

City Hall  
Fayette, Alabama  
November 26, 2024

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Fayette met at 5:00 o'clock p.m. on November 26, 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, City Attorney Dale Lawrence, Park & Recreation Director Chris Champion, Waste Water Superintendent Matt Buckner and Junior Mayor Sean White. Councilmember Virettia L. Whiteside previously resigned effective October 31, 2024.

The opening prayer was given by Councilmember Eddy Campbell.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Senior and Junior Toy Bowl Cheerleaders.

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 special meeting held on November 4, 2024, be approved. Upon it being seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe, it was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Campbell moved the minutes of the regular meeting held on November 12, 2024, be approved. Upon it being seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe, it was unanimously approved.

#### DISC GOLF COURSE AT GUTHRIE SMITH PARK

Mr. Larry Humber of the Fayette Kiwanis Club reported to the Council that the eighteen hole disc golf course had been laid out at Guthrie Smith Park. He said they are still waiting on the baskets to arrive so they can be installed. He said the construction of the course would cost \$18,000.00 - \$20,000.00. He said the Fayette Kiwanis Club was contributing \$10,000.00 toward the project and that they had obtained grants to cover most, if not all, of the remaining cost of the project. He hoped the course would open around March 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### POLICE OFFICER STEP INCREASE

Police Chief Danny Jenkins reported that Officer Kris Parson, Officer Skyler Reed and Officer Logan Wright had completed the Police Academy. He recommended Officer Parson, Officer Reed and Officer Wright receive a step increase from the Probationary rate to Grade 1-Step 1. Councilmember Nichols moved Officer Parson, Officer Reed and Officer Wright receive a step increase from the Probationary rate to Grade 1-Step 1. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Williams, the same was unanimously approved.

#### STEP INCREASE FOR STREET DEPARTMENT AND WASTE WATER EMPLOYEES

Waste Water Superintendent Matt Buckner reported that he, along with Street Department employees, Mr. Steve Cook, Mr. John Crenshaw and Mr. Hunter Jamerson had recently completed their training and received their commercial driver's licenses (CDL). Because they had obtained their CDL's, Mayor Northam recommended as follows: (1) Mr. Steve Cook receive a step raise from Grade 1 to Grade 3; (2) Mr. John Crenshaw receive a step raise from Grade 2 to Grade 3; (3) Mr. Hunter Jamerson receive a step raise from Grade 3 to the next step; and, (4) Waste Water Superintendent Matt Buckner receive a one-half step raise. Councilmember Nichols moved that the step raises be approved as recommended by the Mayor. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe, it was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Williams moved the City reimburse the four employees the cost of the fee for updating their license to a commercial driver's license. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe, it was unanimously approved.

#### PARADE PERMIT

Mayor Northam presented a request for a parade permit for the Christmas Parade to be held on December 2, 2024. Councilmember Hughes-Monroe moved to grant the permit as presented. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Williams, the same was unanimously approved.

APPOINTMENT OF COUNCILMEMBER FOR WARD 1

Mayor Northam asked for nominations for Councilmember Ward 1. The nominations were as follows: Councilmember Campbell nominated Mrs. Linda McCraw and Councilmember Hughes-Monroe nominated Mr. Steve Herring, Jr. As there were no other nominations from the floor, the nominations were closed.

Mayor Northam then called for a vote on the nomination of Mrs. Linda McCraw as Councilmember for Ward 1. She received one vote from Councilmember Campbell. Because she did not receive a majority, Mayor Northam called for the vote on the nomination of Mr. Steve Herring, Jr. He received four votes from Mayor Northam, Councilmember Williams, Councilmember Hughes-Monroe and Councilmember Nichols.

Upon Mr. Herring receiving four (4) votes, the Mayor announced that Mr. Herring had received a majority of the vote and therefore was elected City Councilmember for Ward 1 to fill the unexpired term of Councilmember Virettia L. Whiteside who had resigned on October 31, 2024.

FINANCIALS

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

REPORT OF MAYOR

Mayor Northam said the Fayette Junior Toy Bowl team won the Super Bowl defeating Lynn.

Mayor Northam reported the unemployment rate for Fayette County for October was 3.5%.

Mayor Northam stated “Christmas at the Park” begins November 28<sup>th</sup> and runs through December 31<sup>st</sup> from 5:30 – 9:15 each night.

Mayor Northam said the Festival of Trees at the Civic Center begins December 1, 2024.

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.

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 Hughes-Monroe, it was unanimously approved.

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Mayor

Attest:

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City Clerk