

MINUTES

April 7, 2009

The Regular Meeting of the Satsuma City Council

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 7th day of April, 2009.

The invocation was given by Councilmember Black.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilmember Jackson.

On roll call, the following answered present:

Mayor	William F. Stewart, III
Council Members	Billy Jackson
	Pamela B. O’Gwynn
	Pratt Monk
	Tom Williams
	Bill Black

Vicki Miller, City Clerk; Jay Minus, City Attorney; Tom Briand, Building Inspector, James Elmore, Public Works Supervisor, and Lt. Jana Dukes, Police Department were present. A quorum was present and Mayor Stewart opened the meeting for the transaction of business.

A pre-council meeting was held prior to the regular meeting to discuss issues coming before Council.

Mayor Stewart presented the minutes of the regular meeting of March 17, 2009 for approval. Councilmember O’Gwynn made a motion to adopt the minutes as presented. Councilmember Jackson seconded the motion and it carried.

Mayor Stewart presented the minutes of the special called meeting of March 26, 2009 for approval. Councilmember Monk made a motion to adopt the minutes as presented. Councilmember Black seconded the motion and it carried.

VISITORS

1. *Eva Rowe- requesting permission for a bucket drop for the American Cancer Society- April 18.*

Ms. Rowe came before Council to request permission to have a bucket drop for the North Mobile Relay for Life-American Cancer Society on April 18. She stated that the bucket drops will be on private property with the permission of the owners and will not be on the highway.

Councilmember Williams made a motion to allow the bucket drops to sponsor the North Mobile Relay for Life. Councilmember Monk seconded the motion and it carried.

2. *Alex Crane- representing Citronelle Baseball to request usage of Steele Creek Lodge and the fee waived.*

Mr. Crane came before Council to request a waiver of the fee for Steele Creek Lodge on July 10, 2009 for a drawdown for the Citronelle baseball team.

Councilmember Monk stated that the requested day is a Friday and the city would lose money since those days are usually rented.

Mayor Stewart questioned Mr. Crane as to whether the fee has been waived in the past. Mr. Crane responded that they have rented the lodge several years for this event and the fee has not been waived.

Mayor Stewart stated that the City is in process of revising the ordinance pertaining to rental of Steele Creek Lodge so that request such as his will be covered in the new ordinance.

With no further discussion, Mayor Stewart called for a motion. Councilmember Monk made a motion to waive the fee. Councilmember O’Gwynn seconded the motion. Mayor Stewart called for a vote of the motion. The motion failed due to a lack of votes.

VISITORS NOT ON THE AGENDA

George Sumerlin of 5622 3rd Street came before Council and stated that he is aware that the City is working on trying to get the pumps working on 3rd Street. He wanted to report that at the last heavy rain, the water backed up again and this time the sewer overflowed. Ms. Sumerlin stated that he is concerned now; since the City has welded shut the manhole. He stated that if there is another rainstorm the sewer may not come out that manhole, but it will find the lowest point and that the pressure release may be his house. He stated that this would be a double problem: water and sewer.

Mayor Stewart stated that the city responded immediately upon notification of the sewer overflow. The city has debated whether to repair the pumps or purchase new ones. At the present, the city is in the process of getting prices for pumps to see about getting funding through a comprehensive drainage plan and also getting someone to see if the pumps can be repaired.

Bud McCrory, director of the Water and Sewer, spoke to Council and stated that when there is so much rain in a short period, water gets in the sewer and causes a flushing, which pushes the debris into the pumping stations and causes the pumps to get clogged. He stated that if Mr. Sumerlin has any future problems, he can call the Water Board; someone is on call 24/7.,

Mayor Stewart stated that the city will move to see what can be done.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Stewart commended Tom Briand for being awarded the “ Live Design Challenge” for Habitat for Humanity. He stated that the design drawn will be used to build homes in our area by Habitat for Humanity.

Mayor Stewart reminded everyone of the election Tuesday, April 14. The primary election is to vote for a republican candidate to run in the general election. The special election to fill the vacancy of Senator Pat Lindsey, who died recently. He encouraged everyone to vote.

REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEES

Councilmember Jackson reported that he has a request from the SHS varsity tem to waive the fee for Steele Creek Lodge on April 28, 2009. After discussing the matter, Coucilmember Jackson made a motion to allow the soccer team use of Steele

Creek Lodge and waive fee for an event to be held on April 28, 2009. Councilmember Monk seconded the motion and it carried.

Councilmember O’Gwynn reported the 50th Anniversary committee will meet Thursday, April 9, 2009 at City Hall at 7:00 to discuss plans and determine a budget for the City’s 50th anniversary celebration.

Councilmember O’Gwynn reported that the May 5th Council meeting will need to be moved to another day due to several members attending the league convention in Montgomery. After discussing the matter, Councilmember O’Gwynn made a motion to move the May 5th meeting to May 12th. Councilmember Jackson seconded the motion and it carried.

Councilmember O’Gwynn discussed that in order to set aside funds to pay for the two bond issues, funds will be need to be withdrawn monthly from the General Fund and Court Fund and deposited into special accounts. She stated that \$7500 will be drawn from each account and \$5000 will be deposited into a 2009 Bond Fund account to pay the 2009 bond payment and \$10000 will be put into the debt repayment account to pay for the 2004 bond issue. After discussing the matter, Councilmember O’Gwynn made a motion to move \$7500 each month from the general fund and garbage accounts and deposit into the appropriate accounts. Councilmember Jackson seconded the motion and it carried.

Councilmember Monk commended James Elmore and the Public Works department for all their hard work during the latest rainstorms.

Councilmember Williams reported that Chief Benefield has put in a request for Officer Washington to attend a criminal patrol class in Meridian, MS on May 11. He stated that the lodging is free and there is no cost for the class. Councilmember Williams stated that there is a request for a \$100 cash advance for meals. After discussing the matter, Councilmember Williams made a motion to approve Officer Washington to attend the class and expend the \$100 for expenses. Councilmember Monk seconded the motion and it carried.

Councilmember Williams stated that Chief Benefield has recommended the hiring of Angeleque Hernandez as a Police Officer I, pending a psychological evaluation and a drug screen. Councilmember Williams made a motion to hire Angeleque Hernandez as a Police Officer I, pending a psychological evaluation and a drug screen. Councilmember Monk seconded the motion and it carried.

Councilmember Williams reported that the Boys Scouts Golden Eagle Dinner will be held April 15 at the Saraland Civic Center. He stated that the scouts have done many projects in the city and recommended everyone attend.

Councilmember Williams that at the last meeting he announced that the ISO (Insurance Service Organization) will be doing a review of the fire department. He reported that the department is preparing for the inspection. He stated that it is the desire of the Council to lower the rating from a class 5/9 to a 4/7. He stated that some of the plans are long range; however, there are some projects, which can be done now. He reported that the fire department is requesting to spend approximately \$840 for a 5X5 fire pit to aid in fire training. The pit will be put at the sewer plant. They are also looking to get a shipping container. Both will be used for fire training

Councilmember Williams made a motion to spend no more than \$1000 for the fabrication of a fire pit by Doyle Lomax. Councilmember Monk seconded the motion and it carried.

Councilmember Williams reported that fire department was given a truck by the Forestry Department to be used for brush fires. He stated that the truck has now been painted. He commended the public works department, especially Leo Dunn, for a great job. He stated that the city has six (6) months to outfit the truck and one of the needed items is a pump. He reported that a price of \$2900 has been given to him by the fire chief.

Councilmember Williams then made a motion to purchase the pump for the truck for \$2900.00. Councilmember Jackson seconded the motion and it carried.

Councilmember Williams reported that the newest police officers will graduate from the academy on April 22.

Councilmember Williams reported that the Lions Club of Saraland will be holding a benefit pancake breakfast to aid a Satsuma family with a special needs child. The funds will be used to build a fence. He stated the child needs a secure place to play. . The benefit will be held May 2 at Catfish Junction and tickets are \$4.00.

Councilmember Williams reported that the fire department made 74 calls, 50 were EMS calls with an average response time of 5.1 minutes. The police department had 1586 assignments with 160 cases.

Councilmember Black stated that he appreciated the employees of the public works department for responding to all the problems caused by the heavy rains. Councilmember Black reported that during the past week, public works has had the chipper and leaf vacuum out at the same time. He stated that this was made possible by public works modifying one of the trucks so that it could pull the leaf vacuum. He commended James Elmore for always looking at way to make things better.

Councilmember Black reported that there are some dead trees in the right of ways, which need to be removed. He stated that James Elmore has gotten some prices and Lunn's Tree Service has given the lowest quote.

Councilmember Black made a motion to spend \$2150.00 to remove dead trees in four different places, grind the stumps and haul off the debris. Councilmember Jackson seconded the motion and it carried.

AGENDA

1. – Resolution 2009-04-01- A resolution requesting funds made available through ARRA to pay for salaries and fringe benefits for entry level law enforcement officers. .

Councilmember Williams made a motion to suspend the rules and put up Resolution 2009-04-01 up for immediate adoption. . Councilmember O’Gwynn seconded the motion and on roll call, the following answered:

Councilmember Jackson	yes
Councilmember O’Gwynn	yes
Councilmember Monk	yes
Councilmember Williams	yes
Councilmember Black	yes
Mayor Stewart	yes

Councilmember Williams made a motion to adopt Resolution 2009-04-01. Councilmember Jackson seconded the motion and it carried.

**CITY OF SATSUMA
RESOLUTION NO: 2009-04-01**

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SATSUMA, ALABAMA THAT THE CITY OF SATSUMA WHILE IN REGULAR SESSION ON April 7, 2009, as follows:

SECTION 1. WHEREAS, the City of Satsuma is in the need of funding made available from the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act to pay for salaries and fringe benefits of entry-level law enforcement officers,

SECTION 2. WHEREAS, the City would like to apply for funding made available through the United States Department of Justice COPS Hiring Recovery Program Application (CHRP) for funding which will pay, if awarded, salaries and benefits of two (2) full time entry-level officers,

SECTION 3. WHEREAS, the grant, if awarded, will pay for three years of salary and benefits for two entry-level officers and the City of Satsuma

would be responsible for retaining the employees for a one full year after the three year period,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council and Mayor William F. Stewart, III, to apply for funding to employ two additional full-time officers.

CERTIFICATION

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I, William F. Stewart III, Mayor, City of Satsuma, Alabama, hereby certify that the foregoing is true and correct copy of the Resolution passed on April 7, 2009.

/s/
William F. Stewart III
Mayor
City of Satsuma

ATTEST:

/s/
CITY CLERK

Councilmember O’Gwynn made a motion to pay the bills as presented. Councilmember Williams seconded the motion and it carried.

With no further business to discuss, Councilmember Monk made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember O’Gwynn seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 P.M.

Mayor William F. Stewart III

Councilmember Billy Jackson

Councilmember Pam O’Gwynn

Councilmember Pratt Monk

Councilmember Tom Williams

Councilmember Bill Black

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk