



**TOWN OF THUNDERBOLT
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JULY 12, 2023
6:00 PM**

AGENDA HEARING

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

Mayor Williams opened public hearing of the meeting 6 pm.

Katherine Clements, 3224 Cedar St., stated there is an issue where there was a connection for water & sewer made in the road. The pavement needs to be addressed.

Town Administrator Milie provided a glass recycling update and explained there are composting bins where the glass recycling bin is located.

Town Administrator Milie discussed working with the county engineers to address roads. Macceo Drive has some flooding issues. Improvements are needed and this road was added to the LMEG funding request to address these improvements needed but they will not be addressed until next year. There needs to be engineering work done before repairing to insure longevity.

Anna Maria Thomas, 1 Brightwater Dr., stated the potholes need to be filled in the meantime and brush on the side of the road needs to be cut back.

Town Administrator Milie highlighted his report. He pointed out the work on Honey Park and approval of the Senior Center Grant. He stated there is no additional news on the federal grant for the force main. He provided a solar project update. He stated we can use the Savannah contract. Savannah is three months away to have data of savings with the building they have switched to solar. Staff will bring options for Council once the data has been analyzed and provide options for the Town.

Council Member Drohan asked for website update. Town Administrator Milie stated we are close and will need to create a focus group to finalize the site.

Public Works Director Crosby reported on the work on Honey Parks and Senior Center. Honey Park overgrown brush was cleared out and opened the view. Senior Center lights have all been converted to LED. The town unaccounted for water is at five percent. It has been steadily declining after the fault on the well was fixed.

Chief Bateman reported the State audit went well. He has implemented some changes that have decreased response time on average two minutes.

Chief Clayton reported about the increase in porch piracy in Savannah. He asked those seeing anything unusual to report it to them.

Mayor Williams closed public hearing session at 6:31 pm.

REGULAR MEETING

1. Call to order

Mayor William calls the meeting to order at 6:31 pm.

Those in attendance: Mayor Williams and Council Members: Bethany Skipper-Greer, David Crenshaw, Larry Ward, Edward Drohan III and Brooks Barbaree. Staff in attendance were Town Administrator, Bob Milie; Town Attorney, Charlie Barrow; Police Chief, Sean Clayton; Fire Chief, Andrew Bateman; Utilities/Acct. Payable Manager, Katina Spaulding and Clerk of Council, Deatre Denion.

Council Member James Lavin was not in attendance.

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

3. Approval of Meeting Agenda

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

4. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting:

Minutes of June 14, 2023

Mayor Williams asked for an approval of the June 14, 2023 meeting minutes. **Council Member Ward made the motion to approve with a second from Council Member Crenshaw. The motion passed unanimously.**

Presentations:

- a) Proclamation for Disability Pride Month - Barry Helmley, Living Independence for Everyone Society

Mayor Williams read the proclamation. Mr. Helmley thanked Mayor Williams for the honor. He stated he is a board member of Living Independence for Everyone Society. Their goal is to help those with disabilities to live independently and to live in the community. The organization can be reached at lifeincorporated.com or 912-920-1204.

5. Finance Report:

Shannon Brett with Holland, Bromley, Barnhill & Barnhill & Brett, stated we are half way through the year. The audit is finished and has been turned into the State. There were no internal control findings. The June financial is right on with actual and budgeted numbers. Revenues are at 3.2 million with expenditures at 2.5 million. The fund rates are at 5.1% for both GA Fund and United accounts. Council Member Drohan asked about QS1 software providing what is needed for financials. Ms. Brett stated they are more comfortable with the software after working with QS1. Town Administrator Milie asked Mrs. Spaulding to comment on the customer service by QS1. Mrs. Spaulding stated QS1 become more responsive and helpful.

6. Discussion Agenda:

- a) Approval to Renew Contract with Holland, Bromley, Barnhill & Brett LLP for Financial Services.

Town Administrator Milie explained this is a renewal for the financial services Holland, Bromley, Barnhill & Brett have been offering this past year. **Council Member Crenshaw moved to approve the contract as rendered with a second from Council Member Ward. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.**

- b) Approval of an Alcohol License for Marsh + Co Market LLC at 2919 River Dr. (Village on the Bluff)

Clerk of Council Denion explained this is more like a transfer of the alcohol permit approved for Laurie DeVegter a few months back. There were issues with a change in the fingerprinting vendor and asked Council to approve the alcohol permit with a final approval from the Police Chief. **Council Member Ward move to approve the permit with final approval from Chief Clayton. Council Member Skipper-Greer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

- c) Approval of a Land Fill Permit for 304 Bonaventure Rd.

Town Administrator Milie explained the house on 304 Bonaventure Rd was demolished. They brought in fill dirt but it was over the amount of grade. The need a fill permit before moving forward with a building permit. Proper silt fencing and the site plan have been completed. **Council Member Drohan made the motion to approve the land fill permit with a second by Council Member Ward. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.**

- d) Approval of the Resolution to Transfer Fire Service for Jasmin and Taylor Ave to Chatham County.

Town Administrator Milie explained Thunderbolt cannot provide timely service to Jasmin and Taylor Ave, which reside in Chatham County, with the gates now closed by Savannah State. This request was discussed and approved by Council already in a previous meeting but the County wanted a formal resolution approved before moving forward in taking over fire service for Jasmin and Taylor Avenue. **Council Member Drohan moved to approve the resolution with a second from Council Member Crenshaw. The motion passed unanimously.**

7. **Department Report – Written Reports Submitted**

by: **Police / Municipal Court / Neighborhood Watch – Sean Clayton, Chief of Police**
Fire –Fire Chief, Andrew Bateman
Public Works Department – Oscar Crosby, Public Works Manager

8. **Town Administrator Report:** Town Administrator, Bob Milie

9. **Legal Report – Town Attorney**

No report

10. **Mayor and Council**

Mayor Williams asked Anna Maria Thomas to stand up. He thanked her for her tirelessly work keeping the museum open.

- a) Town Recognition by Council Member Drohan

Council Member Drohan would like to discuss utilizing the Town of Thunderbolt Town Council Chambers as a revolving acknowledgment of those individuals who have notably benefited the Town of Thunderbolt and its Citizens through their efforts and commitment.

This honor will be bestowed upon these individuals through a majority or consensus vote by the Town Council at the end of their term. This vote shall occur after that year's election has been certified and prior to the installation of the arising Council. At that time, the sitting Council may choose to extend this honor to the current honoree or bring forward the names of other Town notables to be considered for this honor. Retiring members of the sitting Council may be considered for this honor but may not participate in the vote.

This honor will be demonstrated by installing a plaque acknowledging the honoree at the entrance doors to the Town Council chambers and shall remain until such time as the sitting Town Council votes to bestow this honor upon another Town notable.

Past honorees shall be acknowledged by placing their name on a plaque that will be located in the anteroom to the Town Council Chambers to remain for posterity.

To avoid the appearance of political preference, nominees shall be individuals who by their words and actions have indicated that they do not anticipate running for political office in the Town of Thunderbolt in the future. Should a current honoree apply to run for political office in the Town of Thunderbolt, the plaque for that current individual will be removed and that individual's name shall be included on the plaque in the anteroom to the Town Council Chambers.

Town Administrator Milie and Mayor Williams stated they liked the idea.

Council Member Drohan asked for the staff to look at positions in the town that someone with disabilities could be hired to fill. He inquired when would the contract for trash collection be up for renewal. Town Administrator Milie was not sure if it was one or two years. Council Member Drohan asked when any upcoming discussion for trash collection is had composting and recycling needs to be a part of the discussion.

Pastor Young extended an invitation to all to celebrate the installation ceremony for College Park Church. It will be held August 20th at 4 pm at 3301 Whatley Ave.

11. **Thunderbolt Museum**

Anna Maria Thomas stated it is time to renew your membership. The cost is \$25 for an individual, \$35 for family. To renew or join you need to go to the museum. September 30th is the next garage sale.

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

13. **Adjournment:**

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm.



Mayor, Dana Williams



Clerk of Council, Deatre N. Denion