# Minutes of the Work Session

January 29th, 2024

Mayor: AJ Scott.

Council Members: Angie Hood, Steve Holcombe, Sterling Moore, and Ron Moser were present.

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

Honorable Judge Hulsey: Judge Hulsey administered the oath of office to Ron Moser.

State and County Candidates: Mr. Ivey. Mr. Bearden, and Mr. Ridley presented the council and

public with their reasons for candidacy.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott adjourned the meeting.

# Minutes of Regular Council Meeting January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Mayor: AJ Scott.

**Council Members:** Angie Hood, Steve Holcombe, Sterling Moore, and Ron Moser 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 amend and approve the agenda by adding a discussion to purchase a public works truck. Angie Hood made a motion to amend and approve the agenda by adding a discussion to purchase a public works truck. Steve Holcombe seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

**Mayor Scott:** Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve the minutes for November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Steve Holcombe made a motion to approve the minutes for November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Ron Moser seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

**Jana Gentry-Library:** Mrs. Gentry updated the council on the library. They are continuing to work on the materials weeding project, which should wrap up in a month or two. They have also been working with a new materials vendor since they have been experiencing delivery issues in the past. In January, they enjoyed construction day, lego day and reading with Barnaby, the CAREing Paws dog.

**Tina Southern-Main Street Representative:** Mrs. Southern updated the council on the upcoming events for the city. They will be having a meeting on February 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. to encourage business owners and civic organizations to help better Buchanan. They will be working on planning the upcoming events that are in the City. The Annual Easter Egg Hunt will need to be planned also. The Historical Society has turned over the Spring fair on the Square to the City of Buchanan/Buchanan Beautification Committee. The money that is made off the Spring fair on the Square will be used to purchase new Christmas Lights that go on the power poles around the City. Mrs. Southern will review the Spring Fair on the Square folder to see what kind of up-front expense that the City will need to cover.

**Mayor Pro Tem:** Mr. Scott asked for nominations for Mayor Pro Tem. Angie Hood nominated Steve Holcombe. Sterling Moore also nominates Steve Holcombe. Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve Steve Holcombe as the Mayor Pro Tem. Angie Hood made a motion to nominate Steve Holcombe as the Mayor Pro Tem. Sterling Moore seconds the vote. Motion carried 3-0. Steve Holcombe abstained.

Georgia Municipal Employees Benefit System Ordinance: Mrs. Taylor explained that one of the changes with this ordinance is the age that employees are required to take their

retirement. Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve the adoption of the Georgia Municipal Employees Benefit System Agreement. Steve Holcombe made a motion to approve the adoption of the Georgia Employees Benefit System Agreement. Ron Moser seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

**Zoning Map Update:** Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve the updated zoning map. Angie Hood made a motion to approve the updated zoning map. Steve Holcombe seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

**Budget 2023-2024 Amendment:** Mrs. Taylor asked the council to table the budget amendment until the next council meeting. The General fund is complete; however, we are still reviewing the Water fund.

**Purchase of Public Works Vehicle:** Mr. Lee presented the council with a quote to purchase a 2024 2500 Heavy Duty GMC truck for \$46, 800. The truck will be purchased from TSPLOST. Mr. Lee informed the council that they have approximately \$76,000 in TSPLOST. This vehicle will be used for roads and streets. Angie Hood made a motion to approve the purchase of the quoted truck for \$46,800. Steve Holcombe seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

## **Departmental Updates:**

**Public Works Director, Heath Lee:** Mr. Lee updated the council on the public works department. They have had some infiltration in sewer lines due to the rain that they are working on. They are also starting on the lead and copper inventory that is required by the State. The department has also been looking at pricing for storm drains to elevate some of the water on Depot Street. They are also looking at adding some parallel parking spaces to help with parking at the park as well as some quotes for rubberized mulch for the park. The life expectancy is about 15-20 years.

City Clerk, Sherry Taylor: Mrs. Taylor informed the council that clerk's training will be February 4<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>. The newly elected officials will be going to training February 28<sup>th</sup>-March 1<sup>st</sup> in Athens. The Annual GMA Convention will be held June 21<sup>st</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> in Savannah. Mrs. Taylor also updated the council on the issue with Microsoft, regarding city emails. The City's IT is working on resolving this issue.

Police Chief, David Ratner: Mr. Ratner updated the council on statistics and citations. In December, there was a total of 293 cases. Mr. Ratner has been working on drafting a new city ordinance regarding Delta 8 and Delta 9 use in the City. The DEA considers those a concerned drug. They have already stopped the local stores from selling pipes. They have also been working on lowering the speed limit from 65 mph to 55 mph on Hwy 27. The department has also submitted an open records request to GSP regarding the accidents at the intersection on Hwy 27. Mr. Ratner will continue to work on this to get the speed limit lowered.

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

# Minutes of the Work Session

## February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Mayor: AJ Scott.

Council Members: Angie Hood, Steve Holcombe, Sterling Moore, and Ron Moser were present.

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

**State and County Candidates:** Mr. Walker and Mr. Barkley presented the council and public with their reasons for candidacy.

**Chief David Ratner:** Mr. Ratner introduced our newly hired police officer, Dakota Blackwelder. Mr. Ratner also recognized Corporal Marc Riley and Corporal Tiffany Creel for their work.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott adjourned the meeting.

# **Minutes of Regular Council Meeting**

## February 19th, 2024

Mayor: AJ Scott.

**Council Members:** Angie Hood, Steve Holcombe, Sterling Moore, and Ron Moser 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 and amend the minutes by correcting the motion made during adjournment to Steve Holcombe. Angie Hood made a motion to approve the agenda and amend the minutes by correcting the motion made during adjournment to Steve Holcombe. Steve Holcombe seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Jana Gentry-Library: Not present.

**Tina Southern-Main Street Representative:** Mrs. Southern updated the council on the upcoming events for the city. At their last meeting, they discussed the upcoming events in the City. The St. Patrick's Day Festival, the Annual Easter Egg Hunt on the Square, Clean-up Day with Keep Haralson Beautiful, and the Spring Fair on the Square will all be coming up in the next couple of months. The committees have also been discussing bringing the Bell Tower Bash back this year. Mrs. Southern also stated that she has been working to get a meeting set up with the downtown businesses to get them involved in the event planning.

**Depot Street Road Project:** Mr. Lee presented the council with his plans for Depot Street. The Mayor, Council, Department Heads, and Public went outside to the park to visually see what would be done on Depot Street. Once everyone returned to City Hall, Mr. Lee asked for a motion to spend up to \$13,000 of TSPLOST funds to complete the Depot Street project. Steve Holcombe made a motion to approve the Depot Street Road Project as discussed. Sterling Moore seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

General Fund Budget 2023-2024 Amendment: Mrs. Truett presented the council with the 2023-2024 General Fund Budget Amendment. The department had to amend the budget to reflect the increases in insurance, election expenses, and supplies. The general fund is also doing better than expected in fines, prior property taxes, and building permits. Angie Hood made a motion to approve the 2023-2024 General Fund Budget Amendment as discussed. Steve Holcombe seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

#### **Departmental Updates:**

Police Chief, David Ratner: Mr. Ratner updated the council on statistics and citations. In January, the department had 249 calls, 234 case numbers, and 160 tickets. Mr. Ratner will be

receiving the Technology Grant from the Governor's Office of Highway Safety in the amount of \$8,000.

**City Clerk, Sherry Taylor:** Mrs. Taylor updated the council on our Microsoft issues. Mrs. Truett and Mrs. Brock worked with Microsoft all day to get our emails up and running and to get our accounts two-step verification process fixed. Mrs. Taylor reminded the council that the newly elected officials' class will be at the end of February.

Public Works Director, Heath Lee: Mr. Lee did not have any additional updates.

**Mayor Scott:** Mr. Scott asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Angie Hood made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ron Moser seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

## Minutes of the Work Session

## March 18th, 2024

Mayor: AJ Scott not present.

Council Members: Angie Hood, Steve Holcombe, Sterling Moore, and Ron Moser were present.

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

**Sammy Robinson:** Mr. Robinson and his colleague presented the plans for the West Georgia Military Museum and Educational Center in Tallapoosa. They are currently seeking donations in support of the project.

Steve Holcombe: Mr. Holcombe adjourned the meeting.

# **Minutes of Regular Council Meeting**

## March 18th, 2024

Mayor: AJ Scott not present.

**Council Members:** Angie Hood, Steve Holcombe, Sterling Moore, and Ron Moser were present.

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

**Steve Holcombe:** Calls the meeting to order. The invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Steve Holcombe.

**Steve Holcombe:** Mr. Holcombe asked for a motion to approve and amend the agenda by adding a vote for the Zoning Ordinance before the re-zoning application item. Angie Hood made a motion to approve and amend the agenda by adding the vote for the Zoning Ordinance before the re-zoning application item. Sterling Moore seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

**Steve Holcombe:** Mr. Holcombe asked for a motion to approve the minutes for February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Ron Moser made a motion to approve the minutes for February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Sterling Moore seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

**Jana Gentry-Library:** Mrs. Gentry presented the council with a library update and upcoming budget.

**Tina Southern-Main Street Representative:** Mrs. Southern updated the council on the upcoming events for the city. The Annual Egg Hunt will be this Saturday at 1 p.m. The committee is asking for egg donations and volunteers to help at the event. The Spring Fair on the Square will be April 27th, 2024. They have around 60 vendor spots sold. There are still around 20 spots available. The committee has partnered with Keep Haralson Beautiful to host a clean-up day on the square April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 8 a.m.

**Zoning Ordinance:** Mr. Holcombe opened the public hearing for the zoning ordinance. Mrs. Taylor explained to the council and public that the City is required to adopt certain changes to its zoning procedures based on state legislative changes, which were set forth in H.B. 1405.

Public Hearing: There was no public comment. Mr. Holcombe closed the public hearing.

**Zoning Ordinance:** Mr. Holcombe asked for a motion to approve the zoning ordinance as presented. Ron Moser made a motion to approve the zoning ordinance. Angie Hood seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Rezoning Application by Bobby Mehan to re-zone parcel BU02 0050 to office Residential (O-R): Mr. Mehan presented his plans to the board. They plan to use the from of the building for daily office space rental and meeting rooms by the hours. The back of the building they plan to use for residential nightly rental. They are thinking about using the

basement as a J Carl Cleaners drop off location. The three parts of the building will have separate entrances.

**Public Comment:** The public asked about the timeline of the project and details about the dry cleaning drop off location. Mr. Holcombe closed the public hearing.

Rezoning Application by Bobby Mehan to re-zone parcel BUo2 0050 to office Residential (O-R): Mr. Holcombe asked for a motion to approve the re-zoning request as presented. Ron Moser made a motion to approve the re-zoning request as Office Residential (O-R). Angie Hood seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

**Boundary Map:** Mr. Holcombe asked for a motion to approve the City boundary map as presented. Ron Moser made a motion to approve the City boundary map as presented. Angie Hood seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

**Zoning Map:** Mr. Holcombe asked for a motion to approve the City zoning map to reflect the recent zoning variance. Ron Moser made a motion to approve the City zoning map to reflect the recent zoning variance. Sterling Moore seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

## **Departmental Updates:**

**Public Works Director, Heath Lee:** Mr. Lee updated the council on the Depot Street project. They have also been working around City Hall to get the building up to code for a fire inspection.

Police Chief, David Ratner: Mr. Ratner updated the council on crime and statistics. There have been 217 cases and 189 citations written this month. They are waiting for their new laptops to come in that they received through a grant. Mr. Ratner is also working on an ordinance prohibiting anyone within 1,000 feet of a church from selling Delta 8 and Delta 9 products for the lawyer to review.

**City Clerk, Sherry Taylor:** Mrs. Taylor updated the council on the postal service. The events page is up and running on the website. Waffle House is expected to be finished in June, if not sooner. Mrs. Taylor also reminded the council of the Annual GMA conference in June and the Annual Chamber of Commerce Dinner on Thursday.

**Steve Holcombe:** Mr. Holcombe asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Angie Hood made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Sterling Moore seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

## Minutes of the Work Session

## April 15th, 2024

Mayor: AJ Scott.

Council Members: Angie Hood, Steve Holcombe, and Sterling Moore were present.

Department Heads: City Clerk Sherry Taylor and Police Chief David Ratner.

**State and County Candidates:** Mr. Ridley presented the council and public with their reasons for candidacy and discussed what he is currently doing in the County regarding paving projects.

**Golf Cart Ordinance:** The council reviewed the proposed golf cart ordinance and discussed possible restrictions.

**Tina Southern:** Mrs. Southern updated the council on the Spring Fair on The Square. They will need volunteers that morning to help with vendors and set up. There will be a lot of participants in the parade, and it will begin at noon. They are still looking for someone to be the Grand Marshall, any suggestions would be helpful.

Golf Cart Ordinance: Mr. Scott suggested that the ordinance states one rider per seat belt. Mr. Scott suggested the council review the ordinance and make suggestions to discuss at the next meeting.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott adjourned the meeting.

# **Minutes of Regular Council Meeting**

#### April 15th, 2024

Mayor: AJ Scott.

Council Members: Angie Hood, Steve Holcombe, and Sterling Moore were present.

Department Heads: City Clerk Sherry Taylor 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. Sterling Moore 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 March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Steve Holcombe made a motion to approve the minutes for March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Sterling Moore seconds the vote. Motion carried 3-0.

**Jana Gentry-Library:** Mrs. Gentry was not present. The library update was included in their packet.

**Tina Southern-Main Street Representative:** Mrs. Southern updated the council in the work session. Mrs. Southern will get with the volunteers to give them details regarding the Spring Fair on the Square.

**Police Vehicle Repair:** Mr. Ratner presented the council with quotes to repair the police truck. Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve the quote from Mitch Dennis in the amount of \$14,920.73. Angie Hood made a motion to approve the quote as presented from Mitch Dennis in the amount of \$14,920.73. Sterling Moore seconds the vote. Motion carried 3-0.

**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. Steve Holcombe 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 for legal and personnel. Steve Holcombe made a motion to come out of executive session for legal and personnel. Angie Hood seconds the vote. Motion carried 3-0.

## **Departmental Updates:**

Public Works Director, Heath Lee: Not present. Mr. Scott updated the council on the Depot project.

**Police Chief, David Ratner:** Mr. Ratner updated the council on crime and statistics. He discussed wanting to purchase a used vehicle for the police department.

**City Clerk, Sherry Taylor:** Mrs. Taylor updated the council on the department. The VFW has applied for and purchased all required permits.

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

# **Minutes of Regular Council Meeting**

May 20th, 2024

Mayor: AJ Scott.

**Council Members:** Angie Hood, Steve Holcombe, Ron Moser, and Sterling Moore 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. Angie Hood 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 approve the minutes for April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Steve Holcombe made a motion to approve the minutes for April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Sterling Moore seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Jana Gentry-Library: Mrs. Gentry presented the council with an update on the library.

Tina Southern-Main Street Representative: Mrs. Southern was not present.

Road Paving Quotes: Mr. Lee presented the council with three quotes to pave Cemetery Circle and Depot Steet. Mr. Lee suggested the council go with McIntosh Specialty Services, LLC. Steve Holcombe made a motion to approve the McIntosh Specialty Services, LLC quote not to exceed \$105,000. Angie Hood seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Jacksonville Water/Sewer Lines: Mr. Lee asked the council to approve the costs to bore under the road and the purchase of materials to complete the water and sewer installation for the 6 houses being built on Jacksonville Road not to exceed \$27,000. Angie Hood made a motion to approve the costs to bore under the road and the purchase of materials to complete the water and sewer installation not to exceed \$27,000. Sterling Moore seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

**401K Employee Retirement Plan:** Mrs. Taylor presented the council with the 401K proposal from Edward Jones. Mrs. Taylor asked the council to approve the proposal presented with a one-time fee of \$500 and an annual fee of \$2,280. Mrs. Hood suggested that the City separate the yearly fee by the number of employees they have enrolled in each department. Steve Holcombe made a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Ron Moser seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

**Public Hearing for parcel BU03 0056 and BU03 0054:** Mr. Scott asked for a motion to open the public hearing. Steve Holcombe made a motion to open the public hearing. Ron Moser seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Julie Crowe-Re-Zoning Applicant: Mrs. Crowe presented her plans to the council. She is the owner of an insurance company and her husband sales fast construction products. They are wanting to renovate the house and use parcel BUo3 0056 as her insurance office and have a showroom for the hardware that her husband sales remotely. Mrs. Crowe stated that she has multiple ideas for parcel BUo3 0054, including farmers markets, food truck Fridays, and parking for city events.

**Public Comment:** Johnny Sue Thornton stated that she wants the council to make sure their decision is beneficial to her as well as the City.

**Mayor Scott:** Mr. Scott asked for a motion to close the public hearing. Ron Moser made a motion to close the public hearing. Angie Hood seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Application made by Julie Crowe to re-zone parcel BUo3 0056 to General Commercial (C-2)- Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve or deny the re-zoning application as presented. Steve Holcombe made a motion to approve the re-zoning application rezoning parcel Buo3 0056 to General Commercial (C-2). Angie Hood seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Application made by Julie Crowe to re-zone parcel BUo3 0054 to General Commercial (C-2)- Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve or deny the re-zoning application as presented. Mrs. Hood presented her concerns with the council regarding the neighborhood behind parcel Buo3 0054. Steve Holcombe asked for a motion to table this item until the next council meeting. Sterling Moore seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

## **Departmental Updates**

Public Works Director, Heath Lee: No update.

Police Chief, David Ratner: Mr. Ratner updated the council on crime and statistics.

**City Clerk, Sherry Taylor:** Mrs. Taylor updated the council on the 2024-2025 budget meetings. She also informed the council and public that the Waffle House is officially open and doing very well.

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

# **Minutes of Special Called Meeting**

June 3rd, 2024

Mayor: AJ Scott.

Council Members: Angie Hood, Steve Holcombe, Ron Moser, and Sterling Moore were

Department Heads: City Clerk Sherry Taylor and Police Chief David Ratner.

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

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Steve Holcombe made a

motion to approve the agenda. Ron Moser seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

2024-2025 Budget: Mrs. Taylor presented the 2024-2025 Budget to the council.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to open the public hearing. Angie Hood made a motion to open the public hearing. Ron Moser seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Public Hearing: No comment.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to close the public hearing. Sterling Moore made a motion to close the public hearing. Angie Hood seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ron Moser made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Angie Hood seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

# **Minutes of Regular Council Meeting**

June 18th, 2024

Mayor: AJ Scott.

**Council Members:** Angie Hood, Steve Holcombe, Ron Moser, and Sterling Moore were present.

Department Heads: City Clerk Sherry Taylor 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 the agenda by adding Allen Parnell after Tina Southern. Angie Hood made a motion to amend the agenda by adding Allen Parnell after Tina Southern. Ron Moser seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

**Mayor Scott:** Mr. Scott asked for a motion to amend the agenda by adding an executive session for legal and personnel after the re-zoning application. Angie Hood made a motion to amend the agenda by adding an executive session for legal and personnel after the re-zoning application. Steve Holcombe seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

**Mayor Scott:** Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve the agenda after the amendments. Ron Moser made a motion to approve the agenda after the amendments. Sterling Moore seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

**Mayor Scott:** Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve the minutes for May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024, and June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024. Ron Moser made a motion to approve the minutes for May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024, and June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024. Angie Hood seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

**Jana Gentry-Library:** Mrs. Gentry was not present. Mrs. Taylor gave out this month's library update packet from Mrs. Gentry.

Tina Southern-Main Street Representative: Mrs. Southern was not present.

**Allen Parnell:** The renewal date for liability insurance is July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Mr. Parnell informed the council that there will be a 20 percent increase in liability insurance this year. They are waiting for the final numbers and will have them within the next 10 days. Mrs. Parnell will contact the Mayor and City Clerk once the final quote is ready.

**Golf Cart Ordinance:** The Council reviewed the golf cart ordinance. They discussed the minimum age requirements and the annual inspection fees. Mr. Scott asked for a motion to table this item for further discussion. Ron Moser made a motion to table this item until the next meeting. Angie Hood seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

**2024-2025 Budget:** Mr. Scott made a motion to go into a public hearing for the 2024-2025 Budget. Ron Moser made a motion to go into a public hearing for the 2024-2025 Budget. Angie Hood seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

**Public Hearing:** There were no public comments. Mr. Scott asked for a motion to come out of the public hearing. Ron Moser made a motion to come out of the public hearing. Sterling Moore seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

**2024-2025 Budget:** Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve the 2024-2025 Budget. Ron Moser made a motion to approve the 2024-2025 Budget. Steve Holcombe seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

# Application made by Julie Crowe to re-zone parcel BU03 0054 to General

**Commercial (C-2)-** Mr. Scott informed the council that the applicant requested to be taken off the agenda, until they decide what they want to use the parcel for. Mr. Scott informed the clerk that the re-zoning fee will be waived for her in the future regarding parcel BU03 0054.

**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. Ron Moser 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. Ron Moser made a motion to come out of executive session. Sterling Moore seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

#### **Departmental Updates**

Public Works Director, Heath Lee: Not present.

Police Chief, David Ratner: Mr. Ratner updated the council on crime and statistics.

**City Clerk, Sherry Taylor:** Mrs. Taylor updated the council on the upcoming audit. Mrs. Taylor also informed them that the department is working on a purchasing policy.

**Mayor Scott:** Mr. Scott asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ron Moser made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Sterling Moore seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

# **Minutes of Work Session**

July 15th, 2024

Mayor: AJ Scott.

**Council Members:** Steve Holcombe, Ron Moser, and Sterling Moore were present. Angie Hood called in by teleconference.

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

Golf Cart Ordinance: The council discussed the presented golf cart ordinance. Ron Moser suggested that the age limit should be 16 years of age and Angie Hood suggested that the age limit should be 13 years of age. The council agreed that the ordinance should state that the individuals are liable and should present proof of coverage at the time of inspection. The council agreed that inspection fees should be \$65, and the renewal fee should be \$35 a year. The council continued discussing various scenarios for the ordinance.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott adjourned the meeting.

# **Minutes of Regular Council Meeting**

July 15th, 2024

Mayor: AJ Scott.

**Council Members:** Steve Holcombe, Ron Moser, and Sterling Moore were present. Angie Hood called in by teleconference.

Department Heads: City Clerk Sherry Taylor, 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 and amend the agenda by adding an executive session for legal and personnel at the end. Steve Holcombe made a motion to approve and amend the agenda by adding an executive session for legal and personnel. Sterling Moore seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

**Mayor Scott:** Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve the minutes for June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Steve Holcombe made a motion to approve the minutes for June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Ron Moser seconds the vote. Motion carried 3-o. Angie Hood abstained from the vote.

Jana Gentry-Library: Mrs. Gentry presented the council with an update on the library.

**Tina Southern-Main Street Representative:** Mrs. Southern updated the council on the upcoming events in the City. They will be decorating for fall soon around the square and are looking for corn stocks. They are also looking for new Christmas decorations for the square. The money raised from the Spring Fair on the Square will go toward those costs.

Bell Tower Bash Fireworks Quote: Mrs. Glore presented the council with two quotes for fireworks for the Bell Tower Bash. The first quote is for 12 minutes, and the second quote is for 15 minutes. Steve Holcombe made a motion to approve the first quote for 12 minutes. Ron Moser seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

**Allen Parnell:** Mr. Parnell informed the council that there will be about a 45 percent increase instead of the 20 percent increase he estimated at the last meeting. Trident was the best carrier for renewal. The premium went from around \$38,000 to \$55,162 this year. Steve Holcombe made a motion to approve the presented insurance plan. Ron Moser seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

## **Departmental Updates**

Police Chief, David Ratner: Mr. Ratner updated the council on crime and statistics.

**Public Works Director, Heath Lee:** The lead and cooper test is almost finished, the data will just need to be entered into the database. They are also working on updating the permits for the wastewater treatment plant. The smoke tests are still being performed around the City. It will be explained in the upcoming newsletter.

City Clerk, Sherry Taylor: Mrs. Taylor updated the council on the upcoming audit.

**Mayor Scott:** Mr. Scott asked for a motion to go into Executive Session for legal and personnel. Ron Moser made a motion to go into Executive Session for legal and personnel. Sterling Moore 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. Ron Moser made a motion to come out of executive session. Steve Holcombe seconds the vote. Motion carried 3-0.

**Mayor Scott:** Mr. Scott asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ron Moser made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Sterling Moore seconds the vote. Motion carried 3-0.

## **Minutes of Work Session**

#### August 19th, 2024

Mayor: AJ Scott.

Council Members: Steve Holcombe, Ron Moser, and Angie Hood were present.

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

**Jana Gentry:** Mrs. Gentry updated the council on the library. Children's Story Time is back at 2 p.m. each Monday. The summer reading attendance is up 48 percent, and the annual report has been completed.

**Millage Rate:** Mrs. Glore presented the council with the proposed 2024 Millage Rate. The 2023 Millage Rate is 4.135 and the proposed 2024 Millage Rate is 4.253. The real growth in the city has increased our digest this year, however the inflationary growth decreased from last year making our millage rollback rate 4.253.

Golf Cart Ordinance: The council discussed the presented golf cart ordinance.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott adjourned the meeting.

# **Minutes of Regular Council Meeting**

#### August 19th, 2024

Mayor: AJ Scott.

Council Members: Steve Holcombe, Ron Moser, Angie Hood, and Sterling Moore were

present.

Department Heads: City Clerk Sherry Taylor, 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 and amend the agenda by adding Golf Cart Ordinance Discussion after Tina Southern and potential Bush Hog purchase. Steve Holcombe made a motion to approve and amend the agenda by adding Golf Cart Ordinance Discussion after Tina Southern and potential Bush Hog purchase. Ron Moser seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve the minutes for July 15th, 2024. Ron Moser made a motion to approve the minutes for July 15th, 2024. Angie Hood seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

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

Tina Southern-Main Street Representative: Mrs. Southern updated the council on the upcoming events in the city. Mrs. Southern would like to have a meeting September 16th, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. to discuss the Annual Pumpkin Caper, the Annual Christmas Tree Lighting and Parade, and the Bell Tower Bash.

Golf Cart Ordinance: The council stated that they have been discussing the golf cart ordinance for the last couple of council meetings. Mr. Pilgrim stated that there is a new law on this topic that just came out in 2023, he was not aware of this at the last meeting. Mr. Pilgrim will need to review the new law, and he believes it will answer a lot of questions that the council still has concerning age limits, registration and inspection rules. Ron Moser made a motion to table this item. Sterling Moore seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Millage Rate: Mrs. Glore asked the council to approve the 2024 Millage Rate as 4.253. Angie Hood made a motion to approve the 2024 Millage Rate as 4.253. Ron Moser seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Patrol Vehicle Purchase: Mr. Ratner asked the council to approve the purchase of a 2022 Chevrolet Tahoe for \$36,995.00. The funds will come out of SPLOST. Angie Hood made a motion to approve the purchase of a 2022 Chevrolet Tahoe for \$36,995.00. Ron Moser seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Cemetery Tree Removal (Road Right-of-way): Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve the removal of Trees on the road right-of-way at the cemetery not to exceed \$10,000 using

TSPLOST funds. Ron Moser made a motion to approve the removal of Trees on the road right-of-way at the cemetery not to exceed \$10,000 using TSPLOST funds. Angie Hood seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Cemetery (Additional Tree Work): The council discussed the possible tree work at the cemetery if we obtain additional land. There would be approximately three acres to clear between the existing cemetery and railroad tracks. The council tabled this until the land is obtained

**Public Works Bush Hog Purchase:** Mr. Lee asked the council to approve the purchase of a new Bush Hog not to exceed \$22,000. Mr. Lee's main concern is the safety of his crew when cutting the city right-of-way. The funds will come from TSPLOST to upkeep the city right-of-way. Steve Holcombe made a motion to approve the purchase of a new Bush Hog not to exceed \$22,000 using TSPLOST funds. Ron Moser seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

## **Departmental Updates**

**Police Chief, David Ratner:** Mr. Ratner updated the council on crime and statistics. They received \$7,450 from a grant that was put into their SPLOST account. They also received a Carroll EMC Impact Grant for \$3,500.

**Public Works Director, Heath Lee:** Mr. Lee and his department have been bush hogging and cutting grass this week. They have also worked on installing water and sewer taps on Jacksonville Road. They are also still working on the lead and cooper test; it is due in October of this year.

**City Clerk, Sherry Taylor:** Mrs. Taylor updated the council on the audit. The auditors are scheduled to be onsite next week. The accountant, Mrs. Mastrangelo, is currently enrolled in a budgeting class this month that will help in upcoming budget preparations.

**Mayor Scott:** Mr. Scott asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ron Moser made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Sterling Moore seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

## **Minutes of Work Session**

## September 16th, 2024

Mayor: AJ Scott.

