

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

The regular meeting of the Baxley City Council was held on October 25, 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; Reba Cash, City Clerk; Alex Johnson, City Attorney; James L. Godfrey, Chief of Police; and Shane Crosby.

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 October 11, 2016, at 8:30 a.m. This motion was seconded by Councilman Bass and carried unanimously.

Councilman Bass made a motion approving the minutes of the Called Council Meeting of October 11, 2016, at 6:00 p.m. This motion was seconded by Councilman Varnadore and carried unanimously.

Jerry Baxley with Appling County Sheriff's Department introduced Gene Davis, the new Chief Deputy for the Appling County Sheriff's Department. Mr. Davis is retired from the Georgia Department of Public Safety and he is from Ludowici, GA.

Councilman Bass made a motion approving the First Reading of an Ordinance annexing property filed on the Estate of Montene H. Morris by Lennox M. Morris, co-executor and Kathy M. Deen, co-executor, requesting the property located on Sammy Lane, Scott Drive and Lawanna Drive, be annexed and establishing a Business Residential (BR-1) Zone in voting district #3. This motion was seconded by Councilman Varnadore and carried unanimously.

After significant discussion concerning a possible variance as opposed to honoring the rezoning request, Mayor Pro Tem Hall made a motion to table this First Reading of an Ordinance rezoning property filed by Silvia Ramos, located at 679 Simpson Drive from the present Industrial (I-1) Zone to a Residential (R-20) Zone in voting district #1 to the next Regular Council Meeting in November. This motion was seconded by Councilman Bass and carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Livingston made a motion to approve one new water/sewer discount application submitted by Vivian Griffin. This motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Hall and carried unanimously.

Council's Report:

1. Mayor Pro Tem Hall announced it has been nine years since his kidney transplant, thanked everyone for their prayers.

City Manager's Report:

1. Employee Meeting was held last Wednesday. Discussed a summary of last year and the upcoming fiscal year. Expressed thanks from the employees regarding the three percent pay increase across the board. Also, discussed possible health insurance changes that may occur in June
2. The Solar Array Inverters are on site at the WWTP. The racking has been ordered, there is a twelve week waiting period. Fencing the entire area will come next. Will be meeting with GEFA this Friday for an inspection.
3. Farmer's Market is almost complete. The fans are up and the technology is being implemented. Should be completed by the end of this month.
4. Spoke with Mike Deal from Jesup regarding the damage done there from Hurricane Matthew. He stated that instead of sending bottled water as originally requested, that he really needed the use of our limb truck and trailer. We provided the truck to them a week ago today and expect them to use it for six to eight weeks.
5. The Planning Retreat at Jekyll went well even though it was poorly attended..
6. Issued an apology for not informing the Mayor/Council about the State Patrol exercise at the airport last Thursday. He had no idea how much interest would be created from the crowd gathered there. He said he had received numerous calls, even from his daughter in Valdosta, about what had happened at the airport.

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

City Clerk