

City Hall
Fayette, Alabama
January 13, 2026

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Fayette met at 5:00 o'clock, p.m. on January 13, 2026, in the Council Chambers of the City Hall.

Upon roll call the following were found to be present: Mayor Rod Northam, Councilmembers Steve Herring, Mickey Joe Morgan, Tommy Williams, Cedric Wilson and Floyd Rodgers Jr. Also present were City Clerk Sherry Fowler, City Treasurer Dawn Clapp, Police Chief Danny Jenkins, Fire Chief Shannon Taylor, City Attorney Dale Lawrence, Waste Water Superintendent Matt Buckner and Junior City Council Mayor Sean White.

The opening prayer was given by Rev. Carlos Moore.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilmember Cedric Wilson.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilmember Rodgers moved the minutes of the regular meeting held on December 23, 2025, be approved. Upon it being seconded by Councilmember Wilson, it was unanimously approved.

2025 AUDIT

Mr. Rick McCabe presented the audit for Fiscal Year 2025 to the Council and reviewed it with them. He said the City remains financially strong. He reported that the City ended the fiscal year with 13.1 million in its bank accounts, but part of these monies included the grant and bond issue for the Wastewater System. Mr. McCabe said the City's debt dropped approximately \$790,000.00 this year. He said when the grant monies are taken out the City ended the fiscal year with over an \$800,000.00 surplus. He stated the Aquatic Center cost the City approximately \$32,000.00 and the Wastewater system ended the year with a \$27,000.00 surplus.

REPORT OF CITY TREASURER

City Treasurer Dawn Clapp reported for the month of November 2025, the City received \$305,816.97 in non-designated sales tax and the $\frac{1}{2}\%$ sales tax for the hospital generated \$35,407.25 for a combined total of \$341,224.22. She reported the City received \$8,381.34 in alcohol taxes. She also reported the City received \$35,781.53 in online sales tax.

APPROVAL OF CITY'S FINANCIAL STATEMENT

City Treasurer Dawn Clapp presented the City's financial statement to the Council. She stated the total amount of the checks written were \$844,425.44. Councilmember Wilson moved the City's financial statement be approved. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Herring, the same was unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF PARK & RECREATION FINANCIAL STATEMENT

City Treasurer Dawn Clapp presented the Park & Recreation Department's financial statement to the Council. She stated the total amount of the checks written were \$17,626.59. Councilmember Herring moved the Park & Recreation Department's financial statement be approved. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Williams, the same was unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF MUNICIPAL COURT FINANCIAL STATEMENT

City Treasurer Dawn Clapp presented the Municipal Court's financial statement to the Council. She stated the total amount of the checks written were \$13,901.36. Councilmember Morgan moved the Municipal Court's financial statement be approved. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Herring, the same was unanimously approved.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Police Chief Danny Jenkins presented the police report for December 2025. The report was as follows: 34 incidents investigated; 5 accidents; 91 traffic citations; 134 traffic warnings and 30 arrests.

Chief Jenkins reported that the Code Enforcement officer had written two citations.

Chief Jenkins also reported that Officer Skyler Reed had resigned from the Police Department.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Fire Chief Shannon Taylor presented the fire report for December 2025. The Fire Department received 24 calls.

Chief Taylor reported that the Municipal Housing Code Abatement Board is meeting on January 20, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. at City Hall.

Chief Taylor said that January 1, 2026, was the deadline for the house to be built at 616 23rd St. SW. He said the owner has his pad and blocks in place. Councilmember Williams moved the Council extend the period for the house to be completed for six months. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Herring, the same was unanimously approved.

CIVIC CENTER BOARD APPOINTMENT

Mayor Northam reported that the Civic Center Board had recommended that Ms. Destyn Stowe be appointed to the Civic Center Board to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Ms. Beverly McCollum Whitfield. No action was taken. The Council will vote on the appointment at the next meeting.

CITY COUNCIL GOAL PRIORITIZATION REVIEW

Mayor Northam reviewed with the Council the goals from the City's Comprehensive Plan and Main Street Alabama program. He recommended the Council start with the following areas:

- Align zoning and policy with Downtown priorities
- Integrate infrastructure planning with land use, housing, and economic development goals
- Establish strategic framework for Downtown revitalization
- Activate Downtown with arts, events and community programming
- Develop a formalized Downtown event committee
- Preserve historic charm while modernizing amenities
- Revitalize Downtown as Fayette's cultural and economic center

WORK SESSION

Councilmember Herring moved the Council set a work session for January 27, 2026 at 4 p.m. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Wilson, the same was unanimously approved.

"CHRISTMAS AT THE PARK" REVIEW

Mayor Northam reported that 6,148 cars came through during the 38 days that "Christmas at the Park" was open. He said that approximately \$29,500.00 was received in donations.

AL 250 PARTICIPATION

Mayor Northam gave the Council information on the upcoming celebration of the 250th Anniversary of the United States' Declaration of Independence.

REPORT OF MAYOR

Mayor Northam informed the Council of Dr. Richard Rutland's passing on January 12, 2026, at the age of 99. He expressed sympathy to the family.

Mayor Northam said the City is looking for a new ACE Coordinator.

Mayor Northam announced the unemployment rate for November 2025 was 2.8%.

Mayor Northam said the Rockland Road Concert would take place on January 17th at 6 p.m. at the Civic Center.

Mayor Northam said the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day celebration would be held on Monday, January 19th with the Recognition starting at 10:00 with the march to follow.

Mayor Northam stated Advocacy Day was January 21st in Montgomery.

Mayor Northam congratulated Ms. Devin Dudley on her upcoming marriage. She will be leaving as Editor of The Times-Record to move to Dothan.

REPORT OF JUNIOR CITY COUNCIL MAYOR

Junior City Council Mayor Sean White informed the Council the Junior City Council's 4th annual basketball tournament would take place in February. He said the monies raised would be donated to the animal shelter.

REPORT OF COUNCILMEMBER WILLIAMS

Councilmember Williams thanked the Sanitation Department employees for working during the holidays.

REPORT OF COUNCILMEMBER RODGERS

Councilmember Rodgers introduced two members of the Fayette Leadership Program – Ms. Shavonne Eatmon and Mrs. Tracy Hollingsworth.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk