

City of Baxter
Regular Meeting Minutes
Visitor's Center
May 4, 2017
6:00 p.m.

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

Chief Danny Holmes opened the meeting at 6:03 p.m. Chief Holmes also led the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Call to Order

Mayor John Martin called the meeting to order at 6:10 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.

4. Approval of Minutes

Alderman Dustin Stanton made a motion, seconded by Alderman Jeff Herald to accept the minutes of the regular meeting on April 13, 2017 and to dispense of the reading.

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

5. Comments and Grievances from Citizens

Citizen Paul Cotnoir commended the Alderman, Mayor, Police Chief and Fire Chief for putting In God We Trust on the City vehicles. Mr. Cotnoir asked about the fairgrounds going on Ditty Road. Mayor Martin communicated there would be three entrances to the fairgrounds and there would be a 50,000 square foot Expo Center. The city would have to annex the wooded property in the back. The Mayor also discussed the possibility of road improvements if the fairgrounds and Expo Center are at this location. The planning commission has put off the decision until next month. Another citizen voiced concerns about the fairgrounds being located in front of her house. Alderman Willie Allison said the board did not have a vote in the fairgrounds moving to Baxter. The Putnam County Planning Commission will make the decision. Chief Holmes directed them to reach out to the county executive for

more information. Alderman Willie Allison expressed support for an Expo center in Baxter. He thought it would cause less crime in the area. Mayor Martin expressed his desire to grow Baxter.

Another citizen inquired about the Dalton Bus graveyard. Mayor spoke about telling TDEC that someone should be checking it.

Valissa Tucker approached the board about getting City Water at her address in Silver Point. She said all of her neighbors have it. In the past, she was told she could not get a meter put on her property. She feels it is not fair that she would have to pay out of her pocket to run water to her house. Water Superintendent John Ramsey told the board it would be three tenths to her house. He said he had spoken to Miss Tucker several times. Mayor Martin said she would have to pay to run the line. Mr. Ramsey said he would have to research the location for the meter a little more. Alderman Willie Allison asked if the contractor had put the water taps in for the subdivision beside her. Mr. Jeff Wilhite discussed why the city had stopped running lines years ago. He spoke about the policy being that if anyone wants water ran to their house they would have to pay to run the lines. Codes Inspector Bob Lane said if she had six people, maybe the city should look at doing this.

Mr. Jeff Wilhite spoke about Resolution 2016-14.

Jeff Herald made a motion and Alderman Greg Phillips seconded a motion to appoint Mr. Jeff Wilhite as the city's representative for the City of Baxter.

Mrs. Jeanie Lee spoke about the success of the Gearhead's car show in April. The next cruise in is May 13th and veterans will be honored that night as well.

6. Communications From Mayor John Martin

Mayor Martin spoke about the thank you card from the Special Olympics. He also spoke about the meetings he has been having trying to grow Baxter. He also talked about Fiesta Cancun putting a location in Baxter.

7. Reports From Committees, Members of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen, and Other Officers

Codes Inspector Bob Lane spoke about tree new houses in Baxter last month.

Mayor Martin commended Mr. Lane does a wonderful job.

City Engineer Tom Bennett discussed a grant program through USDA to do studies on your wastewater plant. It is a 100% grant up to \$40,000.00. He asked the board to approve him applying on this grant. He also talked about getting proposals for camera studies for our sewer system. Mr. Bennett said the city would have to figure out the money the City could allocate for this study. The city should find out about the CDBG grant outcome in the fall. He also asked for approval to get proposals.

Water Clerk, Melanie Harris communicated to the board that this would have to be on the budget year 2017-2018. The water budget is at the limit for this fiscal year. Mr. Bennett also discussed the different options for the Elmore Town Road project. He conveyed the construction could not start until after 1 July.

Fire Chief Matt White discussed the new fire truck for the city. Chief Danny Holmes thanked the City Recorder, Sharon Carlile and the board members for getting the budget done so quickly.

A. Bills for Approval

Alderman Willie Allison made a motion to pay the bills. Alderman Jeff Herald 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:

A. Ordinance 2016-16 An Ordinance Amending The Annual Operating Budget of the General and Special Revenue Funds (Fire and Police)- 2nd Reading

Alderman Willie Allison made a motion and Alderman Jeff Herald seconded the motion to approve the second reading of Ordinance 2016-16

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

B. Ordinance 2016-17 An Ordinance Amending The Annual Operating Budget of the Water and Sewer Funds- 2nd Reading

A motion was made by Alderman Greg Phillips to approve the second reading of Ordinance 2016-17. Alderman Willie Allison seconded the motion.

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

New Business:

A. Resolution 2016-14 Resolution 2016-14 A Resolution of the City of Baxter Supporting State of Tennessee Senate Budget Amendment #254 And House Budget Amending #80 Relative to Appropriating Funds From Transportation Equity Fund to Short Line Railroads

A motion to approve Resolution 2016-14 was made by Alderman Jeff Herald. Alderman Greg Phillips seconded the motion.

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

B. Eliminate Part Time Position/ Add Full Time Employee- Street Department

Alderman Jeff Herald made a motion to eliminate the part time position at the street department, and hire Mr. Greg Nash as a full time employee. Alderman Greg Phillips made a second to the motion.

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

C. Tucker Oaks Road Water Main

David Oaks approached the board asking for a water main to be installed on Tucker Oaks Road. He said there is six houses on that road. Water Superintendent spoke about the problem with laying a main being put in there. City Engineer Tom Bennett spoke about the size the line would have to be. He felt the city should look at cost sharing this project. HE said it would be best for everyone on the road to get together and share the cost of putting this main in.

D. Friends of the Depot- Visitor Center Fees

Ms. June Lewis talked about the fees changing for rental of the Visitor's Center and the Pavilion.

E. Ordinance 2016-18 An Ordinance Amending the Annual Operating Budget of the General and Special Revenue Funds of Baxter, Tennessee for Fiscal Year 2016-2017

Alderman Dustin Stanton made a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2016-18. Alderman Jeff Herald seconded the motion.

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

F. Ordinance 2017-1 Ordinance 2017-1 An Ordinance Of The Town Of Baxter, Tennessee Adopting A Budget For The General And Special Revenue Funds And Tax Rate For The Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2017 And Ending June 30, 2018- 1st Reading

Alderman Jeff Herald made a motion and Alderman Willie Allison seconded the motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2017-1.

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

G. Ordinance 2017-2 An Ordinance Of The Town Of Baxter, Tennessee, Adopting A Budget For Water And Sewer Fund For The Fiscal Year July 1, 2017 Through June 30, 2018- 1st Reading

A motion was made by Alderman Greg Phillips and seconded by Alderman Dustin Stanton to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2017-2.

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

H. Renew Blue Cross/ Blue Shield Insurance

Alderman Dustin Stanton made a motion and Alderman Greg Phillips seconded the motion to renew the Blue Cross/ Blue Shield Insurance for the employees with Fields Insurance and accept the 3 % increase for FY 2017-2018.

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

I. Sponsorship Request UHS Soccer Booster Club

The board discussed the sponsorship and decided to table the issue until they received more information.

Mayor Martin thanked Sharon Carlile, City Recorder, for her work on the budget and discussed the letter from the state talking about the budget looking good.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Carlile, City Recorder

John Martin, Mayor