

City Hall
Fayette, Alabama
March 13, 2018

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Fayette met at 5:00 o'clock, p.m. on March 13, 2018, in the Council Chambers of the City Hall.

Upon roll call the following were found to be present: Mayor Pro Tempore Cedric Wilson, Councilmembers Linda McCraw, Eddy Campbell, Jason Cowart, and Jerry Nichols. Also present were Police Chief Danny Jenkins, City Attorney Dale Lawrence, City Engineer Dewayne Roby, City Clerk Dawn Clapp and Fire Chief Tony Ellis. Mayor Nelson was absent.

The opening prayer was given by Councilmember Eddy Campbell.

Mayor Pro Tempore Cedric Wilson announced a quorum was present and the meeting was open for the transaction of business.

GUEST APPEARING BEFORE COUNCIL

1. RUSS TAYLOR – EMA DIRECTOR FOR FAYETTE COUNTY

Mr. Russ Taylor, the EMA Director for Fayette County, appeared before the Council. Mr. Taylor has been the EMA Director since last fall. He stated he was originally from Mississippi and served for eight years in the Marine Corps. He said he was excited about working for the citizens of Fayette County. He told the Council if they had any questions or issues to please call him.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilmember Campbell moved the minutes of the regular meeting held on February 27, 2018, be approved. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Cowart, the same was unanimously approved.

REPORT OF CITY MECHANIC

City Mechanic Curt Moore reported on his search for a service truck for the City. He stated he looked at two trucks. He recommended the City purchase the 2008 Ford F-550 with 87,636 miles. This truck cost \$27,430.00. City Clerk Dawn Clapp stated the amount included in the budget for a service truck was \$20,000.00.

After a general discussion, Councilmember Cowart moved the City purchase the 2008 Ford F-550 as recommended by the City Mechanic. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Nichols, the same was unanimously approved.

Mr. Moore also reported that one of the other Street Department trucks had broken down and would have to be replaced.

PLANNING COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Pro Tempore Wilson announced Mayor Nelson had made the following appointments to the Planning Commission: Mr. Greg Hill, Mr. Bernard Wright and Mrs. Belinda Watts.

AIR EVAC CONTRACT

Mayor Pro Tempore Wilson stated the Air Evac contract was coming up for renewal. The annual payment is \$18,970.00 and the contract is up for renewal on May 13, 2018.

SIGNAGE ON RIGHT-OF-WAY

City Engineer Dewayne Roby stated with the upcoming election, many political signs are being placed on the City right-of-way. He stated the City's Code of Ordinances prohibit the placement of political signs on the City right-of-way. Mr. Roby stated in the past, the City has picked up the signs on the City right-of-way and taken them to the City Shop where the candidates could retrieve them. He said the signs interfere with the mowing of the right-of-ways. The consensus of the Council was to continue with this procedure.

Mr. Roby stated political signs do not require a permit from the City; however, business signs do require a permit.

FAYETTE AQUATIC CENTER REPORT

Mr. Chris Champion appeared before the Council to report on the Aquatic Center. He said the 2018 season will begin on Saturday, May 26th. This is the sixth season for the Aquatic Center. Mr. Champion presented the upcoming price structure recommended by Park & Recreation Director Lance Holliman. Director Holliman's recommendations were as follows:

- (1) The daily admission and season prices would stay the same as last year -- \$10 for everyone age two and older, \$7 for senior citizens, military and non-swimmers for daily admission. Season passes would be \$100 for an individual; family passes would be \$100 for the first family member and \$50 for each additional family member residing at the same address.
- (2) As for private parties, Director Holliman recommended the price be increased to \$500 for a two-hour party for up to 300 people. The last three years, private parties have been \$400 which barely covered the Aquatic Center's cost. To help ease the "sticker shock" of the private party price increase, Director Holliman recommended that half-payment (\$250) be required at the time of the reservation, with the remaining balance due no later than the start time of the party. Private party fees would remain non-refundable. If someone chooses to cancel their party, or it is cancelled due to weather, the party may be rescheduled to another available date or credit would be issued for the following season, with the remaining balance due whenever the party actually happens.
- (3) Director Holliman also recommended a pay increase for the lifeguards. Since year one, lifeguards have received \$7.25/hour their first year, with a raise to \$8.00/hour each year they return. He would like to pay lifeguards \$8.00/hour their first year, with a \$0.25/hour raise each year they return. Mr. Champion stated the lifeguards are the heartbeat of the facility. Mr. Champion also stated the lifeguards pay for their training themselves (currently \$175.00 the first time they receive their certification and \$75.00 each time they recertify - which is every two years). He stated the lifeguards have a life-or-death job and their pay should reflect this.

In response to a question from the Council, Mr. Champion stated the raise in the price for a private party may cause some people not to book a party. He stated there are usually twelve lifeguards for a private party.

WORK SESSION

Mayor Pro Tempore Cedric Wilson stated a Work Session would be held on Monday, March 19th at 5:00 p.m.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Police Chief Danny Jenkins presented the police report for the month of February 2018. The report was as follows: 32 incidents investigated; 17 accidents; 61 traffic citations; and 39 arrests.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Fire Chief Tony Ellis presented the fire report for the month of February 2018. The Fire Department received 14 calls.

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENT

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

APPROVAL OF PARK & RECREATION FINANCIAL STATEMENT

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

REPORT OF CITY CLERK

City Clerk Dawn Clapp reported for the month of February, the City received \$211,125.00 in non-designated sales tax. She reported the ½¢ sales tax for the hospital generated \$35,903.00. The total sales tax received was approximately \$247,028.00. She stated the City received \$5,909.00 in alcohol taxes. She also stated the City had collected \$45,000.00 in business license fees.

City Clerk Dawn Clapp stated the sales tax holiday for school supplies will be July 20th–July 22nd.

REPORT OF COUNCILMEMBER COWART

Councilmember Cowart stated that 10th Street was once again in need of repair and repaving.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilmember Cowart moved the Council go into executive session for the purpose of discussing the general reputation and character of individuals. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Campbell, the same was unanimously approved.

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

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk