

TOM WILLIAMS  
MAYOR

VICKI MILLER  
CITY CLERK

CLINT E. HARRELL  
CHIEF OF POLICE

KENNETH WAITES  
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 July 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 7<sup>th</sup> day of July, 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'.

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 7<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2020.

### **Invocation**

Mayor Williams 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, James Elmore, Public Works Supervisor, Heather Davis, Assistant City Clerk, Kenneth Waites, Fire Chief and Chief Harrell, Police Chief.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Mayor Williams presented the minutes from the Regular Meeting held on June 16, 2020. Councilmember Skelton made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Councilmember Little seconded the motion and it carried.

### **Special Recognition: NONE**

### **Visitors-**

- **Eddie Menton- Reappointment to the Mobile County Racing Commission**

Mayor Williams stated that Mr. Menton could not make the meeting. He stated that the purpose of his visit was to ask for the Council's support for reappointment to the Racing Commission. Council discussed and agreed to add as item #4 under "Items of Consideration.

- John Cain came before Council and asked if they had gotten his printout on the Purple Paint Law. He stated that he has warrants on people trespassing on his property and wants council to become familiar with this law.
- Terry Sullivan 5323 Hummingbird Drive came before Council to complain about his neighbor having someone living in a shed and the garbage truck leaking a smelly liquid when it turns the corner. Mr. Briand spoke about the neighbor and stated that he has visited the resident that Mr. Sullivan is referring to and finds that there is no law being broken. Mr. Elmore addressed the garbage truck issue and stated that there is a box in the front of the truck that holds water and sometimes when the garbage is overly wet, the tank will fill up and overflow. He stated that he will make sure the driver empties the tank more often.
- Matt Dial came before Council and stated that in 2015 the City prided itself on being the first city to have bodycams. He stated that recently it was stated that the officers are not equipped with bodycams. Mr. Dial stated that in this current civil unrest, why would the officers not have bodycams. Councilmember Butler explained that the bodycams were leased for three years and he is not sure why the contract was not renewed. He stated the matter will be revisited.

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

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

Mayor Williams reported that at the last meeting, a draft COVID19 protocol was presented to Council by Chief Waites for review. He stated that since that time he

discussed procedures with the Unified Command and it is their recommendation that cities follow the CDC guidelines for handling COVID19 issues.

Mayor Williams reminded everyone that the run-off election for 1st Congressional District seat and a United States Senate seat will be July 14<sup>th</sup>. Due to some renovations at the Annex gym, the polling place has been moved to Satsuma First Baptist. The last day to get an absentee ballot is July 9<sup>th</sup>

Mayor Williams reported that the Census 2020 has been extended to October 31, 2020. He reminded everyone that the City is currently at 76.1 % citizen count but he would like for the city to be at least 85% count.

Mayor Williams stated that since the City of Mobile has passed an ordinance making face mask mandatory in their city limits, there has been discussion between other mayors about doing the same. Mayor Williams stated at this time he is not in favor of making the wearing of face mask mandatory in the City, but encourages everyone to follow the CDC guidelines including wearing face mask out in public. Council agreed.

Mayor Williams discussed amending the five-year capital plan to move the renovations of the Steele Creek Lodge bathroom and kitchen from 2021 to this fiscal year. He stated that now, with the lodge not being rented, would be a good time to begin the renovations. Mayor Williams also noted that the city is still waiting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Street Drainage study to be completed. Once the study is received, the City can move forward with partnering with the school to get the project completed.

Mayor Williams discussed with Council about allowing non-profit meetings and certain events to be allowed at the community center. Council agreed to move the discussion to Item #5 under "Items of Consideration".

**Municipal Services- Councilmember Little** reported the trash pickup has eased off. He reminded citizens to continue to be mindful and only put out two (2) yards or less.

**Public Safety- Councilmember Butler** reported that the fire department made 75 calls in the month of June with 8 aid calls to the City of Creola. Councilmember Butler reported that FF J.P. Miller and FF Josh West made a fire call in Creola jurisdiction and was able to keep the fire contained and eventually the fire was put out. Councilmember Butler reported that Truck #3 is in need of some repairs that could run around \$5,000.00. He stated the matter will be discussed further at a later date. Councilmember Butler reported that he has been contacted by a citizen about the city's current noise ordinance. He stated that the citizen was present and asked Mr. Jimmy Stewart to speak. Mr. Stewart stated that he is having an issue with his neighbor and the excessive noise after 10:00 pm. Mr. Stewart stated that he calls the police department and complains;

the officers came out and the noise is turned down, but after the officers left the neighbors turned up the noise again. Mr. Stewart stated he spoke with Chief Harrell after looking at the city's ordinance and asked for recommendations. Chief Harrell referred him to Madison's noise ordinance. Mr. Stewart stated he has read the ordinance from Madison and asked if the Council would consider amending the current ordinance and adopting one that is similar. One that will allow the officers to have a law that could be enforced. Chief Harrell stated he would get a copy to the clerk for distribution.

**Administration-Councilmember Skelton** announced that qualifying for the municipal offices began today and will continue until July 21<sup>st</sup> at 5:00 p.m.

**Parks- Councilmember Reese** reported the following:

- Next Thursday, football season will begin at Lions Park. She stated that at this time, they do not know what registration will look like.
- Reported that at a previous meeting, Council approved \$12,000 for a new slide at Wright Park. Since that time, she has found a less expensive slide. She stated that a new slide along with a new merry-go-round and some new mulch has all been ordered for a little over \$12,000. She reminded Council that she has a donation of \$5,000 from Representative Simpson. She also stated that she would like to use the \$7,000 that was paid by the school board for utilities along with the \$5,000 and some money from the utilities budget, that is not being used since the parks are not open, to build a bathroom/concession stand at the C and D fields at Wright Park.
- Reminded everyone that the July Municipal Dinner will be hosted by the City of Prichard at the Bill Clark Family Life Center on July 16<sup>th</sup>.
- Request that a plaque be placed on the concession stands at Wright and Lions Parks thanking those that contributed either financially or volunteered.
- Reported that Lenzing donated 2000 mask to be used by the City for the elections. She asked that a Thank You note be sent.
- Reported and showed the new City flag. She stated that the flag will be flown at the north and south entrances to the City once the new flag poles are installed.

**Public Works- Councilmember Black** reported that public works is still short employees but continuing to work to get all the weed eating and grass cut.

### **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

#### **1. Payment of the bills.**

On motion by Councilmember Skelton and seconded by Councilmember Butler with all voting "aye", Council unanimously approved paying the bills in the amount of \$71,966.10

#### **2. Consideration of the resignation letter from Officer Justin McCollough effective July 24, 2020.**

On motion by Councilmember Butler and seconded by Councilmember Little with all voting "aye", Council unanimously approved the acceptance of the resignation from Justin McCollough in good standing

**3. Discussion of request from George Maherg at 5281 Hartley Road to remove a double Sweet Gum tree that is located in the drainage easement on the south side of his property.**

Councilmember Black reported that after the last meeting, he was told by Mr. Maherg that he would pay ½ of the cost to remove the tree. Council discussed and the consent was to table the matter and get another bid, since only one was received. Councilmember Black made a motion to table the matter until the next meeting and to get a second bid.

Councilmember Reese seconded the motion and it carried.

**4. Consideration of the reappointment of Eddie Menton to the Mobile County Racing Commission.**

On motion by Councilmember Reese and seconded by Councilmember Black with all voting "aye", Council unanimously approved supporting the reappointment of Eddie Menton to the Mobile County Racing Commission. Mayor Williams stated that he would send a letter letting Mr. Menton know.

**5. Consideration to reopen the community center for meetings and rental.**

On motion by Councilmember Reese and seconded by Councilmember Skelton with all voting "aye", Council unanimously approved reopening the community center provided they COVID19 Waiver is signed and with the understanding that all will follow the CDC guidelines.

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

**1. Consideration of Ordinance 529-1- An Ordinance amending Ordinance 529 adopting the regulations for small cell technology facilities.**

On motion by Councilmember Skelton and seconded by Councilmember Little with all voting "aye", Council unanimously approved the adoption of Ordinance 529-1.

Before closing the meeting, Councilmember Little recognized Rylee Rawson and Regan Nolfe. Both served as Jr. Councilmembers and were thanked by the Mayor and Council for their service.

With no further business to come before Council, Councilmember Reese made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Skelton seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 8:00 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