

**City of Baxter**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**City Hall**  
**August 8, 2024 6:00 p.m.**

**Opening of Meeting, Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance**

Fire Chief Matt White opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m. and led the Invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

**1. Call to Order**

Mayor John Martin called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

**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 July 11, 2024.**

Councilman Willie Allison made a motion to approve the minutes and dispense of the reading. Councilman Dustin Stanton made a second to the motion.

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

**4. Bills for Approval**

A motion to approve the bills was made by Councilman Jeff Herald and seconded by Councilman Willie Allison.

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

**5. Purchase Orders: Sewer (1)**

Councilman Dustin Stanton made a motion to add a police purchase order and Councilman Jeff Herald made a second to the motion.

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

Purchase orders for sewer in the amount of \$3,825.25 and for police in the amount of \$3,600.00 was approved with a motion by Councilman Jeff Herald. Councilman Willie Allison seconded the motion.

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

**6. Old Business- 2nd Reading:**

No old business to discuss.

**7. New Business- 1st Reading:**

**A. Bid out Capital Outlay- SIA Road**

A payment is due in October to TDOT for the Portobello SIA Road. The city needs to obtain bids for interest rates for the loan.

Councilman Greg Phillips made a motion to approve the solicitation of bids for a capital outlay loan. Councilman Jeff Herald made a second to the motion.

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

## **8. Communications from Mayor John Martin**

Mayor Martin thanked everyone for their support over the last eight years. He also discussed the industries in process. He has been working with the industries for the last two years. He is hoping that he will be able to continue to work with the industries to finish it out. The name or nature of the industry cannot be released yet. He discussed having coffee with the new Police Chief, Al Reyes and how perfect he is for the job and the department. In 2021, the City of Baxter received the Community of the Year Award and the Mayor's position is a full time and not part time position. The only thing he ask is that the City keeps growing and heading in the right direction.

## **9. Reports from Committees, Members of the Board of Mayor and Councilman, and other Officers**

Chief White talked about all of the applications he has received for volunteer fireman. He has too many now but that is a good problem to have. Public Works Director John Ramsey wanted everyone to know that the pump is online in Silver Point. The City Attorney Wade Blair gave an update on the gaming machines. The previous trial is being reheard. Building Inspector Bob Lane mentioned several permits and Certificates of Occupancy have been issued and one new business. City Engineer Tom Bennett relayed that the Inflow and Infiltration wastewater project has been put out to bid. Also, the ARPA project for Wolf Creek is in process. Councilman Willie Allison asked about the ramp project that was announced by Ryan Williams two years ago. Mr. Allison also asked for a temporary red light at the intersection until the ramp project is completed. He congratulated Danny Holmes on being elected as Mayor. He also conveyed to John Martin how much he would be missed. Councilman Greg Phillips inquired about the possibility of Love's helping to fix Fast Lane. Mr. Phillips also discussed complaints of vagrants behind Speedway. He also thanked Mayor Martin for all his hard work over the last eight years. Councilman Dustin Stanton thanked Mayor Martin for his hard work too and presented him with a plaque for his service to the City from the employees and council. Councilman Jeff Herald echoed everyone's comments and discussed all of the projects completed in the last eight years.

Councilman Jeff Herald made a motion to authorize John Martin as an agent of the City to work with the industries locating to Baxter. Councilman Dustin Stanton made a second to the motion.

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

## **10. Comments and Grievances from Citizens**

Robert Vinson talked about Mayor John Martin being the best Mayor the City has ever had in office. Noah and Jacob Hendrix inquired about the Double Springs Water District lawsuit. Mayor Martin summarized the issue with the lawsuit between the two districts. Mr. Hendrix then inquired about what Mayor Martin will be doing to help bring the industries. Mayor Martin said he has been working on this for two years and is going to work to complete the projects. Danny Holmes thanked Mayor Martin for a great eight years and he understands everything he has done while in office. He also asked Mayor Martin to please stay involve. Police Chief Al Reyes and Public Works John Ramsey thanked Mayor Martin for all his support and hard work.

## **Adjournment**

Councilman Greg Phillips made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Dustin Stanton seconded the motion.

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

Meeting Adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Sharon Carlile, City Recorder

John Martin, Mayor

minutes approved  
9-5-24 after his  
term was over.