

MINUTES OF THE SELMA CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2000

The Selma City Council met in a regular session in the Council Chambers of City Hall on Monday, November 13, 2000 at 5:00 p.m with the following members present: President George P. Evans and Council members Glenn Sexton, Rita S. Franklin, Jean T. Martin, Nancy G. Sewell, Samuel Randolph, Benny L. Tucker, Bennie Ruth Crenshaw, and James Durry. Others present were Mayor James Perkins, Jr., City Attorney Jimmy Nunn, City Clerk Jackie Smith, and the Mayor's Administrative Assistant Sherri James. The Reverend Ralph Joseph gave the invocation.

After roll call, President Evans declared a quorum present and the meeting was opened for the transaction of business as set forth on the agenda. President Evans asked if there were any additions to the agenda prepared for this meeting. There being no additions to the agenda, on motion made by Councilwoman Franklin and seconded by Councilwoman Martin the agenda was approved as prepared.

President Evans asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the regular Council meeting held on Monday, October 23, 2000. There being no additions or corrections to the minutes, on motion made by Councilwoman Sewell and seconded by Councilman Sexton the minutes were approved as recorded.

I. MAYOR'S REPORT

A. Proposed FY 2000-2001 Budget. Mayor Perkins stated the proposed budget presented to the Council at the work session on Thursday, November 9th is a fiscally responsible budget that leaves approximately \$494,488 in unappropriated funds. Mayor Perkins informed the Council that he is proposing a pay increase that equates to \$.77 per hour for all hourly employees who earns less than \$7 per hour. The Mayor stated he has reviewed the past five years budgets and this budget is no different as it relates to increased revenues and expenditures. The \$494,488 represents the largest unappropriated balance in the past five years.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Crenshaw to accept the budget as prepared with the understanding that future amendments may be made when necessary. Councilman Randolph seconded the motion. President Evans stated he would not entertain a motion at this time because the budget is an agenda item. President Evans urged the Council to table this matter until after the next work session scheduled for November 14th.

B. Waiver of Waiting Periods on Health and Life Insurance. Mayor Perkins stated that permanent, full-time employees who receive health and life insurance must meet a ninety-day waiting period before benefits are effective. The Mayor proposed to eliminate the waiting period and Council had some concern as to what the budgetary effects would be. Mayor Perkins stated some fifty employees were hired permanently last year and received health and life insurance, which equal approximately \$20,000 in additional funding. Mayor Perkins stated that the new proposed budget could absorb these additional costs and this new policy would be implemented.

C. Directives to Relocate Nathan B. Forrest Monument. Mayor Perkins presented the Council with a copy of a letter addressed to Mr. Benny Austin and the Friends of Forrest Monument Committee informing them of the position of the Council to support the Mayor in recommending to the Board of Directors of the Joe T. Smitherman Building that the monument be moved from the lawn of the Smitherman Building. The letter provides for three directives in having the monument moved and they are as follows: (1) The Board of Directors shall move the monument no later than December 11, 2000 to any privately owned property of its choice, provided the site complies with city zoning ordinances. (2) If the Committee does not move the monument to private property the City shall move the monument

I. MAYOR'S REPORT

C. Directives to Relocate Nathan B. Forrest Monument.

to Riverview Park and the authentication committee shall begin the process of authenticating the history of Nathan B. Forrest that will be placed on a supplementary marker. (3) The Committee could provide a certified letter to the City prior to November 20th authorizing the City to dismantle the bust from the pedestal and move the bust inside the Smitherman Building with authentication work to begin immediately. If this option is chosen the City would store the pedestal for ninety days then discard at its convenience. Mayor Perkins delayed further action until the Committee has the opportunity to respond to his letter.

D. Resolution – Travel Per Diem. Mayor Perkins stated that after several discussions with the Council relative to travel per diem rates, it was the consensus to prepare a resolution that provides for a per diem allowance in the amount of \$40 per day for City employees and officials traveling in state and \$75 per day for City employees and officials traveling out of state. Mayor Perkins read the resolution and asked the Council for its adoption. A motion was made by Councilwoman Sewell and seconded by Councilwoman Franklin to adopt the resolution specifying in state and out state travel per diem allowances for City employees and officials. The motion was adopted by a unanimous vote of the Council.

II. CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

A. No-Smoking Ordinance. City Attorney Jimmy Nunn presented an ordinance that eliminates smoking in city-owned buildings for Council review. Attorney Nunn stated that several citizens volunteered to assist the City of Selma in promoting its non-smoking policies. Councilwoman Franklin motioned to place the ordinance on first reading for discussion at the Council work session scheduled for November 11th.

