

City of Moulton  
Council Meeting  
April 4, 2022  
Meeting at 5:00 PM

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Weatherwax followed by the pledge and prayer.

Mayor Weatherwax ask Council to dispense with the reading of the minutes for March 7, 2022 and March 21, 2022 and to approve the same.

Motion: Jason White

2<sup>nd</sup>: Denise Lovett

Resolution 2022-006 Settlement Agreement with 3M, Daikin and BFI relating to the Moulton Waste Water Sludge Pond.

Motion: Denise Lovett

2<sup>nd</sup>: Brent White

Resolution 2022-007 "Back to School" Sales Tax Holiday for June 15-17, 2022

Motion to approve: Cassandra Lee

2<sup>nd</sup>: Joyce Jeffreys

Stanley Nichols Water Plant Chief Operator was present and gave in 2 proposals to reduce the Planktonic Algae and Diatom Control for Reduction of MIF and Geosmin which is causing the taste and odor issues experienced by the customers on Moulton Water.

- 1) The first option would be to use the chemicals (Copper Sulfate) provided by the company (Aqua Services, Inc) who will do the spraying at a total cost est of \$15,751.66 = Chemical \$4,751.66 + Application cost \$11,000.00 &
- 2) Second option would be to have applied the chemicals (Copper Sulfate) we purchase already (cheaper) and apply 3X the amount at a total cost est of \$20,986.00 = Application cost \$11,000.00 + Our Chemicals \$9,986.00

Along with this process Mr. Nichols, the Mayor and engineer went to Arab and saw a process of using hydrogen peroxide in the system that they use to control similar issues. So, the introduction of the hydrogen peroxide began on Friday April 1, 2022 to be used to combat these issues. Per ADEM requirements they do not require you to fix taste and odor and all testing done verifies that the City of Moulton Water is safe potable water – Monthly samples are done for certain aspects & quarterly samples are done also but daily samples are done at the Treatment Plant.

Cassandra Lee ask for clarification on if the previous work that Jay Johnson had done going to Auburn is being eliminated...

Stanley Nichols clarified by saying that no the things that Jay Johnson was doing will still need to be done, historical data in order to establish possible times to prepare to treat the lake or what actions would best take care of the problem as one option. Long term the plant needs to be upgraded. But in the mean time these procedures will help with taste and odor. Ms. Lee ask if this was something that Jay Johnson was working on and Mr. Nichols ask if she was speaking about the Copper Sulfate and she said yes and Mr. Nichols responded that not to his knowledge was Jay Johnson working on Copper Sulfate. She ask was this something new since he wasn't here --- Mr. Nichols replied that it has been done 3 times before years ago reiterating his response to the question earlier posed to him by Joyce Jeffreys. Responses from Denise Lovett that this would probably be something that we would want to do as a maintenance program in the future was also what Mr. Nichols spoke about. Brent White said that the work Jay Johnson had been working with the engineers with a plan for an overall upgrade of the water treatment system is still needed – Mr. Nichols said yes, it is still needed to get it totally under control.

Cassandra Lee ask who was taking samples now that Jay Johnson is not here to do those that had been taken to Auburn.... Stanley Nichols said that he could. Mayor Weatherwax stated that he and Mr. Nichols had talked and he had told him he would be glad to carry them next time they needed to go. Ms. Lee questioned when that time would be.... Stanley Nichols said he had been in contact with the engineer whom was the one that would tell them when they would need to take them. Ms. Lee ask if there was a schedule and to the Mayors knowledge nor Mr. Nichols there was not a preplanned schedule they expected the engineer to let them know when to take them. February the 13<sup>th</sup> was the last time a sample was taken to Auburn. Again Ms. Lee ask why now that we are in April was there not any taken in March and no plans for April. Mr. Nichols said that the engineer would tell them or ask them to send samples. Mayor Weatherwax spoke again about that the engineer went with him and Mr. Nichols to Arab on the 31<sup>st</sup> and there was no designated plan for the samples when ask by Ms. Lee what the plan is for the samples.

Denise Lovett stated that with our regular normal testing is just taken monthly to Decatur not to Auburn.

Mayor Weatherwax stated that his understanding about the testing that was being done at Auburn was just to see what the difference is with the Water changes from month to month...6 weeks to 6 weeks or whatever. Mr. Nichols confirmed that he had been in contact with the engineer and he hadn't ask for any testing in March and he has emails on this and it is per the engineer as when he wants samples to be collected for testing.

Mr. Nichols suggested the 2<sup>nd</sup> option and also stated that this had been done in the past 3 times and worked well so it is believed that it would work this time also to help if not eliminate the problem – which then would need to probably be done on a maintenance type schedule to control future occurrences.

