

**MINUTES OF A SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE EUFAULA CITY COUNCIL HELD ON
MONDAY, AUGUST 17, 2020 AT 5:15 P.M.**

The Eufaula City Council met in a scheduled session on Monday, August 17, 2020, at 5:15 p.m. in the Police Department Courtroom at 545 East Barbour Street. Council President Knight called the meeting to order, and Pastor Gary Fleming offered the invocation. Council President Knight led the Council and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Upon call of the roll the following members were present: Council President Johnny A. Knight, President Pro Tem Barbara C. Flurry, Lucious Cobbs, Linda S. Grice, and Tony L. Robertson.

Also present: Joy White, City Clerk/Treasurer, and Joel Smith, City Attorney.

HONORS AND RECOGNITION

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mrs. Flurry offered a motion to approve the order of the August 17, 2020 amended agenda. Mr. Cobbs seconded the motion. After a voice vote, Council President Knight announced the motion had carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

Council President Knight reviewed the items on the Consent Agenda for council approval.

- (a) Motion and second to dispense with and approve the City Council minutes of August 3, 2020.
- (b) Motion and second to approve the Prepaid Claims Docket dated July 31, 2020 in the amount of \$1,758,728.16.
- (c) Motion and second to approve the Claims Docket dated August 12, 2020, in the amount of \$95,401.18.

Mrs. Grice moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Mr. Robertson seconded the motion. After a voice vote, Council President Knight announced the motion had carried.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Tibbs announced that the Bluff City Inn project is in the initial stages of its agreement and development. The development of the project will involve the City Council, Chamber of Commerce, and the Downtown Redevelopment Authority. The cost of the project will be approximately \$12-\$14 million. The designer will attempt to use the existing structure to create 80 rooms. The new structure will complement the Martin Theatre located one block over on Broad Street. The tentative completion date for the project is late 2022, also depending on the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. The venue will accommodate various services and events.

The city paving project is progressing well. All major communities to include over 170 streets, school routes, and major arteries over the last eight years have been paved. The airport restoration includes the paving of the airport apron around the hangars. There are twenty T-Hangers and two corporate hangars. All hangars are leased at this time. There will be a

ceremony in the coming weeks. The Mayor commented that Eufaula probably has the best rural airport in the state of Alabama if not in the country. He noted that there are several potential projects in the works and more information is forthcoming at a later time.

Mayor Tibbs announced that Barbour County, Alabama has been downgraded from high risk to code "Green", a lower risk for COVID-19. He continued that we need to continue to be vigilant and that the mask order and the curfew are still in place for the city until Monday, August 31, 2020. One issue that the city faces is patient transport to outlying hospitals in areas such as Columbus, Georgia and Dothan, Alabama when a higher level of care needs to be administered due to the virus. Many hospitals are currently at full capacity making it more difficult to place a patient for higher level treatment of COVID-19.

Mayor Tibbs announced that the rescheduled July 4th fireworks celebration due to COVID-19 is now set for Saturday, November 7, 2020 just prior to Veteran's Day.

VISITORS

Mr. John Wayne Robinson, on behalf of the Hunter's Inlet Home Owner's Association, commended Tim Brannon and the street department for promptly responding to street repair requests over the past couple of years. He also thanked Mayor Tibbs and the Council for the street paving project making neighborhoods safer and more attractive.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Police Chief Watkins stated that a Task Force has been established wherein departments can partner with ALEA to protect children and establish a partnership intended to combat the exploitation of children through the use of the internet or other electronic means. One officer would be assigned to this Task Force having access to state resources to apply locally to deter or minimize internet crimes against children. There are no monetary or equipment incentives at this time.

Council President Knight introduced Resolution 81-2020 (MOA with ALEA for Alabama Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force). Mrs. Grice offered a motion to adopt Resolution 81-2020. Mrs. Flurry seconded the motion. After a voice vote, Council President Knight announced the motion had carried.

RESOLUTION 81-2020

WHEREAS, it is desirous and advantageous for Law Enforcement Agencies to cooperate in and encourage participation in Task Forces; and

WHEREAS, the exploitation of children has become an increasing problem that is difficult to combat under ordinary means; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency has the equipment, knowledge and training desirous to help enforce crimes against children; and

WHEREAS, a Task Force has been established wherein Departments can partner with ALEA to protect children; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE City of Eufaula, Alabama, that the City Council authorizes Chief of Police Steve Watkins or his designee to enter in to a Memorandum of Agreement with the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency to establish a partnership intended to combat the exploitation of children through the use of the internet or other electronic means. This working group will be known as the Alabama Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED this ____ day of August, 2020.

CITY OF EUFAULA, ALABAMA
A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

Johnny A. Knight
City Council President

ATTEST:

Joy White
City Clerk

Council President Knight introduced Resolution 82-2020 (Transportation Plan for State Gas Tax Funds). Mr. Cobbs offered a motion to adopt Resolution 82-2020. Mr. Robertson seconded the motion. After a voice vote, Council President Knight announced the motion had carried.

**RESOLUTION
82-2020**

WHEREAS, Legislative Act 2019-2, an act to levy an additional excise tax on gasoline and diesel fuel; to provide for the collection and distribution of the proceeds from the additional excise to the state, county, municipal and Alabama State Port Authority transportation for infrastructure purposes; and

WHEREAS, the additional excise tax is a total of 10 cents per gallon increase over a (3) three year period; and

WHEREAS, municipal governing bodies of each qualified municipality shall adopt an annual Transportation Plan not later than August 31 for the next fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated the City of Eufaula will receive \$ 61,514.00 in 2020, \$ 82,019.00 in 2021 and \$ 102,523.00 in 2022; and

NOW, THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED, the FY2021 Transportation Plan for the City of Eufaula is to retain the funds to be used for a major project in the future.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 17th day of August, 2020.

CITY OF EUFAULA, ALABAMA
A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

Johnny A. Knight, President

ATTEST:

Joy White, City Clerk/Treasurer

Council President Knight introduced Resolution 83-2020 (Approve and Ratify Resurfacing at Weedon Field Airport). Mrs. Grice offered a motion to adopt Resolution 83-2020. Mr. Cobbs seconded the motion. After a voice vote, Council President Knight announced the motion had carried.

RESOLUTION
83-2020

WHEREAS, on August 15, 2019, the City of Eufaula opened sealed bids for an overlay asphalt apron and new t-hangar taxi-lanes for Weedon Field Airport; and

WHEREAS, the project is 95% funded from the Federal Aviation Administration and the Alabama Department of Transportation Aeronautics Division; and

WHEREAS, an area around the terminal needs resurfacing and does not meet criteria for grant funding; and

WHEREAS, Wiregrass Construction Company, contractor for the grant project submitted a proposal for this additional work in the amount of \$ 27,900.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the City Council of the City of Eufaula approves and ratifies this action taken by the Mayor and City Clerk.

DONE THIS 17th Day of August, 2020.

THE CITY OF EUFAULA, ALABAMA
A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

Johnny A. Knight, President

ATTEST:

Joy White, City Clerk/Treasurer

Council President Knight introduced Resolution 84-2020 (Authorizing Mayor to execute agreement for engineering services for guard rails). Mr. Robertson offered a motion to adopt Resolution 84-2020. Mrs. Flurry seconded the motion. After a voice vote, Council President Knight announced the motion had carried.

**RESOLUTION
84-2020**

WHEREAS, the City of Eufaula desires to have professional engineering services and consultation performed relative to the preparation of plans and specifications for construction of guard rails on Spruce Drive in the Forest Hills Subdivision and the intersection of Benjamin Drive and Anderson Drive off Fox Ridge Road; and

WHEREAS, the City of Eufaula has been advised in order to construct guard rails engineering services are required; and

WHEREAS, Goodwyn, Mills and Cawood, Inc. has agreed to provide construction engineering services for a cost not to exceed \$ 15,000.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Eufaula that an agreement for engineering services to be submitted by Goodwyn, Mills and Cawood, Inc. is hereby approved and Mayor Jack B. Tibbs, Jr., in his official capacity, is authorized to execute all necessary documents relating to said agreement.

DONE THIS 17th day of August, 2020.

CITY OF EUFAULA, ALABAMA
A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

Johnny A. Knight, Council President

ATTEST:

Joy White, City Clerk/Treasurer

PUBLIC HEARING

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

COUNCIL ACTION/DISCUSSION

Mr. Robertson moved to re-appoint Grady Hartzog to the Industrial Development Board to serve a full six-year term. Mrs. Flurry seconded the motion. After a voice vote, Grady Hartzog was re-appointed to the Industrial Development Board to serve a full six-year term. This term will expire August 16, 2026.

Mrs. Flurry moved to re-appoint Logan Mitchell to the Industrial Development Board to serve a full six-year term. Mr. Robertson seconded the motion. After a voice vote, Logan Mitchell was re-appointed to the Industrial Development Board to serve a full six-year term. This term will expire August 16, 2026.

Mrs. Grice moved to re-appoint Ann Savage to the Industrial Development Board to serve a full six-year term. Mr. Cobbs seconded the motion. After a voice vote, Ann Savage was re-appointed to the Industrial Development Board to serve a full-six year term. This term will expire August 16, 2026.

Mrs. Flurry offered a motion to move the regularly scheduled meeting from Monday, September 7, 2020 to Tuesday, September 8, 2020 due to the Labor Day holiday. Mr. Cobbs seconded the motion. After a voice vote, Council President Knight announced the motion had carried.

Mrs. Flurry offered a motion for a special City Council meeting to canvass votes for the Municipal Election on Tuesday, August 25, 2020 on Tuesday, September 1, 2020 at 11:30 a.m. Mr. Robertson seconded the motion. After a voice vote, Council President Knight announced the motion had carried.

REGULAR AGENDA (NEW BUSINESS)

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mrs. Flurry reported that revenue is over expenditures \$818,285 compared to \$789,959 for last year. All departments are within budget and working on year-end FY 2020 projects and 2021 budget.

Mr. Cobbs reported that the community center is still watching closely the scheduling of sports, full operation of the facility, etc. due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Police Chief Watkins thanked the council for accepting the donation for K-9s, and the K-9s have now been certified. There were approximately eighteen handlers and K-9s from across the country, and Officer Wesley Willson's K-9, Ronald, was at the top of the class. Police Chief Watkins thanked the Council for supporting the police department in this effort.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the same was on motion by Mrs. Flurry duly made and seconded by Mr. Cobbs, adjourned this 17th day of August, 2020.

CITY OF EUFAULA, ALABAMA
A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

Johnny A. Knight, City Council President

ATTEST:

Joy White, City Clerk/Treasurer