

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF A WORK SESSION OF THE EUFAULA CITY  
COUNCIL HELD JANUARY 19, 2021**

The Eufaula City Council met in work session Tuesday, January 19, 2021, at 2:00 p.m. in the Municipal Courtroom at the Eufaula Police Department Complex. Upon call of the roll the following members were present: Council President Wes Register, President Pro Tempore Otis Hill, Council Member Ben Garrison, Council Member Marvin Brown, and Council Member John Wayne Robinson.

Also present: Mayor Jack B. Tibbs, Jr., and Joel P. Smith, Jr., City Attorney.

Council President Register opened the meeting and stated the first order of business was the discussion of a new hospital. He then yielded the floor to Mayor Tibbs, who gave a history of the hospital and its ownership/management and discussed the current lease agreement arrangement.

Lynn Mergen, CEO of Medical Center Barbour, addressed the Council on new services offered at the hospital and how a new hospital complex could benefit not only the community but hospital operations.

Barry Mott, Matthew Griffith and Ben Adams of Barge Design Solutions gave an overview of the hospital development process for a new facility. Mr. Adams identified the need for a new hospital. Mr. Griffith discussed the build process. Mr. Mott discussed funding options. After a comprehensive PowerPoint presentation, Mr. Mott suggested his group work together to prepare a scope of work for presentation to the Council. Mr. Garrison asked if land has been donated for the project. Mayor Tibbs stated it has not yet, but there is a verbal agreement and the transaction will basically be a land swap in exchange for opening up access to other lands to access with U.S. Highway 431 South and Highway 30. Mr. Garrison stated he does not think it would be prudent to proceed until a written agreement is in place. Mayor Tibbs stated it will not be a problem to get a written agreement on the land.

Phil Clayton addressed the Council as Economic Development Director of the Eufaula Barbour Chamber of Commerce as well as Vice Chair of the Barbour County Hospital Board. He discussed the potential decline in economic development and prosperity as well as the decline in the general health of the community if a new hospital is not pursued.

In other business, discussion was held regarding the condition of the Lawrence properties on South Dr. T.V. McCoo Boulevard. Council President Pro Tem Hill and Mr. Brown stated they visited the area and were disturbed by the condition in which they found the properties. They distributed photos for Council members to view. Mayor Tibbs explained the abatement process and stated the matter will be forwarded to the Public Works director to begin the process.

Mayor Tibbs briefly mentioned an automated household trash collection and pickup system, noting such systems do not create the messes like depicted in the pictures that were distributed. He stated he would like to have a work session scheduled to discuss implementing such a system in Eufaula.

There being no further business to come before the Council, motion was duly made and seconded to adjourn.

THE CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF EUFAULA, ALABAMA  
A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

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Wes Register, President

ATTEST:

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Joy White, City Clerk/Treasurer