

PAUL MURRAY
MAYOR

VICKI MILLER
CITY CLERK

CHRIS MCLEAN
CHIEF OF POLICE

CLYDE MILLER
FIRE CHIEF



COUNCIL MEMBERS

WILLIAM HAMBLIN, PLACE 1

MIKE BUTLER, PLACE 2

MATT DIAL, PLACE 3

THOMAS WILLIAMS, PLACE 4

BILL BLACK, PLACE 5

MINUTES OF February 24, 2015

Pre-Council

The City Council of the City of Satsuma, Alabama, convened in the Pre-Council Session at City Hall in said city at 6:00 p.m. the 24th day of February, 2015. Those present were: Mayor Paul Murray and Councilmembers: William Hamblin, Mike Butler, Matt Dial, Tom Williams and Bill Black.

Mayor Murray discussed the agenda items.

Bradley Sanders, attorney with Phelps Dunbar, was present for Jay Minus, City Attorney

Mayor Murray discussed the agenda items.

Regular Meeting

The City Council of the City of Satsuma, Alabama, convened in the regular public session at City Hall in said city at 7:00 P.M. the 24th day of February, 2015.

Councilmember Butler gave the invocation. Mayor Murray led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following were present: Mayor Murray; Councilmembers: William Hamblin, Mike Butler, Matt Dial, Tom Williams and Bill Black.

Also present were Bradley Sanders sitting in for Jay Minus, City Attorney; Vicki Miller, City Clerk; James Elmore, Public Works Supervisor; Tom Briand, Building Inspector; Fire Chief Clyde Miller and Police Chief Chris McLean.

**P.O. Box 517, Satsuma, Alabama 36572~Phone (251) 675-1440~Fax: (251) 675-1442
Police: (251) 675-0151~Fire: (251) 679-1640**

A quorum was present and Mayor Murray opened the meeting.

Approval of Minutes

Mayor Murray presented the minutes from the regular meeting held on February 3, 2015 for approval. Councilmember Black made the motion to adopt the minutes as presented. Councilmember Butler seconded the motion and it carried.

Special Recognition:

1. Explorers of the Satsuma Police Department

Officer Colin Campbell explained that the Explorer Program is a for young men and women to learn from life programs. The participants enter into a program to explore a career path. He introduced Officer Eric Isbell and Jailer/Dispatcher Courtney Wilson as other leaders of the group. He stated that the group of six recently attended competition in Gatlinburg and competed with 75 other Police Explorer Programs. They scored 10th in uniform competition and learned what they need to do to achieve higher grades at the next competition. Officer Campbell stated that these young men and women raise all the funds for their uniforms, training aids and competition. Councilmember Williams remarked that this group welcomed the attendees to the Annual Boy Scouts Dinner held at Steele Creek Lodge and did a great job.

2. Key Students-Robert E. Lee School

Mayor Murray presented certificates and city pins. Each student was congratulated by council members.

Council recessed at 7:29

Council reconvened at 7:32

Visitors-

1. Jason Skelton and Kenny Keasler-Volunteer Fire Fighter to address the council

Mr. Skelton and Mr. Keasler came before Council to present a plaque to Councilmember Butler for his participation in the training burn held on February 14, 2015 on Higgins Road. Councilmember Butler stated that he was offered an opportunity to suit up and enter the house escorted by experienced firefighters. Councilmember Butler accepted the plaque and stated that his experience gave him a better understanding of what a fire fighter encounters.

2. Phillip & Denise Holloway- discuss traffic on Lemans Drive.

Mr. and Mrs. Holloway of 14 Lemans Drive North came before council to discuss the 18 wheelers that were traveling through their neighborhood. Mr. Holloway stated that a petition was presented to council in 2013 asking that the tree removal company use the entrance off of Old Highway 43 to enter rather than using Lemans Drive, North, South and West. Mr. Holloway stated that the problem was resolved until recently when

Mobile Forest Products started running 18 wheelers through the neighborhood. He stated that in a two day period they counted 43 trucks traveling through. Mr. Holloway stated he is concerned with the value of his property and more importantly the safety of the children. Mayor Murray stated that he spoke with Mr. Barnes, the owner of the tree removal company, and Mr. Barnes assured the mayor that they would be done within a couple of days. Mr. Holloway stated that they trucks have stopped, however they understand that it may start up again. Mrs. Holloway asked if the situation could be stopped. Bradley Sanders stated that the council could look at the existing ordinance and see if there is anything that can be enforced, amend or create a new one that could address the matter.

3. Jack Presnall came before council to complain about the flags not being maintained. He stated that the flag at the south end needs replacing. Another citizen stood and stated that it would be better to not have a flag than one that is tattered. Mayor Murray stated that the matter would be resolved.

4. Mary Atchison stood and invited everyone to the dedication of the Satsuma Historical Marker on Wednesday, March 4 at 10:30 A.M. She stated that the marker was purchased by the Mobile County Bicentennial Commission..

MAYOR'S AND COUNCIL'S REPORT:

Mayor:

1. Contract with CDG Engineering to assist the city in the preparation of the 2014-2015 storm water phase II report.

Councilmember Hamblin made a motion to enter into a contract with CDG Engineering for consulting services on the storm water report. Councilmember Dial seconded the motion and it carried.

2. Robert E. Lee Elementary School's Writing n the Walls"

Mayor Murray stated that the letters are due by March 12th and will on display Marcy 16th - 20th

3. Discussion of acquisition of Steele Creek Public Boat Ramp from the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and Natural Resources- Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division.

Mayor Murray stated that the city has received a letter stating that the amount owed on the project is \$22,000. Mayor Murray stated that he would like to find the funds to pay off the debt where the city will have control of the launch. Right now the city cannot close the launch or collect any fees to cover the upkeep.

Parks: Councilmember Hamblin commended James Elmore and the Public Works crew for the work done at Steele Creek boat ramp.

Public Safety:

1. Councilmember Butler reported that he, Chief McLean and Chief Miller met with Emmett Burnett with the Call News to discuss the condition of the public safety building. Councilmember Butler stated that Mr. Burnett will be doing an article in the near future. Councilmember Butler commented that the city has been named the 13th safest city by Safewise and the only other city in south Alabama is Daphne which is ranked 25. He stated that the city is progressing by keeping the city safe, but regressing on building.

2. Councilmember Butler reported that the ISO audit for the fire department will be on March 4, 2015 and the audit for the police department on the military equipment acquired the U.S. Government will be soon. Both departments are ready. 2) Pet stickers which can be placed on windows alerting the fire department that a pet is in the home in case of fire. The pet stickers can be obtained with a donation to the fire department.

Municipal Services:

Councilmember Dial stated that the Senior Bus/Van policy will be handled in the “Items for Consideration”.

Administration:

Councilmember Williams reported the Satsuma High School moved into second place in the 2015 HiQ academic competition beating B.C.Rain and Mary G. Montgomery. The next match will be at St. Luke’s Episcopal School

Councilmember Williams reported that the school had an open house today to show the renovations made to the school’s central office.

Councilmember Williams reported that the city now has a project on the Alabama Gulf Coast Recovery Restore Act portal. The project is for the installation of water and sewer lines on the west of I-65 along the service road. He recommended that the council contact the members of the commission to let them know of our project.

Councilmember Williams reported that he met with Emmett Burnett of the Call News to discuss the effects of the reduction in gas prices. Councilmember Williams reported that after comparing the first four months of this fiscal with the first four months of the last fiscal year, there is an increase in revenue of approximately \$22,482.00 and in checking the same period of time for sales and use tax there was an approximate increase of \$31,499.00. There was also a saving of \$2782.00 in gas expenses.

Public Works:

Councilmember Black reported that public works has been getting some slag from SSAB to put on the unpaved road and the price is \$5.00 per ton, He stated that the price is going up to \$15.00 per ton at the beginning of March and James is requesting to stock pile 10 loads before the price increases. He then made a motion to purchase 10 additional loads. Councilmember Williams seconded the motion and it carried.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**1. Payment of the bills.**

Councilmember Williams made a motion to pay the bills as presented which includes the 2nd payment on the property/casualty and workers compensation insurance. Councilmember Dial seconded the motion and it carried.

2. Request from Call News to run ad for \$199.00 in the Special “Spotlight 2015 Edition”. Article will showcase the city.

Councilmember Williams made a motion to approve the request. Councilmember Butler seconded the motion and it carried.

3. Request from the Women’s Club of Satsuma for \$300 to assist with the luncheon to be held at City Hall on March 4th at 10:30 A.M. for the historical marker dedication.

Councilmember Williams made a motion to approve the request. Councilmember Butler seconded the motion and it carried.

4. Bid on boat motor being sold by fire department

Councilmember Butler reported that only one bid was received and he opened the bid. The amount of the bid was \$2511.99 from Bill Peeler. With no other bids received and the bid being above the minimum, Councilmember Butler made a motion to accept the bid. Councilmember Dial seconded the motion and it carried.

5. Approval of payment to Civil Southeast for CE& I on Juniper Avenue in the amount of \$35,305.00.

Councilmember Black reported that the engineering has been completed and the city will get reimbursed by the State for the total amount. Councilmember Black then made a motion to pay Civil Southeast \$35,305.00 for the CE&I on Juniper Avenue. Councilmember Williams seconded the motion and it carried.

6. Notice of Public Hearing for the vacation of a section of right of way between Clark Circle East and Vaughan Drive West. Set for April 21, 2015 at 6:30 P.M.

Councilmember Black stated that this is the section of right of way that has been discussed in past meetings and the only way for the city to get to the right of way is through private property. Councilmember Black made a motion to hold the public hearing as stated above. Councilmember Dial seconded the motion and it carried.

7. Enter into an agreement with LEADS online, access to a date base system for investigative services, for \$1241.33 (prorated through 9/30/15)

Councilmember Butler made a motion to approve entering into the agreement. Councilmember Dial seconded the motion and it carried.

8. Opening the PSWII position as a promotional position.

Councilmember Black made a motion to open the PSWII position. Councilmember Hamblin seconded the motion and it carried.

9. Request from Fire Department to host a Child Safety Day at Wright Park on June 6, 2015 as a fund raiser.

Councilmember Butler made a motion to approve the request. Councilmember Williams seconded the motion and it carried.

10. Approve amendment to the Senior Service Transportation Program.

Councilmember Dial reported that the council is amending the program to allow for small groups of seniors use the bus for luncheons. He read the amendment and then made a motion to approve the amended program. Councilmember Williams seconded the motion and it carried.

**RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES, ORDERS AND OTHER
BUSINESS**

NONE

Adjournment

Councilmember Butler made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Dial seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 8:20 P.M.

/s/ Paul Murray
Mayor Murray

/s/ William Hamblin
Councilmember Hamblin

/s/ Mike Butler
Councilmember Butler

/s/ Matt Dial
Councilmember Dial

/s/ Tom Williams
Councilmember Williams

/s/ Bill Black
Councilmember Black

ATTEST: /s/ Vicki Miller
City Clerk