

**MINUTES**  
**CITY OF BAINBRIDGE, GEORGIA**  
**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2026**  
**6:30 P.M.**

**PRESENT:** MAYOR SYLVIA WASHINGTON, PRESIDING

**COUNCIL MEMBERS:** KEENAN ADAMS, GLENNIE BENCH, KREGG CLOSE, MARQUITA JOHNSON, ROSLYN PALMER, SYLVIA WASHINGTON, AND DON WHALEY

**CITY STAFF:** CITY MANAGER ROY OLIVER, RANDEE EUBANKS, STEVE O'NEIL, LISA TAYLOR, GABE MENENDEZ, ASHLEY DONALSON, CRYSTAL HINES, DOYLE WELCH, RYAN WIMBERLY, FRANK GREEN, REDELL WALTON, AL KELLEY

**GUESTS:** DONNA BARBER, DAVID BARBER, NADINE BEARD, ALICIA HURTT, PAUL PURDY, LILLIE BROWN, LINDA LUMPKIN, SUSAN RALPH, ALELA CANYAN, STANCIL TOOTLE, JANICE TOOTLE, HENRY BROWE, STEVE BENCH, LANESSA LAWRENCE, EMMETT THOMPSON, JR., EMMA REESE, SAQUEA ADAMS, ROSLYN MCCS, DORIS COSBY, BR SARGENT

**ABSENT:**

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE TO THE FLAG**

The Regular Session of the Mayor and City Council was called to order by Mayor Washington. Councilwoman Johnson delivered the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Approval of December 16, 2025, meeting minutes were considered. Councilwoman Johnson requested that the minutes reflect that she abstained from voting on Agenda Item #6, Appointment of Municipal Court Officials and City Attorney. Councilwoman Bench made a motion to approve the minutes with the noted edit. The motion was seconded by Councilman Close and carried unanimously, 6-0.

**RECOGNIZE VISITORS AND DELEGATIONS**

Mayor Sylvia Washington recognized visitors and delegations in attendance. During the public comment portion of the meeting, the Mayor and City Council heard remarks from Dr. Beverly Sargent and Blake Brock.

**PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS**

Community and Economic Development Director Steve O'Neil presented two Planning Commission recommendations. The first was CU-2026-002, a request by Gary Dart for a

Conditional Use in a UR-9 zoning district to allow construction of a detached accessory dwelling unit at 1001 Hall Street. The second was CU-2026-001, a request by Charlie Salem for a Conditional Use in a Light Industrial zoning district to operate a used car dealership at 505 Alice Street. The Planning Commission recommended approval of both requests. Councilman Whaley made a motion to accept the Planning Commission's recommendations. Councilwoman Bench seconded the motion, which passed 6-0.

#### **CONSIDERATION OF TEMPORARY PARKING LOT CLOSURE**

Community Affairs Director Crystal Hines presented a request for the temporary closure of the parking lot directly behind City Hall from March 19 through March 22 to accommodate the Big Bend Airstream Club. Councilwoman Palmer made a motion to approve the closure, seconded by Councilman Whaley. The motion passed 6-0.

#### **CONSIDERATION OF ALCOHOL BEVERAGES LICENSES**

City Manager Roy Oliver presented three alcohol beverage license matters for Council consideration: an application from Robert Jeremy Emmett, owner/manager of Port City Hospitality, LLC dba Element Bainbridge Riverfront; a license amendment due to relocation for Charles W. Whittaker, Jr., Bainbridge Bottle Shop, LLC; and a new application from Krupal Bharatbhai Patel, Sadaa Shiv, LLC dba Nics Express 01. Councilwoman Bench made a motion to approve the licenses. Councilman Adams seconded the motion, which passed 6-0.

#### **MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS**

The Council then considered Mayoral appointments. Lachanda Mackey was presented for reappointment to the Bainbridge-Decatur County Planning Commission, and Kristi Childs was presented for appointment to the Decatur County Board of Health. Councilwoman Palmer made a motion to approve the appointments, seconded by Councilwoman Bench. The motion passed 6-0.

#### **PROCLAMATION**

Mayor Washington and the City Council presented a proclamation recognizing Greta Zuccaro as the GHSA Swimming 1-3A State Champion.

#### **SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

The Council heard a special presentation from Alicia Hurtt with I See My Baby. Following the presentation, Councilwoman Bench made a motion directing City staff to work with Ms. Hurtt to develop a plan. The motion was seconded by Councilman Whaley and passed 5-0, with Councilwoman Johnson recusing herself.

#### **CONSIDERATION TO DECLARE SURPLUS**

City Manager Roy Oliver presented two items for consideration to declare surplus for the purpose of trade-in toward a Caterpillar backhoe purchase. The combined trade-in credit value was \$22,150. Councilwoman Palmer made a motion to approve the surplus declaration. Councilman Close seconded the motion, which passed 6-0.

#### **BILLS & BIDS**

The Council considered one bill and one bid. The bill was for the purchase of a new Caterpillar 420 backhoe from Yancey Brothers utilizing Sourcewell pricing, with a final cost of \$99,851 after discounts and trade-in allowances. The bid was for a trailer-mounted jet rodder system for the Sewer Department, with three bids received and the lowest responsive bidder being Alliance Capital Equipment Sales of Carrollton, Georgia, in the amount of \$100,582.64. Councilwoman Bench made a motion to approve the bill and award the bid. Councilman Whaley seconded the motion, which passed 6-0.

**ADJOURN**

With there being no further business, Mayor Washington adjourned the meeting at 7:15 P.M.

BY:

  
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SYLVIA WASHINGTON, MAYOR

ATTEST:

  
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RANDEE EUBANKS, COUNCIL CLERK