

City Hall
Fayette, Alabama
November 7, 2022

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Fayette met at 5:00 o'clock, p.m. on November 7, 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 and Jerry Nichols. Also present were City Clerk Dawn Clapp, Police Chief Danny Jenkins, Fire Chief Shannon Taylor, Waste Water Superintendent Matt Buckner and City Attorney Dale Lawrence. Councilmember Aliska Hughes-Monroe was absent.

The opening prayer was given by Mr. Donald Jones.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Donald Jones.

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 October 25, 2022, be approved. Upon it being seconded by Councilmember Whiteside, it was unanimously approved.

FAYETTE MEDICAL CENTER PROJECT

Mr. Donald Jones, Administrator of the Fayette Medical Center updated the Council on the projects that the ½ cent sales tax from the City would be funding.

Mr. Jones said the Fayette Medical Center administration and Fayette Hospital Board propose to use the 2022 tax proceeds to make continued building improvements in the nursing home area (Long Term Care). He said the improvements would include setting the air handling units and renovating twelve resident rooms on the 400 and 500 halls of the nursing home. Also, the improvements would include removal of old wall units in each resident room and incorporating centralized HVAC which would increase the useable square footage in each room. He said new interior duct work would bring conditioned, much improved filtered air to the residents. He stated the air handler units are equipped with UV light, which is an infection control measure and extremely advantageous to the air quality for residents and staff. He said the new flooring, ceilings, walls, and finishes would modernize this area of the nursing home.

Mr. Jones stated the estimate of the proposed work in Fiscal Year 2023 is \$1,100,000.00. He said the ½ cent sales tax proceeds from 2021 (\$491,185.00) would be combined with the ½ cent sales tax proceeds from 2022 to pay for the improvements to the facility.

For fiscal year 2022, the Fayette Hospital Board will receive \$541,680.97 for capital improvements at the Fayette Medical Center. Mayor Northam and the Council presented the check in the amount of \$541,680.97 to the Fayette Hospital Board Chairman Charles Brandon and Fayette Medical Center Administrator Don Jones.

AQUATIC PARK CONFERENCE REPORT

Mr. Chris Champion reported on the information he had received at the three day Aquatic Park conference he recently attended. He reported there was one day concerning aquatic park maintenance. He said he spoke to some companies at the conference about their ideas for a new feature at the Fayette Aquatic Center. He said one of the ideas was to build a larger kids area. He also discussed new concession items with some of the companies at the conference. He said he would like to have a small portable building to sell items like goggles, pool diapers and maybe some souvenir items. He also spoke with a company that provides location specific weather forecasts.

Mayor Northam asked Mr. Champion to get some quotes and more information concerning a new feature. He asked Mr. Champion to be prepared to make a report to the Council at a work session in early January.

WASTE WATER TREATMENT VALVE EMERGENCY REPAIR

Waste Water Superintendent Matt Buckner reported a valve needed to be repaired immediately at the Waste Water plant. He said this was an emergency situation and asked the Council to take action as

soon as possible. He said he had two quotes from companies concerning the replacement of the valve, gaskets and some other items. The estimates were from \$25,000.00 - \$31,000.00.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Police Chief Danny Jenkins presented the police report for October 2022. The report was as follows: 36 incidents investigated; 14 accidents; 64 traffic citations; 29 traffic warnings and 73 arrests.

VEHICLE ABATEMENTS

Police Chief Danny Jenkins reported on the response to the abatement of vehicles. He reported that the following properties were still not compliant:

- 734 8th Street SE
- 721 8th Street SE
- 415 Temple Avenue South
- 3rd Street SE behind the Train Depot/Texaco
- 629 1st Street SW
- 820 6th Street SW
- 808 2nd Way SW
- 211 11th Street SW
- 135 11th Street SW
- 812 21st Street SW
- 466 4th Street NW
- 826 3rd Avenue NW
- 338 19th Street NW

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Fire Chief Shannon Taylor presented the fire report for October 2022. The Fire Department received 21 calls.

WATER BOARD SEWER BILLING CONTRACT

Mayor Northam reported the cost analysis and breakdown for the Fayette Water Works Board to provide the billing and receiving service to the City of Fayette in 2022 is as follows:

- Total Labor Costs for Employees to perform Sewer Related items: \$2,063.36
- Meter Cost share per month: \$212.26
- Office Supply and Technology cost per month: \$293.92
- Total Current Billing supplies cost: \$338.35
- Total costs for the Fayette Water Works Board to provide Sewer Billing and Administrative service for the City of Fayette in 2022: \$2,907.89 per month.

Mayor Northam said under the contract with the Water Work Board, the City would pay \$1.50 per bill that has an active sewer account. The contract is for three years. There are approximately 1,800 active sewer accounts. Councilmember Nichols said he felt the contract was a waste of money. Councilmember Campbell said the Water Works Board was doing the job for the City.

Councilmember Campbell moved the Council approve the contract with the Water Works Board as presented. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Williams, the following vote was taken:

AYES: Mayor Northam, Councilmembers Whiteside, Campbell and Williams
NAYS: Councilmember Nichols

Mayor Northam stated the motion passed.

FAYETTE HOUSING AUTHORITY BOARD RESIGNATION

Mayor Northam stated Fayette Housing Authority (FHA) Commissioner Sharon Wilson Morgan had resigned from the board. He thanked Ms. Morgan for her service on the FHA Board. Her current term expires on January 14, 2023. He recommended Ms. Regina Nall be appointed to the Fayette Housing Authority Board.

PARADE PERMIT

Mayor Northam presented a request for Parade Permit for the Veterans Christmas Tree Lighting to be held on November 14th. Councilmember Nichols moved to grant the parade permit. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Whiteside, the same was unanimously approved.

PARADE PERMIT

Mayor Northam presented a request for Parade Permit for the Old Fashion Christmas to be held on December 1st. Councilmember Campbell moved to grant the parade permit. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Williams, the same was unanimously approved.

PARADE PERMIT

Mayor Northam presented a request for Parade Permit for the Christmas Parade to be held on December 5th. Councilmember Whiteside moved to grant the parade permit. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Williams, the same was unanimously approved.

EMPLOYEE HERBICIDE CERTIFICATION BY EMPLOYEES

Mayor Northam stated four employees had completed their training and received certification in herbicide and insecticide. The employees are Mr. Russell Edge, Mr. Claude Sudduth, Street Superintendent Marty Weeks and Park & Recreation Director Lance Holliman. Mayor Northam recommended a one step increase for each of the employees. Councilmember Nichols moved the four employees receive a one-step increase. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Williams, the same was unanimously approved.

DRAINAGE DITCH REPAIR

Mayor Northam reported on the repair of the retaining wall in Jones Spring Branch near its intersection with US Highway 43. He said the City was proposing to install fifty feet of pipe to correct the problem. The estimated cost is \$6,500.00. Councilmember Whiteside made a motion the City proceed with the placement of the fifty feet of pipe at a cost of \$6,500.00. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Campbell, the same was unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Councilmember Campbell moved the City's financial statement be approved. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Nichols, 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 Whiteside 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 said Friday, November 11th is Veterans Day and garbage would be collected on its normal schedule.

Mayor Northam said Officer Keonte Brent would graduate from the Police Academy on November 16th.

Mayor Northam stated the Veterans Tree Lighting would be held on November 14th.

Mayor Northam stated "Christmas at the Park" would be held November 24th – December 31st.

REPORT OF CITY CLERK

City Clerk Dawn Clapp reported for the month of October, the City received \$273,859.44 in non-designated sales tax and the ½¢ sales tax for the hospital generated \$45,412.77 for a combined total of \$319,272.21. She reported the City received \$7,821.91 in alcohol taxes. She also reported the City received \$23,852.40 in online sales tax.

[A recess was taken at this time.]

RESOLUTION 2022-18

Mayor Northam presented Resolution 2022-18 to the Council for their consideration. Resolution 2022-18 is as follows:

**RESOLUTION 2022-18
A RESOLUTION DECLARING EXISTENCE OF EMERGENCY
WHEREIN IMMEDIATE REPAIRS ARE NEEDED
AT THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT**

WHEREAS, the pumps are an integral part of the City’s waste water treatment facility; and,
WHEREAS, without the pumps the Wastewater Treatment Plant will be unable to perform its functions; and,

WHEREAS, the breakdown of a pump effects public health and safety and any delay in replacing it is a danger to public health and safety; and,

WHEREAS, an emergency exists due to the probable breakdown of the influent pumps at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

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

1. That an emergency exists which affects public health and safety due to the probable breakdown of influent pumps due to integral parts of the pumps needing to be immediately repaired or replaced at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

2. That its breakdown jeopardizes the operation of the Wastewater Treatment Plant and therefore, creates a danger to public health and safety.

3. That the repair of said pumps are paramount and any delay would create further danger to the public health and safety.

4. That the pumps should be repaired immediately and the Council hereby authorizes the Mayor to have the pumps repaired.

DONE this the 7th day of November, 2022.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Councilmember Whiteside moved the Council adopt Resolution 2022-18. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Williams, it 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 Whiteside, it was unanimously approved.

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk