

**Town of Alto  
Regular Meeting  
October 14, 2025  
Minutes  
Work Session 6:00pm**

**Those in attendance:**

**Gail Armour, Mayor  
Eddie Palmer, Pro-tem  
PJ Huggins, Post 1  
James Turner, Post 2  
Allen Fox, Post 3  
Debbie Turner, Post 5  
Josh Ivey, Police Chief  
Sean Rogers, Assistant Chief  
Lisa Turner, CFO/HR  
Penny Rogers, Town Clerk**

**A work session was held at 6pm to discuss current concerns and items on the agenda: Mayor Armour gave words of encouragement from Ephesians 5:1- Be followers of God... she also stated that the Word gives life to our souls and strength; ROW Policy will need to be tabled; master meter project: Lisa handed out letter with information concerning goal of the retreat was to integrate all systems; 102 meters have been ordered to begin, software is outdated and will have to be updated to proceed, approximately 740 meters will need to be changed over, quotes are good for 6 months; funds put aside from SPLOST 7 Wolfpen Branch project will go to the master meter/ SCADA project, since that well project has been shut down, but officials want County verification before they vote to proceed.; when all upgrades are done and new software implemented, the financials, the utility billing, and monitoring usage will all be integrated together; Millage rate/public hearings: Mayor suggested going up to 6.2 to be in line with other cities, but some officials were in disagreement that we didn't need to raise just because other cities did, we only put rate at what we need to cover budget. CFO was asked if she would have financials and a recommendation of what the rate should be by the first public hearing, she said yes. Officials asked for two scenarios halfway between 4.9 and 6.2. Public hearings suggested for Monday 10-20-25 at 12noon and 6pm, Tuesday 10-21-25 hearing at 6pm with a called meeting at 7pm. Millage rate has to be set by November 1<sup>st</sup>... if rate isn't raised, spending and employees will have to be cut and water rates raised; audit should be done by the end of December; Gworks should be operable by January; questions were being asked about employees and taking trucks home along with training...this ended the work session due to "personnel cannot be discussed in an open meeting."**

**Mayor Gail Armour called the regular meeting to order at 7pm. Eddie Palmer delivered the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.**

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**Mayor Armour stated that (c) Millage Rate/Public Hearing and (d) GMEBS Update, needed to be added to the agenda before the Executive Session.**

**Councilwoman PJ Huggins made a motion to approve the agenda with these additions. Pro-tem Eddie Palmer seconded the motion. Approved by all.**

**Councilman James Turner made a motion to accept the minutes of September 09, 2025 meeting. Councilwoman Debbie Turner seconded the motion.**

**Approved by all.**

**New Business:**

**Councilman Allen Fox made a motion to table items (a) Town ROW Maintenance Policy and (b) Master Meter Upgrade Project. Councilwoman PJ Huggins seconded the motion. Approved by all.**

**Councilwoman PJ Huggins made a motion to schedule the Public hearings with the proposed millage rate. Councilman Allen Fox seconded the motion.**

**Approved by all.**

**Three public hearings must be scheduled before adopting it. Public hearings will be: October 20<sup>th</sup> at 12noon and 6pm, October 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:00pm; Called Meeting October 21<sup>st</sup> at 7pm to adopt the rate.**

**Councilwoman PJ Huggins made a motion to approve the Mayor to sign the GEMBS Update. Pro-tem Eddie Palmer seconded the motion. Approved by all.**

**Councilman Allen Fox made a motion to exit the meeting and go into an Executive Session pertaining to Personnel O.C.G.A 50-14-3 (6) and Litigation O.C.G.A. 50-14-2 (1). Pro-tem Eddie Palmer seconded the motion.**

**Approved by all.**

**Officials left the room to enter into an Executive Session at 7:07pm. Officials came back into the room at 7:31pm.**

**Pro-tem Eddie Palmer made a motion to re-enter the regular meeting. Councilman James seconded the motion.**

**Approved by all.**

**Old Business: None**

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

**Assistant Chief Sean Rogers presented the monthly police totals and the probation report.**

**Mayor Armour presented Chief Josh Ivey with a plaque of appreciation and gratitude for his service of protecting and going above and beyond for our Town.**

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**Mayor Armour presented Audrey Turner with a plaque of appreciation for all her years of service to the Town.**

**Public Comments:**

**Amos Smith thanked the Town for sponsorship for the car/motorcycle show at Alto Baptist Church. The event raised money that was able to help a little boy in Alto that has cancer.**

**James Turner presented the Mayor with a thank you card from Alto Baptist Church for Towns' support.**

**Councilman James Turner made a motion to adjourn the meeting.  
Councilwoman Debbie Turner seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:39pm. Approved by all.**

**Respectfully submitted by:**

**Penny Rogers  
Town Clerk**