

**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, November 19, 2024**. The meeting was held in the assembly room of the Weber City Town Hall. The meeting was called to order by **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:**

Mayor:	Justin M. Addington
Vice Mayor:	Wendell Tipton
Town Attorney:	Michael Carrico
Council Member:	Eileen Deckard
Council Member:	Jeff Flanary
Council Member:	Keltie Kerney
Council Member:	Teresa Tilson
Council Member:	Zackary Salyer (working out of town-joined via Mike's phone @ start of meeting and Eileen's phone at 8:02 pm when the call dropped)

The vote count reflects these times.

Town Employees: Penney Capps – Clerk, Rhonda Neeley – Treasurer,  
Frank Tittle – PublicWorks, Donald Harding, III - Police Chief (joined at 7:12 pm)

**ABSENT:**

None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES and FINANCIAL REPORT:**

A motion to accept the **October 15, 2024**, Regular Called Meeting Minutes was made by Teresa Tilson; seconded by Jeff Flanary.

Motion passed with **6** voting AYE, **0** voting NAY, **0** ABSENT, **0** Vacant, **0** Abstentions

Motion to accept the **October 2024** Financial Report, was made by Wendell Tipton; seconded by Jeff Flanary .

Motion passed with **6** voting AYE, **0** voting NAY, **0** ABSENT, **0** Vacant, **0** Abstentions

**Mayor Report and Comments:**

Mayor, Justin Addington, stated he had no items to share at this time.

**Old Business:**

Zoning and Planning

The Zoning and Planning Committee, Zackary Salyer, Eileen Deckard, and Attorney Mike Carrico, have met to finalize the details regarding the proposed Town zoning. They will share more about that during the Committee Reporting time. There were no motions at this time.

#### Investigation of Town Trees Cut Down

Council Member, Keltie Kerney, asked if this matter has been resolved and if there is an investigation report that can be shared with the Council. Chief Donald Harding, III is the officer who conducted the investigation, and he had to step out to the foyer to take a call during the meeting. This will be discussed at a later time, when he is able to share the results of his investigation.

#### Delinquent Business Licenses

Council member, Keltie Kerney, asked if this has been addressed since the last meeting. Mike Carrico, Town Attorney, will do further checking on the legal issues tied with the type of business it is, and will address his findings in Closed Session due to it being a legal matter.

#### Hurricane Donation Money

Council Member, Keltie Kerney, asked to discuss a tabled item and suggested that if a reasonable use of the donated funds is not discovered, that the money be returned to the donors to allow them to contribute it where they choose. The Town of Weber City received a \$1,000 donation from a local church in Scott County, for the Town to purchase any items needed for residents of our Town, Scott County, and surrounding areas as the needs arose. But since this area was affected mainly by power outages and not flood damage, few items were distributed. The Council discussed returning the money to the church, donating it to the Rotary Club for their shoe/sock drive, using the funds for Disaster Preparedness Training, or passing it on to another area in Scott County that needs recovery funds.

Council members suggested that the Town contact the original donor, Greenwood Chapel Baptist Church, to see if they would like the funds returned to them or forwarded to another location in need. A motion was made by Teresa Tilson, seconded by Zackary Salyer, for the Town Clerk to contact the original donor, to clarify how they would like the funds handled: returned, used for other agencies at our discretion, or used for Disaster Relief in the future.

Motion passed with 6 voting AYE, 0 voting NAY, 0 ABSENT, 0 Vacant, 0 Abstentions

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

#### Alleged discharge of gun near school property

Council Member, Keltie Kerney, opened the discussion regarding the alleged discharge of a gun near Weber City Elementary School recently during school hours. She asked if an ordinance could be made prohibiting this type of behavior. An ordinance already exists that no weapons can be discharged anywhere within the Town of Weber City limits.

Chief Harding said that this complaint has occurred for several years. There is a shooting range over the ridge from the school, and the sound carries. It has been measured for a safe distance from the school and is far enough away according to the restrictions. Item was shared as information.

Street Paving and Repair using ARPA Funds

A motion was made by Jeff Flanary, seconded by Keltie Kerney to use ARPA funds for the drainage repairs needed on Blanton, Ridge, and Boone Streets, using the contractor who included asphalt in their price (Blue Collar Construction). Jeff Flanary then amended the motion to include the paving of Hudson Street, and pothole repairs on various streets, using the remaining ARPA funds in the amount of **\$26,690.68** and transferring those funds to the Street G/L account.

Motion passed with 6 voting AYE, 0 voting NAY, 0 ABSENT, 0 Vacant, 0 Abstentions

Jeff Flanary further amended the motion to include the information to approve Tommy & Sons Paving as the company to perform the paving projects as outlined in the quote in the amount of **\$23,000.00**. Seconded by Keltie Kerney.

Motion passed with 6 voting AYE, 0 voting NAY, 0 ABSENT, 0 Vacant, 0 Abstentions

Use of reserve funds for the street repairs

A motion was made by Teresa Tilson, seconded by Eileen Deckard, to approve the use of up to **\$10,000.00** from the Town's reserve account to cover the two street projects, both paving and drainage repair, based on the overage expected from both proposals.

Motion passed with 6 voting AYE, 0 voting NAY, 0 ABSENT, 0 Vacant, 0 Abstentions

Increase limit per user for the VISA card

A motion was made by Jeff Flanary, seconded by Teresa Tilson to increase the user limit on each authorized user's card from \$500.00 to **\$1,000.00** per card. The Treasurer, Rhonda Neeley, gave an explanation why this was necessary. Travel expenses, software subscription dues, and larger equipment purchases, to name a few examples.

Motion passed with 4 voting AYE, 2 voting NAY, 0 ABSENT, 0 Vacant, 0 Abstentions

**Legal Affairs – by Attorney Mike Carrico**

Will address items in Closed Session.

**Committee Reports:**

***ARPA Committee Report: Teresa Tilson and Zackary Salyer***

The Police Department Renovation work has begun!

***Finance Committee Report: Teresa Tilson and Wendell Tipton***

The committee had no new information to add.

**Personnel Committee Report: Jeff Flanary and Keltie Kerney**

Work schedules have hindered committee members from meeting to discuss changes to the Employee Handbook. Will address this at a later date.

**Zoning/Planning Committee Report: Eileen Deckard and Zackary Salyer**

The Committee met to get a revised final draft of the plan to share with other Council members and hopes to have that completed soon. Some considerations are: US Hwy 23 being zoned Commercial, the Warehouse area off Jennings St. – Commercial, Frank B Smith Drive area – Commercial, some apartment locations, specifically Charleston Street being classified as single or multiple family dwellings, and remaining areas zoned as single family dwelling.

**Street Committee Report: Jeff Flanary and Wendell Tipton**

Jeff Flanary shared with Council the list of the most urgent street repairs needed. He then yielded his report time to Frank Tittle, Public Works employee. Frank described the necessary work required for these repairs and shared the quote amounts from the 3 companies included in the Council packets.

<b>Town Streets Needing Paving and/or repair:</b>	<b><u>Quotes</u></b>	
1. Hudson street needs a full repaving job.	Tommy & Sons	\$23,000
2. Maple pothole repair	Fuller Paving	\$23,422
3. Sugarwood pothole repair	Grindstaff	\$23,987
4. Wilmeth pothole repair		

**Drainage Issues:**

1. Blanton Dr (346) standing water in the road is affecting a resident’s driveway.
2. Corner of Boone and Ridge Culvert Pipe rusted out, needs replaced, and ditch needs to be riprap rock to stop erosion.
3. Wilmeth St (192) Culvert Pipe

**Quotes**

Blue Collar Construction	\$16,700 for all locations, including asphalt to finish
Mark Hall	\$16,700 for all locations
American Steele & Concrete, LLC	\$16,700 all locations

There was much discussion among Council members whether the funds are available in the budget or if other sources must be used to cover the expense.

**Maintenance Committee Report: Eileen Deckard and Frank Tittle**

Eileen Deckard stated that she and Frank have inspected the guttering again at the Fire Hall building on Roland Street and recommend that this issue be revisited. They recommend allowing DBR, Inc. to repair it with Commercial grade guttering that will last much longer. There was much discussion among the Council whether there was enough funds budgeted to cover such an expense. There was no vote regarding this at this time. They also presented a ‘wish list’ of needed equipment and tools to be purchased for use by the Public Works department. It was determined that the Finance Committee would take this under consideration as they are reviewing the current budget for available funds.

**Police Department Report:**

Nothing to report at this time other than the ongoing renovation project in the Department.

**Fire Department Report:**

Matt Ison, Captain of the WCVFD informed the Council that the new restaurant, “Papi’s Place – Firehouse Diner” will be opening for business November 20, 2024 from 8 am – 8 pm. He reported the fire call log for the year so far at 200 calls.

Council member Keltie Kerney complimented the WCVFD on the exceptional handling of the State Line Tire Store fire that took place Monday November 4th and 5th, thanking them for a job well done.

Council began a discussion regarding ways to increase town income without relying solely on Property Tax income. Mayor Addington, mentioned possibly offering trash service again in town for a fee. Council member Keltie Kerney mentioned trash that is currently piling up at the corner of Church Street. A letter has been sent to the property owner regarding the ordinance violation. Town Attorney, Mike Carrico, suggested a 2nd letter from his office, or sending a 2nd letter certified to the property owner to resolve the issue. Unreliable trash collection by independent vendors has caused areas in town to increase in trash and junk pile up. Complaints have been received regarding the apartments on Greenwood Drive also. The ordinance states that trash not properly disposed of by the property owner can be removed by the Town and the property owner assessed a fee for removal levied against their property tax account. There has been some discussion with the Town of Gate City about pairing with them for regular trash service. There is also consideration of buying the necessary equipment, with possible grant funds, to allow our own Public Works Department to collect Town trash two days of the week. Mayor Addington asked if the Council would like to explore these options further, or have him contact the Mayor of Gate City about working up a proposal contract.

Council members commended the WCPD for their increased presence in town, stating that it is being noticed by residents. The question was then asked when the Chief expected the department to be able to provide 24:7 coverage. The Chief stated that it will require a 5th officer before they are able to provide 24:7 coverage, but with the current force, it is very close. Much better coverage than in recent years.

Council member, Keltie Kerney, asked the Council if anyone had any details about the church that is being moved into the Riverside property in the County. When John Kilgore was here, he expressed that an arrangement was being made with an organization to occupy the Teletech building at that location. Our understanding was that only manufacturing or job creation entities would be allowed to occupy the property. No one knew any details of the group going in there.

**Public Comment:** *Opened 8:16 pm*

No one present

*Public Comment Closed 8:16 pm*

**CLOSED SESSION**

A motion to enter INTO Closed Session to discuss legal and personnel issues was made by Teresa Tilson, Council member. Seconded by Keltie Kerney, Council member. Motion passed with 6 voting AYE, 0 voting NAY, 0 ABSENT, 0 Abstentions

A motion to go OUT of Closed Session and back into Regular Session was made by Teresa Tilson, seconded by Jeff Flanary. Motion passed with 6 voting AYE, 0 voting NAY, 0 ABSENT, 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 Teresa Tilson, Council member, seconded by Jeff Flanary, Council member, and roll call vote made with these 6 members voting “AYE” were:

Jeff Flanary, Wendell Tipton, Teresa Tilson, Eileen Deckard, Keltie Kerney, Zackary Salyer  
Voting “NAY” were: 0 with 0 Absent

**ACTION FROM THE CLOSED SESSION:**

Treasurer to Work from home

A motion was made by Jeff Flanary to allow the Treasurer to work from home as approved by the doctor until January 1, 2025 or until further motion by the Council. Seconded by Eileen Deckard. Motion passed with 5 voting AYE, 1 voting NAY, 0 ABSENT, 0 Vacant, 0 Abstentions

Bonuses issued to F/T and P/T employees

A motion was made by Teresa Tilson, seconded by Wendell Tipton, to provide all Town employees a Christmas Bonus, in the amount of **\$500.00** for each full-time employee, and **\$200.00** for each part-time employee. Motion passed with 6 voting AYE, 0 voting NAY, 0 ABSENT, 0 Vacant, 0 Abstentions

**ADJOURNMENT:**

A motion to adjourn was made by Teresa Tilson, seconded by Keltie Kerney. Motion passed with 6 voting AYE, 0 voting NAY, 0 ABSENT, 0 Vacant, 0 Abstentions

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**Mayor: Justin Addington**

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**Town Clerk: Penney C. Capps**

**Announcement: Next Council Meeting will be Tuesday, December 10, 2024 at 6:30 pm with a holiday dinner to follow for all Town employees and families.**