

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 February 6, 2018**

### **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 6th day of February, 2018. Those present were: Mayor Tom Williams; Councilmembers: Randy Little, Mike Butler, Jason Skelton, Allison Cross and Bill Black.

Mayor Williams discussed Agenda items. The Pre-Council ended at 6:45 to enter into a public hearing on rezoning certain parcels on Old Highway 43.

### **Public Hearing:**

Mayor Williams opened the public hearing at 6:45 and stated that the purpose of the public hearing is to hear public comments on amending the zoning ordinance and map to change certain lots on Old Highway 43 that have dual zones to single zoned lots. Tom Briand explained that back when the city did the comprehensive plan, several of the lots along Old Highway 43 were changed, however a few parcels from Magnolia Avenue to Juniper Avenue were missed. Mayor Williams asked if anyone was present to discuss this matter. With none, he closed the public hearing at 6:50 p.m.

### **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 6th day of February, 2018

### **Invocation**

Councilmember Skelton gave the invocation. Jansen Skelton and the members of the Future City Team led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**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 Danielle Mashburn-Myrick sitting in for Jay Minus, City Attorney; Vicki Miller, City Clerk; Tom Briand, City Inspector, Fire Chief Clyde Miller and Police Captain Jana Dukes.

**Approval of Minutes**

Mayor Williams presented the minutes from the Regular Meeting of January 16, 2018. Councilmember Skelton made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Councilmember Cross seconded the motion and it carried.

Mayor Williams presented the minutes from the Work Session of January 23, 2018. Councilmember Skelton made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Councilmember Cross seconded the motion and it carried.

Councilmember Skelton requested to make two public announcements before the recognitions. First he announced that the fire department has received a grant for smoke alarms. He stated that if a resident is in need of a smoke alarm or replacement of one to contact Satsuma Fire Rescue. He stated the resident will need to sign a liability waiver and then the fire department will do the installation. Councilmember Skelton also stated that the property where the new public safety building will be located is being cleared in the upcoming days and the debris will be burned on site.

**Special Recognition:**

1. Future City Team- Ms. Sharp, Principal of Robert E. Lee, introduced the members of the team and announced that they won second place in the state for the presentations and model and won three stem awards. The team then presented their project.

2. Key Students –Robert E. Lee Elementary School  
Students were presented a certificate and city pins by the mayor and congratulated by the city council.

**Visitors:**

1. Jimmy Stewart and Mike Davis- presentation of petition regarding the feral cats in their neighborhood.

Mr. Stewart, 358 Burning Tree and Mr. Davis of 400 Burning Tree, came before the council to present a petition complaining about the cats at the house at the corner of Burning Tree Drive and Twinbranch Drive. They stated the petition is signed by residents within a 5 to 6 house radius of the subject house. They stated that the cat population at that house is creating a nuisance in the neighborhood. Mayor Williams stated that the city council just received an amended animal ordinance which should address how the city can handle this type of situation. He stated the council will review and discuss further at the next council meeting.

## 2. Trish Morra- Satsuma Community Development Organization.

Ms. Morra of 319 Kittie Court, came before council to ask the council to partner with the SCDO to purchase a new Christmas tree for Baldwin Square and additional lights to go along with the ones that were put up this year. She stated that she would like to see more activities held at Christmas in the park and the organization is working on some of those ideas for next year. Ms. Morra stated that now is the time to purchase the tree due to off season discounts. She stated that the tree can be purchased in increments starting at 14 'and each year another section can be purchased. Mayor Williams stated that the council will look at the budget and get her an answer by the next meeting.

## **Mayor's and Council's Reports:**

### *1. Report on public safety building- Ground Breaking Ceremony*

Mayor Williams reported that the ground breaking ceremony will be held on February 22, 2018 at 3:00. He stated that Congressman Bradley Byrne will be the guest speaker.

### *2. Update on Williams Avenue-Alabama Power*

Mayor Williams reported that the public works department has removed the tree that was in the way and still waiting on Alabama Power Company to relocate the poles. Once they begin, the city will have to rebid the project. Mayor Williams stated that he did check to see if the bid could be awarded to the next lowest bidder from the first bids and was told that this is not allowed by the grant.

### *3 Update on the sidewalk project (Ryals to Powers)*

Mayor Williams reported all that seems to remain is putting down the sod, cleaning the areas and replacing the stop signs. He stated that Civil Southeast will have to do a final inspection.

### *4. Report on US. 43 Steele Creek culverts.*

Mayor Williams reported that at the last MPO meeting, he was informed by ALDOT that they will be replacing the culverts going under US 43 at Steele Creek with a bridge. He stated that no timeline was given for this project.

Mayor Williams reported that recently the City began participation in the Municipal Intercept Services through Alabama League of Municipalities. He stated that this program allows the city to put in any debt that is due, such as court fines. He stated that the debt is then collected if someone files for a state tax refund. Mayor Williams reported that the city received \$214 from an outstanding court debt.

Mayor Williams reported that the Boy Scout's annual Golden Eagle Dinner will be held at Steele Creek on February 15<sup>th</sup>. He stated that this year's honoree is Saraland Councilmember Newton Cromer.

**Municipal Services-** Councilmember Little stated that he did not have any matters to report or items for discussion. .

**Public Safety- Councilmember Butler** reported that the fire department has applied for a AFG grant that if awarded will be used to purchase turn out gear.

Councilmember Butler commented that Robert Brazile, who resides on Woodland Avenue, was recently inducted into the NFL "Hall of Fame". Councilmember Butler recommended that the city look at doing a proclamation and presenting him with a key to the city. He stated that a resident also suggested renaming a portion of Woodland Avenue that runs west from Orchard Street where Mr. Brazile resides. Mayor Williams agreed and said that it could be done at a council meeting in the near future.

**Administration-Councilmember Skelton** gave an update on the meeting with ALDOT and Norfolk Southern Railway representatives. Councilmember Skelton reported that at the meeting the city was presented with four options: 1) Close Bayou Avenue crossing. This option would not be feasible due to the traffic that crosses in that area. 2) Wait to run the yearly report to see where Bayou Avenue crossing falls. The report is evaluated yearly and there is no guarantee that the crossing will fall within the number of projects that they will do that year. This is a 90/10 split and the timeline is unknown. 3) City pays for the whole project. The estimated cost is \$350,000. This will entail a three way agreement which would involve lawyers and could take many years to resolve. 4) Close Baldwin Street and relocate the equipment to Bayou Avenue crossing. With this option, the cost is approximately \$150,000 of which the city will have to pay 10%. Norfolk Southern has stated that if this option is chosen, they will pay the 10%. This option could take approximately 9 months. He stated that the council has agreed to set a public hearing which will be discussed later.

**Parks- Councilmember Cross** reminded everyone that sixth graders at Robert E. Lee will be having the Wax Museum. This is where students transform into famous persons. This will take place on Friday, February 9<sup>th</sup>.

Councilmember Cross reported that the Saraland Lions Club will be having its annual pancake breakfast on March 24<sup>th</sup> at Catfish Junction. She stated that part of the proceeds will be going to the North Mobile YMCA. The event is from 6:30 a.m. to 10:30.a.m.

Councilmember Cross reported that the Library Foundation is having a donation drive. She stated that support of this group is essential to support services such as tutoring. Councilmember Cross reported that baseball registration wrapped up last week and the girls softball will be ending soon.

**Public Works- Councilmember Black** stated that he did not have any matters to report or items for discussion. .

### **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

**1. Payment of the bills.**

Councilmember Skelton made a motion to pay the bills in the amount of \$104,349.94. Of this amount \$53,288.92 is being paid on the sidewalk project, which will be reimbursed at 80%. Councilmember Little seconded the motion and it carried.

**2. Consideration of setting a public hearing on the closing of a crossing in order to put crossing arms at Bayou Avenue. Public Hearing set for February 20<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m.**

Councilmember Skelton made a motion to set a public hearing for February 20<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. Councilmember Cross seconded the motion and it carried.

**3. Consideration of accepting applications for a Satsuma City School Board member. Applications will be accepted until March 6, 2018.**

Councilmember Little made a motion to begin the process of accepting applications for a new school board member until March 6, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.. Councilmember Black seconded the motion and it carried.

**4. Consideration of opening a Fire Chief position under the Mobile County Personnel Board.**

Councilmember Butler made a motion to approve opening up the position. Councilmember Skelton seconded the motion and it carried.

**5. Consideration of entering into an agreement with Harris Local Government for maintenance and hosting of the city's software at a amount of \$4750.00**

Councilmember Skelton explained that the server which stores all the critical information for the city is at the end of its useful life. He stated that by going to the cloud the city's information will be protected and be readily available if needed. He stated that the large amount for the maintenance due is because the company did not bill the city however the city did receive maintenance during that time. With no comment or questions, he then made a motion to enter into the agreement with Harris Local Government for maintenance and hosting. Councilmember Little seconded the motion and it carried.

**6. Consideration of request for discontinuance of garbage service at 256 Arrow Avenue B and 205 Gayle Lane.**

Councilmember Little made a motion to approve the discontinuance of garbage at 256 Arrow Avenue B. Councilmember Cross seconded the motion and it carried. Councilmember Little made a motion to approve the discontinuance of garbage service at 205 Gayle Lane. Councilmember Cross seconded the motion and it carried.

**7. Consideration of acceptance of resignation from Marquis Parsons, Police Officer.**

Councilmember Butler made a motion to accept the resignation in good standing. Councilmember Skelton seconded the motion and it carried.

**8. Consideration of merit increase and special merit for Vicki Miller and Edith Butler.**

Councilmember Skelton made a motion to give 2.5% merit and a 2.5% special merit. Councilmember Little seconded the motion and it carried.

**9. Consideration to ratify creating a court clerk I position.**

Mayor Williams noted that this was discussed in pre-council and the city requested the position be created and filled provisionally until a list can be prepared by the personnel board. With no comments or questions, Councilmember Butler made a motion to ratify the creation of the position and to fill provisional. Councilmember Cross seconded the motion and it carried.

**10. Consideration to call for a police officer certification list.**

Councilmember Butler made a motion to call for a certification list. Councilmember Skelton seconded the motion and it carried.

**RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCE, ORDERS AND OTHER BUSINESS**

NONE

**Adjournment**

With no further business to come before Council, Councilmember Skelton made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Cross seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 8:45 P.M.

/s/ Tom Williams  
Mayor Williams

/s Randy Little  
Councilmember Little

/s/ Mike Butler  
Councilmember Butler

/s/ Jason Skelton  
Councilmember Skelton

/s. Allison Cross  
Councilmember Cross

/s/ Bill Black  
Councilmember Black

ATTEST: /s/ Vicki Miller  
City Clerk