

City Hall
Fayette, Alabama
February 8, 2022

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Fayette met at 5:00 o'clock, p.m. on February 8, 2022, 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, Police Chief Danny Jenkins, Fire Chief Shannon Taylor and City Attorney Dale Lawrence.

The opening prayer was given by Michael Tyree.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Peyton Savage.

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 regular meeting held on January 25, 2022, be approved. Upon it being seconded by Councilmember Whiteside, it was unanimously approved.

RESOLUTION 2022-02

Mayor Northam presented Resolution 2022-02 to the Council for their consideration. Resolution 2022-02 is as follows:

RESOLUTION 2022-02 A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A POLICE OFFICER'S PISTOL AND BADGE AS PART OF THE RETIREMENT BENEFITS AWARDED TO AN OFFICER UPON RETIREMENT.

WHEREAS, the City of Fayette has determined that it would be appropriate to award a retiring police officer his pistol and badge as part of the police officer's retirement benefits provided the retiring officer has at least ten years of service with the City's Police Department.

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

That a retiring police officer shall be awarded his or her pistol and badge as part of his or her retirement benefits provided the retiring officer has at least ten years of service with the City's Police Department.

That this additional retirement benefit shall be effective as of January 1, 2022.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED by the City Council of the City of Fayette, Alabama, on this 8th day of February, 2022.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Councilmember Nichols moved the Council adopt Resolution 2022-02. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Whiteside, the same was unanimously approved.

RECOGNITION OF ASSISTANT CHIEF JOHN UNDERWOOD

Police Chief Jenkins recognized Assistant Chief John Underwood who was retiring and thanked him for his 27 years of service to the City. Chief Jenkins presented him with his badge and weapon.

JUNIOR CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Northam introduced the members of the Junior City Council that were present. There are total of fifteen members.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Police Chief Danny Jenkins presented the police report for January 2022. The report was as follows: 23 incidents investigated; 19 accidents; 166 traffic citations; 155 traffic warnings and 37 arrests.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Fire Chief Shannon Taylor presented the fire report for January 2022. The Fire Department received 20 calls.

PROPOSALS TO ADDRESS THE COSTS OF PUMPING OUT THE WET WELL

Mayor Northam reported the pumping out of the wet well at the lift station in Guthrie Smith Park was costing the City around \$10,000.00 per month. He said after some research a used pumper truck would cost approximately \$75,000.00. He said another option was to lease a sewer pump for \$3,200.00 per month. He said there would be some expense in tying the leased pump into the force main.

Councilmember Williams moved the City lease a sewer pump from Sunbelt Rentals for one month. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Nichols, it was unanimously approved.

STREET PAVING PROPOSAL

Mayor Northam presented the street paving proposal to the Council for their review and input. He asked them to drive around their wards to see what streets they think should be a priority. The portions of the streets being considered for paving are: 2nd Avenue NW, 15th Street NW, 16th Street NW, 16th Street NE and a portion of the drive in Guthrie Smith Park from the sign to the playground. The estimate for the cost of the paving is \$263,441.00. Councilmember Nichols suggested all of 16th Street NE be paved.

RESOLUTION 2022-01

Mayor Northam presented Resolution 2022-01 to the Council for their consideration. Resolution 2022-01 is as follows:

RESOLUTION 2022-01 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING GOODWYN, MILLS & CAWOOD TO PERFORM ENGINEERING AND PLANNING SERVICES AT THE RICHARD ARTHUR FIELD AIRPORT.

WHEREAS, the City of Fayette has publicized a Request for Qualifications for consultant services for a 5-year period for the Richard Arthur Field Airport.

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

That the City of Fayette has selected Goodwyn, Mills & Cawood to perform engineering and planning services for the Richard Arthur Field Airport for a period of 5-years. This selection was based on qualifications and experience. Statements of Qualifications were received in response to statewide newspaper solicitation.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED by the City Council of the City of Fayette, Alabama, on this 8th day of February, 2022.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Councilmember Whiteside moved the Council adopt Resolution 2022-01. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Nichols, the same was unanimously approved.

MERIT PAY INCREASE FOR EMPLOYEES

Mayor Northam reported that Street and Sanitation Supervisor Marty Weeks had recommended Russell Edge be approved for a merit pay increase. Councilmember Nichols moved to approve the merit raise for Russell Edge. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Whiteside, it was unanimously approved.

Mayor Northam reported Maintenance Supervisor Joey Byars had recommended Corey Baker be approved for a merit pay increase. Councilmember Hughes-Monroe moved to approve the merit raise for Corey Baker. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Campbell, it was unanimously approved.

CITY BUSINESS LICENSE REPORT

Mayor Northam gave a report on business license collections. His report was as follows: For 2020, 1253 license were sold netting \$224,000.00; For 2021, 819 license were sold netting \$147,000.00. For 2022, 866 license were sold netting \$214,652.00. Also, for 2022, 678 licenses were delinquent.

TIMBER AT INDUSTRIAL PARK

Mayor Northam reported on the timber at the Industrial Park. He stated timber prices were up now and he had received a quote on the different tracts the City owned.

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Councilmember Campbell moved the City's financial statement be approved. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Williams, the same was unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF MUNICIPAL COURT FINANCIAL STATEMENT

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

REPORT OF MAYOR

Mayor Northam reported there had been 52 positive Covid test in the past 7 days resulting in a positivity rate of 31.3%.

Mayor Northam announced the new business of EL & EM Learning Center.

Mayor Northam said the City was notified the cost of the grapple truck is now approximately \$184,000.00 which is an increase of \$29,000.00. He stated he was gathering information and would report back at the next meeting.

Mayor Northam stated the leaf truck would stop running at the end of February.

REPORT OF CITY CLERK

City Clerk Dawn Clapp reported for the month of January, the City received \$311,199.49 in non-designated sales tax and the ½¢ sales tax for the hospital generated \$50,780.77 for a combined total of \$361,980.26. She reported the City received \$2,365.48 in alcohol taxes. She also reported the City received \$25,230.22 in online sales tax.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk