

City Hall
Fayette, Alabama
April 27, 2021

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Fayette met at 5:00 o'clock, p.m. on April 27, 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 and Police Chief Danny Jenkins.

The opening prayer was given by Bro. Scott Smyth, Pastor of Vision Church.

Mayor Rod Northam 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 regular meeting held on April 13, 2021, be approved. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe, it was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Campbell moved the minutes of the work session held on April 13, 2021, be approved. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe, it was unanimously approved.

NORTHWEST ALABAMA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ALLIANCE REPORT

Mr. Mark Brown, Chairman of the Northwest Alabama Economic Development Alliance, commonly known as C3, introduced to the Council Mr. Tom Wisemiller, the new President and CEO of the Northwest Alabama Economic Development Alliance. Mr. Wisemiller stated he had recently taken the position and was in the process of getting to know everyone. He is originally from Ohio, but spent twelve years in Greenville, North Carolina promoting and managing economic development projects.

RESOLUTION 2021-04

Mayor Northam presented Resolution 2021-04 to the Council for their consideration. Resolution 2021-04 is as follows:

RESOLUTION 2021-04

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMITTAL OF AN APPALACHIAN REGIONAL COMMISSION GRANT APPLICATION REQUESTING FISCAL YEAR 2021 ARC INITIATIVE POWER GRANT FUNDS WITH LOCAL MATCHING FUNDS OF THIRTY PERCENT

WHEREAS, City of Fayette, acting by and through its City Council proposes to apply for an Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) Initiative Power Grant to construct improvements to construct improvements to the roof of the former Arvin Building which is now occupied by Phifer Wire.

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

THAT, ROD NORTHAM, MAYOR, is hereby authorized to execute and submit an application with appropriate assurances to the Appalachian Regional Commission requesting Fiscal Year 2021 ARC Initiative Power Grant funds to construct improvements to the roof of the former Arvin Building; and

THAT, THE CITY OF FAYETTE will provide the required 30% of local matching funds required, which will be provided by Phifer Wire in support of this project.

READ AND ADOPTED this the 27th day of April 2021.

THE CITY OF FAYETTE:

By: _____
Rod Northam, Mayor

Attest:

Dawn Clapp, City Clerk

Councilmember Nichols moved the Council adopt Resolution 2021-04. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Whiteside, the same was unanimously adopted.

PARADE PERMIT

Mayor Northam presented to the Council a request for a parade permit for the March for Jesus to be held on May 15, 2021. Councilmember Whiteside moved the permit be granted. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe, the same was unanimously approved

FREEDOM FIBER EASEMENT FOR CONNECTION POINT AT OLD INDUSTRIAL PARK

Mayor Northam stated Freedom Fiber had requested the City consider granting them an easement at the old Industrial Park for a connection point for their fiber optic cable. The connection point would be similar to the one located at the Youth Center. Councilmember Campbell moved to proceed with granting an easement to Freedom Fiber for the connection point. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Nichols, the same was unanimously approved.

REPORT ON BUSINESS LICENSE

Mayor Northam reviewed with the Council the justification for moving the business license collections back in-house. He gave the Council the following report:

AVENU

Current Avenu Fees = \$18,000
2021 – 819 Business License – Net Tax Paid = \$147,000
2020 – 1253 Business License – Net Tax Paid = \$224,000
Current Gap = 425 Business Licenses = \$77,000

CITY OF FAYETTE

Addition of 1 full time employee (Receptionist)
Software Expense: Year 1 = \$5,300, Year 2 = 1,800
Estimated Wages and Benefits Increase = \$33,000
Cost Increase = \$20,000
Additional Business Licenses needed to offset increase = 110

Mayor Northam said the net difference between AVENU collecting the business licenses and the City collecting the business licenses is \$20,000.00. He said this could be offset by the City making sure every business in the City has a business license. He stated the Council would need to be ready to make a decision in June because the contract with AVENU expires in October. Councilmember Williams moved the Council proceed with having the City collect its own business license fees using City staff. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe, the same was unanimously approved.

COVID-19 LEAVE POLICY REVIEW

Mayor Northam reviewed with the Council the Covid-19 Leave Policy. Mayor Northam stated no employee is currently on Covid-19 leave. Councilmember Nichols stated he was in favor of rescinding the policy now. Councilmember Hughes-Monroe stated she was more comfortable leaving the policy in place until July. It was the consensus of the Council to continue the policy to the end of the original six month period, which would be the end of June.

RUBBISH CONTRACT WITH HARMONY LANE APARTMENTS

Mayor Northam presented to the Council for their consideration a rubbish contract between the City and Harmony Lane Apartments. The contract provides for the City to pick up rubbish at Harmony Lane Apartments once a week for a monthly fee of \$75.00. Councilmember Williams moved the Council authorize the Mayor, on behalf of the City, to enter into the contract with Harmony Lane Apts. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe, the same was unanimously approved.

RESOLUTION 2021-03

Mayor Northam presented Resolution 2021-03 to the Council for their consideration. Resolution 2021-03 is as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-03

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE MUNICIPAL WATER POLLUTION PREVENTION PROGRAM ANNUAL REPORT, BEING AN EXAMINATION OF THE CITY OF FAYETTE WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANT.

WHEREAS, the 2020 Annual Report required by the Alabama Department of Environmental Management of the City of Fayette Municipal Water Pollution Prevention Program has been submitted; and,

WHEREAS, the report has been reviewed by the Mayor and Council; and,

WHEREAS, no action is required to be taken which is necessary to maintain effluent requirements contained in the NPDES Permit;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Fayette as follows:

1. That said MWPP Annual Report be accepted and approved by the Council; and,
2. A copy of said Annual Report is ordered to be filed with the minutes of this meeting.

DONE this the _____ day of April 2021.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Councilmember Campbell moved the Council adopt Resolution 2021-03. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Whiteside, the same was unanimously adopted

MAYOR'S MID-YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT

Mayor Northam presented the Council with the City's Mid-Year Financial Report.

Reserves and Cash Balances as of March 31, 2021

Reserves

\$862,164.70	West Alabama Bank CD	Unrestricted
\$550,388.88	West Alabama Bank Savings	Unrestricted
\$492,941.95	WW Operating Account	Restricted
\$417,621.05	Alabama Power CD	General Fund backup – Unrestricted
\$347,573.70	Citizens Bank CD	Unrestricted
\$309,112.60	Rental Property Tax	Unrestricted
\$244,589.36	Airport funds	Unrestricted
\$236,644.68	FMC Appropriation	Restricted
\$231,967.05	Savings – AL Credit Union	Unrestricted
\$206,302.59	Cigarette Tax	Unrestricted
\$149,304.82	State Gas Tax/ W AL Bank	Restricted
\$126,673.04	Alcohol Tax	Restricted to paving projects
\$112,938.42	Capital Improvement	Restricted for Capital needs
\$112,701.67	Customer Deposits	Restricted
\$109,922.83	Aquatic Park	Restricted
\$108,141.09	Gasoline Tax/ W AL Bank	Restricted
\$102,550.77	Park & Recreation/Earl McDonald	Restricted
\$ 85,157.73	Christmas in the Park	Restricted
\$ 40,029.24	Gasoline Tax 6-2-2	Restricted
\$ 33,218.00	Municipal Court	Restricted
\$ 15,102.59	Capital Equipment Fund	Restricted to Capital Equipment
\$ 10,148.50	Fire Department	Restricted
\$ 8,215.21	Leadership Fayette County	Restricted
\$ 5,583.74	Beautification Project	Restricted (Grant)
\$ 3,977.01	Old Fashioned Christmas	Restricted (Grant)

\$4,922,971.42 – subtotal

Cash balances

\$639,246.88	General Fund	Unrestricted
\$284,384.88	Grants, Bonds, Notes	Restricted
<u>\$ 93,785.90</u>	Other General Funds & PARA	Unrestricted

\$1,017,417.66 – subtotal

\$5,940,389.08 – TOTAL OF RESERVES AND CASH BALANCES AS OF MARCH 31, 2021

General Fund Note Payments Each Month

\$8,610.55	Aquatic Park Bond Payment
\$4,511.29	AmFund Bond/IP Property & PO \$319,456
\$3,933.00	Loader Citizens Bank Balance \$51,859.10
\$2,700.00	Garbage Truck Citizens Bank \$150,864.41
<u>\$2,550.00</u>	Excavator Citizens Bank \$141,120.95
\$22,304.84	Total General Fund Notes per Month

Reserve Fund Note Payments Each Month

\$7,948.20	WW Facility/Bond Payment WW \$2,405,000
\$7,000.00	Paving Note WAB \$160,392.26
\$14,948.20	Total Reserve Fund Notes per Month

Average Monthly Note Payments (General Fund & Reserve Fund) Total - \$37,253.04

Sales Tax 2020- 2021

October	\$297,438.00
November	\$301,173.00
December	\$298,218.00
January	\$354,656.00
February	\$298,996.00
March	\$267,967.00
Totals	\$1,818,448.00

Alcohol Taxes 2020-2021

October	\$10,366.00
November	\$13,235.00
December	\$7,746.00
January	\$3,077.00
February	\$12,455.00
March	\$99.00
Totals	\$46,978.00

FMC

\$38,620.00
\$39,089.00
\$39,155.00
\$46,573.00
\$37,747.00
\$34,475.00
\$235,659.00

REPORT OF MAYOR

Mayor Northam announced the following new businesses have opened in Fayette: FC Nutrition and the Veterans Affairs Clinic (the VA clinic will be located in the clinic across from the hospital).

Mayor Northam stated Mr. Kyle Taylor was a new employee in the Park & Recreation Dept.

Mayor Northam stated Spring Cleanup Day is Saturday, May 1st.

Mayor Northam stated the "All for Him" performance would take place on Tuesday, April 25th and Wednesday, April 26th at the Civic Center.

Mayor Northam stated a Young Artist Exhibit would be held at the Civic Center on May 2nd.

Mayor Northam stated the Sipsey Art Alliance would have a pop up event on May 8, 2021.

Mayor Northam reported 3,100 people in Fayette County have now been completely vaccinated.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilmember Whiteside moved the Council go into executive session for the purpose of discussing the consideration the City is willing to offer for the purchase of certain real property and also to discuss with their attorney the legal ramifications of and legal options for controversies not yet being litigated but imminently likely to be litigated. The City Attorney stated this exception was applicable to the planned discussion. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe, it was unanimously approved.

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

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk