

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL CALLED MEETING OF
THE SELMA CITY COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2001**

The Selma City Council met in a special called session in the Council Chambers of City Hall on Thursday, April 11, 2001 at 10:00 a.m. with the following members present: President George P. Evans and Council members Glenn Sexton, Rita S. Franklin, Jean T. Martin, Nancy G. Sewell, Samuel Randolph, Benny L. Tucker, Bennie Ruth Crenshaw, and James Durry. Others present were Mayor James Perkins, Jr., City Attorney Jimmy Nunn, City Clerk Jackie Smith, and the Mayor's Administrative Assistant Sherri James. Imam Yusuf Salaam gave the invocation.

President Evans declared a quorum present and the meeting was opened for the transaction of business as set forth on the agenda of the special call.

Mayor Perkins asked President Evans if he could address the Council prior to conducting the business set forth on the agenda. Mayor Perkins stated he wish the Council and the Mayor could sit down together and work out the details of the items included on the agenda of the special call. The Mayor encouraged the Council to consider his appeal to meet and discuss the items before the Council takes action.

Councilwoman Sewell stated she is of the opinion the Council should recess this session and move into an executive session because most of the items on the agenda of the special call would involve the good name and character of certain individuals. Mrs. Sewell stated once the executive session concludes the Council would reconvene and action taken in the public forum. A motion was made by Councilwoman Sewell and seconded by Councilman Randolph to recess this meeting for an executive session. The motion passed by a majority vote of the Council. There were six affirmative votes and three negative votes. Council members Franklin, Sexton and Tucker cast the negative votes.

Councilwoman Franklin delivered to the City Clerk original documents prepared for discussion and the notice of the special call. Councilwoman Crenshaw asked the record to reflect she did not sign the special call because she is of the opinion, from the agenda items, that this meeting is only a continuation of the regular Council meeting held on Monday, April 9th. Councilman Randolph asked that his signature be removed from the notice of the special call because he was not aware of what the notice was. At 10:21 a.m. the special called meeting was recessed for an executive session.

The special called Council meeting reconvened from executive session at 11:55 a.m. and Councilman Randolph was not present with the special call meeting reconvened. President Evans informed the Council that there are six resolutions for discussion.

I. MONIES BEING SPENT ON MAYOR'S SECURITY

President Evans stated during the executive session Mayor Perkins shared some very confidential, private information relative to overtime for his security. Mayor Perkins stated he has been advised, in writing, not to discuss this matter publicly and the information is sensitive enough and warranted private discussions. The Mayor stated his security does not cost any additional monies, just the normal and ordinary payroll costs and the payroll figures will be made available to the Council at a future date. A motion was made by Councilwoman Crenshaw and seconded by Councilwoman Sewell to accept and approve the report provided by Mayor Perkins relative to his security detail. The motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council.

II. CEMETERY BUDGET

President Evans stated there has been discussion about the Council instructing the Mayor and City Clerk to follow the budget in place, prior to any changes suggested by Mayor Perkins, for the Cemetery Department. Mayor Perkins stated this resolution, if adopted, would require the termination of six newly hired employees. President Evans asked that this matter be tabled for further discussion.

III. RELEASE OF BOND FUNDS AND OIL LEASE FUNDS

President Evans stated a resolution has been prepared instructing the City Clerk to issue all checks for any bond funds and for any oil lease distribution monies, which are presently being withheld by the City of Selma. Mayor Perkins asked Community Development Director Elizabeth Driggers to address this matter. Mrs. Driggers stated the funds allocated for Sturdivant Hall were spent over a year ago; the funds allocated for the Animal Shelter were first delayed due to excessive costs and bids are currently being advertised in the local newspaper. Mayor Perkins stated he is working through these two issues and there are still some unanswered questions regarding the Smitherman Building. Mayor Perkins stated checks were written in September of 2000, prior to him taking office, and the auditors made him aware that checks written in large amounts were still outstanding. The Mayor stated he would like to hire a Director and get a full understanding of questions surrounding the relationship of the City of Selma and the Smitherman Building Board of Directors prior to releasing any funds for renovations. A motion was made by Councilwoman Sewell and seconded by Councilwoman Crenshaw to accept and approve the report given by the Mayor regarding items three and five. The motion received a unanimous vote of the Council.

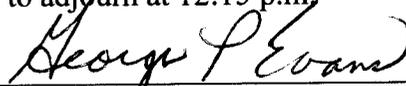
IV. PAY INCREASE FOR GENERAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

President Evans stated there has been discussion at previous Council meetings to amend the general fund budget \$9,000 for the remainder of this fiscal year to provide a two percent pay increase in accordance with the pay plan implemented for that department last year. President Evans asked that this resolution be placed on first reading and addressed at the next Council meeting. A motion was made by Councilman Sexton to place the resolution on first reading resolving a two percent pay increase for the General Services Department. Councilwoman Sewell seconded the motion and the motion received the unanimous vote of the Council.

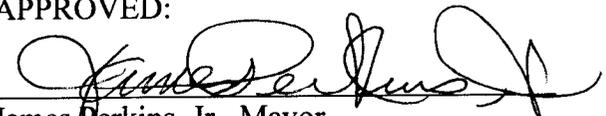
V. AMENDMENT OF PAY PLAN FOR THE SELMA POLICE DEPARTMENT

President Evans stated there has been discussion to amend the pay plan of the Selma Police Department to include those twelve sergeants and lieutenants whose promotions were not included in the original pay plan and to include all future promotions so long as the plan is in effect. A motion was made by Councilwoman Sewell to amend the pay plan as stated to include the pay increase for those promotions that have taken place now and all future promotions so long as the plan is in effect. Councilwoman Franklin seconded the motion and the motion received the unanimous vote of the Council. Mayor Perkins stated he is of the opinion that the pay plan is deficient as it relates to future promotions and he endorses the action to modify the Selma Police Department pay plan.

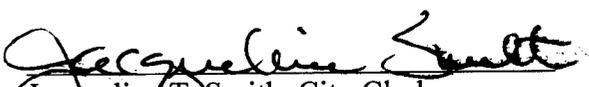
There being no further business to come before the Council, on motion made and duly seconded, the Council voted by a unanimous consent to adjourn at 12:15 p.m.


George P. Evans, President

APPROVED:


James Perkins, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:


Jacqueline T. Smith, City Clerk

RESOLUTION

THAT, WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Selma has concerns over the operation of City Government and concerns over actions which have been taken by Mayor James Perkins, Jr.; and,

WHEREAS, Mayor James Perkins, Jr. has questioned the use of discretionary funds by individual Council Members, former Mayor Joe Smitherman, former Council President Carl C. Morgan, Jr. and former Council Members, wherein said funds were used for the betterment of the City of Selma, including but not limited to charitable contributions to civic, educational, historical preservation, church affiliated groups; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that there is a need for the Council to employ independent attorneys to represent their interests and to advise the City Council of their duties, responsibilities and obligations under the laws and statutes of the State of Alabama; and,

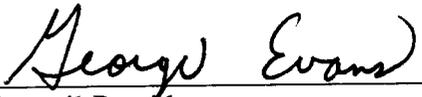
WHEREAS, the City Council is of the opinion that the City Attorney, Jimmie Nunn, is so closely aligned to Mayor James Perkins, Jr. that he is unable to render to the City Council legal advice which may or may not conflict with the policies and procedures sought to be implemented by Mayor James Perkins, Jr.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SELMA AS FOLLOWS:

1. That the law firms of Pitts & Pitts and John W. Kelly, III, shall be retained as independent counsel to advise the council members of their duties, responsibilities and obligations which they are required to fulfill under the laws and statutes of the State of Alabama.
2. That said independent counsel shall be employed by the City Council at an hourly rate of \$125, per firm and shall also be reimbursed for any out of pocket expenses incurred by said

firms in representing said interest of the City Council. Said attorneys shall submit to the Council an itemized statement of all work performed on behalf of the Council.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED by the City Council of the City of Selma, Alabama on this the 11th day of April 2001.



Council President

ATTEST:

City Clerk

APPROVED:

Mayor

RESOLUTION

THAT, WHEREAS, under the Mayor-Council form of government, the City Council of the City of Selma is the legislative body upon which rests the responsibility of determining the policies to be followed in the administration of the City of Selma; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council had previously authorized the implementation of a specific pay plan for certain members of the Selma Police Department; and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SELMA AS FOLLOWS:

That the Mayor of the City of Selma cause to be amended the specific pay plan for the Selma Police Department to include annual merit raises for those employees who have been promoted to the rank of Sergeant and Lieutenant since the original pay plan was implemented and to also include annual merit raises for any future promotions to the rank of Sergeant and Lieutenant in the Selma Police Department that were not included in the original specific pay plan, until the original pay plan expires.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SELMA on this the 11th day of April 2001.

George P. Evans, Council President

ATTTEST:

Jacqueline Smith, City Clerk

APPROVED:



James Berkins, Jr., Mayor