

Regular Council Meeting
City of Tallulah
February 22, 2018

A regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council was held on Thursday, February 22, 2018, at 5:30 P M, in the Council Room Chamber of Tallulah City Hall.

Mayor Paxton J. Branch called the meeting to order, led the Pledge of Allegiance, and gave the invocation.

Police Patrolman Robert Thompson presented Council Meeting rules of etiquette/conduct to be observed during the meeting.

A roll-call is shown as follows:

Finlayson	Absent
Houston	Present
Watson	Present
Day	Present
Hayden	Present

Mayor Branch allowed time for any comments or questions from the public regarding items on the agenda, but there was none.

Motion and second to approve minutes of the February 8th meeting were made by Councilmembers Houston and Watson respectively and carried notwithstanding a “nay” vote from Councilmember Hayden objecting to the omission in the minutes of comments from the public in the prior meeting where numerous comments were heard regarding water plant problems and the temporary loss of running water.

Motion and second to approve the occupational license of Isaac Guy, Sr.,dba I & L Transportation, were made by Councilmembers Hayden and Day respectively and carried unanimously.

Mayor Branch reported that Public Works projects consisted primarily of filling pot holes and additional street maintenance brought on primarily by heavy rains.

Section 8 Administrator, Merunda Brown, reported 44 active vouchers in place and occupied. She stated thus far, there have been no submissions to the HUD Scholarship campaign and urged that scholarly inclined young people should look into the possibilities.

City Clerk Gerald Odom presented a financial over view of General Fund operations for the period July 1, 2017 through December 2017, or the first half of fiscal 2018. He reported good revenue and expense performance compared to budget for the period with revenues exceeding budgeted forecasts of \$1,316,000 by \$121,000, reaching \$1,437,000. Overall expenses

compared to budget forecasts of \$1,408,000 exceeded budget by only \$4,600.00, totaling \$1,412,600, which is considered excellent for a six month period he stated. All departments excluding the Police Department were doing well according to budget he reported. He answered financial questions from the Council which included uses for the short-term loan of \$375,000 obtained in late November and due for payment on March 1, 2018.

Motion and second to accept the financial report were made by Councilmembers Houston and Watson respectively and carried notwithstanding a “nay” vote from Councilmember Hayden.

Councilmember Watson moved for approval of A Resolution Authorizing the City of Tallulah Mayor Paxton J. Branch As Signatory on Contract with Womack and Sons Construction Group to Complete All Work Related to the Harlem Street Drainage Improvement Federal Emergency Management Agency Hazard Mitigation Grant Program HMGP 1603N-065-0004 Project 0253. Councilmember Houston seconded, and motion carried unanimously.

Motion to approve an Accounting Services Contract with Allen, Green & Williamson, LLP, was made by Councilmember Hayden, seconded by Councilmember Day, and carried unanimously.

Councilmember reports/comments regarding their respective districts consisted primarily of: the need to look into flash flooding on Highway 65 South which could be hazardous to drivers; status of permission to burn debris in back yards; a trailer on Dickinson Street collapsing and desired removal; need for better drainage on 3rd street; and enforcement of the latest dog/animal leash ordinance.

Mayor Branch gave an over view of operations of the water plant stating among things that the plant needs a new water clarifier, but that water is rapidly clearing up and flowing with good pressure. He also spoke of increased confidence in the water plant crew in their learned abilities to grapple with problems until repaired and/or solved.

Mayor Branch also announced a Special Council Meeting to be held at 5:00 P. M., on Monday, February 26, 2018 concerning a personnel matter.

There were no ending comments from the public, and on motion and second of Councilmembers Hayden and Day respectively which carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned.

Gerald L. Odom, City Clerk

Paxton J. Branch, Mayor

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