

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
KINGSTREE TOWN COUNCIL
AUGUST 21, 2023 - 6:30 PM
TOWN HALL MEETING ROOM
FRANK H. MCGILL MUNICIPAL COMPLEX**

ROLL CALL

**COUNCIL
PRESENT**

Darren Tisdale, Mayor

Luester McCullough, 1st District
Michelle Butterworth, 2nd District
Chris Williams, 3rd District

Derek Fitts, 4th District
C.M. (Bubba) Hammet, Jr., 5th District
Stan A. Williamson, 6th District

**OFFICIALS
PRESENT**

Richard L. Treme, Town Manager
Leonard R. Lowery, Municipal Clerk
Alvin D. Chambers, Community Development Director
Evan Reynolds, Town Attorney

CALL TO ORDER

INVOCATION – Councilman Williams

NOTIFICATION OF MEDIA – Verified

APPROVAL OF THE REGULAR MEETING AGENDA FOR AUGUST 21, 2023.

- *Councilman Hammet moved to approve the meeting agenda for August 21, 2023.*
- *Seconded by Councilman Williamson.*
- *The motion carried unanimously.*

DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON JULY 17, 2023.

- *Councilwoman McCullough made a motion to approve the meeting minutes for the regular meeting held on July 17, 2023.*
- *Seconded by Councilwoman Butterworth.*
- *The motion carried unanimously.*

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments.

MILL STREET LANDING DEVELOPMENT UPDATE - Hybrid Engineering

Mr. Trey Butler and Larry Watts from Hybrid Engineering updated the Council on the construction progress at Black River Landing. The project overview included illustrations depicting the features of the landing after its completion. However, it isn't easy to give an accurate estimate for when the project will be completed. It will likely take up to three years or more before completion. Mr. Butler and Mr. Watts answered questions from the Council after their presentation.

FIRST READING ORDINANCE 2023-06 – Annexation of Williamsburg County tax map properties 45-176-009, 18-036-179, 18036-217, and 18-036-178

- *Councilman Williamson made a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2023-06.*
- *Seconded by Councilwoman McCullough*
- *The motion carried unanimously.*

FIRST READING ORDINANCE 2023-07 – An ordinance (NUNC PRO TUNC) to authorize the Town of Kingstree to execute all documents necessary to effectuate the transfer of real property currently identified as tax map numbers 11-025-171, 11-025-172, and 11-025-173 identified as tax map numbers from the Town to Dail Investments, LLC in exchange for \$22,000 dollars.

- *Councilman Hammet made a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2023-07.*
- *Seconded by Councilman Williamson seconded the motion.*
- *The motion carried unanimously.*

NOMINATION OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF KINGSTREE (KAH)

- *Councilwoman McCullough made a motion to table the nomination for an appointment to the Housing Authority of Kingstree.*
- *Seconded by Councilwoman Butterworth.*
- *The motion carried unanimously.*

RESOLUTION 2023 – 03 – Juneteenth Holiday Observance

- *Councilwoman McCullough made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-03, establishing Juneteenth as a Town of Kingstree Holiday.*
- *Seconded by Councilman Williams.*
- *The motion carried unanimously.*

APPROVAL OF KINGSTREE POLICE DEPARTMENTS MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT – Manning Police Dept., Lake City Police Dept., Williamsburg County Sheriff's Dept., Hemingway Police Depts., Sumter County Sheriff's Dept.

- *Councilwoman McCullough made a motion to approval each of the mutual aid agreements.*
- *Seconded by Councilman Hammet.*
- *The motion carried unanimously.*

MAIN STREET UPDATE

Katie Wheeler, Main Street Director, announced that the mural has been completed and is located on Academy Street. She has received some very positive feedback. She thanked the merchants who made donations to the project. Four more community members may be willing to donate benches to be placed downtown. Three hundred new Kingstree t-shirts featuring two different designs were delivered and distributed to local merchants to sell. The shirts are so popular that more shirts will be ordered soon. Planning for Pig Picking` is in motion. The Main

Street Program is seeking interested volunteers to help with the festival. Lastly, new and improved Christmas decorations will be installed at the town entrances and in the downtown district.

TOWN MANAGER COMMENTS

Mr. Treme announced that the streetscape project has experienced a slight delay. Between September 21st and October 1st, construction of the project should begin. This project will aid in making Main Street more pedestrian-friendly. The industrial park on Hwy 52 North is the focus of a new project to place additional water infrastructure there. The water enhancements will increase the level of service we can offer current industrial water users and future industries in the industrial park.

NON-AGENDA COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilwoman McCullough

No comment.

Councilman Williams

Councilman Fitts noted that he is appreciative of the recent work that the DOT has been able to complete in Town. His only concern is that they move personnel to other locations and projects, leaving behind much work that still needs to be done in Kingstree. He requested that the Town put some additional emphasis on DOT to complete more projects before moving to other projects outside the Town. In his conclusion, the Councilman thanked the Town for sending him to the Annual Meeting sponsored by MASC. He stated that the meeting was educational and enjoyable.

Councilwoman Butterworth

The councilwoman commented on the great job that has been done to have the impressive mural completed downtown. She stated that she has heard a lot of positive feedback concerning the mural and is excited about the Black River Landing project, which she hopes will be completed sooner rather than later. She concluded her comments by stating that she also attended the Annual Meeting sponsored by MASC. She noted that the meeting was great, and the keynote speaker was phenomenal.

Councilman Hammet

Councilman Hammet stated that he has heard a lot of positive comments about the downtown mural. He thanked Mr. Treme for having the needed repairs made in Gilland Park.

Councilman Williams

Councilman Williams thanked Town employees for working so hard this summer in extreme weather conditions. He stated that he and several residents are thankful that we have the cherry picker up and running. The truck is an asset to the entire Town.

Councilman Williamson

Councilman Williamson stated that he is pleased that KPD has established mutual aid agreements with many local law enforcement agencies.

However, activities in Kallahan Park after hours are beginning to pick up. KPD is supposed to lock the gates in the evenings, but they are not. He stated that it is not uncommon to have ten people in the park after ten or eleven o'clock. They are in the park using profanity and causing disturbances. He stated that he has had enough of that behavior in the park after hours. The speed at which people drive between Live Oak and Second Avenue is also unacceptable. It is worst on the weekend. Several residents have complained about the speeding. Something has to be done. He requested that KPD address the issues and establish a presence in the area. In conclusion, he

noted that he knows that the police can't always be at that location to monitor the activity, but something needs to be done to address the issue.

Mayor Tisdale


Mayor Tisdale reiterated Council member Williamson's concern about cars speeding in the Live Oak and Second Avenue area. He stated that Saturday seemed to be the worst day. It has become a dangerous situation that needs immediate attention by law enforcement.

AJOURNMENT

- *Councilman Williamson made the motion to adjourn.*
- *Councilman Hammet seconded the motion to adjourn.*
- *The motion carried unanimously.*



Leonard R. Lowery, Municipal Clerk



Darren Tisdale, Town of Kingstree Mayor