

MARK BARLOW
MAYOR

HEATHER DAVIS
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

EMANUEL L "BUBBA" PHILLIPS,
PLACE 5

MINUTES OF April 20, 2021

Regular Meeting

The City Council of the City of Satsuma, Alabama, convened in regular public session at City Hall in said city at 6:00 p.m. the 20th day of April 2021.

Invocation

Mayor Barlow welcomed everyone and reminded everyone in attendance to maintain social distancing and to turn all cell phones in the off position.

Mary Barlow asked if everyone would keep our city employee who was injured yesterday in their thoughts and prayers. The young man had very serious injuries and would be having surgery tomorrow.

Councilmember Allison Reese led the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

On roll call, the following answered present:

Mayor
Council Members

Mark Barlow
Randy Little
Jason Skelton
Mike Butler
Allison Reese
Emanuel Phillips

Heather Davis, City Clerk, Jay Minus, City Attorney; Chief Clint Harrell; Crystal Johnson, Crew Chief and Chief Kenneth Waites.

A quorum was present and Mayor Barlow opened the meeting for the transaction of business.

Approval of Minutes

Mayor Barlow presented the minutes from the Regular Meeting held on April 6, 2021. Councilmember Jason Skelton made a motion to approve the revised minutes as presented. Councilmember Randy Little seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Recognitions

Mayor Barlow stated he would like to recognize some of the people in the community that came out to help with the employee that was injured yesterday. Mayor Barlow stated it speaks very highly of the community and some of the people we have in our city who have gone out of their way to be very helpful and thoughtful.

Visitors

Mayor Barlow stated he and council discussed with Mr. Nolfé all his concerns about the generator at the Public Safety Building in pre council. The Mayor asked the Mr. Minus pursue options and make a recommendation to Council to accept the warranty offer or advise if a purchase of a new generator is the better option.

Former Mayor, Mr. Tom Williams, of 6357 Gilbert Drive came before the council to discuss the GOMESA grant concerning the kayak launch. Mr. Williams stated at the beginning of the project, he spoke with Chris Blankenship at the Mobile Bay Estuary meeting. Mr. Blankenship made Mr. Williams aware of the grant, and Mr. Williams contacted the grant writer. Mr. Williams stated the grant writer recommended adding a kayak launch. Mr. Williams stated he was not in favor of the kayaks near motorize boats. Mr. Williams stated the Council may consult with the City Engineer, Mr. Robbie Strom, concerning the location of the kayak launch.

Cassie Smith of 253 Woodland Avenue came before the council and stated that a box has been placed at the police station for anyone who would like to give get well card and gift cards to the injured city employee and his family.

Cassie Smith of 253 Woodland Avenue came before the council to discuss the drainage issue at her mother-in-law's home at 5816 Cordova Avenue. Ms. Smith stated she has met with everyone as requested by Crystal Johnson and James Elmore. Ms. Smith asked the Mayor and Council if they could ask the property owner located behind her mother-in-law to move their fence. Mayor Barlow asked Ms. Crystal Johnson of her assessment of the property. Ms. Johnson stated she, Mr. Elmore and Mr. Briand went to the property

and the surrounding properties. Ms. Johnson stated there is not an easement nor a ditch on the property in question, but there is a 7.5' easement on the property located behind the mother-in-law's property. Ms. Johnson stated she suggested to Ms. Smith to clean the fence on her mother-in-law's property which would help move the water out of the yard. Ms. Johnson stated that once the fence is clean and the property can be better assessed, then the City may be able to contact the city engineer to discuss further drainage solutions. Ms. Smith insisted the Mayor and Council to asked the neighbor to move his fence. Councilmember Phillips stated this is a civil matter. Ms. Smith asked that the City request the neighbor to move the fence off the drainage easement. Councilmember Little asked Ms. Smith if any other neighbors had the same problem. Ms. Smith stated the only people who have problems are those from her mother-in-law's house to the houses were the city installed the drainage ditch. Mayor Barlow stated that once the dirt is removed from the fence and the city will look and see if the city is able to do anything.

Mayor's and Council's Reports:

Mayor's Report

Mayor Barlow reported he received a thank you letter from a citizen whose mother participates in the Meals on Wheels program.

Mayor Barlow reported the he had some input from the MPO for the road paving projects. Mayor Barlow stated that in the next few days, he shall receive the requirements for the City to apply for the money MPO has received for the municipalities in Mobile County. Mayor Barlow stated Satsuma is eligible to receive funds. The Mayor Reported that Kevin Harrison stated it may require some engineering from the City.

Mayor Barlow reported an increase in vicious dog complaints. He encourages citizens to keep dogs locked up and asked that Chief Harrell have the department be more of such complaints.

Mayor Barlow reported that he and Tom Briand drove around the city, and Mr. Briand will be getting in contact with Mr. Minus to proceed with demolition with some of the properties that have been issues within the city.

Mayor Barlow reminded the Council that the league meeting on May 12th-15th, 2021 will be coming up.

Mayor Barlow stated that the doors and security system at City Hall have been fixed, but the bill has not been received. Mayor Barlow stated he believed that court funds would be used to pay the bill.

Mayor Barlow reported that the Chief Harrell is still proceeding to obtain cameras for the City Hall.

Public Services – Councilmember Little

Councilmember Little reiterated the blighted homes and properties as previously mentioned by Mayor Barlow.

Councilmember Little reported a Certificate of Occupancy had been issued for a new business.

Public Safety – Councilmember Butler

Councilmember Butler stated that he had nothing to report at this time.

Administration – Councilmember Skelton

Councilmember Skelton stated he would like to extend a welcome to the Chalkboard Kitchen.

Councilmember Skelton stated he visited with Carl Smith, who is Quinton Smith's father, and he expressed his thanks for all who have reached out and who have brought them food. Mr. Smith asked that if everyone would keep them in their prayers.

Councilmember Skelton reported that in pre-council he brought up a request from Pierce Auto Sales to vacate the right of way that splits their property in half with the understanding that they will provide a twenty (20) foot easement to Satsuma Water and Sewer for maintenance of the gravity collection system for the sewer. Councilmember Skelton requested this item be placed on the agenda for the next meeting. Mr. Minus advised Councilmember Skelton that Pierce Auto Sales will need to provide a written request. Mayor Barlow stated he will remove himself, since it is his cousin's property.

Parks & Recreation – Councilmember Reese

Councilmember Reese stated that the pavilion is available for rental and to contact City Hall for rates and availability.

Councilmember Reese stated that the ball fields at Wright and Lyons park are now available to groups and organization interested in using the fields. Groups and organizations may contact City Hall for reservations when the youth association is not using them.

Councilmember Reese thanked the women's club for the umbrella decorations at the entrances at the City.

Public Works – Councilmember Phillips

Councilmember Phillips reported he had three bids for the damaged car reported by Mr. Bennie Hollands. Councilmember Phillips stated Mr. Bennie Hollands turned in a claim into city from where the city was cutting grass and a rock was thrown and damaged his car. The first bid is from Walker Frame and Body Shop in the amount of \$1,078.82, second bid from Mullinax Ford for \$751.30 and the last bid is from Thompson's Paint and Body Shop in the amount of \$530.50. Councilmember Phillips motioned that the City pay the for the damages to Mr. Holland's vehicle and award the bid to Thompson's Paint and Body in the amount of \$530.50. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Butler with all voting "aye" Council unanimously approved and the motion carried.

Councilmember Phillips inquired about the \$10.00 fee for sewer assessment letters. Councilmember Phillips stated the fee was not approved by Council and asked if the fee needs to approved by a form of a motion. Councilmember Reese made a motion that the City create an \$10 fee for assessment letters for properties, seconded by Councilmember Skelton. Mayor Barlow open the floor for discussion. Mayor Barlow closed the floor for discussion. Councilmember Little, Skelton, Reese, and Butler voting 'aye" and Councilmember Phillips and Mayor Barlow voting "nay," Council approved and the motion carried.

Items for Consideration

- 1. Consideration of payment of the bills in the amount of \$53,247.05.**
On a motion by Councilmember Skelton and seconded by Councilmember Reese with all voting "aye" Council unanimously approved and the motion carried.
- 2. Consideration of re-appointment of Linda Robinson to the Satsuma School board.**
On a motion made by Councilmember Reese and seconded by Councilmember Butler, with all voting "aye" Council unanimously approved and the motion carried.
- 3. Consideration of a sworn statement of claim from Bennie Hollins for damage to a vehicle by public works department.**
Motion carried during Councilmember Phillips report.
- 4. Consideration of voting delegates for the Alabama League Convention Voting Delegate, 1st Alternate Voting and 2nd Alternate Voting Delegate.**

On a motion by Councilmember Butler and seconded by Councilmember Skelton, to appoint Council Bubba Phillips as Voting Delegate,

Councilmember Little as 1st Alternate Delegate and Mayor Barlow as 2nd Alternate Delegate, with all voting “aye”, Council unanimously approved and the motion carried.

5. Consideration of estimates to repair the roof at Steele Creek Lodge.

On a motion by Councilmember Reese and seconded by Councilmember Phillips, to accept the lowest responsible estimate to repair the roof at Steele Creek Lodge. Councilmember Reese reported three estimates were received with the highest estimate from Supreme Painting in the amount of \$8,430.00, MSB Homes in the amount of \$4,280.00 and the lowest was Sun builders \$3,915.00. All the estimates are for the same scope of work. Councilmember Reese stated the current roof is estimated to be ten (10) to twenty (20) years old. On a motion by Councilmember Reese and seconded by Councilmember Phillips, to accept the lowest responsible estimate to repair the roof at Steele Creek Lodge, with all voting “aye”, Council unanimously approved and the motion carried.

6. Consideration of payment to City of Creola in the amount of \$5,000.00 for reimbursement of any and all claims for monies paid for training expenses for Blake Bosarge.

On a motion by Councilmember Butler and seconded by Councilmember Little with all voting “aye” Council unanimously approved and the motion carried.

7. Consideration to enter into agreement with GMC for Engineering Services on GOMESA Grant.

On a motion by Councilmember Reese and seconded by Councilmember Skelton, with all voting “aye”, Council unanimously approved and the motion carried.

8. Consideration of signing the AT&T U-verse Video Services Renewal Agreement

On a motion by Councilmember Skelton and seconded by Councilmember Little to table the agenda item to the second meeting in May 18, 2021 to further research a shorter length agreement, with all voting “aye”, Council unanimously approved and the motion carried.

With no further business to come before the Council, Councilmember Reese made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Councilmember Skelton seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 8:02 P.M.

/s/ Mark Barlow
Mark Barlow, Mayor

/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/ E. L. Phillips
Councilmember E.L. "Bubba" Phillips

ATTEST: /s/ Heather Davis
Heather Davis, City Clerk

Heather Davis, City Clerk