

City Hall  
Fayette, Alabama  
April 8, 2025

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Fayette met at 5:00 o'clock p.m. on April 8, 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 and Aliska Hughes-Moore. Also present were City Clerk Dawn Clapp, Police Chief Danny Jenkins, Fire Chief Shannon Taylor, City Attorney Dale Lawrence, Transportation Director Jennifer Roberts and Junior City Council Mayor Sean White. Councilmember Jerry Nichols was absent.

The opening prayer was given by Rev. Kelcey Hale.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Rev. Kelcey Hale.

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

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilmember Campbell moved the minutes of the regular meeting held on March 25, 2025, be approved. Upon it being seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe, it was unanimously approved.

#### TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT REPORT

Transportation Director Jennifer Roberts updated the Council on the Transportation Department. She reported that between January 1, 2025, and March 31, 2025, \$2,007.00 was received in fares, there were 1,957 total passenger trips, 4,296 passenger miles, 908 immediate rides and 1,674 demand rides.

Ms. Roberts said her Transportation Steering Committee recommended the bus fare be increased to \$2.00 for a one-way trip. It is currently \$1.00. She stated this would bring the City's fare rate in line with other cities. She said to increase the fares, the City would have to hold a public hearing. She also stated the fare increase would not impact many of the riders.

Councilmember Campbell moved the Council set a public hearing for May 13<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. to receive public comment on the proposed fare increase. Upon it being seconded by Councilmember Herring, it was unanimously approved.

#### POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Police Chief Danny Jenkins presented the police report for March 2025. The report was as follows: 40 incidents investigated; 8 accidents; 127 traffic citations; 195 traffic warnings and 31 arrests.

Police Chief Danny Jenkins requested the Council allow him to purchase the Evidence Management Database for the Police Department for \$2,999.00. Councilmember Hughes-Monroe moved the Council authorize the purchase of the Evidence Management Database for \$2,999.00. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Williams, it was unanimously approved.

#### FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Fire Chief Shannon Taylor presented the fire report for March 2025. The Fire Department received 19 calls.

#### PARKS AND RECREATION UPDATE

Park & Recreation Director Chris Champion reported there are 32 participants in the new track and field program and 236 kids participating in baseball and softball. He said to date 95 private party reservations have been booked out of 144 slots at the Aquatic Center.

Councilmember Hughes-Monroe moved the Council approve the admission rates and season pass prices remaining the same as last year. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Campbell, it was unanimously approved.

Mr. Champion recommended eliminating the certified pool operator (CPO) positions because Mr. Lance Holliman does 95% of the job. He recommended the Aquatic Center add four custodial/food runner positions. He also recommended the two additional lifeguard positions that were added per shift because

of Covid be eliminated. Councilmember Williams moved these recommendations be authorized by the Council. Upon it being seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe, the motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Campbell asked about the supervisors receiving a pay raise. He said they have not received a pay raise in ten years. No action was taken.

#### PARK & RECREATION DEPARTMENT STEP RAISE

Mayor Northam requested the Council approve a step increase in pay for Park & Recreation Department employee, Mr. Morris Moore. The Mayor recommended Mr. Moore's pay rate be elevated from Grade 2, Step 1 to Grade 2, Step 2. Councilmember Williams moved Mr. Morris Moore's pay rate be increased from Grade 2, Step 1 to Grade 2, Step 2. Upon it being seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe it was unanimously approved.

#### APPOINTMENTS TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF NORTHWEST ALABAMA MENTAL HEALTH

At the last meeting Mayor Northam reported to the Council that he had received a letter from the Northwest Alabama Mental Health Center (NAMHC) requesting that Mrs. Dwan Madden and Mr. Milbourn Savage be appointed to the Board of Directors of the NAMHC. Councilmember Campbell moved the Council appoint Mrs. Dwan Madden and Mr. Milbourn Savage to the Board of Directors of NAMHC. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Herring, it was unanimously approved.

