



COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Billy Hollingsworth
Maria Dickerson
Anthony "Tony" Hill
Dwight Lane
Tomekia Means
Michael Thomas
Charles Worthy

OTHERS PRESENT:

Carla Knotts, Clerk/Treasurer; Dawn Mosley, CPW Clerk; Chief Michael Moss, Whitmire Police Department; Jay Gardner, Whitmire Recreation; Randy Levisy, Charlene Stroud, Donna Jamerson, Palmetto Citizens [Branch Manager](#), Lori Gardner, Dorothy Crisp, Claude Worthy, [WCS Girls Softball Team](#), and other concerned citizens.

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Hollingsworth gave the call to order and Pledge of Allegiance.

INVOCATION:

Councilwoman Dickerson gave the invocation to council.

MINUTES:

Minutes for May 11, 2026 and May 18, 2026 council meetings were read and approved. Motion to approve made by Councilwoman Dickerson and seconded by Councilman Lane. All in favor.

RECREATION:

Jay Gardner told council he had wrapped Baseball and Softball programs up and was getting ready for Football programs. He said we had two girls' softball teams to advance to the championship games this year and we are all proud of them. He said we are proud of all the girls on the High School Softball team. He said they have made the whole community proud. Mayor Hollingsworth said it brought excitement to the Town and we are so proud of them. Councilwoman Dickerson said she was raised by Tommy Shields and Whitmire is truly pound for pound. She said we have seen grit on these faces. Keep God in your hearts and you will go far. Councilwoman Means said keep God first and you can accomplish anything. Councilman Hill told them what they have learned, discipline, can go a long way in life. Councilman Lane told them he is glad Whitmire is back on a winning spree. Councilman Worthy told him to push hard and keep moving on. Dawn Mosley told them way to go girls. Chrystal Harsha congrats and so proud of you. Mayor Hollingsworth and Town Council presented them with a plaque. Coach Campbell thanked the Town for recognizing the team. Mayor Hollingsworth told them a team that prays together stays together and we need that here.

POLICE REPORTS:

Chief Moss gave the report for May. We had 39 incidents, 29 citations, and 0 traffic accidents. We had one warrant served or withdrawn. Some of the calls included larceny, assault and battery, breach of trust, and driving under suspension.

DOROTHY CRISP—UPDATE ON AUCTION:

Ms. Crisp told council they had only received three donations for the auction so they have cancelled it. They will still go ahead with the yard sale during the Party in the Pines and have the Bottle Show in October. Tomekia said the auction and recreation together seems to be a disconnect for her. It seems funny that the two are together.

FIRST READING OF THE 2026/2027 TOWN BUDGET:

Mayor Hollingsworth told everyone we have a balanced budget for 2026/2027 for the Town of Whitmire for the amount of \$832,935.00. This will include the garbage up to \$15.75 per month. The current millage rate of 100.1 will increase to 103.41 for 2026/2027. Motion to accept for a first reading made by Councilwoman Dickerson and seconded by Councilman Worthy. All in favor.

FIRST READING OF COMMISSION OF PUBLIC WORKS BUDGET 2026/2027:

Mayor Hollingsworth told council the CPW Budget is balanced at \$1,134,901.00 which is a 5% increase in water and sewer. It will go from \$6.00 per 1000 to \$6.50 per 1000 inside and from \$7.50 per 1000 to \$8.00 per 1000. Motion to accept for a first reading made by Councilwoman Dickerson and seconded by Councilman Worthy. All in favor.

Mayor and Council set the meeting for the Public Hearing and Final Reading of the 2026/2027 Budgets for June 30th at 5:15 p.m. for the Public Hearing and 6:00 p.m. for the Final Reading of the Budgets.

Mayor Hollingsworth told council Keep Newberry Beautiful is going to get lights working and get solar lights to light up signs at night. They are cleaning up around them also.

The Sanitary Survey is tomorrow at the Filter Plant. Starts at 9:30 a.m. to do audits

Party in the Pines starts Thursday, Friday, and Saturday this week and they will be setting up on Wednesday afternoon. This will affect Main Street and the Park area.

There will be a July 4th celebration given by the Veterans Auxiliary on July 4th from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. This is a 250th celebration.

MAYOR PRESENTS:

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COUNCIL PRESENTS:

Councilman Lane thanked Jay for cleaning up the streets. He said we need to clean the side streets too.

Mayor Hollingsworth told council the park looks as good as it ever has.

Councilwoman Means asked why some streets get paved two times and some are overlooked. Mayor Hollingsworth gave a phone number for Tim Carroll because he is the head over that committee and he can answer that question.

Councilman Hill asked if the owners of the house on the corner of Coleman Avenue have been contacted about their house. He said they need to do something with it.

Randy Livisey said he would like to see the grass around the mill pond cut and the burned house beside the mill pond where the grass is growing up and it looks terrible. The mattress and junk have been moved. There is another burned house on Grant Street that looks bad too.

Claude Worthy thanked the town crew for putting trash cans out at the cemetery.

Bernadine Edmonds told council there are 74 abandoned houses in Whitmire, 7 burned houses, and 23 abandoned outside city limits. Mayor Hollingsworth said we need to do something with the ones on the inside, but we don't know the answer. We need to totally rewrite the ordinance at some point.

Councilwoman Means said the Town of Whitmire is one of the towns that has not accepted the ordinance that Newberry County passed and it would probably benefit us.

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ADJOURN:

Motion to adjourn made by Councilwoman Dickerson and seconded by Councilman Hill. All in favor.

APPROVED:

Mayor Billy Hollingsworth

ATTEST:

Carla Knotts, Clerk/Treasurer