

City Hall
Fayette, Alabama
January 26, 2021

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Fayette met at 5:00 o'clock, p.m. on January 26, 2021, in the Council Chambers of the City Hall.

Upon roll call the following were found to be present: Mayor Rod Northam, Councilmembers Virettia L. Whiteside, 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.

The opening prayer was given by Bro. Floyd Rodgers, Associate Pastor at Peaceful Rest Missionary Baptist Church.

Jayce Smith, a 6th grade student at Fayette Middle School and a member of Boy Scout Troop 45, 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 January 12, 2021, be approved. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe, it was unanimously approved.

COVID-19 UPDATE

Mayor Northam reported on the update he received from Fayette Medical Center Administrator Donald Jones concerning Covid-19. The update is as follows:

- 1,494 confirmed cases in Fayette County
- 26 confirmed deaths in Fayette County
- 27% positivity rate over the last 14 days
- 199 cases in the last 14 days
- Fayette Medical Center received 100 doses of the vaccine on January 6, 2021, and received 100 booster doses for those waiting on the 2nd shot. FMC has now received 100 additional doses. The Fayette County Health Department will have a vaccine clinic every Friday in February from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. The Health Department's goal is to have a drive thru for the vaccine.
- For 2020, the Fayette Long Term Care Center had 15 COVID cases and four deaths. For January, 2021, the Fayette Long Term Care Center has had 32 COVID cases and two deaths.
- FMC has been averaging seven in-patient COVID patients for the last few weeks.

COVID LEAVE POLICY

Mayor Northam presented the proposed COVID Leave Policy to the Council for their consideration.

The COVID Leave Policy is as follows:

"Effective January 1, 2021, up to 80 hours of paid sick leave at the employee's regular rate will be granted when the employee is unable to work due to a positive COVID-19 test. This benefit will only apply when the employee tests positive and does not apply when family members test positive. The employee must have a negative test after 7 days of quarantine to be off 10 days following the positive test to return to work. This policy will be monitored for effectiveness over the upcoming weeks and months and adjustments could be made. If a new federal program is implemented, it will supersede this policy and this policy will be terminated."

Councilmember Nichols moved to adopt the COVID Leave Policy as presented. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Whiteside, the same was unanimously approved.

SHOWA GLOVE'S TAX ABATEMENT EXTENSION

Mayor Northam reported Showa Glove's Sales Tax abatement had been extended for six months until June 2021.

25TH STREET NE PAVING PARTNERSHIP WITH FAYETTE COUNTY COMMISSION

Mayor Northam reported about the possibility of the City partnering with the County to pave 25th Street NE up to the Multi-Purpose Complex. If the City and County decide to do this, the plan is to seek the assistance of the Department of Transportation with the project. The cost for paving 25th Street NE is estimated to be \$500,000.00.

PURCHASE/LEASE OF CITY SHOP PROPERTY

Mayor Northam reported the family who leases a portion of the City Shop property to the City was interested in either selling the property or renegotiating the lease but they want the City to make the first offer.

CARNIVAL REQUEST

Mayor Northam reported on a request for a carnival to be held at Guthrie Smith Park. He said that he was in the process of obtaining more information from Mr. Christian Fluker.

STREET AND SANITATION DEPARMENT RESIGNATION

Mayor Northam reported a Street & Sanitation Department employee had resigned and his position would need to be filled.

ZONING BOARD REAPPOINTMENTS

Mayor Northam reported the Zoning Board of Adjustment had met last week. Mayor Northam stated the members currently serving desired to be reappointed. The members of the Zoning Board of Adjustment are as follows:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Term Expiration</u>
Bruce Perry	February 1, 2023
Mike Newman	February 1, 2024
Belinda Ary	February 1, 2023
Larry Pinkerton	February 1, 2022
Scott Walker	February 1, 2024

Councilmember Campbell moved to reappoint Dr. Bruce Perry, Mr. Mike Newman, Mrs. Belinda Ary, Mr. Larry Pinkerton and Mr. Scott Walker to the Zoning Board of Adjustment with their terms being as set forth above. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Nichols, the same was unanimously approved.

HOUSING AUTHORITY BOARD

Mayor Northam announced he was reappointing Mr. David Logan and Mr. John Cross to the Housing Authority Board for a term expiring January 14, 2026, and he was appointing Mr. Mark Brown to fill the unexpired term of Mrs. Laurene Finley whose term expires on February 1, 2024.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Northam announced three new businesses have opened in Fayette. The businesses are Dancing Suds, Supreme Glass and Hurts Security.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Mayor Northam reported on the City's financial condition. He stated for the month, the City had received 16% more in revenues and had 4% less in expenses.

REPORT OF MAYOR

Mayor Northam reported on the traffic study on 23rd Street NW. He said the data received indicated there was a problem with speeding. Based on this, the Police Department has been patrolling more in the area.

Mayor Northam stated the next speed study will be conducted on 5th Street NE. There have been additional requests for other streets to have a traffic study. Mayor Northam stated they are looking for active signage to purchase.

Mayor Northam reported there was a new benefit through the CARES Act for assistance with utility payments.

REPORT OF COUNCILMEMBER HUGHES-MONROE

Councilmember Hughes-Monroe reported that registration for baseball and softball would go through February 5, 2021.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, upon the motion to adjourn being made by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe and seconded by Councilmember Whiteside, it was unanimously approved.

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk