

Regular Council Meeting
City of Tallulah
March 28, 2019

A regular council meeting of the Mayor and City Council was on Thursday, March 28, 2019 at 5:30 P.M., in the Council Room Chamber of Tallulah City Hall.

Mayor Gloria Hayden called the meeting to order, led the Pledge of Allegiance, and asked for a moment of silent prayer.

Police Officer Authur Ewell read the Courtroom/Council Meeting Etiquette and Conduct to the Council and all the citizens present.

A roll-call is listed as follows:

Finlayson	Absent
Robinson	Present
Sims	Present
Day	Present
Whitney	Present

Mayor Gloria Hayden made a request to the Council to add an agenda item that Mrs. Cinnamon Gooding be added to give an update on the clarifier project. Motion was given by Councilman Robinson and Second by Councilman Whitney.

A roll-call is listed as follows:

Finlayson	Absent
Robinson	Yea
Sims	Yea
Day	Yea
Whitney	Yea

Mayor Gloria Hayden announced to the citizens present there will only be public comments to items on Agenda and if it is not on the agenda there will be comments allowed.

Mr. Antonio Wilson was asked to give name and address by Mayor Gloria Hayden and he only gave name only and Mr. Wilson refuse to give a physical address as is the requirements when making public comments to the City Council. Mr. Wilson said he would like to address the agenda item on the introduction on an ordinance to allow Atmos Energy the right to conduct business in the City of Tallulah.

Mr. Antonio Wilson questioned the generalization of the ordinance of Atmos Energy doing business in the City of Tallulah and that the Council should be given clear understanding before they vote on such an ordinance. The public need to know about franchise fees. Mr. Wilson asked the Council to address the high water bills because he has hundreds of peoples coming to him personally and they think the Council voted for the rates of the water to go up.

Mr. Antonio Wilson thanked Mayor Pro Temp Andrew Sims for the work of addressing and adding the late Mayor Eddie Beckwith name to the monument at the Veteran Park through the Council during his tenure as Mayor.

Mr. Antonio Wilson asked the Council to table the ordinance for Atmos Energy until the Council has a clear understanding of what the ordinance it for. Mr. Wilson also encourages the Council to add the water rates to the agenda to discuss it. City Attorney addresses the Council and the public that the Council would have to add an item to be discussed.

Councilman Robinson motion to approve the March 14, 2019 regular meeting minutes and it was second by Councilman Sims and carried unanimously.

A roll-call is listed as follows.

Finlayson	Absent
Robinson	Yea
Sims	Yea
Day	Abstain
Whitney	Yea

Mayor Gloria Hayden allowed Mr. Sammy Guice to give a report of the work and update of what he is doing in the City. Mr. Guice said public works was tearing down houses and repairing roads, cutting grass and other things. Mr. Guice made a point that rumors that public work was not doing anything and encourage the Council if they had any questions they could talk to him and can come and see. Mr. Guice said they are burning trash at the park. Mr. Guice told the Council if they needed to know anything public works please call him or come see him.

Mayor Gloria Hayden allowed Mrs. Cinnamon Gooding give an update on the aerator project, she informed the council that McManus had completed Phase 1 and will be starting on Phase 2. Mr. McManus added that Phase 1 is putting the squeegee in the bottom and coordinate with Mr. Goods, Water Plant Supervisor. Mr. McManus also said fairly soon they will ship the upper part of the clarifiers the flash mixers. When the flash mixers come in they will come back drain it and refill it again. There will a biological sample to make sure no contamination in the water or the part being put in, DHA requires it. USDA in Alexandria, Louisiana has to approve a change order. State Engineer in Baton Rouge, have to approve it. Once approve McManus enter into a full contract, and contractor can order parts and move fairly quickly. The feasibility reports will come back quickly. Mayor Gloria Hayden said will update the public when there will be repairs to be prepare for any unexpected problems. Mayor Gloria Hayden said the water is fine and not contaminated.

Approve the Recommendation of Chief Buster McCoy on moving Officer Chester Williams from Part time to Full Time. Motion was made by Councilman Robinson and Second by Councilman Sims.

A roll-call is listed as follows.

Finlayson	Absent
Robinson	Yea
Sims	Yea
Day	Yea
Whitney	Yea

Approve Recommendation of Chief Buster McCoy to terminate Gerald McLeod. Motion by Councilman Whitney and Second by Councilwoman Day.

A roll-call is listed as follows.

Finlayson	Absent
Robinson	Abstain
Sims	Yea
Day	Yea
Whitney	Yea

Approval to change the name on the City of Tallulah Credit Cards to Mayor Gloria Hayden and City Clerk Alfred McClodden and the permission to add Chief Buster McCoy as an administrator of a City of Tallulah Credit Card. Motion was made by Councilwoman Day and Second by Councilman Robinson

A roll-call is listed as follows.

Finlayson	Absent
Robinson	Yea
Sims	Yea
Day	Yea
Whitney	Yea

Mayor Gloria Hayden asked City Clerk Alfred McClodden to order Buster McCoy a City of Tallulah Credit Card in the morning.

Mayor Gloria Hayden allowed Yvonne Lewis to explain the 2% by Atmos Energy to the City to the Council. This ordinance will be done for 15 years.

Motion to approve introducing the Ordinance for Atmos Energy for 2% Franchise Fee to the City of Tallulah was made by Councilwoman Day and Second by Councilman Robinson

A roll-call is listed as follows.

Finlayson	Absent
Robinson	Yea
Sims	Yea
Day	Yea
Whitney	Yea

Mayor Gloria Hayden told the Council they was voting to approve the occupational license for Brooklyn Heights not to allow the transitional home for inmates at the location on Chestnut Street. There was a discussion among the Councilman about the clarity of the occupational license and the allowing of the transitional housing in neighborhood and Delta Head Start. City Attorney told the Council it is legal for Brooklyn Heights to change from veteran's transitional home to inmate transitional home. But the Council has to make the decision of location of the inmate transitional housing.

The Public was allowed to speak on putting the transitional housing for Brooklyn Heights and Mr. Carl Walk, Assistant Director of Delta Community Action and was speaking on behalf of Delta Community Action. Mr. Walk said that Delta Head Start had about sixty children from 4 months to 5 years old about 100 yards from the transitional housing for inmates and He was voicing his disagreement on record on behalf of Delta Community Action or even would write a letter as a matter of record for using the facility on Chestnut Street as an transitional housing for inmates.

Mr. Carl Smith, Director from Delta Community Action spoke on his position on the transitional housing. Between Mr. Walk and myself there are 142 children between 3 and 5 years old and 16 babies about 4 months old. Mr. Smith said there is no security at Delta Head Start and he is opposed to the transitional homes for inmates. Mr. Smith said on record he was speaking on behalf of the staff at Delta Head Start and Mr. Walk who is on the payroll.

City Attorney Buddy Caldwell told Mayor Gloria Hayden that he talked to Mr. Leblanc from Department of Corrections about the legality of transitional home for veterans to transitional housing for inmates. Attorney Caldwell said it was legal but it was up to the Council whether they wanted it at that location or another location. Mayor Pro Temp Andrew Sims commented and said that what caught his attention the last time Mr. Stewman was at the Council meeting he said there would be armed security and if it the inmates transitioning was ready for society why would you need armed security and Mr. Andrew Sims said I have one vote and my vote is no.

Approval of Occupation license for Brooklyn Heights Transitional Housing not the location of Chestnut Street. Motion was made Councilman Robinson and Second by Councilwoman Day.

A roll-call is listed as follows.

Finlayson	Absent
Robinson	No
Sims	No
Day	No
Whitney	No

Motioned was made by Councilman Robinson and Second by Councilman Whitney to approve Glass Snow Cone Stand.

A roll-call is listed as follows.

Finlayson	Absent
Robinson	Yea
Sims	Yea
Day	Yea
Whitney	Yea

Motion to approve All Things Patty occupational license was made Councilman Whitney and Second by Councilwoman Day

A roll call is listed as follows.

Finlayson	Absent
Robinson	Yea
Sims	Yea
Day	Yea
Whitney	Yea

District 1 Councilman Charles Finlayson was absent.

District 2 Councilman Robinson said he talked to Mayor Gloria Hayden about lime report on Mississippi Street and it has been taken care of and Lot on Karen Street and that was it for District 2.

District 3 Councilman Sims reported the lot across from Mrs. Gaines Wilkerson house that bricks need to be removed bringing her property value down. Mayor Gloria Hayden said that the property belongs to Mrs. Clara Durr's father across from used to be Light House Church beside Mrs. Wilkerson property and

it need to be revisited again because Mayor Gloria has visited it before. Councilman Sims complained about water meters not being read at four locations and Mayor Hayden reported that she had met with the water meter readers about the issue and will correct it in the morning.

Councilman Sims also asked for an Harlem Project and City Attorney Buddy Caldwell said there is some legal issues and will discuss it in an executive session at a later date.

District 4 Councilwoman Day had a question about the accumulation of tires in her district with mosquitoes season coming and the tires needs to be removed, Mayor Gloria Hayden told Councilwoman Day to call Mr. Guice.

District 5 Councilman Whitney reported that a discussion on people water bills in his district and He would get with Mayor Gloria Hayden tomorrow and Mr. Harris property need some work done on it and one of the Public Works employees present told Mayor Gloria Hayden that the work was already taken care of.

Mayor Gloria Hayden gave her Mayor Report and said a lot of the problems the City of Tallulah are dealing with that they did not happen overnight. The Current Mayor, City Clerk and Police Chief inherit all these problems and this did not happen overnight. We are working together as a team to correct the problems. The City has a limited amount of money to correct these issues. As of today, the Council have not borrowed any money and the City is still moving along. I am on top of the Love's Truck Stop sewage issues. Mayor Gloria Hayden said she consults the Council of everything that is going on and the sewage issue will cost a lot of money and the City of Tallulah have the

Responsibility of paying for the cleanup is the City of Tallulah not Love's Truck Stop. Mayor Gloria Hayden said she had a productive meeting with DEQ and He told the City to continue to work. Mayor Gloria Hayden said I am in the field and not in the office.

The public workers will be seen on private property trying to clean Tallulah on City time. The City is moving forward.

Public Comments was made by Brooklyn Heights Mr. Reginald Stewman and thanked Mayor Gloria Hayden and the City Council for considering Brooklyn Heights for Occupational License and go on record that the Council may not be aware that the United States Constitution allows equal protection that the Council cannot deny the right of people to particular treatments. An inmate release has a right to reside where he or she may choose. A child can walk in the highway and get hit and that's why you have liability insurance. There should be equal protection Mr. Reginald Stewman told Mayor Gloria Hayden and the Council action today is not warranted to Federal law but Local law. Mr. Reginald Stewman said Brooklyn Heights is considering filing a federal injunction against the City of Tallulah. Mr. Reginald Stewman said that he would like to put this on record and would like a copy of the minute. Mayor Gloria Hayden question Mr. Reginald Stewman as an citizen would he like the transitional home for inmates in front of his home and Mr. Reginald Stewman answered it is a question of the law and I abide by the law. Mayor Gloria Hayden has a problem with 24 hours security guards and the vulnerable citizens such as old peoples and children protection. Mayor Gloria Hayden told Mr. Reginald Stewman to do whatever he thinks is best and the City of Tallulah will do what is best for the City. City Attorney Buddy Caldwell told

Mr. Reginald Stewman told the Council cannot be made to approve housing but responsibility for business occupational license.

Mr. Freddie Carter gave out a bird house to Mr. Chadwick McNeal for his excellent work in the City of Tallulah for public works.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilman Robinson .

Attest:

March 28, 2019

Alfred McClodden, City Clerk

Gloria Owens Hayden, Mayor