

City Hall
Fayette, Alabama
April 22, 2025

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Fayette met at 5:00 o'clock, p.m. on April 22, 2025, 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, Junior City Council Mayor Sean White and Park Director Chris Champion. Councilmember Steve Herring was absent.

The opening prayer was given by Mr. Jud Drake.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilmember Nichols.

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

[Councilmember Aliska Hughes-Monroe was not present at the start of the meeting.]

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilmember Campbell moved the minutes of the regular meeting held on April 8, 2025, be approved. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Nichols, it was unanimously approved.

MENTAL HEALTH PROCLAMATION

Mayor Northam presented a Proclamation to Northwest Alabama Mental Health Center (NAMHC) proclaiming May 2025 as Mental Health Month.

Ms. Nancy Kennedy of NAMHC thanked the Council for their support. She informed the Council of the many services NAMHC provides the community. Several other staff members from NAMHC were also present.

PARK AND RECREATION PART TIME PAY RATES

Park Director Chris Champion spoke about the pay rates for concession stand workers for baseball and softball games. He requested their starting pay be set at \$8.00/hour with a \$0.25/hour increase for each year the worker returns. He said there would also be two cook positions and requested their starting pay be \$12.00/hour with a \$0.25/hour increase for each year the worker returns. For the Aquatic Center, Director Champion recommended that the pay rates for supervisors be adjusted based on the number of years they had served. The adjustment is as follows: (a) 0-4 years: no increase; (b) 5-9 years: \$1.00 per hour increase; and, (c) 10 or more years: \$2.00 per hour increase.

Councilmember Williams moved the Council approve these pay rates and increases. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Campbell, the following vote was taken:

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

Mayor Northam stated the motion passed.

SUMMER EMPLOYMENT

Park Director Chris Champion requested that the Park & Recreation Department be allowed to have two summer workers and that they be paid at the rate of \$10.00/hour. Councilmember Campbell moved the Council approve the two Park & Recreation summer positions with a rate of pay of \$10.00 per hour. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Williams, it was unanimously approved.

Mayor Northam said the Street Department also would like to have two summer employees. Councilmember Williams moved the Council approve the two summer positions for the Street Department. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Nichols, it was unanimously approved.

[Councilmember Hughes-Monroe entered the meeting at this point.]

ORDINANCE 2025-02

Mayor Northam presented Ordinance 2025-02 to the Council for their consideration. 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.**

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

Councilmember Campbell moved the Council adopt Ordinance 2025-02. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Williams, it was unanimously adopted.

ORDINANCE 2025-03

Mayor Northam presented Ordinance 2025-03 to the Council for their consideration. 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

Councilmember Nichols moved the Council adopt Ordinance 2025-03. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe, it was unanimously adopted.

STEP RAISE FOR TRANSPORTATION DIRECTOR

Mayor Northam recommended a step raise for Transportation Director Jennifer Roberts. Councilmember Campbell moved the Council approve the step raise for Transportation Director Jennifer

Roberts. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe, it was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC HEARING SET FOR ALCOHOL LICENSE

Mayor Northam reported the City had received an application from China Dragon II, Inc., for an alcohol license. Councilmember Nichols moved a public hearing be set for May 27, 2025. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe, it was unanimously approved.

COUNCIL MEETING START TIME

Mayor Northam stated that because of Councilmember Hughes-Monroe's work schedule, she had requested the start time for regular council meetings be moved to 6 P.M. City attorney Dale Lawrence was asked to prepare an ordinance concerning this.

FAIR HOUSING PROCLAMATION

Mayor Northam said he signed a proclamation designating April as Fair Housing Month.

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 said there were 43 participants in the City "Clean Up" Day. They collected 740 pounds of trash.

Mayor Northam stated Mr. Michael Paulene, Mr. John Stewart and Mr. Lorenzo Woods had been recently hired to fill positions in the Street and Sanitation Department.

Mayor Northam said the ribbon cutting for Cattleman & Company, a new business, would be April 25th.

Mayor Northam stated a reception would take place at the Art Museum on April 26th.

Mayor Northam said the Comprehensive Plan Public Review was scheduled for April 29th at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall.

Mayor Northam said the National Day of Prayer observance would take place on May 1st.

Mayor Northam said the Disc Golf Course Ribbon Cutting would take place on May 1st.

Mayor Northam reported the Junior City Council's Autism Awareness Basketball Tournament would take place on May 10th.

Mayor Northam reported the March for Jesus parade would be held on May 17th.

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.

Mayor

Attest: _

City Clerk