

**MINUTES OF THE SELMA CITY COUNCIL
OCTOBER 22, 2007
5:00 P.M.**

Call to Order

Invocation: Reverend Jim Park, Pastor
Fairview Baptist Church

Reverend Effel Williams, Pastor, Tabernacle of Praise
Leaders in the Community

Moment of Silence
Pledge of Allegiance

The Selma City Council met in a regular session in the Council Chambers of City Hall on Monday, October 22, 2007 at 5:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The following members were present during roll call: Council President George Evans and Council members Cecil Williamson, Jean T. Martin, Geraldine Allen, Johnnie 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. Councilman Cain was absent during roll call but arrived later at 5:20 p.m. Councilman Randolph was absent during roll call but arrived later at 5:25 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 October 8, 2007 meeting. A motion was made by Councilman Leashore, and seconded by Councilwoman Martin, to approve the minutes of October 8, 2007. **The motion passed with a unanimous (show of hands) vote of the Council members present.**

BOND HEARING

CITIZENS' REQUESTS

Ms. Millie Dulaney
Re: National Council of Negro Women Award (In Honor of Mayor James Perkins, Jr.)

Attorney Faya Rose' Toure and Ms. Mae Richmond
Re: The Week of the Child
A motion was made by Councilman Leashore, and seconded by Councilwoman Crenshaw, for the City of Selma to go on record in support of "The Week of the Child", to be celebrated during the last week of October, 2007. **The motion passed with a unanimous (show of hands) vote of the Council members present.**

Ms. Lassandra Craig, Mrs. Audrey Strong, and Ms. Donna Barron
Re: Crimson Kings and Shades of Ebony

Bishop Robert Pettus
Re: Macedonia Community Development Corporation

Resolution
Re: Red Ribbon Week
A motion was made by Councilwoman Crenshaw, and seconded by Councilman Leashore, to support the Resolution proclaiming October 23 – 31, 2007 as "Red Ribbon Week", addressed at the October 8th Council meeting by Reverend Coley Chestnut. **The motion passed with a unanimous (show of hands) vote of the Council members present.**

Mrs. Marilyn Rawls
Re: C.H.A.S.M. (Caring, Helping, Aiding, Supporting and Mentoring)
A motion was made by Councilman Leashore, and seconded by Councilman Randolph, to make an exception and grant Mrs. Rawls the opportunity to come forward and address the Council, as it relates to her request on behalf of C.H.A.S.M. **The motion passed with a unanimous (show of hands) vote of the Council members present.**

MAYOR'S REPORT

A. **Length of Service Recognition Awards.** Mayor Perkins stated he would like to present a Certificate of Service in recognition of the following employees: Mr. Freddie Holmes, Selma Fleet Maintenance, *Five Years of Dedicated Service* to the City of Selma; Captain Mitchell Parker, Selma Fire Department, *Fifteen Years of Dedicated Service* to the City of Selma, and Mr. Alfred Morelock, City Recreation Department, *Fifteen Years of Dedicated Service* to the City of Selma. Mayor Perkins stated he would like to thank them for their years of dedicated service to the City of Selma. They were also presented with Longevity Pins.

B. **Resolution #R267-07/08 – Transportation Enhancement Grant.** Mayor Perkins stated Resolution #R267-07/08 is a grant application that is being submitted to the Alabama Department of Transportation, for the total cost of the project at \$339,980.00, with a maximum grant amount of \$220,987.00, and the City of Selma pledging to provide approximately 35% cash match in the amount of \$118,993.00 for the development of the Riverfront Walking and Bicycle Trail, to be included in the municipal bond to be voted on in January of 2008. Mayor Perkins asks Council favorable consideration of said Resolution. A motion was made by Councilman Leashore, and seconded by Councilwoman Crenshaw, to approve Resolution #R267-07/08 in the sum amount of \$118,993.00. During discussion, Mayor Perkins asked Ms. Charlotte Griffith to come forth and address the Council as it relates to said Resolution. Following discussion, a roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council.

C. **Resolution #R265-06/07 – Tower Removal.** Mayor Perkins stated Resolution #R265-06/07, represents the contract for the removal of the existing tower on the roof of the Cecil Jackson Public Safety Building, in the amount of \$7,000.00. Mayor Perkins further stated this is the second phase of that project. A motion was made by Councilman Leashore, and seconded by Councilwoman Martin, to approve Resolution #R265-06/07, in the amount of \$7,000.00. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council.

D. **CGI (Community Grouping Initiative) Communications - Agreement.** Mayor Perkins stated he would like to provide the Council with a summary of Community Video Showcase Program from CGI Communications. Mayor Perkins further stated this is an interesting program, and that the U.S. Conference of Mayors has endorsed the program, and the Alabama League of Municipalities has also endorsed the program, and it is actually free to the City with zero cost to the City, which provides the City with a free video to be housed on our website. Mayor Perkins asks Council favorable consideration of said Agreement. A motion was made by Councilman Leashore, and seconded by Councilwoman Martin, to approve said agreement. The motion passed with a unanimous (show of hands) vote of the Council.

E. **Blue Cross/Blue Shield Insurance – Contract.** Mayor Perkins stated the Blue Cross/Blue Shield Contract is usually a roll-over, and simply executed but that there is a change in the proposed Contract this year, and that we have an opportunity to increase the benefits for the employees with no increase in the rate. Mayor Perkins further stated the employees will be able to go to the drug store with their prescription card and get their prescription bill with a co-pay of \$15.00 for generic drugs, or \$30.00 co-pay for preferred drugs, and a \$50.00 co-pay for non-preferred drugs. Mayor Perkins asks Council favorable consideration to move forward with the execution of the Contract. A motion was made by Councilman Leashore, and seconded by Councilman Randolph, to approve the Blue Cross/Blue Shield Contract, at no additional cost to the City of Selma. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council.

F. **USAbLe Life - Life Insurance.** For information purposes, Mayor Perkins stated the group rate for our life insurance is also going down this year.

G. **Drug-Free Proclamation.** Mayor Perkins stated he was pleased with the Council's initiative on the Drug-Free initiative of Red Ribbon Week. Mayor Perkins further stated he, also plans to sign a Resolution and Proclamation in support of "Red Ribbon Week".

H. **Judge Valerie Chittom - Resignation.** Mayor Perkins stated to Council that he wanted to state into the record that Judge Chittom has tendered her resignation, and it is by statute the Council's appointment authority to appoint a municipal judge. Mayor Perkins asks Council if they would take immediate action to move towards identifying a replacement. Mayor Perkins further stated Judge Chittom has agreed to serve through December, 2007, if necessary, while the Council seeks a replacement. Mayor Perkins asked Council to keep him informed as it relates to the progress of this matter. President Evans stated to Mayor Perkins that he would ask the Administrative Committee to move forward with coming back with a recommendation to this Council.

I. **Dr. Ioimo - Update.** Mayor Perkins stated he is expecting a report back from Dr. Ioimo within the next week.

J. **Police Chief - Search.** Mayor Perkins stated he did speak with Mr. Slavin, and he indicated that he has some excellent candidates for them to start reviewing, and that the application pool is looking so good that they might be able to move their date up some.

A. **Resolution #R103-07/08.** Attorney Nunn asked Ms. Charlotte Griffeth to come forward and address the Council as it relates to Resolution #R103-07/08. Ms. Griffeth read Resolution #R103-07/08 in its entirety, which states that the City of Selma desires to purchase the Pilcher Property located at 1205 Water Avenue in the amount of \$20,000.00, and that the City of Selma authorizes the Office of Planning and Development, City Attorney and Office of Mayor to negotiate said purchase of the Pilcher Building located at 1205 Water Avenue from the CDA Other Funds Account via Other Funds Miscellaneous Projects, in the amount of \$20,000.00. A motion was made by Councilwoman Martin, and seconded by Councilwoman Allen, to approve this acquisition for the purchase of property at 1201 Water Avenue in the sum of \$20,000.00, in the form of Resolution #R103-07/08. **A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council.**

B. **St. James Hotel - Update.** Attorney Nunn asked Ms. Charlotte Griffeth to address the Council, with a report and update, as it relates to the St. James Hotel. Ms. Griffeth addressed the Council accordingly.

C. **Indecent Exposure (Baggy/Sagging Pants) - Ordinance.** Attorney Nunn stated they had discussed this issue very briefly and brought it before the last Council meeting. Attorney Nunn further stated he had contacted two cities as it relates to this issue, and one of those cities (Delcambre, Louisiana) has a simple ordinance in place, which comes up under indecent exposure. Attorney Nunn further stated the second city contacted was Atlanta, Georgia, and they have not passed an ordinance as of yet, and that it is still pending the committee's review before taking before the Council. Attorney Nunn also stated that they should have a copy of research that he did on-line. Attorney Nunn stated he also attempted to locate a city in the State of Alabama that it is proceeding on this matter, but he has not been able to come up with one as of yet. Attorney Nunn further stated he will proceed to research this issue, in an effort to draft an ordinance for Council's review. Attorney Nunn also stated it appears this is a cultural issue and that it is receiving a lot of criticism. Attorney Nunn further stated that the American Civil Liberties Union has gotten involved. Mayor Perkins addressed the Council and stated based upon a conversation he had just had with Mr. Ken Smith of the League of Municipalities, he encourages the Council to contact the League of Municipalities as it relates to this issue. President Evans stated based upon what has been just stated that his position would be to ask Attorney Nunn to continue gathering information, and to keep them informed of his progress with this issue.

D. **City Marina – Contract.** Attorney Nunn stated to Council if they recall this contract is brought up every year along with the other agency contracts, which has not changed from last year, with the exception of the addition of Mr. Joe Brandon Weaver to the contract, who is going to be part-Owner along with Ms. Gail Hughes. Attorney Nunn asks Council favorable consideration of said Contract. A motion was made by Councilwoman Martin, and seconded by Councilwoman Crenshaw, to approve said Contract. **The motion passed with a unanimous (show of hands) vote of the Council.**

E. **Board of Equalization – R#108-07/08.** Attorney Nunn stated to Council this item deals with the Board of Equalization, which the Council has already approved and passed. Attorney Nunn further stated it is required to send the Board of Equalization an original and they had only gotten one original signed, which stays within the City Clerk's Office. Attorney Nunn stated he now has another original for President Evans to sign.

F. **Livestock Ordinance.** Attorney Nunn stated to Council that the livestock ordinance is prepared but that they are still running revisions on it, and it is coming, and will try to have a draft at the next Council meeting.

G. **2001 Jeff Davis Avenue – Letter from State of Alabama (Mr. Larry Doyal, Re. River Run Enterprises, Incorporated).** Attorney Nunn stated to Council that what they have before them is a letter from the State of Alabama, Revenue Department (Property Tax Division), and that Mayor Perkins will be addressing the Council as it relates to this letter. Mayor Perkins stated to Council that they are aware that they have been working with Bush Hog for quite some time and proceeding with Project Lasso, a multi-million dollar expansion of existing facility. Mayor Perkins stated as part of that there are certain items that we as a City needs to participate in as a part of this public/private partnership to make this a doable deal for them, and one of the items is to be able to acquire this property for the purpose of providing staging for some of its large trucks. Mayor Perkins further stated the State of Alabama owns the property. Mayor Perkins stated he would like to use funds from his Special Projects money for this and he is confident that we will be reimbursed for this expenditure as the project matures. Mayor Perkins asks Council favorable consideration to provide him with the authority to spend public money for the purpose of this project to proceed. A motion was made by Councilman Leashore, and seconded by Councilwoman Venter, to approve proceeding with this proposal, with the funds coming out Mayor Perkins' Special Project money. **A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council.**

H. **Hollman Case - Update.** President Evans asked what is the status of the report as it relates to the Hollman Case. Attorney Nunn stated the report went to the District Attorney, Michael Jackson, and also a copy of the same report went to the Chief of Police. Attorney Nunn further stated District Attorney Michael Johnson immediately forwarded the report to the Attorney General's office. Attorney Nunn also stated he has spoken with District Attorney Michael Jackson, and he states the case is still pending investigation and/or review from the Attorney General's office. Attorney Nunn stated, if necessary, the

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Attorney General's office will be forwarding the case to the Grand Jury, or they may write and say that they are not going to proceed with anything but as far as he knows it has been forwarded to the Attorney General's office. Attorney Nunn further stated District Attorney Michael Jackson stated he is not at this point and time going to release any of the report to anyone unless he gets that authority from the Attorney General's office, and he advises the City of Selma not to release the report. President Evans asked Attorney Nunn if he would do everything he can to keep the Council informed as it relates to this case.

I. Stolen Million Dollars – Update. Councilwoman Crenshaw stated to President Evans that she had spoken with Attorney Nunn and asked that he continue his research as it relates to this item, and bring back a report to the Council, in an effort to move forward on this matter.

BUSINESS ITEMS:

I. SICKLE CELL UTILIZATION OF OFFICE SPACE IN GOOD SAMARITAN BUILDING

Councilman Leashore reported an update on this item, and read the minutes of the Administrative Committee meeting for the record (copy attached). Councilman Leashore further stated in that meeting, Ms. Bridget Mills stated the Sickle Cell organization is interested in occupying 2,000 square footage of space, at a cost of \$1,500.00 but can only pay \$500.00, which would leaving the City with \$1,000.00 each month. Councilman Leashore also stated the Sickle Cell organization is asking for assistance from the City to defray the remaining cost. Councilman Leashore stated there were suggestions made at the meeting as it relates to whether or not Sickle Cell could reduce their space need, which would, therefore minimize their cost. President Evans stated this item would be continued until more information can be obtained from the Sickle Cell organization as it relates to which direction they are planning to proceed with this.

