Special Meeting Minutes

Sawmills Town Council Meeting
Sawmills Town Hall

Wednesday, April 1, 2026
11:30 AM

Council Attendance:
Keith Warren, Mayor
Clay Wilson, Mayor Pro-Tem
Melissa Curtis
Rebecca Johnson
Bobby Mosteller

Absent:
Joe Wesson

Staff Attendance:
Chase Winebarger, Town Manager
Dustin Millsaps, Planner/Assistant Town Manager
Kelly Melton, Finance Officer
Terry Taylor, Town Attorney
Abby Rich, Town Clerk
Jimmy Wilson, Fire Chief
Hope Moore, Human Resources Director

Call to Order

Mayor Keith Warren called the April 1, 2026, meeting to order at 11:31 AM.

Invocation

Councilman Mosteller provided the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Keith Warren led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Discussion:

Manger Winebarger began the discussion by informing the Council about the tax rate alternatives and the request to be sent to the County Manager's office for approval by the County Commissioners. The County Commissioners have discretion and may not approve the fire tax rate the Fire Department is proposing for the merger between the Town and Sawmills Fire. Manager Winebarger reminded the Council that the Fire Board cut the tax rate last year, and with the cut, the Town cannot fund the merger of the entities without operating at a deficit. Manager Winebarger then showed the Council various budget scenarios. These include the Town operating the Fire Department with the deficit and operations if the tax rate is approved.

There was a discussion regarding the benefits for fire personnel and the cost of these benefits to the Town. The last topic of conversation included the potential salaries of fire personnel.

With there being no more business to attend to, Councilman Wilson made the motion to adjourn. With a second from Councilwoman Johnson, the motion carried unanimously.

Approved this the 21 day of April, 2026.

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Mayor, Keith Warren

Attest:

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Abby Rich, Town Clerk