

City Hall
Fayette, Alabama
July 23, 2024

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Fayette met at 5:00 o'clock, p.m. on July 23, 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, Eddy Campbell, Tommy Williams and Jerry Nichols. Also present were City Clerk Dawn Clapp, Police Chief Danny Jenkins, Transportation Director Jennifer Roberts and Junior City Council Mayor Emily Huang. Councilmember Aliska Hughes-Monroe and City Attorney Dale Lawrence were absent.

The opening prayer was given by Pastor Scott Smyth of Vision Church.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilmember Jerry Nichols.

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

PUBLIC HEARING ON TRANSPORTATION APPLICATION/BUDGET

Mayor Northam stated this was the date and time for the public hearing concerning the Transportation Application/Budget. No one appeared to speak at the public hearing.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilmember Nichols moved the minutes of the regular meeting held on July 9, 2024, be approved. Upon it being seconded by Councilmember Campbell, it was unanimously approved.

FAYETTE COUNTY MEMORIAL LIBRARY BUDGET REQUEST

Ms. Jessica Crowe, Director of the Fayette County Memorial Library spoke to the Council concerning the library. She thanked the City for their support of the library. She said with the appropriation given during the 2024 Fiscal Year, the library was able to maintain its existing level of service as well as move forward on new projects. Ms. Crowe requested the library be included in the City's upcoming budget. She said the library had increased its collection budget to include more audiobooks and alternative formats. Its projects budget had also increased, and these funds were used for its Summer Camp K-6 (3-day camp). She said 120 children participated in the summer camp this year.

Ms. Crowe stated the library would continue to receive funding from the State of Alabama as long as it is matched with \$20,000.00 of local funding. She requested \$25,000.00 be included for the library in the upcoming budget. She said this amount will help fund new projects, summer camp in 2025 and fixing potholes in the drive and repaving the front entrance.

TRANSPORTATION GRANT APPLICATION

Transportation Director Jennifer Roberts requested the Council authorize the filing of a grant application with the U.S. Department of Transportation and the Alabama Department of Transportation. The grant will be used to support the City's local transportation system. She said the grant would require the City to provide \$77,400.00 in matching funds. She said CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security) Act funds will be used to pay most, if not all, of the match.

Director Roberts reported for the period July 1- July 23, 41 passengers had ridden on the bus and \$148.00 in fares had been collected.

RESOLUTION 2024-09

Mayor Northam presented Resolution 2024-09 to the Council for their consideration. Resolution 2024-09 is as follows:

RESOLUTION 2024-09
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION WITH DEPARTMENT
OF TRANSPORTATION, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, AND THE ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR A GRANT
UNDER THE FEDERAL TRANSIT ACT

WHEREAS, the Secretary of U.S. Department of Transportation and Director of the Alabama Department of Transportation are authorized to make grants for a public transportation program;

WHEREAS, the contract for financial assistance will impose certain obligations upon the Applicant, including the provision of its local share of the project costs in the program;

WHEREAS, it is required by the U.S. Department of Transportation in accord with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, that in connection with the filing of an application for assistance under 49 USC Section 5311 the applicant gives an assurance that it will comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and other pertinent directives and the U.S. Department of Transportation requirements thereunder; and

WHEREAS, it is the goal of the Applicant that disadvantaged business enterprises (minority business enterprises and woman business enterprises) be utilized to the fullest extent possible in connection with this/these project(s), and that definite procedures shall be established and administered to ensure that disadvantaged business enterprises (DBEs) shall have the maximum feasible opportunity to compete for contracts and purchase orders when procuring construction contracts, supplies, equipment contracts, or consultant and other services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY OF FAYETTE

1. That Mayor Rod Northam is authorized to execute and file (an) application(s) on behalf of the City of Fayette with the Alabama Department of Transportation to aid in the financing of administration, planning, capital and/or operating assistance projects pursuant to 49 USC Section 5311, the Alabama Public Transportation Grant Program, and the Alabama Seniors and Disabled Transit Fare Assistance Program.
2. That Mayor Rod Northam is authorized to execute and file with such applications an assurance, or any other document required by the U.S. Department of Transportation and the Alabama Department of Transportation effectuating the purpose of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.
3. That Mayor Rod Northam is authorized to furnish such additional information as the U.S. Department of Transportation and the Alabama Department of Transportation may require in connection with the application for the Program of Projects submitted to FTA.
4. That Mayor Rod Northam is authorized to set forth and execute affirmative disadvantaged business enterprise policies in connection with any procurements made as part of the project.
5. That Mayor Rod Northam is authorized to execute grant agreements on behalf of the City of Fayette with the Alabama Department of Transportation for aid in the financing of the administration, planning, capital, and/or operating assistance projects.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED by the City Council of the City of Fayette, Alabama, on this 23rd day of July, 2024.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Councilmember Nichols moved the Council adopt Resolution 2024-09. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Williams, the same was unanimously approved.

RESOLUTION 2024-10

Mayor Northam presented Resolution 2024-10 to the Council for their consideration. Resolution 2024-10 is as follows:

**RESOLUTION 2024-10
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING LOCAL MATCHING FUNDS UNDER THE SECTION 5311
RURAL AREA PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025**

WHEREAS, the City of Fayette recognizes the need for a public transportation program; and,
WHEREAS, the City of Fayette is recognized as a member of the Fayette Transportation Steering Committee; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Fayette recognizes that the requirements to obtain Section 5311 funds from the Alabama Department of Transportation include a local match of 50% for operating expenses and 20% for administration, planning and capital expenses; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Fayette recognizes that the local match will be a shared cost with other participating municipalities being responsible for providing an appropriate allocation of local non-federal funds to secure the operating of Section 5311 Rural Area Public Transportation Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Fayette hereby commits the amount of \$77,400.00 as local non-federal match for operations, administration, planning, and capital expenditures under the Section 5311 Rural Area Public Transportation Program during Fiscal Year 2025.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED by the City Council of the City of Fayette, Alabama, on this 23rd day of July, 2024.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Councilmember Whiteside moved the Council adopt Resolution 2024-10. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Campbell, the same was unanimously approved.

FENCE POSTS FOR GUTHRIE SMITH PARK

Recreation Supervisor O.P. Morgan reported to the Council that new fencing is needed at Guthrie Smith Park. He requested the City purchase approximately 60 poles and 120 rails for a total cost, including delivery, of \$5,946.00 and that the funds for the purchase come from the Park & Recreation Department's concession stand funds. Councilmember Nichols moved the Council authorize the purchase and delivery of the 60 poles and 120 rails for \$5,946.00. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Whiteside, the same was unanimously approved.

CULVERT INSPECTION AT AIRPORT

Mayor Northam reported to the Council the airport was notified that a sinkhole had formed off the edge of the runway pavement. He said it had been determined the sinkhole was located on top of an existing drainage culvert that crossed under the runway. The City's airport consultant recommended an inspection of the drainage culvert be conducted. Mayor Northam said the cost for having it inspected would be \$2,500.00. Councilmember Campbell moved the Council authorize the inspection of the drainage culvert at a cost of \$2,500.00. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Williams, the same was unanimously approved.

PARADE PERMIT

Mayor Northam presented a Parade Permit request for a worship night on the Fayette County Courthouse lawn on August 3rd sponsored by the Fayette Church of God. Because the sponsor did not request for any streets to be closed, no permit was needed.

2ND AVENUE SW TRAFFIC STUDY

Police Chief Danny Jenkins reported on the traffic study that was conducted on 2nd Avenue SW. He said the study took place over the course of one week. He said the street has a 30 mph speed limit and the study revealed only 14.5% of the vehicles were traveling faster than the speed limit.

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 reported this was Junior City Council Mayor Emily Huang's last meeting. She graduated from Fayette County High School in May and will be attending Duke University this fall. The Mayor and Council thanked Emily for her contributions and service to the Fayette Junior City Council.

Mayor Northam reported the 7U FC Elite travel baseball team won its World Series.

Mayor Northam reminded everyone of the upcoming "tax free" weekend for school supplies.

Mayor Northam reported that 19 tons of cardboard had been collected during the past six-month period per ADEM's report.

Mayor Northam said the Farmers Market was still being held each Saturday from 8 – 11 a.m.

Mayor Northam said the Fayette County Sports Hall of Fame would have its annual induction ceremony on July 27th.

REPORT OF JUNIOR MAYOR

Junior Mayor Emily Huang thanked the Council for the opportunity to serve on the Junior City Council and participate in local civic matters.

REPORT OF COUNCILMEMBER CAMPBELL

Councilmember Campbell thanked the Fire Department for its work in containing brush fires during the drought.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, upon the motion to adjourn being made by Councilmember Campbell and seconded by Councilmember Williams, it was unanimously approved.

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk