th annual traffic jam at Savannah State on human trafficking. One to three percent of human trafficking are kidnappings. Over 30% are trafficked by family members or people they know. Social Media is the platform they like to use. Labor trafficking is almost equal to sex trafficking.

Stella Lavin, 3125 Robertson Ave. – wanted to provide thoughts on grey water and concerns of wasting water to rinse recyclables.

Council Member Drohan – presented on the Thunderbolt Development and Resource Utilization Project – see attached presentation. Council Member Lavin asked what he meant by density. Council Member Drohan explained the density is tied to the property zoning. Council Member Lavin asked if all current vacant properties are developed would we exceed our resources. Council Member Drohan stated not at current zoning. Council Member Crenshaw stated exceeding the Town's water permit will affect citizens since they would have to buy water at a higher cost from Savannah.

REGULAR MEETING

1. Call to order

Mayor Williams called meeting to order at 6:31

2. Roll Call by Presiding Officer with Invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance

Those in attendance were Mayor Williams and Council Members: Bethany Skipper-Greer, Dave Crenshaw, Larry Ward, Ed Drohan, James Lavin and Brooks Barbaree. Staff in attendance were Town Administrator, Bob Milie;

Town Attorney, Charlie Barrow; Clerk of Council, Deatre Denion; Police Chief, Sean Clayton; Fire Chief, Andrew Bateman; Public Works Superintendent, Oscar Crosby and Utilities/Acct. Payable Manager, Katina Spaulding.

Mayor Williams made a statement for Black History Month.

3. Approval of Meeting Agenda

Mayor Williams asked for a motion to approve the agenda. **Council Member Ward made the motion to approve the agenda with a second by Council Member Crenshaw. The motion passed unanimously.**

4. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting:

Minutes of January 11, 2023

Mayor Williams asked for a motion to approve the January 11, 2023 meeting minutes. **Council Member Ward made the motion to approve with a second by Council Member Crenshaw. The motion passed unanimously.**

5. Finance Report:

Shannon Beck, Holland, Bromley, Barnhill & Brett, provided an overview of the Town's finances. Ms. Beck stated all year end financial items have been completed. The auditors are going to start the week of March 6th. Capital Reserve Fund was discussed at the last meeting. Ms. Beck looked at GFOA guidelines for the amount a city should have in reserve and found it to be 6 months. The town reserve levels are adequate. Council Member Drohan asked when do we anticipate a number for LOST funding. Town Administrator Milie stated we have it now as a percentage equaling about a million.

6. Old Business:

- a) Approval of variance for Seven Heaven Antiques sprinkler system for storage shed. Seven Heaven Antiques requests a waiver on installing a sprinkler system in the storage shed, due to the flammable materials, *Staff recommends approval with conditions.*

Town Administrator Milie explained this is an accessory building, not a main building. Richard Griffin, fire marshal, met with the owner and contractor to discuss conditions to not having sprinklers in the building. The terms are no electricity, defined aisles, limited height of storage, no smoking, gases, chemicals, or repairs inside building, and require fire extinguishers. **Council Member Drohan made the motion to approve the variance based on the assumption if sold it must come back to Council for review. Council Member Ward seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

7. Discussion Agenda:

- a) Approval of the renewal of Home Occupation Permits for Victory Plumbing – 3208 Pierce Blvd; Sublime Massage Therapy & Bodyworks – 3205 Oakwood; Bulldog Lighting & Events Inc – 3005 River Dr. Unit 312.
- b) Mayor Williams asked for a motion to approve the renewal of Home Occupation Permits for Victory Plumbing – 3208 Pierce Blvd; Sublime Massage Therapy & Bodyworks – 3205 Oakwood; Bulldog Lighting & Events Inc – 3005 River Dr. Unit 312. **Council Member Drohan made the motion to approve as read by Mayor Williams with a second by Council Member Ward. The motion passed unanimously.**

- c) Approval of the purchase and installation of a tankless exterior gas water heater for the Fire Department from Parkside Plumbing @ \$6,800. The current water heater is leaking and causing a small isolated mold issue. *Staff recommends approval.*

Council Member Ward made the motion to approve the purchase and installation of a tankless exterior gas water heater for the Fire Department from Parkside Plumbing @ \$6,800. Council Member Crenshaw seconded the motion. Council Member Drohan asked what is the use of the tankless gas water heater. Town Administrator Milie stated it will have all the fixtures and shower on this water heater. Using gas will insure hot water during hurricanes. **The motion passed unanimously.**

- d) Approval of Revised 2023 Event Contract with Simply Savannah Marketing. This contract is for six events in 2023. *Staff recommends approval.*

Town Administrator Milie explained this is a clarification to the approved contract from last month. The amount is not for each event but total six events and there is a fee payment schedule. **Council Member Ward made the motion to approve the revised contract with second from Council Member Skipper-Greer. The motion passed unanimously.**

- d) Approval of the Thunderbolt Museum Society 2023 Fundraisers Event Permit. Dates include February 16, March 25, May 27, September 30, October 21, November 18 and December 9, 2023. *Staff recommends approval.*

Council Member Ward made the motion to approve the Thunderbolt Museum Society's Event Permit with a second from Council Member Skipper-Greer. Council Member Crenshaw asked about waiver. Clerk of Council Denion stated Council has waived most nonprofits request to waive the fee. **The motion passed unanimously.** Mayor Williams pointed out there were questions about the inspection from the Health Dept and stated he personally called the Health Dept to see if an inspection was required. Non-profits due not require an inspection for these types of fundraisers.

- e) Approval of the Special Event Permit for Shriners Hospital during the Blessing of the Fleet on April 29, 2023. This approval will only allow the Shriners to get a Special Alcohol License with the State of Georgia. *Staff recommends approval.*

Charles Stewart was in attendance representing the Shriners. **Council Member Crenshaw made the motion to approve the event permit with a second from Council Member Skipper-Greer.** Council Member Drohan asked if they will be the sole organization for the alcohol. Town Administrator Milie stated yes. **The motion passed unanimously.**

- f) Approval of the Cost Recovery Resolution. This is the next step after Council authorized Fire Services to enter in a cost recovery arrangement at the November 2022 meeting. This resolution enables the process to continue. *Recommend approval pending legal review or need.*

Council Member Drohan made the motion to approve the resolution with second from Council Member Ward. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Department Report – Written Reports Submitted

by: Police / Municipal Court / Neighborhood Watch – Sean Clayton, Chief of Police

Council Member Crenshaw asked Chief Clayton about the individual who fired a gun into the ground. Chief Clayton explained there was a dispatch call to Center St. The suspect was sitting on the ground in front of a residence. Police found a weapon and removed it from the individual. He was angry with

a female. He had a full box of ammo and new gun. This individual had come by the Fire Dept. before ending up where the police found him. He was intoxicated. Town Administrator Milie stated there was only one call to dispatch. Chief Clayton and Town Administrator Milie asked the public if you see something, say something. Council Member Drohan asked Chief Clayton to consider items that might be needed to ensure nothing like Memphis happens. Chief Clayton stated the hiring process is very important step and how you approach the public, relates to how the event is solved.

Fire –Fire Chief, Andrew Bateman

No questions for Chief.

Public Works Department – Oscar Crosby, Public Works Superintendent

Public Works Superintendent Crosby state chlorides are down 10 parts per million. Council Member Drohan asked when would he like to start back the 2/5/10 year plan. Town Administrator Milie stated they will get back to Council on this item.

9. Town Administrator Report: Town Administrator, Bob Milie

Town Administrator Milie reviewed the cost of 2022 Christmas on the Bluff. The cost to the town was \$7,902. Town Administrator stated someone donated a projector screen that will be used for the movie night the town has planned later this year.

Mayor Williams read a email thanking the Police Department and Mayor for assisting with the Traffic Jam Festival.

10. Legal Report – Town Attorney

No report

11. Mayor and Council –

a) Arbor Day Foundation Recognition –

Mayor Williams read the letter from the Arbor Day Foundation stating Thunderbolt earned 2022 Tree City USA.

b) TDRUP Subcommittee Presentation

Council Member Drohan stated two of the three members of the ad hoc committee met. He promoted composting at your home. Council Member Ward stated he supported the composting initiative and asked citizens to do more on conservation.

Council Member Barbaree pointed out an increase in pet waste around town and asked staff to address the issue.

12. Executive Session- Mayor requests a motion and a second to recess into executive session for the purpose of Legal, Real Estate and/or Personnel matters.

There was no need for an executive session so Mayor Williams asked for a motion to adjourn. **Council Member Ward made the motion with a second from Council Member Crenshaw. The motion passed unanimously.**

13. Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 7:29 pm.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dana Williams", written over a horizontal line.

Mayor Dana Williams

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Deatre N. Denion", written over a horizontal line.

Clerk of Council Deatre N. Denion