

City Hall  
Fayette, Alabama  
September 23, 2014

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Fayette met at 5:00 o'clock, p.m. on September 23, 2014, in the Council Chambers of the City Hall.

Upon roll call the following were found to be present: Mayor Ray Nelson, Council members Linda McCraw, Mike Hardin, Jason Cowart, Cedric Wilson and David Brand. Also present were City Clerk Dawn Clapp, City Attorney Dale Lawrence and City Engineer Dewayne Roby.

The opening prayer was given by City Attorney Dale Lawrence

Mayor Nelson announced that a quorum was present and that the meeting was open for the transaction of business.

#### GUEST APPEARING BEFORE COUNCIL

1. Mrs. Patricia Montgomery – Director of Outpatient Services for Northwest Alabama Mental Health.

Mrs. Patricia Montgomery, Director of Outpatient Services for Northwest Alabama Mental Health, spoke to the Council about September being “National Recovery Month.” She stated it highlights and educates the public on the steps for recovery for those dealing with addiction or emotional or mental issues.

2. Mrs. Jo Frances White – Executive Director of Fayette Chamber of Commerce

Mrs. Jo Frances White, Chamber of Commerce Executive Director, spoke to the Council concerning the upcoming Frog Level Festival. It will be held the weekend of October 3-4 in downtown Fayette.

She also reported that Monday, September 29, 2014, will be the ribbon cutting for the new Dollar Tree store.

3. Ms. Patti Williams -- American Health & Fitness

Ms. Patti Williams with American Health & Fitness, stated their facility will be open twenty-four hours a day and seven days a week. They have separate exercise areas for men and women. They also plan to have exercise classes including cardio and zumba. She said members will have their own key so they can access the facility when staff is not there.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilmember Cowart moved that the minutes of the regular meeting and work session held on September 9, 2014, be approved. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Wilson, the same was unanimously approved.

#### 2014-2015 CITY BUDGET

Budget Chairman Cedric Wilson reviewed the 2014-2015 City Budget with the Council. His review was as follows:

1. The Council would continue to budget \$180,000.00 per month in sales tax revenue. Chairman Wilson stated the average monthly collection to date is \$208,133.00.
2. The Council would continue to budget \$9,500.00 in alcohol tax revenue and this revenue would still be restricted to paving projects. It was pointed out that the alcohol taxes were somewhat lower than they were when alcohol sales initially started.
3. The proposed budget includes a 3% cost of living adjustment for employees. This would result in an increase of \$63,000.00. There is no change in the Blue Cross

premiums.

4. As far as capital expenditures, a new bucket truck may be needed.
5. Because of the funding issues for the Fayette Medical Center, the department heads have been informed that capital expenditures would be addressed on an emergency basis.
6. Both the monthly bond payments for the 2012 Bond Issue and the 2014 Lazy River addition are show as line items in the budget.
7. Included in the budget is the City providing AirEvac memberships to the citizens of Fayette at a cost of \$21,304.00. The Council will still have to vote to approve the entering into a contract with AirEvac to provide this.

The total budgeted revenues are \$5,438,906.40 and budgeted expenses are \$5,070,919.75 resulting in surplus of \$367,986.65.

Councilmember Wilson moved that the Council adopt the 2014-2015 City Budget as presented. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Cowart, the same was unanimously adopted.

#### CITY CALENDAR

Mayor Nelson presented the proposed 2014-2015 holiday calendar to the Council. It is as follows:

Columbus Day -- Monday, October 13, 2014  
Veteran's Day -- Tuesday, November 11, 2014  
Thanksgiving -- Thursday, November 27, 2014 and Friday, November 28, 2014  
Christmas -- Wednesday, December 24, 2014; Thursday, December 25, 2014;  
and, Friday, December 26, 2014  
New Year's Day -- Thursday, January 1, 2015 and Friday, January 2, 2015  
Martin Luther King/Robert E. Lee Day -- Monday, January 19, 2015  
Good Friday -- Friday, April 3, 2015  
Memorial Day -- Monday, May 25, 2015  
Independence Day -- Friday, July 3, 2015  
Labor Day -- Monday, September 7, 2015

Councilmember Brand moved that the Council adopt the 2014-2015 holiday calendar as presented. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Wilson, the following vote was taken:

AYES: Mayor Nelson and Councilmembers McCraw, Cowart, Wilson and Brand  
NAYS: Councilmember Hardin  
ABSTAIN: None

Mayor Nelson stated the motion passed.

#### STREET AND SANITATION SUPERINTENDENT

Mayor Nelson recommended that Mr. Dewayne Roby be appointed as Street and Sanitation Superintendent. Mayor Nelson stated that because of his additional duties, his salary would be raised \$25,000.00. His adjusted salary will be \$81,565.56. By one person serving as City Engineer and Street and Sanitation Superintendent the City would save approximately \$26,978.37.

After a general discussion, Councilmember Wilson moved that the Council consent to the Mayor appointing Mr. Dewayne Roby as Street and Sanitation Superintendent. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Hardin, the same was unanimously approved.

Mayor Nelson announced that he was promoting Mr. Marty Weeks to Assistant Head of the Street and Sanitation Department. His present salary is \$27,872.00 and his salary will be raised \$8,000.00 resulting in his new salary being \$35,872.00. After a general discussion, Councilmember Cowart moved that the Council consent to Mr. Marty Weeks as Assistant Head

of the Street and Sanitation Department being paid a salary of \$35,872.00. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Wilson, the same was unanimously approved.

#### PROJECT UPDATES

a. Old Cotton Mill Cleanup: City Engineer Dewayne Roby reported he had requested an estimate from Ricky Hollingsworth Excavating Inc. on the cost to remove the debris at the old Cotton Mill. The estimate was \$185,988.95.

b. New Fayette Center for Manufacture and Innovation. Mr. Roby reported that a bid was received for the construction of the partition walls and cubicles but the bid was more than the grant funds available for this.

#### APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Councilmember Cowart moved that the City's financial statement be approved. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Wilson, the same was unanimously approved.

#### APPROVAL OF PARK & RECREATION FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Councilmember Cowart moved that the Park & Recreation financial statement be approved. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Brand, the same was unanimously approved.

#### REPORT OF COUNCILMEMBER COWART

Councilmember Cowart reported the Budget Committee had a productive meeting with the County Commission's committee concerning the Fayette Medical Center. He was encouraged by the effort. Councilmember Wilson agreed with Councilmember Cowart that they had a positive meeting.

#### REPORT OF MAYOR

Mayor Nelson reported that Sam's Smokehouse came in third place for the best ribs in Alabama in the *AL.com* contest.

#### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, upon the motion to adjourn being made by Councilmember Cowart and seconded by Councilmember Wilson, the same was unanimously approved.

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Mayor

Attest:

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City Clerk