

**Town of Alto
Regular Meeting
July 15, 2025
Minutes**

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, Chief
Lisa Turner, CFO/HR
Penny Rogers, Town Clerk**

The Alto Town Council held the regular council meeting on July 15, 2025 preceded by a work session at 6:00pm in which they discussed agenda items: Mayor Armour opened with words of encouragement concerning “True Peace”; Qualifying for seats 1, 3 and 5 will be August 18th – August 22nd; SPLOST VIII was discussed. It’ll be on the ballot in the upcoming election for a sales tax, if passed this will go to all county and city projects that are turned in. Mayor suggested expanding the water lines out to 365/985 in order to be able to service the industry/business growth that is coming. SCADA should be installed to accurately monitor the tanks 24/7 and save on employee wages and overtime. Mayor will bring quotes to the next meeting; during a debate, some were in question of expanding the service area farther out with concerns of current wells and water demand. Geologist wasn’t able to find a new source of water in the past few years. It was stated that water rates shouldn’t increase to our customers already here, that if expanding, it should pay for itself. “Take care of the inside City Limits first instead of trying to see how far out we can go”. There was a strong concern that the Town may not be able to supply the volume of water needed for the potential new businesses coming; Habersham County jail was briefly touched on stating the dire need of repair and/or replacement, there is a tremendous struggle and challenge right now to house inmates; the book library at the park has been vandalized along with the front door of the PD.

The meeting was then called to order by Mayor Gail Armour. The invocation was delivered by Pro-tem Eddie Palmer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

The agenda was presented for approval. Mayor Armour stated that the Personnel under Executive Session needed to be removed. Councilwoman PJ Huggins made a motion to accept with the change. Councilman Allen Fox seconded the motion.
Approved by all.

Min 7-15-25

Page 2

The minutes of the June 10, 2025, meeting were presented for approval. Councilman James Turner made a motion to accept. Pro-tem Eddie Palmer seconded the motion. Approved by all.

New Business:

Pro-tem Eddie Palmer made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the Habersham County SPLOST VIII IGA when it is updated. Councilman Allen Fox seconded the motion. Approved by all.

Councilman Allen Fox made a motion to exit the meeting and enter into an Executive Session pursuant to O.C.G.A. 50-14-3(4) for Real Estate. Pro-tem Eddie Palmer seconded the motion. Approved by all.

Officials left the room for an Executive Session....

Officials came back into the room.

Councilwoman PJ Huggins made a motion to re-enter the meeting. Councilwoman Debbie Turner seconded the motion. Approved by all.

Mayor Gail Armour stated that no action was taken in the Executive Session.

Old Business: None

Recommendations from Officers, Departments, and Attorneys:

Chief Josh Ivey presented monthly Police Department and Probation totals. Mayor Armour informed all that Qualifying would be August 18th through August 22nd from 8:30 -4:30 daily except Friday which would be 8:30- noon. Seats up for election are Post 1, 3 and 5.

Public comments: None

Pro-tem Eddie Palmer made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilwoman Debbie Turner seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:24 pm. Approved by all.

Respectfully submitted by:

Penny Rogers
Town Clerk

