

City Hall
Fayette, Alabama
March 22, 2022

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Fayette met at 5:00 o'clock, p.m. on March 22, 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 and City Attorney Dale Lawrence.

The opening prayer was given by Sean White.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Sean White.

Mayor Northam announced a quorum was present and the meeting was open for the transaction of business.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilmember Whiteside moved the minutes of the regular meeting held on March 8, 2022, be approved. Upon it being seconded by Councilmember Nichols, it was unanimously approved.

FAYETTE AQUATIC CENTER IMPROVEMENTS

Mr. Chris Champion reported the Aquatic Center's plan was to have the exposed areas of the water slides jell coated. He said after the slides were jell coated, then they would be repainted. He said the plan was to also have the fourteen supports inspected, address any issues found and then repaint the supports.

Councilmember Hughes-Monroe moved the Council advertise for bids for the improvements to be made at the Fayette Aquatic Center. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Campbell, the same was unanimously approved.

FAYETTE AQUATIC CENTER RECOMMENDATIONS

Mayor Northam stated the Aquatic Center was proposing to increase the lifeguard pay by \$1.00. Also, the price of admission would be increased to \$12.00 for those two years old and up. Senior citizens, military and non-swimmers would be increased to \$8.00. Councilmember Hughes-Monroe moved the Council approve the increases to the admission prices at the Fayette Aquatic Center and the lifeguard pay. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Whiteside, the same was unanimously approved.

ORDINANCE 2022-02 (Junior City Council)

Mayor Northam presented Ordinance 2022-02 to the Council for their consideration. He said this ordinance concerns the establishment of the Junior City Council. Ordinance 2022-02 is as follows:

ORDINANCE NO. 2022-02

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE FAYETTE JUNIOR CITY COUNCIL

WHEREAS, the youth of the City of Fayette are a valuable resource for the future of the City, the State and the Country; and

WHEREAS, the City and the schools serving Fayette students work very well together on projects to cultivate and foster this valuable resource; and

WHEREAS, there is an alternate need to create an environment which would give to the youth of the City opportunities to acquaint themselves with local government, and foster an understanding of municipal law and the functions and operations of cities as well as government in general; and

WHEREAS, in order to continue promoting the youth of the City toward these areas of civic involvement, it is advantageous to formally recognize and officially establish the Fayette Junior City Council (FJCC) which could work with the City Council to add a youth perspective to matters being addressed by the City Council, and through which the City Council could, among other things:

- Receive from the Junior City Council proposals and suggestions,
- Give such proposals and suggestions due consideration for possible action,
- Provide timely feedback to the Junior City Council about the status of such proposals and suggestions, and
- Welcome their testimony and presentations at meetings of the full City Council and its committees regarding proposed proposals and suggestions from the Junior City Council

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Fayette that the Fayette Junior City Council is hereby formally recognized and officially established as a committee of the City of Fayette subject to the following:

Article I:

Name: The name of this organization shall be, henceforth and forever more, the Fayette Junior City Council (herein referred to as the "FJCC").

Article II:

Location: The FJCC is located in Fayette County, Alabama in the City of Fayette and shall meet in City Hall or virtually at least twice a month.

Article III:

Mission: The mission of the Fayette Junior City Council is to improve youth civic engagement and outreach in the community.

Article IV: Membership

Section 1: Eligibility: Membership shall be open to any person between Ninth (9th) Grade and Twelfth (12th) Grade who attends Fayette County High School or lives in the Fayette community with a reasonable desire and readiness to promote and encourage the objectives put forth in Articles III and IV. All interested and eligible parties may fill out a membership application for consideration of the Board.

Section 2: Selection Criteria: To be appointed a member of the FJCC, applicants must demonstrate interest in the FJCC's mission conveyed in Article III. Applicants must submit an application, complete an interview and attend two FJCC meetings prior to the deadline at the end of May.

Section 3: Numbers: Membership shall be composed of up to fifteen (15) members, including a Junior Mayor, a Junior Mayor Pro Tempore, a Secretary, and Treasurer.

Section 4: Membership: 1 year term of membership, members can serve up to 4 terms.

Section 5: Officer Positions: Members appointed to officer positions will serve a one year term and may run for re-election. To hold an Officer Position (Junior Mayor, Junior Pro-Tempore, Secretary and Treasurer) members must serve at least one year prior and be appointed by a majority of the FJCC members.

Section 6: Mayor: The Mayor of the City of Fayette shall be an honorary member of the FJCC, without voting privileges. This does not count against the FJCC's fifteen (15) official members.

Section 7: Non-Political Involvement: FJCC cannot and will not make any endorsements of a candidate for office (whether that be Mayor, City Council, School SGA elections or any other office) and no member can represent themselves as representing the FJCC in a partisan or contested electoral political campaign.

Section 8: Compensation: No member of the FJCC shall at any time receive compensation for their work as a member of the FJCC.

Section 9: Target Composition: FJCC's goal is to be able to create representation including all young citizens no matter their school whether it be Fayette County High School, Fayette Christian Academy, or homeschool.

Section 10: Attendance: FJCC will be required to attend all meetings unless they have an excuse such as illness, emergencies or other engagements. Members must alert the Junior Mayor, Junior Mayor Pro-Tempore, or the Mayor.

A. Any member who has 3 unexcused absences will be alerted that by missing another meeting they are putting themselves up for a membership vote by the FJCC.

B. Must alert by any form of communication, texting, call or contact the group chat five hours before an official meeting starts.

Article V: Membership Duties

Section 1: Duties of All Members: All members may vote at FJCC meetings. Members must maintain a good reputation in the community at large and abide by the mission and vision of FJCC.

Section 2: Committees: Committees can be comprised of any student working in conjunction with an FJCC member. Citizens from seventh grade and up may serve on a committee. Citizens must follow the rules of respect and work as a team.

Section 3: Sub-Committees: The Junior Mayor may create a sub-committee at any time made up of FJCC members to deal with any item or issue.

Section 4: Communication: All group communication, whether in person or online, should be respectful and professional at all times, including social media accounts for FJCC.

- Disrespectful comments and unprofessionalism will be reported to the Mayor.

Article VI: Officers

Section 1: Officer Duties: Officers shall have the power to conduct, manage, and control the affairs of the FJCC. Officer terms may last one (1) year, beginning in August.

Section 2: Eligibility: The Junior Mayor must have one year of experience before running for the position of Junior Mayor.

Section 3: Composition: The elected officers shall consist of the Junior Mayor, Junior Mayor Pro-Tempore, Secretary and Treasurer.

Section 4: Junior Mayor: The Junior Mayor, or the officer next in line, shall preside at all meetings of the FJCC. The Junior Mayor, and only the Junior Mayor, shall sign as Junior Mayor of the City of Fayette, all certificates of membership and all contracts and other instruments. The Junior Mayor will lead FJCC meetings and will set the agenda for said meetings.

A. Shall designate subcommittees for individual projects or issues and appoint a chair and co-chair, if needed, and members.

B. If the Junior Mayor is unable to attend a meeting, their duties will fall, in order to:

- The Junior Mayor Pro Tempore
- Secretary
- Treasurer

Section 5: Secretary: The Secretary shall keep records of all FJCC meetings, keep the membership book showing the name of each member and contact information, and sign, where required, all corporate papers in communion with the Junior Mayor.

Section 6: Treasurer: The Treasurer shall be the custodian of all funds of the FJCC, distributing such funds with the permission and guidance of the FJCC's Junior Mayor or the Mayor of Fayette.

Article VII: Meetings

Section 1: Regular Meetings: Regular meetings will be held at Fayette City Hall or on a virtual platform at least biweekly, though emergency meetings may be called at other public locations. Other individuals may attend FJCC meetings with no voting privileges and can be a part of committees. In order to speak at meetings, the individual must inform the Junior Mayor one week in advance.

Section 2: Special Meetings: Special meetings of members may be called at any time by the vote of a three-fourths majority of the Officers or upon petition to the secretary by one-fifth of the members. At special meetings of the members, only such business as stated in the call for such meeting shall be transacted.

Section 3: Quorum: At least half of the members of the FJCC must be present to conduct business.

Article VIII: Amendments: These bylaws may be altered or amended at any meeting or by any meeting called for that purpose, by vote of a majority of a quorum at the meeting duly called. The assent of the majority of the membership effectual to repeal or amend any by-law or to adopt additional bylaws without the necessity of a formal membership meeting.

A. The Bylaws shall be reviewed and revised at least once a year, in January, unless decided otherwise. Bylaws will be reviewed in the first meeting and a vote will take place at the second meeting. Modification of the Bylaws must be approved by a two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) vote at a meeting.

Article IX: Rules: The standard rule of meetings will be those set by Robert's Rules of Order.

Article X: Dissolution: The issue to dissolve the FJCC must be presented to the membership, officers, and active members in a regular meeting. The decision to dissolve will be determined by a majority vote of the membership. Upon dissolution, all records of business transactions related to FJCC will become property of the City of Fayette.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED on this the 22nd day of March, 2022.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Councilmember Hughes-Monroe moved the Council unanimously consent to consider Ordinance 2022-02. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Nichols, it was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Nichols moved the Council adopt Ordinance 2022-02. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe, the same was unanimously adopted.

JUNIOR CITY COUNCIL FUNDING REQUEST

Junior Mayor Shanti Enis requested the Junior City Council receive funding in the amount of \$1,000.00. She said this money would be used to sponsor a monthly event for the City's youth. She said they also planned to do fund raising in order to provide for additional funds.

Councilmember Nichols moved the Council provide \$1,000.00 to the Junior City Council. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Whiteside, the same was unanimously approved.

BIDS FOR PAVING PROJECT

Mayor Northam reported to the Council that two bids had been received for the City's paving project. The bids were as follows: (1) S.T. Bunn Construction Company - \$280,703.75; and, (2) Central Alabama Asphalt and Contracting - \$281,029.00. Mayor Northam recommended the Council accept the lowest bid. Councilmember Whiteside 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 City's paving project to the lowest responsible bidder, S.T. Bunn Construction Company in the amount of \$280,703.75.

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

DELEGATES FOR THE LEAGUE OF MUNICIPALITIES CONFERENCE

Mayor Northam stated the Council needed to designate a voting delegate and an alternate delegate for the League of Municipalities conference. Councilmember Campbell moved Mayor Northam be the designated the voting delegate and Councilmember Eddy Campbell be designated as the alternate delegate. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Nichols, it was unanimously approved.

PAY INCREASE FOR STREET & SANITATION DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES

Mayor Northam stated to the Council he had promoted Mr. Claude Sudduth to a Grade 1, Step 2 worker which would result in him receiving a 54¢ per hour increase. He asked for the Council to approve the increase in Mr. Sudduth's hourly rate. Councilmember Hughes-Monroe moved the Council approve a pay increase of 54¢ per hour for Mr. Claude Sudduth. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Nichols, the same was unanimously approved.

ABATEMENT OF NUISANCES

Mayor Northam reported the Police Chief had determined 57 properties were not in compliance with the City's nuisance ordinance. Councilmember Whiteside moved the City proceed with the nuisance process. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Nichols, it was unanimously approved.

FRANCHISE AGREEMENT WITH TOMBIGBEE ELECTRIC

Mayor Northam stated the City was working on a franchise agreement with Tombigbee Electric Cooperative.

PARADE PERMIT

Mayor Northam reported a request for a parade permit for the "Market on Main" event for April 23, 2022, had been received. Councilmember Nichols moved the request for permit be granted. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe, the same was unanimously approved.

RAILS TO TRAILS GRANT UPDATE

Mayor Northam reported on the City's grant application for \$400,000.00 for the Rails to Trails Project. He stated the City had been awarded a grant in the amount of \$210,000.00. He said the City had to let ADECA know by Friday if the grant funds would be used. He stated he would inquire as to whether the scope of work could be reduced so the Council could stay within the \$100,000.00 it had allocated for

the project in its budget. If it couldn't be modified, it was the consensus of the Council to return the grant funds.

SET FOR PUBLIC HEARING

Councilmember Nichols moved to set a public hearing for April 12, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. concerning the request to transfer the alcohol license held by Fowler Oil Co., Inc., to Shreeji 428, Inc. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe, the same was unanimously approved.

SPECIAL MEETING

Mayor Northam stated a special meeting would be held on March 28, 2022, at 4:00 p.m. to award the bid on the Civic Center carpet project and the Street & Sanitation building project.

REVIEW OF FINANCIALS

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

REPORT OF MAYOR

Mayor Northam reported there were two new businesses in the City – Petty Cleaning Services and Sanford Tile and Shower.

Mayor Northam announced Spring Cleanup Day is April 9, 2022.

Mayor Northam announced the Community Easter Egg Hunt will be held April 10, 2022.

Mayor Northam stated Job Shadow Day is April 14, 2022.

Mayor Northam announced Market on Main will be held on April 23, 2022.

REPORT OF COUNCILMEMBER HUGHES-MONROE

Councilmember Hughes-Monroe stated Park & Recreation baseball and softball seasons open on April 4, 2022.

REPORT OF COUNCILMEMBER NICHOLS

Councilmember Nichols commended the Police Department's professionalism for handling some recent situations.

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 Campbell, it was unanimously approved.

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk