

## **MINUTES**

November 1, 2011  
The Regular Meeting of the Satsuma City Council

The City Council of the City of Satsuma, Alabama, convened in the regular public session at Satsuma City Hall in said city at 7:00 p.m. on the 1st day of November, 2011.

Mayor Stewart gave the invocation.

Councilmember O’Gwynn led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following were present:

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

Also present were Jay Minus, City Attorney; Vicki Miller, City Clerk; Tom Briand, Inspector; James Elmore, Public Works Supervisor; Chief Chris McLean of the Police Department and Chief Clyde Miller of the Fire Department . Mayor Stewart stated a quorum was present and opened the meeting.

Council met in a pre-council meeting at 6:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. to discuss agenda items. Council went into executive session at 6:05 to discuss the good name and character of an employee. Council reconvened at 6:15 to continue the pre-council session.

Mayor Stewart presented the minutes of the regular meeting on October 18, 2011 for approval. Councilmember Monk made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Councilmember Black seconded the motion and it carried.

## **VISITORS**

1. *Marjorie Windham- Complaint about changes on 4<sup>th</sup> Street and signs.*

Ms. Windham came before Council to state that she is dissatisfied with the changes made to 4<sup>th</sup> street and the directional signs that were placed in front of Gulf Coast Opry. She stated that the Gulf Coast Opry has been renting that building from her and because of the changes in the road and the signs that were placed there, the Gulf Coast Opry has decided to relocate. Not only that, but the signs have devalued the property. Mayor Stewart stated that he has spoken with the owners of the Opry and they said the decision to move was a business decision and not just because of the change in the street. Mayor Stewart stated that the intent of the redirection of 4<sup>th</sup> Street was prompted by safety issues and the confusion of the street. Tom Briand also stated that he spoke with Mr. Walker, owner of the business, and he stated that the decision to move was not affected by the change in the street. They are moving to relocate to a larger building in the city. Mayor Stewart stated that the signs were placed there temporarily to allow citizens to get used to the change. Ms. Windham asked when the signs would be removed. Mayor Stewart stated that he has requested Police Chief McLean to review the situation and he is expecting to have a response soon. Councilmember Monk stated that the city needs to do whatever it takes to satisfy Ms. Windham. Mayor Stewart stated that the decision to change the road was done with no intent to harm Ms. Windham and the city would re-look at the situation.

2. *Ms. Mary Atchison- request to speak about the Mobile County Bicentennial Celebration.*

Ms. Atchison came before Council to give a report on the upcoming Bicentennial Celebration for Mobile County. She stated that there are several events which involve the city: 1) the celebration will begin December 17, 2011 at Bienville Square with a request that each municipality have representation; 2) the committee is working to have a time capsule built and is asking that each municipality come up with an item representing the city to place in the capsule; 3) the committee will be creating a calendar to spotlight each municipality in Mobile County. The calendar will have vintage pictures and she stated that the Library would be a good representation for the city. Mayor Stewart thanked Ms. Atchison for the report.

3. *Ms. Patricia Hicks- report from the School Board.*

Ms. Hicks approached council and gave a report on the status of the school board negotiations. She stated that the Mobile County School Board has been cooperative and the negotiating team will have another meeting on November 14<sup>th</sup>. She stated that they hope to be finished with the negotiations by the end of December. Once the negotiations are complete, then the board will need approval from the Department of Justice and State Board of Education.

4. *Mr. Mabien- Knights Drive.*

Mr. Mabien came before Council to get a status on the road situation. Mr. Mabien stated that he is paying taxes and not getting any benefits. Mayor Stewart asked Tom Briand to give a report on the progress. Mr. Briand stated that he has given all the information to the owners of the property, however he has not heard back from them. Mayor Stewart stated that the matter is complicated and assured Mr. Mabien that the city would look at the matter again.

## **REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEES**

### **Mayor's Report**

1. Mayor Stewart stated that he has received a request from a concerned citizen to review all the stop signs in the city. Mayor Stewart stated that he has asked Chief McLean to look at all the stop signs in the city and give him a report of his review.

### **Parks and Recreation:**

1. *Discussion of purchasing ad for Satsuma Yearbook.*

Councilmember Jackson made a motion to purchase a ½ page ad in the Satsuma Yearbook for \$160.00. Councilmember O'Gwynn seconded the motion and it carried.

2. *Approval to spend funds for a covered pavilion and gas grill at the community center.*

Councilmember Jackson stated that he has received a price of \$3000 from James Elmore to build a covered pavilion with a pole-mounted gas grill and four swings at the community center. With no comments or questions, he then made a motion to approve the expenditure not to exceed \$3000 for a covered pavilion, swings and a gas grill. Councilmember Monk seconded the motion and it carried.

3. Councilmember Jackson thanked James Elmore and the public works crew for the work on expanding the parking area at the community center.
4. Councilmember Jackson discussed hiring a horticulturist and building a green house to grow flowers to put throughout the city.

### **Administration and Finance:**

1. *Payment of the Bills presented.*

Councilmember O'Gwynn made a motion to pay the bills as presented. Councilmember Jackson seconded the motion and it carried.

### **Municipal Services:**

Councilmember Monk expressed condolences on behalf of the Mayor and Council to the families of Betty Burdett, Maureen Jackson, Brenda Vick, Margie Harris, and lastly Willard Black, the brother of Councilmember Bill Black.

### **Public Safety:**

1. *Fire and Police Report for October:*  
*Fire- 61 calls- 52 medical and 9 fire with a year to date total of 560 and an average response time of 4.1 minutes*  
*Police- 1856 assignments with 141 cases*

2. *Approval to purchase two new E-Ticket printers at approximately \$150.00 each.*

Councilmember Williams made motion to purchase the printers. Councilmember Monk seconded the motion and it carried.

3. *Approval to send Officer Troy Willcutt and Officer Chad Stephenson to E-Ticket training in Tuscaloosa on November 10, 2011.*

Councilmember Williams stated that there is not a charge for the class and the officers will use a city vehicle. With no comments or questions, Councilmember Williams made a motion to approve the training. Councilmember Monk seconded the motion and it carried.

4. *Approval to send Officers Troy Willcutt, Wayne Washington and Steve McCulland to Mobile Data Terminal (MDT) training at the University of South Alabama on December 6, 2011.*

Councilmember Williams stated that there is not a charge for the class and she made a motion to approve the attendance of the officers listed. Councilmember Monk seconded the motion and it carried.

5. *Approval to send Officers Troy Willcutt, Chad Stephenson and Steve McCulland to National Criminal Intelligence Center (NCIC) training on December 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> at University of South Alabama*

Councilmember Williams stated that there is not a charge for the class and she made a motion to approve the attendance of the officers listed. Councilmember Monk seconded the motion and it carried.

6. *Approval to send Deonna Commins to Computer Aid Dispatching (CAD) class on November 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>, 2011.*

Councilmember Williams asked Chief McLean to explain the class. Chief McLean stated that the purpose of the class was for the employee to learn the updates to the systems and he stated that there will not be a charge.

With no comments or questions, Councilmember Williams made a motion to approve Deonna Commins to attend the class. Councilmember Black seconded the motion and it carried.

7. *Approval to send Jackie Long to Computer Aid Dispatching (CAD) class on November 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>, 2011.*

*Councilmember Williams made a motion to approve sending Jackie Long to the class. Councilmember Black seconded the motion and it carried.*

8. *Discussion of purchasing a walk-through metal detector for city hall.*

*Councilmember Williams stated that the issue was tabled at the last meeting due to the absence of the Mayor and Councilmember Jackson. He stated that the issue was re-visited during pre-council and Chief McLean has stated that the detector will cost approximately \$3200 and can be set to varying degrees. Chief McLean stated that there is a need particularly during court. Councilmember O'Gwynn stated that she thinks having the device is being pro-active. With no further comments or questions, Councilmember Williams made a motion to purchase a walk-through metal detector for city hall at a cost of approximately \$3200.00. Councilmember O'Gwynn seconded the motion and it carried.*

9. *Approval to purchase two new vehicles off the state bid list with a price of \$43,930.00 for two Dodge Chargers and \$2798.00 for equipment to outfit the vehicles.*

Councilmember Williams stated that the two cars were budgeted for the FY2012 budget year for \$40,000, however the cost of the cars has increased. He stated that Chief McLean will make up the difference in another line item in his budget.

With no further comments or questions, Councilmember Williams made a motion to approve the purchase of two new Dodge Chargers at a cost of \$43,930.00 and the equipment to outfit the cars at \$2798.00. Councilmember Monk seconded the motion and it carried.

10. Discussion of obtaining items from the Military Surplus program.

Councilmember Williams asked Chief McLean to explain the program. Chief McLean stated that the program is for police departments only and that it is military surplus. He stated that the items are free and the only cost the city will incur is in making the arrangements to pick up the items.

Councilmember Williams reminded everyone of the Veterans' Day Parade and Memorial Service to be held on November 11, 2011. He stated that the parade will begin at the Gold Leaf Church of God and continue down Old Highway 43 to City Hall. Councilmember Williams stated that Mr. Nettles will be the Grand Marshal.

Councilmember Williams stated that the city will be hosting the Mobile County Municipal Association dinner at Steele Creek Lodge on November 17<sup>th</sup>. The fire department will once again be cooking and serving the food.

**Public Works:**

1. Councilmember Black reported that the John Deere Tractor that is used to cut grass has been put in the shop. He stated that James Elmore will report back with the cost to repair.

**RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES, ORDERS AND OTHER BUSINESS**

**None**

**Adjournment**

With no further business to discuss, Councilmember Monk made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember O'Gwynn seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:05 P.M.

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

/s/ Billy Jackson  
Councilmember Billy Jackson

/s/ Pam O'Gwynn  
Councilmember Pam O'Gwynn

/s/ Pratt Monk  
Councilmember Pratt Monk

/s/ Tom Williams  
Councilmember Tom Williams

/s/ Bill Black  
Councilmember Bill Black

ATTEST: /s/ Vicki Miller  
City Clerk