

City Hall
Fayette, Alabama
April 11, 2023

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Fayette met at 5:00 o'clock, p.m. on April 11, 2023, in the Council Chambers of the City Hall.

Upon roll call the following were found to be present: Mayor Rod Northam, Councilmembers 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, City Attorney Dale Lawrence, Waste Water Superintendent Matt Buckner and Junior City Council Mayor Ben Olive. Councilmember Virettia L. Whiteside was absent.

The opening prayer was given by Mr. John McPeak.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilmember Jerry Nichols.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilmember Hughes-Monroe moved the minutes of the regular meeting held on March 28, 2023, be approved. Upon it being seconded by Councilmember Campbell, it was unanimously approved.

PRESENTATION OF APPROPRIATION TO WEST ALABAMA FOOD BANK

Ms. Jean Rykaczewski of the West Alabama Food Bank spoke to the Council concerning the services they provide. Some of their major programs are the Senior Program, for senior citizens; Secret Meal Program for children; and Mobile Food Pantries to bring food to different areas for citizens to pick up. She stated they serve nine counties. The City's appropriation to the food bank was \$5,000.00 and was to be pursuant to a contract between the City and the West Alabama Food Bank for services to its citizens.

AIRMEDCARE MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Mr. Wes McAden of AirMedCare (AirEvac) spoke to the Council concerning the renewal of the City's Municipal Site Plan with AirMedCare. The renewal amount for the City is \$22,764.00. Mr. McAden stated ten total transports took place in 2022. Councilmember Campbell moved the City renew the contract with AirMedCare for the amount of \$22,764.00. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Williams, the same was unanimously approved.

PROJECT UPDATES

Mr. Luke Porter gave an update on the City's different projects. The updates are as follows:

WWTP Rehab -

- Application approved
- Currently in Design Process
- Target Letting Date: August 2023

Highway 18/171 Intersection Improvement

- Project let on 4/7/23
- Low bid was \$1,566,211.42
- Remaining balance of grant is \$1,615,603.93
- Need a verbal to proceed with project

Councilmember Williams moved to proceed with the bidding process. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Nichols, the same was unanimously approved.

Fayette City Park Pumping Station

- Pump is currently on Contractor's yard in Jasper awaiting the wet well.
- Construction should start the week of May 8th.

Rails to Trails Project

- Design stage is 80% complete
- Target letting date: May 2023

MLK Sidewalk Improvement Project

- Design is 25% complete
- Target letting date: June 2023

SR-159 Pumping Station

- Design is 30% complete
- Target letting date: July 2023

Fayette Commercial Zone Gravity Sewer Relocation Project (SHOWA)

- US Corps of Engineers has approved design
- Target Letting Date: May 2023

ACE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE UPDATE

Mr. Floyd Rogers introduced the Chairman of the ACE Transportation Committee, Ms. Valerie Branyon. The members of the Transportation Committee are Mayor Rod Northam, Councilmember Tommy Williams, Mr. Willie Ivey, Ms. Valerie Branyon and Mr. Floyd Rogers.

Ms. Valerie Branyon stated the committee had been working on the funding for the transportation program. She said ALDOT would fund 80% of the first bus and 100% of the second bus. ALDOT would also provide \$100,000.00 in funding toward the operating cost for the first year and then 50/50 thereafter. ALDOT would also fund 80% of the administration costs.

Ms. Branyon gave the Council a breakdown of the cost to the City for the first three years of operating the proposed transportation program.

Year One: Total startup cost-\$196,698.00. City's portion (purchase of two vans)- \$18,598.00
Total operating cost - \$100,000.00. City's portion of operating cost - \$0.00.
Total administration cost - \$94,057.08. City's portion of admin cost - \$18,811.42.

Total cost to City for Year One - \$37,409.42

Ms. Branyon said the total cost could be reduced by the City providing in-kind services. She estimated the City could provide \$12,350.00 in in kind services to reduce the total cost to \$35,059.42.

Year Two: Total operating cost - \$73,286.60. City's portion of operating cost - \$34,563.30.
Total administration cost - \$95,479.77. City's portion of admin cost - \$19,095.95.

Total cost to City for Year Two - \$53,659.25

Ms. Branyon said the total cost could be reduced by the City providing in-kind services. She estimated the City could provide \$17,030.00 in in kind services to reduce the total cost to \$36,629.25.

Year Three: Total operating cost - \$73,007.39. City's portion of operating cost - \$34,423.70.
Total administration cost - \$96,945.15. City's portion of admin cost - \$19,389.03.

Total cost to City for Year Three - \$53,812.73

Ms. Branyon said the total cost could be reduced by the City providing in-kind services. She estimated the City could provide \$17,030.00 in in kind services to reduce the total cost to \$36,782.73.

Ms. Branyon said to operate the program, the City would have to have one driver and one administrative person. The Transportation Committee asked for permission to hold a public hearing concerning the program. This is part of the application process with ALDOT. Councilmember Hughes-Monroe moved to proceed with scheduling a public hearing. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Nichols, the same was unanimously approved.

PARK AND RECREATION REQUESTS

Mr. Chris Champion spoke to the Council about having Alligator Ice products for sale at the park. The cost of the machine and startup products would be \$3,800.00. Councilmember Nichols moved the Council authorize the purchase of the Alligator Ice equipment and startup products. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe, the same was unanimously approved.

Mr. Champion said they would like to purchase a portable building for the lifeguard room. The souvenir store would be placed in the building that houses the concession stand and lifeguard room. He stated they have obtained three quotes for a 12x24 portable building. Councilmember Hughes-Monroe moved to purchase the portable building from Pruett Brothers in the amount of \$7,395.00. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Campbell, the same was unanimously approved.

Mr. Champion stated two bids were received for an LED lighted sign to be placed near the intersection of Highway 43 and 23rd Street NE. The bids were as follows: (1) Mid-South Signs, Inc., - \$29,445.00; and, (2) Stewart Signs -\$31,837.00. He said the Fayette Community Foundation had awarded a grant for the sign for \$30,000.00. Mr. Champion recommended the Council accept the lowest bid from Mid-South Signs, Inc., in the amount of \$29,455.00. Councilmember Williams 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 LED lighted sign to the lowest responsible bidder, Mid-South Signs Inc., in the amount of \$29,445.00.

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

TRAINEE REQUEST FOR WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

Wastewater Superintendent Matt Buckner requested the Council allow him to hire a trainee for the Waste Water Treatment Plant. The goal would be to have the trainee ready by December.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Police Chief Danny Jenkins presented the police report for March 2023. The report was as follows: 26 incidents investigated; 14 accidents; 60 traffic citations; 45 traffic warnings and 32 arrests.

Police Chief Danny Jenkins asked that a 2003 Crown Victoria in the Police Department be declared surplus. It is currently not in operation. Councilmember Nichols moved to declare the 2003 Crown Victoria as surplus property. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Campbell, the same was unanimously approved.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Fire Chief Shannon Taylor presented the fire report for March 2023. The Fire Department received 20 calls.

CITY SHOP PROJECT

Fire Chief Shannon Taylor hoped the City Shop would be completed at the first of the summer.

STREET AND SANITATION DEPARTMENT

Mayor Northam requested Mr. Donovan Ryans with the Street and Sanitation Department receive a raise up to Step 2 Grade 1. Councilmember Nichols moved to raise Mr. Donovan Ryans to Step 2 Grade 1. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe, it was unanimously approved.

WORK SESSION SCHEDULED

Mayor Northam stated a work session is scheduled for Friday, April 21st at 3:00 p.m.

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 Hughes-Monroe 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 Williams moved the Park & Recreation financial statement be approved. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe, the same was unanimously approved.

REPORT OF MAYOR

Mayor Northam stated there are six delinquent business licenses left.

Mayor Northam stated the Aging Program employee had started working at City Hall.

Mayor Northam said going forward garbage would not be picked up on a holiday, but the next business day.

Mayor Northam stated Community Clean Up Day is Saturday, April 22nd.

Mayor Northam stated Municipal Court Amnesty Days are April 24th – April 26th.

REPORT OF CITY CLERK

City Clerk Dawn Clapp reported for the month of March, the City received \$264,330.00 in non-designated sales tax and the ½¢ sales tax for the hospital generated \$43,896.00 for a combined total of \$308,226.00. She reported the City received \$8,700.00 in alcohol taxes. She also reported the City received \$28,823.00 in online sales tax.

REPORT OF JUNIOR CITY COUNCIL MAYOR

Junior City Council Mayor Ben Olive stated nineteen teams had signed up for the basketball tournament. The proceeds of the tournament will go to purchase autism resources for the Fayette County Memorial Library.

REPORT OF COUNCILMEMBER CAMPBELL

Councilmember Campbell reminded everyone it was grass cutting season.

REPORT OF COUNCILMEMBER NICHOLS

Councilmember Nichols thanked the police and firefighters who work over the Easter holiday.

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 Campbell, it was unanimously approved.

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk