

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Millie Dawkins  
Laura Cook  
Brittany Hames  
Dylan Cook



MAYOR *Stellartean Jones*

*Doris Hamilton, Clerk/Treasurer*

**GRAY COURT TOWN COUNCIL WORK SESSION**  
**March 17, 2025 – 6:00 PM**  
**AGENDA**

5:30 PM – Oath was given to New Councilmembers Millie Dawkins & Brittany Hames by Judge Johnson.

Notes from the Mayor about future meetings:

Please do not interrupt other Councilmembers while they are speaking. Be respectful to one another. The purpose of a work session is for the Mayor and Councilmembers to discuss issues within the town. If there are attendees present in the work session, I ask that they save their comments or suggestions for the regular Town Council meeting that begins at 7:00 PM.

1. FY 2024 Audit Presentation, Matt Phillips, CPA-
  - Mr. Phillips wasn't available. Garry Smith summarized FY 2024 Audit.
2. Presentation of Proclamation for Disabilities Awareness Month in the Town of Gray Court by Mayor Jones to the Laurens County Disabilities and Special Needs Board-
  - Mayor Jones presented Jason Tavenner, Executive Director, of Special Needs Disability Board the Proclamation for National Disability Awareness Month.
3. Discussion of Recreation Program update- Garry Reported:
  - Brian Harlan is having staff put together a cart for tables and chairs in the Dayroom that the Town can use and move around to other locations.
  - Conversation about payment for usage of dayroom by The Y was discussed at last month's meeting \$65 per class.
  - Activities at the park will include camps for the youth.
  - Attorney Holmes has drawn up an agreement and contract between the Town and The Y about use of the park and dayroom.
  - Meeting with Brian Harlan about agreement/lease for Wellness Program.
4. Reports
  - A. Financial Report & Budget Discussion-
    - Garry Smith summarized the February 2025 financial report and budget discussion with Mayor and Councilmembers.
    - Reimbursement for playground equipment to town should be around \$40,000.
    - Town is in a good financial position.
  - B. YMCA - NA
  - C. Sheriff – NA
  - D. Mayor-
    - Reminder to all new Councilmembers for Mrs. Doris Hamilton to have all your information in a timely manner. Your status as a Councilmember should only be entered by the clerk.
    - T-Mobile grant: We are in the process of getting more information from Centennial Parks Environmental Care along with a budget. To apply for this grant, we need 5 letters of support from business owners of Gray Court, we have 3 so far.

*Town of Gray Court*

- We received an inquiry about leasing the Jamar building to open a Tattoo Parlor. Gray Court UDC doesn't allow Tattoo Parlors within the town limits. Community will have to meet, review, and approve for Tattoo Parlor to be in the Town of Gray Court. That will require two readings and a public hearing.
  - Please be aware of the missed communication to town merchants in reference to incentives for the town business owners without the mayor being aware.
  - Reminder: The Town of Gray Court where the form of government is "Strong Mayor and a weak council"
  - Ms. Hope Thomas for the support of Facebook. Any information for Facebook has to be approved by the Mayor.
  - Mayor asked Councilmember Laura Cook to be representative of Gray Court "Keeping Laurens County Beautiful". Councilmember Laura Cook agreed.
- E. Fire Department –
- Mayor appointed Councilmember Brittany Hames to be a Board Member for the Fire department. Councilmember Brittany Hames agreed.
- F. Water – Jeff Field reported:
- Utility's/Trash report will be reported quarterly.
  - Laurens County Water and Sewer will match \$800,000 of the funding through the State.
  - Gray Court needs to be prepared for Laurens County growth.
- G. Public Works – Maintenance Supervisor, Mr. Robert Byrd, reported:
- Playground equipment has been received and set up.
  - Received 2 quotes for fencing around Community Park.
  - Received quotes for banners and brackets for the Town.
  - Fence around ballfield is locked to keep community safe until repairs can be made. It is possible that Laurens County High School can donate some equipment that we can use to fill holes with sand that we purchase.

5. Committee Reports:

- Councilmember, Laura Cook, wanted to know about the status of the Up Lighting of Trees- Mr. Byrd found some lights and 2 quotes have been submitted that must be approved by Mayor.
- Mayor Pro Tem, Millie Dawkins, is the chairperson for the 2025 Easter Egg Hunt. Next meeting to discuss will be March 19, 2025, at 4:30 PM. Councilmember, Brittany Hames, got a quote for Bouncy house she will email to Mayor. The event will be April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025, starting at 11:00 AM.
- Mayor Pro Tem Millie Dawkins thanked Mr. Robert Byrd for the vests he gave to the walkers.
- Councilmember, Dylan Cook, reported with store owners about distribution of funds immediately to them instead of waiting on sewer project. The Mayor wants to be kept involved and the discussion will be saved until the next meeting.

6. Executive Session:

7. Adjournment

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Laura Cook  
Brittany Hames  
Dylan Cook



MAYOR Stellartean Jones

Doris Hamilton, Clerk/Treasurer

GRAY COURT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
MARCH 17, 2025, 7:00 PM  
MINUTES

**PLEASE NOTE: GRAY COURT TOWN COUNCIL WILL MEET IN WORK SESSION BEGINNING AT 6:00 P.M. THE REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING WILL BEGIN IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE CONCLUSION OF THE WORK SESSION**

1. **Call to Order**-Mayor Jones
2. **Invocation & Pledge** – Attorney Holmes
3. **Approval of Minutes: February 24, 2025**

Mayor Pro Tem, Millie Dawkins made a motion to approve the February 24, 2025 town council minutes. This motion was seconded by the Councilmember, Laura Cook. Mayor and Councilmembers unanimously approved.

4. **Old Business:**

- A. Ordinance to amending the Business License Ordinance of the Town of Gray Court to update the Class Schedule as required by Act 176 of 2020 (Second Reading)
  - Motion was made by Councilmember, Laura Cook, to accept the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading to amend the Business License Ordinance of the Town of Gray Court. This motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem, Millie Dawkins. Mayor and Councilmembers unanimously approved.

5. **New Business:**

- A. Acceptance of FY 2024 Independent Audit
  - Councilmember, Laura Cook made a motion to accept the FY 2024 Independent Audit. Mayor Pro Tem, Millie Dawkins, seconded the motion. Mayor and Councilmembers unanimously agreed.
- B. Adoption of **PROCEDURES AND RULES FOR BUSINESS LICENSE TAX ASSESSMENTS AND APPEALS TOWN OF GRAY COURT, SOUTH CAROLINA**
  - First reading – Motion was made by Councilmember, Laura Cook, to adopt Procedures and Rules for Business License Tax Assessments and Appeals Town of Gray Court. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilmember Dylan Cook. Mayor and Councilmembers unanimously approved the motion.

6. **Public Comment:** NA

**Adjournment**

Respectfully submitted- *Keisha Taylor*