

Special Meeting
City Hall
Fayette, Alabama
July 16, 2019

The City Council of the City of Fayette held a work session at 4:00 o'clock, p.m. on July 16, 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 Clerk Dawn Clapp and Fire Chief Shannon Taylor. Councilmember Jason Cowart and City Attorney Dale Lawrence were absent.

The opening prayer was given by Councilmember Eddy Campbell.

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

RAILS TO TRAILS PROJECT

Mayor Nelson stated the Rails to Trails project will consist of a trail 2 ½ miles long. The City received a Recreational Trails Grant in 2015 in the amount of \$100,000.00 which requires a \$25,000.00 match by the City. Mayor Nelson stated he had received a strong commitment by a citizen and their family to help purchase the property. He stated Norfolk Southern is asking approximately \$350,000.00 based on the "over the fence" value contained in the appraisal of the property. Mayor Nelson said with the City receiving the grant and the donation the City's cost to purchase the property would be \$25,000.00.

The Community Development Corporation has committed to helping the City raise matching funds. Members of the Community Development Corporation who were present in favor of the project were Tracy Kelly, Greg Hill, Scotty Porter, Laura Killingsworth and Toni Robertson.

Mr. Richard Spears was concerned with the donor asking for favors because of their donation to the project.

The deadline for accepting the grant is July 17, 2019.

Mr. Terry Acuff stated it would probably take five years to complete the project. Mr. Luke Porter stated the cost estimate for the project would be \$600,000.00 to \$800,000.00.

After a general discussion, Councilmember Campbell moved the City accept the grant and the donation for the Rails to Trails project. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember McCraw, the following vote was taken:

AYES: Mayor Nelson, Councilmembers McCraw, Campbell and Wilson.
NAYS: Councilmember Nichols.

Mayor Nelson stated the motion passed.

Councilmember Nichols stated Guthrie Smith Park has walking trails that are not being used. He stated the City would have to keep people interested in using this trail and also have to maintain it.

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 adopted.

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk