

Meeting minutes **OF THE REIDSVILLE CITY COUNCIL**

Date:

March 10, 2025

Time:

5:00 PM

Facilitator:

Vickie Nail, Mayor

Council in attendance

Donald Prestage

Carolyn Blackshear

Theron Harris

Verdie Williams

Nivea Jackson- City Clerk

Gina Sheridan-Finance Manager

Duann Davis- City Attorney

Approval of minutes

These minutes are a draft and are not approved until April 14, 2025

The Council was greeted by a welcome and prayer from Mayor Vickie Nail. Mayor Nail starts by announcing the open seat of Lindsay Bennett (ward 2, Post 2). She is asking for citizen input. Citizen Dan Bennett makes an announcement for an interest to run for the open vacancy.

Tree Cutting at Armory

This is a previous agenda discussion. Councilman Donald Prestage is self-recused from this discussion. The Mayor is asking for a motion to remove the trees in the yard of the National Guard Armory. Daniel Anderson volunteered to remove the trees at no cost to the City, if he could keep the trees. The mayor gave the Council a bid from a contractor to remove the trees as a reference to what the value of the work was. TK Hicks company gave a \$16k bid to cut, haul, and remove the trees. The City would only incur an additional \$2500 for stump grinding using Daniel Anderson. Several citizens in the audience voiced their opinions while the Council and Mayor held the discussion. Citizens made mention that if another storm came the trees could fall on neighboring homes. Most notable, Verdie Williams and Theron Harris acknowledged that something should be done at the Armory, but with proper planning and a financial strategy. **Carolyn Blackshear makes a motion to accept the work from Daniel Anderson.** The Mayor asks for a second. There is not a second. The motion fails for a lack of second on the motion. Williams and Harris both have expressed a desire to table the issue, until a feasible plan can be made.

Special Events

The Chamber has submitted a Special Event form for the Bucket drive to raise funds.

Verdie Williams makes a motion to accept the event.

Motion by: Verdie Williams

2nd by: Carolyn Blackshear

Motion: Carries unanimously

NEW BUSINESS

VAPE SHOP MORATORIUM

The Council and Mayor was given a handout on the approach of other cities and municipalities. The examples are of Cities who limited vapes shops from being near child friendly areas such as schools and places of worship. The Mayor and Council do not want an oversaturation of vape shops coming to town. Attorney Duann Davis will check the law on how this may be established.

PTSD POLICY

The City of Reidsville is participating in the GMA PTSD Program for First Responders. Council was given a handout explaining the program and it's benefit to the employees. First Responders will now have access to programs related to OTJ, PTSD support. **Carolyn**

Councilman Prestage is informing the Mayor and peer Council about a generator grant that he is wanting to pursue for the benefit of the City. Prestage is working on completing the preapplication for the grant. There will be a City match for any warded funds of 25% by the City. Prestage is hoping to receive 9 or more generators. It is vital that the water supply have generators during a natural disaster or climate based emergency. This project is a storm mitigation effort to be prepared in the event of a storm. Prestage is asking for a vote to continue the application process. Donald Prestage makes a motion to continue the application process.

Motion by: Donald Prestage

2nd by: Theron Harris

Vote: Carries unanimously

Verdie Williams addressed the January organization meeting decision. The Mayor left the Police Department without a Council appointed head. The Mayor (Nail and Colwell) were both managing the department in Doug Williams' absence from his seat as Council, and after his resignation. **Williams offers a motion to appoint Theron Harris over the department stating "that's how it's always been done, with having a Council member over each department."** Mayor Nail objected to this motion, and stated that Councilwoman Williams was out of order, because this item was not on the agenda for discussion. Councilwoman Williams continued with the motion despite several objections from the Mayor. **Harris is recused from this vote.**

Motion by: Verdie Williams

2nd by: Donald Prestage

Vote: Motion carries unanimously (from voting Council)

Earnest Armstrong, local businessman, got up and made a public apology to the Mayor's from the previous month's meeting. Armstrong apologized if he offended the Mayor or Council with his comments of defending his business.

Verdie Williams makes a motion to go into Executive Session for legal and personnel at 6:25pm

Verdie Williams makes a motion to return to the regular session from the Executive session at 7:53pm.

Approved 4/14/25

Vicki Nail, Mayor