



## *Minutes*

City Council Meeting

July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024

6:30 pm

Baldwin Courtroom, 155 Willingham Avenue, Baldwin, GA 30511

---

Mayor Stephanie Almagno, Council Member Erik Keith (via phone), Council Member Joseph Satterfield (via phone), Council Member Kerri Davis, Council Member Maarten Venter, and Council Member Alice Venter were all in attendance.

### *Call Meeting to Order*

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

### *Invocation and Pledge*

Mayor Almagno announced council members Erik Keith and Joseph Satterfield were present via phone call and then listed all present for the meeting.

**Action:** A motion was made by Maarten Venter to amend the agenda to add "Police Department Report" with a second by Kerri Davis. Motion Carried 5-0.

### *Consent Agenda*

- a. Approval of Minutes: Council Meeting 6/10/24 and Work Session 7/9/24.

**Action:** A motion was made by Alice Venter to approve the consent agenda as presented with a second by Kerri Davis. Motion Carried 5-0.

### *Public Comments*

### *Public Hearings*

### *Reports*

#### *Police Department - Assistant Chief Justin Ferguson*

Assistant Chief Justin Ferguson introduced new officer Logan Ivester, who recently completed the academy and is currently doing field training with Corporal Spivey.

#### *Water and Wastewater Treatment - Fletcher Holliday*

City Engineer Fletcher Holliday reviewed the most recent report for May 2024 (see attached report). Holliday provided project updates and ongoing issues being addressed that have been brought to Council at retreat and in monthly reports.

Council had no questions for Mr. Holliday.

### *Old Business*

1. Consideration/Approval of Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual Update

Council had no further questions regarding the Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual update.

**Action: A motion was made by Maarten Venter to approve the Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual update as presented with a second by Alice Venter. Motion Carried 5-0.**

2. Consideration/Approval of Purchasing Policy Update

Council had no further questions regarding the Purchasing Policy Update.

**Action: A motion was made by Alice Venter to approve the purchasing policy update as presented with a second by Joseph Satterfield. Motion Carried 5-0.**

3. Consideration/Approval of Highland Pointe Speed Bumps Purchase & Installation

CAO Emily Woodmaster reviewed the proposed cost for two sets of speed bumps (total of four) to install in the straightaways of Highland Pointe. This came forward because of a petition from Highland Pointe residents to address an ongoing speeding issue. The request is to expense this cost from Public Safety Funds and not to exceed \$2,000 to provide a buffer for any unanticipated shipping costs.

Council had no further questions regarding the Highland Pointe Speed Bumps purchase and install.

**Action: A motion was made by Alice Venter to approve the Highland Pointe Speed Bumps purchase and install, not to exceed \$2,000 and to be expensed from Public Safety Funds as presented with a second by Erik Keith. Motion Carried 5-0.**

4. Consideration/Approval of Water & Sewer Rate Increase Resolution [#2024-07146R](#)

Woodmaster reviewed the proposed 3% increase to water and sewer rates. Council had no further questions regarding the increase or the resolution. Mayor Almagno read the highlighted portion of the Resolution.

**Action: A motion was made by Alice Venter to approve the Water and Sewer Rate Increase Resolution [#2024-07146R](#) as presented with a second by Kerri Davis. Motion Carried 5-0.**

5. Consideration/Approval of Garbage Rate Increase Resolution [#2024-07147R](#)

Woodmaster reviewed the 9% direct increase for garbage collection from contractor FC Sanitation. Council had no further questions regarding the increase or the resolution.

**Action: A motion was made by Maarten Venter to approve the Garbage Rate Increase Resolution [#2024-07147R](#) as presented with a second by Joseph Satterfield. Motion Carried 5-0.**

6. Consideration/Approval of Updated Axon Contracts

Woodmaster reviewed the three Axon contracts discussed at July work session: Fleet 3, the "master" contract, and Code Compliance. All Code Compliance billing and footage storage will be separate from the Police Department's. All three contracts are budgeted expenses for their respective department.

**Action:** A motion was made by Maarten Venter to approve updated Axon contracts as presented and to authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to implement the contracts as presented with a second by Kerri Davis. Motion Carried 5-0.

7. Discussion of Water/Sewer Ordinance

Woodmaster gave Council a recap of her work with Holliday and the "Water Group" committee to update the water and sewer ordinance. Once legal counsel has finished their review, a final draft of the ordinance will be sent to Council for a final review before it is presented for approval in a meeting. Woodmaster's goal is to bring the Water/Sewer Ordinance to Council for approval in August or early September.

***New Business***

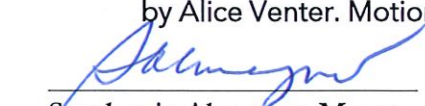
***Executive Session***

***Announcements***

- a. Kick off the 2024-2025 school year with the City of Baldwin at our Back to School Bash! Join us at Life Church of Baldwin on July 20<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm for a party with free pizza, games, and haircuts!
- b. Join us for the Movie in the Market on July 26<sup>th</sup>, starting at 8:30 p.m.. Bring your lawn chairs & blankets and join us for a FREE night of fun at the Farmers' Market located at 110 Airport Road. This month we will be showing *The Princess Diaries*. Concessions are available, with all proceeds going to Shop with a Hero.
- c. The next reFRESH Market is on July 27<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 am - 3:00 pm at Baldwin City Hall. Shop fruits & veggies, honey, fresh eggs, and other goods from local farmers and vendors. If you would like to sell your products at the reFRESH Market for FREE, contact John at City Hall for more information or visit [www.cityofbaldwin.org](http://www.cityofbaldwin.org) for an application.
- d. Woodmaster shared there was a great turnout at the softball tournament and almost \$2,500 was raised for the Back to School Bash. Special recognition was given to Assistant Fire Chief Shaun Benfield and Assistant Police Chief Justin Ferguson.

***Adjournment***

**Action:** A motion was made by Maarten Venter to adjourn the meeting with a second by Alice Venter. Motion Carried 5-0 at 7:18 pm.

  
Stephanie Almagno, Mayor

  
Erin Gathercoal, City Clerk

7/29/2024  
Date Approved by Council

