

**Town of Alto
Regular Meeting
April 12, 2022
Minutes**

Those in attendance:

**PJ Huggins, Interim Mayor
James Turner, Council Post 2
Allen Fox, Council Post 3
Eddie Palmer, Council Post 4
Josh Ivey, Chief of Police
Lisa Turner, CFO
Penny Rogers, Town Clerk**

A work session preceded the meeting at 6:30pm to discuss current issues and the agenda items. Residents at 602 Cornwall Place came before the Council to request a homestead hardship variance to allow a conversion of their garage to an apartment for their daughter, making it have two residences on the property of 1.7 acres instead of one. The resignation of Joe Davidson as Building Official was read. Interim Mayor PJ Huggins presented the conflict in the Charter concerning the vacant Mayor seat. The Mayor Pro-tem can fill the seat for the remainder of the term or a special election can be done to fill the vacancy. Councilman Eddie Palmer stated that he decided to stay in his post rather than run for Mayor. He suggested a special election with Councilman James Turner and Councilman Allen Fox agreeing. Interim Mayor PJ Huggins informed everyone that City Hall would start closing for lunch from 1-2pm. A discussion concerning the removal of cut trees and limbs were questioned.

The meeting was then called to order by Town Clerk Penny Rogers. The invocation was delivered by Councilman Eddie Palmer. All stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

The agenda was presented to the Council for approval. Interim Mayor PJ Huggins stated that Homestead Hardship variance needed to be added. Councilman Allen Fox made a motion to approve with the addition. Councilman Eddie Palmer seconded the motion. Approved by all.

The minutes of the March 22, 2022 meeting were presented for approval. Councilman James Turner made a motion to accept the minutes. Councilman Allen Fox seconded the motion. Approved by all.

New Business:

Chief Josh Ivey requested \$300 Town sponsorship for the Police and Fire Games. Councilman Eddie Palmer made a motion to approve. Councilman James Turner

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seconded the motion.

Approved by all.

Councilman Allen Fox made a motion to increase the inside city meter cost to \$800 and the outside city meter to \$900. Councilman Eddie Palmer seconded the motion.

Approved by all.

Councilman Allen Fox made a motion to grant the request from Windstream to move their fence to install a bigger generator next to property at the old city hall. Councilman James Turner seconded the motion.

Approved by all.

The TSPLOST projects list for Banks County was presented as completing Wynn Shoals Road and repair/repaving Wheeler Street, Rice Street and Porter Street with a total of \$463,835.00.

Councilman Eddie Palmer made a motion to approve the Homestead Hardship Variance requested by 602 Cornwall Place. Councilman Allen Fox seconded the motion.

Approved by all.

Amos Smith presented the update for the Lupus Ride and thanked the Town for their sponsorship. He stated that there will be chicken plates and hot dogs, raffle items, tee shirts, and a silent auction. If Lupus Foundation accepts this as an annual event, the new name will be North Ga Lupus Ride.

Councilman James Turner made a motion to enter into a closed Executive Session for Personnel pursuant to O.C.G.A 50-14-36(6). Councilman Eddie Palmer seconded the motion.

Approved by all.

**Officials exited to go into Executive Session.
Officials came back into Council room.**

Councilman Eddie Palmer made a motion to re-enter meeting. 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 and told about safety checks.

Lisa Turner, CFO presented a breakdown of cash on hand.

Interim Mayor PJ Huggins stated that she requested Supervisor Gary Kimbral to let them know when there is anything major going on like a water break.

Councilman James Turner inquired if Mr. Burton was coming to do an audit? They will be coming when tax season is over.

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Public comments: None

Councilman James Turner made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Eddie Palmer seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Approved by all.

Respectfully submitted by:

Penny Rogers

Town Clerk