

**MINUTES**

**CITY OF BAINBRIDGE, GEORGIA**

**COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF CITY HALL**

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 01, 2005**

**6:30 P.M.**

**PRESENT: MAYOR B. K REYNOLDS, PRESIDING**

**MAYOR PRO TEM JOE SWEET**

**ALDERMEN: ROSLYN PALMER, GREG WADDELL, MARK HARRELL,**

**AND LUTHER H. CONYERS, JR**

**OTHERS: CITY MANAGER CHRIS HOBBY AND DIRECTOR OF**

**GENERAL ADMINISTRATION / CITY CLERK STEVE A.**

**MCKOWN**

**GUESTS: BEVERLY ALLEN, REV. JOHN THOMAS, JEFF ELLIS,**

**SHELIA ELLIS, BRYAN BARNETT, CHARLOTTE HARRELL,**

**CARY ASHLEY, ROBERT MILBERG, DONA REETZ,**

**REBECCA MARTIN, BETTY HOLMES, BRENNAN**

**LEATHERS, JIM YORK, AND BARBARA PARSONS**

**ABSENT: ALDERMAN ROLFE HUNT**

## **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE TO THE FLAG**

Mayor Reynolds called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. After the call to order, Rev. John Thomas gave the invocation and all those assembled pledged allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR REGULAR SESSION—JANUARY 18, 2005**

Upon motion by Alderman Conyers, seconded by Alderman Waddell, and unanimously carried, the Council approved the minutes of the regular session held January 18, 2005 with the addition of Alderman Conyers' objections pertaining to the property located at 801 E. Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive previously noted on the January 04, 2005 minutes located under the heading "FUTURE LAND USE MAP" be carried forward to the January 18, 2005 minutes.

## **ACTION ON PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION**

Charlotte Harrell requested special permission to operate a specialty and gift shop at her property located at 203 W. Shotwell Street. The Planning Commission recommended approving the request. Upon motion by Alderman Palmer, seconded by Alderman Conyers and unanimously carried, the Council granted the special permission.

## **MISS BAINBRIDGE PAGEANT**

Cary Ashley was before the Mayor and Council seeking a letter of approval of her being named the Pageant Coordinator for the Miss Bainbridge Pageant. Upon motion by Mayor Pro Tem Sweet, seconded by Alderman Waddell and unanimously carried, the

Council authorized the Mayor to sign a letter of approval for Cary Ashley being named Pageant Coordinator for the Miss Bainbridge Pageant.

### **LANIGAN & ASSOCIATES**

Robert Milberg and Dona Reetz of Lanigan and Associates, PC (the City's independent auditors) were before the Mayor and Council to discuss the City's clean opinion for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2004. Mr. Milberg bragged on the City's financial stability and thanked the Council for the opportunity of auditing the City.

### **CONSIDERATION OF ARTSFEST REQUEST**

Ann Gengra, representing Riverside Artsfest, was before the Mayor and Council to solicit a contribution from the City for Riverside Artsfest. Mayor Reynolds pointed out that the City already gives to Riverside Artsfest by granting street closures and supplying law enforcement officers for the events. Mayor Reynolds further added that if the City supported one not-for-profit institution monetarily, it would have to support them all, which would require a large millage rate increase. Alderman Palmer requested the request for street closures be limited in time as follows:

Water Street between Crawford and Broad Streets – 8:00 am to 12:00 midnight

Broughton Street between West and Broad Streets – 8:00 am to 6:00 pm

West Street between Broughton and Water Streets – 8:00 am to 6:00 pm

Upon motion by Alderman Waddell, seconded by Alderman Palmer and unanimously carried, the Council agreed to supply officers and agreed to the street closures within the time frame suggested by Alderman Palmer. After the vote an exchange ensued between

Mayor Pro Tem Sweet and Alderman Palmer concerning the timing of the street closures. Mayor Pro Tem Sweet commented that the decision to close the streets for a certain time should have been a Council decision and all discussion of the matter should have taken place in Council. Alderman Palmer pointed out that the decision on the timing was just made by Council and that Mayor Pro Tem Sweet had just voted for it and that it was not a decision that was made prior to the meeting. Alderman Palmer further added that she had a discussion with Linda Todaro concerning the timing and only suggested a time limitation, which the Council just approved. Mayor Pro Tem Sweet again argued that the conversation should have taken place in Council. Mayor Reynolds called the meeting back to order.

#### **CONSIDERATION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSES REQUESTS**

Gaman G. Patel, doing business as “The Charter House Inn,” requested a license for on-premises spirituous liquor pouring and a license for beer, wine, and whiskey – on-premises consumption. Upon motion by Alderman Harrell, seconded by Alderman Conyers and unanimously carried, the Council granted the licenses.

#### **FREEPORT EXEMPTION ELECTION**

Rebecca Martin, Executive Director of the Development Authority, was before the Mayor and Council to encourage the City to offer a Freeport Exemption against ad valorem property taxes. Mrs. Martin noted that 85% of all cities in Georgia offer the exemption, Decatur County offers the exemption, and most surrounding cities likewise offer the exemption. She stated that without the exemption, many companies

immediately rule out expansion into Bainbridge. City Manager Hobby added that the decision to grant the exemption is vested in the general electorate and the Code of Georgia would require an election. Upon motion by Alderman Harrell, seconded by Alderman Waddell and unanimously carried, the Council authorized an election to be held on June 21, 2005 so that the general electorate could decide whether to grant a Freeport Exemption against ad valorem property taxes.

### CONSENT AGENDA

The Mayor and Council considered the following bids and bills:

**Bids:**

- |    |   |             |
|----|---|-------------|
| 1. | A.D. STARR<br>PITTSBURG, PA<br>FENCE GUARD                              | \$ 1,223.10 |
| 2. | ALL AMERICAN GRINDING EQUIPMENT<br>GAINESVILLE, GA<br>PARTS FOR GRINDER | \$10,290.00 |
| 3. | DEPT. OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES<br>ATLANTA, GA<br>TRUCKS               | \$ 2,636.00 |
| 4. | TBS<br>STATESBORO, GA<br>DEPARTMENTAL INTEGRATION SERVICES              | \$17,469.00 |
| 5. | WESTOVER LAWN & GARDEN<br>ALBANY, GA<br>RIDING LAWN MOWER               | \$ 6,723.00 |
| 6. | BECK MOTOR COMPANY<br>ALBANY, GA<br>CAB/CHASSIS w/DUMP BODY             | \$83,228.00 |

7.	SOUTHEAST PIPE SURVEY PATTERSON, GA REHAB OF 8" SEWER LINE	\$15,620.00
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**Bills:**

1.	DECATUR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS BAINBRIDGE, GA LANDFILL EXPENSE	\$59,006.00
2.	GIRMA ATLANTA, GA LOSS FUND REIMBURSEMENT	\$ 3,136.92
3.	YORK & ASSOCIATES ENGINEERING, INC. BAINBRIDGE, GA INVOICE #: 109 INVOICE #: 108 INVOICE #: 107 INVOICE #: 91	\$ 7,711.65 \$ 3,076.35 \$ 3,588.05 \$ 150.00
4.	PDC CONSTRUCTION, INC. BAINBRIDGE, GA PAY REQUEST #2	\$55,119.72

Alderman Palmer made a motion to not reject low bid #5 and go with the local source for \$1.00 more. Alderman Harrell seconded the motion. The Council voted 3-2 against the motion. Yea votes were Aldermen Palmer and Harrell. Nay votes were Aldermen Sweet, Waddell, and Conyers. Alderman Waddell made a motion to accept all the low bids and to pay the bills. This motion was seconded by Alderman Conyers and carried by the Council in a 5-1 vote, with Alderman Palmer dissenting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With there being no further business, Mayor Reynolds adjourned the meeting.

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
B. K. REYNOLDS, MAYOR

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
STEVE A. McKOWN, CITY CLERK