



CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

City Council Chambers

Monday, December 11, 2023 at 7:30 PM

AGENDA

After Sine Die

Oath of Office

- 1. Oath of Office-** City Clerk, Hydeia Hayes will administer the oath of office to Mayor, Becky S. Smith.
- 2. Oath of Office-** Mayor Smith will administer the oath of office to Council Member, Michael Brooks.
- 3. Oath of Office-** Mayor Smith will administer the oath of office to Council Member, Allen Hook.
- 4. Oath of Office-** Mayor Smith will administer the oath of office to Council Member, Brenda Boyd.

Call to Order

Adjustment and Approval of the Agenda — *Items will only be added or removed with the approval of the Mayor and City Council.*

Appointments

- 5. Mayor Pro Tem:** General Statutes direct that the City Council, at its organizational meeting, elect a mayor pro tempore, who is to serve at its pleasure. The direct role of the pro tem is to preside over council meetings in the mayor's absence. While presiding, the mayor pro tem may vote as a council member but may not, as chairing officer, vote to break a tie. (In the absence of both the Mayor and Pro Tem, the council members present may select a temporary presiding officer). City Council will select a Mayor Pro Tem for the 2023- 2025 Council session.
- 6. Centralina Council of Governments-** This delegate serves as Bessemer City's member of the COG Board, which oversees the operation of the local Council of Governments. Meetings are held every other month.
- 7. Metropolitan Planning Organization-** The Gaston-Cleveland-Lincoln Metropolitan Planning Organization (GCLMPO) is a multi-jurisdictional entity made up of 34 local governments, NCDOT, USDOT, and other providers of transportation services.

8. **ABC Board Liaison-** While not a formal position, the ABC Board has requested for a number of years that a Council member be appointed to serve as a liaison between the City and the ABC Board. Board meetings are held monthly on the fourth Monday at 5:00 PM.
9. **Parks & Recreation Advisory Board-** This Board is dedicated to making a great community and committed to providing a safe and inviting parks and facilities in Bessemer City. Board meetings are held monthly on the second Tuesday at 6:00 PM.
10. **Downtown Development Board Liaison-** While not a formal position, the Downtown Development Board has requested for a number of years that a Council member be appointed to serve as a liaison between the City and the Downtown Development Board. Board meetings are held monthly on the fourth Monday at 9:30 AM.

Request to Speak/Opportunity for Public Comment — *This is an opportunity for members of the public to express items of interest to the Mayor and City Council. This is not a time to respond or take action. Any necessary action will be taken under advisement. Speakers are asked to use proper decorum and to limit comments to no more than three minutes.*

11. **Public Comment Acknowledgment:** City Manager, Josh Ross will provide clarity on items mentioned during public comment, if needed.

Consent Agenda — *The items of the Consent Agenda are adopted on a single motion and vote, unless the Mayor and City Council wish to withdraw an item for separate vote and/or discussion.*

12. **2024 Annual Meeting Schedule:** City Council will consider adopting the proposed 2024 holiday schedule that establishes when the City will observe certain holidays.
13. **Resolution of Authorization:** City Council will consider approving a resolution that authorizes the Ridge Runners to hold their annual event with certain guidelines on New Year's Eve.

Business Items

14. **Establish Annual Planning Retreat:** City Council will consider holding their annual Planning Retreat on Thursday, February 22 and Friday, February 23, 2024.

City Manager's Report

Council General Discussion — *This is an opportunity for the Mayor and City Council to ask questions for clarification, provide information to staff, request staff to report back, or place a matter on a future agenda.*

Adjourn

State of North Carolina
County of Gaston



**CITY OF BESSEMER CITY
OATH OF OFFICE**

I, Becky S. Smith, do solemnly and sincerely affirm that I will support and maintain the Constitution of the United States; that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the State of North Carolina, and to the constitutional powers and authorities which are or may be established for the government thereof; and that I will endeavor to support, maintain and defend the Constitution of the United States, to the best of my knowledge and ability; so help me God.

I, Becky S. Smith, do affirm that I will execute the duties of the office as Mayor of the Bessemer City Council to the best of my skill and ability, according to law, so help me God.

Becky S. Smith, Mayor

Sworn and subscribed before me, this 11th Day of December, 2023

Hydeia Y. Hayes, City Clerk

State of North Carolina
County of Gaston



**CITY OF BESSEMER CITY
OATH OF OFFICE**

I, Michael Brooks, do solemnly and sincerely affirm that I will support and maintain the Constitution of the United States; that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the State of North Carolina, and to the constitutional powers and authorities which are or may be established for the government thereof; and that I will endeavor to support, maintain and defend the Constitution of the United States, to the best of my knowledge and ability; so help me God.

I, Michael Brooks, do affirm that I will execute the duties of the office as a member of the Bessemer City Council to the best of my skill and ability, according to law, so help me God.

