

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

The regular meeting of the Baxley City Council was held on May 24, 2016, at 8:30 a.m., with the following members present: Mayor Steve Rigdon; Mayor Pro Tem Esco Hall, Jr.; Councilmembers: Betty Livingston, Mickey Bass, Pat Williams, George Skipper and Tim Varnadore.

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

Steve Simmons representing Baxley News Banner was present.

Mayor Rigdon called the Regular Council Meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Councilwoman Livingston gave the invocation.

Councilman Varnadore made a motion approving the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of May 10, 2016, at 8:30 a.m. This motion was seconded by Councilman Bass and carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Livingston made a motion approving the minutes of the Called Council Meeting of May 9, 2016, at 6:00 p.m. This motion was seconded by Councilman Bass and carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Livingston made a motion approving the Second Reading / Adoption of an Ordinance to rezone property owned by J. W. Murray, requesting his property located at 223 Bay Street be rezoned from the current Residential (RM-10) to a Professional (P-1) Zone in voting district #5. This motion was seconded by Councilman Varnadore and carried unanimously.

Councilman Bass made a motion to hold a Called Meeting on June 21, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. for the primary purpose of holding a Public Hearing for Danny Johnson DBA/N3D Enterprises Inc., requesting his property located at 118 Azalea Road, be annexed and establishing a Business (B-2) Zone in voting district #1. This motion was seconded by Councilman Varnadore and carried unanimously.

Mayor Pro Tem Hall made a motion approving the recommendation from City Manager Baxley allowing DOT to implement right turn in/right turn out only on Brobston Street on both sides of US 341. Implementing right turn only onto the south side of US 341 from Dean Street was part of the motion as well, including a minimum of a \$500 fine for violations at all “right/left turn only” locations in the City. The motion was seconded by Councilman Bass and carried unanimously.

Mayor's Report

1. Attended the Blue Star Memorial on May 16, 2016.
2. Attended the Peace Officers Memorial Day on May 19, 2016.
3. Attended the Music in the Park May 20, 2016

Council Report:

1. Dr. Hall gave a report on the Development Authority and stated that they are still pursuing an industrial park with rail access.
2. Dr. Hall thanked the city workers for the work done on the drainage on MLK, Jr. Avenue.
3. Dr. Hall commented that the grass that was sprayed on his street is beginning to turn back green.

City Manager's Reports:

1. Government week activities are complete Special thanks to Cristen Floyd for a job well done in planning the activities. The last two events were the Brain Bowl (7th grade) and the mock city council meetings (8th grade).
2. The pre-bid qualifications request for prospective bidders is complete. We had five bidders that met qualifications and are eligible to bid in mid June. Will hopefully let contract by mid July. Stated that there is a pre-bid meeting on May 27th.
3. Request for bids for the Farmer's Market will be advertised in next week's paper.
4. Health insurance will renew June 1st under the name of Aetna and new cards are coming soon. Same company, but with a new name. Aetna purchased Coventry.
5. Baxley stated that we have not heard from Randy Dixon with Republic Services concerning the commercial solid waste rate structure. Said he had talked the County Manager Lee Lewis that morning and that he (Lewis) had sent an email to Dixon inquiring about the matter. The rates affect the City and the County.
6. Met with Neil Dubberly, traffic operations manager from District 5, concerning our traffic problems on US 341 West, especially in the Brobston Street area. He stated that DOT indicated that a traffic signal is not warranted at this intersection based on data gathered. DOT recommended that both approaches to US 341 on Brobston St. be changed to right in/ right out turns only. Right turn only from Dean St. onto US341 on the south side of 341 was also discussed and recommended. DOT further recommended lowering the speed limit from 45 to 35 MPH west of Brobston for three tenths of a mile.
7. City Manager read a thank you card from Deborah Hardage of the Pine Forest Garden Club for our support with the Blue Star Marker rededication.

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

City Clerk