

CITY OF BUCHANAN
Minutes of the Work Session
September 18th, 2023

Mayor: AJ Scott.

Council Members: Angie Hood, Stanley Freeland, and Steve Holcombe were present. Kendall Holderfield was absent from the meeting.

Department Heads: City Clerk Sherry Taylor, Public Works Director Heath Lee, and Police Chief David Ratner.

Gary Garner: Not present.

Sign Advertisement: Mrs. Taylor presented the drafted sign policy to the council. Angie Hood made some suggestions to add to the policy. Mrs. Hood discussed that permanent city slides, business spotlights, churches of the week, and all non-profit organizations take precedence before advertising any new businesses within the city. Mrs. Taylor suggested putting an option on the business license application. The council agreed that there should also be a standard operation procedure. Mayor Scott suggested that the City Clerk add the suggestions to the policy and work with the attorney to complete the policy. Mayor Scott also suggested that the council should make suggestions to the city clerk as well.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott adjourned the meeting.

Adjourn

CITY OF BUCHANAN

Minutes of Regular Council Meeting

September 18th, 2023

Mayor: AJ Scott.

Council Members: Angie Hood, Stanley Freeland, and Steve Holcombe were present. Kendall Holderfield was absent from the meeting.

Department Heads: City Clerk Sherry Taylor, Public Works Director Heath Lee, and Police Chief David Ratner.

Mayor Scott: Calls the meeting to order. The invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Scott.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to amend and approve the agenda by adding Gary Garner before departmental updates. Stanley Freeland made a motion to amend and approve the agenda by adding Gary Garner before departmental updates. Angie Hood seconds the vote. Motion carried 3-0.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve the minutes for August 21st, 2023. Angie Hood made a motion to approve the minutes for August 21st, 2023. Stanley Freeland seconds the vote. Motion carried 3-0.

Jana Gentry-Library: Not present.

Tina Southern-Main Street Representative: Not present.

Millage Rate-Public Hearing: Mrs. Taylor explained that the city will be rolling the millage rate back to 4.135. The past year's millage rate was 4.636. Mr. Scott announced that there will not be an increase in property taxes.

Public Comment: No public comment.

Millage Rate: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve the millage rate as 4.135. Stanley Freeland made a motion to approve the millage rate as 4.135. Steve Holcombe seconds the vote. Motion carried 3-0.

Annexation Application by Frank Norment Homes, LLC to annex and re-zone parcel 0060-0067 and parcel 0060-0068 as R-20-Public Hearing: Anthony representing Frank Norment Homes, LLC presented the council and public with their plans for those parcels. They want to make 2-4-acre tracks with bigger homes. They will also offer an option to build custom homes. The main reason for annexation is so that the residents will have access to the city's water and sewer.

Public Comment: No Comment

Annexation Application by Frank Norment Homes, LLC to annex and re-zone parcel 0060-0067 and parcel 0060-0068 as R-20: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve the annexation and re-zoning of parcels 0060-0067 and 0060-0068 as R-20,

Residential Estate. Stanley Freeland made a motion to approve the annexation and re-zoning of parcels 0060-0067 and 0060-0068 as R-20, Residential Estate. Angie Hood seconds the vote. Motion carried 3-0.

Gary Garner: Mr. Garner informed the council of the problems at 110 College Circle. Mr. Garner is concerned with the accumulation of junk and trash. Mr. Garner also made the council aware of a house trailer that has been moved in and sewage problems. The public works director and police chief will go out to the property to look into this.

Departmental Updates:

City Clerk, Sherry Taylor: Mrs. Taylor informed the council that the clerk's office has been working on the fiscal year 2023 audit. The fiscal year 2022 statement from the auditors was handed out to the council. The city had no fraudulent activity, and everything was completed on time. Mrs. Taylor also handed out budgets and dollar amounts in the city's general accounts to the council. Mrs. Taylor has also been working on the election; early voting will start October 16th, 2023. It will last three weeks and two Saturdays. The Election will be on November 7th, 2023. The clerk's office has been working with Tina to get a booth set up at the Pumpkin Caper. Mrs. Hood clarified that TSPLOST and SPLOST are two separate accounts. Mr. Freeland asked if the amounts given were the total of seven accounts. Mrs. Taylor informed the council that she only included the main general accounts. The other accounts are smaller accounts, but she would be happy to include those account balances as well. Mrs. Taylor gave the council estimated balances for the remaining smaller accounts. Mr. Freeland asked about the bridge funds and thanked everyone who helped with the bridge beautification.

Public Works Director, Heath Lee: Mr. Lee updated the council on the various paving projects. Mr. Lee has also been working on the belt press at the sewer plant, they are having trouble locating the part to fix it. They are hoping that the belt press can be rebuilt, which would cost around \$12,000. A new one would cost around \$30,000. Mr. Lee will inform the mayor of the costs as soon as he finds out, since it is a time sensitive emergency. The public works department was able to repair the main water break on Depot within a few hours. Mr. Holcombe asked for the street names that would be paved during this project. The streets will include William Street, Church Street, Tinsley Street, Mosley Lane, Westmoreland Lake Road, and Depot Street to Griffith Street.

Police Chief, David Ratner: Mr. Ratner updated the council on statistics and citations. The most common citations have been DUI's and speeding. Mr. Ratner informed the council that he has submitted an open records request with the State of Georgia for the number of fatalities on 27/120. The department has also requested quotes from Redbird to add seven cameras around the square. The county commissioner's office has allowed us to move forward with this project. The quote for the seven cameras will be \$4, 535.00. This will be paid using SPLOST funds. Stanley Freeland made a motion to approve the quote from Redbird in the amount of \$4, 535.00. Steve Holcombe seconds the vote. Motion carried 3-0.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Stanley Freeland made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Angie Hood seconds the vote. Motion carried 3-0.

Adjourn