**Council Members:** Steve Holcombe, Ron Moser, Sterling Moore, and Angie Hood were present.

Department Heads: City Clerk Sherry Taylor and Police Chief David Ratner.

Jana Gentry: Mrs. Gentry was not present.

**Gary Garner:** Mr. Garner expressed his concern with the tree work at the Cemetery. Mr. Garner also questioned the council over our bidding policy. Mr. Scott will send Mr. Garner the policy to review.

**Steve Edwards:** Mr. Edwards expressed his concern with the tree work at the Cemetery, specifically the tree over his family plot. Mr. Edwards also wanted to know who marked the trees to be removed. Mr. Scott agreed to have a meeting with Mr. Edwards and the contactor that completed the work.

**Tina Southern:** Mrs. Southern reminded the council that there will be a meeting following the council meeting to discuss upcoming events and projects in the city.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott adjourned the meeting.

# **Minutes of Regular Council Meeting**

## September 16th, 2024

Mayor: AJ Scott.

**Council Members:** Steve Holcombe, Ron Moser, Angie Hood, and Sterling Moore were present.

Department Heads: City Clerk Sherry Taylor 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. Ron Moser made a motion to approve the agenda. Sterling Moore seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

**Mayor Scott:** Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve the minutes for August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Steve Holcombe made a motion to approve the minutes for August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Ron Moser seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Forgiveness for Interfund loans as of June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024: The auditors are requesting that we vote to forgive the interfund loans as of June 30, 2024. The accounts listed loaned other accounts within the City of Buchanan money to cover funds in the past. Mrs. Taylor asked for a motion to approve the forgiveness of the interfund loans as of June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Ron Moser made a motion to approve the forgiveness of the interfund loans as of June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Angie Hood seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

**Infra-Metals Memorandum of Understanding:** Mr. Pilgrim discussed the memorandum of understanding for Infra-Metals. The percentages for the tax abatement have not changed since the last time it was discussed by the council. Ron Moser made a motion to approve the Infra-Metals Memorandum of Understanding. Angie Hood seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

**Poly Cart Purchase:** Mrs. Taylor presented a quote from Toter, LLC to the council to purchase 50 polycarts in the amount of \$3, 427.06 from SPLOST funds. Ron Moser made a motion to approve the purchase of 50 polycarts for \$3, 427.06. Steve Holcombe seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

## **Departmental Updates**

**Police Chief, David Ratner:** Mr. Ratner updated the council on crime and statistics. They have approved and received the necessary permits for the Homecoming Parade on October 4<sup>th</sup> and the Haralson County Sherriff's Office Donut Run 5K on October 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Public Works Department:** Mr. Scott updated the council on the public works department. The department is finishing up on the lead and copper project and the sewer and road problem on Addie Jane Lane.

**City Clerk, Sherry Taylor:** Mrs. Taylor updated the council on the audit. The accountant, Mrs. Mastrangelo, completed her budgeting class and will be signing up for a purchase order class. Maizie and I will be going to class in February.

**Mayor Scott:** Mr. Scott asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ron Moser made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Sterling Moore seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

## Minutes of Work Session October 21st, 2024

Mayor: AJ Scott.

**Council Members:** Steve Holcombe, Ron Moser, Sterling Moore, and Angie Hood were present.

Department Heads: City Clerk Sherry Taylor, Police Chief David Ratner, and Horatio Bell.

**Babloo Bagga:** Mr. Bagga presented the council with his plans for the gas station at 3686 Highway 27 in Buchanan. They are not allowed to obtain an alcohol license since their front door and the church's front door is less than 300 feet away. They asked the council to make an exception, so they can obtain an alcohol license. Mr. Pilgrim stated that he would have to research it to make sure we are able to make an exception. The City Clerk will get in touch with Mr. Bagga once we get an answer.

**Electronic Sign Use Policy:** The council reviewed the electronic sign use policy. They discussed the business spotlight slide. The council agreed that the city should ask businesses if they are interested in being on the slide and place them based on the order in which completed forms are received. They also discussed waiting to publish new businesses until all current businesses can be published on the slide if desired, for approximately 90 days. The city will also have this information on the website and in our monthly newsletter.

**Bell Tower Bash:** Mrs. Glore suggested that the city put up signs around town promoting the Bell Tower Bash. The Council agreed. Tina Southern has received a couple of vendor applications.

Mayor Scott: Mr. Scott adjourned the meeting.

# Minutes of Regular Council Meeting October 21st, 2024

Mayor: AJ Scott.

**Council Members:** Steve Holcombe, Ron Moser, Angie Hood, and Sterling Moore were present.

Department Heads: City Clerk Sherry Taylor 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 the agenda by adding Digital Sign Use Policy after GPS Insight Installation. Steve Holcombe made a motion to amend the agenda by adding Digital Sign Use Policy after GPS Insight Installation. Angie Hood seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

**Mayor Scott:** Mr. Scott asked for a motion to amend the agenda by adding the emergency oxygen pump purchase to the agenda after GPS Insight Installation and Digital Sign Use Policy. Steve Holcombe made a motion to amend the agenda by adding the emergency oxygen pump purchase to the agenda. Angie Hood seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

**Mayor Scott:** Mr. Scott asked for a motion to amend the agenda by adding strobe lights to three public works vehicles after GPS Insight Installation also. Sterling Moore made a motion to amend the agenda by adding strobe lights to three public works vehicles after GPS Insight Installation also. Ron Moser seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

**Mayor Scott:** Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Ron Moser made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Angie Hood seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

**Mayor Scott:** Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve the minutes for September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Sterling Moore made a motion to approve the minutes for September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Ron Moser seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Jana Gentry: Not present.

**Tina Southern:** Mrs. Southern updated the council on various events in the city, including the Pumpkin Caper, the Christmas Parade and Tree Lighting, and the Bell Tower Bash.

**Christmas Lights Purchase:** Mrs. Taylor asked the council to approve the purchase of new Christmas lights not to exceed \$12,000 using City SPLOST funds. Angie Hood made the motion to approve the purchase of new Christmas lights not to exceed \$12,000 using City SPLOST funds. Ron Moser seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0. Mr. Scott and Mrs. Southern discussed that the funds collected from the Spring Fair on the Square will go toward the Christmas lights as well.

Bell Tower Bash Entertainment Stage: Mrs. Taylor presented the council with a quote to rent an entertainment stage for the Bell Tower Bash. Unlimited Party and Event Rentals will set up the stage on December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024, and pick it up on January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025. Angie Hood made a motion to approve the quote for Bell Tower Bash entertainment stage. Sterling Moore seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

**Authorizing Adoption of the Haralson County Hazard Mitigation Plan:** Mr. Scott presented the council with the resolution to adopt the Haralson County Hazard Mitigation Plan. Ron Moser made a motion to approve the resolution to adopt the Haralson County Hazard Mitigation Plan. Steve Holcombe seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

GPS Insight Installation: Mrs. Glore presented the council with a three-year contract quote to install GPS trackers on all city owned vehicles and equipment. The first year includes the yearly fee plus the installation fees, which is \$6,337.50. Mrs. Glore asked the council to approve the first year to be purchased from city SPLOST funds. The second and third year will just be the annual fee of \$5,385.00. Mr. Scott suggests that years two and three be split up by the number of vehicles or equipment each department uses with their general funds, this can be revisited when we are working on the 2025-2026 Budget. Police Chief, David Ratner, stated that this would be very beneficial to his department. It would also be beneficial to the Public Works Department, regarding the location of their equipment. Ron Moser made a motion to approve the GPS Insight Installation quote as discussed. Steve Holcombe seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

**Electronic Sign Use Policy:** Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve the Electronic Sign Use Policy with the addition of the last two bullet points that were discussed in the work session. Angie Hood made a motion to approve the Electronic Sign Use Policy with the addition of the last two bullet points that were discussed in the work session. Sterling Moore seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

**Emergency Oxygen Pump Purchase:** The oxygen pump has gone out at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Mr. Scott asked the council to approve the purchase of an oxygen pump not to exceed \$3,000 using the general water fund. Ron Moser made a motion to approve the purchase of an oxygen pump not to exceed \$3,000. Steve Holcombe seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

**Strobe Lights for Public Works Vehicles Purchase:** Mr. Scott asked the council to approve the purchase of strobe lights for the Public Works Department vehicles not to exceed \$5,000 using TSPLOST funds. This is for the safety of our public works crew when working near the road. The vehicles should be able to be seen by the public to avoid any accidents. Ron Moser made a motion to approve the purchase of strobe lights for the Public Works Department vehicles not to exceed \$5,000 using TSPLOST funds. Steve Holcombe seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

**Mayor Scott:** Mr. Scott asked for a motion to go into executive session. Ron Moser made a motion to go into executive session. Angie Hood seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

#### **Executive Session-Personnel**

**Mayor Scott:** Mr. Scott asked the council for a motion to come out of executive session. Ron Moser made a motion to come out of executive session. Sterling Moore seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

## **Departmental Updates**

Police Chief, David Ratner: Mr. Ratner updated the council on crime and statistics.

**City Clerk, Sherry Taylor:** Mrs. Taylor updated the council on the 2024 tax bills. We are working with Harris to get the bills sent out now. Mrs. Mastrangelo is in a Purchasing class, and we have also been working with Tina on the Bell Tower Bash and Christmas Lights.

**Public Works Department:** Mr. Bell updated the council on the public works department. They repaired several leaks on Pine Street, Park Heights Street, and Highway 120. They have also patched several potholes. Mr. Bell and Mr. Williams will be attending a class next week. Mr. Scott asked Mr. Bell to keep a list of all leaks that the department repairs and the type of leak.

**Mayor Scott:** Mr. Scott asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ron Moser made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Sterling Moore seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.