

**City of Baxter
Regular Meeting Minutes
Visitor's Center
January 5th, 2017
6:00 p.m.**

Opening of Meeting, Oath of Office, Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance

Chief Danny Holmes opened the meeting. Chaplain Tim Sharpe led the invocation. Chief Holmes led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Call to Order

Mayor John Martin called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

2. Roll Call

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

3. Swearing in of Police Officers

County Clerk Wayne Nabors swore in new officers Joseph Thomas, Travis Bates, and Richard Bullard. Chief Holmes briefly spoke about each officer and thanked them for their service.

4. Approval of Minutes

Alderman Willie Allison made a motion, seconded by Alderman Jeff Herald to accept the minutes of the regular meeting on December 1st, 2016 and to dispense the reading.

Vote: Allison-yes, Herald-yes, Stanton-yes, Phillips-yes. Motion Carried

5. Comments and Grievances from Citizens

Mrs. Freda Harris of the Senior Citizens updated everyone on the hours of the senior citizen center and what activities they do. She talked about the seniors receiving the Tennessee for the Ages Senior Center Innovation award. They received a grant in December titled serving Tennessee Seniors in the amount of \$10,000.00.

Mrs. Jeanie Lee spoke about the accomplishments of the Friends of the Depot. She said the parade was almost an hour long. She thanked the city for all their help. And also said she was proud of their committees which are volunteers and they accomplish lots of things.

Mayor Martin spoke about the city paying for the building of the pavilion. He communicated the Friends of the Depot have paid the city back for all of it. He spoke about what an asset the pavilion is for Baxter.

6. Communications from Mayor John Martin

Mayor Martin discussed a letter the City needs to send to finalize the development project on Highway 70 by J Cumby Construction. He has also met with several business who are thinking about opening in Baxter.

7. Reports from Committee, Members of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen, and Other Officers

City Engineer Tom Bennett spoke about the flow monitoring information for the Sewer system. He is starting to pinpoint issues. He also spoke about a \$525,000.00 grant for the Sewer system coming up in February. Mr. Bennett is hoping Baxter will qualify for this grant this year.

Codes Officer Bob Lane talked about three new structures being built in Baxter. He also conveyed to the board that they are cleaning up properties in Baxter. Mr. Lane spoke about working with the county and school system to try and find a bigger place for the Senior Citizens.

A. Bills for Approval

Alderman Jeff Herald made a motion to pay the bills. Alderman Dustin Stanton seconded the motion.

Vote: Allison-yes, Herald-yes, Stanton-yes, Phillips-yes. Motion Carried

B. Purchase Orders

A motion to approve all purchase orders was made by Alderman Jeff Herald and seconded by Alderman Willie Allison.

Vote: Allison-yes, Herald-yes, Stanton-yes, Phillips-yes. Motion Carried

C. Leak Adjustment Approvals

Alderman Dustin Stanton made a motion, seconded by Alderman Greg Phillips to approve the leak adjustments.

Vote: Allison-yes, Herald-yes, Stanton-yes, Phillips-yes. Motion Carried

Old Business: None

New Business:

A. Fire Chief Matt White asked for approval to award Extrication Equipment Bid to EVS

A motion was made by Alderman Willie Allison and seconded by Alderman Greg Phillips to award the bid to EVS.

Vote: Allison-yes, Herald-yes, Stanton-yes, Phillips-yes. Motion Carried

B. Fire Chief Matt White also conveyed to the board that the Fire Department had received a grant for body thermal cameras.

C. Resolution 2016-6 - A Resolution Authorizing A Contract be Entered Into The Tennessee Department Of Transportation For Assistance in Construction and Completion Of An Industrial Access Highway Contingent on Cost to the City of Baxter

Alderman Jeff Herald made a motion to approve resolution 2016-6 contingent on the cost to the City of Baxter. Alderman Willie Allison seconded the motion.

Vote: Allison-yes, Herald-yes, Stanton-yes, Phillips-yes. Motion Carried

D. Ordinance 2016-13 - Annexation of 6939 Nashville Highway 1st Reading

Alderman Jeff Herald made a motion, seconded by Alderman Willie Allison to pass Ordinance 2016-13 annexing property at 6939 Nashville Highway for the 1st reading.

Vote: Allison-yes, Herald-yes, Stanton-yes, Phillips-yes. Motion Carried

E. Highlands Membership (Chamber of Commerce)

A motion was made by Alderman Dustin Stanton and seconded by Alderman Willie Allison to approve renewing the City of Baxter's membership.

Vote: Allison-yes, Herald-yes, Stanton-yes, Phillips-yes. Motion Carried

F. Mayor Martin spoke about the \$75000.00 General Fund CD at Putnam First Mercantile Bank. The board had previously voted to move all money to the Bank of Putnam County. The board decided to leave this CD at Putnam First Mercantile.

Alderman Dustin Stanton made a motion, seconded by Alderman Willie Allison to leave the money at Putnam First Mercantile Bank.

Vote: Allison-yes, Herald-yes, Stanton-yes, Phillips-yes. Motion Carried

G. Mayor Martin conveyed to the board there is a CD for the Water Department at Regions Bank. The interest rate is .4 %. He expressed a need to take bids from banks to get a better rate and to add signers to the account. Currently there are not any signers on the CD.

Alderman Willie Allison made a motion, seconded by Alderman Dustin Stanton to add Mayor John Martin and Water Clerk Melanie Harris as signers on the CD at Regions bank. The motion also included taking bids for a better interest rate from banks.

Vote: Allison-yes, Herald-yes, Stanton-yes, Phillips-yes. Motion Carried

H. Denning and Cantrell, CPA-

A motion was made by Alderman Dustin Stanton, seconded by Alderman Jeff Herald to retain Denning and Cantrell as the CPAs for the city.

Vote: Allison-yes, Herald-yes, Stanton-yes, Phillips-yes. Motion Carried

I. Alderman Willie Allison inquired about the timeline the city has to be moved out of the Sewell Building. Mayor Martin conveyed a survey needs to be approved to be able to close the sale of the Sewell Building. The survey needs to be done because the city decided to retain the small covered building attached to the Sewell Building.

Alderman Greg Phillips made a motion to approve a survey being completed on the Sewell Building. Alderman Willie Allison seconded the motion.

Vote: Allison-yes, Herald-yes, Stanton-yes, Phillips-yes. Motion Carried

J. Police Chief Danny Holmes and Fire Chief Matt White asked the board to approve adding In God We Trust to the police cars and the fire trucks.

Alderman Willie Allison made a motion, seconded by Alderman Jeff Herald to approve adding In God We Trust to the police cars and the fire trucks.

Vote: Allison-yes, Herald-yes, Stanton-yes, Phillips-yes. Motion Carried

K. Police Chief Danny Holmes asked the board to approve giving Officer Richard Bullard a pay raise of \$1.00 per hour.

Alderman Willie Allison made a motion, seconded by Alderman Dustin Stanton to approve the pay raise of \$1.00 per hour for Officer Bullard.

Vote: Allison-yes, Herald-yes, Stanton-yes, Phillips-yes. Motion Carried

Meeting Adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Carlile, City Recorder

John Martin, Mayor