#### PURCHASE OF PICKUP FROM FAYETTE GAS BOARD

Mayor Northam recommended the Council purchase a 2018 Ford F-250 from the Fayette Gas Board for \$20,000.00. Councilmember Herring moved the Council approve the purchase of the Ford F-250 from the Fayette Gas Board for \$20,000.00 for the maintenance department. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Campbell, the following vote was taken:

AYES: Mayor Northam, Councilmembers Herring Campbell and Hughes-Monroe

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: Councilmember Williams.

Mayor Northam stated the motion passed.

#### ORDINANCE 2025-02

Mayor Northam proposed the adoption of the following ordinance. Ordinance 2025-02 is as follows:

#### **ORDINANCE NO. 2025-02**

#### **AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ELECTION OF MAYOR AND CITY COUNCILMEMBERS FOR THE CITY OF FAYETTE, ALABAMA.**

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***BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL of the City of Fayette, Alabama, as follows:***

#### **SECTION I**

That a municipal election is hereby called to be held in and for the City of Fayette, Alabama, on **Tuesday, August 26, 2025**, for the purpose of electing a Mayor and five (5) Councilmembers to serve said City for a period of four (4) years from **November 3, 2025**.

#### **SECTION II**

All registered and qualified electors of the state who have resided within Fayette County for thirty (30) days and within the corporate limits of the municipality for a period of thirty (30) days and in the ward for thirty (30) days prior to the election and who have registered not less than ten (10) days prior to the election will be authorized to participate in said election.

#### **SECTION III**

That for the accommodation of the voters in said election, there shall be one central place of voting for all Wards to be located at the Fayette Civic Center, 534 Temple Avenue North, Fayette, Alabama, in said City.

#### **SECTION IV**

That on **June 10, 2025**, the Mayor shall give notice of the election as provided in §11-46-22, *1975 Code of Alabama*.

#### **SECTION V**

That the City Council shall appoint election officials not less than fifteen (15) days before the election to be held on **August 26, 2025**, and the Mayor shall publish a list of the election officials at least ten (10) days prior to the election as provided by §11-46-27, 1975 Code of Alabama.

**SECTION VI**

That per diem compensation for election officers shall be as follows:

Electronic Machine Coordinator	\$225.00
Chief Inspector	\$150.00
Inspector	\$125.00
Chief Clerk	\$125.00
Clerks	\$105.00
Election Officer Training School	\$25.00

**SECTION VII**

That a qualification fee in the amount of **\$50.00 for the Office of Councilmember** and a fee of **\$100.00 for the Office of Mayor** is hereby fixed and imposed upon all candidates seeking election as Mayor or Councilmember of the City of Fayette, Alabama, except as hereinafter provided for.

Such qualification fee shall be paid to the City Clerk and deposited to the general fund of the City, at or prior to the time of taking out qualification papers by any such candidates.

Any person desiring to qualify who is not financially able to pay the required fee may qualify provided such prospective candidate furnishes the Clerk with an affidavit stating that he is financially unable to pay the required fee by this ordinance.

**SECTION VIII**

That the Mayor shall cause to be made a list of the qualified voters who reside within the corporate limits of the City of Fayette and who are registered to vote regular ballots, dividing the same with separate alphabetical lists of qualified voters of each Ward and to perform all the duties relating thereto as set forth in §11-46-36, 1975 Code of Alabama. The Mayor shall file such list of qualified voters with the City Clerk on or before **July 15, 2025**, who shall file and retain such list as a public record in her office. The City Clerk shall cause such list to be published on or before **August 21, 2025**.

**SECTION IX**

The polls shall be open between the hours of 7:00 o'clock, a.m. and 7:00 o'clock, p.m. and no longer, and it will be kept open between the hours stated without any intermission or adjournment.

**SECTION X**

Persons qualifying for the office of Mayor and Councilmember shall be a resident and qualified elector of the City for at least ninety (90) days prior to the election and candidates for Councilmember shall have resided within the limits of the Ward from which they shall seek election for a period of ninety (90) days prior to the election and continue to so reside during their term of office.

**SECTION XI**

That the qualification date shall begin on **June 10, 2025**, at 8:00 o'clock, a.m. and end on **June 24, 2025**, at 5:00 o'clock, p.m.