II. 2007-2008 COUNCIL COMMITTEES

President Evans stated he has chosen to basically reappoint everybody to positions that were held last year with the exception of one, and that is, making Councilwoman Crenshaw Chairman of Community Development Committee. President Evans further stated the Committees will be the same as the past, and if anyone chooses not to serve in that capacity to please let him know. Councilman Leashore stated to President Evans that he took a position last year, and that his position remains the same, and that is in order for the Recreation Department Committee to have to have the full benefit of the municipal efficiency, he respectfully request that he be removed from that Committee. President Evans stated to Councilman Leashore, he would do so, and would at the next meeting, appoint someone to take that capacity. Councilwoman Crenshaw stated she would like to be on the Public Safety Committee. President Evans stated he would take Councilwoman Crenshaw's request into consideration, and will give a report to the Council on this item at the next Council meeting.

III. NOVEMBER 12TH COUNCIL MEETING

President Evans stated he believes the Council knows the 12th of November will be a holiday for employees, because Veterans' Day falls on November 11th which is on that Sunday, and the League of Municipalities meets the following Tuesday morning in New Orleans which many of them are attending. President Evans asked the Council which would be their next meeting date. During discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Leashore, and seconded by Councilwoman Crenshaw, to approve the next Council meeting date of November 19th. The motion passed with a unanimous (show of hands) vote of the Council.

IV. PAYMENT OF SELMA PUBLIC LIBRARY UTILITIES

President Evans stated the Council needs to appropriate funds for the next two-quarter payments for the Selma Public Library Utilities, so that Ms. Cynthia Mitchell can determine what fund it needs to be appropriated from. During discussion, a motion was made by Councilwoman Crenshaw, and seconded by Councilwoman Venter, to appropriate at least \$15,000.00 from unappropriated funds, for the purpose of paying utilities for the Selma Public Library. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council.

V. RULES AND PROCEDURES FOR GOVERNING THE DELIBERATIONS AND MEETINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL (SECTION 33)

President Evans stated to Council that Councilman Leashore passed out some information at the last Council meeting dealing with the change of the Ordinance #O102, and asked Council's direction that they would like to take as it relates to this matter. Councilwoman Crenshaw stated during the Work Session she asked for the two of them, he and Councilman Leashore, to come back and advise the Council of what they had come up with in terms of an agreement on the things that were listed, and that it was her assumption that they were supposed to do that and come back with a report to the Council. President Evans stated they did discuss that, and that some of the Council members were not present during the Work Session, and he had disagreement with it personally, and that was why Councilwoman Crenshaw suggested that he and

Councilman Leashore get together and come back with a recommendation. Councilman Leashore stated to President Evans that he had asked Attorney Nunn to cut out and put in separate format the changes that he is seeking that the Council embrace for the Rules and Procedures' Ordinance, which comes from Robert's Rules of Order, and asked that Attorney Nunn pass a copy to the Council members. Councilman Leashore further stated to President Evans that he thinks there was a consensus at that meeting that they as Council members would table this discussion until he and President Evans have had an opportunity to come together so that they can come to an understanding as to what they would like their Rules and Procedures to be, and brought back to the Council for discussion. A motion was made by Councilman Williamson, and seconded by Councilman Leashore, to table this item until the next Council meeting until President Evans and Councilman Leashore have met, hopefully by the next Council meeting in an effort to bring back some recommendations for the Council as it relates to this item. **The motion passed with a unanimous (show of hands) vote of the Council.**

VI. UPCOMING CITY GOVERNMENT MEETINGS, COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES

Councilwoman Venter stated that there will be a Health Fair at Second Baptist Church on Saturday, October 27th, from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

RECREATION COMMITTEE – Councilman Leashore, Chairperson

No Report.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE – Councilman Dr. Cecil Williamson, Chairperson

Councilman Leashore made a report. (Minutes Attached.)

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE – Councilwoman Dr. Geraldine Allen, Chairperson

No Report.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE – Councilwoman Bennie Ruth Crenshaw, Chairperson

No Report.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE – Councilwoman Venter, Chairperson

No Report.

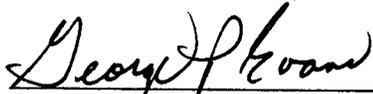
DISCRETIONARY FUNDS COMMITTEE – President Evans, Chairperson

President Evans reported that the Council has collected a total of \$14,800.00.

CLOSING REMARKS BY EACH COUNCIL MEMBER.

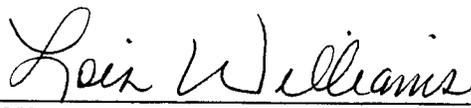
ADJOURNMENT

Following the above discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Leashore, and seconded by Councilwoman Crenshaw, to recess and reconvene on Monday, October 29, 2007, for the purpose of discussing the bond. **The motion passed with a unanimous (show of hands) vote of the Council.** This meeting recessed at 8:35 p.m.



GEORGE P. EVANS, *Council President*

ATTEST:



LOIS WILLIAMS, *City Clerk*

APPROVED:



JAMES PERKINS, JR., *Mayor*