

TOM WILLIAMS
MAYOR

VICKI MILLER
CITY CLERK

SHANE STRINGER
CHIEF OF POLICE

CLYDE MILLER
FIRE CHIEF



COUNCIL MEMBERS

RANDY LITTLE, PLACE 1

MIKE BUTLER, PLACE 2

JASON SKELTON, PLACE 3

ALLISON CROSS, PLACE 4

BILL BLACK, PLACE 5

MINUTES OF August 15, 2017

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 15th day of August, 2017. Those present were: Mayor Tom Williams; Councilmembers: Randy Little, Mike Butler, Jason Skelton, Allison Cross, and Bill Black.

Mayor Williams discussed 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 15th day of August, 2017.

Invocation

Councilmember Cross gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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Roll Call

On roll call the following answered present: Mayor Tom Williams
Councilmembers: Randy Little, Mike Butler Jason Skelton, Allison Cross, and Bill Black.

Also present were Jay Minus, City Attorney; Vicki Miller, City Clerk; James Elmore, Public Works Supervisor; Tom Briand, City Inspector, Fire Chief Clyde Miller, and Chief Shane Stringer..

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

Approval of Minutes

Mayor Williams presented the minutes from the Regular Meeting of August 1, 2017. Councilmember Skelton made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Councilmember Littler seconded the motion and it carried.

Mayor Williams presented the minutes from the Work Session of August 10, 2017. Councilmember Skelton made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Councilmember Littler seconded the motion and it carried.

Special Recognition: None**Visitors:**

1. Evelyn Butler representing Satsuma Library came before Council to publically invite everyone to the Celebrate Satsuma's Harvest on August 17, 2017. She stated that the event is one of the first of many events that will be taking place around the State of Alabama celebrating the 200 Alabama Bicentennial and focusing on Exploring Our Places. The events will begin at 10:00 a.m. and end with a free dinner, a presentation by Leland Wilson and a 25' Time Line Exhibit. Ms. Butler also stated that the Library will be having drawings throughout the day for solar eclipse glasses.

Mayor's and Council's Reports:

Mayor Williams gave the following reports:

- Mayor Williams stated that since the January 1 and May 20th rain events, he and James Elmore have met with several federal and state agencies to see about getting funding to make improvements to the Holcomb Ditch from 3rd Street to Tajuacha Street. He stated that after meeting with Chris Miller, Watershed Managing Coordinator with the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program, he contacted Eliska Morgan, Executive Director, Gulf Coast Recovery Council, to see about putting the Holcomb Ditch project on the Gulf Coast Recovery Council portal #3. He reminded everyone that this is the council that handles the allocation of all the BP disaster recovery fines. Mayor Williams reported that he contacted Cara Stallman who prepared the grant in the amount of \$840,600 and placed it on the portal. She was able to gather all the information from Jeremy McMath, Civil Southeast Engineers. He reported that the project number is 386 and that when there are meetings someone from the city will be present since this is a competitive grant process.
- Mayor Williams reported that Alabama League of Municipalities has a successful service called the Municipal Intercept Service. This service is used by municipalities to collect outstanding debts to the Cities by attaching a lien to the debtor's Alabama Income Tax refund. He stated that after discussing this with the city attorney, the city can go back 10

- years on outstanding court fines. Once the debt is placed in the service, the city can capture the fines if the debtor gets a state refund.. The City will get 75% of the debt and MIS gets 25%. Mayor Williams stated that this is a free service. He stated that there is still some research to be done to see what the statute of limitations is for debts owed to the Water Board.
- Mayor Williams stated that there was a special announcement and then asked Councilmember Butler to give the announcement. Councilmember Butler stated that he was pleased to announce that the city has entered into an agreement with Mobile County Commission for the commission to fund the purchase of a piece of property on Old Highway 43 for a new public safety building. He then thanked all the fire and police personnel for their hard work and stated that a new Public Safety Building is long overdue but now a reality. Mayor Williams stated that Councilmember Butler has been working on this for five (5) years and that because of his efforts the project will be moving forward. Mayor Williams thanked Commissioner Ludgood for making the contribution for the land. He stated that the city will now proceed with the purchase of the 6.5 acres on Old Highway 43 from Scherrie and Steven Brewer in the amount of \$200,000.00. The County has committed to \$210,000 with a 5% interest in the property. He stated that the next step will be to get the title work completed and close on the property.
 - Mayor Williams reported that at the last meeting, the council selected Engineering Design Technology as the Architect and Engineering firm for the public safety building. He stated that today, he, Councilmember Butler, Chief Miller, Chief Stringer, Captain Dukes and Tom Briand, met with representatives of the firm. Mayor Williams stated that Tom Briand has done a lot of work in the design of the building and the engineers will work with that design. There is another meeting set for August 30th to review the drawing and budget.

Municipal Services- Councilmember Little reported that he did not have any announcements or items for discussion.

Public Safety- Councilmember Butler reported that he did not have any announcements or items for discussion.

Administration-Councilmember Skelton gave the following comments and reports:

- Expressed his gratitude to Councilmember Butler on behalf of the fire department for all his work on the public safety building.
- Reported that last Saturday was the ribbon cutting for Farm Market and people were shopping before they could cut the ribbon. Mr. Schemmer, owner, has stated that they are overwhelmed with the support from the city.

- Reported that he has contacted the owner of the HoneyBun donut shop to set a date for their grand opening and he is waiting to get a date. The donut shop will be located next to Pintoli's.
- Reported that he has a meeting with a representative with Trustmark and will be discussing their rates for the financing of equipment and vehicles.
- Expressed condolences to the family of Peggy Easterling.

Parks- Councilmember Cross

- Announced that there will be an Open Medicare Enrollment opportunity to be held at Satsuma Library on November 15, 2017 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Reported on the meeting with the SYA representatives. Councilmember Cross stated that she and Mayor Williams met with representatives from the boys football, girls softball, boys baseball and cheerleading. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss how to make improvements to the programs and how all the entities can work together for the success of the parks.

Public Works- Councilmember Black reported that County Crew was out on the weekend of August 5th and 6th and worked on Baldwin Road ditches and returned on the weekend of August 12th and 13th and began work on the retention pond on Baker Road. Councilmember Black stated that the Public Works Department is continuing to work on the grass cutting and weed eating.

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

Councilmember Skelton made a motion to pay the bills in the amount of \$72,970.06 Councilmember Little seconded the motion and it carried.

2. Consideration of claim from Byron Schulz for damage to vehicle from rock hit by city lawnmower.

Councilmember Black reported that Mr. Schulz has submitted three quotes to repair the vehicle with the lowest being \$602.36. He then made a motion to approve paying Mr. Schulz the \$602.36. Councilmember Cross seconded the motion and it carried.

3. Consideration of donating \$2500 to the 2017 North Mobile Relay for Life scheduled for September 23, 2017 (1/2 of presenting sponsorship)

Councilmember Skelton made a motion to approve the donation contingent upon splitting the sponsorship with the City of Saraland. Councilmember Butler seconded the motion and it carried.

4. Consideration of approving a rental policy for the new pavilion behind the Splash Pad at Wright Park

Councilmember Cross made a motion to approve the policy which will charge a \$50/ per hour fee for the rental of the pavilion only. The park and splash pad are always open to the public. Councilmember Little seconded the motion and it carried.

5. Consideration of amending the fee schedule for Steele Creek Lodge to add an hourly fee of \$50.00 per hour for decorating and/or rehearsal on a day previous to the rental date.

Councilmember Cross made a motion to amend the fee schedule to include a rehearsal/decorating fee, provided the day requested is not rented, for \$50.00 per hour with a two (2) hour minimum.

Councilmember Skelton seconded the motion and it carried.

6. Consideration to purchase a bucket truck from Pierce Automotive for \$8500 pending the inspection and approval of James Elmore

Councilmember Black made a motion to approve the purchase pending the inspection and approval from James Elmore. Councilmember Butler seconded the motion and it carried.

7. Consideration to amend the business licenses ordinance to add for rental/leasing of real estate- Residential and Commercial.

Councilmember Skelton reported that council has discussed amending the business license to add a rental /leasing license fee. He stated that the council is still in discussion as to whether to charge a percentage of the gross receipts or a flat fee and then a percentage of the gross receipts. He stated that the matter will be discussed further at the work shop session.

8. Consideration to set a work session to discuss the FY2018 budget.

Jason Skelton made a motion to set a work session to discuss the FY2018 budget and other city business. Councilmember Little seconded the motion and it carried.

RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCE, ORDERS AND OTHER BUSINESS

1. Consideration of Ordinance 452-2- An Ordinance to increase the garbage fee.

Councilmember Little explained that the council wants to continue to provide the best possible services in the sanitation department. He stated that the council is proposing a \$2.00 rate increase. He noted that the rate has not been increased in four (4) years. However, the time has come for replacement of the knuckleboom. He stated that even with the increase the city is still competitive for what we offer and he hopes that the city can continue to provide better services. Mayor Williams noted that the council discussed that senior citizens over the age of 65, would be exempt from the increase if they provide proof of age and residency. With no further comments, Councilmember Little made a motion to introduce Ordinance 452-2. Councilmember Cross seconded the motion and it carried.

2. Consideration of Resolution 2017-08-02- A resolution to set up a new account at Regions Bank for the purpose of depositing gas and diesel revenue from the 1 cent increase.

Councilmember Skelton made a motion to adopt Resolution 2017-08-02 and noted that this account is being set up for the interest of clarity to show the

revenue separate from other gas and diesel revenue. Councilmember Butler seconded the motion and it carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-08-02

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE OPENING
OF A NEW BANK ACCOUNT FOR THE CITY OF
SATSUMA, ALABAMA**

WHEREAS, the City of Satsuma recently increased the gas and diesel taxes for the purpose of funding the construction of a new public safety building; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Satsuma desires to open a new bank account with Regions Bank in Saraland, Alabama, for the purpose of holding the funds generated by the increase in gas and diesel taxes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Satsuma, Alabama, as follows:

1. That the Mayor and City Clerk be, and hereby are, authorized to open a new account with Regions Bank, Saraland, Alabama, for the purpose of holding the funds received from the increase in the gas and diesel tax for a new public safety building.
2. That the Mayor and City Clerk be, and hereby are, authorized to execute such documents as are necessary to complete the opening of the new account authorized herein.
3. That Mayor, Tom Williams; City Clerk, Vicki Miller, and Councilmember Randy Little be the authorized signatures on the account.
4. The City reserves the right to use the funds for other needs of the City if necessary.

Adopted this 15th day of August, 2017

/s/ Tom Williams
Tom Williams, Mayor

ATTEST: /s/ Vicki Miller
Vicki Miller, City Clerk

Adjournment

Councilmember Butler made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Black seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 7:30 P.M.

Mayor Williams

Councilmember Little

Councilmember Butler

Councilmember Skelton

Councilmember Cross

Councilmember Black

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk