

STATE OF ALABAMA)
 :
COUNTY OF BALDWIN)

The City Council met in a Work Session at 4:30 p.m.,
Delchamps Room, 161 North Section Street,
161 North Section Street, Fairhope, Alabama 36532, on
Monday, 10 October 2016.

Present were Council President Jack Burrell, Councilmembers: Diana Brewer (arrived at 4:45 p.m.), Rich Mueller, and Kevin Boone, Mayor Timothy M. Kant, City Attorney Marion E. Wynne (arrived at 4:40 p.m.), and City Clerk Lisa A. Hanks. Councilmember Michael A. Ford and Mayor Timothy M. Kant were absent.

Council President Burrell called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

The following topics were discussed:

- Elizabeth Hammock addressed the City Council regarding the proposed realignment of the existing Elementary and Intermediate Schools into two PreK-6 schools. Ms. Hammock said currently, Fairhope's feeder pattern consists of five schools, including PreK-6 school J. Larry Newton. In an effort to better serve Fairhope students and educators, it has been recommended that the Baldwin County Board of Education (BCBE) realign the existing Elementary and Intermediate Schools into two PreK-6 schools. In so doing, our students (and educators) reap these benefits:
 - Smaller class sizes in grades 4-6
 - Improved teacher:student ratio
 - Instructional continuity/continuity of curriculum
 - Enhanced team teaching
 - Stronger support of enrichment classes (art, music) via more flexible scheduling
 - Smoother transition among all grade levels translating into increased student learning and improved standardized test scores
 - Opportunity for mentorship among students

To date, this proposed realignment has been supported by:

- The Community Advisory Task Force
- The Fairhope Educational Advisory Committee
- Akribos via the recent Council-commissioned audit of the Fairhope feeder pattern
- 521 petitioned signatures
- Feeder pattern principals and a multitude of teachers
- Superintendent, Mr. Eddie Tyler

Ms. Hammock requested support from all including the City Council. A public hearing was questioned. Councilmember Mueller stated our community should have input in the zoning. Ms. Hammock said this is a zoning and priority issue at this time. Councilmember Boone and Councilmember-elect both stated they would support it. Bob Riggs, EAC member, said this is going to be a really smart move with more teachers per students.

Mayor-elect Karin Wilson commented what would be the negative of this alignment. Councilmember Brewer said she was always in support in combining into two PreK-6 schools.

- Golf Director Bobby Hall addressed the City Council regarding his budget and thanked them for the irrigation and cart fleet. He commented staff is good; and he has no big items for this year.
- Purchasing Manager Dan Ames addressed the City Council and mentioned the request for repetitive items will be placed on an agenda in the near future.
- Community Affairs and Recreation Director Sherry Sullivan addressed the City Council regarding her Department's budget. Council President Burrell stated there are suggested changes from Ms. Sullivan that need to be addressed. He also thanked City Treasurer Deborah Smith and Finance Director Jill Cabaniss on their help with the budget.
- Mechanics Supervisor Tim Bung addressed the City Council and stated he needs equipment and one new mechanic.
- Eddie Hall, on behalf of the Fairhope Volunteer Fire Department, addressed the City Council regarding the two quick attack pumpers that were requested. He commented these two attack pumpers will help take hours off the Class A pumpers which will prolong equipment that we have now. City Treasurer Smith stated the Impact Fees can be used for new equipment for a new station. Chief Ellis commented they would like to buy the attack pumper and build up Impact Fees to purchase the Class A pumper.
- Electric Superintendent Jimmy Cluster addressed the City Council and said the biggest need right now is to upgrade the substations. Council President Burrell said we need to budget for the next two or three years for substation upgrades and/or repairs.
- Water and Sewer Superintendent Dan McCrory addressed the City Council and stated the painting of the water tank is needed; and our window of opportunity is approaching. Council President Burrell said selecting the Engineer of Record was on the agenda and was pulled due to this item not being approved yet. Councilmember Boone said he was concerned with the timeframe for this job to be completed. City Treasurer Smith commented we have approximately \$900,000 in savings for these projects.
- Jeff Williams addressed the City Council and stated we do not know where we stand or what was put in the budget for our department; i.e. personnel issues. Council President Burrell commented the Mayor-elect said do whatever it takes for the grass.
- Gas Superintendent Robert Rohm addressed the City Council and stated his biggest expense is the cast iron replacement that is required to be complete by 2040 as of right now. Council President Burrell questioned if we get more manpower and do it ourselves. Mr. Rohm said we must have a boring crew, asphalt repair, curb repair, etc. Councilmember Boone suggested to look for Federal grants.

- Planning Director Jonathan Smith addressed the City Council and stated there have been 18 applications submitted since the last City Council meeting. He said staff is our most important need right now. He requested more funding for engineer to help with subdivision regulations. He also thanked his staff for their work. Council President Burrell questioned the 30 day deadline. Mr. Smith replied that by Law the Planning Commission only has 30 days to approve, deny, and/or table.


Mayor-elect Wilson commented that Tuscaloosa's Planning Commission tables the items until studies have been complete; and this is a better option than a moratorium.

- Building Official Eric Cortinas addressed the City Council and stated they have issued permits for 404 homes and 4,310 individual permits with a construction value of \$148,000,000. He said the need is equipment and vehicles; and overtime as needed for plan reviews.
- IT Director Jeff Montgomery addressed the City Council and stated the need for a new vehicle; and WiFi for Volanta Park with a cutoff time limit of two to three hours.
- Chief Petties addressed the City Council and said his department needs a Code Enforcement Officer who is a police officer. He also mentioned the need for an IT person just for the Police Department. He said our Code Enforcement Office right now goes out and writes the letter for violation; then if not corrected a police officer is called to issue citation.
- Public Works Director Jennifer Fidler addressed the City Council and stated the needs for Sanitation, Recycling, and Streets. The following were some of the request: dozier, trailer, dump trucks, chassis, cans, landfill survey and permitting, mower, garbage and trash trucks, and asphalt trailer.

There being no further business to come before the City Council, the meeting was duly adjourned at 6:00 p.m.



Jack Burrell, Council President



Lisa A. Hanks, MMC
City Clerk