

Regular Council Meeting
City of Tallulah
January 14, 2021

A regular council meeting of the Mayor and City Council was held on Thursday, January 14, 2021 at 5:30 P. M., in the Council Room Chamber of Tallulah City Hall.

Mayor Charles M. Finlayson 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:

Scott	Present
Robinson	Present
Sims	Present
Day	Present
Whitney	Present

There were no public comments on the agenda.

Mayor Finlayson recognized Freddie (Birdman Carter) who presented a customized, large decorated bird house as a token of his appreciation to ex Police Chief Earl Pinkney for his years of outstanding public service to the City of Tallulah.

Mayor Finlayson requested that the agenda be amended with the addition of two resolutions for discussion. Subsequent motion was made by Councilmember Whitney, seconded by Councilmember Sims, and carried unanimously.

Motion and second to approve minutes of the January 6, 2021 Special Meeting were made by Councilmembers Whitney and Scott respectively and carried unanimously.

Councilmember Whitney moved for approval of A Resolution Authorizing New Account Signatures On The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Construction Account In Conjunction With The USDA Rural Development Utilities Service Grant. Councilmember Sims seconded, and motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Sims moved for approval of A Resolution Authorizing Account Signatures On The New Sales Tax Account Located At Delta Bank For The City Of Tallulah. Councilmember Day seconded, and motion carried unanimous

Councilmember Robinson motioned for approval of the Occupational License application submitted by Karl A. Black, "Fit for a Queen Floors and Exteriors." Councilmember Sims seconded, and motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Robinson motioned for approval of the Occupational License application of Tiera Lands, Virtuous Credit & Tax Solutions.” Councilmember Whitney seconded, and motion carried unanimously.

Cindy Thomason, CPA, Allen, Green and Williamson, Monroe, Louisiana, presented the first five months of financial activity of the City. She noted that the City has improved sufficiently financially to be removed from the prior “Going Concern” audit notation which signifies that a government entity is on the verge of a financial crisis. This year’s audit, she stated, shows that auditors have removed the City from such description. Overall, the City is operating within budget she explained with expectations to remain so throughout the year. As a side note, it was made clear the importance of the Water Company producing revenues sufficient to remain within the Bond Covenant the City has with bond issuing institutions which calls for an increase in water usage rates.

At this juncture, Mayor Finlayson injected an update on the Harlem Street Project stating that it will begin February 1, 2021 to be constructed in three phases: From Highway 80 to Beech Street; from Beech Street to Tallulah Estates entrance; and from there to Gayle Street.

Police Chief, Buster McCoy, advised that his department needed 11 bullet-proof vests, and that he will get quotes and report at next council meeting.

Councilmember Robinson motioned for approval of the introduction of An Ordinance Establishing The Rate Structure for Tallulah Water Service And Providing For Other Matters In Connection Therewith. Council Member Day seconded, and motion carried unanimously. Attorney Bill Boles, Monroe, Louisiana, presented and overall view of how the process will unfold ensuring that the City’s water needs shall always be met.

There being no further business to discuss, Mayor Finlayson adjourned the meeting



Gerald L. Odom, City Clerk



Charles M. Finlayson, Mayor