

Work Session
City Hall
Fayette, Alabama
October 9, 2014

The City Council of the City of Fayette held a work session at 4:00 o'clock, p.m. on October 9, 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.

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

[Councilmember Brand was not present at the meeting at this time]

FROG LEVEL FESTIVAL

Mayor Nelson commended Fayette Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Jo Frances White for an outstanding Frog Level Festival.

PROJECT UPDATES

Mr. Terry Acuff reported to the Council on the City's EPA Projects.

Sewer Project on 4th and 5th Street. He stated that the sewer project on 4th and 5th Street was substantially complete.

Fayette Center for Manufacturing and Innovation. He stated this project received a \$250,000.00 grant that required a \$50,000.00 match. The City paid \$10,000.00 of the matching funds and Fayette Fabrication paid the remaining \$40,000.00.

He reported Fayette Fabrication now employs 18 people. He stated that in the grant agreement the City has committed to 50 jobs being created at the Fayette Center for Manufacturing and Innovation. If the jobs are not created then ADECA could try to recapture a portion of the grant funds back from the City. He stated the City has used \$236,000.00 of the grant funds.

Mr. Acuff reported the low bid for partitioning the Sipsey Arts Alliance portion of the building was \$75,000.00. This amount was more than the grant funds available for this. He stated City Engineer Dewayne Roby had determined that City employees could perform some of the partitioning work. Mr. Roby said the contractor would install the outside walls and place the sheetrock on the outside walls. City employees would do the partitions for the cubicles and place the sheetrock on the interior walls. A contractor would have to be employed to finish the sheetrock. Mr. Roby said by performing the work this way it would cost approximately \$28,000.00.

Mr. Roby stated that the heater project for the Fayette Fabrication side of the building would cost approximately \$10,000.00. Also, a heating and cooling system would have to be purchased to cool the Sipsey Alliance area of the building.

[Councilmember David Brand entered the meeting at this point.]

Mr. Roby said an architect would have to do a life safety plan for the building.

Mayor Nelson stated these matters would come up for action by the Council on Tuesday, October 14, 2014.

FAYETTE COUNTY HOSPITAL BOARD APPROPRIATION

Mayor Nelson said at the next regular Council meeting he would request the Council donate \$100,000.00 to the Fayette County Hospital Board.

He reported the Fayette County Commission had made a commitment of \$100,000.00 and the Fayette Community Foundation would probably donate \$100,000.00 to the Hospital Board. He said the Hospital Board has already committed \$150,000.00 and with the City's \$100,000.00, it would bring the total local contribution to \$450,000.00.

HOTEL FEASIBILITY STUDY

Mayor Nelson stated the City had a Hotel Feasibility Study performed in 2010. Mayor Nelson asked the Council to consider entering into a contract with Cowart Hospitality Service, LLC, to perform another study. He said the Economic Development Advisory Board has made securing a hotel for the City a top priority for future economic growth.

DRAFT BEER

Councilmember Cowart spoke about trying to get draft beer sales authorized in the City. He said he spoke with the two restaurants that serve alcohol in the City and they were in favor of being able to sell draft beer.

WASTE WATER TRUCK

Mayor Nelson stated the budget has a \$14,000.00 Capital Outlay for a truck for the Waste Water Department. The State bid price for a new truck is approximately \$18,675.50. The truck being replaced is the one that is used at the Waste Water shop. City Engineer Dewayne Roby was asked to investigate the current truck's model year, mileage and condition and report back to the Council.

RICHARD ARTHUR PROPERTY

Mayor Nelson reported to the Council that Richard Arthur, Jr., had contacted the City Attorney and offered to donate to the City the two story building located at the intersection of Columbus Street and 1st Avenue NE.

SEVERE WEATHER TAX HOLIDAY

Mayor Nelson informed the Council that at the next regular Council meeting he would present a resolution for their consideration concerning the Severe Weather Tax Holiday.

STREET DEPARTMENT MATTERS

Mayor Nelson informed the Council that Mr. Greg Brent is retiring from the Street Department. Street and Sanitation Superintendent Dewayne Roby would like to hire as permanent employees the two temporary employees – Mr. Blake Black and Mr. Tom Frazer. Mr. Roby stated he could hire the two workers and still be close to being within the Street Department's budget.

Mr. Roby asked the Council to give him guidance on the picking up of construction debris. Mr. Roby said his interpretation of the ordinance was that the City would pick up one brush truck load.

PARADE PERMIT

Mayor Nelson presented to the Council a request for parade permit for the Color Run at FCHS to be held on October 11, 2014. Councilmember Cowart moved that the parade permit for the Color Run at FCHS be granted. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember McCraw, the same was unanimously approved.

DOWNTOWN EXTENSION PROJECT

City Clerk Dawn Clapp recommended the City open a line of credit for the Downtown Extension Project so a cash flow problem is not created. Councilmember Cowart moved that the Council authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to open a line of credit for the Downtown Extension Project when it commences. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Wilson, the same was unanimously approved.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilmember Wilson moved that the Council go into executive session for the purpose of discussing the general reputation and character of an individual and to discuss a pending litigation. City Attorney Dale Lawrence stated the litigation exception was applicable to the planned discussion. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember McCraw, the same was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Wilson moved that the Council come out of executive session. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Cowart, the same was unanimously approved.

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 adopted.

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk