

The Elba City Council held its regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, April 13, 2020, 5:30 p.m. via teleconference due to the COVID-19 epidemic.

Those present were:

Councilperson Gappa Wise
Councilperson Jane Brunson
Councilperson Tom Maddox
Councilperson AR Williams**
Sally Bane, City Clerk
Pat Boothe, Assistant City Clerk
Mickey L. Murdock, Mayor
Tim Johnson, Water & Electric Board Chairman
**arrived late

**Members of the community and media were also present on the public/open conference call.*

Mayor Murdock called the meeting to order.

Mayor Murdock opened the meeting with prayer.

Mayor Murdock presented the minutes from the March 23, 2020 regular meeting for approval. Mayor Murdock proposed changes be made to the minutes in the paragraph relating to Councilperson Jones's resignation and the forthcoming appointment of her replacement in District 1. Councilperson Maddox made a motion to approve the minutes with Mayor Murdock's recommend changes. Councilperson Wise seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken: Wise – yes; Brunson – yes; Maddox –yes; and Mayor Murdock – yes. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilperson Williams joined the meeting.

Assistant City Clerk Pat Boothe presented her report. Ms. Boothe stated that city departments were still working rotating shifts in hopes to protect workers against the COVID-19 virus. It is a challenge to complete certain tasks, but staff members are diligently working to do so. Ms. Boothe also reported that last night's storms caused several trees to fall that caused power outages. City crews worked throughout the evening to restore power to customers.

Police Chief Leslie Hussey presented the police chief's report. Chief Hussey stated that due to the Governors Stay at Home/Social Distancing Order, the police departments main efforts have been to provide protective services related to COVID-19 to the city. Chief Hussey reported there had been a few minor crimes but nothing major during this pandemic. Additionally, Chief Hussey provided a COVID-19 update on the City and Coffee County.

Mayor Murdock presented the bills totaling \$521,952.21 to the council for approval. Councilperson Brunson made a motion to approve the minutes. Councilperson Williams seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken: Wise – yes; Brunson -yes; Maddox – yes; Williams -yes; and Mayor Murdock - yes. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Murdock presented the financials to the council.

Under new business, Mayor Murdock stated that the city is continuing to provide essential services to its customers despite of the COVID-19 epidemic.

Under old business, Mayor Murdock stated that during Ms. Rolanda Jones's resignation from the council that she recommended Mr. Johnathan Lockett be appointed to serve the remaining time left on her current term. Councilperson Maddox made a motion to appoint Mr. Johnathan Lockett as Councilperson for District 1 for the remainder of Ms. Jones's vacated term. Councilperson Williams seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken: Wise -yes; Brunson -yes; Maddox -yes; Williams -yes; and Mayor Murdock – yes. The motion passed unanimously.

Under other business, Mr. Tim Johnson, Chairman of the Water & Electric Board publicly announced that the special called meeting that was scheduled immediately after the council meeting this evening is being cancelled.

The council also discussed the current status of the FEMA buyout. There was also discussion about how City and Water & Electric Board employees are protecting themselves against the COVID-19 virus.

There being no further business, Mayor Murdock asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilperson Maddox made a motion to do so. Councilperson Wise seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken: Wise -yes; Brunson – yes; Maddox – yes; Williams – yes; and Mayor Murdock – yes. The motion passed unanimously.

Mickey L. Murdock, Mayor

Sally Bane, City Clerk