

Town Council Meeting
Town Hall Annex
April 13, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.



COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT:

Carla Knotts, Clerk/Treasurer; Dawn Mosley, CPW Clerk; Chief Michael Moss, Whitmire Police Department; Bernadine Edmunds, Charles Shugart, Chris Alexander, Randy Levisay, Charlene Stroud, Donna Jamerson, Lori Hueble, Dorothy Crisp, Lorenzo Whitener, Kenneth Worthy, Claude Worthy, Palmetto Citizens Branch Manager, and other concerned citizens.

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Hollingsworth gave the call to order and Pledge of Allegiance. After the call to order and pledge a few moments of silence was taken to honor and remember Dean Sanders who recently passed. Dean was our postal carrier for many years and attended most of our council meetings. He will be missed by all.

INVOCATION:

Councilwoman Dickerson gave the invocation to council.

MINUTES:

Minutes for March 9, 2026 council meeting were read and approved. Motion to approve made by Councilman Thomas and seconded by Councilwoman Dickerson. All in favor.

RECREATION:

Jay Gardner told council everything is going well. He said the recreation fields are being used every day this week and next week. The Beta Club from the school is running the concession stand. We have the 16 sponsorship banners hanging on the fence. He said this helps pay for equipment, uniforms, and etc. Justin Gray wants to do an auction on June 27, 2026 for Recreation with 100% going to the Recreation Department. He said we need everyone's involvement. Donations from the public is needed to auction off. The park is open, upgraded RC Lake fields, and upgraded Gym. He said the school broke ground for Tennis Courts.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

The financial report for The Town of Whitmire for the month of March was as follows: The beginning balance for the Town of Whitmire was \$27,242.35 with deposits of \$425,169.60, expenditures of \$415,223.85, and ending balance of \$37,188.10.

Commission of Public Works for the month of March had a beginning balance of \$329.54, deposits of \$346,830.42, and expenditures of \$347,126.45 with an ending balance of \$33.51.

POLICE REPORTS:

Chief Moss gave the report for March. We had 55 incidents, 19 citations, 1 traffic accident, and 5 warrants served or withdrawn. Some of the calls included: Assault and Battery, Larceny, Theft from Motor Vehicle, Vandalism of Property, Simple Possession of Marijuana, and etc.

BULLY BASH:

Lorenzo Whitener was at the meeting to discuss with council what the Bully Bash would be and to answer any questions. He said this will be on May 16, 2026 at the Community Center. He said it is a Dog Competition. He said there will be Food Vendors, Dog Groomers, Bounce Houses for children, and etc. He said this is not a violent thing; it is a competition.

Councilman Lane asked if someone will clean up the dog poop. Mr. Whitener told him he has a whole crew to do this.

ANITA SILVERS:

Ms. Anita Silvers gave a presentation, she said, for Jesus. She talked about a crusade in Charleston, S.C. on May 1 thru 3, 2026. She said it was a movement not a revival. Councilman Hill said to keep us informed.

Dorothy Crisp asked about a program for feral cats. Councilman Hill told her there is one out of Chapin or Little Mountain from a lady named Pat. He told her he would get the information from his wife.

2nd READING RENTAL PROPERTY ORDINANCE:

Mayor Hollingsworth went over the rental property ordinance for a second reading after changes had been made from the last meetings discussion. This ordinance requires people with 2 rentals or makes over \$20,000.00 gross per year on rentals to purchase a business license. Motion to approve made by Councilwoman Dickerson and seconded by Councilman Worthy. Votes were polled. Councilman Worthy voted yes, Councilman Thomas voted yes, Councilwoman Dickerson voted yes, Councilman Hill voted no, Councilman Lane voted no, Councilwoman Means voted no. Mayor Hollingsworth was the tie breaker and he voted yes. Ordinance passed with 4 yes and 3 no votes.

MAYOR PRESENTS:

Mayor Hollingsworth told council the park is open and is safe. He said the mulch is down and Charles has fixed the pinch points. He said Senator Cromer has added some into the amount of money we requested for the Town that we can use on things like this. We are waiting to see if the amount is appropriated.

Mayor Hollingsworth told council the order the streets are paved is up to the county transportation committee. We give them a list of streets and they narrow it down to make the streets match the amount of money they have. Duckett Avenue was on the list, but by the time they narrowed it down, Duckett Avenue was not picked for this round. We did not select the streets; CTC did the selections.

Councilman Lane stated he understands News Channel 10 wants to come back about this situation.

Mayor Hollingsworth told council we have had a lot of sewer issues. We had to replace 200 ft. of sewer line on Nance Street. He said the same situation on Glenn Street. We have to fill the void under the water plant. Duckett Avenue lift station needs the base rebuilt which is about \$22,000.00.

The pavers busted a lot of water lines that had to be fixed while they were doing the paving. Any new water line we do has to be at least 18" deep. Councilwoman Means asked why don't we fix underneath before we do paving.

Mayor Hollingsworth told council we need to have a Budget Workshop soon. He said we need everyone's input. He said he would send an email once he was ready for the budget meeting.

COUNCIL PRESENTS:

Councilman Hill said we need to think forward instead of keep doing.

Councilman Thomas talked about the Downtown Revitalization and about an Ordinance to regulate signs.

Councilman Thomas said vendors are questioning having to pay \$900 to \$1000 fees to set up during the Party in the Pines.

Councilman Thomas told council the pavers paved over the curbing on Sinclair Avenue and that needs to be fixed. Herb Cooper called and will be here for the final inspection. They are supposed to come back and fix the storm drains and the problem down on Gilliam Street.

Councilwoman Dickerson told everyone the ballfield, park, the bank all look good. It seems like a lot of people are trying to move forward.

Mayor Hollingsworth told council Maria Dickerson and her youth group tried to clean up the graffiti on the buildings. Cameras will go up on the stage at the park and around the park area.

Councilwoman Means told everyone Gallman Place Community Action will be here on May 2, 2026 from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. to give out cleaning supplies. It is first come, first serve.

Mayor Hollingsworth said we have good people in this room tonight. Ms. Bernadine has stacks of letters she has sent out for people to clean their property. Ones that do not respond, we have to start doing something about it.

Chris Alexander told everyone between Evans Street and Veterans Lane there is junk everywhere that needs to be addressed.

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