



Minutes
City Council Work Session
November 6th, 2023
6:30pm

Baldwin Municipal Courtroom, 155 Willingham Avenue, Baldwin, GA 30511

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

Call Meeting to Order

Acting Mayor Alice Venter called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Economic Development Discussion (max. 20 minutes)

Public Hearing

Precision Digital SUP – Ordinance #2023-10132Z

Acting Mayor Venter opened the public hearing at 6:31 pm.

Old Business

1. Wrecker Policy

Acting Mayor Venter read through the wrecker rotation protocol presented at the October 23rd council meeting.

Council Member Stephanie Almagno asked if the current three companies on Baldwin's list should be grandfathered in or required to apply to be on the rotation.

Chief Chris Jones stated that this protocol was written for a standard application process and recommended having a two-month buffer. For example, preparing the new application process to implement on January 1st, and then using the wrecker list on March 1st. The application process can be put out to the City's legal organ, on social media, and the City's website. Applications would be submitted to Chief Jones who would verify each applicant met all criteria. The rotation list of three companies would then be selected from the verified applicant pool and kept on the rotation list for three years, except in the case of violations or grounded complaints filed. A company with violations or complaints could be banned from the rotation list, but the length of time would be a policy decision made by Council.

Council would decide if wrecker company is required to have a secure impound site within city limits or if the companies can take a car to a facility in a different city or county. Chief Jones stated that requiring a company to have a lot within city limits is restricting but recommended implementing a 10-mile radius. Council agreed that the radius would be most effective and simple.

Chief Jones said one concern of his was how some companies state that they have workers' compensation while other companies do not, and if such could influence the decision. Legal Counsel Jack Samuels said that a company having workers' compensation can be a determining factor in choosing the best applicant during the application process and would not be overstepping a boundary.

Acting Mayor Venter closed the public hearing at 6:52 pm.

Almagno asked if the wrecker services would require specific equipment to tow an electric vehicle. Chief Jones said he would research and report back.

CAO Emily Woodmaster called out several specific changes to the ordinance, including an increase in liability coverage for wrecker services to \$500,000 and specifying a 6-foot fence for maintaining a secure impound lot.

Council was in consensus to bring this forward at the end of the month meeting.

Acting Mayor Venter read through the highlighted section of the Precision Digital SUP Ordinance #2023-10132Z. This does not serve as a formal first reading, which will be at the November 13th meeting.

New Business

2. 2024 Council Meeting Calendar

Woodmaster reviewed the proposed 2024 calendar of council meetings, work sessions, city events, and other important dates. She went over all conflicts and the recommended meeting date changes. This has not been compared to the Municipal Court calendar for 2024, which only has the potential to change the location of meetings, not dates or times. Once the two calendars have been compared, any meetings in the Police Department Training Facility will be clearly denoted on the calendar of meetings posted outside City Hall, outside the Police Department, and on the City's website.

Council had no questions or concerns and was in consensus to bring this forward at the November 13th meeting.

Announcement


- a. City Offices will be closed on Friday, November 10th in observance of Veterans' Day.
- b. The City Council Fall Retreat will be November 16th and 17th from 8:00 am - 5:00 pm at 202 Luthi Road, Alto, GA 30510.
- c. The City of Baldwin will be hosting the 2nd Baldwin Thanksgiving Potluck Dinner on November 23rd from 2:30 pm – 4:30 pm at the Baldwin Fire Department. This

potluck is open to all Baldwin residents. We will provide the turkey and ham and ask that you bring your favorite family dish to share. Please reserve a seat by emailing ewoodmaster@cityofbaldwin.org or by texting 470-208-9842.

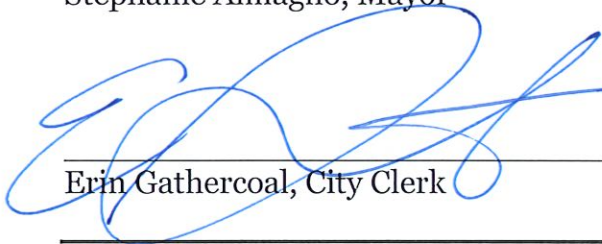
- d. City Offices will be closed on November 23rd and November 24th in observance of Thanksgiving.

Adjournment

Action: A motion was made by Theron Ayers to adjourn the meeting with a second by Maarten Venter. Motion Carried 4-0 @ 7:09 pm.


Stephanie Almagno, Mayor

11/13/2023
Date Approved by Council


Erin Gathercoal, City Clerk