B. Appointment of Department Heads. City Attorney Jimmy Nunn presented an ordinance that appoints City department heads. The ordinance appoints the department heads as follows:

1. That *Jimmie Abbott* be appointed City Treasurer/Assistant City Clerk at an annual salary of \$46,500 and that the City Treasurer's bond shall be in the total amount of \$25,000.
2. That *Martha Jackson* be appointed Tax and License Collector at an annual salary of \$44,500 and that the Tax and License Collector' bond shall be in the total amount of \$25,000.
3. That *Henry Allen* be appointed Fire Chief at an annual salary of \$42,500.
4. That *Darryl Moore* be appointed Building Inspector at an annual salary of \$40,000.
5. That *Randall Miller* be appointed Personnel Director at an annual salary of \$46,500.
6. That *Elizabeth Driggers* be appointed Director of Community Development at an annual salary of \$48,750.
7. That *Jackie Barker* be appointed Code Enforcement Officer at an annual salary of \$40,000.
8. That *Tommy Smith* be appointed Director of Public Works at an annual salary of \$40,000.
9. That *James Stallings* be appointed Superintendent of General Services at an annual salary of \$47,500.

II. CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

B. Appointment of Department Heads.

10. That *W. Elton Reece* be appointed Director of Parks and Recreation at an annual salary of \$43,500.
11. That *Sam Baynes* be appointed Cemetery Sexton at an annual salary of \$37,500.
12. That *Herman Moore* be appointed Fire Battalion Chief at an annual salary of \$37,500.
13. That *Michael Cutler* be appointed Fire Battalion Chief at an annual salary of \$37,500.
14. That *Lee A. Cook* be appointed Fire Battalion Chief at an annual salary of \$37,500.
15. That *Robert W. Green* be appointed Assistant Police Chief at an annual salary of \$41,000.
16. That *Kenneth Smith* be appointed Assistant Police Chief at an annual salary of \$41,000.
17. That *Finis Harris* be appointed Assistant Building Inspector at an annual salary of \$35,000.

The ordinance further states the salary of each of the department heads shall increase or decrease from time to time as the circumstances may warrant; and that they hold office and perform duties in accordance with the terms and provisions of the City Code. A motion was made by Councilwoman Crenshaw and seconded by Councilman Sexton to adopt the ordinance as read. The ordinance was adopted with a unanimous vote of the Council.

C. Legal Update. City Attorney Jimmy Nunn informed the Council that he is in the process of finalizing a report to the Council as to the status of the claims and lawsuits filed against the City. Attorney Nunn made reference to one case that has been dismissed.

D. Contracts for Services. City Attorney Jimmy Nunn informed the Council that he is in the process of preparing some thirty-three contracts for organizations that receives appropriations from the City of Selma. Once the budget is adopted the contracts will be executed.

III. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

A. PALS Luncheon. Councilwoman Franklin informed the Council that she and Litter Officer Clyde Carter recently attended the PALS luncheon in Montgomery where two area schools won state recognition.

B. Forestry Commission. Councilwoman Franklin informed the Council that she and members of the Tree Commission along with two employees of the Public Works Department recently attended a conference in Huntsville, Alabama. Councilwoman Franklin was notified at the conference that Selma received two \$1,000 grants for plantings and beautification. One of the grants is for the downtown area and the other grant is for Selma High School.

C. Christmas Holidays. Councilwoman Franklin stated it is her recommendation that Tuesday, December 26th be declared a holiday for City employees since Christmas Eve falls on the weekend. The Council agreed to accept the recommendation of Councilwoman Franklin.

III. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

RECREATION COMMITTEE REPORT

There was no report from the Recreation Committee.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT

There was no report from the Public Safety Committee.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

There was no report from the Community Development Committee.

PUBLIC WORKS AND GENERAL SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT

The Public Works and General Services Committee report was informational only.

IV. NATIONAL BOOK WEEK PROCLAMATION.

Councilwoman Sewell informed the Council that the week of November 13th through November 17th has been declared National Book Week and read a proclamation from the Council that pledges the City's full support. A motion was made by Councilwoman Sewell and seconded by Councilwoman Martin to adopt the proclamation as read. The proclamation was adopted by a unanimous vote of the Council. Council Sewell informed the Council that Mayor Perkins would speak at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, November 14th to the Selma High School students to challenge them to dedicate more time to reading.

V. BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2000-2001

President Evans urged the Council to delay any action on the budget until after the Council has had the opportunity to schedule another work session. A motion was made by Councilwoman Franklin and seconded by Councilman Tucker to table action on the budget until after the work session. The Council voted by a majority vote of seven affirmative votes and two negative votes to table action on the budget. Council members Crenshaw and Randolph cast the negative votes.

VI. POLICY ORDINANCE

Councilwoman Sewell stated that each Council member was presented a copy of the proposed policy ordinance for review and further discussion. Councilwoman Sewell motioned to place the policy ordinance on first reading.

VII. APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

President Evans distributed copies of the Council Committee appointments for the period of 2000 through 2002. The Committee appointments are as follows:

Recreation Committee	James Durry, Chairperson B. L. Tucker Sam Randolph
Administrative Committee	Bennie Ruth Crenshaw, Chairperson Glenn Sexton Jean T. Martin

VII. APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

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|---------------------------|--|
| Public Safety Committee | Rita S. Franklin, Chairperson
Nancy G. Sewell
James Durry |
| Community Development | Jean T. Martin, Chairperson
Nancy G. Sewell
Bennie Ruth Crenshaw |
| Public Works/General Svcs | Glenn Sexton, Chairperson
B. L. Tucker
Sam Randolph |

A motion was made by Councilwoman Sewell to accept the Committee appointments as presented. Councilman Sexton seconded the motion and the Council voted unanimously to accept the appointments as stated.

VIII. OTHER REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Mr. Jimmie Coleman – Minority Business & Community Extension. Mr. Coleman stated he was present to thank the Mayor and Council for supporting the Entrepreneurship Summit 2000. Mr. Coleman distributed a letter of proposal to open an office to target minority entrepreneurs for the City of Selma. Councilwoman Crenshaw made a motion authorizing Mr. Coleman to meet with Mayor Perkins to work together to form a partnership after which Mayor Perkins would report back to the Council with details. Councilman Randolph seconded the motion and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council.

B. Mr. Steven Fitts – Parade for Tolerance Permit. Mr. Fitts stated he was present before the Council as a representative of the Friends of Forrest Committee asking for equal treatment. The Committee has tentative plans for a Parade for Tolerance scheduled for November 19th at 2:00 p.m. beginning at Memorial Stadium and ending at the Smitherman Building. The purpose of the parade is to show support for the Nathan B. Forrest Monument and to ask City officials to show cultural tolerance. A motion was made by Councilwoman Franklin and seconded by Councilwoman Sewell to grant the parade permit as requested, pending coordination with the Traffic Unit. The motion carried with a unanimous vote of the Council.

C. Ms. Janie Venter – Potholes. Ms. Venter stated she was present before the Council to voice her concern over the number of potholes in street throughout the city. Ms. Venter made specific reference to L. L. Anderson Avenue, Martin L. King, Jr. Street, Union Street, Franklin Street, St. Phillips Street and Tremont Street. Mayor Perkins explained that most of the streets mentioned were paved without the proper installation of manhole risers, which would have caused the manhole covers to be level with the street. The Public Works Department has ordered the manhole risers and they will install them in the near future.

D. Mr. Bruce Holmes – Little League Football. Mr. Bruce Holmes stated he was present before the Council proposing to bring little league football back into the neighborhood communities. Mr. Holmes stated his concern is for those parents who do not have transportation to get their children out to Memorial Stadium. The proposed expenditures for this program are approximately \$12,292. It was the consensus of the Council to turn this matter over to the Recreation Committee for study and review prior to a discussion by the full body.

VIII. OTHER REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

E. Mrs. Valerie Perry – Retired Senior Volunteer Program. Mrs. Perry stated she was present before the Council on behalf of the Retired Senior Volunteer Program to present a funding request in the amount of \$10,000 to assist with the purchase of a new van. The RSVP organization transports some two hundred twenty elderly citizens, per month, to doctors, labs, drug stores and hospitals. Some elderly citizens has been denied access to the program because the van has been inoperable and in need of repairs. Mrs. Perry stated that in the past, the RSVP has been totally supported by the Dallas County Commission. It was the consensus of the Council to discuss this matter during the budget work session.

F. Mr. Al Sumpter – Sierra Corporation. Mr. Sumpter stated he was present before the Council representing the job component of Selma and Dallas County. Mr. Sumpter has received a patent on the auto oil diaper product, which prevents oil from leaking onto driveways, sidewalks, etc. where it eventually runs into storm drains and sewers and affect the environment. Mr. Sumpter stated he has a real interest in Selma and indicated that the All-Lock facility that is owned by the City would be the ideal location to begin production of the oil diaper product. Several Council members stated they would support Mr. Sumpter in obtaining the All-Lock facility and urged him to meet with Mayor Perkins and City Attorney Nunn to review the legal ramifications and work out details to eliminate possible risks since contamination is evident at this facility. Mayor Perkins reiterated the fact that the property is contaminated and informed the Council and Mr. Sumpter that he has a team of engineers seeking grant funds to clean up the environmental hazards at the facility.

G. Mr. Brandon Hewitt – Khafra Architects, Engineers and Consultants. Mr. Hewitt stated he was present before the Council to introduce himself and inform the Council that he is the owner of Khafra Architects, Engineers and Consultants based out of Atlanta, Georgia. Mr. Hewitt stated he is in the process of opening an office in Selma and looks forward to working with the Council to resolve some of the issues associated with several projects.

H. Attorney Rose Sanders. Attorney Sanders stated she was present before the Council as a concerned citizen and voiced her concern over the condition of our streets and ditches. Attorney Sanders also voiced her concern over what she feels is police profiling against black males by the Selma Police Department. Attorney Sanders made reference to an incident in which her son was involved in a confrontation with local police officers at a nightclub. After a brief discussion, Attorney Sanders recommended Conflict Resolution Training and De-sensitivity Training for officers of the Selma Police Department.

I. Mr. Robert Walker – Basketball Program. Mr. Walker stated he was present before the Council to make a funding request for a public basketball program. Mr. Walker is proposing to use the School of Discovery as the site for the program. He has talked with school officials who agreed to him using the school if overtime is paid to the school employees who would be needed to open and close the school after hours and if a security guard is hired. Mayor Perkins suggested Mr. Walker meet with Elton Reece, Director of Recreation, to see if this program could be integrated with the City's program. Mr. Walker agreed to report back to the Council at the next meeting.

J. Mrs. Lesia James – Emerging Leaders Conference. Mrs. James informed the Council that she was a participant in the recent Emerging Leaders Conference sponsored by Gov. Seigleman. The Conference was very beneficial and worthwhile. Ms. James shared information she learned with the Council and encouraged the Council to continue to be leaders for our city.

K. Mr. Clarence Williams – Nathan B. Forrest Monument. Mr. Williams stated he was present before the Council on behalf of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. Mr. Williams stated it is the request of the SCLC that city officials take the necessary steps to have the Nathan B. Forrest Monument moved or covered so that it will not be visible to the general public. President Evans stated this matter has been addressed and measures have been taken to have the monument moved from the public sight.

VIII. OTHER REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

L. Mrs. Rexene Redd – Sav-A-Life Center. Mrs. Redd stated she was present before Council on behalf of Sav-A-Life Center, a pregnancy crisis center. The Sav-A-Life Center has been in operation in Selma for a year and a half and they are seeking assistance and support from the Council and community. The Center provides counseling, education, clothing bank, and pregnancy tests for women in the Selma area. The Center was forced to move from its Jeff Davis location on yesterday due to constant break-ins. Ms. Redd asked for financial and housing assistance. President Evans stated this request would be considered when the Council meets for a budget work session.

M. Mr. Stoney Vintson – Portable Building. Mr. Vintson stated he was present before Council to request permission to place a portable building behind his business Vintson's Insurance Agency and Fast Tax on North Broad Street. Mr. Vintson explained that he is required to keep records for a period of seven years and his present building does not have the storage room that is required. Mr. Vintson stated that the area is zoned for business and the portable buildings would be attractively constructed. Councilwoman Sewell asked that this matter be tabled until the next Council meeting to allow her an opportunity to review the situation.

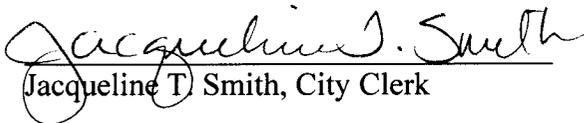
There being no further business to come before the Council, on motion made and duly seconded, the Council voted by a unanimous consent to adjourn at 7:50 p.m.



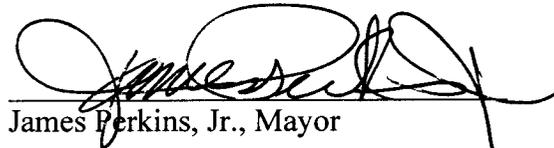
George P. Evans, President

ATTEST:

APPROVED:



Jacqueline T. Smith, City Clerk



James Perkins, Jr., Mayor