



Agenda
City Council Work Session
January 9th, 2024
6:30pm

Baldwin PD Training Center, 155 Willingham Avenue, Baldwin, GA 30511

Call Meeting to Order

Swearing in of Erik Keith, Joseph Satterfield, and Kerri Davis

Public Hearing

Old Business

New Business

1. Council Meeting Procedures
2. Qualifying Fees

Announcement

- a. City Offices will be closed on Monday, January 15th, in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

Adjournment

City of Baldwin

Council Meeting Procedures

Effective July 23, 2018

Council Meeting Procedures, Organization and Public Participation

During Baldwin City Council meetings decisions are made that formally set municipal programs in motion, enact ordinances, adopt policy, and authorize the expenditure of city funds. This guideline discusses the conduct of meetings, preparation for meetings, rules of procedure, and encouragement of orderly citizen participation.¹

CITY OF BALDWIN COUNCIL MEETINGS

The City of Baldwin charter amendments define a Baldwin City Council Meeting as “each regularly scheduled meeting, each emergency meeting, each work session, and each specially called meeting of the City Council of the City of Baldwin”.² Executive sessions and public hearings would also be included as part of the meeting process.

Regular Meetings

Regular meetings are official meetings held twice per month to consider municipal business, make policy decisions, approve contracts, establish budgets, and enact ordinances or resolutions. These meetings are held on the second and fourth Monday of each month, starting at 6:30 pm unless the date and time is changed at a previous council meeting.

Work Sessions

Work sessions provide members the opportunity to meet with staff in order to delve into complex issues, discuss solutions and alternatives, give direction to staff, or discuss upcoming city business. The regular schedule for the Baldwin City Council monthly work session is that a work session will be held on the Thursday prior to the first regular monthly City Council meeting. The meeting will begin at 6:30 pm. The Baldwin City Charter allows for more than one work session per month if the Mayor or Council deems it necessary. These meetings are typically less formal and are often used for information gathering. Baldwin City Charter Amendment /Ordinance No. 0029-33 states that during the work sessions, “no official action is to be taken.”³

Special Called Meetings

This type of meeting is usually convened to discuss and vote on a limited number of specific issues. For example, a special called meeting may be held to take action on a controversial issue or an issue that requires immediate attention and cannot wait until a regular meeting. Because there may be a number of people wishing to comment regarding the request, holding a special called meeting to address the issue is an effective way to avoid an otherwise long and drawn out regular meeting. The Baldwin City Charter has special requirements in order to conduct a special called meeting and those requirements should be followed.

Emergency Meetings

In the event of special circumstances which necessitate meeting under 24 hours notice a meeting may be called using the special requirements of calling a meeting with less than 24 hours notice per the City Charter.⁴ Additionally an emergency ordinance may be passed to meet a public emergency affecting life, health, property, or public peace providing it receives at least four affirmative votes of the council and follows the procedures in the City Charter.⁵

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Executive Sessions

Council meetings that are closed to the public are referred to as executive sessions. Such meetings may only be held for the specific, limited purposes authorized by law, and the council must comply with statutory procedures when closing a meeting. These private sessions are held with the elected officials and any staff or appointed professionals necessary to the discussion.

Public Hearings

Public hearings allow citizens to comment and express opinions on matters of public concern. Generally, no official action is taken during a public hearing. Some hearings are required by law, but they may also be used by the council for other matters. They may be called in order to gather facts related to proposed action or to gauge public opinion by allowing citizens the opportunity to comment on a specific topic, such as a land-use plan. Public hearings may be held as part of a regular or special called meeting, or they may be entirely separate meetings.

Official decisions may **only** be made in regular, open meetings of the City Council. At such meetings, issues are publically debated, and action is taken.

RULES OF PROCEDURE

There is no state law requiring adoption of a particular set of rules for running a city council meeting. Instead of adopting a standard guide to parliamentary procedure, such as Robert's Rules of Order, the City Council of Baldwin is adopting a custom set of procedural rules to govern its meetings. Those rules are as follows:

City of Baldwin City Council Meeting Procedures

Purpose

The Baldwin City Council establishes these rules of order to help manage the conduct of the Baldwin City Council meeting and to facilitate an efficient and orderly meeting while transacting the municipal business of the City of Baldwin. These rules and procedures help to establish and maintain order by providing a clear framework for the meeting. The rules are clear and simple, facilitate wider understanding and participation and encourage citizens to participate in the process.

The Baldwin City Council recognizes the hierarchy of the law and acknowledges that the U.S. Constitution and federal law, the Georgia Constitution and state law, and the Baldwin City Charter override any procedural meeting rules the council may adopt.

Order of Business

The Baldwin City Charter establishes the Mayor as the presiding officer at city council meetings.⁶ The Mayor as presiding officer will be recognized as and have the authority of the meeting Chair.

Baldwin City Council meetings should follow an order of business formally included in these rules and procedures. The council should not depart from the order except in unusual cases and then only by majority vote of the Council. An order of business makes it easier to prepare the agenda and minutes and because it provides predictability, it engenders greater public confidence.

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The Agenda

The agenda constitutes the Baldwin City Council's road map for the meeting. A formal, written agenda following the official order of business should be prepared in advance of each meeting. The Mayor, as executive officer of the City and presiding officer of the Baldwin City Council meeting is responsible for directing the preparation of each meeting's agenda in consultation with the City Administrator, City Clerk, and City Councilmembers. The agenda must list all items that are expected to be considered at a particular meeting.⁷ State law requires that the agenda be made available to the public and be posted at the meeting site.⁸ Although, state law allows for adding necessary items to the agenda after it is posted⁹, last-minute additions that introduce materials that councilmembers have not had time to study should be avoided.

The Mayor shall establish a deadline for submitting requests or communications for inclusion in the agenda. Outside parties or interest wishing to address the Baldwin City Council should complete a Baldwin City Council Agenda Request Form. These forms should be submitted to the City Administrator and relayed to the Mayor for approval. Citizens of Baldwin can address the City Council during each regular council meeting during the appropriate time (Citizen Concerns on the agenda).

Official Order of Business

The agenda and meeting will use the following format:

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance / Invocation
3. Consent Agenda /Approval of Minutes (*from previous meeting*)
4. Baldwin Citizens' Concerns
5. Public Hearings (*if any*)
6. Reports (*from city officers, committees, special presentations, other*)
7. Old Business
8. New Business
9. Executive Sessions (*if necessary*)
10. Announcements/General Comments by Councilmembers
11. Adjournment

Discussion

The same basic format should be used for discussion on each item on the agenda. The chair does the following;

- Announces the agenda item, sometimes by number, clearly stating the subject.
- Invites reports from staff, advisory committees, or other persons charged with providing information to the body.
- Asks if any councilmembers have any questions regarding the subject or comments.

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- If at a public hearing, opens the hearing to public input and at the end of the public comment section announces the public input has concluded or the public hearing has ended. The balance of the discussion will be limited to the members of the council, unless the council waives the rule by majority vote.
- Invites a motion from the council. When a motion is received, announces the name of the councilmember making the motion. Calls for a second. When a second is received announces the name of the councilmember making the second.
- The chair ensures the motion is clearly understood either by repeating the motion or asking the City Clerk or author of the motion to repeat the motion.
- Moderates the discussion if any further questions or comments are necessary.
- Calls for a vote. Affirmative votes (in favor) answer with “aye” and opposing votes answer with “nay” . The Chair ask if there are any abstentions.
- The Chair announces if the motion passes or fails.

Transacting the business of the council in this fashion provides consistency in the decision-making process and assures that the members of the governing body consider all available information before making a decision.

THOSE PARTICIPATING IN COUCIL MEETINGS

In addition to the Mayor and the Baldwin City Councilmembers, others may be necessary for an effective meeting. Usually appointed officials including the City Administrator and City Clerk will be in at the meeting. At times city staff and other necessary officials such as the City Attorney may be present.

Presiding Officer

The Mayor is the presiding officer (Chair) over Baldwin City Council meetings. The performance of the presiding officer is the key to effective, businesslike meetings. The Mayor is responsible for ensuring that meetings are orderly, conducted in conformity with the rules of the procedure, and progresses at an appropriate pace. At the same time, the presiding officer (Chair) is responsible for ensuring that Councilmembers and citizens have ample opportunity to express their views.

Members of the Baldwin City Council

The elected Councilmembers are the policymakers. City Councilmembers share with the presiding officer the responsibility for properly conducted meetings. This responsibility includes having respect for one another’s views and be willing to compromise, when possible, for the good of the City.

City Administrator

The City Administrator should attend all meetings of the City Council. This officer plays a significant role in preparing the business to be considered at City Council meetings. The City Administrator is called

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upon to gather data, develop and evaluate alternatives, make policy recommendations to the City Council, and carry out the intentions of the City Council.

City Clerk

The City Clerk is appointed by the City Council, is the official record keeper for Baldwin⁹ and is responsible for keeping the official minutes of council meetings. The City Clerk's duties also include preparing and distributing the meeting agenda with direction from the Mayor, maintaining certain City records, preparing and processing other records and reports as directed by the City Council, and managing the City Council Office. The City Clerk will typically make certain that all meetings are advertised in accordance with the Open Meetings Act of Georgia and the Baldwin City Charter. In matters dealing with the City Council and Council meeting duties, the City Clerk is responsible to the City Council and administratively communicative with the City Administrator.¹⁰

In duties such as tax collections, water billing supervision, and other duties assigned as necessary, the City Clerk is administratively responsible and accountable to the City Administrator as delegated by the Mayor.¹¹

City Attorney

The City Attorney advises the City Council on its powers and duties under the law. This officer can be required to attend meetings when necessary in order to give legal advice on matters before the Council. The City Attorney may be asked to prepare ordinances and resolutions, charter amendments, and other legal documents. In addition, the City Attorney should be accessible to city officials at all times and is administratively communicative with the City Administrator.¹²

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Georgia law requires that virtually all Council meetings be open to the public (with limited exceptions), but the law does not require the members of the public be allowed to speak. Nonetheless, the Baldwin City Council adheres to the principle that Baldwin citizens should have the right to petition their elected representatives; allowing time for public comment and debate at meetings maintains elected officials' accessibility and communicates the desirability and value of citizen input. For that reason, the agenda at regular City Council meetings includes a time for comments from Baldwin citizens. It is recognized that in the Chair may have to limit citizens' speaking time so that the meeting can proceed in an orderly and expedient fashion.

The public is more likely to participate in meaningful discussions if they are familiar with the City Councils' agenda process and its Rules for Procedure.

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The Rules of Procedure for Baldwin City Council Meetings

The following are the basic rules of procedure:

- The meeting will follow the order of the agenda.
- All Councilmembers are equal and have equal rights to attend meetings, make motions, debate, and vote.
- A quorum must be present to conduct business.
- The Chair may find a member's action "out of order" if it interrupts another member's right to speak or disrupts the procedures of the meeting. Also, "out of order" declarations can be directed at any speaker addressing the Council if they are disruptive to the meeting.
- Personal remarks are always "out of order". Debates must be directed to motions and principles, not motives and personalities.
- Three votes in the affirmative (ayes) are necessary to approve/pass any motion.
- Councilmembers should vote in the affirmative (for the motion) by saying "aye" and should vote in the negative (against the motion) by saying "nay". Members who wish to abstain, should say "abstained" at the proper time in the vote process.
- A motion must directly be related to the question under consideration and must receive a second to receive a vote.
- The presiding officer may not put a debatable motion to a vote as long as members wish to debate it.
- Once a question is decided, it is generally out of order to bring up the same motion or one essentially like it at the same meeting.
- To "table" a motion or question is to postpone the motion or question temporarily (later in the meeting or to another meeting) allowing for more information to be gathered. The question may be brought up again later or at another meeting.
- A Councilmember will be allowed to make general comments at the end of a meeting. These remarks will not necessarily lead to a motion.

NOTES:

1. McBride, Walt. Portions drawn from *Meetings and Public Participation*.
2. City of Baldwin Charter Amendment, *Ordinance No. 0029-103, p. 2. Passed July 25, 2005.*
3. City of Baldwin Charter Amendment, *Ordinance No. 0029-33, p. 2. Passed June 14, 1999.*
4. City of Baldwin Charter Amendment, *Ordinance No. 0029-33, p. 3. Passed June 14, 1999*
5. City of Baldwin Charter, Section 2-6 (b), p.2 and Section 2-10 p.5. March 28, 1986
6. City of Baldwin Charter, Section 2-13, p. 7 March 28, 1986
7. Official Code of Georgia Annotated (O.C.G.A.) §50-14-1(e)(1)
8. Ibid.
9. City of Baldwin Charter, Section 3-4, p. 9 March 28, 1986.
10. Administrative Policy No. 0029-218, p. 3-4, Approved May 14, 2012
11. Administrative Policy No. 0029-218, p.4- 5, Approved May 14, 2012.
12. Ibid.

FIRST READING 01/09/2023

ADVERTISED 01/27/2023

PASSED 01/23/2023

AN ORDINANCE NO. 2023-01118

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE 2023 GENERAL ELECTION FOR THE CITY OF BALDWIN, GEORGIA; TO PROVIDE FOR A TITLE FOR SAID ORDINANCE; TO ESTABLISH AND SET THE DATE AND TIME OF THE 2023 GENERAL ELECTION FOR THREE COUNCIL SEATS UPON THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BALDWIN, GEORGIA; TO PROVIDE FOR THE QUALIFYING FEES FOR SAID POSITIONS; TO PROVIDE FOR THE OPENING AND CLOSING OF THE QUALIFYING PERIOD FOR SAID POSITIONS; TO PROVIDE FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF ELECTION OFFICIALS, INCLUDING THE ELECTION SUPERINTENDENT, THE CHIEF REGISTRAR, THE ABSENTEE BALLOT CLERK, THE CUSTODIAN OF VOTING MACHINES, THE CHIEF POLL MANAGER, THE ASSISTANT POLL MANAGERS, AND THE DEPUTY REGISTRAR; TO PROVIDE FOR THE LAST DATE OF VOTER REGISTRATION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Baldwin, Georgia is authorized by Art. IX, § II, ¶ II of the Constitution of the State of Georgia of 1983, and pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 21-2-131 et seq., to enact ordinances for the holding of elections of public officials of the municipality;

WHEREAS, the City of Baldwin, Georgia desires to conduct its elections, openly and fairly for all duly qualified and registered electors of the City of Baldwin, Georgia;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of Baldwin, Georgia, and it is hereby ordained by authority of same, as follows:

Section 1. TITLE.

This Ordinance shall be known as the "2023 General Election Ordinance for the City of Baldwin, Georgia."

Section 2. GENERAL ELECTION.

The City of Baldwin, Georgia will conduct a General Election on Tuesday, November 7, 2023, from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m., with the place of said election being the authorized voting precinct and being the Habersham South Precinct, located with the Habersham County Elections & Voter Registration Building located at 403 Habersham County Shopping Center, Cornelia, GA 30531. for the public positions as indicated in Section 3 of this Ordinance.

Section 3. EACH CANDIDATE SHALL DESIGNATE THE SPECIFIC OFFICE BY POST AND INCUMBENT THAT THE CANDIDATE IS SEEKING.

