

City Hall
Fayette, Alabama
December 8, 2020

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Fayette met at 5:00 o'clock, p.m. on December 8, 2020, in the Council Chambers of the City Hall.

Upon roll call the following were found to be present: Mayor Rod Northam, Councilmembers Eddy Campbell, Tommy Williams, Aliska Hughes-Monroe and Jerry Nichols. Also present were City Clerk Dawn Clapp, City Attorney Dale Lawrence, Police Chief Danny Jenkins, and Fire Chief Shannon Taylor. Councilmember Virettia L. Whiteside was absent.

The opening prayer was given by Bro. Kaleb Hall, minister of the Fayette Church of Christ.

Maci Hall, a 3rd grade student at Fayette Elementary School, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Rod Northam announced a quorum was present and the meeting was open for the transaction of business.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilmember Nichols moved the minutes of the meeting held on November 24, 2020, be approved. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe, it was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Nichols moved the minutes of the Work Session held on November 23, 2020, be approved. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe, it was unanimously approved.

1/2 CENT SALES TAX FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AT THE HOSPITAL

Mayor Northam and the City Council presented its annual appropriation to the hospital for capital improvements. The amount collected from the ½¢ sales tax year this fiscal year was \$462,866.43. Mr. Donald Jones, Administrator of the Fayette Medical Center received the check on behalf of the hospital. Mr. Jones thanked the Council for its support and reported the funds would be used for the following capital improvements on the surgery wing: HVAC replacement, and replacing the flooring, ceiling and lighting in all rooms designated for surgical patients. He stated a portion of the funds would be used to do some improvements in other areas in anticipation of replacing the HVAC on the other wings in the future.

COVID-19 REPORT

Mr. Donald Jones, Administrator of the Fayette Medical Center gave an update on the local impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. He reported Fayette County has a positivity rate of 55.5% and the average number of new cases is 16.8 per day over the last 14 days. He stated there have been 210 positive cases in the last two weeks. Mr. Jones reported there are seven COVID patients in the hospital and there are no cases in the nursing home. He stated the COVID vaccine is a two dose vaccine. He stated Fayette Medical Center will receive the Moderna vaccine to administer.

SETTING OF PUBLIC HEARING ON ALCOHOL LICENSE

Mayor Northam stated an alcohol license application had been received for Spirit Food Mart. Councilmember Nichols moved a public hearing concerning the request be held on December 22, 2020. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Campbell, the same was unanimously approved.

PROJECT UPDATES

Mr. Luke Porter updated the Council on its current projects.

1. Paving of MLK Drive and 10th Street
 - Construction signs to be removed this month
 - One handicap spot at Golden Eagle needs to be painted
2. Highway 18/171 Intersection Improvement
 - Awaiting predesign meeting with ALDOT
 - Agreement sets out that the City will pay for relocating utilities and for any overages on the project. He said ALDOT had verbally agreed that if the relocation of the utilities was cost prohibitive then the City could back out and not be responsible for the design fees.

C3 UPDATE

Mr. Mark Brown, a member of C3 of Northwest Alabama gave an update on its activities. He reported Mr. David Thornell, President and Executive Director of C3, will be retiring after the first of the year. He said the Board is an all-volunteer board and he is the incoming chairman of the Board.

PLANNING COMMISSION APPOINTMENT

Mayor Northam reported Councilmember Hughes-Monroe had offered to serve as the Council representative to the Planning Commission. Councilmember Williams moved Councilmember Hughes-Monroe be appointed as Council representative to the Planning Commission. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Campbell the same was unanimously approved.

REAPPOINTMENT OF MUNICIPAL JUDGE

Mayor Northam reported the two year term of Municipal Judge Steven Nolen would soon expire. Councilmember Nichols moved Mr. Steven Nolen be reappointed as Municipal Judge for a two year term. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Williams, the same was unanimously approved.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Police Chief Danny Jenkins presented the police report for the month of November 2020. The report was as follows: 43 incidents investigated; 16 accidents; 41 traffic citations; 25 traffic warnings and 59 arrests.

Police Chief Jenkins reported it would take 8 to 10 weeks to receive the video cameras for the police vehicles. He also stated two police officers were out with COVID issues.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Fire Chief Shannon Taylor presented the fire report for the month of November 2020. The Fire Department received 34 calls.

SHOWA RIGHT OF WAY

City Attorney Dale Lawrence reported on the progress of vacating a small portion of the City's right of way adjacent to the Showa Glove Plant. He stated he had spoken to the Plant Manager Scott Robertson and Mr. Robertson agreed the City would not vacate the right of way until the sewer line and manhole were relocated.

PARADE PERMIT

Mayor Northam presented to the Council a request for a parade permit for Fayette First Baptist Church to close a portion of 4th Street NE from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 20, 2020. Councilmember Nichols moved the permit be granted. Upon it being seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe, the same was unanimously approved.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Mayor Northam reported on the following community activities:

1. Old Fashioned Christmas Event: Mayor Northam reported the merchants and the public were pleased with the event.
2. "Christmas at the Park": Mayor Northam reported it is drawing people from outside the county.

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Councilmember Nichols moved the City's financial statement be approved. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe, the following vote was taken:

AYES: All except Councilmember Williams

NAYS: None

Abstain: Councilmember Williams

Mayor Northam stated the motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MUNICIPAL COURT FINANCIAL STATEMENT

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

APPROVAL OF PARK & RECREATION FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Councilmember Hughes-Monroe 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 November, the City received \$244,188.00 in non-designated sales tax and the ½¢ sales tax for the hospital generated \$39,089.00 for a combined total of \$283,277.00 which was an increase of \$27,000.00 over last year. She reported the City received \$13,235.00 in alcohol taxes which was an increase of \$5,800.00 over last year. She reported the City received \$17,895.00 in online sales tax.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilmember Nichols moved the Council go into executive session to discuss the consideration the City was willing to accept for the sale of a certain parcel of the City's real estate. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe, the same was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Campbell moved the Council come out of executive session. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilman Hughes-Monroe, 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 Nichols and seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe, it was unanimously approved.

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk