

MINUTES OF THE SELMA CITY COUNCIL
AUGUST 22, 2005
5:00 P.M.

The Selma City Council met in a regular session in the Council Chambers of City Hall on Monday, August 22, 2005 at 5:00 p.m. with the following members present: Council President George Evans and Council members Cecil Williamson, Reid Cain, Jean T. Martin, Geraldine Allen, Johnnie M. Leashore Bennie R. Crenshaw and Jannie M. Venter. Others present were Mayor James Perkins, Jr., City Clerk Lois Williams, City Attorney Jimmy Nunn, City Treasurer Cynthia Mitchell and the Mayor's Secretary Krystal Dozier. Councilman Randolph was absent from the meeting due to National Guard duty for two weeks. Reverend Allan Yarbrough gave the invocation.

After roll call, President Evans declared a quorum present and the meeting was opened for the transaction of business as set forth on the agenda. President Evans stated he would like to add the radio and video broadcast to the agenda. Following a lengthy discussion, a motion was then made by Councilman Cain; there was no second for this motion, a motion was then made by Councilwoman Crenshaw and seconded by Councilman Leashore to amend Councilman Cain's motion to delete item VI (2005 Budget Discrepancies) from the agenda to be discussed at the next regular Council meeting. The motion carried with a majority vote (show of hands) of the Council members present. There were seven affirmative votes and one negative vote. A motion was then made by Councilman Cain and seconded by Councilman Williamson to approve the agenda as amended. The motion carried with a majority vote (show of hands) of the Council members present. There were six affirmative votes and two negative votes.

After approval of the agenda, President Evans asked for a motion to approve the minutes of August 8, 2005 regular meeting. Following discussion, a motion was made by Councilwoman Martin and seconded by Councilwoman Crenshaw to approve the minutes of August 8, 2005. Following discussion a motion was then made by Councilman Cain and seconded by Councilman Williamson to waive approval of the minutes of August 8, 2005 until the next regular Council meeting, so that the Council would have additional time to review the minutes. The motion carried with a unanimous vote (show of hands) of the Council members present.

I. MAYOR'S REPORT

A. Length of Service Recognition Awards. Mayor Perkins stated he would like to ask Ms. Valeria Jones to come forward to address the Council. Ms. Jones stated on behalf of Mayor Perkins, she would like to present before the Council those employees who are being honored this month for their length of service. Ms. Jones stated the following employees will be awarded with a certificate and pin: (1) Officer Moses Suttles, Police Department, ten years of service; (2) Captain Michael Frith, Fire Department, fifteen years of service; and (3) Jonas Lewis, Cemetery Department, thirty years of service.

B. Coach Hill - 1st Place in Men's Tournament. Mayor Perkins stated he would like to ask Coach Louis Hill to come forward. Mayor Perkins stated Coach Hill has established a tennis program at every level in our public school system and the comprehensive recreation program with the City of Selma. Mayor Perkins stated Coach Hill coaches a tennis team at Selma High and he predicts that within two years there will be students graduating from high school who will be college tennis eligible. Mayor Perkins further stated that not only is Coach Hill a good coach, but he is actually a great player, and he would like to acknowledge the 22nd Annual Heritage Cup Tennis Classic for men 50 years old plus, Coach Hill is the 1st Place 2005 Tournament Winner.

C. Bass Masters Tournament - Dr. Youngblood. Mayor Perkins stated he would like to ask Dr. Youngblood to come forward to address the Council. Dr. Youngblood addressed the Council stating last weekend the ESPN Bass Masters Weekend Trail Tournament, which was a huge success and brought a lot of people and money to Selma. Dr. Youngblood stated he estimated during their weekend stay, around \$80,000.00 to \$100,000.00 was spent. The Kawaris Club brought this program to Selma, it cost \$2,000.00, but funds were recouped with sponsorships. Dr. Youngblood stated that he would just like to remind the Council that from time to time there will need to be some repairs done at the Marina and hopefully the Council would be in favor of these repairs and the State of Alabama will be rebuilding the dock on a cost share type situation. Dr. Youngblood further stated the tournament was such a success that it will be held in Selma again next year in September.

I. MAYOR'S REPORT

D. Thanks, Selma Campaign. Mayor Perkins stated the City of Selma and the Centre for Commerce kicked off its Thanks, Selma campaign, and the Council is encouraged to use the yard signs provided.

E. Proclamation - Pray Day - September 11, 2005. Mayor Perkins stated September 11, 2005 is Pray Day nationally and he would like to execute a proclamation from the Office of Mayor honoring Pray Day. Mayor Perkins stated he encourages everyone to join together on this day and be a part of Pray Day.

F. Trailer/Truck Ordinance. Mayor Perkins stated the Council has discussed the enforcement of the Trailer/Truck ordinance in the last Council meeting. Mayor Perkins stated there was action taken prior to the last inquiry and the information provided to the Council is an update to the Council at this time.

G. Collection of Outstanding Garbage Fees and Collection of Outstanding Misdemeanor Charges and Traffic Citations. Mayor Perkins stated he has met with the Presiding Municipal Judge, the Tax Collector, the Chief Magistrate and the City Attorney and one of the conclusions is that prescribed court remedies are cost prohibited. Mayor Perkins stated it was decided at that time that they would pursue the possibility of engaging a collection agency for the purpose of achieving those collections and the Tax Collector is working on the details of this issue. Mayor Perkins stated that this item was discussed in staff meeting on this morning and it was decided to set up a committee to develop a comprehensive strategy that increases citizens' participation and code enforcement generally as well as the collection of these fines. Mayor Perkins further stated that Councilman Williamson provided information on last week suggesting having environmental court, but he will provide a written response this week.

H. Report of Public Works/General Services Henry Hicks and Tommy Smith. Mayor Perkins stated as per request of the Public Works/General Services chairperson, Councilman Leashore, Mr. Henry Hicks and Mr. Tommy Smith will address the Council regarding these departments and answer any detail questions from the Council. Councilman Leashore stated the committee met on August 18, 2005 and he asked Mr. Hicks and Mr. Smith to come forward to address the Council as per their written reports.

II. CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

A. Rezoning Ordinance - Highland Avenue Park. Attorney Nunn stated during the last Council meeting an ordinance was presented to the Council as it relates to the property on Highland Avenue next to Auto Zone. Attorney Nunn stated this ordinance was placed on first reading and if there are no further questions concerning this matter, he asks the Council approval of this rezoning at this time. A motion was made by Councilman Leashore and seconded by Councilwoman Martin to approve the said ordinance for rezoning. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council members present.

B. Resolution - Request Repossession of his Weapon of Duty by Calvin Brantley. President Evans stated the Council has a copy of resolution #R180-04/05 and it has been the practice in the past to allow retired officers to reclaim their weapons. A motion was made by Councilman Leashore and seconded by Councilwoman Crenshaw to approve the said resolution. The motion carried with a unanimous vote (show of hands) of the Council member present.

C. Liquor License Application - Albert Crum - Marie Foster Grocery. Attorney Nunn stated Mr. Albert Crum has submitted a liquor license application and the procedure is to have this application placed on first reading (1624 Marie Foster Street). A motion was made by Councilman Leashore and seconded by Councilwoman Martin to have this license placed on first reading to be acted on at the next Council meeting. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council members present.

D. Liquor License Application Research. Attorney Nunn stated per Council request he has researched information as it relates to a liquor license approval for businesses located near a church. Attorney Nunn stated the Council has been given copies of steps of the application process with the State of Alabama and he discussed this information with the Council members present.

II. CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

E. **St. James Hotel Update.** Attorney Nunn stated he was engaged in a conversation with Mr. Striplin over the phone when the call was disconnected, however, he has not been able to reconnect with Mr. Striplin after the connection failed, but he will update the Council when he is able to speak with him again.

F. **Consent Decree.** Attorney Nunn and Councilwoman Allen stated information on this item is still in progress at this time.

G. **City Owned Property.** Attorney Nunn stated he and Mr. Roosevelt Goldsby were able to gather information on this item, however, he is not present tonight, but he will request that Mr. Goldsby address the Council with an update at the next Council meeting during the mayor's report.

H. **E911 Update.** Attorney Nunn stated information on this item is still pending at this time.

BUSINESS ITEMS:

III. GOOD SAMARITAN UPDATE

Councilman Williamson asked what would be the procedure to get information on the lease and contracts concerning the Good Samaritan Hospital. President Evans stated Attorney Nunn has this information in his office and procedurally it can be obtained from him. Attorney Nunn stated he does have copies in his office, but Councilman Williamson is welcomed to contact the mayor's office.

IV. CRESCENT HILL DRIVE UPDATE

President Evans stated Mayor Perkins has asked the Council to meet at the work site at 2:00 p.m. on tomorrow.

VI. 2005 - 2006 BUDGET

President Evans stated City Treasurer Cynthia Mitchell has draft copies of the 2005-2006 budgets. Ms. Mitchell distributed copies of the proposed 2005-2006 budgets to the Council. Ms. Mitchell stated that starting at the end of this week, meetings would be scheduled with the Council and department heads to discuss their budgets. President Evans stated if the Council has questions regarding this budget, it should be put in writing so that all Council members can share dialog about the budget. During discussion, President Evans stated that a work session would be held on Thursday, September 1, 2005 to discuss this proposed budget. President Evans stated committee chairperson appointments would need to be discussed as well.

VII. ENVIRONMENTAL COURT

Councilman Williamson stated he added this to the agenda because the Community Pride Committee discussed and thought perhaps placing time on the docket to deal with litter, loud noise and violation of the garbage law might impress on the people that the City is really serious about cleaning up and keeping Selma clean. Councilman Williamson stated since the City has apparently done an environmental court previously, he would like to know what the procedure would be to have one again. During discussion, Councilwoman Crenshaw stated there is a gentleman from Mobile who is willing to come and address this issue with the Community Pride Committee and when this takes place, maybe it can be put back in place because it is much needed. Councilwoman Crenshaw further stated she would get with Mr. Henry Hicks and update the Council at the next Council meeting.

VIII. REQUEST FOR SERVICE AND INFORMATION

Councilman Cain stated he has been requesting service in his ward, but he is not getting any response. Councilman Cain stated as per his statement that he is awaiting written confirmation on beginning and ending work dates on his service requests so that he can report back to the people in his ward. President Evans asked Councilman Cain if he would provide a

BUSINESS ITEMS:

copy of his statement and he will follow-up to try to find out what the status is to report at the next Council meeting.

IX. CHECK REGISTER

Councilman Williamson stated he placed this item on the agenda to ask about the bill from Camp Grist and Mayor Perkins stated it would be taken care of and that information is good enough for him. During discussion, Councilman Cain asked why check #'s 46836, 46779, and 46893 were written. City Treasurer Cynthia Mitchell stated she cannot answer any questions on this matter due to not having any documents with her at this time.

X. INERT LANDFILL

Councilman Williamson stated this item has been in the budget for some years and it is not in the budget this year, and he would like to know is there a reason or why it was taken out. City Treasurer Cynthia Mitchell stated this item is in the budget. Councilman Williamson stated it is not a part of the income or expenses budget, it is a separate item and in the past it has been a part of the general budget. President Evans stated he will make this an item of clarification for the next meeting.

XI. GRANT COORDINATOR'S SALARY

Councilman Williamson stated this is just a comment, that he is aware that a Grant Coordinator has been hired and he hopes he is successful in getting the City a lot of money. Councilman Williamson further stated this salary was only listed for a half year and others were listed for the whole year, sometimes this can be confusing.

XII. RE-ENGINEERING THE TAX AND LICENSE DEPARTMENT

Councilman Cain stated he would like to know why there is a \$23,000.00 increase from the 2004-2005-budget process when a \$37,000.00 savings is supposed to be offered. President Evans stated this item would be continued until the next Council meeting.

XIII. RADIO/VIDEO BROADCAST ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Evans stated he added this item to the agenda as it relates to radio and video broadcasting because Mr. Morris informed him that Council meetings will possibly be on Charter network in the near future on the Mondays following each meeting. President Evans stated he is very happy about this. Councilman Leashore and Councilwoman Venter expressed concurrence. President Evans stated he is also happy that the radio broadcast of 105.3 is broadcasting live also. During discussion, President Evans stated he wanted to find a way that citizens who could not attend the meetings could be better informed about the proceedings of the Council. President Evans stated he co-sponsors the radio broadcast. Mr. Gene Hisel also sponsors the radio broadcast as well as the video broadcast.

CITIZENS' REQUEST REPORT

Minister Jackie Caldwell-Phillips
Re: American Red Cross

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

RECREATION COMMITTEE - Councilman Samuel Randolph, Chairperson

There is no report for the Recreation Committee.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE - Councilwoman Dr. Geraldine Allen, Chairperson

There is no report for the Administrative Committee.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE - Councilman Reid Cain, Chairperson

Councilman Cain stated the Public Safety committee met on August 10, 2005 at 4:00 p.m.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE - Councilwoman Jean Martin, Chairperson

There is no report for the Community Development Committee.

PUBLIC WORKS/GENERAL SERVICES COMMITTEE - Councilman Leashore, Chairperson

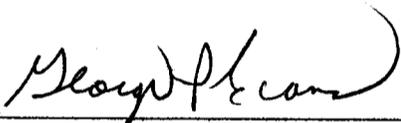
Councilman Leashore stated reports given by Mr. Henry Hicks and Mr. Tommy Smith would serve as his committee report.

DISCRETIONARY FUNDS COMMITTEE - Councilwoman Crenshaw, Chairperson

Councilwoman Crenshaw stated the Selma City Schools will be sponsoring a Math and Science Day on October 15, 2005, and they are going to need \$3,000.00 from the Council Discretionary Fund. Councilwoman Crenshaw stated \$300.00 is requested of each Council member and this is a tremendous project for the children. Councilman Leashore stated he would like to propose that the Council supports this project by using funds from the current budget's Special Project Fund, which has an approximate balance of about \$4,000.00. Councilwoman Crenshaw stated she will gather more information on this item and discuss further at the next Council meeting.

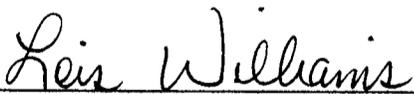
ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, on motion made by Councilman Leashore and seconded by Councilwoman Allen, the Council voted by unanimous consent to adjourn this meeting at 7:38 p.m.



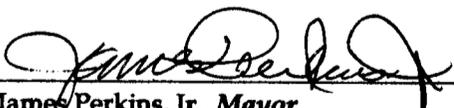
George P. Evans, *President*

ATTEST:



Lois Williams, *City Clerk*

APPROVED:



James Perkins, Jr., *Mayor*