

City Hall  
Fayette, Alabama  
December 28, 2021

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Fayette met at 5:00 o'clock, p.m. on December 28, 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 and Jerry Nichols. Also present were City Clerk Dawn Clapp, City Attorney Dale Lawrence, Police Chief Danny Jenkins, Street Superintendent Marty Weeks and Waste Water Superintendent Matt Buckner. Councilmember Aliska Hughes-Monroe was absent.

The opening prayer was given by Mr. Kelcey Hale.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Kelcey Hale.

Mayor 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 work session held on December 14, 2021, be approved. Upon it being seconded by Councilmember Whiteside, it was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Whiteside moved the minutes of the regular meeting held on December 14, 2021, be approved. Upon it being seconded by Councilmember Williams, it was unanimously approved.

#### REPLACEMENT OF GUTHRIE SMITH PARK AND HIGHWAY 159 LIFT STATIONS

Waste Water Superintendent Matt Buckner reported to the Council on the problems with the Guthrie Smith Park lift station. The pump at the lift station quit working on December 14<sup>th</sup>. It was determined the impellor was broken. Mr. Buckner contacted Fayette Drain & Sewer to pump out the wet well. He said another problem was the infiltration of ground water into the line. He recommended the line between the lift station and the National Guard armory be replaced. He recommended using Porter-Higginbotham Engineering to do the design for the new lift station at a cost of \$11,000.00. He estimated the cost of the new lift station would be \$150,000.00.

Mr. Buckner said the lift station on Highway 159 also needed to be replaced but the Guthrie Smith Park lift station should be replaced first. He stated the \$11,000.00 design fee only included the design for the Guthrie Smith Park lift station not for the new sewer line. He estimated \$33,000.00 had been spent on repairing the two lift stations. This amount included the cost of pumping out the wet wells.

After a general discussion, Councilmember Nichols moved the Council contract with Porter-Higginbotham Engineering to do the design work for both lift stations and for the funds for the design work and replacement of the lift stations to come from the American Rescue Act funds. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Whiteside, the same was unanimously approved.

#### STORM WATER DRAINAGE

1. Community Center: Street Superintendent Marty Weeks stated the storm water drainage pipe and water box at the old tennis court near the community center had collapsed in areas and was on the verge of collapsing in other areas. He said a new pipe and water box would have to be installed. He estimated the cost of a new water box and running a 36" pipe approximately 210 feet from the concrete flume ditch to 6<sup>th</sup> Street SE would cost \$10,000.00. Councilmember Campbell moved to proceed with replacing the water box and pipe. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Nichols, the same was unanimously approved.

2. Mostiller Property: Street Superintendent Marty Weeks stated the storm drain pipe on the Mostiller property was a 12" concrete pipe. He said it runs for approximately 130 feet. He said he would use the camera in the pipe to see if it could be repaired in spots or if needed to be completely replaced.

#### FISCAL YEAR ACCOUNT BALANCES

Mayor Northam provided the Council with the City's end of fiscal year account balances. The report was as follows:

**Reserves and Cash Balances as of September 30, 2021**

**Reserves**

\$902,424.89	West Alabama Bank Savings	Unrestricted
\$862,164.70	West Alabama Bank CD	Unrestricted
\$507,668.17	Covid Rescue Act	Restricted
\$503,025.85	WW Operating Account	Restricted
\$450,875.81	FMC Appropriation	Restricted
\$417,621.05	Alabama Power CD	General Fund backup – Unrestricted
\$347,573.70	Citizens Bank CD	Unrestricted
\$321,025.05	Rental Property Tax	Unrestricted
\$247,715.20	Airport funds	Unrestricted
\$232,126.09	Cigarette Tax	Unrestricted
\$175,223.31	State Gas Tax/ W AL Bank	Restricted
\$164,817.02	Savings – AL Credit Union	Unrestricted
\$162,936.12	Capital Improvement	Restricted for Capital needs
\$140,961.46	Gasoline Tax/ W AL Bank	Restricted
\$113,794.65	Customer Deposits	Restricted
\$109,922.83	Aquatic Park	Restricted
\$103,303.57	Park & Recreation/Earl McDonald	Restricted
\$101,931.10	Alcohol Tax	Restricted to paving projects
\$ 66,975.39	Christmas in the Park	Restricted
\$ 33,218.20	Municipal Court	Restricted
\$ 32,765.19	Gasoline Tax 6-2-2	Restricted
\$ 17,884.22	Capital Equipment Fund	Restricted to Capital Equipment
\$ 8,215.21	Leadership Fayette County	Restricted
\$ 6,893.84	Fire Department	Restricted
\$ 3,083.61	Old Fashioned Christmas	Restricted (Grant)
\$ 712.79	Beautification Project	Restricted (Grant)

**\$6,034,859.02** – subtotal

**Cash balances**

\$863,297.75	General Fund	Unrestricted
\$271,729.49	Grants, Bonds, Notes	Restricted
\$ 58,894.60	Other General Funds & PARA	Unrestricted
<b>\$1,193,921.84</b>	– subtotal	

**\$7,228,780.86** – TOTAL OF RESERVES AND CASH BALANCES AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2021

**General Fund Note Payments Each Month**

\$11,334.19	Aquatic Park Bond Payment
\$4,426.97	AmFund Bond/IP Property & PO \$251,667
\$ 0.00	Loader Citizens Bank Balance \$0
\$2,700.00	Garbage Truck Citizens Bank \$134,664.41
\$2,550.00	Excavator Citizens Bank \$125,820.95
<b>\$21,011.16</b>	<b>Total General Fund Notes per Month</b>

**Reserve Fund Note Payments Each Month**

\$10,462.34	WW Facility/Bond Payment WW \$2,307,028
\$7,000.00	Paving Note WAB \$121,759.19
<b>\$17,462.34</b>	<b>Total Reserve Fund Notes per Month</b>

**Average Monthly Note Payments (General Fund & Reserve Fund) Total - \$38,473.50**

**Sales Tax 2020- 2021**

1 <sup>st</sup> Half	\$1,818,448
April	\$354,996
May	\$345,739
June	\$324,850
July	\$320,978
August	\$313,268
September	\$316,893
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$3,795,172</b>

**Alcohol Taxes 2020-2021**

\$46,978
\$7,448
\$12,400
\$3,329
\$9,035
\$11,656
\$8,358
<b>\$99,205</b>

**FMC**

\$235,659
\$46,193
\$44,414
\$42,179
\$40,861
\$40,484
\$41,394
<b>\$491,184</b>



### CITY FINANCIALS

Mayor Northam reviewed with the Council the financials for the City, Municipal Court, Waste Water Treatment and Park & Recreation.

### REPORT OF MAYOR

Mayor Northam stated for the last seven days, Fayette County's COVID positivity rate was 8.9%.

Mayor Northam stated there are three new businesses in town – Cricket Wireless; MG Chic Boutique and the Chic-fil-A food truck.

Mayor Northam reported the November unemployment rate for Fayette County was 2.8%.

Mayor Northam stated the committee established to review the City's boards had met. He requested all councilmembers provide him with names to be considered for the vacancies on the boards.

Mayor Northam stated that "Christmas at the Park" was 1.8% below where they were last year.

### REPORT OF COUNCILMEMBER WILLIAMS

Councilmember Williams expressed appreciation for the employees who worked the holidays collecting garbage.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilmember Whiteside moved the Council go into executive session 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 Nichols, it was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Williams moved the Council come out of executive session. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Campbell, 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 Williams and seconded by Councilmember Campbell, it was unanimously approved.

---

Mayor

Attest:

---

City Clerk