

**MINUTES OF A SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE EUFAULA CITY COUNCIL HELD ON
MONDAY, APRIL 5, 2021 AT 5:15 P.M.**

The Eufaula City Council met in a scheduled session on Monday, April 5, 2021, at 5:15 p.m. in the Police Department Courtroom at 545 East Barbour Street. Council President Register called the meeting to order, and Dr. Terry Batton offered the invocation. Council President Register led the Council and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Upon call of the roll the following members were present: Council President Wes Register, President Pro Tem Otis Hill, Marvin Brown, Ben Garrison, and John Robinson.

Also present: Mayor Jack Tibbs, Joy White, City Clerk/Treasurer, and Joel Smith, City Attorney.

HONORS AND RECOGNITION

Mayor Tibbs and Council President Register recognized and commended the following employees for their years of work service, and Mayor Tibbs presented them with appreciation certificates: Steve Troy Borden, Scott Graham Flowers, Beverly Lowe, Kolten Walker, and Lucy Wellborn, 5 years; Michelle Weatherbee and Scott Webb, 10 years; Police Chief Steve Watkins, 20 years; and David Richards, 30 years.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

President Pro Tem Hill offered a motion to approve the order of the agenda for the meeting of April 5, 2021. Mr. Robinson seconded the motion. After a voice vote, Council President Register announced the motion had carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

Council President Register reviewed the items on the Consent Agenda for council approval.

- (a) Motion and second to dispense with and approve the regular session minutes of March 15, 2021.
- (b) Motion and second to dispense with and approve the Claims Docket dated March 31, 2021, in the amount of \$58,379.47.

Mr. Garrison moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Mr. Hill seconded the motion. After a voice vote, Council President Register announced the motion had carried.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Tibbs shared a developmental schedule for the Bluff City Inn project. Mayor Tibbs met with the Corps at the proposed restaurant site, and progression of this project will also include necessary actions required by the City of Eufaula. Further details are being developed within an allowed 90 day period, and will be presented to the council for approval to initiate the project. Various other projects are continuing to materialize throughout the city.

VISITORS

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Council President Register introduced Resolution 8-2021 (Authorize Contract for Guardrails – Forest Hills and Benjamin Drive Areas). Mr. Brown offered a motion to adopt Resolution 8-2021 (Authorize Contract for Guardrails – Forest Hills and Benjamin Drive Areas). Mr. Hill seconded the motion. After a voice vote, Council President Register announced that the motion had carried.

**RESOLUTION
8-2021**

WHEREAS, the City of Eufaula obtained professional engineering and consultation services to prepare plans and specifications for construction of guard rails on Spruce Drive, in the Forest Hills Subdivision, and at the intersection of Benjamin Drive and Anderson Drive, off of Fox Ridge Road; and

WHEREAS, City engineers estimated the project to be \$121,700.00; and

WHEREAS, no bids were received on bid opening date February 4, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the engineers obtained two quotes for the project;

McElhenney Construction Company	\$ 148,090.53
McDonald Construction Company	\$ 148,625.00

WHEREAS, the lowest bid is over the engineers estimate by \$ 26,390.53.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the City Council of the City of Eufaula authorizes Mayor Jack B. Tibbs, Jr. to execute documents to move forward with the contract with McElhenney Construction Company.

DONE THIS 5th day of April, 2021.

CITY OF EUFAULA, ALABAMA
A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

Wes Register, Council President

ATTEST:

Joy White, City Clerk/Treasurer

Council President Register introduced Resolution 15-2021 (Authorize Mayor to Execute Documents with FAA for Airport Coronavirus Response Grant Program). Mr. Garrison offered a motion to adopt Resolution 15-2021 (Authorize Mayor to Execute Documents with FAA for Airport Coronavirus Response Grant Program). Mr. Robinson seconded the motion. After a voice vote, Council President Register announced that the motion had carried.

RESOLUTION

15-2021

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Transportation Federal Aviation Administration has funds available authorized by the Airports Coronavirus Response Grant Program for Weedon Field Airport; and

WHEREAS, the amount available to the City of Eufaula is \$ 13,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Eufaula affirms its desire to move forward with accepting the grant funds per the agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Eufaula authorizes the Mayor to execute the Airports Coronavirus Response Grant Program Agreement with the Federal Aviation Administration.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 5th day of April, 2021.

CITY OF EUFAULA, ALABAMA
A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

Wes Register
City Council President

ATTEST:

Joy White, CMC
City Clerk/Treasurer

Council President Register introduced Resolution 16-2021 (Authorize Equipment Purchase – Weedon Field Airport). Mr. Robinson offered a motion to adopt Resolution 16-2021 (Authorize Equipment Purchase Weedon Field). Mr. Garrison seconded the motion. After a voice vote, Council President Register announced that the motion had carried.

RESOLUTION

16-2021

WHEREAS, the City of Eufaula obtained one bid for mowing the airport grounds at Eufaula Weedon Field Airport; and

WHEREAS, the bid received was \$ 151,454.10 for a three year contract; and

WHEREAS, the City of Eufaula wishes to reject the bid submitted and, instead, purchase a utility tractor and flex M15 Flex Wing Rotary Cutter from the Sourcewell contract for approximately \$ 63,000.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Eufaula authorizes the Mayor to execute documents to proceed with the purchase of the mowing equipment for Weedon Field Airport.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 5th day of April, 2021.

CITY OF EUFAULA, ALABAMA
A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

Wes Register
City Council President

ATTEST:

Joy White
City Clerk/Treasurer

PUBLIC HEARING

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

COUNCIL ACTION/DISCUSSION

Council President Register opened the discussion for the selection of voting delegates able to attend the Alabama League of Municipalities annual business meeting on Friday, May 14, 2021, in Huntsville, Alabama. Mr. Garrison offered a motion to accept President Pro Tem Otis Hill as the primary voting delegate, Mayor Jack Tibbs as the first alternate voting delegate, and Council President Wes Register as the second alternate voting delegate. Mr. Robinson seconded the motion. After a voice vote, Council President Register announced that the motion had carried. Council President Register opened the floor for nominations for the vacancy on the Eufaula City Schools Board of Education. President Pro Tem Hill nominated Caty Richardson. There were no other nominations and Council President Register closed the floor for nominations. A roll call vote was then taken and recorded as follows: Yeas: Mr. Robinson, Mr. Garrison, Mr. Brown,

President Pro Tem Hill, and President Register. Nays: None. Council President Register and council members then congratulated Caty Richardson and thanked her for her dedication and service to the board. President Pro Tem Hill added that Mrs. Richardson is a great advocate, and that it is important to get people on the school board that bring continuity and stability so that the Board can work through the challenges that are met.

Mr. Garrison requested an update on the Dollar Motor Company located at the corner of South Eufaula Avenue and Broad Street. City Attorney Joel Smith stated that a long term parking easement had been granted to Dollar Motor Company by the City years ago, but has since expired and terminated with the City. All vehicles have been removed from the property which has been condemned and appraised. The City and the owners are attempting to resolve this issue outside of any other legal process.

Mr. Garrison then addressed the hotel building nuisance located at highway 82 east and T.V. McCoo Boulevard. Mayor Tibbs responded that this piece of property will be torn down but a location to properly dispose of the debris must be resolved.

Mayor Tibbs recognized Representative Berry Forte in attendance of today's council session. Rep. Forte commended the Mayor and Council for the street paving project in the majority of the City of Eufaula. Rep. Forte also mentioned that federal funding has been awarded through the American Rescue Plan Act to the city and the county in the approximate amount of \$2,000,000.

REGULAR AGENDA (NEW BUSINESS)

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Garrison reported that the City of Eufaula continues an optimistic trend in its finances. A great indicator of spending in the City is the increased activity of patrons who are beginning to shop and spend again as vaccinations increase.

Council President Register attended the last school board meeting and has also spoken with and commended Principal Reeivice Girtman for a job well done. Principal Girtman has also created a new program called Tiger Tracks designed to set expectations and keep a digital record of students' accomplishments. A variety of summer enrichment programs will be available to students this summer.

Superintendent Joey Brannan was also in attendance of today's council session. He thanked the hospital and announced that any teacher that has not yet been vaccinated will be able to obtain a vaccine on Friday, April 9, 2021. He also thanked the Council for their support and for appointing the newest members to the School Board of Education.

President Register stated that the library will announce their spring programs this week and that the adult and children's digital programs are being planned, and Verizon hotspots are doing very well. The Youth Services Department will host a special digital Earth Day program on Thursday, April 22, 2021.

Mr. Robinson reported that the Weedon Field Airport is doing well. Mr. Robinson also commended large companies such as West Rock for using the local Weedon Field Airport. On Friday, April 2, 2021, the flashlight Easter egg hunt was held at Old Creek Town Park. Approximately 200 children participated in the event, and 4,000 eggs were hidden. There were

approximately 200 prizes given away to the children. Mr. Robinson thanked the police and fire departments for their assistance with this event.

Baseball and softball seasons will begin next week, Monday, April 12, 2021. The Walking Club will begin on Wednesday, April 7, 2021 and each Wednesday and Friday thereafter, weather permitting, at 9:00 a.m. at the community center. Swimming registration began today and classes will begin Saturday, June 5, 2021.

The Chamber of Commerce hosted "A Network at Noon" on March 23, 2021 at 12:00 noon for local restaurant and business owners to present and discuss ideas and business needs. There were approximately 40 participants. The Chamber is partnering with the Auburn University-Extension Office to offer four (4) small business workshops on July 24, 2021 and July 28, 2021 to look at economics, marketing, bookkeeping, internet sites, etc., as it relates to starting a small business. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 27, 2021 at 12:00 noon. The Chamber has joined with 600 other Chambers to write a letter to Congress encouraging the extension of the PPP Protection until the end of December 2021 due to the pandemic. PPP Protection has already saved 954 jobs locally.

Mr. Brown reported that the garbage crew collected and hauled 63 tons of garbage. Trash crews picked up and hauled 102 tons of debris to the Barbour County landfill. The litter crew picked up 88 bags of trash throughout the city. The shop crew completed 15 work orders entered for vehicle and/or equipment repairs. The department produced thirteen bales of recycled cardboard. The construction crew also filled potholes throughout the city.

President Pro Tem Hill commended Police Chief Steve Watkins for extensive training in the Law Enforcement Executive Program, a 240-hour program. The program includes class training in disciplinary, personnel, and departmental management, etc. Classes/training require travel to Montgomery, Dothan, Fort Payne, and Orange Beach. Fire Chief Ryan Feggins noted that the department generally focuses on recruiting during this time of the year. COVID-19 has resulted in many restrictions, but the department is looking forward to returning to some interaction with surrounding areas such as Dothan, Phenix City, etc.

Council President Register noted the department report listed on the agenda may be viewed online through the City of Eufaula website, www.eufaulaalabama.com.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the same was on motion by Mr. Garrison duly made and seconded by Mr. Robinson, adjourned this 5th day of April, 2021.

CITY OF EUFAULA, ALABAMA
A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

Wes Register, City Council President

ATTEST:

Joy White, City Clerk/Treasurer