The regular meeting of the Baxley City Council was held on December 28, 2022 at 8:30 a.m., with the following members present: Mayor Tim Varnadore, Mayor Pro Tem Mickey Bass, and Councilmembers: Santina Fryer, Ora Hall, Betty Livingston, and Pat Williams.

Councilman Adam Thomas was excused.

Other city officials present were: City Manager Keri Orvin, City Attorney Alex Johnson, City Clerk Jessica McLellan, Chief Jeffery Taylor, David Gore, Wayne Mullis, John Thomas Kimbrel, and Mitchell Wilkerson.

Cole Gardner was present representing the Baxley News Banner.

Mayor Pro Tem Bass led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Varnadore gave the invocation.

Councilwoman Hall made a motion approving the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of December 14, 2022 at 8:30 a.m. This motion was seconded by Councilwoman Livingston and carried unanimously.

Mayor Varnadore introduced Appling County’s new County Manager, Al Meadows.

Councilwoman Hall made a motion to approve the first reading/adoption of an ordinance for Application for Rezoning filed by Knicole & Ron Lee, located at 224 Peachtree St., be rezoned from a Residential (R-15) zone to a Business (B-2) zone. This motion was seconded by Councilwoman Fryer and carried unanimously.

City Manager Orvin presented an overview of items listed on the 2024 SPLOST intergovernmental agreement including: Pine Forest water/sewer project, Police Department real estate swap and renovation, expansion of Water Works Park, upgrades to infrastructure, totaling $3,500,000.00 and 50/50 split of overrun. Mayor Pro Tem Bass made a motion to allow Mayor Varnadore and City Manager Orvin to enter into an intergovernmental agreement with Appling County concerning the 2024 SPLOST. This motion was seconded by Councilwoman Livingston and carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Hall made a motion to set a public hearing date of January 24, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. on an application for zoning amendment filed by Lewis Patrick “Candler” Folsom, located at 335 Lackawanna Street, be rezoned from a Residential (R-15) zone to a Business-Residential (BR-1) zone. This motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Bass and carried unanimously.

Mayor Varnadore Report:
- Hofstadter has begun phase 2 on Bay Street project

City Manager Report:
- Large amount of water usage during cold. Expect high water bills.

Mayor Pro Tem Bass made a motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel. This motion was seconded by Councilwoman Fryer and carried unanimously.

Mayor Varnadore recessed the regular meeting and excused the public to enter into executive session.

Mayor Varnadore closed executive session and reconvened the regular meeting.
City Manager Orvin made a recommendation to promote Wayne Mullis to Public Works Director. Councilwoman Livingston made a motion to accept City Manager Orvin’s recommendation. This motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Bass and carried unanimously.

There being no further business, Mayor Varnadore adjourned the meeting.

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City Clerk