

**Town of Alto  
Regular Meeting  
October 11, 2022  
Minutes  
Work Session 6:00pm**

**Those in attendance:**

**PJ Huggins, Mayor  
Eddie Palmer, Mayor Pro-tem  
James Turner, Council Post 2  
Allen Fox, Council Post 3  
Josh Ivey, Police Chief  
Penny Rogers, Town Clerk  
Absent: Lisa Turner, CFO**

**A work session was held at 6pm to discuss current concerns and items on the agenda: millage rate (4.952), will have to do 3 public hearings before adopting by November; Inspection results were discussed; request of a list of addresses that have been vacant for a long time; request for the complaint form to be put on website; short term rentals are not in our ordinances, but was suggested to be looked into; Payroll is changing to bi-weekly beginning November with the week changing from Friday-Thursday to Thursday-Wednesday with checks being issued on Fridays, the end of the year bonus will be given on November 11<sup>th</sup> to offset the changeover and no one will be without a check for a week; charter amendment resolution is ready to be sent in once it is adopted at the meeting; BC Grant Road Resolution will allow the work to begin once it is approved at the meeting; GMRC meetings will be attended by the Mayor the next 2 months since she will be in the Dahlonga and Dawsonville area where they will be held; Budget will be discussed soon; Banks County is having a meeting tonight in which included is the quit-claim transfer of Wynn Shoals Road over to the Town in order for us to maintain and pave it; railroad crossing at Wynn Shoals is being looked at for a two lane crossing in the near future, it is too narrow now; letters will be sent out again about annexing on Wynn Shoals Road and then the process will begin; negotiations are being considered for the old bridge over the railroad on Wheeler St; possible chicken/meat processing is coming to old Mt. Vernon building; Christmas tree lighting was changed to December 1<sup>st</sup> from 6-8pm; Christmas dinner agreed upon for employees will be December 6<sup>th</sup> at 6pm with BBQ catering.**

**Mayor PJ Huggins called the regular meeting to order at 7pm. Pro-tem Eddie Palmer prayed the invocation and lead The Pledge of Allegiance.**

**Mayor Huggins stated that (c) Veterans Support Resolution needed to be tabled to the next meeting. Councilman Allen Fox made a motion to approve the agenda with this change. Pro-tem Eddie Palmer seconded the motion. Approved by all.**

**Pro-tem Eddie Palmer made a motion to accept the minutes of September 13, 2022 meeting. Councilman James Turner seconded the motion.**

**Approved by all.**

**New Business:**

**Mayor Huggins informed the Officials that there has to be three public hearings on the millage rate before it can be adopted. It is recommended from CFO Lisa Turner to stay with the current rate of 4.952. Public hearings will be Thursday October 20<sup>th</sup> at 2pm, Friday October 21<sup>st</sup> at 10am, and Tuesday October 25<sup>th</sup> at 6pm with a called meeting being on the 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:15 to adopt the rate.**

**Councilman Allen Fox made a motion to adopt the Charter Amendment Resolution. Councilman James Turner seconded the motion.**

**Approved by all.**

**Chief Josh Ivey presented the BC Grant Road Resolution awarding the project to Higgins Construction. Councilman James Turner made a motion to accept. Councilman Allen Fox seconded the motion.**

**Approved by all.**

**Old Business: None**

**Recommendations from Officers, Departments and Attorneys:**

**Chief Josh Ivey presented the monthly police totals. He then told of an incident Saturday night with five 16 year olds coming into Town that got arrested with narcotics and guns in the vehicle. Some of the guns were stolen. They were threatening harm to another teenager and he called 911. This was stopped by Officer Sean Rogers when he approached them in their parked blacked out vehicle. This intervention possibly prevented a shooting. He informed the officials of the crime rates going up and especially breaking into vehicles in the surrounding cities. He expects it to increase here in the future and that is why he doesn't have a set schedule for patrolling so no one can predict when officers are in Town.**

**Mayor PJ Huggins stated the date for the Christmas Tree lighting will be December 1<sup>st</sup> from 6-8pm with a simple event. Employee Christmas party/dinner will be December 6<sup>th</sup> at 6pm.**

**Councilman James Turner asked if the November meeting was going to be rescheduled to swear in the new Council members. Mayor Huggins replied that a called meeting will have to be set for the Budget so the two could possibly correspond.**

**Public Comments: None**

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**Councilman James Turner made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Pro-tem  
Eddie Palmer seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:13 pm.**

**Approved by all.**

**Respectfully submitted by:**

*Penny Rogers*  
**Penny Rogers**  
**Town Clerk**