

**MINUTES**  
**CITY OF BAINBRIDGE, GEORGIA**  
**TUESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2025**  
**4:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: MAYOR EDWARD REYNOLDS, PRESIDING

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

CITY STAFF: CITY MANAGER ROY OLIVER, STEVE O'NEIL, LISA  
TAYLOR, GABE MENENDEZ, RANDEE EUBANKS, FRANK  
GREEN, REDELL WALTON, RYAN WIMBERLEY,  
CRYSTAL HINES, JANETTE MOWRY, RHONDA COOPER,  
AMANDA GLOVER, DOYLE WELCH, DAVID HOWER,

GUESTS: ETHAN REDDISH

ABSENT: GLENNIE BENCH

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE TO THE FLAG**

Councilman Adams gave the invocation and all those assembled pledged allegiance to the flag.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Upon a motion offered by Councilman Close and seconded by Councilwoman Washington, the Council voted 5-0 to approve the minutes from the December 17, 2024, council meeting as presented.

**RECOGNIZE VISITORS AND DELEGATIONS**

Mayor Reynolds opened the floor for anyone to speak on an item. Hearing from no one, Mayor Reynolds proceeded to the next item on the agenda.

**APPOINTMENT OF MAYOR PRO-TEM**

According to the City Charter the first meeting of the year is an organizational meeting and as such it is necessary for the council to take several actions:

The first action was to appoint the Mayor Pro-Tem for 2025. Mayor Pro-Tem is assigned by rotation based on City Council post number. Mayor Reynolds recommended that the council keep with the normal rotation and appoint Post 5 held by Councilwoman Roslyn Palmer to Mayor Pro-Tem. The council voted in favor of Mayor Pro-Tem 5-0.

### **APPOINTMENT OF MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGE, MUNICIPAL COURT SOLICITOR, AND MUNICIPAL COURT PUBLIC DEFENDER**

According to the City Charter the first meeting of the year is an organizational meeting and as such it is necessary for the council to take several actions: Secondly, Mayor Reynolds recommended the appointment of Benny Harrell as Municipal Court Solicitor, Eric Gay as Municipal Court Defender, and Josh Bell as Municipal Court Judge. The Council voted in favor of these appointments 5-0.

### **EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER**

Janette Mowry with Bainbridge Public Safety was recognized by Mayor Reynolds as the employee of the quarter. She was presented with a plaque and gift card.

### **ESTABLISHMENT OF QUALIFYING FEES**

City Manager, Roy Oliver, addressed the mayor and city council stating that this will be an election year and state law requires that the City Council set and advertise Qualifying Fees for the offices that will be on November 4, 2025, ballot. The offices that will be up this year are Mayor and City Council Posts 1, 2, and 3. The fee to qualify for the Office of Mayor is \$171.00 and the fee to run for a City Council seat is \$90.00. Councilwoman Palmer made a motion to accept the qualifying fees along with a second for Councilman Adams. The council then voted to approve the fees 5-0.

### **CONSIDERATION OF LEASE SUPPLEMENT**

City Manager, Roy Oliver, addressed the mayor and council about the lease supplement through the Georgia Municipal Association (GMA). The lease facilitates the financing of new police cars for the city. This agreement outlines the terms for acquiring the vehicles, including payment schedules, interest rates, and ownership details, ensuring compliance with local government financing guidelines. Mayor Reynolds received a motion from Councilman Whaley and a second from Councilman Adams. The lease supplement then passed with a vote of 5-0.

## **CONSIDERATION OF BUDGET AMENDMENTS**

Mrs. Lisa Taylor was before the the Mayor Council to present FY 2024 Budget Amendments which she stated we do every year to comply with the Georgia Department of Audits and Accounts. Councilman Whaley made a motion to approve the budget amendments, and it was seconded by Councilwoman Palmer. The amendments passed in a 5-0 vote

## **CONSIDERATION TO DECLARE SURPLUS**

The Mayor and City Council declared twenty-one (21) items as surplus equipment for auction. Councilman Whaley made a motion to declare surplus and it was seconded by Councilman Adams. The items were declared surplus in a vote of 5-0.

## **PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS**

Community Development Director, Steve O'Neil, was before the Mayor and City Council to present the Planning Commission recommendations.

## **FIBER UPDATE**

The City of Bainbridge Fiber Director, David Hower, was before the Mayor and City Council to provide an update on the city's fiber project. Mr. Hower's PowerPoint presentation may be viewed here:

[https://core-docs.s3.us-east1.amazonaws.com/documents/asset/uploaded\\_file/4404/bainbridgecity/5239000/City\\_Council\\_012125.mp4](https://core-docs.s3.us-east1.amazonaws.com/documents/asset/uploaded_file/4404/bainbridgecity/5239000/City_Council_012125.mp4)

## **CONSIDERATION OF ALCOHOL BEVERAGE LICENSES**

The Mayor and City Council were in receipt of six (6) alcoholic beverage license applications.

- Applicant Jason Priest, owner of River City Grill and Pizzeria, located at 400 N. Scott Street, renewal of distilled spirit, malt beverage retail, and wine package retail license.
- Applicant Amitaben Patel, owner of ANS Family, LLC, located at 1203 Dothan Road, renewal of malt beverage retail, and wine package retail license.

- Applicant Amen Saadig, owner of The Great Eats Company dba The American, located at 122 E. Broughton Street, distilled spirit, malt beverage retail, and wine package retail license.
- Applicant Erie Bowman, of Dolgencorp, LLC dba Dollar General Store #2349, located at 426 N. Broad Street, renewal of malt beverage retail, and wine package retail license.
- Applicant Erie Bowman, of Dolgencorp, LLC dba Dollar General Store #18939, located at 2560 Thomasville Road, renewal of malt beverage retail, and wine package retail license.
- Applicant Charles W. Whittaker, Jr. “Chuck”, owner of Bainbridge’s Bottle Shop, LLC, located at 925 E. Shotwell Street, has applied for a package store license.

Councilwoman Palmer made a motion to approve all applicants, and her motion was seconded by Councilman Kregg Close and voted all in favor 5-0.

The City of Bainbridge was also in receipt of one (1) one-day alcoholic beverage license application.

- Karen Tobin, Director of the Bainbridge-Decatur County Chamber of Commerce, located at 100 Boat Basin Drive, applied for a one-day alcohol license for their River Town Days festival to be held on March 8, 2025. Councilman Adams made a motion to approve the one-day alcohol license, and his motion received a second by Councilwoman Washington. The one-day alcohol license passed with a vote of 5-0.

### **STREET CLOSURE REQUEST**

The Mayor and City Council were in receipt of a street closure request from the Mardi Gras Society of Southwest Georgia to close portions of Hatcher Road, Boat Basin Circle, Burton Street, Water Street, Broughton Street and Broad Street on Tuesday, March 4<sup>th</sup> starting at 6:30 for a rolling street closure to hold a golf cart parade. Councilwoman Washington made a motion to accept the street closure request with a second from Councilman Close the council voted 5-0 to pass the street closure.

### **MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS**

With the approval of the City Council, Mayor Reynolds recommended appointing Stephen Gambrell to the Southwest Georgia Regional Commission and reappointing Mr. Jeff Rich to the Bainbridge-Decatur County Recreation Authority. Councilwoman Palmer made a motion to approve the appointments with a second by Councilman Close. The appointments passed in a vote of 5-0.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With there being no further business, Mayor Reynolds adjourned the meeting at 4:21 p.m.

BY:

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EDWARD REYNOLDS, MAYOR

ATTEST:

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RANDEE EUBANKS, COUNCIL CLERK