**ADOPTED AND APPROVED** this the \_\_\_\_ day of April, 2025.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

ORDINANCE 2025-03

Mayor Northam proposed the adoption of the following ordinance. Ordinance 2025-03 is as follows:

**ORDINANCE NO. 2025-03**

**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE USE OF ELECTRONIC VOTE COUNTING DEVICES FOR THE CITY OF FAYETTE, ALABAMA**

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FAYETTE, ALABAMA, as follows:**

**WHEREAS**, Chapter 7 of Title 17 of the Alabama Code of 1975, and the regulations adopted pursuant thereto by the Alabama Electronic Voting Committee, provide for the use of Electronic Vote Counting Systems; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 17-7-21 of the Code of Alabama 1975 provides that a municipality may, in its discretion, by adoption of an appropriate resolution, authorize, adopt, and direct the use of electronic

vote counting systems for use in all elections held in such municipality;

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED*** by the City Council of the City of Fayette that for all elections held subsequent to the passage of this ordinance, the use of the DS200 electronic vote counting system, a system which complies with Section 17-7-21 of the Code of Alabama and any regulations adopted pursuant thereto, is hereby authorized for the reporting, counting, and tabulating of any and all election results.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED*** by the City Council of the City of Fayette that for all elections held subsequent to the passage of this ordinance, the use of the Express Vote BMD- Disability Voting Machine to assist disabled voters, a system which complies with Section 17-2-4 of the Code of Alabama, is hereby adopted for use in all elections for the City of Fayette, both general and special, from and after the date of adoption.

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED***, that the Mayor of the City of Fayette is hereby directed to file a copy of this ordinance with the Secretary of State as provided in Section 17-7-21 of the Code of Alabama 1975.

***ADOPTED AND APPROVED*** this the \_\_\_\_\_ day of April, 2025.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

#### AIR-EVAC CONTRACT

Mayor Northam presented the Council with the renewal of the annual contract with AirMedCare (AirEvac) for their review. No action was taken.

#### ADDITION TO AGENDA

Councilmember Campbell moved the Council add the matter of the water backup into City Hall to the agenda. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Williams, it was unanimously approved.

#### CITY HALL WATER BACKUP

Mayor Northam reported on the water backup at City Hall. He said because of the amount of rainfall the sump pumps could not keep up. He said the water had been dried up, but some computers and furniture will need to be replaced. He stated restoration services by ServPro would cost \$16,000.00. This would include putting down an anti-microbial barrier. No motion was made to contract for these services.

#### APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Councilmember Campbell moved the City's financial statement be approved. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Herring, the same was unanimously approved.

#### APPROVAL OF MUNICIPAL COURT FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Councilmember Hughes-Monroe 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 Herring, the same was unanimously approved.

#### REPORT OF MAYOR

Mayor Northam reported a 49.3% workforce participation rate for February 2025.

Mayor Northam stated Community Cleanup Day is April 12<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m.

Mayor Northam said the Community Easter Egg Hunt would take place on April 13<sup>th</sup> at 2 p.m.

Mayor Northam stated the C+ Concert was April 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30p.m. at the Civic Center.

Mayor Northam said the Fayette Community Choir Concert was April 20<sup>th</sup> at 3p.m. at the Civic Center.

Mayor Northam stated the Art Museum Reception was April 26<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 - 3:30 p.m.

Mayor Northam said the Comprehensive Plan public review was set for April 29<sup>th</sup> at 4p.m. at City Hall.

REPORT OF CITY CLERK

City Clerk Dawn Clapp reported for the month of March 2025, the City received \$290,318.32 in non-designated sales tax and the ½¢ sales tax for the hospital generated \$34,403.32 for a combined total of \$324,721.64. She reported the City received \$6,384.00 in alcohol taxes. She also reported that the City received \$31,343.88 in online sales tax.

REPORT OF JUNIOR MAYOR

Junior Mayor Sean White reported they are taking applications for Junior City Council.

REPORT OF COUNCILMEMBER HERRING

Councilmember Herring said citizens had asked him about the sign concerning an unsolved murder that has been erected across from College Chevron.

ADJOURNMENT

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk