

Regular Council Meeting
City of Tallulah
May 8, 2019

A regular council meeting of the Mayor and City Council was on Thursday, May 8, 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.

A roll-call is listed as follows:

Finlayson	Present
Robinson	Present
Sims	Present
Day	Present
Whitney	Present

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

Mayor Gloria Hayden read the City of Tallulah ordinance and procedures for public comments to the Council and all citizens present.

Mayor Gloria Hayden allowed time for the public to make public comments on any items on the agenda and no one made any comments on the agenda.

Mayor Pro Tem Andrew Sims requested an item be added to the agenda on mosquitoes abatement Motion was made by Councilwoman Day and second by Councilman Robinson.

A roll-call is listed as follows:

Finlayson	Yea
Robinson	Yea
Sims	Yea
Day	Yea
Whitney	Yea

Mayor Gloria Hayden requested Fire Chief Harold Allen be added to the agenda to make his report. Motion was made by Councilman Robinson and second by Councilman Sims.

A roll-call is listed as follows:

Finlayson	Yea
Robinson	Yea
Sims	Yea
Day	Yea
Whitney	Yea

Councilwoman Day made a motion to approve the corrected minutes April 25, 2019 regular meeting and it was second by Councilman Whitney.

A roll-call is listed as follows:

Finlayson	Yea
Robinson	Yea
Sims	Yea
Day	Yea
Whitney	Yea

Mayor Gloria Hayden allowed Mayor Pro Tem Andrew Sims discussed his dispute about mosquitoes abatement. Mayor Pro Tem Andrew Sims said that the City of Tallulah is paying Mr. Carlton Whitaker, \$500 monthly for mosquitoes abatement and he have not seen Mr. Whitaker in no neighborhood dealing with mosquitoes and until the council see Mr. Whitaker spraying for mosquitoes no more pay to Mr. Whitaker. Mayor Gloria Hayden went on to explain to Mayor Pro Tem Sims that the situation with the mosquitoes was that in order for the City of Tallulah to received supplies and equipment from Monroe, La. for mosquito's abatement someone on staff was certified in mosquito's abatement. Mr. Whitaker was certified and came on and trains two City of Tallulah employees. Mayor Gloria Hayden said the supplies were upstairs and because of the weather they could not start this week as planned. Mayor Gloria Hayden said they would go out next week and go from street to street with the lavisol and someone certified have to be with the employees when they go out on the street and Mayor Hayden said she would go along as well. Mayor Gloria Hayden said the agreement was with Mr. Carlton Whitaker was for \$500 monthly because he had license and no one else in Tallulah had license. Mayor Gloria Hayden told the Council if they were dissatisfied with Mr. Whitaker they could search for someone who was licensed. Mayor Gloria Hayden said that Mr. Jimmie Carter moving from Texas is in the process of taking the test for mosquito's abatement and Mayor Gloria Hayden asked if there was anyone interested they could take the test for certification in mosquito's abatement.

Mr. Sammie Guice, interim City Superintendent said public works was doing all they can do such cleaning out ditches and City is moving and it a slow process to move on. Mr. Sammie Guice said about the many complaints by citizens cleaning ditches can be solved by citizens helping and cleaning ditches in their own yards. Mr. Guice said they are answering all the calls as quickly and the best as the public workers can get to the area of complaints. Mr. Guice told the Mayor, City Council to keep what they was doing and the public work would continue to do what they are doing to move the City forward. City Attorney Buddy Caldwell asked about the machine that was presented to the Council months ago and that it was very inexpensive way to fix holes in the street. Mr. Guice said there was a machine at the City barn and only two City workers that can operate the machine. Mr. Guice said if those two workers work with the machine there would no grass cutting and other city duties because of the manpower hours. Mayor Gloria Hayden said she would check on the machine Attorney Caldwell was inquiring about in the morning.

Mr. Michael Goods made the Water Operator report and said that the water plant is operating pretty well. Mr. Goods said four guys went and put sand in the bottom of one of the clarifier and on next Monday if the weather permits to put sand in the bottom of the other clarifier. Mr. Goods said all the clarifier parts were here and the parts were starting to be put on and weather stop the work today. Mr. Goods was hoping all the parts would be put in and the electrician come and hook it up and the inspector come in and make sure everything is working properly by next Friday. Mr. Goods said the water quality would increase dramatically and the City of Tallulah will have good water.

Approve Police Chief Recommendation of Termination for Officer Oliver Robinson. Motion was made by Councilman Robinson and second by Councilman Whitney.

A roll-call is listed as follows:

Finlayson	Yea
Robinson	Abstain
Sims	Yea
Day	Yea
Whitney	Yea

Approval of the donation of the land to the City of Tallulah at no expense to the City was motioned by Councilman Finlayson and second by Councilman Robinson

A roll-call is listed as follows:

Finlayson	Yea
Robinson	Yea
Sims	Yea
Day	Yea
Whitney	Yea

Approval to give Mr. Oliver more time to clean up his property was motioned by Councilman Robinson and second by Councilwoman Day.

A roll-call is listed as follows:

Finlayson	Yea
Robinson	Yea
Sims	Yea
Day	Yea
Whitney	Yea

Mayor Gloria Hayden tabled the update on property at 1002 N. Walnut Street because no one was present at the Council meeting to discussed the property

Mr. Alvin Bagby, gave an update on the Milliken's Bend Fireworks on June 8, 2019 and he had his insurance available for the Fireworks. Motion was made by Councilman Whitney and second by Councilman Robinson for the Milliken's Bend Fireworks.

A roll-call is listed as follows:

Finlayson	Yea
Robinson	Yea
Sims	Yea
Day	Yea
Whitney	Yea

Fire Chief Harold Allen gave a report on how to keep water out of citizens out of home. Harold Allen said we can find short term solutions with poly pipes. And it is inexpensive ways to keep water out of citizen's homes. Poly pipes about 200 feet cover one home. Harold Allen said that he is not saying the City will cover the expenses but just giving a solution to the complaints. Mayor Gloria Hayden asked Harold Allen to come and discussed these solutions to the City Council. Mayor Gloria Hayden encouraged the citizens to work together on helping the peoples that are less fortunate in the City of Tallulah.

District 1 Councilman Charles Finlayson thanked Mr. Sammie Guice giving all the help for coming out and identifying spots and marked them off before the rain and mark it off today and hope there will not be five inches of rain and that water can be removed.

District 2 Councilman Robinson nothing to report.

District 3 Councilman Sims reported that Mr. Johnson on Albert Street said that are some broken culverts that need to remove and dig out the ditch which is not much of a ditch from his house all the way to where Mr. Ezell Goods used to live. Mr. Sammie Guice said it is difficult to find someone to find to operate backhoe and to dig ditches. Mr. Guice said that is why the City have not been digging out many ditches. Mr. Guice said that there have been advertising for backhoe operators and no one have showed interest.

District 4 Councilwoman Day reported it was flooding on West Darrow and thanked Mr. Guice for cleaning the ditches and Mrs. Day said she passed those ditches today and everything was flowing perfectly and on Highway 80 Mrs. Day said that she could see a lot of cleanup going on and she know when Mr. Guice can they would clean up some of the grass that need to cut.

District 5 Councilman Whitney reported that ditches need to be cleaned out which caused a lot of flooding and the ditch by Larry Oliver house where he stores things all the way to the back to Bill Watson need to be dug out and that the ditch back of the Starr Lodge and between Tallulah Charter School need to be dug out and maybe the Police Jury can dig the ditch out.

Mayor Gloria Hayden passed out the Councilman documents about Harlem Projects from the engineers from the Police Jury and said she would be discussing it with the Council and then with the public later.

Mayor Gloria Hayden asked for public comments from the public and Mr. Antonio Wilson came to speak and He gave his name and said he would not give his address for security reasons. Mayor Hayden said then He could not speak based on the ordinance and Officer Chester Williams told Mr. Wilson he could not speak and Mr. Wilson told the City Clerk to put on record the open meeting law and Lawrason Act RS 42:19(A) is the law and said I have the right to speak. Mayor Gloria Hayden told Rev Carlous Ford that he can video it and under the Lawrason Act the ordinance put in place in 2014 was she was going by to ask for the address before being allowed to speak.

Officer Chester Williams thanked Chadwick McNeal for coming out and handling an emergency immediately.

Anthony Coleman made a comment that citizen are stopping up ditches and putting trash in ditches. Anthony Coleman also said he would be reporting any littering in the future.

Mr. Freddie Carter made a public comment that he spoke with Mayor Eddie Beckwith about opening the City barn on Saturday so people can dump trash. Mayor Hayden said she would check with Mr. Guice to see if the barn could be open from 8AM to 12PM and someone available to do it. Mayor Hayden said she would get back with Mr. Freddie Carter on the decision about the city barn being open on Saturday.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilwoman Day.

Attest:

May 8, 2019

Alfred McClodden, City Clerk

Gloria Owens Hayden, Mayor

