



**MINUTES
WATAUGA CITY COUNCIL
WORKSHOP MEETING
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBER,
7105 WHITLEY ROAD
MAY 8, 2023
5:30 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Arthur L. Miner called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The meeting convened with the following members present:

Arthur L. Miner
Lovie Downey
Pat Shelbourne
Tom Snyder
Andrew Neal
Malissa Minucci
Mark Taylor
Jan Hill

and
Joshua Jones
Linda Proskey
David Berman
Sandra Gibson
Aaron Kaut

Mayor
Mayor Pro Tem/Council Member Place 3
Council Member Place 1
Council Member Place 2
Council Member Place 4
Council Member Place 5
Council Member Place 6
Council Member Place 7

City Manager
City Secretary
City Attorney
Director of Finance
Street & Drainage Superintendent

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilmember Minucci thanked the citizens for coming out to splashpad opening event.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No Requests for public testimony were received.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY FOR ACTION ITEMS

No Requests for public testimony were received.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Discuss the Chip Drop program for residents to be able to pick up mulch that has been delivered to a central location in the city.

Aaron Kaut, Street, and Drainage Superintendent, gave the presentation. He gave the pros and cons of the program. The drop can range from 4 Cubic yards to 20 cubic yards, and the requester can not specify the amount. The mulch will contain wood, leaves, sticks, twigs, and trash. We have limited options for a drop-off location as it must have access for unmonitored deliveries and be convenient for residents and out of the way of other parking. High winds spread the mulch to unwanted areas. Mulch piles bring the possibility of mulch fires. Mulch quality is different from at a garden center. Mulch cleanup will be time-consuming and expensive. Potential for mulch sites to become dumping grounds for trash. Delivery is anywhere from the same day to 5 weeks.

2. Discuss a homestead exemption and how it would impact the city budget.

Sandra Gibson, Director of Finance, gave the presentation. She went over how a homestead exemption worked. She stated that the average home taxable value in Watauga is \$200,000. Out of the total tax bill, the schools get the majority at 53%, hospitals at 9%, the County at 9%, college at 5 %, and the city receives 24%. She reviewed the difference between the tax bill with and without the exemption. The deadline to adopt a tax exemption is July 1, 2023.

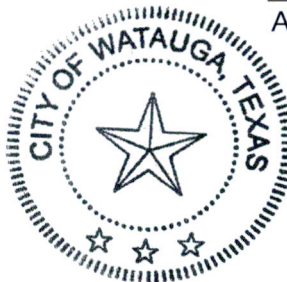
ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Miner adjourned the meeting at 6:10 pm

Approved: this Aug day of 14th, 2023

Signed: this Aug day of 16, 2023

ATTEST: Linda Proskey /s/
Linda Proskey, City Secretary



APPROVED:

Arthur L. Miner /s/

Arthur L. Miner, Mayor

NOTE: Original Audio and Video Recording of this meeting is preserved and maintained by the City Secretary's Office