City of Fayetteville
Mayor and City Council
Regular Meeting
Minutes
July 17, 2025

Call to Order

The Mayor and City Council of Fayetteville met for Regular Session on July 17, 2025, in the Council Chamber at City Hall. Council Members present: Darryl Langford, Joe Clark, Niyah Glover, Rich Hoffman, and Scott Stacy. The City Attorney present was Priya Patel. Staff members present were City Manager Ray Gibson and Assistant City Manager Alan Jones (Acting City Clerk). Mayor Edward Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Opening prayer was delivered by Council Member Clark followed by the Pledge of Allegiance

Stacy made a motion to Amend the Agenda to table item #7) Step One Annexation Request and to add Resolution No. 25-R-41 – Participation in an Amicus Brief. Hoffman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Langford moved to approve the minutes of June 17, 2025, City Council Work Session. Clark seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Recognitions and Presentations:

VFW Commander Larry Dell presented "Public Safety Employee of the Year" awards to Fayetteville Police Officer Kenneth Marcucci and Fire Fighter David Eller.

City Manager Ray Gibson announced the official appointment and swearing-in of Robert Mask as the City's new Chief of Police.

Chief Mask then announced the appointments of Chad Myers and Austin Dunn to the rank of Major, along with several other promotions within the Police Department. The following employees were promoted: David Darnell, Captain; David Cagle, Captain; Zach Campbell, Lieutenant; Kevin Ingram, Lieutenant; Chandler Cox, Sergeant; Tracey Baker, Sergeant; Sara Brandao, Corporal; and Alex Rojas, Corporal.

Public Hearing:

First Hearing for Ordinance No. 25-O-15 – Fiscal Year 2026 Budget.

Staff provided an overview of the Fiscal Year 2026 budget and reviewed departmental changes aimed at streamlining annual expenses. It was noted that the budget increased by 8.43% yet remains balanced without the use of reserve funds to offset any costs.

There were no public comments.

Second Reading of Ordinance No. 25-O-15 – Posted.

Consider Adoption of Ordinance No. 25-O-15 – Fiscal Year 2026 Budget

Stacy moved to approve 25-O-15. Langford seconded the motion. The motion carried

Consider Adoption of Ordinance No. 25-O-16 - Amendment to the Water and Sewer Rate Structure.

Assistant Director of Finance and Administrative Services Carleetha Character stated that the Water and Sewer budget for Fiscal Year 2026 includes a 5% increase that would ensure the City's ability to meet and maintain the required debt service obligations as outlined: A 2.4% increase requirement in the 2010 and 2013 Series Water and Sewer Revenue Bonds that ends in 2033. A 2.6% increase covers the New Revenue Bonds requirements for the new Wastewater Treatment Plant, that is a 30-year payback once construction is completed. Any excess funds will be utilized for the upkeep of the City's aging infrastructure and Capital needs.

Hoffman moved to approve 25-O-16. Clark seconded the motion. The motion carried

New Business:

Consider Resolution No. 25-R-38 - GFL Solid Waste Agreement Approval.

Director of Public Services Chris Hindman stated that the City's current agreement with GFL for solid waste services expires on July 31, 2025. City staff has worked with GFL representatives to negotiate renewal rates. Under the existing agreement, the City pays $16.82 per household, which includes recycling. The proposed renewal rate is $17.33 per household for continued solid waste and recycling services. Additionally, the City is proposing to expand the agreement to include bi-weekly yard waste and bulk pickup at an additional cost of $3.00 per household. This brings the total proposed cost to $20.33 per household.

There were no public comments.

Hoffman moved to approve 25-R-38. Glover seconded the motion. The motion carried

Consider Resolution No. 25-R-39 - Solid Waste Rate Structure Increase.

Director of Public Services Chris Hindman stated that, along with the approval of the contract renewal with GFL, staff is also proposing an adjustment to the service rates to help offset the increased contract costs and the addition of bulk pickup services. The proposed rates for residents would be $17.50 per household for solid waste and recycling, matching the current rate, and $4.00 for yard waste and bulk pickup, bringing the total to $21.50 per household. Initially, yard waste and bulk pickup services will be offered bi-weekly and scheduled through a call-in system with customer service representatives. If

usage is high across the city, staff will work with the service provider to establish regular collection routes.

There were no public comments.

Hoffman moved to approve 25-R-39. Glover seconded the motion. The motion carried

Consider Resolution No. 25-R-41 - Participation in an Amicus Brief in the Chang v. City of Milton Appeal pending before the Georgia Supreme Court.

City Attorney Priya Patel provided a briefing on the Amicus Brief that was originally presented to the City Council in November of 2024 when the case was brought to the Court of Appeals. The Court of Appeals affirmed the Trial Courts' ruling, holding that the City of Milton is liable for $35 million. The case will now be brought to the Supreme Court and this resolution authorizes the City of Fayetteville's participation in the brief that will be filed with the Supreme Court.

There were no public comments.

Clark moved to approve 25-R-41. Glover seconded the motion. The motion carried

Reports and Comment:

Director of Economic Development Lori Funderwhite introduced the City's new video series.

City Manager Ray Gibson gave updates on upcoming events.

Glover provided an update on the Mental Health Advisory Board, announcing the one-year anniversary of its establishment.

Executive Session:

Mayor Johnson called for a vote to convey in Executive Session to discuss matters of Real Estate, Litigation, and/or Personnel.

Stacy motioned to proceed into Executive Session. Glover seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Stacy moved to conclude the Executive Session and return to Regular Session. Glover seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

City Attorney Priya Patel asked for a motion to approve the General Release and Settlement Agreement with HFG Development, LLC.

Stacy made a motion to approve the General Release and Settlement Agreement. Clark Seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Stacy moved to adjourn the meeting. Langford seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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Chelsea Siemen, City Clerk