COUNCIL MEETING

CITY OF LUVERNE

January 14, 2019

The City of Luverne Council met in regular session on January 14, 2019 at 5:30 p.m., in the City Hall Building. The following members were present:

Mayor Ed Beasley

Charlie Johnson, Councilman

Kip Smith, Councilman

Kathy Smyth, Councilwoman

Elliott Jones, Councilman

Eddie Billings, Councilman

Mike Jones, Attorney

Vicki Coggins, Assistant Clerk

Michelle Royals, Engineer

Morris Tate, Engineer

William Neal, Building Inspector

Mike Johnson, Chief

Matt Hutcheson, Editor

Visitors:

Diane Oliver Merrill Sport

Mayor Beasley called the meeting to order. The mayor called on Michelle Royals to lead the pledge of allegiance to the flag and Mike Jones to say a prayer.

The mayor called for the approval of the minutes of December 10, 2018. Councilman Billings made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Councilman Smith seconded the motion and the vote was unanimously approved.

Mayor Beasley presented the council with two resolutions congratulating both Crenshaw Christian Academy and Luverne High School football teams on an outstanding season. Councilman Smith made a motion to adopt both resolutions. Councilman Billings seconded the motion and the vote was unanimously approved. Resolutions 011419 and 011419(a) are as follows:

**RESOLUTION 011419**

**WHEREAS**, the 2018 Luverne High School Tiger Football Team finished the regular season with 9 wins and 1 loss; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tigers, in the playoffs, beat Southern Choctaw, Abbeville, Leroy and Highland Home to advance to the Alabama High School Athletic Association 2 A State Championship game at Jordan Hare Stadium in Auburn, Alabama; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tigers finished as the Alabama High School Athletic Association 2 A State Runner-up having lost to Fyffe in the State Championship game; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tigers set a school record for scoring in a season, having scored 512 points; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tigers were coached by Head Coach Scott Rials who was assisted by Tim Brown, Rudy Free, Brad Horn and Ryan Rials; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and City Council wish to send their congratulations to the 2018 Luverne High School Tiger Football Team;

**NOW,THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Mayor and City Council of the City of Luverne do send their congratulations and appreciation to the 2018 Luverne High School Tiger Football Team and their coaching staff for their hard work and dedication during the 2018 season and for the manner in which they represented the citizens of the City of Luverne.

DONE this 14th day of January, 2019.

**RESOLUTION 011419(a)**

**WHEREAS,** that the 2018 Crenshaw Christian Academy Cougar Football Team completed the regular season with a record of 9 wins and 1 loss; and

**WHEREAS,** the Cougars won 10 consecutive games and was the AISA Class A Region 1 Champions; and

**WHEREAS,** the Cougars in 3 playoff games outscored their opponents 116-35; and

**WHEREAS,** the Cougars were the AISA Class A Runner-up having lost to Chambers Academy in the State Championship game; and

**WHEREAS,** the Cougars outscored their opponents for the season 449-130; and

**WHEREAS,** the Cougars were coached by Head Coach Wayne Grant and his assistants Tom Compton, Bobby Permenter, Donnie Sansom and Rick Thomas; and

**WHEREAS,** the Mayor and City Council of the City of Luverne wish to congratulate the Cougars and their coaching staff on an excellent season and their State Runner-up finish;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Mayor and City Council of the City of Luverne do send their congratulations and appreciation to the 2018 Crenshaw Christian Academy Cougar Football Team and their coaching staff for their hard work and dedication during the 2018 season and for the manner in which they represented the citizens of the City of Luverne.

DONE this 14th day of January, 2019.

Attorney Jones mentioned that the Rotary Club would be having their All County Football Program on January 28th at noon in the LUMC Dei Center and thought it would be nice if the resolutions could be presented to both schools on that day. Attorney Jones invited the mayor and council to attend the program.

Councilman Jones requested to review the city’s policies and procedures at the next meeting and if any other council member has any questions to get with Attorney Jones.

The mayor called on Engineer Royals’ departmental reports. Ms. Royals briefly discussed leak repairs, sewer cleanouts, tree removal, installation/repair of lights, and routine work that is being done in the departments. She stated she has added a page to the report to include potential grant opportunity information and special projects. Ms. Royals discussed the condition of the old Slacks Factory. Cleanup is not quite finished on it but she would like for the council to give her the okay to get an estimate for doors and windows to improve the condition of the building. The mayor and council were all in agreement.

The mayor stated that everything was running smoothly in administration and there haven’t been any complaints concerning the water and sewer rate increase.

Mayor Beasley called on Chief Johnson for the police report. The chief mentioned that there has been a number of bank robberies in surrounding cities and he would like to offer a program to our local banks as well as those in the county. The program will be an informative meeting with no liability to the city. Chief Johnson stated the police department has been running short of officers and has hired three certified officers. The mayor thanked the chief for pulling extra shifts while the department has been short.

Councilman Johnson stated nothing new in recreation. He will be calling a Recreation Board meeting soon. A new board member will be introduced. If someone has any input they are welcome to attend the meeting when scheduled.

Councilman Smith mentioned that is was time for election of officers for the fire department. The council reviewed the recommendations for officers. Councilman Jones made a motion to accept the recommendations. Councilwoman Smyth seconded the motion. The vote was as follows:

Yea: Charlie Johnson Abstained: Kip Smith

Elliott Jones Eddie Billings

Kathy Smyth

The motion carried.

Building Inspector Neal discussed item #5 from his report concerning property on E. 1st St.

The mayor asked Attorney Jones to look into what the city could do legally about the property.

Nothing new in Economic Development.

Mayor Beasley stated that Mrs. Kathryn Tomlin has mentioned Mrs. Barbara Sport has asked to take a leave of absence from the library board. Mrs. Tomlin has requested that Derri Andress fill in during Mrs. Barbara Sport’s absence. Councilman Jones made a motion to appoint Derri Andress to the Library Board. Councilwoman Smyth seconded the motion. The vote was as follows:

Yea: Charlie Johnson Abstained: Eddie Billings

Kip Smith

Kathy Smyth

Elliott Jones

The motion carried.

The mayor stated that Mr. S. W. Jackson, Jr. had resigned from the Water & Sewer Board effective January 10, 2019 and the Water & Sewer Board has recommended Morris Tate be appointed to the board. Councilman Johnson made a motion to accept Mr. Jackson’s resignation. Councilman Smith seconded the motion and the vote was unanimously approved.

Councilman Smith made a motion to appoint Morris Tate to the Water & Sewer Board. Councilwoman Smyth seconded the motion and the vote was unanimously approved.

Mayor Beasley mentioned Engineer Tate’s resignation. The mayor stated how much he appreciated Mr. Tate’s 25 years of service to the city and how he performed his job in an excellent manner. There will be a reception January 31st at 2 pm in the council chambers.

Councilman Billings made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Jones seconded the motion.

Meeting was adjourned.