**MINUTES**

**TURBEVILLE TOWN COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING**

**NOVEMBER 1, 2023**

**10:00 A.M.**

**Members Present:** Mayor Pro-Tem Herbert Mims, Councilmembers Doyl Gray,

Albert Mobley, and Judy Coker

**Others Present:** Assistant Town Clerk Taylor Osborne, Howard Garland.

1. **Mayor Pro-Tem Herbert Mims** called the town council meeting to order at 10 a.m. and declared that a quorum was present.
2. **Howard Garland** introduced himself to council as a prospective Town Administrator. Garland explained and went into depth about his work history and qualifications that would pertain to the job. He says he is currently employed with the cities of Pamplico and Darlington as Administrator and enjoys working with small town governments. If given the chance, he would like to move the Town of Turbeville forward and do what is best for the town. His schedule would permit him to be available Wednesdays and the second Tuesday of each month, to attend council meetings.
3. **Councilmember Coker** made the following comments on how the county is about to break ground on a new school in Turbeville and there are many other new buildings being developed in town as well. Coker said that one of our strong points in this community are our schools and how each year they receive a Palmetto Gold award because of how well they do. **Councilmember Gray** also stated how churches were a strong point in the town. Coker went on to say that the town needs an updated comprehensive plan and asked Garland if he had any experience with these in the past. Garland stated he had worked on many plans before and could help contribute with the wording of the plan but was not that gifted when it came down to the graphics. He said that these plans needed to be updated every five years and would be willing to work with the COG on this issue.
4. **Councilmember Coker** then mentioned how the town needed some visions and goals. Many buildings in the town need attention, and example would be the old Chinese restaurant. The Town of Turbeville is in desperate need of a revitalization.
5. **Councilmember Gray** stated how it has been forty years since he has lived in Turbeville and in that time the town has not grown. He asked Garland what he would do to make that change. Garland let council know that he was not interested in being a caretaker but would want to work with council and the mayor to make these changes possible.
6. **Councilmember Coker** asked Garland if he would be willing to go around town to get to know local business owners better. Coker said she thought this was a good way to find out on how to move forward with a vision for the Town of Turbeville.
7. **Mayor Pro-Tem Mims** mentioned that with the election coming up, you might have some new faces in position and Garland thought it would be a good idea to wait until after the election to make any decisions to make sure to include new members in this choice of Town Administrator. Mims and council agreed and wanted to set up this meeting to get a feel for a new administrator.
8. **Councilmember Coker** asked the following questions to Garland. What strategies would you do to make sure all citizens are treated fairly and evenly? If there is a change in policies, how would you find a way to see how everyone feels about it? Garland answered that he would like to hold some type of town hall meeting to ask the public questions concerning the town and what ideas they might give the town to form some sort of vision for what they would like to see happen in the future.
9. **Mayor Pro-Tem Mims** added it might be best to wait until after the election to make a final decision on selecting a new Town Administrator. When a new administrator is elected, Mims would like council and the new mayor to meet with each other to get to know one another better.
10. There being no further business, **Mayor Pro-Tem Mims** adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at **10:50 a.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

**Taylor Osborne**

Assistant Town Clerk