

Regular Council Meeting  
City of Tallulah  
October 10, 2019

A regular council meeting of the Mayor and City Council was held on Thursday, October 10, 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.

Mayor Hayden presented the rules of order/etiquette that were to be observed during the council meeting.

A roll-call is listed as follows:

Finlayson	Present
Robinson	Present
Sims	Absent
Day	Present
Whitney	Present

There were no public comments on the agenda.

Motion and second to approve minutes of the September 26<sup>th</sup> meeting were made by Councilmembers Whitney and Robinson respectively carried with roll call as follows:

Finlayson	Yes
Robinson	Yes
Day	Abstain
Whitney	Yes

Presentation by Northeast Delta Human Service Authority:

On behalf of Northeast Delta Human Service Authority, Yvonne Lewis presented Ikeia Davis with a plaque for participating in the Tallulah 5k Run.

Presentation by Tony Matlock – USDA:

Tony Matlock along with Katina Spencer of USDA and Cinnamon Gooding of McManus Engineering gave an overview of USDA and what is available for the City of Tallulah Water Plant. Mr. Matlock gave an estimated cost of the project to be \$10,125,400.00. The estimated increase of the water bill for about 3000 customers may increase by approximately \$11.00. This plan will be for 40 years. Councilman Whitney asked what would be an estimate for the monthly payment. Mr. Matlock answered an estimate of \$32,000.00 monthly.

Cinnamon Gooding talked about the Interim Plan which was which and the plan for a New Plant both cost an estimate of about ten million. She expressed the current water plant is over seventy years old and instead of continue to patch on it, it would be better to get a new plant. The State is

looking to tie Tallulah in to another plant which would have to be piped from here to whatever plant accepts the offer.

Mayor Hayden expressed that the City is still under an Administrative Order and still in need of licensed operators. The city applied for an extension on the order which was denied. The Water Plant still has problems but I commend Mr. Goods for working with what we got. We are trying to show the state we are putting up an effort to the best of our ability.

Mr. Michael Goods reported the plant workers are doing all they can to maintain the current plant. He stated under the Administrative Order the Distribution Lines need to be changed. He is still in search of operators and in the process of sending someone to class. He expressed the need for a new plant.

Private Citizen Carlos Ford (708 Washington Street) asked Mr. Matlock does this plan include changing the piping all over town. Mr. Matlock replied no, because contractors aren't allowed on private property.

**Actions regarding approval of Occupational Licenses:**

- a. Avion Buchanan - Coodies Men's Store – Motion to approve the occupational license was made by Councilman Robinson and seconded by Councilman Finlayson. A roll call followed:

Finlayson	Yes
Robinson	Yes
Day	Yes
Whitney	Yes

- b. Barbara S. Gamboa – Sturdivant Galleries - Motion to approve the occupational license was made by Councilman Robinson and seconded by Councilman Day. A roll call followed:

Finlayson	Yes
Robinson	Yes
Day	Yes
Whitney	Yes

**Section 8 Report:**

Section 8 Director Merunda Brown presented and explained to the council the need for approval of the 2020 Fair Market Rent for Madison Parish. A roll call followed:

Finlayson	Yes
Robinson	Yes
Day	Yes
Whitney	Yes

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Merunda Brown presented and asked the council approval for Management Resource Group to Compile the Tallulah Section 8 Administrative Plan. A roll call followed:

Finlayson	Yes
Robinson	Yes
Day	Yes
Whitney	Yes

Merunda Brown presented and asked the council approval for Management Resource Group to Update Tallulah Section 8 Utility Allowance Schedule. A roll call followed:

Finlayson	Yes
Robinson	Yes
Day	Yes
Whitney	Yes

#### Superintendent's Report:

In the absence of Mr. Sammie Guice the Superintendent's Report was given by David Day. He advised the council that the department was doing well and that they are continuing to work on grass cutting, cleaning ditches, culverts and patch holes in the streets.

#### Fire Chiefs' Report:

Fire Chief Harold Allen gave an update on the Fire Department. He advised that the parish is still under a burn ban. He informed the council he won the bid from Brindle Mountain Fire Apparatus for the service rescue truck. The truck was delivered on October 10.

#### Councilmember reports:

District 1 – Wants everyone to honor the Burn Ban, Contact Entergy about the pole leaning by Sonic

District 2 – No Report

District 4 – No Report

District 5 – Hole in street at the stop sign by Tom Brown's House

#### Mayor's Report:

The City is on track with all of the financial matters. Councilman Finlayson and myself handle all of the banking information. The Mayor is the only one with the token to handle payroll uploads.

The 1981 General Obligation bond is paid off.

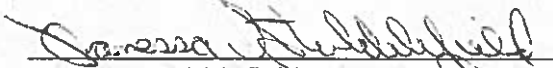
Encouraged everyone to please vote for the .5 cent sale tax on the November 16 ballot for the City of Tallulah. Met and expressed all of the City needs and concerns to Gov. John B. Edwards when he came through town. The sewer plant has been issued a grant for \$313,000.00.

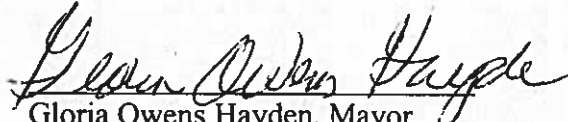
Thanked the Council and employees for working together for the betterment of the City.

Private citizen Freddie Carter (315 Davis Street) voiced his opinion for a new water plant, tired of buying water; Barbara Price (414 1/2 West Oughbourne Street) questioned why the citizens weren't made aware of public meeting and more informed of the water situation and suggested the city have a meeting to inform everyone about the choices of all the plans Councilman Whitney

advised her that the public didn't really attend the previous meetings. With that being said, the Mayor asked the council for another meeting which is scheduled for Wednesday, October 16, 2019, 7:00 p.m. at the Tallulah Madison Community Center. Councilman Whitney thanked the Mayor and the city workers for the quick response to the water leak in his district.

Meeting was adjourned on motion by Councilman Robinson and seconded by Councilman Day.

  
Vanessa Stubblefield, Deputy City Clerk

  
Gloria Owens Hayden, Mayor