

City Hall
Fayette, Alabama
August 8, 2023

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Fayette met at 5:00 o'clock, p.m. on August 8, 2023, 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, City Attorney Dale Lawrence and Junior City Council Mayor Emily Huang.

The opening prayer was given by Councilmember Eddy Campbell.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilmember Eddy Campbell.

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 July 25, 2023, be approved. Upon it being seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe, it was unanimously approved.

REQUEST OF FAYETTE COUNTY MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Ms. Jessica Crowe, Director of the Fayette County Memorial Library, spoke to the Council requesting the Council add the Fayette County Memorial Library as a line item to its budget.

Ms. Crowe stated the library's collection contains 20,000 books along with an e-book collection of 55,000. They also have DVD's that can be checked out. The library has a summer reading program and after school programs. There are 6,000 library card holders. She said the library has computers for the public to use along with printers and scanners.

Ms. Crowe reported the library receives \$174,000.00 per year from the Fayette County Memorial Library Endowment Board. They also receive \$18,000.00 to \$20,000.00 from the state each year. Currently the library does not receive any financial support from the City or County other than the City does provide in-kind services.

Ms. Crowe asked the Council to consider allocating \$25,000.00 to the library in its budget. She said without additional support, they will have to shorten their hours of operation and reduce the programs they offer.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Police Chief Danny Jenkins presented the police report for July 2023. The report was as follows: 49 incidents investigated; 10 accidents; 34 traffic citations; 30 traffic warnings and 48 arrests.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Fire Chief Shannon Taylor presented the fire report for July 2023. The Fire Department received 29 calls.

NORTHWEST ALABAMA MENTAL HEALTH BOARD APPOINTMENT

Mayor Northam said he had received a letter from the Northwest Alabama Mental Center Board requesting Mrs. Belinda Watts be appointed to the Board for a six year term. Councilmember Campbell moved the Council appoint Mrs. Belinda Watts to the Northwest Alabama Mental Health Board for a term of six years. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Williams, the same was unanimously approved.

EQUITABLE NEIGHBORHOODS INITIATIVE HEALING ZONE

Mayor Northam presented an agreement to the Council concerning the Equitable Neighborhood Initiative Healing Zone. This would require the City to keep up the equipment in the healing zone for four years. Councilmember Whiteside moved the City enter into an agreement with the Equitable Neighborhoods Initiative. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe, the same was unanimously approved.

PURCHASE OF PICKUP FOR THE STREET DEPARTMENT

Mayor Northam reported he had received a request for the purchase of a pickup for the Street Department. The purchase price for a pickup from the State bid list is \$45,362.00. Councilmember Nichols moved to purchase a pickup from the State bid list at a cost of \$45,362.00. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Whiteside, the same was unanimously approved.

NEW HEAT PUMPS FOR CITY HALL AND CIVIC CENTER

Mayor Northam stated new heat pumps were needed at City Hall and the Civic Center. A five ton unit for City Hall would cost \$7,200.00 and a four ton unit for the Civic Center would cost \$6,400.00. Councilmember Hughes-Monroe moved the Council purchase a new heat pump for City Hall at a cost of \$7,200.00 and a new heat pump for the Civic Center at a cost of \$6,400.00 from Bob's Heating and Cooling. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Williams, it was unanimously approved.

PARADE PERMIT

Mayor Northam presented a request for a Parade Permit by churches in the community to hold a 5th quarter event beginning at John Morgan Stadium and ending in front of the courthouse on September 15, 2023, from 9 p.m. to 12:00 p.m. Councilmember Hughes-Monroe moved to grant the parade permit. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Williams, the same was unanimously approved.

STORM WATER EASEMENT

Mayor Northam said the City had received a storm water easement from Floyd Newman, Jr. Councilmember Nichols moved the City accept the storm water easement from Floyd Newman, Jr. Upon the Motion being seconded by Councilmember Campbell, the same was unanimously approved.

CIVIC CENTER BOARD

Mayor Northam stated he had received a request from the Civic Center Board to reappoint Mrs. Amanda Porter and Mr. Theron Nolen to the Board. No action was taken.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Mayor Northam said he had received a letter from the City Historic Preservation Commission requesting Mr. Kerry Kerr be appointed to the Board for a term ending on August 10, 2024.

STEP RAISE FOR PARK & RECREATION EMPLOYEE

Mayor Northam said he had received a request from Park & Recreation Director Lance Holliman for Mr. Kyle Taylor to receive a one-step pay raise. Councilmember Campbell moved the Council approve the step raise. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe, the same was unanimously approved.

STEP RAISE FOR FIRE DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEE

Mayor Northam said he had received a request from Fire Chief Shannon Taylor for Firefighter David Smith to receive a one-step pay raise. Councilmember Whiteside moved the Council approve the step raise. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Williams, it was unanimously approved.

STEP RAISES FOR POLICE DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES

Mayor Northam said he had received a request from Police Chief Danny Jenkins for Assistant Chief Mark Allison to receive a one-step raise from Assistant Chief Step 4 to Assistant Chief Step 5. Councilmember Nichols moved the Council approve the step raise. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Whiteside, the same was unanimously approved.

Mayor Northam said he had received a request from Police Chief Danny Jenkins for Lieutenant Michael Kelley to receive a one-step raise from Lieutenant Step 6 to Lieutenant Step 7. Councilmember Whiteside moved the Council approve the step raise. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe, the same was unanimously approved.

Mayor Northam said he had received a request from Police Chief Danny Jenkins for Sergeant Ronny Earnest to receive a one-step raise from Sergeant Step 3 to Sergeant Step 4. Councilmember Campbell moved the Council approve the step raise. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe, the same was unanimously approved.

Mayor Northam said he had received a request from Police Chief Danny Jenkins for Officer Russell Oswalt to receive a one-step raise from Patrol Step 1 to Patrol Step 2. Councilmember Hughes-Monroe moved the Council approve the step raise. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Campbell, the same was unanimously approved.

Mayor Northam said he had received a request from Police Chief Danny Jenkins for Officer Zakeith Wilson to receive a one-step raise from Patrol Step 1 to Patrol Step 2. Councilmember Nichols moved the Council approve the step raise. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe, the same was unanimously approved.

Mayor Northam said he had received a request from Police Chief Danny Jenkins for part-time Officer Randall Kelley to receive a one-step raise from Patrol Step 3 to Patrol Step 4. Councilmember Nichols moved the Council approve the step raise. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe, 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 Hughes-Monroe, 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 Whiteside, 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 Whiteside, the same was unanimously approved.

REPORT OF MAYOR

Mayor Northam said the 8 & Under Dixie Youth Baseball team finished third in the Dixie Youth World Series.

Mayor Northam stated the Arts Festival would be held on September 9th at the Civic Center.

Mayor Northam stated the Frog Level Festival would be held on October 6th and 7th.

REPORT OF CITY CLERK

City Clerk Dawn Clapp reported for the month of July, the City received \$301,000.00 in non-designated sales tax and the ½¢ sales tax for the hospital generated \$48,791.84 for a combined total of \$349,971.84. She reported the City received \$8,042.00 in alcohol taxes. She also reported the City received over \$27,000.00 in online sales tax.

REPORT OF JUNIOR CITY COUNCIL MAYOR

Junior City Council Mayor Emily Huang said a "Movie Night" would be held on August 12, 2023 at Guthrie Smith Park.

REPORT OF COUNCILMEMBER HUGHES-MONROE

Councilmember Hughes-Monroe reported volleyball and soccer signups are ongoing.

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:
