

City Hall
Fayette, Alabama
July 24, 2018

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Fayette met at 5:00 o'clock, p.m. on July 24, 2018, in the Council Chambers of the City Hall.

Upon roll call the following were found to be present: Mayor Ray Nelson, Councilmembers Linda McCraw, Eddy Campbell, Jason Cowart, Cedric Wilson and Jerry Nichols. Also present were Police Chief Danny Jenkins, City Attorney Dale Lawrence and City Clerk Dawn Clapp.

The opening prayer was given by Councilmember Jerry Nichols.

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

GUEST APPEARING BEFORE COUNCIL

1. MR. RUSSELL DUBOSE – PHIFER WIRE

Mr. Russell Dubose of Phifer Wire, spoke to the Council and stated Phifer Wire had now been in Fayette for over ten years. He said Fayette County has a quality workforce and this is what attracted Phifer Wire to Fayette. He stated thirteen months ago, Phifer had 30 employees in Fayette. They now have 121 employees. Mr. Dubose stated that all new hires are now being trained in Fayette. He said the company is concerned with workforce development and that a plan has been developed to bring a workforce development program to the high schools in Fayette County. This program is already in place in other counties. The students who participate can receive college credit, and, after completing the courses, may be offered summer internships at Phifer. Upon graduation, they may be offered a job with the company.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilmember Wilson moved the minutes of the regular meeting and work session held on July 10, 2018, be approved. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Nichols, the same was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Nelson announced this was the day and time for the public hearing on the application to transfer the alcohol license of Fowler Oil Co., Inc. at its Gordo Road location to Fayette Foodmart, LLC. No one appeared to oppose the transfer of the license.

RESOLUTION 2018-10

Mayor Nelson presented Resolution 2018-10 to the Council for their consideration. Resolution 2018-10 is as follows:

RESOLUTION 2018-10 A RESOLUTION GRANTING THE TRANSFER OF THE ALCOHOL LICENSE OF FOWLER OIL CO., INC., TO FAYETTE FOODMART, LLC

BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Fayette, Alabama, as follows:

That the application requesting that the City Council of the City of Fayette grant the transfer of the alcohol license to **Fayette Foodmart, LLC**, of the license currently held by **Fowler Oil Co., Inc.**, to sell alcoholic beverages (050 - *Retail Beer – Off Premises Consumption Only* and 070 – *Retail Table Wine – Off Premises Consumption Only*) at the following location: Fayette Foodmart, 1705 Gordo Road SW, Fayette, Alabama 35555, be and is hereby approved.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED by the City Council of the City of Fayette, Alabama, on this 24th day of July, 2018.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Councilmember Cowart moved the Council adopt Resolution 2018-10. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Wilson, the same was unanimously adopted.

C3 UPDATE

Mr. David Thornell, Director of C3, gave an update on the activities of C3 in recruiting manufacturing and industrial prospects to the local region. He reported a magazine has named the State of Alabama as having the best business climate. Mr. Harry Unger, Chairman of the Board of Directors of C3 and Mr. Mark Brown a member of the Board of Directors were also in attendance.

Mr. Thornell said the Aquatic Center has attracted many visitors to the City. He stated when recruiting industry, cities are compared and contrasted with each other. He said Fayette holds its own when compared to other nearby cities. He stated Phifer Wire employs 121, Fayette Fabrication employs 90 and ALDOT is still adding employees.

Mr. Harry Unger stated when Phifer came to town, several of his employees left and went to work for them. He said this was a good thing because the competition for workers led him to begin to automate which made his company better, resulting in his company making a better product. Currently, his company, Custom Automated Services, has 60 employees. He said it is important to have job opportunities in Fayette so that people can remain here.

Mayor Nelson said the Council needed to consider and think about property for industry.

EMPLOYMENT REPORT

Mayor Nelson reported the June unemployment rate for Fayette County stands at 5.3% which is up somewhat from 4.0% in May. The uptick is most likely due to the relocation of Parkview Cabinets and a reduction in force at Tiffin in Winfield. Also some suppliers to Mercedes recently had some temporary layoffs due to a fire at a major supplier which affected production. Some of these employees live in Fayette County and their claims are reported based on their residence. The July and August numbers are expected to show improvement.

MAINTENANCE ASSISTANT POSITION UPDATE

Councilmember McCraw reported four applicants had been interviewed and they plan to interview more applicants for the maintenance assistant position.

GARBAGE EXEMPTIONS

Mayor Nelson reported the exemption from payment of the garbage fee based upon a household's sole income being from social security is required by State law. Under State law, the exemption application process is supposed to begin with the local health department. He stated the City has contacted the Fayette County Health Department about the exemption process.

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Councilmember Campbell 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 Wilson, the same was unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF MUNICIPAL COURT FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Councilmember Nichols moved the Municipal Court financial statement be approved. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Wilson, the same was unanimously approved.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilman Cedric Wilson moved that the Council go into executive session to discuss the good name and character of individuals. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilman Campbell, the same was unanimously approved.

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

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk