

**MINUTES OF THE
SELMA CITY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2004**

The Selma City Council met in a regular session in the Council Chambers of City Hall on Monday, February 23, 2004 at 5:00 p.m. with the following members present: Council President George Evans and Council members Glenn Sexton, Rita S. Franklin, Jean T. Martin, Nancy G. Sewell, Samuel Randolph, Benny L. Tucker, Bennie R. Crenshaw and James Durry. Others present were City Clerk Lois Williams, City Treasurer Cynthia Mitchell, City Attorney Jimmy Nunn and Mayor James Perkins, Jr. Dallas County Commissioner – Reverend Curtis Williams 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 asked if there were any additions or corrections to the agenda prepared for this meeting. Councilwoman Sewell stated she would like to add Selma's Promise. Councilman Durry stated he would like to add Ward 8 crime task force meeting and announced that the meeting would be held on March 1, 2004 at 6:00 p.m. at Second Baptist Church in East Selma. A motion was made by Councilwoman Crenshaw and seconded by Councilwoman Martin to approve the agenda as amended. The motion carried with a unanimous vote of the Council.

President Evans asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the regular meeting held on Monday, February 9, 2004. There being no corrections to be made to the minutes, a motion was made by Councilwoman Sewell and seconded by Councilman Randolph to adopt the said minutes as written. The motion carried with a unanimous vote of the Council.

Discussion: Citizens' Input on Ward Realignment

There were no responses from citizens regarding ward realignment.

Presentation to Mrs. Hazel Salter – Beautification Committee Chairperson

Councilwoman Franklin presented Mrs. Salter with a gift and plaque on behalf of the Council and the City of Selma.

I. CITIZENS' REQUESTS

A. Reverend Ralph Joseph – Crime Task Force Team Recommendation.
Reverend Ralph Joseph addressed the Council stating everyone should be aware of the concerns of the citizens of the City of Selma regarding the issue of crime. Reverend Joseph stated there have also been several town hall meetings with the Mayor and the Task Force Committee. Reverend Joseph stated he has a petition signed by citizens of Selma urging the Council to implement the recommendations of the Task Force Committee. A motion was made by Councilwoman Sewell and seconded by Councilwoman Crenshaw to have a work session prior to the next Council meeting to discuss these recommendations from the Crime Task Force Committee. The motion carried with a unanimous vote of the Council.

II. MAYOR'S REPORT

A. Men's Conference. Mayor Perkins stated the Men's Conference, which took place over the weekend, was a huge success and he would like to publicly acknowledge the City's appreciation for all efforts and everything that was done. Councilman Randolph addressed the Mayor stating he would like to note how wonderful he thought the choir performed during the conference and he would like to ask Mayor Perkins if he would try to get this choir to stay together. Mayor Perkins stated he concurs and he has encouraged the same.

II. MAYOR'S REPORT

B. ALL-Lock Facility. Mayor Perkins stated he would like to mention that the City has a need to move forward with the assessment of the ALL-Lock facility. Mayor Perkins stated the assessment would determine if the building is acceptable for occupancy. Mayor Perkins stated there is a party interested in the facility and this information needs to be prepared for them. Mayor Perkins stated funds are appropriated in the budget under the ALL-Lock line item and he would like to make the Council aware of the urgency to move forward. Mayor Perkins stated he may need to call the Council for ratification of the expenditures of these funds. Mayor Perkins stated if there are Council members who have questions or concerns, please give him a call and he will share more specifics with them.

C. David Painter – Medical Center Parkway & Animal Shelter. Mayor Perkins asked Mr. David Painter, City Engineer, to come forward to address the Council on two issues requested of him to report on, which are: Medical Center Parkway traffic lighting and Central Alabama Animal Shelter. Mr. Painter stated he has looked at this site with Mayor Perkins and others and there are twelve procedures called warrants that would need to be followed in order to establish the need for this traffic signal. Mr. Painter stated what really needs to be done is a traffic study from Bell Road northwest to Highland Park because of the development in that area, which may require more than just a traffic signal.

Mr. Painter stated there are firm proposals for the Animal Shelter project. He stated while waiting for rezoning, drawings are being developed. Mr. Painter stated the drawings would help to prevent adjustments in the final stages.

Mr. Painter also stated, per request of Councilman Sexton, the project on Mabry Street is scheduled to begin today, and if the weather permits, the work should be completed in about a week.

D. Account Balances of Obligated/Un-obligated Funds. Mayor Perkins stated the Council has been given accounting information regarding these funds.

E. Police Department Evaluation. Mayor Perkins stated President Evans has been provided a draft of the statement of work, which President Evans has also provided to the Council. Mayor Perkins stated they have interviewed around six consultants nation wide and he has been very impressed and ready to begin establishing dates into the statement of work and get it out by Friday. He asked the Council to please review and make any necessary notes and give him a call for any questions or concerns.

F. General Services Department Discussion & Appointment of Department Head. Mayor Perkins stated he has met with the Administrative Committee regarding the issue of the General Services Department Head. Mayor Perkins stated he will be removing himself from discussions and the committee will probably discuss this matter during their report.

G. Ordinance – Playing Basketball in Streets. Mayor Perkins stated Attorney Nunn has a draft of this ordinance prepared. He stated he has asked Coach Reece if he would conduct an inspection of the various campuses throughout the City that are suitable for playing basketball. Mayor Perkins stated according to Coach Reece, collectively it would cost an estimated \$106,000.00 to get these facilities in place. After further discussion, Mayor Perkins stated he has also asked Chief Green for the cost of labor to have supervision at the playgrounds, with consideration of using the crossing guards who are currently working 20 hours per week. Mayor Perkins stated Chief Green

II. MAYOR'S REPORT

has stated time did not permit him to be able to respond to this issue at this time, so he has asked Ms. Cynthia Mitchell, City Treasurer, to estimate cost for this security. Mayor Perkins stated she presented him with a cost of \$1,540.11 per person, with an analysis of remaining inside the threshold of a part-time schedule; however, if another 20 hours were added to the existing schedule it would then cost \$4,700.00 per person. Mayor Perkins further stated this is the beginning of this process and they will continue to refine these numbers and the ordinance, but it will cost the City some money to do this.

H. Resolution - Declaration of Street (Medical Center Parkway). Attorney Nunn stated at the last Council meeting, a resolution and declaration was presented to the Council as it relates to the property on Medical Center Parkway. Attorney Nunn stated Mr. David Painter, City Engineer, and Mr. Tommy Smith, Public Works Director, were asked to visit the site and do a minor study and make a recommendation to the Council. Mr. Painter stated he has reviewed the site and based on the survey information, his only concern was that there is no right of way gap. Some cleanup work will need to be done to make sure there is adequate drainage on the property. Mr. Painter stated this street should be dedicated in order for the City to maintain the street and this is his recommendation. A motion was made by Councilwoman Franklin and seconded by Councilman Sexton to adopt a resolution for declaration of the said street on Medical Center Parkway. The motion carried with a majority vote of the Council. There were eight affirmative votes and one negative vote. Councilwoman Crenshaw cast a negative vote.

I. Local Law Enforcement Block Grant Matching Funds. Mayor Perkins stated there is a grant that has been awarded to the City, the local law enforcement block grant, the final award amount is \$40,578.00 and the match appropriation is 10%, which is \$4,486.00. A motion was made by Councilwoman Franklin and seconded by Councilman Sexton to approve the matching funds of \$4,486.00 for the local law enforcement block grant. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council.

J. State Examiner's Financial Audit. Mayor Perkins stated there is no update on this matter.

K. Ala-Tax Sales Report. Mayor Perkins stated he has met with Ala-Tax and they did not claim ownership of the information presented at a previous Council meeting. Mayor Perkins stated Ala-Tax did acknowledge that some information had been provided to the Council, but not all information. Mayor Perkins stated Ala-Tax apologized for contributing to the confusion, and he further stated that a clear chain of custody has been established for information to be distributed by Ala-Tax to the City, so that this situation does not occur again. Mayor Perkins stated he accepts their apology and expressions and he is ready to move forward.

III. CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

A. Animal Shelter. Attorney Nunn stated this item has been discussed and will come before the Planning Commission on next Tuesday and then the same will be presented to the Council on the fourth Monday in March.

B. Ordinance - Playing Basketball in Streets. Attorney Nunn stated he has surveyed about fifteen or twenty other cities and there were about three or four of them who regulate playing basketball or any other type of ball in the streets. Attorney Nunn stated section one deals with playing of basketball in the streets and section two deals with the basketball goals in the streets. Attorney Nunn asked if the Council would review the ordinance and determine if they would like to place on first reading tonight or only to

III. CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

review at this time. President Evans stated they would review and discuss at the next Council meeting. Councilwoman Franklin stated this item would be passed to the Recreation Committee for review.

C. Resolutions – Request for Service Weapon & Badge. Attorney Nunn stated the Council has adopted a resolution as it relates to allowing City employees, upon retirement, to receive their City weapon and badge as part of their retirement benefits. The resolution states that as a part of the retirement of Assistant Chief Jacobs for twenty-six years of service in good standing, the Mayor and the Council award Assistant Chief Jacobs his weapon and badge, and further direct the transfer, possession and title of the same. A motion was made by Councilwoman Franklin and dually seconded by Councilwoman Sewell and Councilwoman Martin to adopt the resolution to award the badge and weapon to Assistant Chief Jacobs upon his retirement. The motion carried with a unanimous vote of the Council.

Attorney Nunn stated Lieutenant Hamner has submitted a letter to the Council for retirement as of April 1, 2004 and request the same receipt of his weapon and badge upon retirement. A motion was made by Councilwoman Crenshaw and seconded by Councilwoman Sewell to adopt the resolution to award the badge and weapon to Lieutenant Hamner based on his intent to retire. The motion carried with a unanimous vote of the Council.

D. Ordinance – Abandoned Vehicles. Attorney Nunn stated this ordinance has been drafted, but not ready for distribution, once finished, the ordinance, will be placed in the Council members mailboxes.

E. Ordinance – Curfew for Youth. Attorney Nunn stated this ordinance was discussed during a public hearing on today with issues addressed on a holding place for the youth if the curfew ordinance is violated, and whether to change the time of the curfew or keep the same. Councilwoman Franklin stated they discussed the time to be 11:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m. on Monday through Thursday, and 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m. on the weekends, Friday through Sunday. Attorney Nunn stated the daytime issue was addressed as well, concerning the youth who are not attending school, they will also be in violation of the ordinance. After further discussion, President Evans requests the Council to review the ordinance and discuss further.

F. Ordinance – Wrecker & Towing Services. Attorney Nunn stated he did not prepare the wrecker ordinance, but he does have a copy of the draft. Councilwoman Franklin stated he should incorporate this draft into the version of the ordinance from his office.

BUSINESS ITEMS:

IV. POLICE DEPARTMENT EVALUATION

President Evans stated the Council would meet on Tuesday, March 2, 2004, to review and discuss the statement of work from Mayor Perkins for the Police Department assessment and evaluation.

V. FORESTRY GRANT – SITE WORK TIME TABLE

Councilwoman Franklin stated there is still to no timetable at this time, but this item needs to be continued.

BUSINESS ITEMS:

VI. GENERAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT DISCUSSION

Councilman Sexton stated they are still waiting for Valeria Jones, Personnel Director, to have interviews. Councilwoman Crenshaw stated Ms. Jones will be moving forward with setting up interviews.

VII. FIRE TRUCK DISPOSITION (BURNSVILLE)

Councilwoman Franklin stated Chief Allen did attend the Public Safety meeting this afternoon, and this item was discussed. She stated it was his recommendation that Truck #105, 1976 Ford Diesel, be sold to the Burnsville Fire Department for \$1.00, and he has written a letter to Mayor Perkins for this recommendation. A motion was made by Councilwoman Crenshaw and seconded by Councilwoman Franklin to sell the said fire truck to Burnsville Fire Department for \$1.00. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council.

VIII. DUTCH DINNER FOR MAYORS & COUNCIL MEMBERS

Councilwoman Franklin asked if the Council would like to participate in the Dutch Dinner. She stated she has spoken with the St. James and dinners will be \$20.00 per person including tax. Councilwoman Franklin stated this dinner is for fellowship. President Evans counted seven members who expressed an interest in the dinner.

IX. ARBOR DAY PROCLAMATION

Councilwoman Franklin stated every year the Mayor does a proclamation for Arbor Day, and this week is Arbor Week in Alabama, February 23rd through February 27th. She stated the Mayor has already done the proclamation, which the Tree Commission will receive and this is a major requirement for Tree City USA.

X. SELMA FOOD BANK DONATION

President Evans stated a request for a donation for the Selma Food Bank is being distributed to each Council member who would like to give a contribution.

XI. SELMA'S PROMISE

Councilwoman Sewell stated she would like to remind everyone of the notice to attend Selma's Promise Partners' luncheon. She stated the partners work with our youth to guarantee that they receive their five basic promises. The luncheon will be held on Wednesday, February 26, 2004, from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m., at the Convention Center. Sylacauga's Promise will be present to conduct the workshop during the luncheon.

XII. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

RECREATION COMMITTEE

Councilman Durry stated the Recreation Department will begin solicitation for coaches and other areas to help the youth programs at the Recreation Department. Councilman Randolph stated anyone interested in coaching can attend the free coaches clinic and train with a celebrity.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

There is no report for the Administrative Committee.

XII. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Councilwoman Franklin stated items covered in the Public Safety meeting held this afternoon included litter control with Officer Meyers and all other items have been covered in the normal agenda. The next meeting will be held around 3:00 p.m., prior to the next Council meeting.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Councilwoman Martin stated she and other tourism committee members attended the Legislative Tourism meeting in Montgomery on last week. She stated the Governor, Lt. Governor, State Treasurer and other legislative representatives were present and expressed to her to let everyone know to call them if they are needed for anything, and she would like to pass that expression on to all the Council.

PUBLIC WORKS/GENERAL SERVICES

There is no report for the Public Works/General Services Committee.

DISCRETIONARY FUNDS COMMITTEE

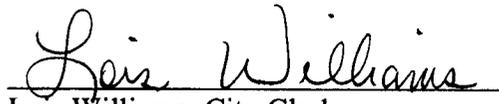
Councilwoman Sewell stated there are two requests made for discretionary funds. She stated she appreciates the donation to the Selma Food Bank of \$1,400.00 and the donation to the Selma's Promise Luncheon of \$300.00.

There being no other business to come before the Council, on motion made by Councilwoman Sewell and seconded by Councilwoman Martin, the Council voted by unanimous consent to adjourn this meeting at 7:06 p.m.



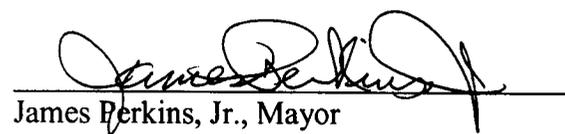
George P. Evans, President

ATTEST:



Lois Williams, City Clerk

APPROVED:



James Perkins, Jr., Mayor