



# West Pelzer

## *South Carolina* COUNCIL AGENDA

Tuesday June 9, 2020

6:00pm

West Pelzer Municipal Center - 30 Main Street

- I. INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- II. CALL TO ORDER
- III. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES
  - a) *May 5, 2020 Council Meeting*
- IV. PRESENTATIONS/CLERK'S REPORT
  - a) *Paula Payton - Clerk's Report*
  - b) *Chief Eliopoulos – Police Department Report*
  - c) *Rep. Anne Thayer & Sen. Mike Gambrell*
- V. CITIZEN COMMENTS (sign up required / max 3 minutes)
- VI. PUBLIC HEARING
  - a) *2020/2021 Annual Budget*
- VII. OLD BUSINESS
  - a) *Second Reading of Ordinance 2020-0407 "Annual Budget"*
- VIII. NEW BUSINESS
  - a) *Resolution No. 2020-0602 "Adoption of Town Flag"*
  - b) *Resolution No. 2020-0602-1 "Resolution to Approve the Potential Transfer of Right-of-Way Between the Town of West Pelzer and Adjacent Land Owners"*
- IX. REQUEST BY COUNCIL
- X. EXECUTIVE SESSION
- XI. ADJOURNMENT

# COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday June 9, 2020

6:00pm

West Pelzer Municipal Center - 30 Main Street

Those present: Mayor Blake Sanders, Council Members Jim Riddle, Pat Alexander, Vicki Farmer and Johnny Rogers; Town Attorney Carey Murphy, Town Clerk Paula Payton and Chief Alexis Eliopoulos.

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Mayor Sanders

CALL TO ORDER 6:02pm

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES *May 5, 2020 Council Meeting*

Motion to approve by Councilman Rogers, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Alexander; all were in favor.

PRESENTATIONS/CLERK'S REPORT

*Paula Payton - Clerk's Report - see attached*

*Chief Eliopoulos – Police Department Report – see attached*

*Rep. Anne Thayer & Sen. Mike Gambrell – Rep. Thayer presented Mayor and Council with an American Flag and SC State Flag that has flown over the SC State House. The flags will be placed on the front of the Municipal Center.*

CITIZEN COMMENTS (sign up required / max 3 minutes)

Diane Smith – concerned with the ditch/drain in her backyard; stated that during the Town's sewer project it was dug out and a pipe was placed in it. Now when it rains it fills in and never completely dries. Mrs. Smith asked if the Town had equipment or any suggestions for a resolution?

Mayor Sanders stated that the Town could assist in flushing the pipe and we would work with Anderson County Roads/Bridges to see what could be done.

PUBLIC HEARING *2020/2021 Annual Budget*

No public comment/questions

OLD BUSINESS *Second Reading of Ordinance 2020-0407 "Annual Budget"*

Mayor Sanders provided a summary of the budget and prior discussions; no questions or comment from Council. Councilman Riddle made a motion to approve Ordinance 2020-0407, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Farmer; all were in favor.

NEW BUSINESS

*Resolution No. 2020-0602 "Adoption of Town Flag"*

Mayor Sanders presented a flag design that was prepared and approved by the Planning Commission. Councilwoman Alexander made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2020-0602, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Farmer; Councilwoman Farmer, Councilwoman Alexander, Councilman Rogers and Mayor Sanders approved; Councilman Riddle abstained.

*Resolution No. 2020-0602-1 "Resolution to Approve the Potential Transfer of Right-of- Way Between the Town of West Pelzer and Adjacent Land Owners"*

Mayor Sanders stated that there were several right-of-way's throughout Town that the Town no longer used. The transfer of these properties to the adjacent property owners has been discussed for years and recently the Town has had to pay for damage that occurred on one or more of these right-of-way's. Mr. Murphy has suggested transfer of these right-of-way's via quitclaim deed. It would be the responsibility of the adjacent property owner to respond to the Town and survey the right-of-way. Right-of-way's listed are:

- Spring Street to Dendy Street
- Spring Street to Depot Road
- Welborn Street to Spring Street
- Main Street to Drake Street
- Bollinger Street to Chapman Park
- Chapman Park to Park Street
- Park Street to Evans Street

Councilwoman Alexander made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2020-0602-1, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Riddle; all were in favor.

#### REQUEST BY COUNCIL

*Mayor Sanders*

1. Encouraged everyone to complete the 2020 Census; 300 people have not responded for West Pelzer.
2. Commend Anderson County; they have been phenomenal through the Covid-19 pandemic, as well as the recent flooding events.
3. Mayor Sanders read a statement from the Town of West Pelzer (see attached) and asked each Council Member to sign in support.

*Councilman Rogers* – none

*Councilman Riddle* – read prepared personal statement (see attached)

*Councilwoman Alexander* – none

*Councilwoman Farmer* – none

EXECUTIVE SESSION - none

#### ADJOURNMENT

At 6:46pm Councilman Rogers made a motion to adjourn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Alexander; all were in favor.

Minutes prepared by:

*Paula H. Payton, CMC*

Town Clerk



[www.westpelzer.com](http://www.westpelzer.com)

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To: Mayor Sanders and Council

From: Paula H. Payton, CMC

Subject: Clerk's Report

Date: June 9, 2020

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*The following are updates and information related to activities in the Town of West Pelzer and/or upcoming events. Please contact me with any questions that you may have related to these items. [ppayton@westpelzer.com](mailto:ppayton@westpelzer.com) or 864-947-6297 ext. 101*

#### **Administration**

- The April 2020 Department Meeting was held via email; a summary was emailed to each council member on April 17, 2020
- West Pelzer is partnering with Anderson County to promote the 2020 Census; please encourage your friends, family and neighbors to participate so we are counted accurately

#### **Public Works**

- 16 work orders were completed in the month of May 2020.
  - Work Orders can be submitted online ([www.westpelzer.com](http://www.westpelzer.com)) or by calling Town Hall
- 2019 CCR Water Quality Report is available at [www.westpelzer.com](http://www.westpelzer.com)
- Reminder - Sanitation will run as usual, unless notification is received, even on holidays
- I've been working with Councilman Riddle and Councilwoman Alexander on scheduling/budgeting for beautification projects

#### **Municipal Court**

Monies disbursed for May 2020

- General Fund ~ \$197.83
- Victim's Fund (Anderson County) ~ \$45.59
- State Assessment ~ \$654.27

## Finance

- May 2020 Budget
  - General Fund    Income \$51,836.67    ~    Expense \$37,043.39
  - Water/Sewer    Income \$70,772.26    ~    Expense \$63,845.36
  - Hospitality Tax    Income \$1,932.70    ~    Expense \$286.87
- Over Budget Items (YTD)
  - 01-7290-000 GF/PD Property/Vehicle Liability Insurance
    - Rate Increase
  - 01-7380-100 Office Expense – Court/Police
    - Additional Needs
  - 03-7290-200 WS Property/Vehicle Liability Insurance
    - Expense carried over from 2018/2019 budget year
  - 03-7375-000 WS Retirement
    - Variance paid by employee
  - 03-7220-000 Dues & Publications
    - New membership to South Carolina Rural Water Association
  - 03-7260-000 Professional Services
    - Unexpected expenses due to flooding
- 2019/2020 Budget
  - Water and Sewer expenses listed separately on the budget analysis
    - USDA requirement
- 2020/2021 Budget
  - Public Hearing; 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading – June 9, 2020

## Upcoming Events

- Father's Day Giveaway – June 2020

## Covid-19

- The Municipal Center reopened to the public on Monday May 11, 2020 with limited access
  - Each office has cleaning/sanitizing supplies
  - All doors and counters are sanitized when office closes (12pm and 5pm daily)
  - DHEC approved screens have been placed in each payment window
  - The lobby floor is marked to maintain 6' distance
  - Only 2 customers are allowed in the lobby at a time
  - We continue to encourage customers to handle business by phone or email
    - Payments can be made by phone, online or at the drop box (3 Hindman)
- O'Dell Community Center opened on June 1, 2020
- Court is schedule to resume in July; with limited access
- All departments remain on a "spending freeze"; if there is an immediate need it will be reviewed by myself, Mayor Sanders and Councilman Riddle to determine approval



To: Mayor Sanders and Council

From: Chief Alexis Eliopoulos

Subject: Police Department Report

Date: June 1, 2020

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*The following are updates and information related to activities of the West Pelzer Police Department and/or upcoming events. Please contact me with any questions that you may have related to these items.*

*[aeliopoulos@westpelzer.com](mailto:aeliopoulos@westpelzer.com) or 864-947-6297 ext. 103*

#### **Crime Stats**

- Reports-34
- Arrests-16
  - traffic related – 9
  - Drug related-1
  - DUI-1
  - Warrant Served: 1
  - Grand Larceny of MV: 1
  - Malicious Damage of personal Property: 1
  - Shoplifting-1
  - Dog running at Large: 1
- Tickets Written-69
- Warnings- 21
- Two grass letters and one chicken ordinance violation letter sent out for month of May

#### **Updates**

- The Police Department has acquired 6 in car Radio systems and are no longer using handheld radios only.
- All officers are healthy and are in good spirits.
- Reminder: If anyone needs to reach an Officer, they can call 864-947-6297 opt 5 or Anderson County Dispatch 864-260-4444; **If it is an emergency please dial 911.**

**AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE ADOPTION OF AN OPERATING BUDGET, ITS EXECUTION AND EFFECT, FOR THE FISCAL PERIOD JULY 1, 2020 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2021**

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WEST PELZER, SOUTH CAROLINA:**

**SECTION 1.** In accordance with The Code of Ordinances for the Town of West Pelzer, South Carolina, there is hereby adopted for the fiscal period July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021, an operating budget for the Town of West Pelzer, South Carolina, based on budget estimates of various funds as prepared by the Mayor and incorporated into the FY 2020-2021 operating budget document, and as modified by the attached adjustment schedule.

**SECTION 2.** The total revenues and expenditures for the fiscal period are estimated as follows:

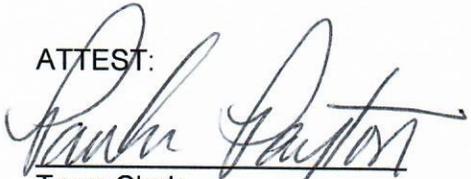
	<u>Revenues</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>Surplus/Deficit</u>
General Fund	\$478,304.53	\$478,304.53	0
Water/Sewer Fund	\$654,196.00	\$654,196.00	0
Hospitality Fund	\$36,000.00	\$36,000.00	0
Totals	\$1,132,500.53	\$1,132,500.53	0

**SECTION 3.** A bound copy of the budget containing detailed schedules which support the appropriations set forth in Section 2, above, shall be attested by the Mayor and maintained as an official record in the office of the Mayor and Town Clerk.

**SECTION 4.** This Ordinance shall become effective upon date of passage, designated as Ordinance No. 2020-0407. Subsequent review of revenues and expenditures occurs daily, weekly, and monthly; a review of revenues and expenditures will occur by council biannually.

**DONE, RATIFIED, AND PASSED** this 9th day of June, 2020.

  
MAYOR

ATTEST:  
  
Town Clerk

**RESOLUTION NO. 2020-0602 ADOPTION OF TOWN FLAG**

**RESOLUTION TO ADOPT A NEW FLAG FOR THE TOWN OF WEST PELZER**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of West Pelzer does not have a current Town Flag, neither informal or formally adopted; and

**WHEREAS**, symbols, such as flags, building national and local pride and loyalty and are important for universities, sports, businesses, products, and organizations, including towns; and

**WHEREAS**, this resolution will retire any previous informal flags to a place of honor and to adopt a new flag; and

**WHEREAS**, a new flag will have two primary colors (blue representing the proximity to the Saluda River and understanding of our ancestors AND knowledge of Cherokee Indian markings in West Pelzer that represent the springs and point toward the Saluda River; orange representing the sun setting in the west), three birds (representing the Town as a bird sanctuary and symbolic of past, present, and future); and

**WHEREAS**, the new flag will support the Town's Strategic Plan to market itself externally to residents, businesses, visitors, and passersby.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WEST PELZER, SOUTH CAROLINA**, that the Town of West Pelzer shall adopt a new flag consisting of two bold colors, horizontal bar, and three birds as depicted in the attached photo.

