

MINUTES
CITY OF BAINBRIDGE, GEORGIA
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2022
6:30 P.M.

PRESENT: MAYOR EDWARD REYNOLDS, PRESIDING

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

CITY STAFF: CITY MANAGER CHRIS HOBBY, ASSISTANT CITY
MANAGER ROY OLIVER, ALLIE GODWIN, LISA TAYLOR,
STEVE O'NEIL, DAVID HOWER, FRANK GREEN, REDELL
WALTON, AND GABE MENENDEZ.

GUESTS: ETHAN REDDISH, BRUCE KIRBO, RONNIE SHEPPERD,
AND MARY LYNN WHITE,

ABSENT: PHIL LONG

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

Councilwoman Palmer 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 Councilwoman Bench, the Council voted 5-0 to approve the minutes from the September 20, 2022, City Council meeting as presented.

RECOGNIZE VISITORS AND DELEGATIONS

Mayor Reynolds opened the floor for anyone who wish to speak on an item that was currently not on the agenda. Mr. Bruce Kirbo of 2002 Twin Lakes came forward to discuss his concern regarding the City of Bainbridge's Street Department paving streets within the City of

Whigham. Hearing from no other citizen, Mayor Reynolds proceeded to the next item on the agenda.

PROCLAMATION

Mayor Edward Reynolds presented a proclamation to Mr. Ronnie Shephard proclaiming the month of October as “Blind Achievement Equality Month” within the City of Bainbridge.

CONSIDERATION OF STREET CLOSURE REQUESTS

City Manager Hobby presented the council with two temporary street closure requests:

- Mr. Gallagher Dempsey requests the temporary closure of all streets surrounding Willis Park on Saturday, February 4, 2023, to hold a Jazz and Blues Festival.
- Mr. Christopher Merritt, Principal of Bainbridge High School, requests the temporary closure of all streets surrounding Willis Park on Thursday, November 3, 2022, from 5:30-7:30 pm, for the annual Syrup Sop pep rally.

Councilwoman Palmer questioned the need to close all four streets surrounding Willis Park for the Syrup Sop. After a brief discussion from Council, Councilwoman Bench suggested to approve the request as presented, however have the city reach out to Mr. Merritt and see if there was a reason all four streets were included in the request. If there was no reason to close all four streets, the city could then amend the request to only close the streets necessary. Upon a motion offered by Councilwoman Palmer and seconded by Councilwoman Washington, the council voted 5-0 to approve the two temporary street closure requests as presented.

CONSIDERATION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE APPLICATIONS

City Manager Hobby presented the council with two Alcoholic Beverage License applications and explained that both applicants had met all necessary requirements for approval and found no reason to deny the applications:

- Mrs. Glennie Bench of Southwest Georgia Oil Co, Inc dba SunStop #425 located at 525 W. Shotwell Street has submitted an application for a malt beverage and wine package retail store.

- Mr. Jared Godwin, Owner and Operator of Bonnie Blue House Restaurant, has submitted an amendment to his alcoholic beverage application for a change in address. The new address will be 402 W. Water Street, Bainbridge, GA 39817.

Councilwoman Bench asked the council to vote on these two applications separately since she recused herself stating a conflict of interest for the first application. Upon a motion offered by Councilwoman Washington and seconded by Councilman Close, the council voted 4-0 to approve the malt beverage and wine package retail store application submitted by Mrs. Bench of Southwest Georgia Oil. Upon a motion offered by Councilwoman Bench and seconded by Councilwoman Palmer, the council voted 5-0 to approve the amendment of Mr. Godwin's application to reflect his new address.

CONSIDERATION OF EMPLOYEE CHRISTMAS INCENTIVE

City Manager Hobby asked Council to consider the purchase of \$200 in Bainbridge Bucks for each full-time employee as a Christmas incentive. Mr. Hobby informed the Council that this was a budgeted item. Upon a motion offered by Councilwoman Palmer and seconded by Councilwoman Washington, the Council voted in a 5-0 decision to approve the incentive.

PUBLIC HEARING – DEMOLITION ORDINANCE

Mayor Edward Reynolds informed those assembled that this meeting had been advertised as the time and place for a public hearing on the proposed five demolition ordinances. Upon a motion offered by Councilwoman Bench and seconded by Councilwoman Washington, the council voted 5-0 to open the public hearing. Hearing from no one, Councilman Whaley made a motion to close the public hearing. The motion was then seconded by Councilman Close and unanimously carried in a 5-0 vote.

CONSIDERATION OF DEMOLITION ORDINANCE

Upon a motion offered by Councilman Whaley and seconded by Councilman Close, the council voted 5-0 to approve the proposed five demolition ordinances.

PUBLIC HEARING - ZONING TEXT AMENDMENT

Mayor Edward Reynolds informed those assembled that this meeting had been advertised as the time and place for a public hearing on the proposed Zoning Text Amendment. Upon a motion offered by Councilman Whaley and seconded by Councilwoman Palmer, the council voted 5-0 to open the public hearing. Hearing from no one, Councilman Whaley made a motion to close the public hearing. The motion was then seconded by Councilman Close and unanimously carried in a 5-0 vote.

CONSIDERATION OF ZONING TEXT AMENDMENT

Upon a motion offered by Councilman Whaley and seconded by Councilwoman Bench, the council voted 5-0 to approve the Zoning Text Amendment as presented.

INTRODUCTION OF AMENDMENT TO PUBLIC PLACES ORDINANCE

Bainbridge Public Safety Director Frank Green presented the council with a formal introduction of an amendment to the Public Places Ordinance.

INTRODUCTION OF AMENDMENT TO SOLICITATION ORDINANCE

Bainbridge Public Safety Director Frank Green presented the council with a formal introduction of an amendment to the Solicitation Ordinance.

CONSIDERATION OF STREET CLOSURE REQUEST

Mayor Edward Reynolds informed the council that we had left off a street closure request from First Baptist Church of Bainbridge. Mrs. Mary Lynn White stepped forward to ask for a temporary street closure request of Collier Street and Green Street to host a block party on Saturday, November 19th from 12pm to 4pm. Upon a motion from Councilman Whaley and seconded by Councilman Close, the Council vote 5-0 to approve the temporary street closure request as presented.

ADJOURNMENT

With there being no further business, Mayor Reynolds adjourned the meeting at 7:11p.m.