

**TUESDAY, APRIL 15, 2025
TOWN OF SAWMILLS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
6:00PM**

COUNCIL PRESENT

Mayor Keith Warren
Clay Wilson
Rebecca Johnson
Melissa Curtis

STAFF PRESENT

Chase Winebarger
Julie A Good
Jimmy Summerlin
Dustin Millsaps

COUNCIL ABSENT

Joe Wesson
Bobby Mosteller

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Keith Warren called the meeting to order at approximately 5:53pm.

INVOCATION: Councilman Clay Wilson gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Keith Warren led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADOPT AGENDA: Mayor Keith Warren asked for a motion to adopt the April 15, 2025, Agenda.

Melissa Curtis made a motion, and Clay Wilson seconded, to adopt the April 15, 2025, Agenda. All were in favor.

APPROVE MARCH 18, 2025, REGULAR MEETING MINUTES: Mayor Keith Warren asked for a motion to approve the March 18, 2025, regular meeting minutes.

Melissa Curtis made a motion, and Clay Wilson seconded, to approve the March 18, 2025, regular meeting minutes. All were in favor.

APPROVE MARCH 18, 2025, CLOSED SESSION MINUTES: Mayor Keith Warren asked for a motion to approve the March 18, 2025, closed session minutes.

Clay Wilson made a motion, and Melissa Curtis seconded, to approve the March 18, 2025, closed session minutes. All were in favor.

RECOGNITIONS:

APRIL RECYCLE REWARDS WINNER: Mayor Keith Warren stated that after checking numerous accounts on the computer-generated list, Public Works Director, Steve Coonse, could not find a recycle rewards winner for the month of April.

No Council action was required.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Ken Hamby, 4357 Trojan Lane, discussed an issue with the ditch in front of his residence.

Debbie Mason, 3912 US Highway 321A, discussed an issue with event sponsored fireworks being shot off close to her property.

FINANCIAL:

FINANCIAL REPORT: Finance Director Kelly Melton stated that as of March 31, 2025 that:

In the General Fund the Revenue Line item has used fifty-three point thirty-four percent (53.34%) of the FY 2024/2025 budget and the Expenditures Line item has used seventy point forty-four percent (70.44%) of the FY 2024/2025 budget.

In the Water/Sewer Fund the Revenue Line item has used forty-eight point sixty-seven percent (48.67%) of the FY 2024/2025 budget and the Expenditures Line item has used thirty-seven point eighty-six percent (37.86%) of the FY 2024/2025 budget.

In the Capital Project-Town Hall Line item Architect has used twenty-three point forty-two percent (23.42%) of the FY 2024/2025 budget.

In the Capital Project-South Caldwell Sewer Pump Station Elevation Project Line item has used twenty-four point ninety-four percent (24.94%) of the FY 2024/2025 budget.

No Council action was required.

BUDGET AMENDMENT: Finance Director Kelly Melton stated that the Parks and Recreation Youth Sports programs have had a thirty two percent (32%) increase in participants, which increased registration revenue from eighteen thousand dollars (\$18,000.00) to thirty-eight thousand dollars (\$38,000.00). Finance Director Kelly Melton stated that the Baird Park Concession Stand had a budget of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) for the FY 2024-2025, which was surpassed during the fall sports season. Finance Director Kelly Melton stated that the Town has also received additional miscellaneous revenue related

to Parks and Recreation during FY 2024-2025 in the amount of twenty-one thousand eight hundred dollars (\$21,800.00). Finance Director Kelly Melton stated that the increase in revenues totals forty-six thousand eight hundred dollars (\$46,800.00) and will be appropriated to cover the additional costs associated with Parks and Recreation Program expenditures, Parks and Recreation Capital Outlay, and Administrative Insurance.

Clay Wilson made a motion, and Melissa Curtis seconded, to transfer the Parks and Recreation increased revenue in the amount of forty-six thousand eight hundred dollars (\$46,800.00) from General Fund-Revenue to Parks and Recreation-Expenditures. All were in favor.

BAD DEBT WRITE-OFF: Finance Officer Kelly Melton stated that the Town had a list of 2021 accounts that have gone unpaid for Utility and Sanitation services. The Town does not expect to collect payment for these accounts and recommends that Council approve the write off of the accounts. The total amount of these accounts is two thousand three hundred dollars (\$2,300.00). Finance Officer Kelly Melton also advised Council that included in the list are seventeen (17) accounts the Town has submitted to the NC Debt Setoff Program for Collection. Finance Officer Kelly Melton stated the Town had recovered nine thousand five hundred seven dollars (\$9,507.00) from previous years. There are sufficient funds in the budget to cover this.

Clay Wilson made a motion, and Melissa Curtis seconded, to approve staff to write off the 2021 list of bad debts accounts in the amount two thousand three hundred dollars (\$2,300.00). All were in favor.

AMERICAN LEGION HUDSON POST 392 DONATION REQUEST: Mayor Keith Warren stated that the American Legion Hudson Post 392 requested a donation in the amount of two hundred dollars (\$200.00).

Melissa Curtis made a motion, and Clay Wilson seconded, to give a donation in the amount of two hundred dollars (\$200.00) to the American Legion Hudson Post 392. All were in favor.

DISCUSSION:

HOMELESS RESPONSE TEAM PRESENTATION: Ben Willis, with the Western Piedmont Council of Governments (WPCOG) gave a presentation and answered question on the Homeless Response Team.

No Council action was required.

PLANNING:

TEXT AMENDMENT: FOOD TRUCK AND TRAILER: Planning Director Dustin

Millsaps stated that the Town of Sawmills has received an application for Amendment to the Sawmills Zoning Ordinance to allow food trucks and trailers in the Town of Sawmills. This application will cover both individual food trucks and trailers on individual lots, as well as, food truck and trailer courts, which would allow more than one (1) food truck and/or trailer on one (1) lot.

Clay Wilson made a motion, and Melissa Curtis seconded, to hold a public hearing for a Text Amendment: Food Truck and Trailers at the regularly scheduled Town Council meeting on May 20, 2025. All were in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mayor Keith Warren asked if anyone had any questions or comments at this time.

No one wished to speak.

UPDATES:

APRIL CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT: Town Code Enforcement Officer Curt Willis stated that there are seven (7) code enforcement cases that are open.

No Council action was required.

TOWN MANAGER UPDATES: Town Manager Chase Winebarger had the following updates:

- Town Manager Chase Winebarger stated the Town had purchased Timberking merchandise for Council and staff. Town Manager Chase Winebarger stated that the Timberkings will start their season with a Fan Fest at Sawmills Veterans Park on Saturday, May 17, 2025.
- Town Manager Chase Winebarger stated that staff is actively looking for a project manager that specializes in FEMA project clean-ups to help with the Veterans Park Hurricane Helene clean-up.
- Town Manager Chase Winebarger stated that the Town of Sawmills Easter Egg Hunt will be Thursday, April 17, 2025, at Veterans Park beginning at 6:00pm.
- Town Manager Chase Winebarger stated that Mayor Keith Warren had received a telephone call from the principal of South Caldwell High School informing him that the gate located on Burt Huffman Road leading to the South Caldwell High School will be closed and locked during normal school hours, approximately from 8:00am to 2:30pm, for students that want to eat lunch outside of the cafeteria.
- Town Manager Chase Winebarger stated that the indoor facility at Baird Park was almost completed and Parks and Recreation are hoping to open the facility soon.

- Town Manager Chase Winebarger stated that there is a problem with birds building nests on the new Musco lights at Veterans Park.

CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO N.C.G.S. §143.318-11(A)(3): Mayor Keith Warren asked for a motion to go into closed session.

Clay Wilson made a motion, and Melissa Curtis seconded, to go into closed session pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 143.318-11(a)(3) at approximately 6:56pm. All were in favor.

Melissa Curtis made a motion, and Clay Wilson seconded, to come out of closed session at approximately 7:35pm. All were in favor.

COUNCIL ADJOURN: Mayor Keith Warren asked for a motion to adjourn.

Melissa Curtis made a motion, and Clay Wilson seconded, to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:35pm.

Keith Warren, Mayor

Julie A. Good, Town Clerk