

**Town of Alto
Regular Meeting
December 13, 2022
Minutes
(Work Session 6:00pm)**

Those in attendance:

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

A work session preceded the meeting in which current items on the agenda were discussed. Audrey Davenport with Habersham County Historical Society came before the Officials requesting a partnership with the Town. They would like a representative from each municipality to join in the planning of the 50-Year celebration. Pro-tem Eddie Palmer and his wife Judy volunteered to represent the Town. Mayor Huggins stated that since Lisa is out sick with the Flu that the budgets and Wynn Shoals Annexation would have to be tabled to a Called meeting on December 27th at 6pm, all were in agreement. A public hearing for the budget would be at 5:45pm before the meeting. Budgets will be emailed to each for any questions or concerns. The tag readers were re-evaluated and after the Chief gave the details, all were in agreement that it would benefit the Town. Employee vacation time was looked at for an update: 1 year of service = 1 week vacation, 2 years of service = 2 weeks, and 7 years of service = 3 weeks; Mayor Huggins suggested that it be updated for an additional week at the 12 or 15 year of service. Councilman James Turner stated that he thought it is enough already with Pro-tem Eddie Palmer agreeing. They asked what the other cities did and Mayor Huggins said that she would get that information. Increasing the water rates was discussed next. Councilman James Turner suggested that we find out what the proposed usage of Hodie Meats is going to be before deciding on the rates. Chief Ivey informed the Officials of the awards the PD received from the State. He told them that court had been moved to January due to Judge Sneed being in the hospital. GCIC is running at least 14,000 more names than last year. Councilman James Turner asked why the public comments have to be filled out on a form the day before the meeting. He was told that this way the information they're requesting can be gotten together for them, in which for some on the spot questions, we would not have the details at the meeting. Following this, the meeting was called to order by Mayor PJ Huggins. The invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance was delivered and led by Eddie Palmer.

The agenda was presented to the Council for approval. Mayor PJ Huggins stated that (b) Budgets and (d) Wynn Shoals Annexation needed to be omitted / tabled to a called meeting on December 27th at 6pm with a public hearing at 5:45 for the budgets. Pro-tem Eddie Palmer made a motion to approve the agenda with these changes. Councilman James Turner seconded the motion. Approved by all.

The minutes of the November 08, 2022 meeting were presented for approval. Councilman Allen Fox made a motion to accept the minutes. Pro-tem Eddie Palmer seconded the motion. Approved by all.

New Business:

Mayor Huggins swore in new Officials Carolyn Cabe, Post 1 and Debbie Turner, Post 5. She welcomed them and they took their place with the Board.

Pro-tem Eddie Palmer made a motion to approve the purchase of the Tag Readers for the PD. Councilman Allen Fox seconded the motion.

Approved by all.

Mayor Huggins stated that she was going to do research on the vacation time.

Office Sean Rogers presented the first reading of the Elections Ordinance.

Mayor Huggins said the water rates would also be re-evaluated when more information is collected.

Old Business: None

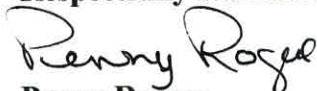
Recommendations from Officers, Departments, and Attorneys:

Chief Josh Ivey presented the monthly totals. He and Sean Rogers displayed several awards received from the State of Georgia; MADD due to 65 DUI's which is exceptional for a small Town, Highway and Traffic Safety best over State, 3rd place Above and Beyond; all were very proud of our Police Department! Mayor Huggins also congratulated Chief Ivey for graduation from Northwestern University Center for Public Safety.

Public Comments: None

Councilman James Turner made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilwoman Carolyn Cabe seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 pm. Approved by all.

Respectfully submitted by:



Penny Rogers
Town Clerk