



Minutes
City Council Meeting
November 27th, 2023
6:30pm

Baldwin Courtroom, 155 Willingham Avenue, Baldwin, GA 30511

Mayor Stephanie Almagno, Council Member Erik Keith, Council Member Theron Ayers, and Council Member Alice Venter were in attendance.

Call Meeting to Order

Mayor Stephanie Almagno called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm.

Invocation and Pledge

Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of Minutes: Council Meeting 11/13/2023 and Council Retreat 11/16/23 and 11/17/23.
- b. PD Budgeted Axon In-Car Cameras Purchase: \$14,975.92

Action: A motion was made by Theron Ayers to approve the council meeting minutes as presented with a second by Alice Venter. Motion Carried 3-0.

Action: A motion was made by Alice Venter to approve the Police Department Axon In-Car Cameras Purchase as presented with a second by Theron Ayers. Motion Carried 3-0.

Citizen Comments

Rose Basson of 734 Dawn Place addressed Council, first thanking Baldwin Police Department for their regular patrols and the streetlights placed at Highland Pointe. Basson said that several of her neighbors wanted to know about the timeline for the topcoat for the repaved street, and if the potholes can be addressed.

Basson also requested that speed bumps be placed at Highland Pointe to discourage speeding, as there are several blind turns and children play in the street. She also brought to Council's attention that the stop sign and street sign and at Dawn Place and Highland Pointe were taken down for construction and had not yet been replaced.

Public Hearings

Reports

Fire Department – Chief Joe Roy

Chief Roy was not present due to a house fire and his report will be rescheduled for a future meeting.

Old Business

1. Consideration/Approval of 2nd Reading of Precision Digital SUP Ordinance #2023-10132Z

Council had no further questions or concerns regarding this ordinance. Mayor Almagno read the highlighted portion of the ordinance.

Action: A motion was made by Alice Venter to approve the 2nd Reading of Precision Digital Special Use Permit Ordinance #2023-10132Z as presented with a second by Erik Keith. Motion Did Not Pass: 2-1 (Yes: Alice Venter, Erik Keith; No: Theron Ayers).

After the vote, Ayers clarified that he was mistaken on his vote and wanted to vote in the affirmative. The decision was made to table the ordinance until the next meeting to ensure Council had time to review the ordinance and vote accordingly.

Action: A motion was made by Alice Venter to table the adoption of Precision Digital SUP Ordinance #2023-10132Z to the December 11th council meeting with a second by Erik Keith. Motion Carried 3-0.

2. Consideration/Approval of 1st Reading of Wrecker Service Ordinance #2023-11135

Police Chief Chris Jones summarized the meeting held with the three wrecker companies on Baldwin's rotation and the changes made to the proposed policy. The maximum price rates have been updated from 2009 and created a heavy/commercial vehicle wrecker rotation for Ramey's and Hulsey's, instead of using the County's rotation list.

Liability coverage was increased, and garage keeper's insurance was added (previously not contemplated). The ordinance is written to allow a 10-mile radius for storage yards, which includes the current wrecker companies and any newcomers in the future.

Another change made to the policy to reduce cancellations once the towing company is enroute is a five-minute window to cancel once the call is made from dispatch. After five minutes the tow will not be cancelled, and the owner of the vehicle will settle a price with the tow company. If they cannot agree a price to settle, it is at the on-scene officer's discretion whether or not to tow the vehicle.

Mayor Almagno read the highlighted portion of the ordinance.

Action: A motion was made by Alice Venter to approve the 1st Reading of Wrecker Service Ordinance #2023-11135 as presented with a second by Erik Keith. Motion Carried 3-0.

Fire Chief Joe Roy arrived at the meeting at 7:00 pm and Council asked him to present his report as planned for this meeting.

Reports

Fire Department – Chief Joe Roy

Chief Roy gave a six-month report on call volume, types of calls, training completed, equipment obtained, and events conducted (see attached).

New Business

3. Consideration/Approval of 1st Reading of Bellamy Zoning Ordinance #2023-11134Z

CAO Emily Woodmaster presented a request for a zoning change from Jacob Bellamy of Bellamy Auto Repair. Bellamy was granted a zoning change request in 2018 for his auto shop to Neighborhood Commercial (NC). He has since acquired the parcel south of his business and is asking for that parcel to be rezoned from Single Family District (R2) to NC in order to physically extend his building.

Mayor Almagno read the highlighted portion of the ordinance.

Action: A motion was made by Theron Ayers to approve the 1st Reading of Bellamy Zoning Ordinance #2023-11134Z as presented with a second by Alice Venter. Motion Carried 3-0.

4. Consideration/Approval of Awards Program Policy

Woodmaster addressed the Council regarding adding an Employee Awards policy to recognize and encourage employees as they dedicate their years of service to the City of Baldwin. Woodmaster stated that she wanted to create a policy in the handbook that will continue for years, and our employees can look forward to awards and recognition for their work. Woodmaster reviewed the proposed policy additions and the different tiers of awards for different years of service.

Action: A motion was made by Alice Venter to approve the Awards Program Policy as presented with a second by Theron Ayers. Motion Carried 3-0.


Executive Session

Announcements

- a. The Baldwin Christmas Tree Lighting will be Friday, December 1st at 6:30 pm at Michell Gailey Park! Enjoy free cookies and hot cocoa, take pictures with Santa, and write Christmas cards for local senior citizens! Christmas songs will be performed by Baldwin Elementary School students and cookies provided by Marlene's Cakes and More Event Planning.
- b. Mayor Almagno and Council Member Alice Venter thanked City of Baldwin Fire Department for hosting the Thanksgiving Community Potluck Dinner.

Adjournment


Action: A motion was made by Theron Ayers to adjourn the meeting with a second by Erik Keith. Motion Carried 3-0 at 7:33 pm.



Stephanie Almagno, Mayor

12/11/2023

Date Approved by Council



Erin Gathercoal, City Clerk



City of Baldwin Fire Department
Six Month Report
May 1, 2023 – October 31, 2023

Total call volume: 844 calls (January – November 24th)

Nature of calls:

- Med calls – 510
- Med Alarms – 5
- Walk in Station medical – 14
- Motor Vehicle Accidents – 39
- Biological Hazard – 1
- Cancelled enroute – 88
- Structure Fires – 8
- Patience Assist – 32
- Fire Alarms – 32
- Welfare – 2
- No Incident Found – 20
- Vehicle Fires – 5
- False Alarm – 6
- Gas leak – 4
- Woods & Grass Fires – 7
- Smoke Detector Activation – 12
- Alarm System Activation – 13
- Installed Smoke Detector – 2
- Smoke Scare – 7
- Arcing Electrical Equipment – 3
- Assist Police – 3
- Illegal Burning – 1
- Public Service – 5
- Smoke Investigation – 2
- Power Line Down – 3
- Citizen complaint – 1

Training Hours Completed: 2,479 across the department with the lowest individual number being 180 hours of 240.

Completed Classes:

- Firefighter II – 40 hrs
- AOPP – 40 hrs
- Car Seat Tech – 40 hrs
- ISO Review – 8 hrs
- Fire Inspector 1 – 80 hrs
- Life safety Code – 24 hrs
- Honor Guard – 40 hrs
- Structure Fire Control – 8 hrs
- Forcible Entry – 8 hrs

Acquired Equipment:

- Extrication Gear
- Connex Boxes For training Center (2 – 20 ft, 1 – 40 ft)
- Forcible Entry Door
- Electric Chain Saw
- Chainsaw for Engine 43

Truck Service and Maintenance

- Ground Ladders testing
- Tower 41 Cylinder Repairs
- All Yearly DOT Service and inspections
- Engine 43 piping repairs
- Pumper 4 piping repairs
- Engine 41 Service and repairs
- E-draulics Servicing
- SCBA servicing
- Pump Testing

In Service, Out of Service Report

- Engine 44 removed from service.
- Pumper 4 removed from service.
- Engine 43 out of service from April until August.

May Events

- Organizing trucks and equipment and updating inventory.
- Hose test large LDH Supply Hose
- Set up Public Safety Day
- Public Safety Day
- Hurst E-draulic Tool Servicing

June Events

- City Water Wars June 10th
- Final AOPP retest June 10th
- Organize props and materials for City "Pit"nic celebration
- Organize firework display and timing.
- Set up and organize a multi-company training for July on Simulators at training center.

July Events

- Back to School Bash July 29th
- Assist with Banks and Dawson Firefighter I Live Fire Exercise July 29th
- Set up and organize a multicompany training for July on Simulators at training center.
- Raffle ticket sales for Shop With a Hero grill and Drawing (\$1,781.50 generated for Shop With a Hero.

August Events

- Movie at the Market August 25th
- Shop With a Hero raffle drawing for Grill
- Battle of the Heroes Football game for the Easton Foundation
- Firefighter 2 Class and Testing (100% pass rate)
- NFPA Physicals

September Events

- Engine 43 returned to service
- Installed Forcible Entry door at training center.
- Sold advertisement for calendar for Shop With a Hero.
- Took photo for Calendar
- Begin working repairs to Fall Festival Props

October Events

- Fall festival.

Funds Generated for Shop With a Hero 2023:

- **Grill Raffle** – Net revenue produced: \$1,781.50
- **Calendar Sales** – Net revenue produced: \$1,280.00