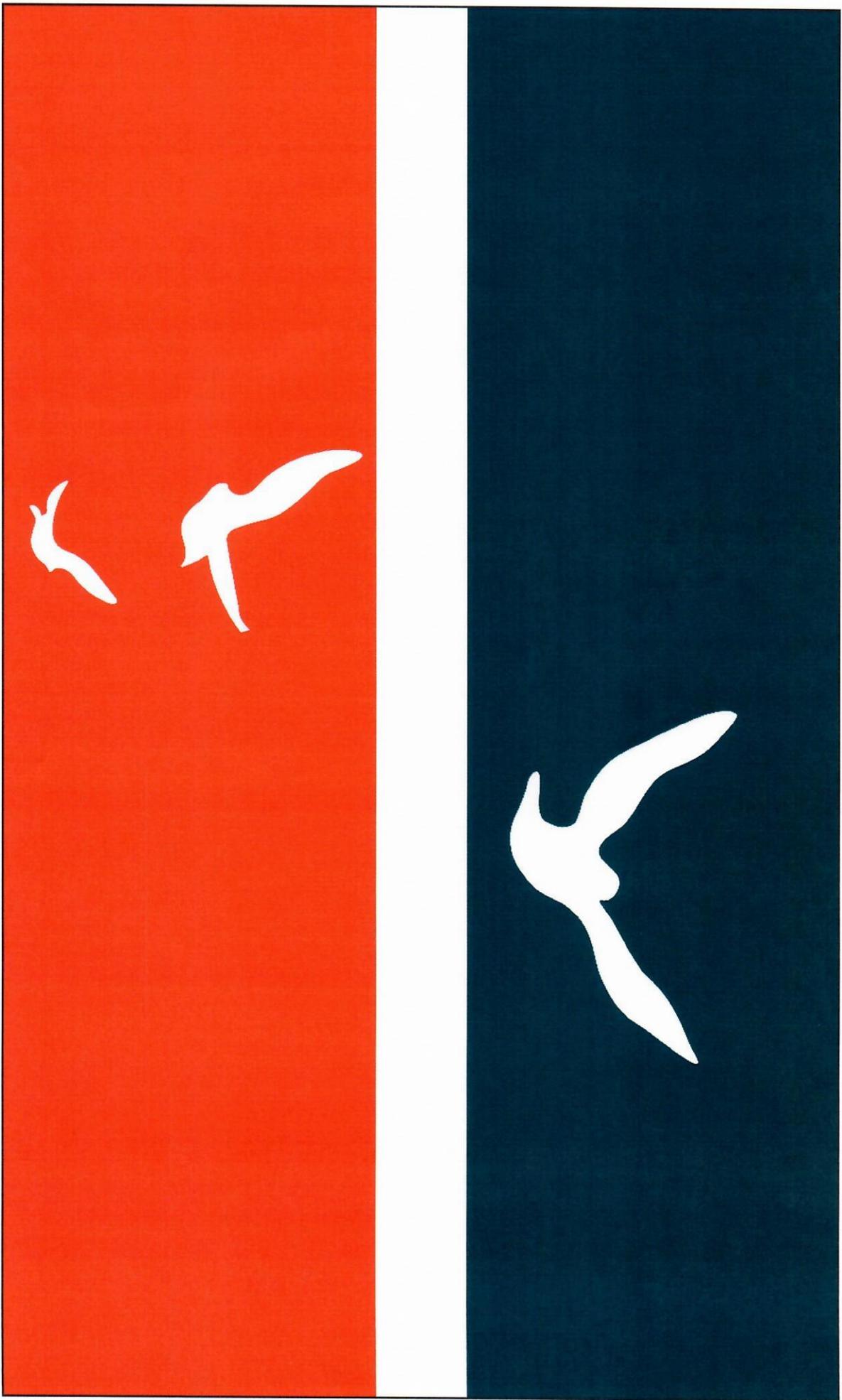
Resolution declared and adopted on June 2, 2020.



Blake Sanders, Mayor



Paula Payton, Town Clerk



**RESOLUTION NO. 2020-0602-1**  
**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE POTENTIAL TRANSFER OF RIGHTS-OF-WAY**  
**BETWEEN THE TOWN OF WEST PELZER AND ADJACENT LAND OWNERS**

**WHEREAS**, certain public rights-of-way owned by the Town of West Pelzer are within the municipal limits of the Town and shown in the attached exhibits; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town is considering the transfer of these public rights-of-way to adjacent property owners upon their formal written request; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Council finds that this resolution is in the best interest and welfare of the residents of the Town.

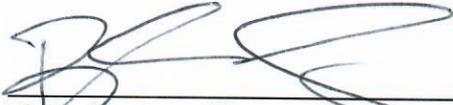
**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WEST PELZER, SOUTH CAROLINA, AS FOLLOWS:**

**Section 1:** The Town will inform adjacent land owners of the Town's intent to transfer the public rights-of-way via quitclaim deed at a later date as approved by council.

**Section 2:** The Town Council will duly consider the transfer after adjacent land owners have responded within 30 days.

**Section 3:** The Town will allow access for surveyors hired by the adjacent landowners making such requests to prepare plats for quitclaim deeds.

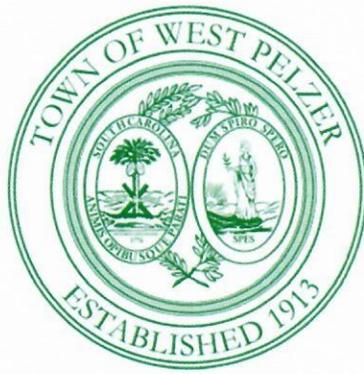
Resolution declared and adopted on June 2, 2020.

  
Blake Sanders, Mayor

  
Paula Payton, Town Clerk







The Town of West Pelzer, its elected officials, and staff, do not tolerate the inexcusable police violence exhibited in the tragic deaths of George Floyd. As a Town, we must make every effort to fight racism while condemning all violent actions. These types of incidents, albeit not in West Pelzer, have widespread repercussions that take innocent lives, destroy businesses, and ultimately degrade communities. Despite the selfless actions being displayed by police officers around the country, the trust in public safety is diminished by actions that are harmful to the peaceful protestors and our community.

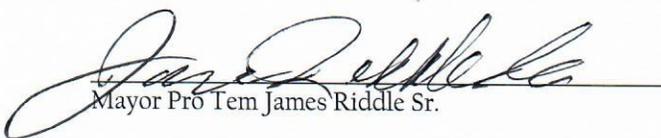
Collectively our thoughts go out to the family, friends, and colleagues of those that have been taken too soon from the communities they loved. We support all efforts of accountability and justice. We, as a Town, support the rights of peaceful assembly to honor those who have been victims of racism and violence.

West Pelzer is a strong community and has been since its conception in 1913. We are a Town of progress that shines the brightest when those around us can see the character within our community. It is our desire that you display West Pelzer love daily through compassion, companionship, and community and not wait on national tragedy to express your community love.

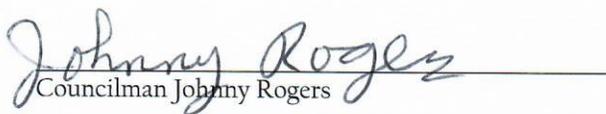
Our hope is that the West Pelzer community will be a leader to bring peaceful change and lead productive dialogues to instill our love, passion, and Christlike attitudes in every rural town in South Carolina and the United States of America.



Mayor Blake Sanders



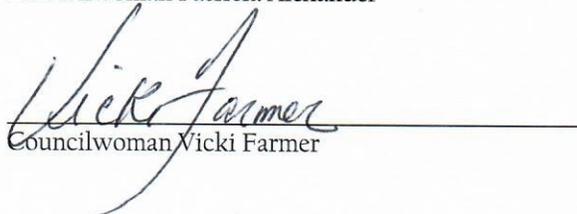
Mayor Pro Tem James Riddle Sr.



Councilman Johnny Rogers



Councilwoman Patricia Alexander



Councilwoman Vicki Farmer

As a forthright, well informed, journalist of our local paper recently said reflecting upon recent events, "My God, where do I begin."

Let me begin by saying I fully agree with the official statement we the council just released. The manner of death of George Floyd at the hands of police officers is sad and tragic. But the response in many ways has been equally sad and tragic including the reporting by some media, prompting me to ask, "My God, What is truth?" So, to try and discern the truth I asked an expert, an honest expert who has no personal or political bias, no reason to lie, a child.

I asked, Do Black Lives Matter? The answer, All Lives Matter. TRUTH, plain simple unbiased truth. To state it in a more mature but no less profound way one might say, "All men are created equal...."

So, unless one intends to use such a question or statement in a less obvious and truthful manner why ask it, unless one intends to use it in a less than truthful manner requiring an answer in keeping with that of the one asking the questioning.

I close my comments quoting another forthright and well-informed journalist, "When people try to force you to say things you know are not true, it is a power play. Making you submit makes them feel powerful, and is very hard to resist, because of the consequences, which can be profound. Resist, tell the truth no matter what, for the sake of your dignity, your country, your children and your grandchildren."

*Councilman Riddle*