

City Hall  
Fayette, Alabama  
February 25, 2025

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Fayette met at 5:00 o'clock p.m. on February 25, 2025, in the Council Chambers of the City Hall.

Upon roll call the following were found to be present: Mayor Rod Northam, Councilmembers Steve Herring, 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 and Park Director Chris Champion. City Attorney Dale Lawrence was absent.

The opening prayer was given by Mr. Theron Nolen.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Meme Scott.

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 February 11, 2025, be approved. Upon it being seconded by Councilmember Campbell, it was unanimously approved.

#### FAYETTE MIDDLE SCHOOL APPROPRIATION

Fayette Middle School Counselor Jackie Roberts spoke to the Council on behalf of Principal Rodney Hannah. She provided an update on the school's activities and thanked the Council for its support. Ms. Roberts said the Honor Society has approximately forty members and had recently inducted twenty-five seventh graders.

Mrs. Lee Parson, the FCCLA (Family, Career and Community Leaders of America) advisor, said that her students are now affiliated at the state level. She stated they have upcoming state competitions and if they place then the students could advance to the national competitions.

Mrs. Tammy Moore, the FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America) advisor, reported on her students ongoing community service projects which included supporting Hope's Choice, the local animal shelter, and the nursing home, as well as an upcoming Easter service project. She said that fourteen students would compete at the state level in April.

Mayor Northam and the Council presented an appropriation of \$10,000.00 to Fayette Middle School.

#### PARK AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Park Director Chris Champion spoke to the Council about establishing a track and field program for students in seventh through twelfth grades with an estimated participation fee of \$75. He said other communities have this type of program. He said the program would use the facilities at Guthrie Smith Park or Fayette Elementary School for practice. He said the expenses involved with a program of this type would be (1) uniform costs of approximately \$35-\$40 per child; (2) estimated track & field meet fees of \$200 - \$250. Director Champion said registration would begin in March and he anticipated there being 2-3 local meets locally and then later a district meet. He stated April 12<sup>th</sup> would be the first meet.

Councilmember Hughes-Monroe moved the Council approve the establishing of a track and field program. Upon it being seconded by Councilmember Williams, it was unanimously approved.

Director Champion also spoke to the Council about a proposed project at the Aquatic Center that would consist of improvements to the splash pad and slide tower. He said the Life Floor Company had awarded the Aquatic Center a grant to install safety surfacing on the existing splash pad. He stated the original estimate was \$75,000.00 but now the cost is estimated to be \$100,000.00. He said the installation would be done at no cost to the City.

Director Champion reported the slide tower needed to be repainted which would include rust mitigation. He said he had obtained three quotes. The bids were as follows: (1) Baynum Solutions - \$89,550.00; (2) Amusement Restoration Companies - \$32,750.00, however this bid did not include the rust mitigation; and, (3) Safe Slide Restoration - \$171,600.00. He recommended the City accept the bid of Baynum Solutions in the amount of \$89,550.00. Councilmember Herring 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 repainting and mitigating the rust on the slide tower at the Aquatic Center to the lowest responsible bidder, Baynum Solutions in the amount of \$89,550.00.

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

### FIRE DEPARTMENT PROMOTIONS

Fire Chief Shannon Taylor requested promotions for two firefighters, Mr. Tyler Hayes and Mr. Tyler Galloway. He said both had recently completed Fire Instructor I training (a 40 hour course) and he recommended that both be promoted to corporal and that their rate of pay be increased accordingly. Chief Taylor stated that Firefighter David Smith and Firefighter Ryan Howton also had an opportunity to take this course but declined. Mayor Northam said the promotions would result in an increase in each of their hourly rates of pay.

Councilmember Nichols moved the Council approve the increase in the hourly rate of pay of Firefighter Tyler Hayes and Firefighter Tyler Galloway upon their promotion by the Mayor to Corporal. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe, it was unanimously approved.

### APPLICATION TO ADEM FOR PERMIT FOR AIR BURNER

Mayor Northam asked the Council to approve the submission of the application for a permit for the air burner. He said the permit was needed to operate the air burner. The City's air burner is expected to be delivered in the next few weeks. The permit requires an initial application fee in the amount of \$7,185.00 and then an annual fee thereafter. Councilmember Williams moved the Council authorize the Mayor to sign and submit the permit application and pay the application fee of \$7,185.00. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Campbell, the same was unanimously approved.

### SUBMISSION OF MAIN STREET APPLICATION

Mayor Northam asked the Council to consider joining the Main Street network. He said the annual fee to participate in this is \$600.00. He stated as a Main Street network community, the City would be committing to provide a consistent point of contact; to sending a representative to train at a minimum of two courses; to learning about the Main Street approach; and to submitting a brief annual report. He said in return, the City would receive access to Main Street webinars, workshops, conferences, discounts on the events, an annual on-site presentation, as well as access to Main Street Alabama Staff. Councilmember Hughes-Monroe moved the Council authorize the Mayor to sign and submit the application and pay the fee of \$600.00. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Herring, the same was unanimously approved.

### NORTHWEST ALABAMA MENTAL HEALTH AGREEMENT

Mayor Northam asked the Council to consider entering into an agreement with Northwest Alabama Mental Health Center (NWAMHC). Under the agreement, the City would make referrals to NWAMHC to determine the appropriateness of services and facilitate the delivery of them and NWAMHC would work with the City and its Police Department regarding the appropriateness and alternatives of mental health commitments, forensic evaluation referrals and hospital court holds. It was recommended the City's Police Department be added to the agreement. Councilmember Hughes-Monroe moved the Council authorize the Mayor to sign the Memorandum of Agreement with NWAMHC that would include the City's Police Department. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Williams, the same was unanimously approved.

### STEP INCREASES IN PARK AND RECREATION

Mayor Northam requested the Council approve a one-step pay increase for Park Director Chris Champion and Recreation Director O.P. Morgan. He said both had done a great job in their first year at their new positions. Councilmember Hughes-Monroe moved the Council approve the one-step pay increase for both Mr. Chris Champion and Mr. O.P. Morgan. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Nichols, the same was unanimously approved.

### HOUSING ABATEMENT BOARD RESIGNATION

Mayor Northam presented the Council with a letter received from Mrs. Marguerite Mostiller resigning her position on the Municipal Housing Code Abatement Board. She has served on the board for many years. The Mayor and the Council thanked her for her service on the board and to the City.

Councilmember Hughes-Monroe moved the Council accept the resignation of Mrs. Marguerite Mostiller from the board. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Williams, it was unanimously approved.

PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING ARBOR DAY 2025

Mayor Northam presented a proclamation declaring February 26, 2025, as Arbor Day in the City.

STATUS OF 2025 BUSINESS LICENSES

Mayor Northam reported to the Council that there were 44 local businesses that still had not obtained their annual business license. He said the number is slowly decreasing. He said the City would continue to following up with these businesses.

ATRIP-II AWARD LETTER FROM GOVERNOR IVEY

Mayor Northam presented the Council with a letter from Governor Ivey confirming the City's ATRIP II grant had been approved.

FINANCIALS

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

REPORT OF MAYOR

Mayor Northam announced the City would be installing a new phone system around March 6<sup>th</sup>.

Mayor Northam announced there would be a volunteer workday held at the Healing Zone on Saturday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 8 a.m. to clean up the area and plant trees and shrubs.

Mayor Northam announced there would be an Arbor Day tree giveaway on February 26<sup>th</sup>.

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 Campbell, it was unanimously approved.

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Mayor

Attest:

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City Clerk