Motion to do option 2: Jason White

2<sup>nd</sup>: Denise Lovett

Council were ask to approve PO# 03323 to Mid-South Testing & Engineering for PFC testing (Monitoring Wells) in the amount of \$8,223.14 for the Sewer Dept.

Motion: Denise Lovett

2<sup>nd</sup>: Jason White

Police Chief Craig Knight ask that Council approve them to purchase and pickup vehicle for the Police Dept that was approved in budget in the amount of \$37,713.00 it doesn't include the radio or the wrap on vehicle for the City of Moulton.

Motion: Jason White

2<sup>nd</sup>: Joyce Jeffreys

Mayor Weatherwax ask persons present if there was anything they wanted to speak about – some said no.

Brent White ask to speak, the Mayor said continue and Brent proceeded to say that since there was a presence he wanted it to be clarified: that the Mayor was behind upgrading the system and fixing the water problem at this point and the Mayor said "Correct." Brent White stated that there had been several times lately that the deal that had been worked out with West Lawrence by Jay Johnson and the engineers to try to get things going that the Mayor would try to let us miss deadlines and say things to West Lawrence people to indicate that we weren't going to work with them anymore – and he was glad and wanted to make sue that everyone was on the same page, because he really feels like based on what he had heard that the work that had been done was a really good chance that we might be able to get money to upgrade our system. The Mayor said he agreed.

Ms. Lee also had questions about who could take samples for the testing and that was spoken by Stanley Nichols as to anyone could carry them but only certified could actually collect them.

Ms. Lee also questioned why the website didn't have the Minutes on the website updated since as of February 2020. Mayor Weatherwax stated that the minutes were updated.

Ms. Lee also stated that she had felt threatened by a city employee after a Council meeting and after contacting the League of Municipalities was told to file a report if that were the case. She filed a report and then spoke to the Mayor about the incident and ask if he had spoken to the employee about the incident and that is was not

acceptable behavior and he stated no. So, she ask is that double standards... She also questioned the procedures in getting on the agenda and why some were not on the agenda that had ask to be on the agenda. Mayor Weatherwax after asking Ms. Lee if she was threw stated he didn't think she was threatened then to answer the question about the person not being on the agenda he stated that Alicia was in his office on Tuesday or Thursday and that he had tried to call her after being told that she wanted to be on the agenda. He stated to Ms. Roper that she needed to get set up to be at a Work Session and the information that she had given would be looked at that this type of business needed to be in a Work Session.

Denise Lovett said as a point of order for future meetings her included that they were the ones that bucked for the agenda – Ms. Lee interrupted Ms. Lovett stating that yes, she bucked for it to call her name....

Motion was made by Denise Lovett to adjourn.

With no second the floor was still open and Ms. Lovett left the remaining of the meeting.

Joyce Jeffreys ask why we have an attorney from Birmingham coming when we have a City Attorney who we pay to represent us. She ask Mayor Weatherwax was that attorney representing him or the City? Mayor Weatherwax stated that he was the Mayor and when he represents him he represents the City. The attorney in question was hired 10/19/2020 by the Council and is an attorney versed in Municipal Government. Ms. Waldrop is also our attorney, but he is representing the City. Ms. Jeffreys said she guessed she had forgotten --- she ask how much was he getting an hour the Mayor stated \$250.00 to \$275.00, Ms. Jeffreys said she had heard he was charging \$675.00 per hour Mayor Weatherwax corrected her and told her again that he was receiving \$250-\$275 per hour.

Alicia Roper was present and had ask to speak because she had ask to be on the agenda but the Mayor didn't place her on the agenda – he had tried to contact her after she called in time to be placed on the agenda to speak with her and didn't get an answer. Mayor Weatherwax told her she could speak for 5 minutes. Ms. Roper spoke about the fact she did receive the calls and didn't answer – then she spoke on several things that she was upset with concerning City matters, she had also passed out some information to those present with some items she had questions or concerns about.

With no second the floor was still open after Ms. Lovett left had let the remaining of the meeting. After more input from Ms. Roper there were attempts to get a 2<sup>nd</sup> by the Mayor but none was given in. After a short while things settled down and Jason White ask if anyone had anything else to say and there being no one else wishing to speak he, Jason White 2<sup>nd</sup> the Motion to Adjourn.

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Roger Weatherwax, Mayor

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Deroma Pepper, City Clerk

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Brent White, Council Member

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Jason White, Council Member

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Joyce Jeffreys, Council Member

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Cassandra Lee, Council Member

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Denise Lovett, Council Member