

A MEETING OF BAMBERG CITY COUNCIL ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2020, AT 5:30 P.M. AT CITY HALL. MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Nancy Foster. COUNCILPERSONS: Leslie Hayes, Willie Staley, and Bobbi Bunch. CLERK: Robin Chavis. VISITORS: None. Not Present: Councilperson Bridget Kinard, Councilperson Rosetta Draper and Councilperson Benton Wise.

Mayor Foster called the meeting to order and Councilperson Bunch gave the invocation.

Councilperson Bridget Kinard, Councilperson Rosetta Draper and Councilperson Benton Wise were not present.

Mayor Foster asked for a Motion to approve the Agenda. Councilperson Hayes made the Motion to approve the Agenda. Councilperson Bunch made the second. All approved. The Motion carried.

Mayor Foster asked for a Motion to approve the Minutes for the November 9, 2020, meeting. Councilperson Bunch made the Motion to approve the Minutes. Councilperson Hayes made the Second. All approved. The Motion carried.

Mayor Foster asked for a Motion to approve the Budget and Finance Report as a matter of information. Councilperson Staley made the Motion to approve the Budget and Finance Report as a matter of information. Councilperson Hayes made the Second. Mayor Foster asked Clerk Chavis for an explanation of the Budget and Finance Report. Clerk Chavis informed the Council that all departments were doing well at 41%. Clerk Chavis called the Council's attention to the Community Promotions line item under Administration and noted that this account was continuing to get low. Clerk Chavis praised the departments on keeping their spending under control. All approved. The Motion carried.

UNDER COMMISSIONER REPORTS:

Commissioner Staley turned the report over to Chief Smoak. Chief Smoak informed Council that the Police Department had 79 citations issued for the month of November, along with 55 case files. Chief Smoak introduced Ashley Ratliff, as a new officer to the Bamberg Police Department and said he was pleased so far with his work. The Mayor and Council welcomed Officer Ratliff. Chief Smoak informed Council that the Police Department has a marquee in front of the Civic Center for citizens to check their speed. Mayor Foster asked if there was any activity from SLED and he stated there was no new activity in the area.

Mayor Foster asked if there was any insurance information. Clerk Chavis said SCMIRF has sent the policies, but a bill showing current premiums will come in January.

Chief Williams reported for the Fire Department that there were 17 calls for the month of November with 5 first responder calls, 6 alarms, 2 structure fires, 1 grass fire and 2 meetings. So far in December, the Department has had 10 calls with 5 first responder calls, 4 alarms and 1 structure fire. Chief Williams thanked the Police Department for their assistance with a first responder call involving a heart attack. Chief Williams said both departments worked well together to get the patient the care he needed until a helicopter could arrive. As of last week, Chief Williams informed Council that he had suspended all non-essential meetings for the Fire Department due to COVID-19. Chief Smoak asked the Mayor and Council if they knew the situation about the heart attack victim and the fact that the helicopter arrived before the ambulance. Mayor Foster stated the situation still does not seem to improve with the new ambulance service. Mayor Foster said she needed to talk to the County. Chief Smoak indicated on the majority of calls, the Fire Department is usually first on the scene. Chief Williams said they can only stabilize the patient, but they do not have the things they have on the ambulance.

Councilperson Hayes reported that the City had issued 3 business license renewals for the month. Councilperson Hayes further announced three new businesses: B-Well Nutrition, We Dem Boyz and Daily Bread Transport. Councilperson Hayes announced one event for CRAWL in Denmark on December 23, 2020.

Councilperson Bunch thanked the Daryl Glover of the Sanitation Department for his hard work during the Christmas Tree Lighting. Councilperson Bunch stated that the City stepped in to host this year's event. Councilperson Bunch announced the event went well and the Vendors sold out. Councilperson Staley asked Councilperson Bunch if she had spoken to sanitation about a litter matter, and she informed him she would text the Sanitation Department about it.

Mayor Foster stated that Mrs. Kinard was not present this evening. The Mayor said that sanitation has been taking care of the park areas. Mayor Foster reminded Council again about the Foodshare Program and explained the process of Foodshare and how proud she was of the program.

UNDER NEW BUSINESS:

There was no new business for the Month.

UNDER OLD BUSINESS:

Mayor Foster asked Councilperson Bunch for an update. Councilperson Bunch stated that despite sending out flyers to citizens, there are still some who are not following the guidelines. Councilperson Bunch said that she and Councilperson Wise were wanting to revise the residential trash section of the City Ordinance. Councilperson Bunch stated she thought the Sanitation Department should give notices to the homeowners about certain debris. Councilperson Bunch stated that she and Councilperson Wise would get some ideas together, but she did feel that Citizens needed to be cited when necessary when it comes to adhering to the ordinance.

Mayor Foster asked for an update from the Christmas Committee. Councilperson Bunch informed Council that the City had opted out of doing a party this year due to COVID-19. Councilperson Bunch provided Councilmembers with a Proposal giving the employees an increase in their Christmas gift in lieu of a party this year.

Mayor asked Clerk Chavis about the COVID-19 update. Clerk Chavis stated that the email she has received today from Emergency Management indicated 16 new cases in the County as of December 11, 2020. Clerk Chavis stated there seems to be a slight uptick in cases and everyone should exercise caution.

Mayor Foster asked Clerk Chavis if she had heard anything regarding the Dwight building. Clerk Chavis stated that she has not received an update. Chief Smoak asked if this was the Doctor's office due to investigating an alarm there recently. Mayor Foster informed the Chief that the family was donating the building to the City.

Clerk Chavis informed Council that they should have their Municipal Association transcripts and if they were interested in any classes to let her know so she can get them registered. Clerk Chavis advised them that all classes would be virtual this year, as well as Hometown Legislative Action Day.

Clerk Chavis called Council's attention to their packets and information regarding Archive Social. Clerk Chavis informed Council that she was trying to decide how to handle numerous records and has also been informed that FOIA requests can be made of a City's social media accounts. Additionally, Clerk Chavis directed Council to information on Text.my.gov, which is a text service to receive City information for citizens. Clerk Chavis asked Council to look over the information as this is something we may want to discuss at budget time.

There were no questions from the press or audience.

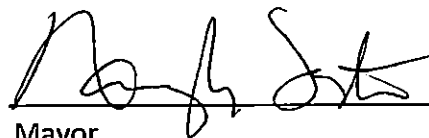
Mayor Foster asked for a Motion to adjourn. Councilperson Staley made the Motion to adjourn. Councilperson Hayes made the second. All approved. The Motion carried.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:09 p.m.

ATTEST:



Clerk



Mayor