

MINUTES OF A WORK SESSION OF EUFAULA CITY COUNCIL HELD JANUARY 26, 2021

The Eufaula City Council met in work session Tuesday, January 26, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. in the Municipal Courtroom at the Eufaula Police Department Complex. Upon call of the roll the following members were present: Council President Wes Register, President Pro Tempore Otis Hill, Council Member Ben Garrison, Council Member Marvin Brown, and Council Member John Wayne Robinson.

Also present: Mayor Jack B. Tibbs, Jr., Joel P. Smith, Jr., City Attorney, Gloria Helms, Special Projects Coordinator, and Public Works Director Tim Brannon.

Council President Register called the meeting to order and presented the minutes of the January 19, 2021 work session for review and approval. President Pro Tem Hill moved to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Robinson seconded the motion. After unanimous voice vote, President Register announced the motion had carried.

The first item for discussion was proposed implementation of an automated residential garbage system. Mr. Brannon presented a comprehensive breakdown of the current household garbage costs as well as savings if converting to an automated system. After discussion, Mr. Robinson stated he would like to receive more feedback on the proposal. Mr. Garrison suggested the matter be discussed with the finance committee.

Discussion was held regarding construction of restrooms at the Splash Pad. Mrs. Helms said architectural and engineering work is in the beginning stages, and then the project will be bid. Total project cost is anticipated to be between \$175,000 and \$200,000. AIPro Health will pay for the ornamental gate.

Council President Register stated the city has been exploring options for changing telephone systems, as the monthly bills for service have steadily increased. By switching carriers, the city can save an average of \$4,500 per month, he said. There will be a one-time \$40,000 to \$50,000 start-up cost.

Council President Register said he would like Council to consider purchasing commemorative coins that can be distributed at conferences or used for networking purposes. He stated local artist Nelda Mann has designed artwork to be used on the coins at no cost to the city. He stated it will cost \$5,679 to purchase 600 coins, while 300 coins are \$3,157.

Discussion was held regarding the need for surface materials for Briarhill Road, a dirt road within the Eufaula city limits. Mr. Brannon stated he would consult county engineer Matt Murphy and see if they could assist in getting some milling or crush and run.

President Pro Tempore Hill thanked the public works department for recent paving work throughout the city. He also stated that the fire department is in need of a 40x60 metal training building. Such a building is estimated to cost between \$20,000 to \$40,000. He

also stated the police department needs five vehicles. City Clerk Joy White and Mayor Tibbs stated they are in the budget, and pointed out that they could not be gotten last year due to COVID. The police department's radio system also needs to be upgraded.

Mr. Brown inquired about the Edgewood grant process. He discussed concerns with the pay of CDL drivers for public works employees, stating many employees leave the city to go to work for higher pay at other employers. Mayor Tibbs stated he is addressing that issue.

It was noted that the pavers will return next week to pave West Browder Street. Cost of the project will be approximately \$6,750.

Mr. Robinson discussed the numerous roadside junk piles throughout town. Mr. Brannon stated he has door hangars he can put out informing residents how to properly dispose of their household garbage and trash.

Discussion was also held regarding maintenance of the storm ditch in Hunter's Inlet.

Finally, Mr. Garrison proposed a vetting committee for the city school board.

There being no further business to come before the Council, motion was duly made and seconded to adjourn.

THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF EUFAULA, ALABAMA
A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

Wes Register, President

ATTEST:

Joy White, City Clerk/Treasurer