



**MINUTES
WATAUGA CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBER,
7105 WHITLEY ROAD,
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2024
6:30 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Arthur Miner called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
Mayor Miner announced that it is Veterans Day and thanked all who have served.

ROLL CALL

The meeting convened with the following members present:

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

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

and

Sandra Gibson
Linda Proskey
David Berman
Timothy Hamilton
Paul Hackleman
Lana Ewell
Timothy Hamilton
Deby Woodard

Interim City Manager/Finance Director
City Secretary
City Attorney
Director of Parks and Community Services
Director of Public Works
Director of Library Services
Director of Parks and Community Services
Assistant Finance Director

INVOCATION

Pastor Dennis Hester of the First Baptist Church and Watauga Police Chaplin gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Scout troop 205 led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilmember Neal expressed thanks to the REC and Parks Department, city staff, Sertoma for providing food, and the mayor for speaking at the Veterans Day event. He also encouraged adopting pets from the animal shelter.

Councilmember Minucci extended gratitude to the veterans, their families, Sertoma, and Joe's Coffee Shop for their involvement in the celebration. She also thanked Boy Scout Troop 205 for leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilmember Taylor echoed these sentiments, honoring veterans and their families for their sacrifices.

Councilmember Hill appreciated the Boy Scouts' flag ceremony. She also thanked the council, mayor, and staff for their personal support over the past month.

Mayor Miner commended the planning and execution of the Veterans Day breakfast and event, applauding city staff and expressing pride in speaking at the occasion. He also thanked the Boy Scouts for their contributions to the meeting.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Employee of the Month Award for the month of November.

Sandra Gibson, Interim City Manager, and Mayor Miner presented the Employee of the Month Award to Micheal Ayala

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no requests for public comment.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY FOR ACTION ITEMS

There were no requests for public testimony.

CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. Consider action on approval of the Quarterly Investment Report for the period ending September 30, 2024.**
- 2. Consider action on approval of the Capp Smith Park Splashpad Filtration Upgrade Project with Kraftsman Commercial Playgrounds & Water Parks for an amount not exceeding \$200,000.**
- 3. Consider action on approval of the Monthly Financial Report for the period ending September 30, 2024 (pre-audit).**
- 4. Consider action on approval of a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Watauga, Texas amending Policy 6.02 Overtime and Compensatory Time, Policy 9.01 Mobile Communication Devices and Policy 14.03 Social Media of the Personnel, Administration and Financial Policies and Procedures Manual;**

providing for repeal; providing for severability; and providing an effective date.

- 5. Consider action on approval of a Resolution by the City Council of the City of Watauga, Texas adding policy 6.08 Timekeeping to the Personnel, Administration and Financial Policies and Procedures Manual; providing for repeal; providing for severability; and providing an effective date.**
- 6. Consider action to ratify the renewed Meet and Confer Agreement between the City of Watauga and the Watauga Firefighters Association.**
- 7. Consider action to declare the Fire Department November 2024 Surplus List as surplus personal property assets of the city approved for sale or disposition**

Mayor Miner asked if any council member would like to pull an item from consent. Hearing none, he asked for a Motion. Councilmember Downey made a motion to accept the consent agenda as presented. Councilmember Neal seconded the motion. Mayor Miner called for a vote.

Motion carried 7-0-0-0.

Ayes, Shelbourne, Blackburn, Downey, Neal, Minucci, Taylor, Hill

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

PUBLIC HEARINGS

There were no public hearings

ACTION ITEMS

- 1. Discuss and consider action on approval of an ordinance regarding the City of Watauga's Texas Municipal Retirement System benefits: (1) Adopting non-retroactive repeating colas, for retirees and their beneficiaries under the Texas Municipal Retirement System (TMRS) act §853.404(f) and (f-1), and (2) Authorizing annually accruing updated service credits and transfer updated service credits; providing a repealing clause; providing a severability clause; and providing for an effective date.**

Interim City Manager Sandra Gibson detailed the proposed transition from a retroactive to a non-retroactive COLA calculation for retiree benefits. This change simplifies the calculation process, ensuring uniform adjustments based on a 12-month service period and maintaining the COLA at 70% of the CPI. The updated approach reduces the city's retirement contribution rate from 17.73% to 17.04%, resulting in an annual savings of approximately \$100,000, with minimal impact on retirees. Monthly retiree adjustments would range from \$0.17 to \$20.00. The ordinance has been reviewed by the city attorney and TMRS. In response to Councilmember Neal's query, Gibson stated the city would verify if TMRS sends notifications to current retirees and confirmed the city could issue its own communication if necessary.

Mayor Miner asked for a Motion. Councilmember Shelbourne made a motion to approve as presented. Councilmember Hill seconded the motion. Mayor Miner called for a vote.

Motion carried 7-0-0-0.

Ayes, Shelbourne, Blackburn, Downey, Neal, Minucci, Taylor, Hill

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

2. Discuss and consider action on approval of changing the staff reports from bi-weekly to monthly.

Councilmember Blackburn presented the item suggesting transitioning staff reports from bi-weekly to monthly, citing the excessive detail in bi-weekly reports and the time-consuming nature of preparing them. Councilmember Taylor supported the idea but emphasized the need for more detailed, useful reports, especially regarding resource utilization and citizen engagement with city services. Councilmember Hill also supported the change, highlighting the importance of knowing how city resources are being used. Mayor Miner suggested tabling the decision to allow each Council member to provide input on what should be included in the report, then bring it back for further discussion.

Mayor Miner asked for a Motion. Councilmember Taylor made a motion to table the item to a future meeting. Councilmember Hill seconded the motion. Mayor Miner called for a vote.

Motion carried 7-0-0-0.

Ayes, Shelbourne, Blackburn, Downey, Neal, Minucci, Taylor, Hill

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- 1. Pursuant to Section 551.074 of the Texas Government Code, to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee. To discuss and provide feedback regarding the annual performance evaluation of the City Secretary.**

Mayor Miner recessed the meeting at 6:58 p.m. for executive session

RECONVENE

Mayor Miner reconvened the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

ITEMS OF EXECUTIVE SESSION DELIBERATION

1. Consideration and possible action relating to the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee. To discuss and provide feedback regarding the annual performance evaluation of the City Secretary.

No action was taken.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

Mayor Miner asked for a place marker as a reminder to bring back the Bi-weekly report.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Miner adjourned the meeting at 8:02 p.m

Approved: this 13 day of January, 2025

Signed: this 13 day of January, 2025

ATTEST:

Linda Proskey /s/

Linda Proskey, City Secretary

APPROVED:

Arthur L. Miner /s/

Mayor



