

City Hall
Fayette, Alabama
November 12, 2024

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Fayette met at 5:00 o'clock p.m. on November 12, 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, 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 Wastewater Superintendent Matt Buckner. Junior Mayor Sean White was absent. Councilmember Virettia L. Whiteside previously resigned effective October 31, 2024.

The opening prayer was given by Bro. Kelcey Hale.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Bro. 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 October 22, 2024, be approved. Upon it being seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe, it was unanimously approved.

FAYETTE MEDICAL CENTER PROJECT UPDATE

Fayette Medical Center Administrator Rodney Clark, Fayette County Hospital Board Chairman Charles Brandon, and Board Members Sandy Nolen, Rhonda Hicks, Heath Reed, Jason Nelson and Jackie Walden were in attendance.

Board Chairman Brandon thanked the City and the Council for their support. Mr. Clark said the proceeds received from the City last year were used to remodel two of the halls at the Long-Term Care Center. He said this project should be completed in the next few weeks.

Board Chairman Brandon said the planned project for the upcoming year is to build a 22,000 square foot building to be used by doctors and other specialists. The building is expected to cost \$7,000,000.00 with the Hospital Board providing a 25% match of \$1,775,000.00. He said the Hospital Board would use the City funds received this year of \$446,529.96 to pay toward the Board's 25% match.

Councilmember Nichols moved the Council approve the Hospital Board's request to use the funds toward its 25% matching funds for the new building. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe, the same was unanimously approved.

DOG WATERING STATION AT GUTHRIE SMITH PARK

Mrs. Marla Kizzire and Mr. George Kizzire asked the Council to consider allowing them to install a dog watering station at Guthrie Smith Park. Mrs. Kizzire said they would pay for dog watering station through fundraisers and donations. She said the cost would be approximately \$5,000.00. The Kizzires requested the Council run the water to the watering station. They suggested the watering station be located close to the bathrooms near the big pavilion. The Council was in favor of the watering station but wanted the Park & Recreation Department's input and recommendation as to its location.

WASTE WATER PROJECT UPDATE

Mr. Luke Porter presented the Council with a requested change order by the contractor to the Waste Water Treatment Upgrade project. He said the change order was to allow the contractor to obtain the clarifiers from West Tech at an additional cost of \$527,000.00. Mr. Porter said both bidders had bid on the project based upon obtaining clarifiers from Clearstream. He said with this change order, the total project will cost \$2,663,000.00. The amount budgeted for the project was 2,732,000.00. Because of the change order, the flash mixers will be deleted from the project. Councilmember Hughes-Monroe moved the Council approve the change order as presented. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Campbell, it was unanimously approved.

PAVING PROJECT

Mr. Luke Porter reviewed with the Council the proposed paving project for Fiscal Year 2025. The estimated total cost of the paving project is \$364,260.00. Mayor Northam said this was more than the \$250,000.00 budgeted. He asked the Council to review and see what the priorities should be.

PROPOSED ATRIP PROJECT AT INTERSECTION OF HWY 171 AND TEMPLE AVENUE S

Mr. Luke Porter stated the City could now apply for another ATRIP grant if the Council chose to do so. He suggested the City apply for a grant to construct a roundabout at the intersection of South Temple Avenue and State Highway 171. Councilmember Hughes-Monroe moved the Council apply for a ATRIP grant to fund the proposed project. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Campbell, the same was unanimously approved.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Police Chief Danny Jenkins presented the police report for October 2024. The report was as follows: 29 incidents investigated; 8 accidents; 110 traffic citations; 68 traffic warnings and 33 arrests.

REQUEST FOR PURCHASE OF POLICE CAR

Police Chief Danny Jenkins requested that a police car be purchased from the State bid list (Stivers Ford) in the amount of \$57,881.24. Councilmember Nichols moved the Council authorize the purchase of a new police car from the State bid list at a cost of \$57,881.24. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe, the same was unanimously approved.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Fire Chief Shannon Taylor presented the fire report for October 2024. The Fire Department received 16 calls.

GRASS NUISANCE ABATEMENTS

Fire Chief Shannon Taylor presented to the Council the following grass nuisances within the City: (1) 511 3rd Avenue NW; (2) 528 6th Street NE; (3) 567 14th Street SW; (4) 821 Temple Avenue South; and, (5) 835 Temple Avenue South.

Councilmember Nichols moved the Council order the above grass nuisances to be abated. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe, the same was unanimously approved.

RESOLUTION 2024-16

Mayor Northam presented Resolution 2024-16 to the Council for their consideration. Resolution 2024-16 is as follows:

**RESOLUTION 2024-16
RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE PARTICIPATION OF THE CITY OF FAYETTE IN
THE "SALES TAX HOLIDAY"**

WHEREAS, during its 2012 Regular Session, the Alabama Legislature enacted Act No. 2012-256, effective April 26, 2012, which provides an exemption of the state sales and use tax for certain severe weather preparedness supplies during the first full weekend in July of 2012 and the last full weekend of February in subsequent years; and

WHEREAS, Act No. 2012-256 authorizes the City Council to provide for an exemption of city sales and use taxes for purchases of items covered by the Act during the same time period in which the state sales and use tax exemption is in place, provided a resolution to that effect is adopted; and

WHEREAS, the Fayette City Council has affirmatively voted to grant the exemption of City sales and use taxes on purchases covered by Act No. 2012-256 during the last full weekend of February 2024, beginning at 12:01 a.m. on Friday, February 21, 2025 and ending at twelve midnight on Sunday, February 23, 2025, the last full weekend of February in 2025;

WHEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE FAYETTE CITY COUNCIL that it does hereby provide for an exemption of the City sales and use tax on purchases of items covered by Act No. 2012-256 beginning at 12:01 a.m. on Friday, February 21, 2025 and ending at twelve midnight on Sunday, February 23, 2025.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be spread upon the minutes of the November 12, 2024, meeting of the Fayette City Council, and be immediately forwarded to the Alabama Department of Revenue in compliance with Code of Alabama, § 11-51-210 (e).

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Fayette City Council has caused this Resolution to be executed in its name and on its behalf by its Mayor on this the 12th day of November, 2024.

Mayor Rod Northam

ATTEST:

City Clerk Dawn Clapp

Councilmember Nichols moved the Council adopt Resolution 2024-16. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe, the same was unanimously approved.

AIRBURNER FIREBOX BID

Mayor Northam reported to the Council that the City had received one bid for the airburner firebox. He said the bid was from Ingram Equipment Company in the amount of \$238,916.30. He recommended the Council accept this bid. Councilmember Campbell 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 airburner firebox to the lowest responsible bidder, Ingram Equipment Company, in the amount of \$238,916.30.

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

NORTHWEST ALABAMA EDA

Mayor Northam presented a letter requesting the City's annual support for the Northwest Alabama EDA (C3) in the amount of \$25,000.00. Councilmember Campbell moved the Council approve the amount of \$25,000.00 to support the Northwest Alabama EDA. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe, the same was unanimously approved.

PARADE PERMIT

Mayor Northam presented a request for a parade permit for the Old Fashion Christmas to be held on December 5, 2024. Councilmember Hughes-Monroe moved to grant the permit as presented. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Nichols, the same was unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF CITY'S FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Councilmember Campbell moved the City's financial statement be approved. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe the following vote was taken:

AYES: Mayor Northam, Councilmembers Campbell, Hughes-Monroe and Nichols.
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: Councilmember Williams.

Mayor Northam stated the motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MUNICIPAL COURT FINANCIAL STATEMENT

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

REPORT OF MAYOR

Mayor Northam said the Fayette County Memorial Library will be having an open house for its Autism Resource Center on November 13, 2024.

Mayor Northam reported Firefighter Ryan Howton had graduated from Fire College. He said three police officers will graduate from the Police Academy on November 21, 2024. The officers are Mr. Logan Wright, Mr. Skyler Reed and Mr. Kris Parsons.

Mayor Northam said the Christmas Parade will be held on December 2, 2024.

Mayor Northam said the *Old Fashion Christmas* will be held on December 5, 2024.

REPORT OF CITY CLERK

City Clerk Dawn Clapp reported for the month of October 2024, the City received \$300,601.39 in non-designated sales tax and the $\frac{1}{2}\%$ sales tax for the hospital generated \$35,208.35 for a combined total of \$335,809.74. She reported the City received \$7,814.82 in alcohol taxes. She also reported the City received \$29,917.83 in online sales tax.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilmember Williams moved the Council go into executive session to discuss the general reputation and character of an individual. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe, it was unanimously approved. Councilmember Nichols moved the Council come out of executive session. Upon it being seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe, it was unanimously approved.

DISCHARGE OF PROBATIONARY EMPLOYEE

Councilmember Nichols moved the Council consent to the Mayor discharging probationary employee Mr. Marie Wilson. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Campbell, the following vote was taken:

AYES: Mayor Northam, Councilmembers Campbell, Williams, Nichols.
NAYS: Councilmember Hughes Monroe

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 Nichols, it was unanimously approved.

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk