

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
**TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WEBER CITY, VIRGINIA**

The Town Council of the Town of Weber City met in a Regular Meeting Session at **7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 17, 2023**. The meeting was held in the assembly room of the Weber City Town Hall. The meeting was called to order by **Interim Mayor Justin Addington**, and opened with Prayer by **Eileen Deckard, Council Member**. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by: **Mike Carrico, Town Attorney**, and joined by all in attendance.

**PRESENT:**

Interim Mayor: Justin M. Addington  
Town Attorney: Michael Carrico  
Council Member: Eileen Deckard  
Council Member: Teresa Tilson  
Council Member: Derek Percy  
Council Member: Vacant  
Council Member: Vacant

**ABSENT:**

Council Member: Zackary Salyer

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES and FINANCIAL REPORT:**

Motion to accept the **September 19, 2023 Regular Called Meeting Minutes** was made by **Derek Percy**; seconded by **Teresa Tilson**.

Motion passed with **3** voting AYE, **0** voting NAY, **1** ABSENT, **0** Abstentions, **2** Vacant

Motion to accept the **September 2023 Financial Report**, was made by **Teresa Tilson**, seconded by **Eileen Deckard**.

Motion passed with **3** voting AYE, **0** voting NAY, **1** ABSENT, **0** Abstentions, **2** Vacant

**Mayor Report and Comments:**

Interim Mayor, Justin Addington, informed us that his main comments were regarding trash services, and said that Hunter Gillenwater, owner of New Life Garbage, our current vendor, would be speaking to that subject further in the meeting.

**Old Business:**

No voting items.

Teresa Tilson asked about the current status of the Police Department renovation bids. Egan Construction informed the Town that they would require more information, in the form of a design by an architect before they would be able to furnish their bid. And Freddy Garcia is still working on his bid to submit.

Teresa Tilson also asked about the current status of the Snow Plowing Request for Proposals sent out last month. No bids have been received at this time. The Town has reached out to previous vendors, who are not interested in bidding the job again, and called upon new sources in an effort to receive bids for services since the winter months will soon be upon us.

Interim Mayor, Justin Addington, asked Hunter Gillenwater, to come forward to address the Council at this time about his proposed offer of trash services to the Town. Trash services are currently being carried out by New Life Garbage, and paid for by the Town. In January, the cost of \$25.00/month per 1-can residence will begin being billed to the property owner, through the Town office. Hunter Gillenwater, owner, has offered a proposal of handling the billing directly through his company, at a reduced rate of \$20.00/month per 1-can residence. Residents will contract for services directly to New Life Garbage, and pay them directly. The Town will still provide a 96 gallon Weber City trash can for each residential customer, at no cost to the resident. The trashcan will be identified with the property location, even if property is sold to new owners, for the resident's use. Trash services will be determined by New Life Garbage, as each individual account is paid in a timely manner. This will also allow increased customer service, in that residents may contact the vendor directly with any complaints or concerns, and have them resolved more efficiently.

Town Attorney, Mike Carrico, reminded the Council that the current vote on record is that the Town would provide trash service, with a cost of \$25.00 per residence. That vote would require to be rescinded before a new vote could take place. He suggested that a Public Hearing take place so that the Council could hear from the citizens about this. And urged the Council to discuss it thoroughly before voting.

To begin this discussion process, Interim Mayor, Justin Addington, modified the agenda slightly by opening up Public Comment.

**Public Comment:**

Interim Mayor, Justin Addington opened the floor for Public Comment at 7:09 pm. First to speak was Jeff Flanary of 213 Legion Street. He asked if there was a town ordinance that already exists stating that the Town would provide trash services paid for by property tax dollars. And if such an ordinance exists, would it need to be modified if the town would no longer coordinate and offer that service to the tax payer. Additionally, he asked if the property tax rates would be reduced since the town residents would be receiving fewer services for their money.

Town Attorney, Mike Carrico, answered that the Town implemented trash service more than 20 years ago, by covering the cost with an added utilities tax. That tax income has not increased as the cost of the service has increased. For a number of years now, the Town of Weber City has not increased the Property Tax rate much, and although a good thing for the residents, it did not grow with the growing costs to supply the town with needed services. He also stated that trash service was not included in the original charter for the Town of Weber City. It was a service offered at some point for the citizens, as long as the town had the funds to pay for it. As costs have increased, the Town has had to review expenses, and decide what services to modify.

Second, Richard Elswick, 269 Chapel Street, wanted to make a comment. He is a senior citizen on a fixed income and the trash charge affects him monthly beyond his budget. He will be opting out of the service for this reason. He urged the Council to consider the senior citizen community that our town has, and make decisions with them in mind.

Another concern mentioned was: will the service continue for those who do want it, if New Life doesn't contract over a certain percentage to make it economical for their business to still offer this service. Mr. Gillenwater replied that regardless of number of patrons, they are happy to continue to service this area.

Being no further comments, Public Comment was closed at 7:19 pm by Interim Mayor Addington.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

A motion was made by Teresa Tilson, and seconded by Derek Percy, to schedule a Public Hearing for Tuesday, November 21, 2023 at 6:30 pm regarding Trash Services. Motion passed with 3 voting AYE, 0 voting NAY, 1 ABSENT, 0 Abstentions, 2 Vacant

A motion was made by Teresa Tilson, seconded by Derek Percy, to table the Information Technology (IT) Management bids until a third one can be received, possibly by the November meeting.

Motion passed with 3 voting AYE, 0 voting NAY, 1 ABSENT, 0 Abstentions, 2 Vacant

### **Legal Affairs – by Attorney Mike Carrico**

**None**

### **Committee Reports:**

#### ***ARPA Committee Report:***

No new comments at this time, per Teresa Tilson.

#### ***Finance Committee Report:***

No new comments at this time, per Teresa Tilson. But expect to discuss some changes once a decision is made regarding trash services next month.

#### ***Maintenance Committee Report:***

The Weber City Volunteer Fire Department has informed the Maintenance Committee of a leak in the ceiling at the Roland Street location. Since it is a regular maintenance issue and could cause damage, Town Attorney Mike Carrico said that the Town will contact businesses for estimates to repair it in a timely manner, the bid process would not be necessary.

Eileen Deckard contacted Custom Heating and Air of Church Hill, TN to bid on the replacement of the current HVAC systems at Roland Street. An appointment is scheduled for next week.

***Personnel Committee Report:***

No new information at this time, per Eileen Deckard.

***Planning Committee Report:***

No new information to add, per Eileen Deckard. Soon the committee members plan to meet with the Town Attorney for zoning plans.

***Street Committee Report:***

No new comments at this time, per Derek Percy. Regarding the sink holes on Maple Street, the Town Hall has been in touch with Regan McMurray to give an estimate for the job.

***Police Department Report:***

Chief Harding began his report by informing the Council that the Police Department will be represented at the Fire Department's Trunk or Treat event October 28<sup>th</sup> from 5 – 8 pm. Also, the Department plans to accept donations for the Santa Cop Program benefitting the children of Weber City Head Start with gifts and a Christmas Party, like last year. Donation jars will be set up in area businesses for this purpose. He gave a warm thank you to Teresa Tilson for organizing this month a luncheon and gifts honoring our new academy graduate, Matthew Bledsoe, and the WC Police Department as a whole.

***Fire Department Report:***

Matt Ison reminded the Council of the Trunk or Treat event scheduled for Saturday, October 28, 2023. It will also be a Food Truck Rally and Car Show. He also announced a Christmas Tree Lighting, and toy drive planned for Dec 9<sup>th</sup> in the parking lot of the Fire Department, with many other activities planned on site.

**CLOSED SESSION**

No closed session this meeting.

The next meetings were announced as follows:

Public Hearing Tuesday, November 21, 2023 at 6:30 pm

Regular Called Meeting November 21, 2023, at 7:00 pm

**ADJOURNMENT:**

A motion to adjourn was made by **Derek Percy**, seconded by **Teresa Tilson**  
Motion passed with **3** voting AYE, **0** voting NAY **1** ABSENT, **0** Abstentions, **2** Vacant

---

**Interim Mayor: Justin Addington**

---

**Town Clerk: Penney C. Capps**