



**TOWN OF THUNDERBOLT
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10, 2024
6:00 PM**

AGENDA HEARING

**Public has five minutes per person to ask questions or comment on any agenda item.
Mayor Williams opened the public hearing up at 6 pm.**

Beth Goette, 3006 Leonard Street, stated the STR Ordinance Amendment was confusing and asked for an explanation. Attorney Charles Barrow explained the Amendment would prevent the transfer of STR certificates held by LLCs and Corporations upon the sale or transfer of the LLC and/or Corporation.

Jan Yarbrough, 24 Bonaventure Road, asked for clarification of the STR waitlist when a sold home has an active STR certificate. Attorney Barrow explained that the new owner would go to the back of the waitlist.

Edward Drohan, 3319 Bannon Drive, stated he has an active STR at 3320 Louis Street. Dr. Drohan informed the Town that the Ordinance online is not accurate. There is now a requirement to have a state tax ID number unless using a third-party booking agent such as AirBnb and VRBO. The clear part of the ordinance is that it is not for broader corporate ownership. Dr. Drohan referenced the 9 STR units on 1 parcel. He also referenced a set of 5 contiguous properties off Shell Road. All 5 have active STR certificates that were given prior to being built. He questioned whether the Town wants to allow this to happen. Dr. Drohan asked for this topic to be placed on the May Council agenda.

Stella Lavin, 3125 Robertson Avenue, stated she is confused on the process and how new STR properties are appearing around Thunderbolt.

Beth Goette asked about the church on Bannon and Church St. She also asked about the 2 churches on Mechanics Avenue that are undergoing renovations. Town Clerk Matthew Walker informed Ms. Goette that the first church on Mechanics is being transformed into a private residence. The second is being renovated for a private residence with a home occupation license for a recording studio.

Mayor Williams closed the public comment at 6:29 pm.

REGULAR MEETING

1. **Call to order** - Mayor Williams called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.
2. **Roll Call by Presiding Officer with Invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance**

In Attendance is Mayor Dana Williams and Council Members: Larry Ward, Bethany Skipper-Greer, Edward Drohan, and Brooks Barbaree. Staff in attendance: Police Chief, Sean Clayton, Police Lieutenant Brandon Runyon; Fire Chief, Andrew Bateman; Public Works Manager, Oscar Crosby; Town Attorney, Charlie Barrow;

Accounts Payable Manager, Katina Spaulding; Utility Clerk, Renee Holmes; Town Clerk/Zoning Administrator, Matthew Walker.

Council Member Bethany Skipper-Greer arrived at 6:43 pm.

Not in attendance: Council Members David Crenshaw and James Lavin.

3. **Approval of Amended Meeting Agenda (adding National Safe Boating Week)**

Mayor Williams asked for a motion to approve the amended agenda adding National Safe Boating Week. **Council Member Ward made the motion to approve with a second by Council Member Drohan. The motion passed unanimously.**

4. **Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting:**

Minutes of March 6, 2024

Mayor Williams asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes of March 6, 2024. **Council Member Ward made the motion to approve with meeting minutes March 6, 2024. Council Member Drohan provided the second. The motions passed unanimously.**

5. **Presentation:**

- a) Mayor Williams read the Arbor Day Proclamation and recognized Ms. Sue DeRosa.
- b) Mayor Williams read the Earth Day Proclamation and presented it to Ms. Sue DeRosa.
- c) Mayor Williams read the National Safe Boating Week Proclamation and presented it to Steven Jensen.
- d) Mayor Williams read the "Know Local-Go Local" business spotlight for May 2024. The businesses recognized in May are: Marine Max Savannah, American Legion Post 184, Forsyth Farmer's Market, and Coastal Clockworks.

6. **Finance Report:**

Shannon Brett presented the finance report. The Town is on track with expenses and revenues through March 2024.

7. **Consent Agenda:**

- a) Consideration to Approve Crowder Gulf Renewal for Annual Disaster Debris Removal, Reduction, & Disposal Services
- b) Consideration to Approve Inserta-Valve purchase for Well #3
- c) First Reading of Ordinance: Georgia Municipal Employees Benefit System
- d) Consideration to Approve Thunderbolt Resilience Resolution
- e) First Reading of STR Ordinance Amendment

A motion was made by Council Member Drohan to approve consent agenda items a through e. Council Member Ward provided the second. The motion passed unanimously.

8. **Discussion Agenda:**

- a) Fence Ordinance Discussion and Recommendations

Council Member Drohan read his memo regarding the fence ordinance. He directed the Town Administrator to begin the process to review the fence ordinance to address various problems within the ordinance.

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

by: Acting Town Administrator Report – Sean Clayton, Police Chief

Chief Clayton discussed the refinishing of the Thunderbolt Cross in preparation for Blessing of the Fleet. He also discussed the planning progress meeting with Simply Savannah Marketing regarding Blessing of the Fleet. Chief Clayton stated the Municipal Court Clerk security window has been ordered and once it arrives, the work will be scheduled with the vendor.

Police / Municipal Court / Neighborhood Watch – Brandon Runyon, Police Lieutenant

Lt. Runyon had nothing further to add. He stated the new police vehicle will be on the road tomorrow.

Fire – Fire Chief, Andrew Bateman

Chief Bateman stated he hired two new part-time firefighters to join Thunderbolt Fire Department. He has also been working with the ISO consultant to move things in the right direction.

Public Works Department – Oscar Crosby, Public Works Manager

Public Works Director Crosby was not present at this time to discuss his report.

Town Clerk – Matthew Walker, Town Clerk

Clerk Walker had nothing further to add to his report.

10. **Legal Report – Town Attorney, Charlie Barrow**

Nothing to report or discuss

11. **Mayor and Council –**

Council Member Drohan discussed local water issues caused by the metaplant and construction west of Town and how it will impact the Town.

Council Member Drohan discussed the current vendor for waste management services. He has requested the Town look at all future bids and making the selection based off more than just lowest cost.

Mayor Williams stated he continues to be amazed by everyone stepping up while Town Administrator Milie takes time off. He stated this is why Mr. Milie works so tirelessly to train for this type of thing.

12. **Thunderbolt Museum**

Anna Maria Thomas discussed the Community Yard Sale and efforts to raise money for the museum. She is selling aprons, cookbooks, spice bags, and art by local artist Jim Marsh.

13. **Executive Session-**

Council Member Ward made a motion at 7:37 pm to leave regular session to enter executive session to discuss Personnel, Property, or Litigation. Council Member Skipper-Greer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Skipper-Greer made a motion at 8:36 pm to leave executive session to return to regular session. Council Member Ward seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

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

14. **Adjournment:**

The meeting adjourned at 8:36 pm.

Dana Williams, Mayor

Matthew D. Walker, Town Clerk

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