Michael Brooks, Council Member Ward 1

Sworn and subscribed before me, this 11th Day of December, 2023

Becky S. Smith, Mayor

State of North Carolina
County of Gaston



**CITY OF BESSEMER CITY
OATH OF OFFICE**

I, Allen Hook, do solemnly and sincerely affirm that I will support and maintain the Constitution of the United States; that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the State of North Carolina, and to the constitutional powers and authorities which are or may be established for the government thereof; and that I will endeavor to support, maintain and defend the Constitution of the United States, to the best of my knowledge and ability; so help me God.

I, Allen Hook, do affirm that I will execute the duties of the office as a member of the Bessemer City Council to the best of my skill and ability, according to law, so help me God.

Allen Hook, Council Member Ward 3

Sworn and subscribed before me, this 11th Day of December, 2023

Becky S. Smith, Mayor

State of North Carolina
County of Gaston



**CITY OF BESSEMER CITY
OATH OF OFFICE**

I, Brenda Boyd, do solemnly and sincerely affirm that I will support and maintain the Constitution of the United States; that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the State of North Carolina, and to the constitutional powers and authorities which are or may be established for the government thereof; and that I will endeavor to support, maintain and defend the Constitution of the United States, to the best of my knowledge and ability; so help me God.

I, Brenda Boyd, do affirm that I will execute the duties of the office as a member of the Bessemer City Council to the best of my skill and ability, according to law, so help me God.

Brenda Boyd, Council Member Ward 4

Sworn and subscribed before me, this 11th Day of December, 2023

Becky S. Smith, Mayor



City of Bessemer City

2024 Holiday and Meeting Schedule



Item 12.

<u>CITY OF BESSEMER CITY HOLIDAY SCHEDULE</u>		
<u>Holiday</u>	<u>DATE(S)</u>	<u>CLOSED DAY(S)</u>
New Year's Day	January 1	Monday
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	January 15	Monday
Easter Friday	March 29	Friday
Memorial Day	May 27	Monday
Independence Day	July 4	Thursday
Labor Day	September 2	Monday
Veteran's Day	November 11	Monday
Thanksgiving	November 28 and 29	Thursday and Friday
Christmas	December 24, 25 and 26	Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

<u>BESSEMER CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULE</u>	
<u>7:00PM CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS- 2ND MONDAY OF EACH MONTH</u>	
January 8	July 8
February 12	August 12
March 11	September 9
April 8	October 14
May 13	November 12
June 10	December 9

<u>BESSEMER CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING SCHEDULE</u>	
<u>3:00PM CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS- LAST TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH</u>	
January 30	July 30
February 27	August 27
March 26	September 24
April 30	October 29
May 28	November 26
June 25	December- no meeting

<u>BESSEMER CITY PLANNING/BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS MEETING SCHEDULE</u>	
<u>6:00PM COUNCIL CHAMBERS- 1ST MONDAY OF EACH MONTH</u>	
January 2	July 1
February 5	August 5
March 4	September 3
April 1	October 7
May 6	November 4
June 3	December 2



CITY OF BESSEMER CITY RESOLUTION OF AUTHORIZATION

WHEREAS, in 1990, the Bessemer City Council authorized a one-year trial period for the Ridge Runners New Year's Shooters to shoot black powder muskets inside the City Limits; and

WHEREAS, in 1991, the City Council authorized the Ridge Runners to hold the shooting as an annual event with guidelines and since their inception in the 1990's the shooters have been an important part of the local New Year's celebration; and

WHEREAS, the City Council recently deemed it appropriate to update the guidelines governing the Ridge Runners activities within the City Limits of Bessemer City.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Bessemer City Council sets forth the following guidelines for the Ridge Runners activities within the City:

- 1) The Ridge Runners may only discharge non-loaded, black powder muskets and when possible be accompanied by an officer of the Bessemer City Police Department while in the City Limits.
- 2) The Ridge Runners are authorized to perform their opening ceremonies on Sunday, December 31, 2023 at 11:45PM- Sunday, January 1, 2024 at 12:30AM in front of City Hall on West Virginia Avenue.
- 3) Shooting within City Limits shall only be conducted from the hours of 12:00AM-12:30AM and 7:00AM- 7:00PM on Sunday, January 1, 2024.
- 4) The Ridge Runners shall provide the City Manager, City Clerk, and the Bessemer City Police Department with a schedule of events and a current roster of member names, addresses and phone numbers.
- 5) Each shooting member shall display on his person a visible means of Ridge Runner identification. This means of identification shall not be readily or easily duplicated by non-members of the Ridge Runners.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this *Resolution of Authorization* be valid for a one-year period, with renewals required each year by the Bessemer City Council no later than their December meeting.

Adopted this the 11th Day of December, 2023

Becky S. Smith, Mayor

Hydeia Y. Hayes, City Clerk