

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

The regular meeting of the Baxley City Council was held on February 09, 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, George Skipper and Tim Varnadore.

Councilmember Pat Williams was absent.

Other city officials present were: Jeff Baxley, City Manager; Chief of Police James L. Godfrey and Lynn White, Deputy Clerk.

Graham Floyd in for City Attorney Alex Johnson. Alex is in Birmingham, AL

Steve Simmons representing Baxley News Banner was present.

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

Councilman Varnadore gave the invocation.

Councilwoman Livingston made a motion approving the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of January 26, 2016, at 8:30 a.m. This motion was seconded by Councilman Varnadore and carried unanimously.

Councilman Varnadore made a motion approving the Second Reading of an Ordinance annexing property filed by Juan J. Diaz as owner and Tobias Montano as tenant under contract to purchase, located at 770 Harry Street establishing a Business Residential (BR-1) Zone in voting district #4. This motion was amended from voting district #4 to voting district #3, then seconded by Councilman Bass and carried unanimously.

Councilman Bass made a motion approving the Second Reading of an Ordinance to rezone property owned by Joel Gregory Herrin located at 549 Tippins Street from the present Residential (RM-10) to a Business (B-2) Zone. This motion was seconded by Councilman Varnadore and carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Livingston made a motion to approve one new water/sewer discount application. This motion was seconded by Councilman Varnadore and carried unanimously.

Councilman Bass made a motion to hold a Called Meeting on March 8, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. for the primary purpose of holding two Public Hearings, as follows:

1. J.W. Murray, requesting his property located at 181 Bay Street, be rezoned from the present Residential (RM-10) to a Professional (P-1) Zone.
2. Douglas Doyle, Executor, filed on Estate of Winnie Doyle, requesting the property located at 572 Tippins Street be zoned from the present Residential (RM-10) to a Business (B-2) Zone. This motion was seconded by Councilman Varnadore and carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Livingston made a motion to authorize Mayor Rigdon to execute documents from GMA restating the define contribution plan to comply with federal mandated guidelines. This motion was seconded by Councilman Bass and carried unanimously.

Mayor Report

1. Question the work along City Circle and Joey Lane. City Manager explained we are getting ready to do several miles of restriping.
2. Read a thank you letter from employee Rick Solomon, death of his father.

Council Report

1. Mayor Pro Tem Hall stated that we have collected 83 million for our district from Tsplost funds from and that Tier 1 projects are finished. Collections have exceeded projections.
2. Mayor Pro Tem Hall reported that the National League of Cities meeting is March 5-9 in Washington D.C.

City Manager's Report

1. Congratulated Dale Sapp, our Water Supervisor for passing the certification test relating to our Water Audit, was one of a few that passed.
2. Reported the Railroad crossings in the city are being reworked (taking up everything) and the city would like to participate by considering paying for concrete instead of asphalt, after we know the cost, at the City Circle crossing.
3. We are accepting sealed bids for housekeeping/janitorial service at the Public Works Building.
4. Received a letter from Beta Club President Brianna Hayes, daughter of James and Danita Hayes. Letter stated the Beta Club is seeking to get involved with projects concerning city government. City Manager is setting up a meeting with Beta Club and Cristen Floyd to discuss.
5. City manager commended our city employees on a job well done after a sewer backup on Fair Street, working late into the night to get this problem resolved.
6. Reminded council about two Public hearing tonight at 6 p.m.
7. Chamber of Commerce banquet was a great success, Ronald Burkett was named Citizen of the year.
8. City Manager is still working on the permits for lot clearing.
9. The City Attorney mailed a letter to property owner at the corner of Simmons and Jones Streets where a shrub needs to be cut back or removed for safety reasons. We have offered to do the removal.

10. Recognized Deputy Lynn White for filling in for the City Clerk, who is in Macon for training.
11. City Manager informed council that we were successful in getting Tia Funds for Fair Street deferred until we do the project.
12. City Manager stated that he had attended R. L. Stone's funeral and said we were really going to miss him.

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

Deputy, City Clerk