

Regular Council Meeting
City of Tallulah
March 22, 2018

A regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council was held on Thursday, March 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.

Patrol Officer Robert Thompson presented the rules of etiquette/conduct that would be followed during the meeting.

A roll-call is listed in the following:

Finlayson	Present
Houston	Present
Watson	Absent
Day	Present
Hayden	Present

Mayor Branch allowed time for members of the public to make comments or ask questions regarding items on the agenda, but there was none.

Motion and second to approve minutes of the March 8th meeting were made by Councilmembers Houston and Finlayson respectively and carried unanimously.

The Superintendent's Report consisted primarily of actions underway consisting of mowing and clearing lots as well as the performance of street maintenance.

Madison Parish Hospital executives, Ted Topelowski, Ph.D. and Gary Frutizer were scheduled to present an update on operations of Madison Parish Hospital but were out of town and could not return in time for the meeting.

Motion and second to approve an occupational license submitted by Annie Puckett, dba, "Instructors for Life" were made by Councilmembers Hayden and Day respectively and carried unanimously

Motion and second to approve the application for an occupational license submitted by Donovan Watson, dba, "Stay True" were made by Councilmembers Hayden and Houston respectively and carried unanimously.

Richard Wright who had previously complained about the City not having an animal shelter and animal control officer had asked to be placed on the agenda to further present his concerns and bring about a discussion. However, he announced that he had talked privately to Mayor Branch

about the problem, and the two of them had reached an agreement on the matter. It consists of re-opening the old animal shelter and funding it with fines and other relevant revenues. Details to proceed are currently being worked out he stated. Councilmember Hayden motioned for its approval with second from Councilmember Houston. Motion carried unanimously.

City Clerk Gerald Odom gave a financial overview of the City's General Fund operations as of January 31, 2018, or the first 7 months into the 2018 fiscal year which begins July 1, 2017 and ends June 30, 2018. He reported year-to-date revenues of \$1,837,000 compared to a budget forecast of \$1,753,000 for a favorable variance of \$84,000. Total expenses for the 7 month period amounted to \$1,645,000 against a budget of \$1,647,000 for a favorable variance of \$2,000. All departments excluding the Police Department were well within budget he stated, and noted that department heads were to be commended for their awareness of budgetary restraints. Motion and second to accept the financial report were made by Councilmembers Houston and Day respectively with a "nay" vote from Councilmember Hayden.

Councilmember reports consisted primarily of stray dog problems along with the need for clean-up/removal of junk piles.

With no comments from the public, the meeting was adjourned on motion and second of Councilmembers Finlayson and Houston respectively which carried unanimously.

Gerald L. Odom, City Clerk

Paxton J. Branch, Mayor