



COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

Tuesday September 10, 2024

6:00pm

West Pelzer Municipal Center

30 Main Street

- I. MOMENT OF SILENCE/REVERANCE
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- III. CALL TO ORDER
- IV. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES
 - a) *August 13, 2024, Council Meeting*
- V. PRESENTATIONS AND REPORTS
 - a) *Paula Payton - Clerk's Report*
 - b) *Chief Zachary Owen - Police Department Update*
- VI. CITIZEN COMMENTS (sign up required / max 3 minutes)
- VII. OLD BUSINESS
- VIII. NEW BUSINESS
 - a) *Resolution 2024-0910 "Pledging to Practice and Promote Civility in the Town of West Pelzer"*
 - b) *Approval of Addendum to Employer Resolution for Participation in the State Insurance Benefits Program regarding Municipality Councilmember Coverage*
- IX. COUNCIL COMMENTS
- X. EXECUTIVE SESSION
- XI. ADJOURNMENT



COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday September 10, 2024

6:00pm

West Pelzer Municipal Center
30 Main Street

Those present: Mayor Jim Riddle, Council Members Jeff Lee, Thomas Scarfo and Tim Williams;
Town Clerk/Admin Paula Payton, Chief Zachary Owen.

MOMENT OF SILENCE/REVERANCE

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CALL TO ORDER Mayor Riddle 6pm

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES August 13, 2024, Council Meeting

Motion by Councilman Lee, 2nd by Councilman Williams; all were in favor.

PRESENTATIONS AND REPORTS

Paula Payton - Clerk's Report – see attached

Chief Zachary Owen – Police Department Update – introduction of new officers Gregory Taylor and Joshua Wesley

CITIZEN COMMENTS (sign up required / max 3 minutes)

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 2024-0910 “Pledging to Practice and Promote Civility in the Town of West Pelzer”

Clerk's Comment: This is a follow up to Naomi Reed's presentation at the August council meeting;

The Municipal Association's board of directors adopted a strategic plan that included restoring civility in government as a top priority; MASC prepared a resolution on civility and strongly recommend that all municipalities adopt the resolution and its practices. Councilman Lee made a motion to approve, 2nd by Councilman Williams; all were in favor.

Approval of Addendum to Employer Resolution for Participation in the State Insurance Benefits Program regarding Municipality Councilmember Coverage

Clerk's Comment: The Town of West Pelzer has offered health insurance to qualifying employees through PEBA; Public Employee Benefit Authority for many years;

Unfortunately, budget restraints have not allowed this to be offered to elected officials;

PEBA requires an addendum be approved and signed by the majority of the elected officials indicating “Members of the Council will not be considered Active Employees of the Employer for the purposes of participation in the State Insurance Benefits Program”. Councilman Lee made a motion to approve, 2nd by Councilman Scarfo; all were in favor.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilman Lee – excited for the future of the PD

Councilman Williams – welcomed officers and asked status of uniforms, cars, equipment; Chief Owen responded that everything should be in place by the end of the month.

Councilman Scarfo – none

Mayor Riddle - none

EXECUTIVE SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Lee made a motion to adjourn at 6:09pm, 2nd by Councilman Scarfo; all were in favor.

Minutes prepared by:

Paula H. Payton, MMC, ABL

Town Clerk | Administrator



#gowest

www.westpelzer.com

To: Mayor Riddle and Council

From: Paula H. Payton, MMC, ABL

Subject: Administration Report

Date: September 2024

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 or 864-947-6297 ext. 101

O'Dell Community & Entrepreneur Center

- Open every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9am-3pm
- Free Wireless Internet, Conference Table, Individual Desks, Whiteboard, Television for Presentations, fully ADA compliant
- **The Senior Place – Meals on Wheels**
 - Food & activities are provided every Monday & Friday; 10am-2pm
 - Free; donations accepted

Announcements & Events

- Fall Farm Days – September 14th
- Fall Mile Long Yard Sale – October 5th

Finance

- August 2024 Budget
 - General Fund Income \$52,338.35 ~ Expense \$66,376.70
 - Hospitality Tax Income \$7,019.53 ~ Expense \$2,485.30
- *Funds remaining in the Public Maintenance account will be transferred to General Fund operating account once all transactions have cleared*

RESOLUTION No. 2024-0910

PLEDGING TO PRACTICE AND PROMOTE CIVILITY IN THE TOWN OF WEST PELZER

WHEREAS, a recent national survey found that 93% of Americans believe that incivility is a problem, with 68% considering it a “major” problem and 74% believing that incivility is increasing in America;

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of West Pelzer (the “Council”), the governing body of the Town of West Pelzer, South Carolina (the “Municipality”), recognizes that robust debate and the right to self-expression, as protected by the First Amendment to the United States Constitution, are fundamental rights and essential components of democratic self-governance;

WHEREAS, the Council further recognizes that the public exchange of diverse ideas and viewpoints is necessary to the health of the community and the quality of governance in the Municipality;

WHEREAS, the Members of Council, as elected representatives of the community and stewards of the public trust, recognize their special role in modeling open, free and vigorous debate while maintaining the highest standards of civility, honesty and mutual respect; and

WHEREAS, in order to publicly declare its commitment to civil discourse and to express its concern for the common good and well-being of all of its residents, the Council has determined to adopt this resolution,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

The Town of West Pelzer pledges to practice and promote civility within the governing body.

The elected officials of the Council enact this civility pledge to build a stronger and more prosperous community by advocating for civil engagement, respecting others and their viewpoints, and finding solutions for the betterment of the Town of West Pelzer.

This pledge ensures all communication — both spoken and written — to be open, honest and transparent as this is vital for cultivating trust and relationships.

This pledge ensures mutual respect to achieve municipal goals, recognizing that patience, tolerance and civility are imperative to success.

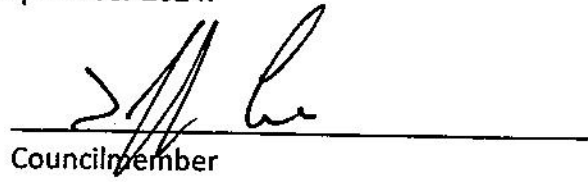
This pledge ensures opportunities for finding common ground and engaging in civil discussion to seek solutions while actively listening and thoughtfully participating.

[signatures appear on following page]

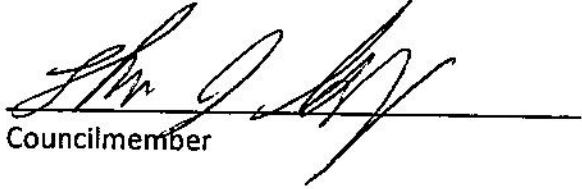
ADOPTED IN REGULAR MEETING this 10th day of September 2024.



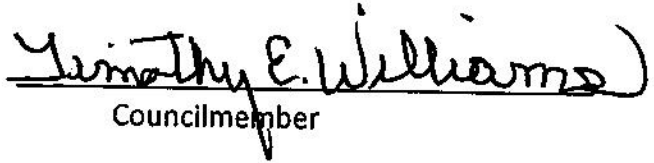
Mayor



Councilmember



Councilmember



Councilmember

Councilmember

ATTEST:



Town Clerk | Administrator



Addendum to Employer Resolution for Participation in the State Insurance Benefits Program regarding County/Municipality Councilmember Coverage

Complete the form below and submit via mail or email to:

S.C. PEBA

EmployerAudits@peba.sc.gov

Attn: Insurance Employer Audit
202 Arbor Lake Drive
Columbia, SC 29223

As an addendum to the resolution entered into by the Town of West Pelzer (Employer) for
County/Municipality Name
Participation in the State Insurance Benefits Program, the West Pelzer Council of
County/Town/City
West Pelzer (Council) hereby makes the following election regarding the eligibility of
County/Municipality Name

elected members of the Council to participate as active employees in the State Insurance Benefits Program (Program) offered by the South Carolina Public Employee Benefit Authority (PEBA) pursuant to Section 1-11-703 et seq. of the 1976 Code of Laws:

Select one only.

- Members of the Council will be considered Active Employees of the Employer for the purposes of participation in the State Insurance Benefits Program (*only available if Councilmembers are paid and are eligible for participation in the South Carolina Retirement Systems*); or
- Members of the Council will **not** be considered Active Employees of the Employer for the purposes of participation in the State Insurance Benefits Program.

In making this election, the Council hereby understands, acknowledges and agrees that:

1. The election made above is a material requirement for participation in the Program established by the PEBA Board of Directors and is irrevocable during the Employer's period of participation in the Program;
2. The election made above applies only to Councilmembers' participation in the Program, and does not affect Councilmembers' participation in the South Carolina Retirement Systems;
3. If the Council has elected to decline coverage, Councilmembers will not be considered Employees of the Employer, as that term is defined in the State Health Plan, for purposes of eligibility and participation in the Program, and will not be eligible for any benefit offered under the Program as an Active Employee by virtue of membership on the Council; service on the Council will not be taken into consideration for eligibility for retiree insurance coverage under

the Program; and the Council and Employer irrevocably waive and disclaim any rights the Employer or its Councilmembers may have regarding Councilmembers' benefits from the Program as a result of their service on the Council after the date of this election; and

4. The election made above will not be effective until it is received in good order and approved by PEBA, and nothing in this election alters any other obligations Employer has to properly and timely administer insurance benefits under the Program for other Employees of the Employer in accordance with the requirements established by PEBA.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands and authority at the meeting of the West Pelzer Town Council of the Town of West Pelzer
County/Town/City Anderson County/Municipality Name
 County of Anderson, South Carolina, held at 30 Main Street West Pelzer
County Location
 this 10th day of Sept, 2024.
Day Month

Signatures of Council Members

A majority must sign.

[Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]

Certification

I, Paula Payton, Town Clerk of the aforesaid Employer, hereby certify
Name Title
 that the aforesaid Council consists of 5 duly elected members, and that as stated above,
Number
4 members voted in favor of the above Addendum.
Number

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the authority of the aforesaid Employer.

[Signature] 9/10/2024 7041000
Signature Date Employer Group Number