

CALLED COUNCIL MEETING

A Called Meeting of the Baxley City Council was held December 19, 2017, at 6:00 p.m., with the following members present: Mayor Pro Tem Esco Hall, Jr., Council members: Betty Livingston, Mickey Bass, Pat Williams and Tim Varnadore.

Mayor Pro Tem Hall excused Mayor Steve Rigdon.

Mayor Pro Tem Hall announced the passing of Councilman George Skipper.

City officials present were: Jeff Baxley and Reid Lovett, City Managers; and Reba Cash, City Clerk; and Chief of Police James Godfrey.

Denny & Deborah Woodard, Sandra Woodard Reeves, Jerome & Joni Murray were present.

Mayor Pro Tem Hall called the Baxley City Council to order on this the 19th day of December 2017, at 6:00 p.m., for the primary purpose of holding two public hearings.

Mayor Pro Tem Hall gave the invocation.

Mayor Pro Tem Hall called the public hearing to order at 6:00 p.m., the purpose of this meeting is to hear public comments on an annexation filed by Jerome and J.W. Murray, located on Alpine Drive, and establishing a Business (B-2) Zone in voting district #2.

Sandra Woodard Reeves spoke on behalf of her parents, Denny & Debbie Woodard, who resides at 27 Ash Street which is directly behind the above property. Mrs. Reeves stated they are supportive of the development from Murray Forestry but with the following requested conditions:

1. Require an Opaque re-planted buffer with 2 staggered rows of evergreens, or large shrubs minimum 8 – 10 feet tall at planting within the 30' area outlining the entire property as reflected in her provided map (Exhibit A).
2. Requested that these conditions be a recorded part of the zoning request.
3. Requested that if an agreement cannot be reached, that the Mayor and Council would delay their decision for 30 days.

Jerome Murray then spoke to the council regarding the requested conditions on the above property. Mr. Murray stated that he and his father are willing to provide a buffer between the two properties, but only on the backside of the property where it abuts Ash Street. He provided a drawing to reflect what they would be willing to do. (Exhibit B)

Denny Woodard and Debbie Woodard both spoke supporting the requested buffer, as their daughter had presented, to protect their view from what potentially could go in a B-2 zone. They wanted the view to remain a natural one and not that of an industrial area.

There being no further questions or comments on the annexation petition, Mayor Pro Tem Hall declared the public hearing closed.

Mayor Pro Tem Hall called the second public hearing to order at 6:21 p.m., the purpose of this meeting is to hear public comments on a petition for rezoning filed by Jerome and J.W. Murray, located at 1149 East Parker St., be rezoned from current Industrial (I-1) Zone to a Business (B-2) zone in voting district #2.

Sandra Woodard Reeves spoke on behalf of her parents, Denny & Debbie Woodard, who resides at 27 Ash Street, which is directly behind the above property. Ms. Reeves stated that they are supportive of the development from Murray Forestry with the following requested conditions:

1. Require an Opaque re-planted buffer with 2 staggered rows of evergreens, or large shrubs minimum 8 – 10 feet tall at planting within the 30’ area outlining the entire property as reflected in her map (Exhibit A).
2. Requested that these conditions be a recorded part of the zoning request.
3. Requested that if an agreement cannot be reached, that the Mayor and Council would delay their decision for 30 days.

Mr. Jerome Murray stated that he and his father would agree to a buffer along Ash Street only, as his drawing reflects (Exhibit B).

Mr. Woodard stated that he agreed with everything Mr. Murray had said.

There being no further questions or comments, Mayor Pro Tem Hall declared the public hearing closed.

There being no further business, Mayor Pro Tem Hall declared the meeting adjourned.

City Clerk