

MINUTES OF THE SELMA CITY COUNCIL
MARCH 26, 2007
5:00 P.M.

Call to Order

Invocation: Reverend Winston Williams
Pastor, St. Paul C.M.E. Church
Reverend Erskin C. Clemons
Pastor, Green Street Baptist Church

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

The Selma City Council met in a regular session in the Council Chambers of City Hall on Monday, March 19, 2007 at 5:00 p.m. with the following members present during roll call: Council President George Evans and Council members Cecil Williamson, 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, Assistant City Clerk Ivy S. Harrison, City Attorney Jimmy Nunn, City Treasurer Cynthia Mitchell, and the Mayor's Executive Assistant Darlene Rudolph. Council members Cain and Randolph were absent during roll call. Councilman Randolph arrived at 5:40 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

President Evans asked for the approval of the agenda items. A motion was made by Councilwoman Martin and seconded by Councilwoman Allen to approve the agenda as written. **The motion passed with a unanimous (show of hands) vote of the Council members present.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

After approval of the agenda, President Evans asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the February 26, 2007 regular meeting. A motion was made by Councilman Leashore and seconded by Councilwoman Crenshaw to approve the minutes with the attachment of the letter written by Attorney Nunn dated February 19, 2007. **The motion passed with a unanimous (show of hands) vote of the Council members present.**

President Evans also asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the March 19, 2007 regular meeting. A motion was made by Councilwoman Martin and seconded by Councilman Leashore to table these minutes until the next Council meeting. **The motion passed with a unanimous (show of hands) vote of the Council members present.**

CITIZENS' REQUESTS

Reverend Winston Williams
Re: St. Paul C.M.E. Church 116th Birthday Celebration

Mrs. Carolyn Bates
Re: Special Needs Day

Ms. Sherry James
Re: Liberty and Justice for All

Ms. Carolyn Powell, Ms. Callie Nelson and Mr. Marvin Hopson
Re: Dollars for Scholars

Ms. David Blackmon
Re: Illegal merchandise being sold openly in the city

Ms. Joyce Kendrick
Re: Jonathan Daniels Community Development Corporation
A motion was made by Councilman Leashore and seconded by Councilwoman Crenshaw to support this initiative. **The motion carried with a unanimous (show of hands) vote of the Council members present.**

PUBLIC HEARING

Ordinance #O117-06/07 - Rezoning. Attorney Nunn stated a public hearing has been requested for this time and all notifications have been sent to the residents and property owners in the neighborhood. Following a brief discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Leashore and seconded by Councilwoman Martin to adopt the said ordinance. **A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council members present.**

Councilman Randolph arrived during the Public Hearing.

MAYOR'S REPORT

A. **Ratify Resolution #R161-06/07 - Community Outreach.** Mayor Perkins read this resolution in its entirety and asked Council favorable consideration. A motion was made by Councilman Leashore and seconded by Councilwoman Crenshaw to approve the said resolution. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council members present.

B. **Resolution - #R157-06/07 Pheonix Building Water Avenue.** Mayor Perkins asked Ms. Charlotte Griffeth to come forward to present several resolutions. Ms. Griffeth read this resolution and the following resolutions in their entirety. A motion was made by Councilwoman Martin and seconded by Councilman Leashore to approve the said resolution. A roll call vote was taken and the resolution passed with a unanimous vote of the Council members present.

Resolution - #R158-06/07 Dishwasher Carl Morgan Convention Center. Ms. Griffeth read this resolution in its entirety. A motion was made by Councilman Williamson and seconded by Councilman Leashore to table this item until the next Council meeting. The motion carried with a unanimous (show of hands) vote of the Council members present.

Resolution - #R159-06/07 Selma Interpretive Center, Amendment of the Budget. Ms. Griffeth read this resolution in its entirety. A motion was made by Councilwoman Martin and seconded by Councilman Leashore to approve the said resolution in the amount of \$9,600.00. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council members present.

Resolution - #R160-06/07 The Governor's Office Faith Based and Community Initiatives. Ms. Griffeth read this resolution in its entirety. A motion was made by Councilwoman Crenshaw and seconded by Councilman Leashore to approve the said resolution in the amount of \$389,223.00 with a maximum amount of \$246,180.00, the City of Selma pledging a 30% match in cash of \$106,779.00 and in-kind match of \$36,264.00 to be appropriated in the FY 2007-2008 budget. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council members present.

Resolution - #R162-06/07 ALDOT Grant Funds. Ms. Griffeth read this resolution in its entirety. A motion was made by Councilwoman Martin and seconded by Councilman Leashore to approve the said resolution to receive funds in the amount of \$301,100.00 to purchase. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council members present.

C. **Memorandum of Agreement - City of Selma, University of West Alabama and Larry Watts.** Ms. Griffeth read this memorandum in its entirety. A motion was made by Councilwoman Martin and seconded by Councilwoman Crenshaw to approve the said memorandum of agreement to contract with Larry Watts in the amount of \$30,000.00 on a periodic basis, based on progress reports. The motion passed with a majority vote of the Council members present. There were seven ayes and one nay vote. Councilman Williamson cast a nay vote.

D. **Contract - Pyro Production.** Ms. Griffeth stated the Council has been given a copy of the said contract for Pyro Productions for the annual Fourth of July celebration fireworks display. A motion was made by Councilwoman Martin and seconded by Councilwoman Crenshaw to approve the said contract. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council members present.

E. **Good Samaritan SubLease Agreement - McRae Prostate Cancer Awareness Foundation.** Mayor Perkins stated as per the preamble to this agreement and asked the Council favorable consideration. A motion was made by Councilwoman Martin and seconded by Councilwoman Crenshaw to approve the said sublease agreement between the City of Selma and McRae Prostate Cancer Awareness Foundation in the amount of \$150.00 per month. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council members present.

F. **2007 Annual Audit Report Draft.** Mayor Perkins asked Mr. Billy Daniels to come forward to address the Council as per the 2007 Annual Audit Report. Mr. Daniels addressed the Council with a PowerPoint presentation of the 2007 Annual Audit Report. Drafts were distributed to the Council.

G. **Environmental Court.** Mayor Perkins stated he would have additional information on this item at the next Council meeting.

H. **Craig Field Industrial Airport Authority Appointment to Board of Directors.** Mayor Perkins requested his recommendation for Gary L. Crum to be appointed to the Craig Field Industrial Airport Authority Board of Directors. A motion was made by Councilwoman Crenshaw and seconded by Councilman Randolph to approve the said recommendation for appointment. A

MAYOR'S REPORT

roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a majority vote of the Council members present. There were four ayes, two nays and two abstentions. President Evans and Councilwoman Allen both cast nay votes. Councilman Williamson and Councilwoman Martin abstained from voting.

Councilwoman Allen requested her comments are made a part of the record. She stated "at this time, I have to vote no because the fact that I have found out that he is chair, I do not understand why they would delete him from it." She further stated she knows both men very well, also, and both could serve the purpose, but at the same time, she votes no.

During closing remarks, Councilman Williamson stated as it relates to the vote for the Craig Field Industrial Airport Authority, he would like to change his abstention to a "no" vote. The motion then passes with a majority vote of the Council members present. There were then four ayes, three nays and one abstention. President Evans, Councilman Williamson and Councilwoman Allen each cast nay votes. Councilwoman Martin abstained from voting.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

A. **Property Acquisition Sale - Highway 80 East.** Attorney Nunn stated the Council has been briefed on this issue and asked Attorney Alston Keith to come forward to address the Council regarding the same. After Attorney Keith addressed the Council, a motion was made by Councilman Leashore and seconded by Councilwoman Crenshaw to approve the said resolution for the sale of property behind old Southern Pipe building on Hwy 80 West in the amount of \$1,000.00. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council members present.

BUSINESS ITEMS:

I. **ELECTED SCHOOL BOARD vs APPOINTED SCHOOL BOARD**

During discussion, Councilman Leashore made a motion, following his attached statement; the motion was seconded by Councilman Williamson to ask the Council to approve resolution #R163-06/07 in support of an elected school board. President Evans ruled this motion out of order. Councilman Leashore then made an appeal to the Council to sustain his motion, dual seconded by Councilman Williamson and Councilwoman Crenshaw with an amendment to the said resolution to include "contingent upon the number of members on the board", which she stated was based upon her own feelings and not due to Councilman Williamson concurring with this issue. A roll call vote was taken and the passed with a majority vote of the Council members present. There were five ayes and three nays. President Evans Councilwoman Martin and Councilman Randolph cast nay votes. A third motion was made by Councilman Leashore and seconded by Councilman Williamson to approve the resolution. The motion carried with a majority (show of hands) vote of the Council members present. There were six ayes and two nays. President Evans and Councilman Randolph cast nay votes.

II. **FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR BRIDGE CROSSING JUBILEE AND BATTLE OF SELMA**

There was a consensus of the Council to table this item at this time.

III. **SUSIE JONES' PAY**

There was a consensus of the Council to table this item at this time.

IV. **FIVE YEAR LEASE AGREEMENT WITH REGIONS BANK**

Mrs. Rudolph, on behalf of Mayor Perkins, stated as soon as the signed copies are returned by the Bank they will be distributed to the Council accordingly.

V. **ORDINANCE - LIVESTOCK (#122-06/07)**

Attorney Nunn stated this item would need to be discussed during work session. President Evans stated he concurs. The item was tabled.

VI. **DIVERSITY WORKSHOP**

President Evans stated the diversity workshop has been scheduled tentatively for April 14, 2007 at 9:00 a.m.

BUSINESS ITEMS:

VII. SICKLE CELL FUND

President Evans stated he has met with Mayor Perkins on this issue and he will update the Council upon making a decision.

VIII. BUDGET AMENDMENT FOR AUDIT

Following a brief discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Williamson and seconded by Councilwoman Crenshaw to amend the budget to increase the appropriation for the audit for \$10,000.00 to be allocated from unappropriated funds. **A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council members present.**

IX. SPEED BREAKERS

Following a brief discussion, a motion was made by Councilwoman Allen and seconded by Councilwoman Crenshaw to amend the policy for speed breakers to include notification to the Council. The motion carried with a unanimous (show of hands) vote of the Council members present.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

RECREATION COMMITTEE - Councilman Leashore, Chairperson

No Report.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE - Councilman Dr. Cecil Williamson, Chairperson

No Report.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE - Councilwoman Dr. Geraldine Allen, Chairperson

Councilwoman Allen reported. Copy of minutes are attached.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE - Councilwoman Bennie Ruth Crenshaw, Chairperson

No Report.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE - Councilwoman Venter, Chairperson

Councilwoman Venter reported. Copy of minutes are attached.

DISCRETIONARY FUNDS COMMITTEE - President Evans, Chairperson

President Evans stated \$1,900.00 has been collected from the Council discretionary.

CLOSING REMARKS BY EACH COUNCIL MEMBER.

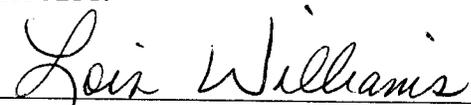
ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, a motion was made by Councilwoman Martin, and seconded by Councilwoman Allen to adjourn, and by unanimous consent of the Council, this meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.



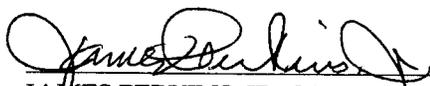
GEORGE P. EVANS, *Council President*

ATTEST:



LOIS WILLIAMS, *City Clerk*

APPROVED:



JAMES PERKINS, JR., *Mayor*