



Regular Meeting Minutes

DATE: May 15, 2025

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor David Brock

OPENING PRAYER: Council Member Jason Allen

Attendee Name	Title	Status
David Brock	Mayor	present
Frank Cheely	Council Member	present
James Shedd	Council Member	present
Rebecca Knight	Council Member	present
Jason Allen	Council Member	present
Ken Lewis	City Attorney	not present
Laura Crenshaw	City Clerk	present
Guests: Zita Shedd	Keith Parker Corey Kaufman	Steven Sommer Jimmy Fowler & Sons

PLEDGE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG: All

WELCOME GUESTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mayor Brock welcomed guests and opened the floor to comment. Clerk Crenshaw made an update that the Town has received no response to the newspaper or Facebook ads for bids for the electrical work, pressure washing, or painting that is needed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND FINANCIAL REPORTS:

Council Member Knight asked about the purchase of soccer nets that were listed on Clerk Crenshaw's American Express reconciliation report. Mayor Brock had instructed the Clerk to order the new soccer goals, since the old goals had been damaged, and at a cost of about \$250.00 for each goal. The money was to come from the SPLOST Rec account. The Clerk had ordered using her card then paid the bill with a SPLOST check, unaware that this was not correct procedure. The total amount with shipping & handling exceeded the \$500.00 spending limit, and Council should have been advised of this purchase beforehand. Mayor Brock thought it fell under his discretion on the SPLOST money; Council Member Knight pointed out that the new Code does not allow for that discretion. The errors were duly noted. Council Member Cheely made motion to accept the minutes and financial reports; Council Member Knight made second. Unanimous to approve minutes and financial reports.

AMENDMENTS TO OLD OR NEW BUSINESS:

None at this time.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:**Future Vision Committee:**

Council Member Allen stated that he had no updates at this time. Mayor Brock made reminder that we are still in need of the GIS maps from Winder and Barrow County that show the locations of our utilities.

Historical Society Committee:

Council Member Shedd stated the the Etheridge building has officially become the property of the Historical Society, and that the current tenant will be allowed to stay until the end of their lease. The rent money from the lease will be used to make repairs in the structure once it is vacant.

Bureau Veritas Report:

Clerk Crenshaw made report that there had been very little change since the previous month due to the Town's connectivity issues. The site at 109 Carl Cedar Hill Rd is again sitting idle, but the owner has submitted for a demolition permit. Council Member Knight asked about the status on 1150 Atlanta Highway. Clerk Crenshaw advised that Bureau Veritas is working with the property owner to make sure that all the landscaping is brought up to Code.

SPLOST Roads Report:

None at this time.

SPLOST Recreation Report:

Clerk Crenshaw made update that the playground equipment is arriving in staggered shipments. The weight of the crates and the installation process is proving to be more than we expected. Joe Della Torre has reached out to the Town and wants to offer his services to unload the trucks and install the equipment. The truck driver advised him of our difficulty handling the shipments. Mayor Brock will reach out for the costs.

Financial Balances as of April 30, 2025:

Road SPLOST: \$172,414.49

Disbursement: \$0.00

Rec SPLOST: \$50,768.10

Disbursement: \$0.00

OLD BUSINESS:

1. IT Proposal for .Gov Domain

Mayor Brock gave an update on the project. Jeff Smith submitted a proposal for \$5,400.00 to complete the acquisition of the .gov domain, and to get the new emails and website going. A significant amount of work has already been completed by Mr. Smith without the Town having to pay anything as of yet. Council Member Allen made motion to approve the proposal and make a contract with Jeff Smith, Digital Consultant. Council Member Shedd made second. Unanimous to make a contract with Jeff Smith, Digital Consultant.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Revise Pavilion Rental Fee

Clerk Crenshaw read aloud the minutes from October, 2024, concerning the decision on the pavilion fees. Mayor Brock opened the discussion stating that the fee of \$100 is proving to be prohibitive. Clerk Crenshaw advised that she has had to negotiate down to \$50 rental fee with a \$50 refundable security deposit to keep rentals on the calendar. The calendar is normally full, but we have several open weekends with no rentals. Council decided to keep the pavilion free for the residents of Carl, but to change to \$50 for renters outside the Town limits. All will pay the \$50 refundable security fee. Council Member Sheely made motion to adopt the change in the fee; Council Member Allen made second. Unanimous to change the fee.

2. Proposed Amendments to the Code of Ordinances and the Unified Development Code

Mayor Brock advised that Attorney Ken Lewis wants this discussion moved to Executive Session, however Attorney Lewis was out sick for this meeting. Mayor Brock asked if Council wished to proceed or table the discussion till a later date. Council Member Allen made motion to table; Council Member Knight made second. No action to be taken at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Steven Sommer, who is purchasing 1702 Carl Bethlehem Rd, had made application for a business license to take over the existing storage facility and truck-parking business. Mr. Sommer introduced himself to the Council, and had been in meetings with Mayor regarding the purchase of the lot and business. The Mayor has placed conditions on the business license application regarding the non-conforming use of the lot for its C2 zoning, as well as the needed repairs to the driveway for the truck parking. Attorney Ken Lewis will follow up on the conditions for the business license. Council Member Knight asked that the Council be advised of the conditions at the next meeting. Keith Parker, current owner, agreed to work with the Mayor and the purchaser on the needed repairs.

Jimmy Fowler addressed the Council regarding his property at 1226 Atlanta Highway. There have been complaints about dust and the appearance of the property by members

of the community, the Mayor's wife, Robin Brock, and Council Members Shedd and Allen. Mayor Brock advised that he was present at the property when inspection was made by Sam Wood of the Dept of Natural Resources on May 15, 2025. The property was found to be compliant.

Fowler advised that progress has slowed since Environmental Health made him lay 25,000 feet of new septic lines, which also changed his building and business plans. He was told he could get sewer when this project started and is now having to wait on architects, lawyers, and landscapers to make new plans for the property. There was contention between Council Member Allen, Mr. Fowler, and Mr. Fowler's sons regarding the issues with the property backing up and running alongside Council Member Allen's property.

Council Member Knight questioned why he had purchased business licences in 2024, and renewed for 2025, when there are no businesses present in the property – and he is having to change his planned use(s) for the property. Fowler cited the issues when he bought the property on getting permits – Carl was in the process of removing itself from Barrow County; Carl could not issue permits and Barrow would not. The development is licensed through the state and Fowler has until 2028 to complete the grading/landscaping. He assumed that he would have been in business by now at the Atlanta Highway location.

Council Member Knight stated that he cannot make a storage facility on Atlanta Highway, and he is not grandfathered in on the new code. Council Member Allen asked if Fowler could make it look nicer. Fowler says his Engineer, Architect, and Landscaper are working on the plans to improve the road front. He also stated that the DOT has to approve the driveway entrance before he can do any more work at the road front.

All contention was resolved. Fowler stated that he would like to host a Town event once he has made more progress on the property. Council Members Allen and Knight agreed that we could all work together to that end.

ADJOURN:

Council Member Allen made motion to adjourn. Council Member Cheely made second. Unanimous to adjourn.