

Regular Council Meeting  
City of Tallulah  
October 24, 2019

A regular council meeting of the Mayor and City Council was held on Thursday, October 24, 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.

Sgt. Robert Thompson 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      | Present |
| Day       | Present |
| Whitney   | Present |

There were no public comments on the agenda.

Motion and second to approve minutes of the October 10<sup>th</sup> meeting were made by Councilmembers Day and Whitney respectively carried with roll call as follows:

|           |         |
|-----------|---------|
| Finlayson | Yes     |
| Robinson  | Yes     |
| Sims      | Abstain |
| Day       | Yes     |
| Whitney   | Yes     |

Water Operator Report:

Ken McManus of McManus Engineering gave an overview and update on the progress of the Interim Plan for the Tallulah Water Plant. The pre-bid conference for the aerators was held on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. City is still under an Administrative Order and still in need of licensed operators.

Motion and second to move item #13 to #8 was made by Councilmembers Robinson and Sims respectively carried with a roll call as follows:

|           |     |
|-----------|-----|
| Finlayson | Yes |
| Robinson  | Yes |
| Sims      | Yes |
| Day       | Yes |
| Whitney   | Yes |

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Actions regarding approval of Occupational Licenses:

- a. Kelvin and Tarala Brooks came forward for Deborah Butler - Event Venue- Plans are to have Open House on December 13, 2019 and Ribbon Cutting on December 14, 2019 at 12:00 p.m. Motion to approve the occupational license was made by Councilman Robinson and seconded by Councilman Whitney. A roll call followed:

|           |     |
|-----------|-----|
| Finlayson | Yes |
| Robinson  | Yes |
| Sims      | Yes |
| Day       | Yes |
| Whitney   | Yes |

Superintendent's Report:

Mr. Sammie Guice advised the council that the department was doing well and that they are continuing to patch holes in the roads, cleaning ditches, opening up culverts that have not been opened in several years and digging lines. Mr. Guice explained that the lime can no longer be handled without the use of the crawler.

Mr. Sammie Guice also discussed the condition of Creative Business Concepts Enterprises (formerly Star Lodge Apartments). The buildings need to be condemned. The area is full of snakes, dilapidated weeds, grass and debris. They have a very bad water leak and the owner said he will no longer pay the water bill only the electric bill will he pay. The complex has only eight residents and only three are paying renters. Mr Guice stated the owner expressed hauling water from Monroe for the residents. After a visit to the complex by Mayor Hayden, she said she waded in water and the condition is very bad. Mayor stated she was trying to help the residents find somewhere to stay.

Demolition of Property – 19 Stansborough Street

No action was taken due to the fact that contact to the owner has not been made after the second notice returned unclaimed.

Fire Chiefs' Report:

Fire Chief Harold Allen was absent, so therefore no Fire Report was given.

Declaration of Surplus Vehicles:

Motion and second to declare surplus to a 1999 Spartan Rescue Apparatus Fire Unit were made by Councilmembers Day and Whitney respectively carried with roll call as follows:

|           |     |
|-----------|-----|
| Finlayson | Yes |
| Robinson  | Yes |
| Sims      | Yes |
| Day       | Yes |
| Whitney   | Yes |

Motion and second to approve a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Department of Children and Family Services for use of the Tallulah Madison Community Center During a Disaster were made by Councilmembers Whitney and respectively carried by Sims with a roll call as follows:

|           |     |
|-----------|-----|
| Finlayson | Yes |
| Robinson  | Yes |
| Sims      | Yes |
| Day       | Yes |
| Whitney   | Yes |

Mayor Hayden gave a recap of the Public Meeting held on October 16<sup>th</sup> in reference to the Water Issues for the town. Ken McManus was at the meeting and expressed that the sentiments he got from the citizens were they really want a new water plant. After that being said, the mayor asked the Council for their comments and recommendations and nothing was said.

Mayor Hayden encouraged the Councils as well as all the citizens to vote on the Sales and Use Tax in the up coming election for the City of Tallulah. She expressed that this tax is needed to help the City move forward.

Councilmember reports:

District 1 – Will get with Mr Guice on his request.

District 2 – No Report

Mr. Freddie Carter of 315 Davis Street enquired about the tree on the pole at 1103 Bayou Drive.

District 3 – Tree in the ditch on McCall Street

District 4 – Inquired about how the money from the Sales and Use Tax would be spent.

District 5 – Wanted to know if/ when the Burned Band would be lifted.

Private citizen Latoria Mattox of 805 West Oughbourne Street had comments as well as questions. She wanted to know had the Mayor asked other cities for help for the formerly Starr Lodge residents. Commended Mr. Guice and his crew on the great work she had seen them do and questioned the type of material and rock that was used to fill the potholes in the streets and what was the decision on the water plant.

Mayor's Report:

Informed the Council of signing the papers with USDA for \$150,000 for the aerators. Read a letter from McManus Eng. About rate changes in the early spring at the close of the loan. The City has paid the IRS what was due, has paid the Police Jury one half of the money they loaned the City for the Treatment Plant and the City is on track with all of the financial matters. Councilman Finlayson and myself handle all of the banking information.

Encouraged everyone to please vote for the .5 cent sale tax on the November 16 ballot for the City of Tallulah. Thanked the Council and employees for working together for the betterment of the City.

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

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Vanessa Stubblefield, Deputy City Clerk

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Gloria Owens Hayden, Mayor

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