

Work Session
City Hall
Fayette, Alabama
August 9, 2016

The City Council of the City of Fayette held a work session at 5:30 o'clock, p.m. on August 9, 2016, 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.

REPORT OF MAYOR

Mayor Nelson stated he had received complaints about garbage cans being left on the street. He had also received complaints concerning sagging pants.

ALCOHOL ORDINANCE REVIEW

Councilmember Cowart stated there was a local business that rented out their facility for wedding receptions, class reunions, etc., and they were often asked if the guest could bring their own alcohol. Under the City's current alcohol ordinance the guest cannot bring their own alcohol.

Councilmember Cowart addressed how the City's alcohol ordinance, in particular, §3A-6(b) & (c) of the Code of Ordinances could be amended so as to allow legitimate "commercial event centers". §3A-6(b) & (c) are commonly referred to as the "anti-brown bagging" provisions. He suggested adding a §3A-6(d) which would state that properly licensed, bona fide commercial event centers are exempt from the provision of §3A-6(b) & (c). He also suggested that the definition of a commercial event center be as follows: "A facility located on private property located in a commercial zone district that primarily functions to provide a facility for any type of social gathering typically consisting of one or more meetings of multipurpose room(s) that are available for use by various private groups for such activities as meetings, reunions, weddings and receptions.

The City Attorney stated that one of the problems with allowing a facility to let its customers bring in their own alcohol was that no was in control of the alcohol so as to prevent underage drinking or prevent someone who is visibly intoxicated from drinking anymore. He stated there needed to be strong guidelines and parameters put in place for commercial events facilities so as to prevent potential abuses of the exemption from the "brown bagging provisions".

Councilmember Cowart and the City Attorney were asked to develop a ordinance addressing commercial event centers.

SPEED BUMPS – SPEED TABLE REQUEST

Councilmember Hardin said Mrs. Amanda Henry had complained to him about drivers blatantly running the 4-way stop on Ayers Road and he had asked her to address the Council about this. Mrs. Amanda Henry said she had lived in the area for twenty years. She said she had witnessed the cars running the stop sign and the additional danger this presents for the kids in the area. She asked could speed bumps or speed tables be placed at the intersection. She also reported it is dangerous during the school drop off and pick up times.

Councilmember Cowart moved to authorize the Mayor, City Engineer and Police Chief to determine what type of speed bumps or speed table are effective and are financially feasible to place at intersection and have them placed there. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Brand, the following vote was taken.

AYES: Councilmembers Cowart, Wilson, and Brand
NAYS: Councilmembers McCraw and Hardin

Mayor Nelson stated the motion passed.

OX BODIES REQUEST TO KEEP TRAFFIC LIGHT

Mayor Nelson reported that Ox Bodies had asked the Council to reconsider its decision to agree to allow ALDOT to remove the traffic signals at the intersection of Highway 18 and 6th Avenue NE. Ox Bodies wants the traffic signals to remain because of the traffic coming out of its facility.

After a general discussion, Councilmember Cowart moved that the traffic signals at the intersection of Highway 18 and 6th Avenue NE. should remain. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Wilson, the same was unanimously approved.

BECKY'S BEAUTY SHOP REPORT

Mayor Nelson reported Ms. Becky Box of Becky's Beauty Shop had requested that the City create a handicapped parking space and ramp near the entrance of her business. City Engineer Dewayne Roby stated he would look into the request. Councilmember Hardin moved to table this matter until the City Engineer had an opportunity to investigate it. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Wilson, the same was unanimously approved.

APPOINTMENT OF BUDGET COMMITTEE

Mayor Nelson appointed the following council members to the Budget Committee: Councilmembers Cowart, McCraw and Wilson.

ART MUSEUM BOARD REQUEST

Mayor Nelson stated the Art Museum Board had requested their number of directors be reduced from fifteen to eleven. The City Attorney stated he would prepare the resolution for the Council to consider.

MECHANICS POSITION

Mayor Nelson reported the City had received thirteen applications for the mechanics position. Two of the applicants are certified mechanics. Mayor Nelson asked the Council to review the applications.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk