

**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, May 16, 2023**. The meeting was held in the assembly room of the Weber City Town Hall. The meeting was called to order by **Mayor Chris Powers**, and opened with Prayer by **Eileen Deckard, Council Member**. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by: **Mayor Chris Powers**, and joined by all in attendance.

**PRESENT:**

Mayor: Christopher J. Powers  
Town Attorney: Michael Carrico  
Council Member: Eileen Deckard  
Council Member: Derek Percy  
Council Member: Gregory Smith  
Council Member: Teresa Tilson  
Council Member: Zackary Salyer

**ABSENT:**

Vice Mayor: Justin M. Addington

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES and FINANCIAL REPORT:**

Motion to accept the **April 18, 2023 Regular Called Meeting Minutes** was made by **Zackary Salyer**; seconded by **Teresa Tilson**.

Motion passed with **5** voting AYE, **0** voting NAY, **1** ABSENT, **0** Abstentions

The Motion to accept the **April 2023 Financial Report**, was made by **Eileen Deckard**, seconded by **Derek Percy**.

Motion passed with **5** voting AYE, **0** voting NAY, **1** ABSENT, **0** Abstentions

**Mayor Report and Comments:**

During the Mayor's Report, he asked for motions for the following items:

A motion was made by Teresa Tilson and seconded by Greg Smith to move \$49,229.05 from the ARPA G/L to the General Fund for the Town to cover loss of revenue from Meals Tax during the COVID pandemic. This is an approved use of ARPA funds.

Motion passed with **5** voting AYE, **0** voting NAY, **1** ABSENT, **0** Abstentions

A motion was made by Teresa Tilson, and seconded by Eileen Deckard to accept the proposal made by Bright Technologies in the amount of \$14,995.82 for computer and server equipment upgrades for the Town Hall and Police Department, using ARPA funds for this expense.

Motion passed with **5** voting AYE, **0** voting NAY, **1** ABSENT, **0** Abstentions

A motion was made by Derek Percy, and seconded by Zackary Salyer, to approve a quote from R.E. Michel Company in the amount of \$30,311.11 for the purchase of 9 HVAC units to be installed at the new location for the Weber City Volunteer Fire Department, located on US Hwy 23N. The quote is in two parts totaling \$30,311.11. The expense will use ARPA funds.

Motion passed with 4 voting AYE, 1 voting NAY, 1 ABSENT, 0 Abstentions

A motion was made by Derek Percy and seconded by Teresa Tilson to use the left over CARES Act money (\$9,801.41) that was earmarked for the WCVFD to reimburse the Fire Dept for a purchase made on January 24, 2022 for thermal imaging cameras. These items should be listed as approved purchases within the CARES Act funding guidelines, and should pay in full, any and all money received by Scott County that was approved in 2021 for the WCVFD to purchase needed equipment.

The remaining items on the Mayor Report will be addressed in Closed Session.

**Public Comment:**

The floor was then opened up for Public comment and/or questions.

Sherry Tate, a resident of Johnson Street, has brought to the Council attention again the parking problems on Johnson Street. Daily, cars from VA and TN are parked there, blocking the street and the right of way on Riddle Street. She is asking for the Town's assistance in enforcing parking guidelines there to ensure that her family can use the street properly. Also, she brought pictures of a tree that is obstructing the view of Johnson Street.

The following candidates for offices in the upcoming primaries, came to introduce themselves and ask for the Town's support:

Hunter Hensley – candidate for District 1 Supervisor, whose campaign platform regards keeping County Taxes steady, and business growth in the Weber City area.

Kristina Hurd – candidate for Commissioner of Revenue, whose campaign platform is to make that office more accessible to the citizens.

Being no further Public Comment, Mayor Chris Powers, closed the floor for Public Comment.

**Old Business:**

A motion was made by Derek Percy, and seconded by Zackary Salyer to purchase two (2) Police PPV vehicles, chosen by the Police Chief, Donald Harding III, using Town ARPA funds that will be reimbursed by grant funds from the DCJS LE-ARPA Law Enforcement Equipment Grant when received. The Grant has been awarded to the Weber City Police Department in the amount of \$151,000.00, and is a reimbursement style grant for Police equipment purchases. PPV vehicles qualify within its guidelines. Motion passed with 4 voting AYE, 1 voting NAY, 1 ABSENT, 0 Abstentions

**NEW BUSINESS:**

A motion was made by Teresa Tilson, seconded by Derek Pearcy, for the Town of Weber City to adopt the Ordinance Codes and Statutes outlined earlier in the Public Hearing.

Motion passed with 5 voting AYE, 0 voting NAY, 1 ABSENT, 0 Abstentions

A motion was made by Teresa Tilson, and seconded by Zackary Salyer, for the purchase of a Used K-9 Kennel for a Police Cruiser, in the amount of \$1,500.00 found in West Virginia by Sargent Gillenwater to be installed in his Police cruiser to properly house K9 Officer Apache when on duty.

Motion passed with 4 voting AYE, 1 voting NAY, 1 ABSENT, 0 Abstentions

**Legal Affairs – by Attorney Mike Carrico**

Items will be covered in Closed Session.

**Committee Reports:**

***ARPA Committee Report:***

Transfer of funds from the ARPA fund to the General Fund was addressed earlier. Teresa Tilson then suggested that some of those funds be used to purchase chairs for the Council room. It was made as a recommendation, and not a motion at this time to be discussed in Closed Session.

***Finance Committee Report:***

Council Members, Greg Smith and Teresa Tilson, had no new items to report. Told the Council that one Audit proposal has been received currently. And this month there will be many budget discussions to prepare for the upcoming Budget Hearings in June. Committee noted that the Draft version of the Proposed Budget FY2023-24 was included in the Council information packets.

***Maintenance Committee Report:***

Derek Pearcy updated that one bid (Tri Cities Heating and Cooling) has been received regarding the new Heating/Cooling units for the WCFD located on Roland Street, and that two additional companies (Boones Heating and Air, LLC and Gilliams Heating and Cooling) have expressed interest and are working on their bids.

***Personnel Committee Report:***

Items will be discussed in Closed Session.

***Planning Committee Report:***

No new developments to report at this time, just a reminder that zoning needs to be addressed soon.

***Street Committee Report:***

Derek Percy, Committee Member, gave an update on Maple Street drainage/erosion problem. He suggested that the Town vote to have a company “on call” to address emergency road repairs for safety reasons, as clarified by the Street Committee, so repairs can be made on a timely basis. The Town Attorney said that the Street Committee can contact the Mayor, and he can initiate repairs to be made immediately on a safety or equipment damaging basis.

***Police Department Report:***

Chief Donald Harding, III, presented the Council with a brief summary of recent Police Department events. He shared with the Council that new hire, Matt Bledsoe is doing well in his 2<sup>nd</sup> week of the Academy. Some attendees have quit already, so please keep Matt in your prayers to succeed. Chief Harding made the request to the Council again, to approve the purchase of 2 new police vehicles through ARPA funds. He has received 2 quotes from Architectural firms for the cost of designing the renovation of the Police Department. He introduced to the Council the COPS Grant and what it entails. He also informed the Council that several people have expressed an interest in donating towards the purchase of a K9 officer, and the Department will initiate a fundraiser now through June 6<sup>th</sup>, a raffle for a Daniel Defense AR-15 Rifle valued at \$1800.00. The raffle tickets can be purchased for \$20.00 each..

***Fire Department Report:***

Hunter Hensley thanked the Council for approving the funding of the HVAC equipment that was requested through ARPA funds. Then Bruce Cross, Fire Chief, arrived from an emergency call, and also thanked the Council for voting to move forward with the HVAC purchase, and the settling of the leftover CARES funds, that will benefit the ongoing project to renovate the new WCFD location.

**CLOSED SESSION**

A motion to enter **INTO** Closed Session to discuss personnel and legal issues was made by **Teresa Tilson**, Council member. Seconded by **Eileen Deckard**, Council member.

Motion passed with **5** voting AYE, **0** voting NAY, **1** ABSENT, **0** Abstentions

A motion to go **OUT** of Closed Session and back into Regular Session was made by **Teresa Tilson**, and seconded by **Zackary Salyer**.

Motion passed with: **5** voting **AYES**, **0** voting **NAY**, **1** Absent and **0** Abstentions

**CERTIFICATE OF CLOSED SESSION**

The Mayor, Council Members, and the Town’s Attorney entered into Closed Session.

A motion to certify that only lawfully exempt matters, for which the closed meeting was convened, were heard, discussed, or considered in the meeting by the Mayor and Council members, was made by **Eileen Deckard**, Council member, seconded by **Zackary Salyer**, Council member, and roll call vote made with these members voting “AYE” were:

**Eileen Deckard, Derek Percy, Greg Smith, Teresa Tilson, and Zackary Salyer.**

Voting "NAY" were: none, with 1 Absent (Justin)

**ACTION FROM THE CLOSED SESSION:**

A motion was made by Greg Smith, and seconded by Zackary Salyer, for the Town of Weber City to publish the proposed Budget for FY2023-24 in the paper on June 7, 2023, and schedule a Public Hearing to discuss Proposed Budget for FY2023-24 on Tuesday, June 20, 2023 at 6:30 pm, with Regular Council to follow.

Also to schedule a Special Called Meeting on Thursday, June 29, 2023 at 7 pm to approve the Budget for FY2023-24

Motion passed with 5 voting AYE, 0 voting NAY, 1 ABSENT, 0 Abstentions

The next meetings were announced as follows:

Public Hearing on Budget FY2023-24: Tuesday June 20, 2023 at 6:30 pm

Regular Town Council Meeting: Tuesday June 20, 2023 at 7:00 pm

Special Called Meeting to Adopt Budget Thursday June 29, 2023 at 7:00 pm

**ADJOURNMENT:**

A motion to adjourn was made by Zackary Salyer, seconded by Derek Pearcy

Motion passed with 5 voting AYE, 0 voting NAY, 1 ABSENT, 0 Abstentions

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**Mayor: Christopher Powers**

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**Town Clerk: Penney C. Capps**