

City Hall  
Fayette, Alabama  
April 9, 2024

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Fayette met at 5:00 o'clock p.m. on April 9, 2024, 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 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. Councilmembers Virettia L. Whiteside and Aliska Hughes-Monroe were absent.

The opening prayer was given by Rev. Kelcey Hale.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Rev. Kelcey Hale.

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 March 26, 2024, be approved. Upon it being seconded by Councilmember Williams, it was unanimously approved.

#### 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. He said the member-based program eliminates the financial burden of medical airlifts and covers everyone living within the city limits of Fayette. Mr. McAden stated 39 transports took place in 2023. He reported there were four instances where insurance companies denied the medical airlift claims, but the individuals did not have any out-of-pocket expense due to the plan being in place. Councilmember Campbell moved the Council approve the contract with AirMedCare as presented at cost of \$22,764.00. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Williams, it was unanimously approved.

#### REQUEST TO ALLOW ACCESS TO PROPERTY AT AIRPORT

Mr. Tommy Price spoke to the Council to request access to certain property adjacent to the airport to install a billboard. He explained state regulations prohibit accessing a billboard location across the state right of way. Mr. Price requested permission to use the fire station road to access the Fayette Gas Board property where the billboard will be installed. He said he would be crossing about 230 feet of City property. He said the installation process would take about three days and would require access approximately twice a year. Mr. Price said the billboard would not impair the airport's visibility. This matter was tabled to the next meeting to allow time for further consideration.

#### REQUEST TO PURCHASE AQUATIC CENTER UMBRELLA

Park & Recreation Director Chris Champion spoke to the Council concerning the need to purchase a new umbrella for the Aquatic Center. He said the umbrella was purchased in 2013 and the seams have started separating. He stated he received a quote to repair the umbrella from Anchor Industries in the amount of \$1,940.00 plus \$400 shipping. Director Champion said a new umbrella could be purchased for \$2,222.00 including the shipping fee. Councilmember Nichols moved to approve the purchase of a new umbrella at a cost of \$2,222.00. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Williams, the same was unanimously approved.

#### ACE UPDATE

The City's ACE Coordinator, Mr. Floyd Rodgers, reported on the work of the ACE Annexation Committee and the ACE Leadership Committee. He said the committee is accepting annexation applications from property owners whose land is adjacent to the city limits. He stated applications for the City of Fayette Leadership Program are available and due by May 10<sup>th</sup>.

#### POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Police Chief Danny Jenkins presented the police report for March 2024. The report was as follows: 49 incidents investigated; 10 accidents; 48 traffic citations; 141 traffic warnings and 39 arrests.

### POLICE OFFICER STEP INCREASE

Police Chief Danny Jenkins recommended Officer Zakeith Wilson receive a step increase from Patrol Step 2 to Patrol Step 3. Councilmember Nichols moved Officer Zakeith Wilson receive a step increase in pay from Patrol Step 2 to Patrol Step 3. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Williams, the same was unanimously approved.

### BOMB THREAT AT FAYETTE COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

Police Chief Jenkins reported to the Council on the bomb threat at Fayette County High School on April 9, 2024. He said the Police Department is still investigating the threat. Chief Jenkins thanked FCHS Principal Jennifer Sanford and the FCHS staff along with Superintendent Jim Burkhalter for how they handled the situation. He also thanked Fire Chief Shannon Taylor and the Fire Department and Sheriff Byron Yerby and the Sheriff's Department for their assistance. Chief Jenkins thanked the Central Church of Christ for opening their church to the students who had to evacuate the high school. He also thanked several others.

### FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Fire Chief Shannon Taylor presented the fire report for March 2024. The Fire Department received 10 calls.

### FIREFIGHTER STEP-INCREASE

Fire Chief Shannon Taylor recommended Fire Captain Brad Porter receive a single step increase in pay. Councilmember Campbell moved Fire Captain Brad Porter receive a single step increase in pay. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Williams, the same was unanimously approved.

### ISO FIRE RATING

Fire Chief Shannon Taylor reviewed the City's ISO rating with the Council. The City's rating is a 5. The ISO rating is made up of three components– (1) Emergency Communications, (2) Fire Department and (3) Water Supply. He said the City's score in the Emergency Communications and Water Supply component declined. The City's score in the Fire Department component increased and improved.

### FAYETTE GAS BOARD APPOINTMENT

Mayor Northam said he had received a letter from the Fayette Gas Board requesting the Council appoint Mr. Brent Daniel to the Gas Board to fill the position created by the resignation of Mr. Charles N. Langley. Councilmember Campbell moved to appoint Mr. Brent Daniel to the Gas Board. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Williams, the same was unanimously approved.

### PARADE PERMIT

Mayor Northam presented to the Council a request for a parade permit for the "March for Jesus" to be held on May 18, 2024. Councilmember Nichols moved the permit be granted. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Campbell, the same was unanimously approved.

### OPIOID SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

Mayor Northam said the City had received an agreement to approve the opioid settlements with Cardinal Health and Cencora.

### SALE OF OLD INDUSTRIAL PARK PROPERTY

Mayor Northam reported on the sale of the lot at the old Industrial Park. He said it was sold to LaTrell Kittrell for \$200,000.00. The proceeds of the sale were split equally between the City and County.

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

APPROVAL OF PARK & RECREATION FINANCIAL STATEMENT

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

REPORT OF MAYOR

Mayor Northam reported the paving at Walmart should be completed by Saturday. He said the store will be remodeled in June.

Mayor Northam said the bus driver position will be posted soon.

Mayor Northam said the City has two new employees: Mr. Morris Moore in the Park & Recreation Department and Ms. Jennifer Roberts as the new Transportation Manager.

Mayor Northam said the Chamber of Commerce luncheon will be held on April 17, 2024.

Mayor Northam stated the Planning Commission would meet on April 19, 2024, at 4:00 p.m.

Mayor Northam announced the C+ Plus Concert would be held on April 20th at the Civic Center.

Mayor Northam stated the Community Cleanup Day is set for April 27, 2024.

REPORT OF CITY CLERK

City Clerk Dawn Clapp reported for the month of March 2024, the City received \$295,934.00 in non-designated sales tax and the ½¢ sales tax for the hospital generated \$34,880.00 for a combined total of \$330,814.00. She reported the City received \$6,327.00 in alcohol taxes. She also reported the City received \$23,814.93 in online sales tax.

REPORT OF JUNIOR MAYOR

Junior Mayor Emily Huang thanked everyone including the Police Department and Fire Department for their work during the bomb threat at FCHS.

Junior Mayor Huang said there will be an “Autism Awareness” Basketball Tournament held on April 20, 2024. The proceeds from the tournament will go toward the Autism Resource Center at the library.

REPORT OF COUNCILMEMBER WILLIAMS

Councilmember Williams thanked Chief Taylor and the Fire Department for their work on the City’s ISO rating.

Councilmember Williams thanked Mr. O.P. Morgan and Mr. Chris Champion for making Opening Night and the Home Run Derby a great success.

REPORT OF COUNCILMEMBER NICHOLS

Councilmember Nichols thanked the Police Department and Fire Department for the work they do.

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 Campbell, it was unanimously approved.

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Mayor

Attest:

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City Clerk