

**Town of Alto
Regular Meeting
September 14, 2021
Minutes
(Work Session 6:30pm)**

Those in attendance:

**Audrey Turner, Mayor
Eddie Palmer, Mayor Pro-tem
Carolyn Cabe, Council Post 1
James Turner, Council Post 2
Allen Fox, Council Post 3
PJ Huggins, Council Post 5
Josh Ivey, Police Chief
Lisa Turner, CFO
Absent: Penny Rogers, Town Clerk**

The Alto Town Council held a work session before the regular meeting on September 14, 2021. The Mayor and Council discussed some of the items on the agenda for the meeting including the retirement plan details and the work at White Pine Lane. The meeting was then called to order by Mayor Audrey Turner. Pro-tem Eddie Palmer delivered the invocation and lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Councilwoman PJ Huggins made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of (d) Police vehicle under New Business. Councilman Allen Fox seconded the motion. Approved by all.

The minutes of the August 24, 2021 meeting were presented for approval. Councilwoman Carolyn Cabe made a motion to accept the minutes. Pro-tem Eddie Palmer seconded the motion. Approved by all.

New Business:

The Mayor and Council discussed the parameters of the implementation of the GMA Retirement Program for the employees of the Town. Councilwoman PJ Huggins made the motion to accept the retirement plan for full time employees only after ninety-day probation period, working an average of 40 hours weekly, three years vesting with a 6% matching contribution. Councilman James Turner seconded the motion. Approved by all.

After much discussion about the three phases of quoted work from Rider Construction on White Pine Lane, Councilwoman Carolyn Cabe made a motion to accept the quote for phase 1 with Rider Construction to begin as soon as possible. Councilman James Turner seconded the motion. Approved by all.

There was a loud commotion in the parking lot at the Municipal Complex at this point in the meeting and Police Chief Josh Ivey and Officer John Groves left the building in pursuit. Due to this activity, the Mayor delayed the Executive Session and moved on to the Police Vehicle and Public Comments.

Police Chief Josh Ivey had handed out a request at the beginning of the meeting requesting to use some of the American Rescue funding to purchase a truck for the police department. Councilwoman PJ Huggins made a motion to move forward with the purchase. Pro-tem Eddie Palmer seconded the motion. All Councilmembers approved except Councilman Allen Fox did not vote.

Approved by majority.

Old Business: None

Recommendation from Officers, Departments and Attorneys: None

Public Comments:

David Towe asked the Council about a paving quote for White Pine Lane. Gene Huggins inquired about it as well.

Shelia and Gerald Mathis asked about the Town cutting down two trees on the ROW of their yard. They had a quote from McCallister Tree for \$3000 and wanted the Town to pay half. Mayor Turner said that we would, but we would get other quotes too.

Hadley Cottingham from Habersham Now asked about the truck for the PD purchase and upfitting costs.

Since Police Chief Ivey did not return, the Mayor asked for the Council to table the Executive Session. Councilman Allen Fox made a motion to table the Executive Session. Councilman James Turner seconded the motion. Approved by all.

Gene Huggins requested that our Code Enforcement officer go out and check on property adjoining his property on White Pine Lane. The Mayor said that he had been notified and would address it.

Councilman James Turner made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Pro-tem Eddie Palmer seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm.

Approved by all.

Respectfully submitted by:



Lisa Turner, CFO