Minutes of the Work Session

January 23rd, 2023

Mayor: AJ Scott.

Council Members: Kendall Holderfield, Angie Hood, Stanley Freeland, and Steve Holcombe were present.

Department Heads: City Clerk Sherry Taylor, Public Works Director Heath Lee, and Chief Brent Christopher.

Rick Martin: Mr. Martin discussed his concerns to the mayor and council concerning the new zoning ordinance not allowing farm animals, overgrown kudzu, and no visible fire hydrants located near his house. Mr. Martin asked the council to consider allowing property owners to have goats, horses, and hens. The council did not have any questions at that time.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott informed Mr. Martin that the council will review and discuss his concerns and will get back in touch with him.

Heath Lee: Mr. Lee informed the council that there are two fire hydrants located near Mr. Martin's home. There is one on Tallapoosa Street and one on Warehouse Street that will be available to reach his house in case of an emergency.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked Mrs. Taylor to research the Kudzu ordinance and see what can be done. He also asked Mr. Lee to paint the fire hydrants so they can be easily seen by the public.

Jana Gentry-Library: Mrs. Gentry informed the council of the upcoming events at the library and handed out the monthly flyer. The library has a new therapy dog from CAREing Paws, Barnaby. Children can come and read to him on the fourth Monday of each month. Mrs. Gentry is also making plans for the summer Reading program.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott adjourned the meeting.

Minutes of Regular Council Meeting

January 23rd, 2023

Mayor: AJ Scott.

Council Members: Kendall Holderfield, Angie Hood, Stanley Freeland, and Steve Holcombe were present.

Department Heads: City Clerk Sherry Taylor, Public Works Director Heath Lee, and Chief Brent Christopher.

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

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Angle Hood made a motion to approve the agenda. Stanley Freeland seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve the minutes for December 20th, 2022. Steve Holcombe made a motion to approve the minutes for December 20th, 2022. Angie Hood seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Mayor Pro Tem: Mr. Scott asked the council for any nominations for Mayor Pro Tem. Steve Holcombe nominated Stanley Freeland as Mayor Pro Tem. There were no other nominations. Steve Holcombe made the motion to nominate Stanley Freeland as Mayor Pro Tem. Angie Hood seconds the vote. Stanley Freeland abstained. Motion carried 3-0.

Qualifying Fee: Mrs. Taylor asked the council to approve the qualifying fees set by state regulations. The qualifying fee for each council seat will be \$60 and the mayor's seat will be \$120. Stanley Freeland made a motion to approve the qualifying fees as presented. Kendall Holderfield seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Computers for Administration: Mrs. Taylor reminded the council that they had previously voted on the purchase of computers and chairs not to exceed \$5,000. However, the computers for administration have been quoted higher than expected and we will not be able to purchase computers and chairs not to exceed \$5,000. Mrs. Taylor presented three quotes to the council and recommended they approve the bid from Absolute Consulting with a three-year warranty and bigger monitors.

Brent Christoher: Mr. Christopher also informed the council that he received a quote for a used computer and a hard drive to back up body cam footage. Mr. Christopher informed the council that he would rather go with Mrs. Sherry's quote for a new computer and add the hard drive to it.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked the council to approve the purchase of computers for administration in the amount of \$4,710.00 that will be purchased from city SPLOST funds and the purchase of a computer and hard drive for the Police department in the amount of \$1,935.00 that will be purchased from their funds. Stanley Freeland made a motion to approve the purchase of computers as presented. Kendall Holderfield seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Departmental Updates

Sherry Taylor: Mrs. Taylor informed the council that the tax sale for Buchanan will be February 7th, 2023. A lot of the back taxes have been paid and hopefully everyone remaining on the list will pay before the tax sale in February.

Brent Christopher: Mr. Christopher informed the council that the patrol car has been fixed and sent to the dealership to get checked. The car passed all inspections and can be back on the road. Mr. Whitfield discussed the outcomes of the GOHS road check and gave the council statistics. All officers are now field sobriety trained and they all have been working speed detection on 27 to decrease speeding and potential wrecks.

Heath Lee: Mr. Lee informed the council that the contract will be ready this week for USDA. The preconstruction meeting will be scheduled next, and the mayor can sign off on that. The insurance company will be sending a check for \$29,000 for the replacement of the tractor. The department will have to add extra funds to replace the tractor with a new tractor. The county has been discussing the increase on water, sewer, and trash. This will affect the city since we buy our water from the county. Mr. Lee informed the council that the city may have to gradually increase their costs over the next couple of months. Mr. Lee asked the council to approve the removal of trees on Dodson Street for \$4,000.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked the council to amend the agenda to add the approval of the removal of trees on Dodson Street for \$4,000. Kendall Holderfield made a motion to amend the agenda to add the approval of the removal of trees on Dodson Street for \$4,000. Angie Hood seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Removal of Trees: Mr. Lee asked the council to approve the removal of trees on Dodson Street for \$4,000. Kendall Holderfield made a motion to approve the removal of trees on Dodson Street for \$4,000. Stanley Freeland seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to go into executive session for legal, land acquisition, and personnel. Kendall Holderfield made a motion to go into executive session for legal, land acquisition, and personnel. Stanley Freeland seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Executive Session-Legal, Land Acquisition, and Personnel

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to come out of executive session. Angle Hood made a motion to come out of executive session. Stanley Freeland seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to amend the agenda to add the approval of purchasing new chairs. Angie Hood made a motion to amend the agenda to add the approval of purchasing new chairs. Stanley Freeland seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Sherry Taylor: Mrs. Taylor asked the council to approve the purchase of 6 chairs. Stanely Freeland made a motion to approve the purchase of 6 chairs not to exceed \$2,000. Kendall Holderfield seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kendall Holderfield made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Stanley Freeland seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Minutes of Special Called Council Meeting

February 9th, 2023

Mayor: AJ Scott.

Council Members: Kendall Holderfield, Angie Hood, Stanley Freeland, and Steve Holcombe were present.

Department Heads: City Clerk Sherry Taylor and Chief Brent Christopher.

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

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Angie Hood made a motion to approve the agenda. Kendall Holderfield seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to go into executive session for legal, land acquisition, and personnel. Stanley Freeland made a motion to go into executive session for legal, land acquisition, and personnel. Kendall Holderfield seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Executive Session-Legal, Land Acquisition, and Personnel

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to come out of executive session. Stanley Freeland made a motion to come out of executive session. Steve Holcombe seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Stanley Freeland made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Steve Holcombe seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Minutes of the Work Session

February 20th, 2023

Mayor: AJ Scott.

Council Members: Kendall Holderfield, Angie Hood, Stanley Freeland, and Steve Holcombe were present.

Department Heads: City Clerk Sherry Taylor, Public Works Director Heath Lee, and Chief Brent Christopher.

Library Donation: The City has been donating around \$8,000-\$12,000 every year. The past two years the city has donated \$10,000. Mr. Scott asked the council to keep it at \$10,000 this year since we budgeted for that amount in our budget.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked Mr. Lee to update the council on the tractor. Mr. Lee informed the council that he had found a tractor to purchase from Beshears Tractor and Equipment in Oxford Alabama. This purchase will be voted on in the regular council meeting.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked the department heads to start their departmental updates.

Chief Brent Christopher: Mr. Christopher updated the council on crime and citation statistics. He also informed the council that Officer Boyd is now certified for speed detection.

Public Works Director Heath Lee: Mr. Lee updated the council on the maintenance building project. The water and sewer department met with Infra-metals to locate the water and sewer lines. They are also working on a sewer line easement on Carrollton Street.

City Clerk Sherry Taylor: Mrs. Taylor updated the council on prior property tax collection. The February 7th, 2023 tax sale was cancelled. The spring fair on the square will be May 13th, 2023. The public works director and police chief were notified of the parade route. The auditors are working hard to wrap up our report for the previous year and will meet with us soon for the preparation of next year's audit.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott adjourned the meeting.

Minutes of Regular Council Meeting

February 20th, 2023

Mayor: AJ Scott.

Council Members: Kendall Holderfield, Angie Hood, Stanley Freeland, and Steve Holcombe were present.

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

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

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to amend and approve the agenda with an addition of voting for the yearly library donation and the purchase of cold patch. Angie Hood made a motion to amend and approve the agenda. Steve Holcombe seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve the minutes for January 23rd, 2023 and February 9th, 2023. Steve Holcombe made a motion to approve the minutes for January 23rd, 2023 and February 9th, 2023. Angie Hood seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Jana Gentry-Library: Mrs. Gentry informed the council of the previous and upcoming library events. Barnaby, the new therapy dog from CAREing paws, will visit next Monday. The library now has new hotspots and Chromebooks to loan out to those in need. The read to lead program offers a chance for citizens and public officials to be a leader to children by reading them a short story. They are also currently concerned about budget matters.

Tina Southern-Main Street Representative: Not Present. If anyone is interested in participating in the parade, please contact Tina Southern.

Land Donation to the City: Mr. Scott informed the council that Toby Adams would like to donate parcel 0075 B 0019 to the city. Mr. Scott asks for a motion to accept the donation of land from Toby Adams so that the city attorney could start working on the Quick Claim Deed. Angie Hood made a motion to accept the land donation from Toby Adams, parcel 0075 B 0019. Kendall Holderfield seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Library Donation: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve the donation to the library for \$10,000. Stanley Freeland made a motion to approve the donation to the library for \$10,000. Kendall Holderfield seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Cold Patch Purchase: Mr. Lee asked the council to approve the purchase of cold patch not to exceed \$4,000. This cold patch would be used to patch city roads. Angle Hood made a motion to approve the purchase of cold patch not to exceed \$4,000. Stanley Freeland seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Approval of Tractor Purchase: Mr. Lee asked for a motion to purchase a tractor for \$44,164.00 to replace the one that was wrecked. Stanley Freeland made a motion to approve the purchase of a tractor for \$44,164.00. Kendall Holderfield seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to go into executive session for legal and personnel. Angie Hood made a motion to go into executive session for legal and personnel. Stanley Freeland seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Executive Session-Legal and Personnel

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to come out of executive session. Angle Hood made a motion to come out of executive session. Stanley Freeland seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kendall Holderfield made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Stanley Freeland seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Minutes of Emergency Called Council Meeting

February 27th, 2023

Mayor: AJ Scott.

Council Members: Angie Hood, Stanley Freeland, and Steve Holcombe were present.

Department Heads: City Clerk Sherry Taylor and Police Chief Brent Christopher.

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

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to go into executive session for legal and personnel. Steve Holcombe made a motion to go into executive session for legal and personnel. Angie Hood seconds the vote. Motion carried 3-0.

Executive Session-Legal and Personnel

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to come out of executive session. Stanley Freeland made a motion to come out of executive session. Angie Hood 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. Steve Holcombe seconds the vote. Motion carried 3-0.

Minutes of the Work Session

March 20th, 2023

Mayor: AJ Scott.

Council Members: Kendall Holderfield, Angie Hood, Stanley Freeland, and Steve Holcombe were present.

Department Heads: City Clerk Sherry Taylor and Chief Brent Christopher.

Wooden Bridge Area Improvements: The council discussed the beautification of the area around the old wooden bridge. This item will be added to the agenda for further discussion.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott updated the council on the development of the old Kiser property.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott adjourned the meeting.

Minutes of Regular Council Meeting

March 20th, 2023

Mayor: AJ Scott.

Council Members: Kendall Holderfield, Angie Hood, Stanley Freeland, and Steve Holcombe were present.

Department Heads: City Clerk Sherry Taylor and Police Chief Brent Christopher.

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

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to amend and approve the agenda with an addition of the wooden bridge discussion after Tine Southern. Stanley Freeland made a motion to amend and approve the agenda. Kendall Holderfield seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve the minutes for February 20th, 2023, and February 27th, 2023. Steve Holcombe made a motion to approve the minutes for February 20th, 2023, and February 27th, 2023. Stanley Freeland seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Jana Gentry-Library: Not present.

Tina Southern-Main Street Representative: Mrs. Southern updated the council on the various events coming up in the city. The committee will be hosting the annual easter egg hunt April 8th, 2023, at the old ball fields in front of the elementary school. They are requesting egg donations from anyone willing to help. The event will be advertised on Facebook. The committee will also be having a fundraiser dinner at Hawkiis Farm. There will be a live band and auction present.

Wooden Bridge Discussion: The council discussed their concerns and views on the area around the wooden bridge that was removed by Norfolk Southern. The council asked Public Works Director Heath Lee, Tina Southern, and Donny Rainey to work together and produce plans and cost estimates to present to the council for approval. Stanley Freeland made a motion. Steve Holcombe seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to go into executive session for legal and personnel. Angie Hood made a motion to go into executive session for legal and personnel. Stanley Freeland seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Executive Session-Legal and Personnel

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to come out of executive session. Stanley Freeland made a motion to come out of executive session. Angie Hood seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Departmental Updates

Public Works Director Heath Lee: Not present.

Police Chief Brent Christopher: Mr. Christopher updated the council on crime and statistics.

City Clerk Sherry Taylor: Mrs. Taylor informed the council that the administration office is working on the 2023-2024 budget. She also informed them that our IT contractor will be installing our new computers this week.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kendall Holderfield made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Angle Hood seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Minutes of the Work Session

April 17th, 2023

Mayor: AJ Scott.

Council Members: Kendall Holderfield, Angie Hood, Stanley Freeland, and Steve Holcombe were present.

Department Heads: City Clerk Sherry Taylor, Public Works Director Heath Lee, and Interim Chief Charles Wood.

Mary Jarell: Mary Jarell represented the Friends of the Library as she requested funding in the amount of \$13,000 for 2023-2024 Salaries. The library offers many services and without proper funding, the library cannot continue to operate.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott thanked them for coming and told them the budget is being reviewed.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott adjourned the meeting.

Minutes of Regular Council Meeting

April 17th, 2023

Mayor: AJ Scott.

Council Members: Kendall Holderfield, Angie Hood, Stanley Freeland, and Steve Holcombe were present.

Department Heads: City Clerk Sherry Taylor, Public Works Director Heath Lee, and Interim Chief Charles Wood.

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

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to amend the agenda by adding a vote to sell the dog kennel after Tina Southern. Angie Hood made a motion to amend the agenda. Kendall Holderfield seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Angle Hood made a motion to approve the agenda. Kendall Holderfield seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve the minutes for March 20th, 2023. Stanley Freeland made a motion to approve the minutes for March 20th, 2023. Angie Hood seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Jana Gentry-Library: Not present.

Tina Southern-Main Street Representative: Mrs. Southern updated the council on the Buchanan Beautification Meeting that will be held at City Hall at 6 p.m. She welcomed anyone that is available to attend. The committee is also working on organizing a clean-up day around the square to get ready for the Spring Fling on April 29th, 2023, at 9 a.m. The Spring Fling is May 13th, 2023. Donny and Patricia Rainey will be the Grand Marshalls for the parade. They have been working with Mayor Scott and Rhonda Holcombe to get the flags purchased to mount around the square. The Historical Society is covering the costs. Mrs. Southern is also working with Mr. Lee and the Historical Society to get the historical sign set up at the old wooden bridge.

Dog Kennel: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to sell the Dog Kennel for 70 percent of what the city bought it for and if it is over the threshold Mr. Scott asked for a motion to auction it off. Steve Holcombe made a motion to sell the Dog Kennel for 70 percent of what the city bought it for and if it is over the threshold, Mr. Scott asked for a motion to auction it off. Angle Hood seconds the vote. Motion carried 3-0.

Keith Worthan: Mr. Worthan introduced himself to the council as the owner of Buchanan City Pizza and Wings. He congratulated Mrs. Taylor on 15 years of service to the city. He began discussing his concerns of the grease trap regulations that the City enforces. Mr. Worthan said he had to install an inground grease trap before opening his business and wants to ensure that all businesses are treated equally when regulating grease traps. **Mayor Scott:** Mr. Scott suggested that Mr. Worthan and Mr. Lee sit down and discuss the ordinance regulating grease traps within the city. Mr. Worthan agreed. He also stated that the city does not have an ordinance enforcing dynamic breaking from log trucks through town and would like to see one created.

Donny Boswell: Mr. Boswell asked about the Infra-Metals Project.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott informed the public that they have broken ground. Infra-Metals will have 120 jobs available at the time of completion.

Departmental Updates

Public Works Director Heath Lee: Mr. Lee informed the council that he is working with Infra-Metals to discuss their land disturbance permits, sewer, and water. He finished looking through the subdivision plans on Carrollton Street and will be getting those sent back over to Greg Dewberry. The maintenance building will be delivered on April 25th, 2023.

Interim Police Chief Charles Wood: Mr. Wood updated the council on crime and statistics.

City Clerk Sherry Taylor: Mrs. Taylor informed the council that the administration office has been working with the auditors to discuss the upcoming audit. The new computers are being installed. Mrs. Taylor thanked the council for allowing them to be purchased.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to go into executive session for legal and personnel. Stanley Freeland made a motion to go into executive session for legal and personnel. Angie Hood seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Executive Session-Legal and Personnel

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to come out of executive session. Stanley Freeland made a motion to come out of executive session. Angle Hood seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott updated the council on the new houses on Carrollton Street, all three houses have been sold. They are also on the final steps of starting the building of the 14 houses on Carrollton Street as well. Mr. Scott and Mr. Lee will be attending the North Georgia Water Resources Meeting on April 26th, 2023. Mr. Scott will also be meeting with Drew Furgeson to discuss additional funding resources.

Sherry Taylor: Mrs. Taylor informed the council that there will be a sign demonstration Friday, April 21st, 2023, to show us their work.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kendall Holderfield made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Angle Hood seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Minutes of the Work Session

May 15th, 2023

Mayor: AJ Scott.

Council Members: Kendall Holderfield, Angie Hood, Stanley Freeland, and Steve Holcombe were present.

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

Digital Sign: Mrs. Taylor informed the council that she would be asking for \$60,000 out of city SPLOST funds to purchase a digital sign. The digital sign would be purchased through SignWorks Pro Inc. They are a company in Carrollton, Georgia. The price includes the 4x8 sign, brick work, an arch with our city name, a 10-year warranty, and installation. Mrs. Taylor explained to the council that this is something she has wanted for years and had been saving her SPLOST funds for a big purchase that would benefit the city. The sign would better inform citizens about upcoming events and other valuable information within the city.

Steve Holcombe: Mr. Holcombe suggested that the city use the sign as a municipal enterprise. The city can charge local businesses to use our sign as advertisement. It would benefit the city as well as local businesses.

Stanley Freeland: Mr. Freeland asked how much was available in city SPLSOT. Mrs. Taylor told the council there was \$76,375.86 available at that time. The city receives a SPLOST check from the county each month, that amount is split between departments by percentages. Mr. Freeland did not agree to purchasing the digital sign from SPLOST due to the price, and it is not urgent.

Mary Jarrell: Not present.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott adjourned the meeting.

Minutes of Regular Council Meeting

May 15th, 2023

Mayor: AJ Scott.

Council Members: Kendall Holderfield, Angie Hood, Stanley Freeland, and Steve Holcombe were present.

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

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

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Kendall Holderfield made a motion to approve the agenda. Stanley Freeland seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve the minutes for April 17th, 2023. Stanley Freeland made a motion to approve the minutes for April 17th, 2023. Kendall Holderfield seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Jana Gentry-Library: Not present.

Tina Southern-Main Street Representative: Not present.

Digital Sign: Mrs. Taylor asked the council to approve the purchase of the digital sign in the amount of \$60,000 out of SPLOST funds to replace the outdated sign in the front of City Hall. That price includes the brick, the digital sign, installation, and a 10-year warranty. Mrs. Taylor explained that the sign would be beneficial to the citizens of Buchanan. This company has worked with many others in the surrounding area. Mr. Holcombe stated that the city could use the sign as a municipal enterprise by allowing businesses in the city to pay to advertise. Mr. Freeland stated his opposition to purchasing the sign due to the price and the item not being an emergency. He stated that he does not feel like \$60,000 should be used on a digital sign. Mrs. Hood asked Mrs. Taylor to explain SPLOST funds. Mrs. Taylor explained that SPLOST funds can only be used on items that will last more than five years. The county distributes the funds to each city every month. The funds are then split between each department, 50 percent goes to the Water and Sewer Department, 25 percent goes to the City Administration Department, and the other 25 percent goes to the Police Department. Mr. Scott said Mrs. Sherry has not asked for many things throughout the years and thinks this would be good for the city. Mayor Scott asked for a motion to approve the purchase of the digital sign of \$60,000 out of SPLOST funds. Steve Holcombe made a motion to approve the purchase of the digital sign of \$60,000 out of SPLOST funds. Angie Hood seconds the vote. Motion carried 2-4. Stanley Freeland and Kendall Holderfield opposed. Mayor Scott voted yes, breaking the tie.

Security Cameras: Mayor Scott asked for a motion to approve the purchase of security cameras of \$3,810.00. Angie Hood made a motion to approve the purchase of security cameras of \$3,810.00. Kendall Holderfield seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Maintenance Building Pay Request: Mr. Lee updated the council on the Maintenance Building. At the last meeting when the amount for the pay request was voted on, it was stated not to exceed \$80,000. The exact amount exceeds the approved \$80,000. Mr. Lee asked the council to approve an additional \$8,000 to complete the pay request. Stanley Freeland made a motion to approve the additional \$8,000 to complete the pay request. Kendall Holderfield seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott opened the public hearing.

Application by Ronald and Kristen Moser to re-zone parcel BU02 0026 to Central Business District (CBD): Ronald and Kristen Moser presented their request to re-zone parcel BU02 0026 to Central Business District (CBD). The plan is to open an antique, vintage type of store at the Wade House. They will not be making any changes to the house; they have just added an air conditioning unit. The business will start out being open three days a week and they would like to have it open during the Fried Pie Festival this year. Mrs. Taylor informed the council that the Planning and Zoning Committee voted to suggest that the council approve the re-zoning request. Mr. Freeland asked the applicants about parking. Mrs. Moser said there will be parking on the right side and the library parking lot.

Public Comment: No Comment.

Mayor Scott: Public comment was closed.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve the re-zoning of BU02 0026 from residential to Central Business District. Stanley Freeland made a motion to approve the re-zoning of BU02 0026 from Residential to Central Business District. Angie Hood seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0. Mr. Scott stated that the minutes need to reflect that this property has been used for commercial use for many years. The city is just correcting the issue, the use of the property will not change. The store will be named Kris's Korner.

Budget Hearing for 2023-2024: Mrs. Taylor presented the requested 2023-2024 budget to the council. This year the city is working with a smaller budget due to the decrease in LOST and Insurance Premium Taxes. The city has worked together to adjust our income and expenses to reflect this decrease.

Public Comment: No comment.

Mayor Scott: Public comment was closed.

Departmental Updates

Public Works Director Heath Lee: Mr. Lee updated the council on the maintenance building, Carrollton Street development, Infra-Metals development, and the recent changes in EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) Lead and Cooper testing.

Interim Police Chief David Ratner: Mr. Ratner updated the council on crime and statistics. Mr. Ratner also stated that there were no accidents during the spring fair. **City Clerk Sherry Taylor:** Mrs. Taylor informed the council that the slide was replaced on the playground and that she has been corresponding with Parnell to receive our renewal rates for our liability and cyber security insurance.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Stanley Freeland made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kendall Holderfield seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Minutes of Special Called Meeting

May 30th, 2023

Mayor: AJ Scott.

Council Members: Kendall Holderfield, Stanley Freeland, and Steve Holcombe were present. Angie Hood was present through a conference call.

Department Heads: Deputy Clerk Maizie Truett

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

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Stanley Freeland made a motion to approve the agenda. Steve Holcombe seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to go into executive session for personnel. Kendall Holderfield made a motion to go into executive session for personnel. Stanley Freeland seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Executive Session-Personnel

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to come out of executive session for personnel. Stanley Freeland made a motion to come out of executive session for personnel. Steve Holcombe seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Stanley Freeland made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kendall Holderfield seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Minutes of the Work Session

June 26th, 2023

Mayor: AJ Scott.

Council Members: Kendall Holderfield, Angie Hood, Stanley Freeland, and Steve Holcombe were present.

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

Michael Ward: Mr. Ward presented his concerns to the council regarding the gas pumps being installed across from his home at Kimballs General Store. He further addressed his concerns about the permits not being visible from the road, the silt fence falling during the storm and draining on his property, and not being notified of the variance. The mayor and council stated that there was not a variance since the property is already zoned commercially. Mayor Scott also stated that all permits were posted on the inside of the building's windows facing outward to protect the permits from weather conditions. Mayor Scott offered to meet with Mr. Ward to discuss the city ordinance and zoning ordinance after the work session to explain that there is nothing the city can do. The city inspector can go out to the property to make sure all silt fences are installed correctly.

Citizens of Weatherly Street: Not present.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott adjourned the meeting.

Minutes of Regular Council Meeting

June 26th, 2023

Mayor: AJ Scott.

Council Members: Kendall Holderfield, Angie Hood, Stanley Freeland, and Steve Holcombe were present.

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 Stanley Freeland.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve and amend the agenda by adding Heath Lee-Wooden Bridge Discussion after Tina Southern. Kendall Holderfield made a motion to approve and amend the agenda by adding Heath Lee-Wooden Bridge Discussion after Tina Southern. Stanley Freeland seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve the minutes for May 15th, 2023. Angie Hood made a motion to approve the minutes for May 15th, 2023. Stanley Freeland seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Swearing in Chief of Police by the Honorable Judge Hulsey: Judge Hulsey swore in the new police chief, David Ratner.

Jana Gentry-Library: Mrs. Gentry updated the council on the library. Summer reading is going well, they have 153 participants signed up at all age levels. The library is also part nering with Papa John's for their Puzzles & Pizza Event. Walmart has supplied the library with two \$50 gift cards for grand prizes for two age levels. Mrs. Gentry thanks the city for their part in raising a reader.

Tina Southern-Main Street Representative: The Buchanan Beautification Committee is in its slow time. They did purchase some patriotic decorations and have decorated the square. Mrs. Southern has been working with Heath Lee on the bridge project. They have also been working on the Fried Pie Festival; they need volunteers.

Wood Bridge Discussion: Mr. Lee presented some pricing for the sign and landscaping for the area around the sign. Mr. Lee asked the council what verbiage they wanted on the sign before purchasing it. The council stated that they wanted the picture and historical data.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to allow Heath Lee to spend up to \$3,500 on this project. Stanley Freeland made a motion to allow Heath Lee to spend up to \$3,500 on this project. Angie Hood seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0. Heath Lee will have a picture of the sign that the council can look over individually before purchasing.

Parnell Insurance Company: Mr. Parnell presented the renewal figures on liability, property, police professionals, and cyber insurance. The city is in a good place this year. Mrs.

Taylor informed the council that these renewal figures are within the 2023-2024 budget. Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve the renewals as presented. Stanley Freeland made a motion to approve the renewal as presented. Kendall Holderfield seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Fencing for New Maintenance Building: Mr. Lee updated the council on the Maintenance Building. He presented the council with three bids for installing a fence around the new Maintenance Building. Mr. Lee suggested that the council go with West Georgia Fence Company and allow him to negotiate with them to get the black vinyl fencing. Kendall Holderfield made a motion to approve the bid from West Ga Fence Company of \$18,675.00, allowing \$3,000 more for black vinyl fencing. Stanley Freeland seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Bids for Street Paving: Mr. Lee presented the council with three bids for the repaving of the scheduled streets presented. Mr. Lee suggested the council go with A&S Paving; the City of Bremen uses this company for all their paving needs. Kendall Holderfield made a motion to approve the bid submitted by A&S Paving for the scheduled streets that need to be repaved. Stanley Freeland seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott opened the public hearing.

Annexation and Re-zoning application submitted by Gary Garner and Waffle House regarding parcel 0074 0084: Mr. Ally, from Waffle House, presented to the council and citizens. Waffle House is looking forward to coming to Buchanan and thanks the citizens for their support.

Public Comment: No Comment.

Mayor Scott: Public comment was closed.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott read the ordinance aloud to annex and rezone parcel 0074 0084 in the city with a zoning classification of C-2 General Commerical. Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve the annexation and re-zoning of parcel 0074 0084 to General Commercial C-2. Angie Hood made a motion to approve the annexation and re-zoning of parcel 0074 0084 to General Commerical C-2. Kendall Holderfield seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0

Budget 2023-2024: Mrs. Taylor presented the requested 2023-2024 budget to the council. The council had no further questions.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve the 2023-2024 Budget as presented. Stanley Freeland made a motion to approve the 2023-2024 Budget as presented. Angie Hood seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Departmental Updates

Public Works Director Heath Lee: Mr. Lee updated the council on the various water and sewer lines repaired throughout the city. They have a couple of locates submitted to 811 so they can fix the other water leaks that have not been resolved. The Maintenance building should be ready to move in the first week of July.

Interim Police Chief David Ratner: Mr. Ratner thanks the council for his new position and thanks Waffle House for being there. The department is fully staffed now. One of the new

officers, Matt Hearne, introduced himself to the council. There have been two more officers hired as well. Mr. Ratner updated the council on the city ordinance violations that he has been working on and stated that he will always be here to reach out to.

City Clerk Sherry Taylor: Mrs. Taylor informed the council that the administration office has been working on closing out the end of the year. The maintenance crew has been helping with the wiring of the new digital sign. The digital sign should be completed by July 12th. The rock is already completed, and it looks great!

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kendall Holderfield made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Stanley Freeland seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Minutes of Regular Council Meeting

August 21st, 2023

Mayor: AJ Scott.

Council Members: Kendall Holderfield, Angie Hood, Stanley Freeland, and Steve Holcombe were present.

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 Stanley Freeland.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Stanley Freeland made a motion to approve the agenda. Kendall Holderfield seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve the minutes for June 26th, 2023. Angie Hood made a motion to approve the minutes for June 26th, 2023. Stanley Freeland seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Jana Gentry-Library: Mrs. Gentry spoke at the work session.

Tina Southern-Main Street Representative: Mrs. Southern spoke at the work session.

Letter of Support to Water Shed to handle future water need of the County: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve the presented letter of support to Governor Kemp. Stanley Freeland made a motion to approve the letter of support to Governor Kemp. Kendall Holderfield seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Stanley Freeland made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kendall Holderfield seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Minutes of the Work Session

August 21st, 2023

Mayor: AJ Scott.

Council Members: Kendall Holderfield, Angie Hood, Stanley Freeland, and Steve Holcombe were present.

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

Tina Southern-Mainstreet Representative: The Buchanan Beautification Committee will have a meeting at City Hall on August 24th at 6:00 p.m. The committee will work with the historical society on the Annual Fried Pie Festival, the Pumpkin Caper, and the Christmas festivities. The committee will also host a fundraiser dinner at Hawkiis Farm in Buchanan. Tickets can be purchased through the Buchanan Beautification Committee. Mr. Scott reminded the clerk to make sure there are no meetings scheduled during October and November due to early voting and the election.

Departmental Updates

Heath Lee-Public Works Director: Mr. Lee updated Mrs. Southern on the Historical sign for the old wooden bridge. He also updated the council on the Maintenance Building. They plan on having a grand opening and ribbon cutting on September 1st around 11:00-1:00p.m. The scheduled paving projects will start around the middle of September and the public works crew will be working on getting ready for the Fried Pie Festival.

David Ratner-Police Chief: Mr. Ratner introduced two new officers to the mayor and council, Tiffany Creel and Mark Riley. He updated the council on crime and statistics. The department has an increase of 230 calls compared to last year.

Sherry Taylor-City Clerk: The final 2021-2022 Audit report has been completed. The clerk's office has begun working on the 2022-2023 Audit. Mrs. Taylor also informed the council that she has been working on the Election. Qualifying is this week and the city has already had three candidates qualify. The clerk's office has also been working on setting the millage rate. The current millage rate is 4.636. The rollback rate is 4.135. The city plans on rolling the millage rate back to ensure there will be no property tax increase for the citizens.

Jeff and Gina Burrand: Jeff and Gina Burrand presented the council with their concerns on 10 Macedonia Church Circle. They had purchased the land under the impression that they would be able to move in a mobile home. The council suggested the Burrands to set up a meeting with the zoning chairman to discuss what they could build on the property. They denied the meeting and stated that they could not build.

Jana Gentry: Mrs. Gentry updated the council on the library. They had a great summer reading program, enjoyed giving away 4 grand prizes-one for each age group, and had a great turnout at Monday's Story Time. They are excited to see lots of new books coming into the library and happy to have new partnerships. The Friends of the library will be selling tickets for the Annual Brown Bag BBQ. This event will be on Friday, September 15th between 10a.m. and 6 p.m.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott adjourned the meeting.

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.

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. Angle Hood seconds the vote. Motion carried 3-0.

Garry 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 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. Angle Hood seconds the vote. Motion carried 3-0.

Minutes of Special Called Meeting

November 28th, 2023

Mayor: AJ Scott.

Council Members: Angie Hood, Stanley Freeland, and Steve Holcombe were present.

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 approve the agenda. Stanley Freeland made a motion to approve the agenda. Steve Holcombe seconds the vote. Motion carried 3-0.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve the minutes for September 18th, 2023. Angie Hood made a motion to approve the minutes for September 18th, 2023. Stanley Freeland seconds the vote. Motion carried 3-0.

Appointment of Council Member: Mr. Scott announced that there is a council seat that is currently vacant. Mr. Scott asked for a motion to appoint Sterling Moore to fill Kendall Holderfield's position on the Buchanan City Council. Stanley Freeland made a motion to appoint Sterling Moore to fill Kendall Holderfield's position. Steve Holcombe seconds the vote. Motion carried 3-0.

Judge Hulsey: Judge Hulsey administered the oath of office to Sterling Moore.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott welcomed Sterling Moore to the council.

Marcy Heath: Mrs. Heath informed the council that there has been an increase in insurance this year. Mrs. Heath presented the council with several bids and suggested that the council stay with the current carrier. Mayor Scott asked for a motion to accept the Standard In-Network plan presented. Angie Hood made a motion to accept the Standard In-Network plan. Stanley Freeland seconds the vote. Motion carried 4.0. Angie Hood amended the motion to add the approval to stay with the current carriers for dental, vision, and life insurance.

Buchanan Drugs Variance: Casey from Buchanan Drugs informed the council that they are wanting to add medical cannabis products to their store that Georgia has legalized. They have spoken with the pastors around the drug store as well as many other pastors and citizens in the area. They have had no opposition from the surrounding pastors. It would take around 3 months to finish this process to get started. Stanley Freeland made a motion to approve the variance for Buchanan Drugs. Angie Hood seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0. The city attorney will write up a resolution for this variance.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott and the council presented Stanley Freeland with a plaque recognizing his time served with the City of Buchanan as a Council member and Mayor Pro-Tem.

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.