

City Hall  
Fayette, Alabama  
May 28, 2024

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Fayette met at 5:00 o'clock, p.m. on May 28, 2024, 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, Tommy Williams, Aliska Hughes-Monroe and Jerry Nichols. Also present were City Clerk Dawn Clapp, Police Chief Danny Jenkins, City Attorney Dale Lawrence and Waste Water Superintendent Matt Buckner. Councilmember Eddy Campbell was absent.

The opening prayer was given by Mr. Zaden Walker.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Sean White.

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

#### PUBLIC HEARING ON REZONING PROPERTY

Mayor Northam stated that this was the date and time for the public hearing on the Brasher request for rezoning their property from R1 to B2. No one spoke against the rezoning.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilmember Nichols moved the minutes of the regular meeting held on May 14, 2024, be approved. Upon it being seconded by Councilmember Whiteside, it was unanimously approved.

#### C+ PLUS BAND

Mayor Northam presented a proclamation to the C+ Band. Mr. Sammy Renfroe said when the band travels, they try to represent the City with class. Members of the C+ Band in attendance for the presentation were: Dr. Bruce Perry, Mr. Chris Ballinger, Mr. Dennis Fisher, Mrs. Diane Fisher, Mr. Drew Hattaway, Mr. Sammy Renfroe, Mr. Steve Fowler, Mr. Roger Wallace, Mr. Daniel Hindman, Dr. Charles Nolen and the family of Ronnie Stough (Mrs. Carolyn Stough and son, Ben Stough).

#### WWTP REHAB PROJECT

Mr. Luke Porter of Porter-Higginbotham Engineering updated the Council on the City's WWTP Rehabilitation Project. He said two bids were received. The two bids were as follows: (1) Apex Civil Construction, LLC - \$2,268,042.92; and (2) Robinson & Sons Construction Services, Inc.- \$3,363,162.00. He recommended the bid be awarded to the low bidder, Apex Civil Construction LLC in the amount of \$2,268,042.92. Councilmember Nichols 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 WWTP Rehabilitation Project to the lowest responsible bidder, Apex Civil Construction LLC in the amount of \$2,268,042.92

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

[Councilmember Hughes-Monroe came into the meeting at this point.]

#### PROJECT UPDATES

Mr. Luke Porter of Porter-Higginbotham Engineering updated the Council on the City's current projects. The updates were as follows:

##### Highway 18/171 Intersection Improvement

- Construction is back underway. Approximately 6 weeks for completion.

##### Rails to Trails Project

- Contractor plans to be back next week. Waiting on lighting and paving company.

##### MLK Sidewalk Improvement Project

- Bids opened May 16<sup>th</sup>. The low bidder was Ballard Builders at \$842,600.00 which is approximately \$40,000.00 under budget. He recommends awarding the bid to Ballard Builders.

SR-159 Pumping Station

- Construction is set to begin on June 10, 2024.

Fayette Commercial Zone Gravity Sewer Relocation Project (SHOWA)

- In service, waiting on dry weather to clean the lowland area

2024 Paving Project

- Paving complete. Waiting on striping and shoulder work.

2025 TAP Project

- Grants are due Friday. If the grant is awarded, construction likely won't begin until the 2026 Fiscal Year.

Mr. Porter presented four options to the Council for a potential TAP grant. The consensus of the Council was to pursue the TAP grant. The consensus of the Council was to do Option 2 which is a streetscape improvement project along portions of 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue NE and 1<sup>st</sup> Street NE.

2023 STREETSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS

Mr. Luke Porter of Porter-Higginbotham Engineering updated the Council on the City's 2023 Streetscape Improvement Project. He said four bids were received. The four bids were as follows: (1) Ballard Builders, Inc.- \$842,600.00; (2) Apex Civil Construction, LLC - \$995,113.96; (3) Gillespie Construction, LLC- \$1,041,233.00 and (4) Cornerstone Civil Contractors, LLC- \$1,044,747.48. He recommended the bid be awarded to the low bidder, Ballard Builders, Inc., in the amount of \$842,600.00. Councilmember Nichols 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 2023 Streetscape Improvement Project to the lowest responsible bidder, Ballard Builders, Inc., in the amount of \$842,600.00.

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

TRIPMASTER TRANSPORTATION SOFTWARE

Transportation Director Jennifer Roberts recommended the Council purchase the Trip Master Transportation software to assist with the new transportation program. She said there is a one-time fee of \$375.00 and a monthly fee of \$154.00. Councilmember Nichols moved the Council approve the purchase of the software. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Williams, it was unanimously approved.

DRIVER CARES CERTIFICATION TRAINING

Transportation Director Jennifer Roberts recommended the Council approve the CARES Certification Training for her and the new driver at a cost of \$5,000.00. She said ALDOT will reimburse 100% of the training expense. Councilmember Nichols moved the Council approve the CARES training at a cost of \$5,000.00. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe, the same was unanimously approved.

FAYETTE TRANSPORTATION SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICY

Transportation Director Jennifer Roberts presented the Substance Abuse Policy to the Council for their review. No action was taken.

CONSENT TO HIRE POLICE OFFICER

Mayor Northam said Police Chief Danny Jenkins had recommended Mr. Kristopher Parson be hired as a full-time police officer. He is not APOST Certified and will have to attend the Law Enforcement Academy to receive his certification. Mayor Northam said based on Chief Jenkins's recommendation he would hire Mr. Parson as a full-time police officer upon obtaining the consent of the Council. Councilmember Nichols moved the Council consent to the Mayor hiring Mr. Kristopher Parson as a full-time police officer. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Whiteside, it was unanimously approved.

ORDINANCE 2024-3

Mayor Northam presented Ordinance 2024-03 to the Council to consider its adoption. Ordinance 2024-03 is as follows:

**ORDINANCE NO. 2024-03  
AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CITY ORDINANCE ENTITLED "ZONING ORDINANCE OF  
THE CITY OF FAYETTE, ALABAMA", ADOPTED AND APPROVED BY THE CITY  
COUNCIL ON JULY 15, 1996, REFERRED TO AND IDENTIFIED IN SECTION 11, SHORT  
TITLE OF SAID ZONING ORDINANCE AS THE "ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF  
FAYETTE, ALABAMA".**

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***THE PUBLIC WELFARE REQUIRING IT***, and under authority granted by Section 11-52-77, 1975 Code of Alabama, Be It Ordained by the City Council of the City of Fayette, Alabama, as follows:

1. The Zoning Map of the City of Fayette, Alabama, adopted and approved by the City Council on July 15, 1996, is hereby altered, changed, amended and modified as follows:

That the zoning classification of the following described land be reclassified from a R-1 Residential District to a B-2 Business District, viz:

Beginning at the Northeast corner of the SE ¼ of SE ¼, Section 20, Township 15 South, Range 12 West, Fayette County, Alabama, and a 5/8" capped rebar; thence run S 02°37'59" E for a distance of 1325.70 feet to a ½" capped rebar; thence run S 01°24'40" E for a distance of 622.33 feet to the centerline of a ditch and a ½" capped rebar; thence run northwesterly along the centerline of said ditch for a distance of 2526.32 feet to the eastern right of way margin of Alabama Highway 171 (120-ft right of way indicated) and a ½" capped rebar; thence run N 39°35'00" E along said eastern right of way margin for a distance of 656.40 feet to a ½" capped rebar; thence run S 86°19'40" E for a distance of 1431.95 feet to the point of beginning. Said parcel containing 52.08 acres more or less.

2. All ordinances or parts of ordinances that conflict with this act are hereby repealed.  
3. This Ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after the date of its publication.  
DONE this the \_\_\_\_\_ day of May, 2024.

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Mayor, City of Fayette

ATTEST:

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Clerk, City of Fayette

Councilmember Whiteside moved the Council adopt Ordinance 2024-03. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe, the same was unanimously adopted.

AGREEMENT BETWEEN CITY AND SKILLED TRADES OF WEST ALABAMA

Mayor Northam presented a Memorandum of Understanding between the City and Skilled Trades of West Alabama to the Council for their consideration. Councilmember Whiteside moved the City enter into the Memorandum of Understanding with Skilled Trades of West Alabama. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Nichols, the same was unanimously approved.

PAY INCREASE FOR CIVIC CENTER EMPLOYEE

Mayor Northam said Civic Center Director Glenda Robertson had recommended Mrs. Vicki James receive a \$2.00 per hour pay increase to \$12.00 per hour for her part-time work at the Civic Center. Councilmember Hughes-Monroe moved to approve the \$2.00 per hour pay increase for Mrs. Vicki James. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Whiteside, the same was unanimously approved.

WATER WORKS BOARD APPOINTMENT

Mayor Northam said the Council had received a request to appoint Mr. Jack Nolen to the Fayette Water Works Board. Mr. Nolen would be filling the unexpired term of Mr. Bobby Mills which ends in February of 2028. Councilmember Nichols moved to appoint Mr. Jack Nolen to the Water Works Board. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Williams, the same was unanimously approved.

FAYETTE ART MUSEUM APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Northam reported he had received a request from the Fayette Art Museum Board to appoint Mrs. Jeanie Hindman and Mr. Joel Haney to the Museum Board. He said the Museum Board has two vacancies due to the recent resignations of Mrs. Lesley Whitehead and Mr. Scott Walker.

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT MEETING

Mayor Northam reported the Zoning Board of Adjustment had approved a variance to allow a telecommunications hub site (fiber optic) to be located at 1768 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue SW. The hub site is located on a 0.26 acre parcel and is in a R-2 Residential District.

FINANCIALS

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

REPORT OF MAYOR

Mayor Northam said the unemployment rate for Fayette County is 3.3%.

Mayor Northam said the Farmers Market will begin on May 31, 2024.

REPORT OF COUNCILMEMBER WILLIAMS

Councilmember Williams reminded everyone to breakdown their cardboard boxes for pickup.

REPORT OF COUNCILMEMBER NICHOLS

Councilmember Nichols thanked the City employees who worked on the holiday.

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 Hughes-Monroe, it was unanimously approved.

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Mayor

Attest: \_

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City Clerk