

TOM WILLIAMS  
MAYOR

VICKI MILLER  
CITY CLERK

CLINT E. HARRELL  
CHIEF OF POLICE

CLYDE MILLER  
FIRE CHIEF



COUNCIL MEMBERS

RANDY LITTLE, PLACE 1

MIKE BUTLER, PLACE 2

JASON SKELTON, PLACE 3

ALLISON REESE, PLACE 4

BILL BLACK, PLACE 5

## **Minutes of April 7, 2020**

### **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 7th day of April, 2020. Those present were: Mayor Williams, Councilmembers: Randy Little, Mike Butler, Jason Skelton, Allison Reese, and Bill Black

Due to COVID-19 and the directive from Governor Ivey, the Council met in the Council chambers with a safe distance of 6'. Department heads and Jr. Councilmembers were not present to stay under the 10-person guideline.

Mayor Williams 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 7th day of April, 2020.

#### **Invocation**

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

#### **Roll Call**

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

Also present were: Jay Minus, City Attorney; Vicki Miller, City Clerk; Tom Briand, Building Inspector and; Clint Harrell, Police Chief;

### **Approval of Minutes**

Mayor Williams presented the minutes from the Regular Meeting held on March 17, 2020. Councilmember Skelton made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Councilmember Reese seconded the motion and it carried.

Mayor Williams noted that the special called meeting was posted in the proper places and then presented the minutes from the Special Called Meeting held on March 26, 2020. Councilmember Skelton made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Councilmember Reese seconded the motion and it carried.

### **Special Recognition: None**

### **Visitors-**

1. Rick Copeland came before Council to discuss a drainage issue in Gilbert Creek Estates. He stated that he is building a new home in the subdivision. Mr. Copeland stated that he thinks the lot will not drain because of the grading of the dirt road behind the subdivision which has changed the flow of the water. Mr. Copeland is asking for the City to put in a ditch along the right of way or lower the road. Mr. Copeland also pointed out that there is a drainage issue with several of the other lots adjoining his lot. Mayor Williams told Mr. Copeland that the City would discuss the matter with the City attorney and would get back with him with suggestions as to how to resolve the problem.

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

#### **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Williams reported that after discussing a matter of curfew with Chief Harrell, they both agree the Governor's directive to "Stay at Home" is enough for the City's officers to enforce and he does not see a need to issue a separate one just for the City.

Mayor Williams reported that the City received the Silver award from Workmen's Compensation.

Mayor Williams reported that he has been in contact with Congressman Byrne about the CARES ACT and what it means for Satsuma. He stated that the act covers cities over 500,000 and the remainder of the funds will be filtered through the State of Alabama. He stated we need to continue to keep our records for when the time comes to apply for the funds.

**Municipal Services- Councilmember Little** thanked all employees in the sanitation department for continuing to work and provide the necessary service to the citizens.

**Public Safety- Councilmember Butler** reported the fire department received a donation of \$750.00 from Boardwalk a subsidiary of Gulf Coast Pipeline. The check is an annual donation. Councilmember Butler reported that Chief Harrell was able to obtain a grant which has provided every officer with an AR-15. Chief Harrell stated that the rifles were purchased off the state bid list.

**Administration-Councilmember Skelton** brought up the topic of hazard pay for first responders. He stated that other cities are providing additional pay for the police and fire. Council discussed in length agreeing that all employees who are working during this pandemic should receive some type of incentive. Mayor Williams expressed his concerns with the revenues and asked that Council revisit this matter after the April revenues have been received. Councilmember Skelton also mentioned coming up with a means to move forward with the teleconferencing. Councilmember Skelton stated that he could set up a zoom meeting and then allow for it to be live streamed. Mayor Williams reminded Council of the specific topics put out by Governor Ivey that allows for Council to not meet in person. Council discussed just having a quorum meet in person and then telecommunicate with the others.

**Parks- Councilmember Reese** reminded everyone that the April Municipal Dinner has been cancelled. She reported that work is still continuing on the concession stands at both Wright and Lions Parks.

**Public Works- Councilmember Black** reported that Public Works is still working with a reduced staff and continuing to try to get all the work done.

### **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

**1. Payment of the bills.**

On motion by Councilmember Skelton and seconded by Councilmember Reese with all voting "aye", Council unanimously approved paying the bills in the amount of \$125,724.92.

**2. Discussion of replacing the sidewalk in front of Robert E. Lee School to finish the sidewalk project.**

Council reviewed the documentation presented by Tom Briand and decided to table the matter to the next meeting in order to get clarification on the quotes presented.

**3. Discussion of the drainage issue with Gilbert Creek Estates in relation to the letter and comments by Rick Copeland, Copeland Builders**

Council discussed the situation with the drainage as presented by the letter from Mr. Copeland and his presentation at the first of the meeting.

Council discussed with Jay Minus, legal counsel. The consensus reached is that the City is not responsible for the drainage issue. The Council asked Mayor Williams to contact Mr. Copeland and tell him that he needs to get a landscape engineer or architect to review the issues and come up with a solution and possibly see if a sump pump would solve the issue.

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

**1. Introduction of Ordinance 529- An ordinance to adopt regulations for small cell technologies for the City.**

Jay Minus stated that the legislature may or may not vote legislation that will allow for companies installing 5G network to be able to place the small cell towers in the City’s right of way without any say from the City on where or how they can look. Mr. Minus stated that if the City passes this Ordinance then this gives the City the ability to restrict the locations and meet certain guidelines established by the City. Mr. Minus said that the fee schedule has been left blank and the Council needs to decided how much they want to charge.

On motion by Councilmember Little and seconded by Councilmember Reese with all present voting “aye, Council unanimously approved the introduction of Ordinance 529.

With no further business to come before Council, Councilmember Skelton made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Reese seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 8:20 P.M.

/s/ Tom Williams  
Mayor Tom Williams

/s Randy Little  
Councilmember Randy Little

/s/ Mike Butler  
Councilmember Mike Butler

/s/ Jason Skelton  
Councilmember Jason Skelton

/s/ Allison Reese  
Councilmember Allison Reese

/s/ Bill Black  
Councilmember Bill Black

ATTEST: /s/ Vicki Miller  
City Clerk