

City Hall
Fayette, Alabama
March 23, 2021

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Fayette met at 5:00 o'clock, p.m. on March 23, 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, Fire Chief Shannon Taylor and Street Superintendent Marty Weeks.

The opening prayer was given by Girl Scout Morgan Bahm.

Girl Scout Paige Bahm 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 March 9, 2021, be approved. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Williams, it was unanimously approved.

AIR EVAC CONTRACT RENEWAL

Mayor Northam stated the cost to renew the Air Evac Contract is \$22,674.00. The renewal amount has increased about 20% - almost \$4,000.00 - over last year. The Council asked what had led to the increase. Councilmember Hughes-Monroe asked how much Air-Evac had been utilized by citizens in the past year. Councilmember Nichols said he appreciated Air Evac being located in the City.

REPORT OF BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

Mr. Ron Davis spoke to the Council on behalf of the City of Fayette Beautification Committee. Also present were former Mayor Ray Nelson and Mrs. Kathy Bordelon. Mrs. Bordelon spoke concerning some of the projects of the Beautification Committee. She said they were in the process of redoing the flower bed under the new Civic Center sign. She also reported that an article will be appearing in the Alabama Business magazine and it would give some good exposure to Fayette.

One of the committee's big projects is the placement of frogs in the downtown area. The other big project is a City Cleanup Day scheduled for April 24th. She asked the Council to participate in the cleanup day. She stated high school students will be helping with the cleanup also.

BACKHOE BIDS

Street Superintendent Marty Weeks reported the City's current backhoe is 21 years old. He said the City received two bids for a new backhoe. The bids were as follows:

1. John Deere backhoe – Warrior Tractor & Equipment Company: \$103,410 less trade-in allowance of \$19,000 = \$84,410.00.
2. Caterpillar backhoe – Thompson Tractor Company: \$108,274 less trade-in allowance of \$22,000.00 = \$88,274.00

Street Superintendent Weeks recommended the Council accept the lowest bid from Warrior Tractor & Equipment Company, in the amount of \$84,410.00. Councilmember Nichols moved the Council adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Fayette that it hereby awards the bid for the backhoe to the lowest responsible bidder, Warrior Tractor & Equipment Company, in the amount of \$84,410.00.

Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Whiteside, it was unanimously approved.

PARADE PERMIT

Mayor Northam presented to the Council a request from First United Methodist Church to close 1st Avenue NE from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 28, 2021. Councilmember Nichols moved

the permit be granted. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Campbell, the same was unanimously approved

RESOLUTION 2021-02

Mayor Northam presented Resolution 2021-02 to the Council for their consideration. Resolution 2021-02 is as follows:

**RESOLUTION 2021-02
A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING APRIL
AS FAIR HOUSING MONTH IN THE CITY OF FAYETTE, ALABAMA**

WHEREAS, Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended, set forth a national policy of fair housing without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status, or disability; and

WHEREAS, April is recognized nationally as Fair Housing Month; and

WHEREAS, the City of Fayette rejects discrimination on the basis of race, religion, color, sex, national origin, disability, and/or familial status in the sale, rental, or provision of other housing services; and

WHEREAS, the City of Fayette desires that all its citizens be afforded the opportunity to attain a decent, safe, and sound living environment;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Fayette does hereby designate April as Fair Housing Month.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED by the City Council of the City of Fayette, on this the ____ day of March, 2021.

THE CITY OF FAYETTE, ALABAMA:

By: _____

Rod Northam, Mayor

Attest:

Dawn Clapp, City Clerk

Councilmember Whiteside moved the Council adopt Resolution 2021-02. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Williams, the same was unanimously adopted.

PERSONNEL MATTERS

Mayor Northam presented to the Council the job posting for a part-time firefighter for their review. Fire Chief Taylor said this would allow the City to have a part-time firefighter to fill in as needed.

Mayor Northam presented to the Council the job posting for Superintendent of Waste Water for their review. There were no questions from the Council about the job postings.

Mayor Northam presented to the Council the job posting for the ACE Coordinator.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Northam stated a public hearing is scheduled for March 25, 2021, at 5:00 p.m. concerning the lease with option to purchase between the City and Onyx Digital Farms.

FINANCIALS

Mayor Northam reviewed the City financial report, Park and Recreation financial report and Municipal Court financial report with the Council.

REPORT OF MAYOR

Mayor Northam announced a new business, Classic Direction Events, has opened in Fayette.

Mayor Northam reported Mr. Claude Sudduth had been hired in the Street & Sanitation Department.

Mayor Northam reported the COVID-19 fourteen positivity rate for Fayette County is 5.6%.

Mayor Northam reported the unemployment rate for Fayette County is 3.4%.

Mayor Northam stated City Hall would be closed Friday, April 2, 2021.

Mayor Northam reported garbage fees can now be paid online.

REPORT OF COUNCILMEMBER WILLIAMS

Councilmember Williams stated the leaf truck will run through April 2nd.

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