

**MINUTES OF THE WHITSETT TOWN COUNCIL  
PUBLIC HEARING  
June 11, 2024  
Whitsett Town Hall Building**

A public hearing was held at 6:00 p.m., on Tuesday, June 11, 2024, at the Whitsett Town Hall. The following members of the Town Council were present: Mayor Chip Bell, Mayor Pro Tem Jerry Rice, Council Members Craig York, Cindy Wheeler and Lee Greeson. Also present were Town Administrator Karen Horne, Town Clerk Barbara York and 8 Town residents.

Mayor Bell asked Mayor Pro Tem Jerry Rice to offer the invocation.

Mayor Bell then made a motion to officially open the June Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by Council Member Craig York. Following the unanimous vote, Mayor Bell declared the hearing in session.

Mayor Bell stated that the items open for discussion and public comment during the hearing would be the proposed General and Water Budgets for 2024 and 2025, the proposed Water Utility Rate Increase and Policy, and Developmental Ordinance Article 5 changes.

1. **The Proposed General and Water Budgets for 2024-2025** – These budgets have been on the Town’s website for over a month for the public to view. There were no comments or questions from the public.
2. **The Proposed Water Utility Rate Increase and Policy** – These documents have also been on the Town’s website for over a month for the town citizens to review. There was discussion among several of the citizens regarding the raise in water rates with some expressing that they did not wish to see any increases. The Council explained that the water rates had not gone up in many years and the price of water, water testing, meter readings etc. has gone up every year. The Town’s CPA had made the Council aware in February that we needed to seriously consider raising rates for water, for if we had any kind of water catastrophe, we would need a fund to be able to pay to have repairs.
3. **Developmental Ordinance Article 5 changes** – There was no discussion on this topic.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Bell offered those present a final opportunity for questions or comments; and with none, he asked for a motion to close the public hearing. Council Member Craig York made the motion to close the public hearing; motion seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Jerry Rice. Motion carried by unanimous vote, and the June 11, 2024 Public Hearing was adjourned at approximately 6:10 p.m., and the Council then proceeded with the regular Council meeting.

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Chip Bell, Mayor

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Barbara York, Town Clerk

**APPROVED:**