

MINUTES
CITY OF BAINBRIDGE, GEORGIA
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2023
6:30 P.M.

PRESENT: MAYOR EDWARD REYNOLDS, PRESIDING

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

CITY STAFF: CITY MANAGER CHRIS HOBBY, ASSISTANT CITY
MANAGER ROY OLIVER, ALLIE GODWIN, STEVE
O'NEIL, GABE MENENDEZ, LISA TAYLOR, SYLVIA
BIVINS, FRANK GREEN, RYAN WIMBERLEY, REDELL
WALTON, AND AL KELLEY

GUESTS: MILDRED CONYERS, LESSIE MOORE, CALVIN DAVIS,
PATRICIA JONES, EDDIE JOHNSON, MARCIE GUYTON,
JOHN FOD, DEBORAH JONES, DAN CARMITCHEL,
ROGER WILHELM, REV. ADREN BIVINS, BLAKE
WILSON, PAMELA BEACHAMP-HALL, LINDA DANIELS,
BRUCE KIRBO JR, PEGGY GAINES, ALLEN GAINES,
DOROTHY MCCRAY, GENEVA JONES, EMORY J
MIDDLETON, RUBEN CABRERRA, JENNIFER CRAIN,
DANIEL GADDIS, TONEY GAINES, KELVIN SCOTT,
FERRIS LEWIS, JOHN DIXON, JANET SESSION, SHEKETA
SESSION, PAUL FRYER, TERRY THOMAS, NATASHA
STEPNEY, DAVID STEPNEY, DIANNA ANDERSON

ABSENT: NONE

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

Councilwoman Bench gave the invocation and all those assembled pledged allegiance to the flag.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon a motion offered by Councilwoman Palmer and seconded by Councilman Close, the Council voted 6-0 to approve the minutes from the November 21, 2023 council meeting as presented.

RECOGNIZE VISITORS AND DELEGATIONS

Mayor Reynolds opened the floor for anyone to speak on an item. Mr. Paul Fryer stepped forward to remind the council of the Deed Transfer Ceremony on Thursday, December 21st at 3:00 pm at the Chamber of Commerce. Hearing from no other citizen, Mayor Reynolds proceeded to the next item on the agenda.

PROCLAMATION

Mayor Reynolds read and presented a proclamation to Mr. And Mrs. Adren and Sylvia Bivins, Founder and Co-Founder of The Laymen Brotherhood Second Chance Outreach Center, for their Annual Christmas Dinner Celebration.

CONSIDERATION OF SUBRECIPIENT AGREEMENT - CDBG DISASTER RELIEF

City Manager Hobby presented the City Council with a subrecipient agreement between the City of Bainbridge and the Department of Community Affairs. Mr. Hobby explained that this agreement was required for the city to receive CDBG-DR funds that will be used to upgrade multiple sewage lift stations. He further explained that this was federal money that has been awarded to the state as part of the recovery from Hurricane Michael. The city will be a sub-recipient of these federal funds, thus mandating that the city council approve the sub-recipient agreement. Upon a motion offered by Councilwoman Bench and seconded by Councilwoman Washington, the council voted 6-0 to enter into a subrecipient agreement between with the Department of Community Affairs as presented.

PUBLIC HEARING – AMENDMENT TO BUILDING CODES

Mayor Edward Reynolds informed those assembled that this meeting had been advertised as the time and place for a public hearing on the proposed amendment to the building codes to

adopt the 2020 National Electrical Code with 2021 Georgia Amendments as well as the 2018 Life Safety Code. Upon a motion offered by Councilwoman Bench and seconded by Councilman Whaley, the council voted 6-0 to open the public hearing. Hearing no public comment, Councilwoman Palmer made a motion to close the public hearing. The motion was then seconded by Councilwoman Washington and unanimously carried in a 6-0 vote.

CONSIDERATION OF AMENDMENT TO BUILDING CODES

Upon a motion offered by Councilman Whaley and seconded by Councilman Close, the council voted 6-0 to approve the amendment to the building codes as presented.

CONSIDERATION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE APPLICATION RENEWALS

City Manager Hobby presented the 55 alcohol license renewal applications for 2024. City Manager Hobby stated that one application revealed a discrepancy relating to the required background check of the owner. Upon a motion offered by Councilwoman Palmer and seconded by Councilwoman Bench, the council voted 6-0 to approve 54 of the alcohol license renewal applications and table the application submitted by Off da Hookah Cigar & Lounge until the discrepancy is resolved.

CONSIDERATION OF PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS

The Bainbridge – Decatur County Planning Commission met on Tuesday, December 12th and considered one item that requires council action.

***ITEM 1: ZONE-2023-003:** Applicant Ruben Cabrera is requesting a rezoning of the property at 507 Martin St. (former Elementary School property) from Institutional (INS) to Planned Unit Development (PUD) for the purpose of converting the existing building to apartments and utilizing the gymnasium as an arcade. The property is 8.87 acres.*

The Council heard from two citizens, Mr. Eddie Johnson of 1003 Bethel Road and Ms. Sheketa Session of 505 Dennard Street, who both were in opposition to the rezoning application. Following a lengthy discussion from council members, Councilwoman Palmer made a motion to deny the rezoning application. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Washington and carried in a 4-2 vote by council. Councilwoman Palmer, Councilwoman Washington,

Councilwoman Bench, and Councilman Close voted in opposition. Councilman Adams and Councilman Whaley voted in favor of the rezoning application.

CONSIDERATION OF LEASES – *RDK Assets, Inc. dba RDK Truck Sales*

City Manager Hobby presented eight (8) lease agreements from RDK Assets dba RDK Truck Sales, for 5 side loader garbage trucks and 3 front loader garbage trucks for a period of 12 months. Mr. Hobby explained that these vehicles will be used for the collection of garbage for both county and city residents. Upon a motion offered by Councilwoman Bench and seconded by Councilwoman Washington, the council voted 6-0 in favor of the 8 lease agreements with RDK Assets.

CONSIDERATION TO DECLARE SURPLUS

City Manager Hobby informed the council that since we had built a new Sewer Treatment Plant, the belt press that is currently there is no longer needed. Mr. Hobby asked the Council to declare this as surplus, so that we may sell it. Upon a motion from Councilwoman Bench and seconded by Councilman Close, the council voted 6-0 to declare the belt press as surplus as presented.

ACCEPTANCE OF GEFA LOAN

City Manager Hobby informed the council that the city had been approved for a GEFA loan for water improvements on Wigham Dairy Road. Mr. Hobby explained that in order to receive the loan, the City Council must accept the loan terms. Upon a motion offered by Councilman Whaley and seconded by Councilwoman Bench, the council voted 6-0 to accept the loan terms of the GEFA loan.

MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Reynolds recommended reappointing Keith Lyle to the Bainbridge Decatur County Industrial Development Authority and Tabitha Spooner to the Bainbridge Decatur County Recreation Authority. Upon a motion offered by Councilwoman Palmer and seconded by Councilwoman Washington, the Council voted 6-0 in favor of both reappointments.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION – DCA PLANFIRST

Mr. Daniel Gaddis with DCA appeared before the Mayor and City Council to present the City with a certificate commemorating our PlanFirst designation.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION – SHOTWELL STREET/SCOTT STREET

Mr. John Ford with Robert and Company appeared before the Mayor and Council to present the findings of the Shotwell Street/Scott Street improvement plan study.

CONSENT AGENDA

Bids:

- | | |
|--|----------------|
| 1. Yancy CAT CAT Model: 306 Excavator Sourcewell Contract | \$100,231.00 |
| 2. Georgia Fire and Rescue Supply Turnout Gear – Fire Canton, GA | \$48,380.54 |
| 3. Georgia Power AMI Metering Services | \$7,756,742.80 |

Councilwoman Bench made a motion to approve the Yancy CAT and Georgia Fire and Rescue Supply bid and table the Georgia Power bid. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Washington and unanimously carried in a 6-0 vote by council.

ADJOURNMENT

With there being no further business, Mayor Reynolds adjourned the meeting at 8:22 pm.

BY: _____
EDWARD REYNOLDS, MAYOR

ATTEST: _____
ALLIE GODWIN, COUNCIL CLERK