

STATE OF ALABAMA            )  
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COUNTY OF BALDWIN        )

The City Council met in a Work Session at 4:30 p.m.,  
Fairhope Municipal Complex Council Chamber,  
161 North Section Street, Fairhope, Alabama 36532,  
on Thursday, 18 May 2017.

Present were Council President Jack Burrell, Councilmembers: Jay Robinson, Jimmy Conyers, and Robert Brown, Mayor Karin Wilson, City Attorney Marion E. Wynne, and City Clerk Lisa A. Hanks. Councilmember Kevin Boone was absent.

Council President Burrell called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. and stated there would be no public participation during the Work Session.

The following topics were discussed:

- The first item on the agenda was an update from Water and Sewer Superintendent Dan McCrory and Gas Superintendent Robert Rohm on the line relocate issue at County Road 32 and State Highway 181; and the Baldwin County signage. Mr. McCrory presented a detailed timeline of events that took place beginning in May 2015. The main issue with not relocating the lines back then was due to the City not being reimbursed. After many conversations and e-mails back and forth, almost two years later the County finally stated the City would be reimbursed for relocation of our lines. Mr. McCrory stated that Assistant Superintendent Jay Whitman has done a tremendous job with preparing and keeping cost down with all sites. Mr. Rohm mentioned he had moved three lines at no charge; and two sites still need to be done. Mr. Whitman mentioned a water line east of State Highway 181 that may need to be moved like the 8-inch cost; approximately \$8,000.00 if needed. Council President Burrell suggested a not to exceed of \$10,000.00 and the consensus of the City Council was to move forward.
- Council President Burrell commented he needed two more hours to finish the infrastructure plan. Operations Director Richard Peterson and Economic and Community Development Director Sherry-Lea Botop addressed the City Council regarding infrastructure and needs. Mr. Peterson stated that the substations are priority; and may take at least a year to get the substations. He mentioned a contract with Stewart Engineer for design; appraisal for property owners; upgrades or another substation location to accept the load while rebuilding; and completely do away with the Church Street location.  
  
Ms. Botop stated she was checking on financing available; i.e. USDA Loan Program and ADECA and straight grants. She said we need to know priorities in order to match projects. Mr. Peterson stated the capacity study need to be started. Councilmember Conyers commented he prefers not to borrow much money, but interest is low.
- Mr. Peterson also brought up that Jeff Jiminez was retiring and we need to hire someone soon to get trained. City Treasurer Deborah Smith said she was working on getting someone in place to be trained before he leaves. She mentioned Purchasing and the Warehouse were under her Department.

- Mr. Peterson asked if the Electric Superintendent and the Assistant would be funded since the spreadsheet does not show the Superintendent. He stated the procurement procedures need to be tweaked if possible; and it does make it difficult to get things done.

Council President Burrell commented as you get more comfortable with process, you can see ahead the need, and you get better with procedures.

- Councilmember Robinson gave an update on the Recycling Committee.
- Councilmember Brown said the Recreation Board has reappointments on the agenda and have been working on the Volanta Master Plan.
- Councilmember Conyers commented that the Fairhope Environmental Advisory Board would like the "Clean Marina" as part of the lease; are working on a strategic plan and priorities. He stated that the Library Board met the past Monday.
- Council President Burrell said the Airport Authority met and will put the minutes in the City Council boxes.
- Gas Superintendent Robert Rohm addressed the City Council regarding the cast iron gas line replacement project.
- Water and Sewer Superintendent Dan McCrory addressed the City Council regarding the Waste Water Treatment Plant being recognized nationally.
- Chief Petties addressed the City Council regarding Wal Mart and the need for a substation out in that area. He and Mayor Wilson met with Wal Mart's manager and discussed the school that is held there. Chief Petties said there is a classroom in Wal Mart. He met the students who stay in our hotels and spend money in Fairhope. He said they are looking at a possible desk setup like what we have in our schools. Chief Petties stated that City Attorney Wynne and Attorney McDowell were looking into the legality of this.
- Economic and Community Development Director Sherry-Lea Botopt addressed the City Council and mentioned the Eastern Shore Repertory Theatre and Bluff performances; and Girls Night. She mentioned attending a coastal resilience conference with possible funding; and was part of a City Panel at conference.

There being no further business to come before the City Council, the meeting was duly adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

  
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Jack Burrell, Council President

  
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Lisa A. Hanks, MMC  
City Clerk