

MINUTES

June 16, 2009

The Regular Meeting of the Satsuma City Council

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 16th day of June, 2009.

Councilmember Black gave the invocation

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilmember Williams

On roll call, the following answered present:

Mayor	William F. Stewart, III
Council Members	Billy Jackson
	Pamela B. O’Gwynn
	Pratt Monk
	Tom Williams
	Bill Black

Vicki Miller, City Clerk; Jay Minus, City Attorney; Tom Briand, Building Inspector; James Elmore, Public Works Supervisor; and Lt. Jana Dukes, Police Department were present. A quorum was present and Mayor Stewart opened the meeting for the transaction of business.

A pre-council meeting was held prior to the regular meeting and Mayor Stewart discussed with Council agenda items coming before Council.

Mayor Stewart presented the minutes of the regular meeting of June 2, 2009 for approval. Councilmember O’Gwynn made a motion to adopt the minutes as presented. Councilmember Jackson seconded the motion and it carried.

VISITORS

1. *Stephanie Gatlin-representing the 50th anniversary committee*

Ms. Gatlin came before Council to present the proposed budget for the 50th anniversary celebration and answer any questions. She stated that the committee will need seed money to purchase the items in advance. She stated that the committee is raising funds and getting sponsors to offset the expenses. If all goes according to the plan, the only costs to the city will be \$450.00. She stated that some of the events include a senior's lunch /dinner, 50's dance with a DJ and bands, an arts and crafts event and a day for the schools involving the students. She stated that funds for advertisement and shirts will be needed soon.

Mayor Stewart suggested that the city allocate the total amount needed to the events and that the committee could come and get the funds as needed.

Mayor Stewart stated that the committee has put an ad in the Tri-City for \$250.00, which is being billed to the city.

After discussing the matter, Councilmember Monk made a motion to approve the expenditures not to exceed \$15,000. Councilmember Jackson seconded the motion and it carried.

2. *Cara Stallman, Grant Management, Chad Jordan and Shane Sawyer of Goodwyn, Mills and Cawood to give progress report on current grants.*

Ms. Stallman came before Council to give an update on the current grants the city has going. 1) She stated that the sidewalk grant, Phase II has been completed and the final bills from Peavy Construction and Goodwyn, Mills and Cawood have been presented for payment. 2) Sidewalk grant for Juniper and Baker Road (Robert E Lee school to I-65) will be bid as one package to get the best price. She stated that the project plans are done and will be sent to ALDOT next week for their approval. 2) Resurfacing Baker Road- This was part of the stimulus package with 100% funding. This project will be handled through ALDOT. 4) Drainage- the project is 60% complete and should be completed in August. She stated that the land value should be enough to match the in-kind requirements. If so the city will not have to provide any in-kind funds. 5) Shelter- The site is being cleared by the public works department. The plans are 60% complete. She stated that the next step is for Council to review the plans. She suggested that a special meeting be set and that she would try to get Representative Randy Davis to attend. Ms. Stallman stated that the city could ask Mr. Davis for some help with the matching funds. 6) Grants pending- Ms. Stallman stated that the city has several

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pending grants including a grant to provide for additional police officers (COPS), an air compressor for the fire department, reflective address markers and smoke detectors for the fire department to distribute and a landscaping project for highway 43. Ms. Stallman stated that she is also working with the fire department to apply for a grant, which will fund a new fire station. She stated that this grant is due by July 10.

Shane Sawyer approached the council to discuss the concerns over the new ordinance passed by the council stating that the city would no longer provide the services to pipe ditches except as required for a driveway. He continued by saying the ditches are designed to convey water laterally and off the road. He stated that by piping the ditches, the water could get on the road and cause road hazards. He also stated that retrofitting to the inlets can be difficult hazard.

Mayor Stewart stated that some citizens had approached the council concerned about the costs to the citizens for the engineering costs. Mayor Stewart questioned Mr. Sawyer about the cost. Mr. Sawyer stated that he did not want to quote an exact price, but stated that it does take some due diligence to perform the engineering, possibly a minimum of 2 to 3 hours. The cost could be in the \$500/\$600 range.

Mayor Stewart asked if there are any benefits for piping the ditches. Mr. Sawyer stated that it looks better. He also stated that if the piping is done correctly there should not be any problems with water standing in the pipes.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Stewart stated that he had nothing to report.

REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEES

Parks and Recreation:

Councilmember Jackson recognized Hannah Campbell as being chosen Softball Player of the Year.

Councilmember Jackson reported that the coordinators working on the Corey Landrum fishing tournament are proceeding with preparations and are still working on sponsors.

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Councilmember Jackson reported that the Satsuma Sharks won their game against DeIberville 46-0. The sharks are having an outstanding season so far. The next game is June 27.

Administration and Finance:

Councilmember O'Gwynn stated that the bills have been presented and he made a motion to pay the bills. Councilmember Jackson seconded the motion and it carried.

Councilmember O'Gwynn stated that the council has discussed the CD at Colonial Bank and due to the financial status of the bank and as good stewards of city funds, the council is recommending that the CD be moved. Councilmember Williams then made a motion to move the CD to the city's account at Regions Bank. Councilmember Monk seconded the motion and it carried.

Municipal Services:

Councilmember Monk stated that he received a request for discontinuance of garbage for 700 Norton. He stated that house is for sale and vacant. Councilmember Monk made a motion to approve the discontinuance of garbage for 700 Norton. Councilmember Black seconded the motion and it carried.

Mayor Stewart asked Jay Minus what the procedure has been in the past for the council approving a discontinuance of garbage. Jay Minus explained that in the past the council would approve a discontinuance of garbage if it was clear that no garbage is being generated. Mayor Stewart asked if the procedure could be done without coming to council. Mr. Minus stated that council could pass a resolution establishing the criteria and if those criteria are met then the request could be granted without coming before Council.

Councilmember Monk stated that a request for discontinuance of garbage was submitted for 5658 Park Street; however, this matter is tabled until further information can be presented.

Councilmember Monk reminded everyone of the Mobile County Municipal Dinner will be held at the Mobile Government Plaza, Thursday at 7:30.

Councilmember Monk expressed condolences on behalf of the Mayor and Council to the families of Wayne Booker, Earlene Williams and Annie Barnett.

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Public Safety:

Councilmember Williams stated that Chief Benefield is requesting approval to attend the Alabama State Chief's of Police Conference in Orange Beach, August 2-6

With no further discussion or opposition, Councilmember Williams made a motion to allow David Benefield to attend the chief's conference in Orange Beach, expenditure of funds for registration fee, hotel cost and meals and use of the city credit card to pay for the expenses. Councilmember O'Gwynn seconded the motion and it carried.

Councilmember Williams stated that it has been brought to his attention that there are several homes in the city that do not have their house numbers visible. He stated that there have been several instances where the emergency personnel cannot locate the persons needing assistance. He asked if there was an ordinance requiring the house numbers be visible. Tom Briand stated that there is an ordinance; however, there has not been a means of enforcement. Mr. Williams requested that Jay Minus and Tom Briand see what the ordinance states and if there is a penalty clause for non-compliance.

Councilmember Williams stated that he has received a request for council to approve the expenditure for surgery for the canine drug dog, Titan. He stated that the veterinarian recommends the procedure at a cost of \$175.00.

With no further discussion, Councilmember Williams made a motion to approve the expenditure of approximately \$175.00 for surgery for Titan. Councilmember Jackson seconded the motion and it carried.

Councilmember Williams reported that AMIC (Alabama Municipal Insurance Corp) has completed the insurance audit for the city. He stated that he would review the audit and submit a report at the next meeting.

Councilmember Williams stated that about two years ago, the city applied for a grant that would put "E Citation" systems in two police vehicles. The system includes the software, laptop and printer. He stated that the city was awarded the two. The units will eliminate hand written tickets by recording the information immediately. The grant includes training. The only costs to the city will be the gas to send four police officers to Tuscaloosa and 2 printer stands at a cost of \$84.00 each. Councilmember Williams also stated that the city could purchase additional units at a cost of \$977 per car.

With no further discussion, Councilmember Williams made a motion for Lieutenant. Dukes, Corporal Sellers, Officers Forister and Williamson to attend a one-day school for training on the new system in Tuscaloosa and use of the credit card to pay for the fuel for two vehicles. Councilmember Monk seconded the motion and it carried.

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Councilmember Williams stated that in a previous meeting, he has discussed the ISO inspector coming to review the city and possibly get a lower fire rating. He stated that the inspector would be coming on June 29. He will report the findings at the next council meeting.

Councilmember Williams reported that he received a copy of a letter from a citizen complimenting Officer Delane Lee for her courteous actions.

Councilmember Williams reported that the work on connecting the fuel system to the generator has been completed.

Public Works

Councilmember Black stated that the Mobile County Personnel Board will be offering CDL classes free and Mr. Elmore is recommending Steve Lynch and James Bankston attend the class. The only costs to the city will be approximately \$300 each for the test.

With no further discussions, Councilmember Black made a motion to allow Steve Lynch and James Bankston to attend the CDL classes offered by the Mobile County Personnel Board. Councilmember Williams seconded the motion and it carried.

AGENDA

1. Action on Ordinance 451- An ordinance adopting the 2009 Sales Tax Holiday, August 7-9, 2009.

Jay Minus stated that the city has in the past approved the sales tax holiday, which exempts sales tax on school items. Mr. Minus explained that the city has an option to participate or not. Mr. Minus stated that since the ordinance was not previously introduced, Council would need to suspend the rules for immediate adoption.

With no further discussion, Councilmember Williams made a motion to suspend the rules for immediate adoption of ordinance 451. Councilmember O'Gwynn seconded the motion and on roll call, the following answered:

Councilmember Jackson	yes
Councilmember O'Gwynn	yes
Councilmember Monk	yes
Councilmember Williams	yes
Councilmember Black	yes
Mayor Stewart	yes

Mayor Stewart declared the motion passed unanimously.

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Councilmember O’Gwynn made a motion to adopt Ordinance 451. Councilmember Jackson seconded the motion and it carried.

ORDINANCE NO. 451

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SATSUMA, ALABAMA, TO EXEMPT CERTAIN “COVERED ITEMS” FROM THE MUNICIPAL SALES AND USE TAX DURING THE FIRST FULL WEEKEND OF AUGUST, 2009 AS AUTHORIZED BY ACT 2006-574, GENERALLY REFERRED TO AS THE STATE SALES TAX HOLIDAY LEGISLATION.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF SATSUMA, ALABAMA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. In conformity with the provisions Act 2006-574 enacted by the Alabama Legislature during the 2006 Regular Session, providing for a State Sales Tax Holiday, the City of Satsuma, Alabama, exempts “covered items” from municipal sales and use tax during the same period, beginning at 12:01 a.m. on the first Friday in August 2009 and ending at twelve midnight the following Sunday.

Section 2. This ordinance shall be subject to all terms, conditions, definitions, time periods, and rules as provided by Act 2006-574.

Section 3. The City Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to certify a copy of this ordinance under the seal of the City of Satsuma, Alabama, and to forward said certified copy to the Alabama Department of Revenue to be recorded and posted on the Department website.

Section 4. This ordinance shall become effective on July 1, 2009

ADOPTED AND APPROVED THIS 16th DAY OF June, 2009.

**/s/ William F. Stewart, III
Mayor**

**ATTEST: /s Vicki L. Miller
City Clerk**

With no further business to discuss, Councilmember Monk made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Black seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:15 P.M.

Mayor William F. Stewart III

Councilmember Billy Jackson

Councilmember Pam O’Gwynn

Councilmember Pratt Monk

Councilmember Tom Williams

Councilmember Bill Black

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk