

City Hall
Fayette, Alabama
June 11, 2019

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Fayette met at 5:00 o'clock, p.m. on June 11, 2019, 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, Cedric Wilson and Jerry Nichols. Also present were Police Chief Danny Jenkins, City Attorney Dale Lawrence, City Clerk Dawn Clapp and Fire Chief Shannon Taylor. Councilmember Jason Cowart was absent.

The opening prayer was given by Police Chief Danny Jenkins.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilmember Wilson moved the minutes of the regular meeting and work session held on May 28, 2019, be approved. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Nichols, the same was unanimously approved.

GUESTS APPEARING BEFORE COUNCIL

1. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECT – MR. GREG LOWERY AND MR. NICK WALTERS

Mr. Greg Lowery and Mr. Nick Walters (a former USDA Director) presented their economic development project to the Council. Mr. Lowery stated Bama-Bio Tech (BBT) Corporation had put together an economic model that takes advantage of the Commercial Hemp section of the 2018 Farm Bill. He said hemp is similar but far different from marijuana. [Under the said Farm Bill, hemp, defined as cannabis containing not more than 0.3% of tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), was removed from the list of federally controlled substances. As a result of that removal cannabidiol (CBD) oil derived from hemp can now be legally produced, sold and possessed in the U.S. The CBD oil derived from hemp, does not result in the high caused by higher amounts of THC found in marijuana. THC is the substance commonly tested for under drug testing policies.]

Mr. Lowery stated under BBT's model, the farmer grows the hemp and supplies it to the factories. He said usually one factory extracts the oil and another factory extracts the fiber. Hydroponic greenhouses are used so the hemp fiber is of a quality that can be used for medical purposes. He said BBT Corporation would recruit and structure joint ventures with already successful commercial hemp oil extraction companies, so as, to bring the existing companies experience and expertise to the start-up of the new factories. Mr. Lowery said BBT Corporation is currently looking for buildings for oil extraction and for distribution of the product.

Mr. Lowery said BBT Corporation did not have a business plan yet and did not have an estimate for the cost of starting up. He said they are waiting to see what rules and regulations are placed on the growing of hemp and the extraction process. Only the pilot program has been approved for this year.

2. AMATEUR RADIO WEEK – MR. DONALD SMITH, WEST ALABAMA RADIO CLUB

Mr. Donald Smith of the West Alabama Radio Club spoke to the Council concerning amateur radio ("HAM"). He said during emergencies, HAM radio operators can be of great assistance. He said there are HAM radio operators in each county. Mr. Smith said an Amateur Radio Field Day would be held on June 22, 2019, at Guthrie Smith Park.

Mayor Nelson stated he was proclaiming June 17–23, 2019, as Amateur Radio Week.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Police Chief Danny Jenkins presented the police report for the month of May 2019. The report was as follows: 40 incidents investigated; 12 accidents; 143 traffic citations; and 33 arrests.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Fire Chief Shannon Taylor presented the fire report for the month of May 2019. The Fire Department received 16 calls.

PROJECT UPDATES

Mr. Luke Porter updated the Council on the City’s current projects. He stated the paving of the parking lot at Guthrie Smith Park had been completed. He stated the Pumping Station and Sewer Project at the old industrial park should be let in August.

Mr. Porter said the Council needed to make a decision concerning the City-County Paving Project. He said if the City decided to move forward with the County, there were a lot of variables involved and no certainty as to when the project would start. Mr. Porter said if the City moved forward without the County then the project could be let in August, but it would cost the City approximately \$64,000.00 more than the City-County Joint project would. After a general discussion, Councilmember Campbell moved the City move forward with the project alone. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Nichols, the same was unanimously approved.

SHOWA GLOVE PLANT

Mayor Nelson stated Showa Glove Plant was undertaking a major expansion that would include constructing a building and parking lot. Showa requested the City apply for a CDBG grant to construct the improvements. Showa agreed to provide the required matching funds for the grant.

RESOLUTION 2019-05

Mayor Nelson presented Resolution 2019-05 to the Council for their consideration. Resolution 2019-04 is as follows:

**RESOLUTION 2019-05
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO APPLY FOR CDBG ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT GRANT FUNDS TO CONSTRUCT SITE IMPROVEMENTS FOR
EXPANSION OF THE SHOWA BEST GLOVE FACILITY**

WHEREAS, City of Fayette acting by and through its City Council proposes to apply for CDBG Economic Development Grant Funds to construct site improvements needed for the expansion of the Showa Best Glove facility located in the City of Fayette.

THEREFORE, be it resolved by the City Council of Fayette, Alabama, as follow:

THAT, RAY NELSON, MAYOR, is hereby authorized to execute and submit an application with appropriate assurances to the State of Alabama, Department of Economic and Community Affairs, requesting Fiscal Year 2019 CDBG Economic Development Grant Funds in the amount of **\$500,000.00** to construct site improvements needed for the expansion of the Showa Best Glove facility located in the City of Fayette

THAT, THE CITY OF FAYETTE will provide a local match of **\$100,00.00**, which will be provided by Showa Best Glove in support of this project.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED by the City Council of the City of Fayette, Alabama, on this 11th day of June, 2019.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Councilmember Wilson moved the Council adopt Resolution 2019-05. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Nichols, the same was unanimously adopted.

SUMMER WORK PROGRAM

Mayor Nelson said they were having trouble recruiting workers for the summer work program. They were looking for high school and college students to work in the program.

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 McCraw 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 Campbell, the same was unanimously approved.

REPORT OF CITY CLERK

City Clerk Dawn Clapp reported for the month of May, the City received \$217,522.00 in non-designated sales tax and the ½¢ sales tax for the hospital generated \$37,205.00 for a combined total of \$254,727.00. She stated the City received \$8,037.00 in alcohol taxes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilmember Wilson moved the Council go into executive session to discuss the general reputation and character of individuals. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Nichols, the same was unanimously approved.

Councilmember McCraw 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 McCraw and seconded by Councilmember Wilson, the same was unanimously approved.

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk