

City of Bremen Council Meeting
September 19, 2016
Bremen Public Safety Complex
191 Georgia Avenue North
Bremen, Georgia 30110

City Officials and Administration in Attendance: Mayor Sewell and Council Member Dobby Harris, Council Member Sally Thomason, Council Member Jai Otwell, Council Member Terry Crawford, City Manager Perry Hicks, Operations Manager, Mike Thompson, City Clerk Amy Ridley, Codes Enforcement Officer Steve Muse, Recreation Director Matt Cody, Police Chief Keith Pesnell, Fire Chief Jay Hurley

6:00 P.M.
Work Session
Mayor & City Council
Informal Discussions Session

The Work Session is an informal discussion among Mayor Sewell, City Council Members, City Manager, Department Heads and the City Attorney. There is no action taken during the work session.

Mayor Sewell called the workshop to order at 6:00 pm and the following items were the topics of discussion.

Grow Haralson
Department Head Updates

Mayor Sewell adjourned the work session just before 7:00 pm in order to begin the regular scheduled council meeting.

7:00 P.M.
City Council Meeting
Mayor & Council Members
Regular Scheduled Session

Agenda

1. *Call to Order*
2. *Pledge of Allegiance*
3. *Invocation*
4. *Review and Modification of the Agenda*
5. *Approval of Minutes: (a.) August 15, 2016 Regular Council Meeting
(b.) August 18, 2016 Special Called Meeting
(c.) August 29, 2016 Special Called Meeting*
6. *Public Hearing - Revisions to Chapter 86 of the Official Code of Bremen*
7. *Public Hearing - Revisions to Chapter 78 of the Official Code of Bremen*
8. *Open to the Public*
9. *Adjourn*

Call to Order

Mayor Sewell called the council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the pledge of allegiance and invocation.

Review & Modification of the Agenda

Mayor Sewell stated that we are adding 7a for approval to become a Grow Haralson Member.

Approval of Minutes

Mayor Sewell asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the regular council meeting held on August 15, 2016.

Council Member Crawford made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular council meeting held on August 15, 2016. Council Member Thomason seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Sewell asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the special called meeting on August 18, 2016.

A motion was made by Council Member Otwell, seconded by Council Member Crawford to approve the minutes from the special called meeting on August 18, 2016. Motion carried.

Mayor Sewell asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the special called meeting on August 29, 2016.

A motion was made by Council Member Otwell, seconded by Council Member Harris to approve the minutes from the special called meeting on August 29, 2016. The motion carried unanimously.

First Reading & Public Hearing - Revisions to Chapter 86 of the Official Code of Bremen

Mayor Sewell opened the floor for a public hearing to hear comments on proposed amendments and revisions to Chapter 86 of the official code of Bremen, an ordinance to implement title 48, chapter 13, article 3, section 51(a)(4.6)(b) of the Georgia code, excise tax on rooms, lodgings, and accommodations, and to provide for the collection by operator; to provide for administration; to provide for an effective date to increase the rate of tax from 5% to 6% within the city and for other purposes.

There was no one to speak in favor of nor in opposition of the revision to the Bremen code chapter 86.

No action taken tonight since this was a first reading of the chapter 86 revision.

First Reading & Public Hearing - Revisions to Chapter 78 of the Official Code of Bremen

Mayor Sewell opened the floor for a public hearing to hear comments on proposed amendments and revisions to Chapter 78 of the official code of Bremen. This chapter is known as Streets, Sidewalks and Other Public Places, in order to administer and regulate the public right of way in the public interest, to provide for the issuance and regulation of right of way and utility permits, of regulation and use of motorized vehicles on said streets, and the regulation of use, activities and assemblages within streets, sidewalks and public places.

There was no one to speak in favor of nor in opposition of the revision to the Bremen code chapter 78.

No action taken tonight since this was a first reading of the chapter 78 revision.

Grow Haralson Initiative

Mayor Sewell stated that explained the Grow Haralson Initiative and stated that the \$10k membership fee with a five-year commitment reserves the right for us to appoint a board member.

Council Members discussed the \$3k annual membership payment that we currently pay to the Chamber of Commerce and discussed the idea of renewing that membership at a lower membership fee rather than continuing as an executive member. Those membership fees start at \$200 annually.

Mayor Sewell asked for a motion to support Grow Haralson Initiative and pay the \$10k annual membership.

Council Member Harris made a motion seconded by Council Member Otwell to support the Grow Haralson Initiative and pay the \$10k annual membership with a five-year commitment. The motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Harris made a motion to renew the city's chamber of commerce membership at the \$200 level. Council Member Otwell seconded the motion. Council Members Thomason and Crawford opposed this motion. Mayor Sewell stated that she opposes the motion to renew at the \$200 level. The motion did not carry.

Mayor Sewell asked for a motion to renew the city's chamber of commerce membership at the \$300 level.

A motion was made by Council Member Thomason seconded by Council Member Crawford to renew the city's chamber of commerce membership at the \$300 level. Council Member Otwell approved the motion. Council Member Harris opposed the motion made to approve the renewal at \$300. The motion carried three to one.

Open to the Public

There was no further business to come before the mayor and council.

Adjourn

Council Member Crawford made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:45 p.m. and the meeting adjourned.