



*Town of St. Matthews*  
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**Town Council Meeting**  
**Tuesday April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.**  
**1313 Bridge Street (St. Matthews Municipal Court), St. Matthews, SC 29135**

**Call to Order – Mayor Helen Carson**

**Agenda**

1. Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance
2. Approval of prior Meeting Minutes
3. Approval of the Agenda
4. Acceptance of Police, Fire and Animal Reports

**Citizens Input**

1. Each citizen must sign in and has up to **3 minutes to speak** to matters on the agenda or matters related to the Town of St. Matthews.

**Mayor and Council News**

1. Recognition of Town Employees
2. Town Council News

**Motions Period (Town Council)** – None Distributed to Administration

**Old Business**

1. Town Events – Update
2. SC Ethics Commission – Statement of Economic Interest
3. Landscaping Bids - Update
4. Paving – Update
5. SCIIP Grant
6. Code Enforcement - Update

**New Business**

1. LSCOG – April designation as Fair Housing Month
2. Calhoun County Schools Unity Day
3. Calhoun County Band Request
4. St. Matthews Garden Club – Palm Tree Donation

**Report of the Town Administrator**

1. Fire Department Report
2. Police Department Report
3. Maintenance Department Report

**Executive Session**

1. Potential Economic Development Matters

**Adjournment**

**Town of St. Matthews**

**Town Council Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, March 04, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.**

**1313 Bridge Street, St. Matthews, SC 29135**

**Council Members Present:**

Mayor Helen Glover-Carson  
Virgil Jacobs  
Eloise Shuler-Guinyard  
William "Webb" Carroll  
Deidre Prickett  
Marla Riley  
Sharon Bennett

**Also Present**

Rosyl Warren, Town Administrator  
Rosalind Johnson, Town Clerk  
Gregory Sandlin, Fire Chief  
Gregory Wilson, Maintenance Supervisor  
Michael Smalls, Chief of Police

Mayor Carson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Mr. Jacobs opened the Meeting in prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Mayor entertained a motion to accept the prior Meeting Minutes. It was moved by Ms. Shuler-Guinyard and seconded by Mr. Jacobs. The motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. Jacobs entertained a motion to approve the Meeting Agenda. It was moved by Ms. Shuler-Guinyard and seconded by Ms. Prickett. The motion was carried unanimously.

The Police, Fire, and Animal Control Reports were accepted for informational purposes.

Public Hearing 2nd and Final Reading – Amendments to Fire Prevention Ordinance.

At approximately 6:03 p.m., the Public Session opened to discuss the Amendments to the Fire Prevention Ordinance. The Amendments included removing the twenty-five feet requirement in

Section 14-12 (Recreational Fire) and changing the verbiage in Section 14-11 regarding grills and fireplaces used for cooking. The Mayor entertained a motion to remove the twenty-five feet requirement in Section 14-12 (Recreation Fire) from any other structure or combustible materials and to change the verbiage in Section 14-11 regarding grills and fireplaces used for cooking. It was moved by Ms. Prickett and seconded by Mr. Jacobs. The motion was carried unanimously. The Public Hearing closed at approximately 6:04 p.m.

Citizens Input - Mr. Al Jenkins from Senator Tim Scott's office offered federal assistance for any delayed or canceled grant-funded programs. The Mayor and Council expressed appreciation and interest in future collaboration.

Recognition of Town Employees — The Mayor acknowledged the birthdays of Town Employees for March: Mr. Wilson on March 4th and Ms. Fordham on March 24th.

Mr. Carroll noted that all town operations are progressing smoothly.

Ms. Shuler-Guinyard inquired whether all asphalt repairs had been completed. She also thanked the Mayor for her efforts and expressed appreciation to all Council members.

The Mayor discussed the segment "Now You Know" and mentioned that she plans to speak on a new topic related to senior citizens each month. The next segment is scheduled for the end of March.

Ms. Prickett commended the mayor on the "Now You Know" segment.

**Motions Period (Town Council):** None Distributed to Administration

**Old Business**

## **Town Events Update**

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**Ms. Warren informed the Council of the preparations that are underway for the upcoming Purple Martin Gala and the Purple Martin Festival, which will include a series of events throughout the month of April.**

**Purple Martin Gala — The Gala will take place on April 11, 2025, and anyone who would like to be a sponsor should contact Town Hall.**

**Purple Martin Festival – The Purple Martin Festival is scheduled for April 25 and April 26, 2025.**

**Other Town Events:**

**Easter Egg Scavenger Hunt – Tentatively planned for April 12, 2025.**

**National Police Week – National Police Week is scheduled for May 11 through May 17, 2025.**

**Movie Night – TBA**

**National Night Out — The National Night Out is scheduled for August 6, 2025, at Town Pocket Park.**

**Western Dance – TBA**

**Fire Prevention Week – Fire Prevention Week is tentatively scheduled for October 5th through October 11, 2025.**

**Cancer Walk – A cancer walk is tentatively scheduled for October 11, 2025.**

**Veterans Day Appreciation Dinner – The Veteran’s Day Dinner will take place on November 7, 2025.**

**Christmas Parade – The Town of St. Matthews Christmas Parade will tentatively take place on December 13, 2025.**

## **Town of St. Matthews Christmas Party – TBA**

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**Radar Sign Update – The Police Chief mentioned that the radar signs were first installed near the First Baptist Church and later moved near Family Dollar. The sign has been effective in encouraging drivers to slow down after seeing their speed displayed. Currently, the department has one radar sign with multiple mounting brackets, allowing it to be relocated based on reported speeding concerns. There are plans to acquire a second sign in the future to expand traffic calming efforts.**

**SCIIP Grant Project Update - Ms. Warren informed the Council that the Installation of new water pipes is nearly complete. Work will soon begin on upgrades to the wastewater treatment plant. Additional funds allowed the inclusion of Harry C. Raysor Drive (from Rucker Drive to Forest), which was not originally part of the project. This area had not previously been included, but due to the aging asbestos piping and frequent blowouts, the upgrade will be a significant improvement.**

**Paving Update – Ms. Warren spoke with the Department of Transportation (DOT) and confirmed that Pou Street is already on the state’s paving schedule. As a result, the town will not need to cover the paving costs, saving approximately \$3,500.00.**

### **New Business**

**Amendments to Election Ordinance - First Reading by Title Only**

**Ms. Warren had a meeting with Ms. Ashley Keller, the Voters Registration Director, concerning shortening the filing period from August 1st at noon until August 15th at noon. Ms. Warren explained that Ms. Keller also discussed increasing the filing fee from \$50.00 to \$75.00 in the next**

**budget. The Mayor entertained a motion to accept the Amendments to the Election Ordinance first reading by Title Only. It was moved by Ms. Prickett and seconded by Ms. Bennett. The motion was carried with one vote of opposition from Councilwoman Ms. Shuler-Guinyard.**

**Audit Preparation – Mr. Tim Cornelison, the Town Accountant, gave an update on the 2018 Audit. He stated that the number of audit findings was reduced from 11 to 7, and material weakness decreased from 10 to 5. Mr. Tim Cornelison outlined a proactive plan to address outstanding audits more efficiently. The 2019 audit workpapers are expected to be completed by June 30, 2025, and the audits for 2020 through 2024 are targeted for completion by September 30, 2026. To meet this schedule, the town will coordinate with Ms. Elizabeth Inabinet for referrals or recommendations for interviewing new CPA firms. The Mayor entertained a motion to accept the 2018 Audit with the findings presented by the Town Accountant, Mr. Cornelison. It was moved by Ms. Shuler-Guinyard and seconded by Ms. Prickett. The motion was carried unanimously.**

**New Perspective Media Request - Further information or action may be taken at a future meeting once more details are reviewed.**

**Town Sign Donation – Brand-Rite Signs has offered to donate a new welcome sign for the town on Highway 601.**

**SC Ethics Commission - Statement of Economic Interest due March 30, 2025 - Ms. Warren reminded the Council that their statements of economic interest are due by 12:00 P.M. on March 30, 2025.**

**Landscaping Bids 2025 – Ms. Warren informed the Council that the Town is accepting bids for the**

2025 landscaping services. Mr. Wilson will show the bidders the designated areas requiring weed removal, trimming, and general maintenance before cutting grass.

### **Report of the Town Administrator**

**Fire Department** — The Fire Chief reported that everything is going well within the department. He recently attended a Community Risk Reduction class in Florence. Additionally, he expressed an interest in regularly distributing informational flyers to Council members. These flyers would cover topics such as smoke alarms and sealable homes, lithium battery safety, and general fire prevention tips, which Council members could then share with their constituents.

**Police Department** — The Police Chief thanked the Council for the two new fully equipped Mustangs. The Police Chief mentioned the radar sign continues to be effective in reducing speeding and will be moved around town based on needs. All patrol cars are now fully equipped and operational, and the older vehicles are being prepared for public auction. The department is exploring grant funding to purchase a Flock camera system, which helps track vehicles related to criminal activity using license plate recognition technology. If approved, the town will gain access to a broader network of Flock cameras across various states, enhancing investigative capabilities.

**Maintenance Department** – Mr. Adrian Johnson delivered the maintenance report in Mr. Wilson's absence. Ongoing inspections are being conducted throughout the town to assess compliance with lead and copper safety standards in the water system. Approximately 176 locations remain to be checked. The road repairs are going well, but there are some delays due to weather conditions.

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Ms. Warren gave a special thank you to Mr. Butch Crosby for voluntarily beautifying the area at Sikes Road and 601 with flowers and landscaping. The Council acknowledged and appreciated his initiative and community spirit.

**Executive Session**

The Mayor entertained a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss Potential Economic Development Matters. It was moved by Ms. Prickett and seconded by Ms. Bennett. The motion was carried unanimously.

The council reconvened its Public Session at approximately 7:38 p.m. without further discussion or vote. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:40 p.m.

Minutes submitted by



Rosalind Johnson, Town Clerk