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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 Monday, 13 July 2020.

Present were Council President Pro Tempore Jay Robinson, Councilmembers: Jimmy Conyers, Robert Brown, and Kevin Boone, Mayor Karin Wilson, City Attorney Marcus E. McDowell, and City Clerk Lisa A. Hanks. Council President Jack Burrell present via Teams.

Council President Pro Tempore Robinson called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

The following topics were discussed:

- The first item on the Agenda was the Discussion of Gas Department needing funding for Contractors was presented by Operations Director Michael Allison. He explained the recent Annual Inspection through the Public Services Commission and several issues that were found. Mr. Allison said the Gas Department is three years behind finding unprotected gas services; and needs to have 360 services by December 31, 2020. He said another find is cathodic issues in rectifiers with at least 11 shorts discovered. Mr. Allison said the City would bid out for contractors.
- The Discussion of New Position for a Civil or Mechanical Engineer (Grade 26) for the Fairhope Public Utilities was presented by Doperations Director Michael Allison. He said this position would be use for small projects with experience with on the Water and Wastewater side; and would be trained on the Gas side. Mr. Allison commented this position could help with the ADEM lawsuit or approve in the FY2021 budget. Mayor Wilson said this would help with the ADEM initiative.
- Planning and Zoning Manager Hunter Simmons addressed the City Council regarding the Discussion of Energov Software and said this would be mainly for building permits. He said it would trail the entire project; and have building permits digitally. Mr. Simmons said there are CARES Act funds available; but there may be some costs not funded by this act. He said this is a digital management program that is part of Tyler Technologies like our MUNIS software system. Council President Pro Tempore Robinson said this is a good time if any. Council President Burrell requested the recurring annual costs and maintenance costs.
- City Treasurer Kim Creech addressed the City Council regarding the Discussion of Moving Tier II Employees to Tier I with the Employees' Retirement System. She told the City Council the annual cost for this year would be \$66,224.00; and the additional unfunded actuarial accrued liability will be amortized over a closed 15-year period as a percentage of total payroll. Ms. Creech commented we are one of the last to adopt a resolution. She said that recruiting has been hindered due to this benefit being offered by other Cities.

Councilmember Conyers and Council President Pro Tempore Robinson said this was not a great expense for the number of employees. Ms. Creech commented the Police Department would have a future issue with hiring if not adopted. Council President Burrell said that the Tier II employees will eventually be at 100 percent in the future. He said we need to show employees their total compensation and also future employees; i.e. insurance, long term and short term insurance, RSA contributions, etc.

• The Discussion of Wearing Masks was presented by Mayor Wilson who said citizens are wanting masks to be mandated. She commented Fairhope has been leading the way with the COVID-19 Pandemic. Mayor Wilson mentioned the COVID-19 attorney we hired sent a request for public records to the Alabama Public Health Department's attorney for statistics on the Pandemic. She said they are going to have accessible to Government Officials statistics for their Cities/Towns. Mayor Wilson read the CDC Guidelines; and commented our government job is to protect the well being and safety of our citizens.

Council President Pro Tempore Robinson said he was in favor of strongly encouraging to wear mask, but not mandating it. He said a mandate cannot be enforced by our Police Department. Councilmember Conyers also said he strongly recommends wearing masks. He mentioned family members who had COVID-19; and told everyone this is a serious disease. Councilmember Brown said he would leave it up to individuals. Council President Pro Tempore Robinson said his 3-year old wore a mask to dance but was not sure how long it stayed on. Councilmember Boone agreed with Councilmember Conyers and Council President Pro Tempore Robinson. Council President Burrell agreed with them: strongly encourage, not enforceable, and lead by example. Council President Pro Tempore Robinson commented the City has been encouraging everyone to follow the CDC Guidelines. He said we need to get the updated information out to citizens.

- Council President Burrell said there are two resolutions on the City Council agenda for the Airport Authority; and asked for the City Council to support the grant applications.
- Councilmember Conyers commented the Historic Preservation Committee will meet on Wednesday at 9:00 a.m.
- Public Works Director Richard Johnson addressed the City Council and said he
  appreciated the Electric Department responding to the storm last night. He stated
  there was a Heritage Live Oak tree down near Walgreens and signals were down.
  Mr. Johnson also said there were homes damaged on Pleasant Avenue; and he did not
  know if it was straight line winds or tornadic activity.
- Special Projects Manager Lynn Maser addressed the City Council regarding the Quail Creek Golf Course. She mentioned a parcel that runs parallel to our right-of-way; and the homeowner was going to put up a fence. Ms. Maser said the homeowner was wanting \$1,500.00 per month for use to lease property. She stated we offered \$1,500.00 per year. Ms. Maser said once the homeowner realized he would have to maintain the property; we are leaving as is, we maintain and lease for \$1,500.00 per year. City Attorney McDowell commented we need to get it surveyed.

- City Treasurer Kim Creech addressed the City Council regarding the need to add on a
  resolution for repairs to the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Assistant Water and Sewer
  Superintendent Tim Manuel explained the rush to get the equipment repaired; and
  said a bearing locked up. He said the money is budgeted for maintenance.
  Councilmember Boone requested a report of findings. Mr. Allison replied he would
  get a failure analysis and report back to the City Council. Council President Burrell
  questioned if it was under warranty. Mr. Manuel replied he would check.
- Ms. Creech brought up the fuel tank issue; and said this was mainly caused due to being a "rush job." She explained after being installed we sent a purchase order for \$15,000.00 which was the amount approved by the City Council. Ms. Creech said the owner came back and said there was another \$10,231.99 for cleaning out and redoing the diesel side. Ms. Maser commented this was a mistake by all who read this quote and owner.

There being no further business to come before the City Council, the meeting was duly adjourned at 5:36 p.m.

Jay Robinson

Council President Pro Tempore

Lisa A. Hanks, MMC

City Clerk