(A) O.C.G.A. § 21-2-135 allows the governing authority of a municipality by ordinance to require, regarding elections involving two or more public offices, each having the same title and to be filled at the same election by the vote of the same electors, candidates to designate the specific office the candidate is seeking by incumbent or post, or both. The City Council of the City of Baldwin, Georgia, by prior ordinance duly passed on June 14, 1999, and approved by the U.S. Department of Justice on June 17, 1999 pursuant to the Voting Rights Act (42 U.S.C. § 1973c), found that it is in the best interests of the citizens and electors of the City of Baldwin, for candidates to designate the specific office the candidate is seeking.

(B) In order to facilitate the procedure by which each candidate shall designate the specific office the candidate is seeking, each seat of a general City Councilmember shall be designated by a specific post number, which will create five specific posts for each of the seats of the general City Councilmembers, and held by the following incumbents:

1. Post 1 of the City Council of the City of Baldwin, being a general Councilmember, and with the current term of the seat being Post 1 expiring on December 31, 2023, and with said office being filled by a election at-large by the General Election on November 7, 2023, and having a term of four (4) years beginning on January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2027, with said post currently held by Larry Lewallen.

2. Post 2 of the City Council of the City of Baldwin, being a general Councilmember, and with the current term of the seat being Post 2 expiring on December 31, 2023, and with said office being filled by a election at-large by the General Election on November 7, 2023, and having a term of four (4) years beginning on January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2027, with said post currently held by Theron Ayers.

3. Post 3 of the City Council of the City of Baldwin, being a general Councilmember, and with the current term of the seat being Post 3 expiring on December 31, 2023, and with said office being filled by a election at-large by the General Election on November 7, 2023, and having a term of four (4) years beginning on January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2027, with said post currently held by Stephanie Almagno.

4. Post 4 of the City Council of the City of Baldwin, being a general Councilmember, and with the prior term of the seat being Post 4 expiring on December 31, 2024, and with said office being filled by an election at-large by the General Election on November 2, 2021, and having a current term of four (4) years beginning on January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2025, with said post currently held by Maarten Venter.

5. Post 5 of the City Council of the City of Baldwin, being a general Councilmember, and with the prior term of the seat being Post 5 expiring on December 31, 2021,

and with said office being filled by an election at-large by the General Election on November 2, 2021, and having a term of four (4) years beginning on January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2025, with said post currently held by Alice Venter.

In that there is only one public office upon the City Council of the City of Baldwin of Mayor, said public office does not need a Post number, but this ordinance recognizes that the term of the seat of Mayor will expire on December 31, 2021, and said office shall be filled by an election at-large by the General Election on November 2, 2021, and having a term of four (4) years beginning on January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2025, with the public office of Mayor being currently held by Joe Elam.

(C) For the General Election to be held by the City of Baldwin, Georgia, in November 2023, and for each General Election hereinafter to fill the public offices of Councilmembers upon the City Council of the City of Baldwin, Georgia, until changed or modified by proper ordinance of the City Council of the City of Baldwin, Georgia, each candidate for the public office of Councilmember and Mayor upon the City Council of the City of Baldwin, Georgia, shall designate the specific office the candidate is seeking, by title and incumbent in the case of the seat of Mayor, and by Post and incumbent as to each seat of a Councilmember of the City Council of the City of Baldwin, Georgia.

Section 4. COUNCIL SEATS OPEN FOR ELECTION AND THE TERMS THEREOF.

The General Election to be held on the date established by Section 2 hereof this Ordinance is to fill the following offices:

- (A) The office of City Councilmember of the City of Baldwin, Georgia, being Post 1, which will be elected at large for a term of four (4) years beginning on January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2027, with said seat currently held by Larry Lewallen.

(B) (A) The office of City Councilmember of the City of Baldwin, Georgia, being Post 2, which will be elected at large for a term of four (4) years beginning on January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2027, with said seat currently held by Theron Ayers.

(C) (A) The office of City Councilmember of the City of Baldwin, Georgia, being Post 3, which will be elected at large for a term of four (4) years beginning on January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2027, with said seat currently held by Stephanie Almagno.

Section 5. QUALIFYING PERIOD.

The qualifying period for the election set by Section 2 of this Ordinance to qualify for the offices set by Section 3 of this Ordinance, shall open on Monday, August 21, 2023, and will continue from day-to-day through Friday, August 25, 2023. The hours of qualifying each day shall be from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. (except for a one hour lunch break beginning at 1:00 p.m. each day), except that qualifying will end at 12:00 noon on August 23, 2023. The place of qualifying shall be the administrative office of the Election Superintendent being Habersham County Office of Elections and Registration, Habersham County Elections & Voter Registration Building located at 403 Habersham County Shopping Center, Cornelia, GA 30531.

Section 6. QUALIFYING FEE.

(A) The qualifying fee for the positions open for election as provided by Section 4 of this Ordinance shall be \$35.00 for each Council seat. Such fee shall be paid to the Election Superintendent at the time a candidate files the candidate's application and notice of candidacy.

(B) A pauper's affidavit may be filed in lieu of paying the qualifying fee otherwise required by this Ordinance in Section 6(A). A candidate filing a pauper's affidavit instead of

paying a qualifying fee shall under oath affirm the candidate's poverty and the candidate's resulting inability to pay the qualifying fee otherwise required. The form of the affidavit shall be as prescribed by the Georgia Secretary of State and shall include a financial statement which lists the total income, assets, liabilities, and other relevant financial information of the candidate and shall indicate on its face that the candidate has neither the assets nor the income to pay the qualifying fee otherwise required. The affidavit shall contain an oath that such candidate has neither the assets nor the income to pay the qualifying fee otherwise required. The following warning shall be printed on the affidavit form as prepared by the Georgia Secretary of State, to wit: "WARNING: Any person knowingly making any false statement on this affidavit commits the offense of false swearing and shall be guilty of a felony." The Election Superintendent shall place on the ballot the name of any candidate who subscribes and swears to an oath that such candidate has neither the assets nor the income to pay the qualifying fee otherwise required.

Section 7. ELECTION APPOINTMENTS.

(A) The following persons are hereby appointed to act as election officials for the 2023

General Election:

Election Superintendent	By intergovernmental agreement with Habersham County.
Chief Registrar	By intergovernmental agreement with Habersham County.
Absentee Ballot Clerk	By intergovernmental agreement with Habersham County.
Voting Machines Custodian	By intergovernmental agreement with Habersham County.

Chief Poll/Precinct Manager	By intergovernmental agreement with Habersham County.
Assistant Poll/Precinct Manager	By intergovernmental agreement with Habersham County.
Assistant Poll/Precinct Manager	By intergovernmental agreement with Habersham County.
Assistant Registrar	By intergovernmental agreement with Habersham County.

(B) The administrative office of the Election Superintendent shall be set by Section 5 for the purpose of candidates qualifying for the offices open for election as provided by Section 4 of the Ordinance, and also as an office of the Absentee Ballot Clerk. The City Council of the City of Baldwin, Georgia, by proper resolution passed in a regularly scheduled public meeting of the City Council, is authorized to set the compensation that each election official shall receive.

Section 8. LAST DAY FOR VOTER REGISTRATION.

The last day that an elector/voter may register to vote in the 2023 General Election shall be Tuesday, October 10, 2023, by 5:00 p.m. at the administrative office, as set out hereinabove, unless said date is a Georgia legal holiday, and then the last day for voter/elector registration shall be the next day by 5:00 p.m.

Section 9. QUALIFYING AFFIDAVIT AND FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT.

(A) Each candidate qualifying for the seat of Mayor or a Council seat of the City Council of the City of Baldwin, Georgia shall accompany the candidate's notice with an affidavit stating:

- (1) The candidate's residence, with street and number, if any, and the candidate's post office address;
- (2) The candidate's profession, business, or occupation, if any;
- (3) The Post or seat of Mayor and incumbent of the office sought for election and

precinct, if applicable;

(4) That the candidate is an elector of the municipality of the candidate's residence and is eligible to vote in the election in which the candidate is running for office;

(5) The name of the office that the candidate is seeking;

(6) That the candidate is eligible to hold such office;

(7) That the candidate has never been convicted and sentenced in any court of competent jurisdiction for fraudulent violation of primary or election laws, malfeasance in office, or felony involving moral turpitude under the laws of this state or any other state or of the United States, or that the candidate's civil rights have been restored and that at least ten years have elapsed from the date of the completion of the sentence without a subsequent conviction of another felony involving moral turpitude; and

(8) That the candidate will not knowingly violate any provisions of the "Georgia Election Code" or any rules and regulations adopted under the "Georgia Election Code".

(B) Each person qualifying as a candidate will file a financial disclosure statement prescribed by the laws of the State of Georgia in the form as prescribed therein, no later than the fifteenth day following the last date of qualifying with the Election Superintendent of the City of Baldwin.

Section 10. WRITE-IN CANDIDATES.

(A) In the general municipal election, no person elected on a write-in vote shall be eligible to hold office unless notice of the person's intention of candidacy was given no later than seven (7) days after the close of the municipal qualifying period in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 21-2-133(a) by the person to be a write-in candidate or by some other person or group of persons

qualified to vote in the election, to the Election Superintendent and by publication in the official gazette of the City of Baldwin, Georgia (and currently being The Northeast Georgian).

(B) In addition to the requirements contained in subsection (A) of Section 10., the person or persons giving notice of intention of candidacy for a write-in candidate shall also file, with the Election Superintendent, a copy of the notice as published with an affidavit stating that the notice has been published, with the name of the newspaper and the date of publication, not later than the fifth day after the deadline for filing and publishing such notice. The affidavit may be made by the person giving notice of intention of candidacy or by the publisher of the newspaper in which the notice was published or by an employee of the newspaper designated by the publisher.

Section 11. ADVANCE VOTING.

Advance voting shall begin on Monday, October 16, 2023 and continue until Friday, November 3, 2023 and shall be done at the Ruby C. Fulbright Aquatic Center located at 120 Paul Franklin Road, Clarkesville, GA 30523. The hours for advance voting shall be 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Regular absentee ballots may be acquired beginning on October 16, 2023 at the Office of Habersham County Elections and Registration.

Section 12. SEVERABILITY.

If any paragraph, subparagraph, sentence, clause, phrase, or any portion of this Ordinance should be declared invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction or if the provisions of any part of this Ordinance is applied to any particular situation or set of circumstances shall be declared invalid or unconstitutional, such invalidity shall not be construed to effect the portions of this Ordinance not so held to be invalid, or the application of this Ordinance to other circumstances not so held to be invalid. It is hereby declared to be the intent

of the City Council of the City of Baldwin to provide for separate and divisible parts, and it does hereby adopt any and all parts hereof as may not be held invalid for any reason.

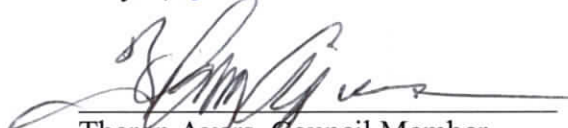
This 23rd day of January, 2023.

BALDWIN CITY COUNCIL

By:



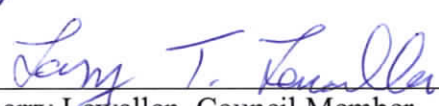
Mayor, Joe Elam



Theron Ayers, Council Member

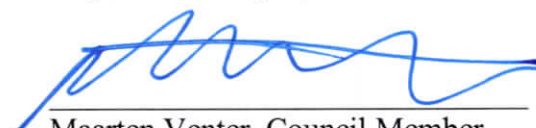


Alice Venter, Council Member



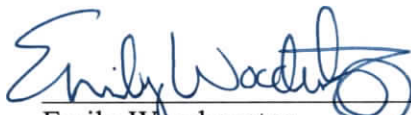
Larry Lewallen, Council Member

Stephanie Almagno, Council Member



Maarten Venter, Council Member

Attest:



Emily Woodmaster
CAO, City Clerk

