



Regular Meeting Minutes

DATE: September 18, 2025

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Pro Tem Shedd

OPENING PRAYER: Council Member Allen

Attendee Name	Title	Status
James Shedd	Mayor Pro Tem	present
Frank Cheely	Council Member	present
Jason Allen	Council Member	present
Rebecca Knight	Council Member	present
Laura Crenshaw	Town Clerk	present
Ken Lewis	Town Attorney	present
Guests: Brian Cagle Jonathan Knight	Zita Shedd	Shannon Stinchcomb

PLEDGE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG: All – led by Council Member Cheely

WELCOME GUESTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND PUBLIC COMMENT: Mayor Pro Tem Shedd

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND FINANCIAL REPORTS:

Council Member Knight pointed out an error in recording the purchase of the CD at South State Bank on the Financial Report. Clerk Crenshaw will have that error corrected for the October meeting. Council Member Cheely made motion to approve the reports. Council Member Allen made second. Unanimous to approve.

AMENDMENTS TO OLD OR NEW BUSINESS:

None at this time.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Future Vision Committee:

None at this time.

Historical Society Committee:

Mayor Pro Tem Shedd made report that the new medical museum located in the old Ethridge building will be opening soon. The fall Historical Society dinner will be held in Bethlehem on 10/23/2025.

Permitting, Zoning, & Code Enforcement Report:

A list of the projects holding on Permitting, Zoning, & Code Enforcement was submitted for review by Clerk Crenshaw.

SPLOST Roads Report:

None at this time.

SPLOST Recreation Report:

None at this time.

Financial Balances as of August 31, 2025:

Road SPLOST: \$212,513.44
Disbursement: \$0.00

Rec SPLOST: \$45,883.82
Disbursement: \$0.00

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Bids for Arborist

Mayor Pro Tem Shedd advised the Council that the tree at 29 Carl Cedar Hill Road is in the right-of-way and is the Town's responsibility. It is dead and there is no saving it. The tree in the Town Park is dead and needs to come down. There are two more trees in the Town Park that need to be watched. The tree at 80 Carl Midway Church Road is dead, but it is protecting the cemetery. Jacob Vandeford at Taut Line recommends cutting at the "V" and coating with a preservative, then trimming the limbs on the tree beside it. The root of the tree on 4th Avenue was cut when the road was paved. The tree will drop branches on the road; it needs to come down.

Council agreed that Taut Line had the best bid. Council Member Allen asked when the work would begin. Mayor Pro Tem Shedd stated that he would call Taut Line and get them started right away. Council Member Knight made motion to contract with Taut Line for the Arborist work. Council Member Cheely made second.

2. Bids on Park Mulch

Jacob Vandeford of Taut Line presented a bid for 7 loads of black kid safe mulch for \$5,000.00, or the plain black mulch for \$2,500.00. Joe de la Torre had previously submitted a quote. Council Member Allen asked if the trees that Vandeford is cutting could be mulched for the park, and if it is necessary have colored mulch. Shannon

Stinchcomb advised that the coloring on mulch puts a coat on it – the mulch has less splinters and offers more protection for the kids.

Clerk Crenshaw reminded the Council that Joe de la Torre has to redo one of the pieces of park equipment, and he planned on doing that when he came back to do the mulch. Council Member Knight made motion to go with Joe de la Torre's quote on the Playground Certified Safe mulch. Council Member Allen made second. Unanimous to contract with Joe de la Torre for the mulch.

3. Select Tax Accountant

Brian Cagle from CKH Group addressed the Council in regards to their proposal. Council Member Allen asked about the Rushton proposal in comparison the CKH proposal. Council Member Knight asked for 2 more quotes for review before a decision is made. She made a motion to table until we have more bids. Council Member Allen made second. Unanimous to table.

4. Bank OZK Rates

Council Member Allen met with Bank OZK's on September 15, 2025. Our two Money Market accounts are at 0.05%; there is no interest earned on the Town's other accounts. Our CD is at 0.2 %. Allen was told that OZK will not do anything for a better rate on the accounts, but could offer a 4.3% rate on a 7-month CD, or 4% on 13 months. Allen then received a call from OZK on 9/16/25 that completely contradicted that initial conversation. Our current CD renewed automatically on 1/30/2002, and will renew again on 1/30/2027. The current fluid rate on the Money Market accounts is 3.95%.

Council Member Knight made a suggestion that the Town go with the previous plan of moving our working accounts to 1stAmerican and keep the CDs at OZK. Attorney Lewis recommended changing the existing checking accounts to Money Market accounts so that they would be interest bearing accounts at OZK. Attorney Lewis stated that he would draft a resolution for Mayor Pro Tem Shedd and Council Member Allen to make the changes in the banking.

Council Member Knight made a motion to move forward with the Resolution to change the checking accounts to interest-bearing Money Market accounts. Council Member Cheely made second. Unanimous for Attorney Lewis to draft the resolution, and for Shedd and Allen to make the changes at Bank OZK.

5. Updates on LRA/LMIG Projects

Clerk Crenshaw reviewed the situation with the signage on Carl Midway Church Road. Mayor Pro Tem Shedd advised Council that he and the maintenance crew have searched both storage areas at Town Hall – there are no flashing LED signs, or a solar speed recording sign to be found. Clerk Crenshaw also read the text messages she had exchanged with Darrell Greeson when he was spearheading that project before Mayor

Brock took it over prior to his resignation. Attorney Lewis asked Clerk Crenshaw to contact Signage Depot for written verification of what signage we actually received, and to make a written log of events for the Council. The Town paid over \$4,000 for the solar speed display sign that would make a record of the speeds on Carl Midway Church Road.

The next LMIG project will be paving on Carl Cedar Hill Road, Carl Midway Church Road, and Carl Bethlehem Road. Clerk Crenshaw will contact Brian Shackelford at Barrow County to get estimates for those paving projects underway for the submission for the LMIG funds.

The LRA project of striping, refreshing the signs, and new thermoplastic stop lines is still holding on determination of the priority of the different roads in the Town Limits.

Council Member Knight made motion to table the LRA/LMIG projects until we have gathered the pertinent information. Council Member Cheely made second. Unanimous to table.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. New Printer Scanner Equipment

Edge Business Systems had cold-called on the Town and dropped off a proposal for a new printer/copier/scanner all in one. Shannon Stinchcomb stated that we need to make sure that a landline is not needed to change the equipment (Mayor Brock had the landline cancelled when he ordered a cell phone for the Town). Council Member Allen stated that the installer will handle all of that. Council Member Knight made a motion to table to item until we have more proposals. Council Member Allen made second. Unanimous to table until more proposals have been received.

2. 1152 Atlanta Highway Business License

Attorney Ken Lewis opened discussion by stating that the Town currently has no mechanism for taking action on this item. The Council is unanimous to rescind the business license due to the unsanctioned way that the business came about having license, and being in that location. The Town does not have an “enforcement arm” to carry out any actions toward the revocation of the license.

Council Member Knight advised the Council that she and Council Member Allen had met with Pat Graham and another official from Barrow County regarding a possible IGA with the County for Permitting, Inspections, Zoning, and Code Enforcement. The County declined, but recommend some providers. The County also suggested an IGA with Auburn, which would provide better service for the citizens of Carl. Council Member Allen pointed out that already have an agreement with Auburn to use their Solicitor and Courts, and that he would be having lunch with the City Manager on 9/22/25. The Council approved Allen to approach the subject during that lunch. Allen

also stated that having an IGA with Auburn would make us “safer from being absorbed” by Auburn.

Zita Shedd voiced objection to having Code Enforcement under the City of Auburn due to the fact that their Code Enforcement office operates pro-actively rather than reactively to complaints. Auburn issues citations and fines for Code infractions. Council Member Allen stated that Code Enforcement is necessary and cited the “Broken Windows” theory. The Code of Ordinances for the Town of Carl must be enforced. Ms. Shedd asked if Kim Ford, who was an unsanctioned hire by Mayor Brock to be Code Enforcement, could be the Town’s Code Enforcement Officer. Attorney Lewis stated that would not solve the over-arching issues of no way to legally enforce the ordinances and take the process through to the Court system. Council Member Allen stated that if Auburn made a citation and collected fines, the Town of Carl would receive a portion of that fine. Mayor Pro Tem Shedd asked if we could set out own rules on enforcement regarding which ordinances we want to enforce and which ones we do not want to enforce. Attorney Lewis stated that in an IGA the Council would give up its power in those areas. Council Member Allen reiterated that we must enforce our laws – all of them. Lewis stated that the IGA would establish the rules of that enforcement – we would not be giving up our autonomy, but would have to abide by the IGA. Ms. Shedd again voiced her objection to Auburn’s pro-active operations. Allen again stated that we must enforce our Code of Ordinances. Lewis pointed out that it would still be Carl’s court, not Auburn’s court – it would just take place in Auburn’s Courthouse.

Council Member Allen pointed out that it is very costly for the Town to hire a 3rd party company. It would be more efficient for Auburn to enforce our book of laws since we do not have the means of enforcing it ourselves. Ms. Shedd again voiced her objection to having an IGA with Auburn. Shannon Stinchcomb interjected that he is “offended that you [Allen] said that Auburn would annex us.” Allen countered that Stinchcomb misunderstood; that if we do not get the IGA, we are in danger. Allen pointed out that we are already under an IGA with Barrow County for services such as fire and police.

Attorney Lewis stated that he would write a letter rescinding the business license for Rogel Automotive at 1152 Atlanta Highway. He stated that if we do not act, the business owner can claim that we gave them license without issue, and then we would be bound to continue to issue the license every year.

No action taken by the Council at this time.

3. Town Credit Card

Mayor Pro Tem Shedd and Council Member Allen have been in contact with Bank OZK about obtaining a Town credit card. Council Member Allen suggested that the Town have 2 cards, one for the Mayor and one for the Clerk, with a set limit. User agreements would be required from both card holders. Town Attorney Lewis is to draft a resolution to allow Shedd and Allen to set this up. Council Member Knight made a motion for the

Town to pursue cards for the Mayor and the Clerk with a maximum limit of \$5,000.00. Council Member Cheely made second. Motion passed unanimously.

4. New Variance Form

The Council looked over the Town of Carl Variance Application that had been drafted by Attorney Lewis' office. No action to be taken at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mayor Pro Tem Shedd asked if a turn signal could be added to the traffic light for turning from Atlanta Highway onto Carl Midway Church Road. Council Member Allen stated that it would require DOT approval. We will look into petitioning for a turn signal.

Jorge Paez addressed the Council to ask about getting a free-standing sign for his business at 1150 Atlanta Highway, as well as building an accessory building for minor car repairs. Mr. Paez had submitted all of his documents to Bureau Veritas just prior to their cancellation of our contract. Council asked that Clerk Crenshaw forward to them the information regarding the sign and building applications.

ADJOURN:

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