

Town Council Meeting
Town Hall Annex
January 12, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.



COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:

Michael Thomas

OTHERS PRESENT:

Carla Knotts, Clerk/Treasurer; Dawn Mosley, CPW Clerk; Chief Moss and Assistant Chief Wilbanks, Whitmire Police Department; Bernadine Edmonds, Attorney Robert Lake, IV, Charlene Stroud, Dean Sanders, Donna Jamerson, Jamala Wallace, and other concerned citizens.

CALL TO ORDER:

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

INVOCATION:

Councilwoman Means gave the invocation to council.

MINUTES:

Minutes for December 8, 2025 meeting were read and approved. Motion to approve made by Councilwoman Dickerson and seconded by Councilman Lane. All in favor.

TOWERPOINTE PRESENTATION:

Richard Hatch went over the options to purchase the cell tower lease for \$260,890.00. The 2nd option would be over a 35-year period. They discussed easements, monthly payment, and proof of ownership from the town. The mayor asked would this be a one lump sum and Mr. Hatch answered yes. Councilman Hill said Towerpointe would take over the lease and pay a one lump to sum to us and then they would collect payments from then on. Council decided to discuss this further and they would then decide what they wanted to do at a later time.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

The financial report for The Town of Whitmire for the month of December was as follows: The beginning balance for the Town of Whitmire was \$64,209.71 with deposits of \$49,303.07, expenditures of \$100,207.17, and ending balance of \$13,305.61.

Commission of Public Works for the month of December had a beginning balance of \$708.92, deposits of \$88,872.19, and expenditures of \$85,885.56 with an ending balance of \$3,695.55.

POLICE REPORTS:

Mayor Hollingsworth gave the report for December. We had 25 incidents, 7 citations, 0 traffic accidents, and 4 warrants served or withdrawn. Some of the calls include fondling, possession of stolen goods, driving under suspension, domestic disturbance, and etc.

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RESOLUTION:

Mayor Hollingsworth read over the RESOLUTION declaring the discontinuation of Municipal collection of appliances and furniture. Council decided to begin this resolution on March 1, 2026. Motion to approve the resolution to begin on March 1,2026 made by Councilwoman Dickerson and seconded by Councilman Hill. All in favor.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion to go into executive session to discuss a personnel matter and contractual matter made by Councilwoman Dickerson and seconded by Councilman Hill. All in favor.

Motion to come out of executive session and back into regular session made by Councilman Lane and seconded by Councilman Worthy. All in favor.

Mayor Hollingsworth stated that the Recreation Director has resigned and this will go on FaceBook page tomorrow. Jay has agreed to stay to get Spring sports started and will help once someone is started to get them familiar with the job. He said we will be selective as to who we hire. We will run ads in Newberry, Union, and on Facebook.

Registration will start Wednesday for Spring sports.

MAYOR PRESENTS:

Mayor Hollingsworth told council to make sure to fill out State Ethics forms by March 30, 2026 at noon.

Mayor Hollingsworth told council that the bike ride South East Gravel wants to have the March 2026 bike ride here again.

Mayor Hollingsworth told council gym renovations are coming along. We will have an open house once it is finished.

Mayor Hollingsworth told everyone we hope to have the playground opened back by February.

Mayor Hollingsworth told council people are wanting to purchase the old garbage cans. Council discussed this and decided to charge \$80.00 per can if someone wanted them. Motion made by Councilman Worthy and seconded by Councilwoman Dickerson. All in favor.

Mayor Hollingsworth asked council how they wanted to sell the equipment and cars we have. Council discussed this and decided to do the auction. Motion to use auction as the method to sell them made by Councilman Hill and seconded by Councilwoman Dickerson. All in favor. We will set the date later.

COUNCIL PRESENTS:

Councilman Worthy asked if the trash would run on Monday since it is a holiday. Carla will call Audrey Hughes with Spartan Waste to find out.

Councilman Lane asked what are we doing about people putting trash by their cans and this trash service is not picking it up.

Councilwoman Means said in October and December the Living Hope Ministry had food and clothing here for free for the community and they will be back in the Spring.

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