

City of Baxter
Regular Meeting Minutes
City Hall
November 2, 2023 6:00 p.m.

Opening of Meeting, Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance

Police Chief Danny Holmes opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m. and led the Invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Call to Order

Mayor Martin called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

2. Roll Call

City Recorder Sharon Carlile called roll. Present were Councilman Dustin Stanton, Councilman Greg Phillips, Councilman Jeff Herald, Councilman Willie Allison and Mayor John Martin.

3. Approval of minutes from Regular Meeting on October 5, 2023

A motion to approve the minutes and dispense of the reading was made by Councilman Jeff Herald and was seconded by Councilman Willie Allison.

Vote: Phillips – Yes, Stanton – Yes, Allison – Yes, Herald – Yes. Motion Carried.

4. Communications from Mayor John Martin

Mayor Martin discussed the growth and a meeting he recently had with the TDOT Commissioner. The Commissioner was very receptive. The discussion centered around the SIA road to Portobello.

5. Reports from Committees, Members of the Board of Mayor and Councilmen and other Officers

City Attorney Shawn Fry communicated he has six months to transition to his Judge position. Building Inspector Bob Lane talked about Dollar Tree has not started construction yet. Love's is not tearing down part of their building but is adding on to it. The Noah and Jacob Hendrix are working on their building downtown. Councilman Dustin Stanton thanked everyone who helped at the Boo Bash. Councilman Jeff Herald requested a cap be put on one of the decorative chimneys on the Depot.

A. Bills for Approval

Councilman Willie Allison made a motion to approve the Bills for Approval. The motion was seconded by Councilman Greg Phillips.

Vote: Phillips – Yes, Stanton – Yes, Allison – Yes, Herald – Yes. Motion Carried.

6. Purchase Orders: None

7. Old Business - 2nd Reading

A. Ordinance 2023-6- “Ordinance Of The Governing Body Of Baxter, Tennessee Amending Municipal Codes, Title 4 Municipal Personnel, Chapter 2, Vacation And Sick Leave, To Add Section 4-211 Holiday Bonus”

Councilman Willie Allison made a motion to approve the second reading of Ordinance 2023-6. Councilman Dustin Stanton made a second to the motion.

Vote: Phillips – Yes, Stanton – Yes, Allison – Yes, Herald – Yes. Motion Carried.

8. New Business – 1st Reading

None

9. Comments and Grievances from Citizens

Citizens in the audience inquired about if the Dollar Tree is a market or Dollar Tree only. Mayor Martin explained that the plans the company had presented to the Planning Commission showed a Dollar Tree Market. The citizen also asked if there had been any discussions about hiring another officer. After much discussion, the council assured the citizen that they are actively looking for solutions and hopefully will be able to look at adding an officer the first of the year. Mayor Martin relayed to the citizens a study had been done by MTAS on our police department. The study concluded that the City of Baxter currently has enough officers to cover the needs. However, the City will continue to look at hiring another officer

A senior citizen discussed the first fund raiser they had ever had. It was very successful. The next project they will be looking at is the growth they have experienced. This growth is causing them to out grow the current senior citizen center. The citizen asked for the city to help them find a building that will hold more people.

A few citizens addressed the board about speeding issues on their streets. The streets are Rachelle and Celeste. These citizens requested speed bumps be installed to slow people down. Councilman Willie Allison made a motion to install speed bumps on Rachelle and Celeste. Councilman Jeff Herald made a second to the motion.

Vote: Phillips – No, Stanton – Yes, Allison – Yes, Herald – Yes. Motion Carried.

Adjournment

Councilman Dustin Stanton made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Jeff Herald seconded the motion.

Vote: Phillips – Yes, Stanton - Yes; Allison - Yes; Herald- Yes. Motion Carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Carlile, City Recorder

John Martin, Mayor