

Regular Meeting No. 2021-09-21-RG
Of the Town Council of the Town of Gurley, Alabama
Gurley Town Hall
September 21, 2021 7:00 p.m.

Regular Meeting:

The Town Council of Gurley, Alabama, met on September 21, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. in the Gurley Town Hall for a regular meeting.

Mayor Simpson called the regular meeting to order. Upon roll call, present were Richard Meyers, Robert Winn, Joseph Belles and Stan Simpson.

Public Hearing #1:

A Public Hearing was held To Amend Ordinance 219-R1, The Zoning Ordinance, And to Repeal Ordinance 219-R2. Mayor Simpson asked everyone to sign in for the public hearing. Mayor Simpson opened the hearing for discussion.

Mayor Simpson indicated the Planning Commission voted to recommend passage of the Ordinance. Mayor Simpson communicated that the Town Attorneys reviewed the R-2 Ordinance and determined a change needed to be enacted.

Councilman Belles indicated that his opinion was that the fines under the proposal were arbitrary and the permitting time frames perhaps were not strict enough.

No comments were made by the public.

Public Hearing #2:

A Public Hearing was held to request to rezone the property on Range Road. Mayor Simpson opened the hearing for discussion. Mayor Simpson asked everyone to sign in for the public hearing.

Mayor Simpson stated the Planning Commission recommended the Council approve the rezoning. The landowners presented a letter to the Council stating they will not seek any special exceptions that are allowed with agricultural zoning.

Dwight Anderson asked Justin Black about what type of animals would be on the property.

Justin Black responded that sheep only in a 2-acre area located in the middle of the 12+ acres. He also indicated growing garden crops for possible sale.

Justin Black indicated that he would not cut the trees from around the property line so as to add a buffer between his house and his neighbors.

The Mayor explained the uses that would be allowed under the agricultural designation.

Councilman Belles expressed concern from going from R-1 to Agricultural.

No further comments were made by the public. No opposing comments by the public were made.

Reading of Minutes: A motion was made by Meyers, seconded by Winn, to dispense with the reading and approve as prepared, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on September 7, 2021. On voice vote, motion carried.

Public Comments:

No Public Comments.

Reports of Officers:

- a) **Town Administrator:** See Attached Notes. The safety meeting will be on Wednesday, September 29, 2021, at 10:00 a.m.
- b) **Police Department:** See Attached Notes.
- c) **Fire Department:** See Attached Notes.

Hearings of Petitions, Applications, Complaints, Appeals, Communications, etc.:

- 1. **Stan Simpson-Mayor:** Appreciates the work everyone did on Sunday.
Met with Cindy Hewitt, the new Executive Director of the Huntsville/Madison County Library yesterday. Ms. Hewitt sent her appreciation to the Council for the support given to the library. We need to have a work session in the next week. Remediation of west wall of Town Hall. Look at paving the back parking lot. Comcast meeting tomorrow to discuss the contract. Adjusted sewer at 143 Jackson for \$51.77. Croy Engineering has begun surveying the cemetery. Ladd Engineering is working on the project details for putting electrical in the park. ARWA Class for Logan Truett and Tyler Owens.
- 2. **Richard Meyers- Town Council Place 1:** Attended the MPO Meeting last night.
- 3. **Robert Winn-Town Council Place 2:** Flooding above his house. People can't get home or leave.
- 4. **Joseph Belles-Town Council Place 4:** We need to secure more barricades when flooding occurs in the Town.

Resolutions, Ordinances, Orders and other business:

- a) **Approval for Expenditures:** A motion was made by Meyers, seconded by Winn to approve the payment of the expenditures. Discussion on the AT&T bill for the Fire Department, tuition for Police Academy and the Local Government invoices. Motion carried on voice vote.
- b) **Sponsor Gurley Christmas Parade on December 4, 2021, at 10:00 a.m.:** A motion was made by Belles, seconded by Meyers to sponsor the Gurley Christmas Parade on December 4, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. Motion carried on voice vote.
- c) **Sponsor the Christmas Tree Trail with Historic Gurley:** A motion was made by Belles, seconded by Meyers to sponsor the Christmas Tree Trail with Historic Gurley. Motion carried on voice vote
- d) **Expense Report for Stephen Landis for Mileage:** A motion was made by Meyers, seconded by Winn to approve reimbursing Stephen Landis \$138.88 for his mileage to the Police Academy. Motion carried on majority vote.
- e) **Donation for Police Department:** A motion was made by Belles, seconded by Winn to accept the donations of \$725.00 from Mr. Davis and \$200.00 from Mr. Wagoner for the Police Department. Motion carried on voice vote.
- f) **Street Light Upgrade:** A motion was made by Meyers, seconded by Belles to accept the quote of \$2,400 from Huntsville Utilities for the street light upgrade. Motion carried on voice vote.
- g) **Business Licenses for Klein Quality Trailers:** A motion was made by Belles, seconded by Winn to approve the business licenses for Klein Quality Trailers. Gary Kern recommended approval of the business license. Upon roll call: Yea's- Meyers, Winn, Belles & Simpson. Motion carried on voice vote.
- h) **Ordinance 2021-006 An Ordinance to Amend Ordinance 219-R1, The Zoning Ordinance of the Town of Gurley, as Amended, and to Repeal Ordinance 219-R2:** A motion was made by Meyers, seconded by Winn to dispense with the reading and move for immediate consideration of Ordinance 2021-006 by Title. Upon roll call: Yea's- Meyers, Winn, and Simpson. Nays-Belles. Motion carried.

- i) **Ordinance 2021-007 An Ordinance Amending the Zoning Map for the Town of Gurley:** A motion was made by Meyers, seconded by Winn to dispense with the reading and move for immediate consideration of Ordinance 2021-007 by Title. Upon roll call: Yea's- Meyers, Winn and Simpson. Nays-Belles. Motion carried.
- j) **ARWA's Water & Wastewater On-line Operator Certification Training Program:** A motion was made by Belles, seconded by Meyers to move for immediate consideration for Logan Truett and Tyler Owens to register for the ARWA's Water & Wastewater On-line Operator Certification Training Program for \$400 per student plus the cost of manuals. Upon roll call: Yea's- Meyers, Winn, Belles and Simpson. Nay's- None. Motion carried on voice vote. Having unanimous consent, a motion was made by Meyers, seconded by Belles to approve the ARWA's Water & Wastewater On-line Operator Training Program for Logan Truett and Tyler Owens for \$400 per student plus the cost of the manuals. Motion carried on voice vote.

A motion was made by Meyers, seconded by Winn to adjourn. Motion carried on voice vote.

Ginger M. Patterson, Town Clerk

Stan Simpson, Mayor

Gurley Administrator's report to the Town council for September 21, 2021

1. The commercial project at the end of Walker St, (Homeland Environmental Solutions), and (The Care Thrift Store) has passed the final inspections with a few minor items to complete. Most of the residential projects have been brought up to date. It seems we are getting back on schedule.
2. We weathered the large amount of rain fall this weekend. We did have a few road closings around this area; however, the ditches did allow the water to flow very well. Third St. did not back up as it usually does.
3. Gurley Pike is close for a day at the railroad crossing for road work.
4. We are having some repairs on our buildings, the library, Town Hall and a few other buildings.
5. We are receiving calls and requests for information regarding annexation, rezoning and other questions regarding the Town of Gurley. These questions are from commercial and residential as well as real estate agents. We direct them to our web site to review our ordinances and permit information. We might want to consider updating our web site.
6. The picnic tables are starting to arrive. We will install them after all of them are here.
7. We have ordered new coverings for our meeting room tables.
8. We are expecting some proposals from property owners who want to improve their properties along our right of ways. We will review the proposals with Graylons department and our ordinances regarding these subjects, and report to the Town Council.
9. We are continuing to work with property owners to address issues around town that is in non-compliant with our ordinances.



Gurley Police Department

"IN GOD WE TRUST"

September 21, 2021

Chief's Report to Gurley Town Council

- Body Camera Policy is completed and has been turned over to the mayor for review.
- We have also completed a small policy on the use of NARCAN. NARCAN is a counter active drug to opiate overdose. We received our NARCAN at no cost through a grant with the state that I applied for a few months ago. The primary purpose of NARCAN is for the use by our Police Officers in case of accidental ingestion of an opiate. This could occur under many circumstances that we face daily. This policy also allows the use of NARCAN on a patient in the event that the officer has no other option to try to save the overdosed persons life. NARCAN has no side effects and is not dangerous to use as its only effect is to block the absorption of opiates by the human body.
- Officer Stephen Landis did not complete the basic police academy due to unforeseen circumstances and is turning in a resignation from his full time position as police officer.
- Gordon has been registered for his training class and the receipt has been turned into Ginger
- My hotel room for the New Chief's Conference has been booked and that receipt has also been turned into Ginger.
- The Gurley Police Department has begun to have monthly meetings with all the officers that will happen somewhere near the end of every month. These are mandatory to all officers and will get all of us on the same page and all understanding of each other.

Thank You,
Chief J. C. Martin

Chief of Police James C. Martin

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Sgt. E. Jones Cell (256)427-9128





Gurley Fire & Rescue
235 Walker Street · PO Box 128
Gurley, Alabama 35748
Phone: (256) 947-1049



21 September 2021

Report to the Mayor

1. **All-Hazard Calls:** The Department received 38 all-hazard emergency calls in August. We were able to respond to 35 of those calls. The majority were medical calls with one vehicle fire and a missing persons SAR.

2. **Joint Training:** The department conducted a prescribed burn with Central VFD. In total, the Department conducted three (3) training session with Central before burning the structure.

3. Fire Hydrant testing conducted on 4 September in the vicinity of Walker Street was successful. The schedule for the remaining Hydrants is in development.

4. **Engine 453:** We have had two (2) inquiries and one (1) viewing. More to follow.

5. **Firefighter (FF) 1:** Three personnel have completed FF 1. Two personnel are in their final module and will complete FF 1 by the end of September. Four (4) personnel begin FF 2 on 4 October. By 1 October, the Department will have five (5) certified firefighters (of the ten (10) members).

6. Upcoming Activities.

a. FF 2 training 4 Oct-4 Nov (4 Members).

b. Fire Hydrant testing TBD.

c. **Fire Inspection Course:** Two (2) members will take the Fire Inspection course 7-11 February 2022.

7. Fire Apparatus and Vehicle Readiness.

a. Engines 153 and 253 are fully operational and dispatch ready.

b. Engine 153 pump test on 24 August.

8. **Member Readiness.** The Department has ten (10) members on the roles and all ten are active. The Department has four (4) EMTs (or higher medical certifications) available for medical calls. One member began EMT school in August.

9. Upcoming Department Purchases (See attached for breakdown).

a. Globe Athletix Turnout Gear. Top of the line Turnouts. 2021-2022 bid list published on/about October 1st. Once published we will order turn-outs from the bid list.

6. Budget.

a. **County Funds:** ~\$112,000 in account 290 and \$0 in account 900. I transferred all remaining 900-funds into a spending account (290). ~46,000 is "earmarked" for turnout gear. I will transfer ~\$30,000 back into the 900 account after all County audits are complete.

b. Other Funds:

1. \$1,600 from Forestry Division.

2. \$3,000 for scrap vehicles.

End of Report