

**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, April 19, 2022. The meeting was held in the assembly room of the Weber City Town Hall. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Christopher J. Powers, and opened with Prayer by Council member, Justin Addington. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by: Mike Carrico, Town Attorney, and joined by all in attendance.

**PRESENT:**

Mayor: Christopher J. Powers  
Vice Mayor: Justin M. Addington  
Town Attorney: Michael Carrico  
Council Member: Eileen Deckard  
Council Member: Gregory W. Smith  
Council Member: Teresa A. Tilson  
Council Member: Larry Wagner

**ABSENT:**

Council Member: Robert Hammonds

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES and FINANCIAL REPORT:**

Motion to accept the March 15, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes was made by Teresa Tilson; seconded by Greg Smith.

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

Motion to accept the March 30, 2022 Special Called Meeting Minutes was made by Justin Addington, seconded by Eileen Deckard.

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

Motion to accept the March 2022 Financial Report was made by Teresa Tilson; seconded by Eileen Deckard.

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

The Mayor then noted that Public Presentations would now take place at the end of the Agenda.

**Old Business:**

**American Rescue Fund Act (ARPA)** – A previous item discussed was the possibility of acquiring a Town Trash Truck with these funds and operating it within the Town budget instead of contracting those services. Upon review, it was determined that this would be quite costly, so this item was received as information, and set aside to be discussed at a much later date. An additional item that was previously discussed in this category was the purchase of Town Trash Cans for the households within the City limits. The order has been initiated, and is awaiting logo/stamp proof approval. This item was received as information.

**Town Hall Renovations** - The Council requested that a follow up call be placed to Holston Glass to confirm a date or timeline for the installation of the new Teller window for the Clerk's Office, and the new doors for both the Town Hall foyer and the Police Department.

**Town Hall Heat Pump Purchase** – The Council reviewed the three quotes presented to the Town regarding a full replacement inside and out of the HVAC system for the Town Hall portion

of the building, upstairs. A motion was made by Teresa Tilson to approve and contract Gilliam's Heating and Cooling to do the installation. Seconded by Justin Addington. Motion passed with 4 voting AYE, 0 voting NAY, 1 ABSENT, 1 Abstentions

Additionally, a Motion was made to open the bidding for estimates for a full replacement of the HVAC system for the Police Department, located on the lower floor of the Town Hall building. The motion was made by Teresa Tilson, seconded by Justin Addington. Motion passed with 5 voting AYE, 0 voting NAY, 1 ABSENT, 0 Abstentions

**Project Pipeline/Street Lights** – It was announced, by Council member Greg Smith, that VDOT has scheduled an in-person presentation meeting open to the public regarding Project Pipeline. The meeting will take place on Wednesday, May 25, 2022 from 5 to 7 pm at the Scott County Vocational Center. This was received as information.

**Audit Report of FY 2020 – 2021** – Comments were made that the Town of Weber City received excellent marks for this audit. This was received as information.

**Police Officer Hazardous Duty Pay** – This item will be addressed in Closed Session

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **Mayor Report and Comments:**

Mayor Chris Powers expressed an interest in annexing the remaining land from the Town limits to the State line. He discussed possibilities of new businesses to occupy those vacant areas/buildings. It was also noted that any improvement to these areas benefits the whole county. The discussions of Zoning and Annexation has been going on for 20+ years, and the Council is in agreement that it is time to encourage working with other city and county officials to further develop these opportunities. This was received as information.

### **Committee Reports:**

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

Teresa Tilson and Eileen Deckard, Council members, shared a list of suggestions for use of the 1<sup>st</sup> installment of ARPA funds received in 2021 in the amount of \$185,912.25. The list falls within the budget of funds received. That list includes, but is not limited to: purchase of trash cans for City residents, equipment purchases for the Fire Department, Town Hall Building improvements and upgrades, computers for each Police officer, improvements and equipment purchases for the Town Meeting Room, complete HVAC systems purchased for the Town Hall and Police Department offices. Much discussion was given among the Council. It was noted by the Town Attorney, Mike Carrico, that the Committee research the ARPA guidelines thoroughly and be certain that any item voted on is an allowable use of ARPA funds. Necessary documentation has been submitted in the month of March to certify the funds, by Greg Smith (who is listed as the Authorized Representative for Reporting and Submission since he was Interim Mayor at time of set up). Another certification is due by April 30, 2022 to outline any Projects or Expenditures to this point. Council members in other sub committees will research further Town need, to see if ARPA funds qualify and may be used to complete the necessary projects.

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

Teresa Tilson and Greg Smith, Council members, informed the Council that they have reviewed the current budget and are working on the Budget for FY July 2022 – June 2023 aiming to have it prepared by May's meeting for discussion. Mike Carrico, Town Attorney, reminded us that the Budget must be ready to publish in the newspaper and advertise for a Public Hearing Meeting mid June, and a Special Called meeting to approve the Budget must be conducted before June 30<sup>th</sup>, the ending of the Fiscal year.

***Maintenance Committee Report:***

Justin Addington and Robert Hammonds, Council members, had nothing to report at this time

***Personnel Committee Report:***

Justin Addington and Larry Wagner, Council members, had nothing to report at this time.

***Planning Committee Report:***

Eileen Deckard and Greg Smith, Council members, had nothing to report at this time.

***Street Committee Report:***

Robert Hammonds and Larry Wagner, Council members, had nothing to report at this time.

***Police Department Report:***

Officer Donald Harding presented the Council with the written officer summaries for the month of March. There was mention again of the desire for a K-9 officer to be purchased for the Department. The Council discussed many advantages to having a K-9 officer and the benefits that the Town of Weber City could see with such an investment. Officer Austin Hensley clarified the budget outline of \$18,000 for what expenses would occur at the time of purchase. A USDA grant is available for purchase of a K-9 officer with up to 75% reimbursement 25% Town responsibility. The ARPA fund committee members will research to see if said purchase may fall within the guidelines, and ARPA funds be used in conjunction with the grant. This item was received as information.

***Fire Department Report:***

Captain Matt Ison, of the Weber City Volunteer Fire Department, informed the Council that the WCVFD is planning a 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration that will take place on Saturday, July 2, 2022 as a fun event for the Town. They plan to have food and craft vendors, games, and a firework show to conclude the evening. They requested that the Town of Weber City assist them with the cost of this event. Research will be done regarding the State Law and Town Ordinance on fireworks, and at that time a venue will be announced for the event.

A motion was then made by Teresa Tilson, Council member, that the Town of Weber City donate \$500.00 to the WCVFD, to offset the cost of the July Celebration to take place on July 2, 2022. Seconded by Justin Addington, Council member.

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

The WCVFD also requested a purchase of new masks and air tanks for each Volunteer Fire personnel to limit sharing of equipment, and presented two quotes for the equipment purchase. They have requested 5 to 10 pieces be purchased. The least amount needed is 8. There was discussion that ARPA funds may cover this expense. Research will be done to be certain it is within ARPA guidelines, but also noted that the County and Gate City has purchased this equipment already, and used ARPA funds to do it. Mike Carrico, Town Attorney, will contact those officials for clarification of use of funds.

**Public Presentations:**

The floor was then opened up for Public comment and/or questions. There were none at this time.

**CLOSED SESSION**

A motion to enter into Closed Session to discuss personnel and legal issues was made by Justin Addington, Council member. Seconded by Teresa Tilson, Council member. Motion passed with 5 voting AYE, 0 voting NAY, 1 ABSENT, 0 Abstentions

**CERTIFICATE OF CLOSED SESSION**

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

A motion was made to return to Regular Session, by Teresa Tilson, seconded by Greg Smith. Motion passed with 5 voting AYE, 0 voting NAY, 1 ABSENT, 0 Abstentions

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 Greg Smith, Council member, seconded by Larry Wagner, Council member, and roll call vote made with these members voting "AYE" were: Christopher Powers, Justin Addington, Eileen Deckard, Greg Smith, Teresa Tilson, and Larry Wagner. Voting "NAY" were: none, with 1 Absent.

**ACTION FROM THE CLOSED SESSION:** No Action was taken.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

A motion to adjourn was made by Justin Addington, seconded by Teresa Tilson. Motion passed with 5 voting AYE, 0 voting NAY, 1 ABSENT, 0 Abstentions

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Mayor: Christopher J. Powers

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Town Clerk: Penney C. Capps