

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

The regular meeting of the Baxley City Council was held on November 22, 2017, at 8:30 a.m., with the following members present: Mayor Steve Rigdon; Mayor Pro Tem Esco Hall, Jr. Councilmembers: Betty Livingston, Mickey Bass, and Tim Varnadore.

Pat Williams and George Skipper were absent and excused by Mayor Rigdon.

Other city officials present were: Jeff Baxley, City Manager; Reba Cash, City Clerk; Alex Johnson, City Attorney; and Chief of Police James L. Godfrey.

Councilman Elect Adam Thomas was present.

Steve Simmons representing Baxley News Banner was present.

Mayor Rigdon called the regular council meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Mayor Pro Tem Hall gave the invocation.

Councilwoman Livingston made a motion approving the minutes of the Regular Council meeting of November 8, 2017, at 8:30 a.m. This motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Hall and carried unanimously.

Councilman Bass made a motion setting two public hearing for Tuesday, December 19, 2017, at 6:00 p.m. on the followings:

1. A petition for annexation filed by Jerome and J.W. Murray, located on Alpine Drive, be annexed and establishing a Business (B-2) Zone in voting district #2.
2. 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.

This motion was seconded by Councilman Varnadore and carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Livingston approved the application to sell (Package Beer and Wine) at Hungry Lion located at 1075 Blackshear Highway owned by Jaiminkumar Patel (new owner). This motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Hall and was passed by three to two votes. Those voting in favor: Hall, Livingston, and Mayor Rigdon. Those opposing were Bass and Varnadore.

Councilwoman Livingston approved the application to sell (Package Beer and Wine) at Fred's Store # 1103 located at 875 South Main Street owned by Jason Jenne, CFO and Ronald T. Kay. This motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Hall and was passed by three to two votes. Those voting in favor: Hall, Livingston, and Mayor Rigdon. Those opposing were Bass and Varnadore.

Mayor Pro Tem Hall made a motion to hold a closed session at the end of this meeting to discuss potential litigation. The motion was seconded by Councilman Bass and carried unanimously.

Council's Report

1. Mayor Pro Tem Hall reported he attended a NLC Summit convention in Charlotte NC with approximately 4,000 people in attendance.

City Manager's Report

1. Fair Street Project is coming along and that 20 trees were being removed off the right of way where the storm drains will be located and due to damages cause by the roots. The construction deadline is late December, if there are no unforeseen issues, project should remain on schedule. Manager Baxley is also trying to get a price to include new curbs, gutters and sidewalk along with repaving of Dyal Street.
2. Manager Baxley attended a meeting in Macon with Georgia Power and Hofstadter representatives concerning the wastewater solar array rates. Manager Baxley reported that we have changed our rate structure from a PL rate to a Time of Use rate. Peak rates are usually in May, June, July and August, during which we will have to monitor the usage more closely during those months.
3. Manager Baxley reminded the Mayor and Council of the following upcoming events:
 - Christmas in the Park, Wednesday, November 29, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.
 - Movie (Home Alone) at the Farmer's Market, Friday, December 1, 2017
 - Christmas Parade and Winter Wonderland, Saturday, December 2, 2017
 - City's Christmas luncheon, Friday, December 22, 2017 at 12:00 p.m.
 - Office closed for Christmas holiday, Monday and Tuesday, December 25th and 26th
4. Lastly, Manager Baxley reported he attended a luncheon at the Appling County Road Shop on Tuesday, November 21, 2017, they were showing their appreciation to the city and county workers for working thru Hurricane Irma.

Mayor Rigdon recessed the regular council meeting and called the Closed Session to order.

There being no action taken in the closed session, Mayor Rigdon declared the meeting closed and called the meeting back to order.

There being no further business, Mayor Rigdon declared the meeting adjourned.

City Clerk