

MINUTES

February 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 February, 2011.

Councilmember O'Gwynn gave the invocation.

Councilmember Jackson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

On roll call the following answered present:

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

Absent: Pratt Monk

Mayor Stewart explained that Councilmember Monk is home sick.

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

Council met in a pre-council meeting at 6:00 P.M. Mayor Stewart discussed with Council agenda items.

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

VISITORS

On Agenda

1. Sonya Smith representing SHS Band came before Council to request usage of Steele Creek Lodge and the fee be waived for the end of year band banquet. She requested the date of May 19, 2011 which is a Thursday. Councilmember Jackson explained that the fee could be waived, however the cleaning fee of \$100.00 will still need to be paid.

Councilmember Jackson made a motion to grant the waiver of the rental fee but not the \$100.00 cleaning fee. Councilmember O'Gwynn seconded the motion and it carried.

2. Larry Landrum- not present.

Not On Agenda

1. J.R. Moody of 121 E. Orange Avenue came before Council to request the city vacate a 15' right of way behind his property. He presented Council a plat which showed the right of way only goes between lots 4, 5, 6, and 7 of Section 29 and which is approximately 239'. Jay Minus explained that if the right of way is vacated, then the 15' will be divided equally between the adjacent lot owners. Councilmember Williams questioned if the city could sell the right of way to Mr. Moody. Mayor Stewart requested that Jay Minus look into the matter and let the council know at the next meeting.

MAYOR'S REPORT

1. Mayor Stewart reported that at the last meeting Dr. Harvey presented the feasibility study for the new school system to the council and council voted to move forward by establishing a school board. He stated that according to the study, the city will need additional revenue by increasing the ad valorem tax by 7.5 mills. He stated that Jay Minus has prepared a resolution which authorizes the Mayor to give notice of a special election for a referendum on the question of an increase in ad valorem tax and proceeding with the advertising. Mayor Stewart stated the election will be set for April 12, 2011.

With no further discussions, Councilmember Williams made a motion to suspend the rules and put Resolution 2011-02-01 up for immediate adoption.

Councilmember Jackson seconded the motion and on roll call the following answered:

Councilmember Jackson	yes
Councilmember O’Gwynn	yes
Councilmember Williams	yes
Councilmember Black	yes
Mayor Stewart	yes

Mayor Stewart declared the motion passed unanimously.

Councilmember Williams made a motion to adopt Resolution 2011-02-01. Councilmember Jackson seconded the motion and it carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2011-02-01

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF SATSUMA, ALABAMA TO GIVE NOTICE OF A SPECIAL ELECTION FOR A REFERENDUM ON THE QUESTION OF AN INCREASE IN THE AD VALOREM TAX RATE FOR THE CITY OF SATSUMA, ALABAMA, TO BE USED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR THE SATSUMA SCHOOL SYSTEM

WHEREAS, on January 18, 2011, the City Council for the City of Satsuma, Alabama adopted Resolution No. 2011-01-04, a resolution establishing a school system for the City of Satsuma, Alabama, establishing a board of education, and providing for the appointment of members of the board of education; and

WHEREAS, the City of Satsuma obtained the services of Ira W. Harvey, consultant, for the purpose of creating a report regarding formation of an independent city school system. A Report on the Financial Feasibility to Form an Independent City School System for the Municipality of Satsuma, Alabama was released in January, 2011. The chief finding of the said report was that it is not financially feasible for the City of Satsuma to create an independent school system with current revenue levels, and in order to achieve a level of funding to implement an independent school system, an additional 7.5 mills of ad valorem taxes would be required; and

WHEREAS, Amendment No. 56 to the Constitution of the State of Alabama provides that a municipal corporation may levy an additional ad valorem tax rate in excess of 5 mills up to a maximum of 12.5 mills provided that the additional tax should be approved by a majority of qualified electors of the municipal corporation at an election called for that purpose; and

WHEREAS, Amendment No. 56 to the Constitution of the State of Alabama further provides that the additional ad valorem may be used for a specific purpose; and

WHEREAS, the City of Satsuma desires to set a special election for the purpose of asking the qualified electors of the City of Satsuma to approve an increase of 7.5 mills in the ad valorem tax rate to be collected for use by the Satsuma School System;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Satsuma, Alabama, while in regular session on February 1, 2011, as follows:

1. Section 1. That the Mayor of the City of Satsuma, Alabama, is authorized and directed

pursuant to §§ 11-46-22 and/or 11-81-53, Code of Alabama (1975), as amended, to give notice of a special election for the purpose of proposing the question of an increase in the annual ad valorem tax rate of \$0.75 on each one hundred dollars (equal to 7.5 mills on each dollar) of the assessed value of taxable property located within the city limits of Satsuma, Alabama, for use by and for the Satsuma Board of Education to establish and operate an independent Satsuma School System.

2. Section 2. That said special election shall be held on April 12, 2011.

3. Section 3. That the City of Satsuma will continue to communicate with the Mobile County Board of Education relative to the Satsuma School System.

4. Section 4. That this resolution shall become effective upon its adoption.

ADOPTED and APPROVED, this 1st day of February, 2011.

/s/ William F. Stewart, III
William F. Stewart, III, Mayor
City of Satsuma, Alabama ATTEST:

/s/ Vicki Miller
Vicki Miller, City Clerk

I, Vicki Miller, City Clerk of the City of Satsuma, Alabama, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of Resolution No. 2011-02-01_, which Resolution was duly and legally adopted at a regular meeting of the City Council on February 1, 2011.

/s/ Vicki Miller
Vicki Miller, City Clerk

2. Mayor Stewart stated that another resolution concerning the election officials also needed to be passed.

Councilmember O’Gwynn made a motion to suspend the rules and put Resolution 2011-02-02 up for immediate adoption. Councilmember Jackson seconded the motion and on roll call the following answered:

Councilmember Jackson	yes
Councilmember O’Gwynn	yes
Councilmember Williams	yes
Councilmember Black	yes
Mayor Stewart	yes

Mayor Stewart declared the motion passed unanimously.

Councilmember O’Gwynn made a motion to adopt Resolution 2011-02-02. Councilmember Jackson seconded the motion and it carried.

RESOLUTION 2011-02-02

WHEREAS, a special election has been called to be held on the 12th day of April, 2011, and

WHEREAS, Section 11-46-27 of the Alabama Code of 1975, as amended, provides, in part, that the municipal governing body, not less than 15 days before the holding of any municipal election, shall appoint from the qualified electors of the municipality, officers to hold the election as follows: where voting machines are used, an inspector, chief clerk and a first and second assistant clerk for each voting machine,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City of Satsuma Council of Satsuma, Alabama, that the election officers for said election shall be as follows:

Inspector
Chief Clerk (Provisional Ballots)
Assistant Clerks

Flora Goldman Reeves
Linda Robbins
Jonnie Locke
Carolyn Myers
Ruby Jackson
Ann Lister
Billy Reeves
Fletcher Sellers
Lena Warren
Gayle Wright

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

ATTEST: /s/ Vicki Miller
City Clerk

3. Mayor Stewart reported that the city received a Safe Route to School grant which is for sidewalks on Baker Road from the school to the interstate. He stated that due to the ditches on Baker Road, the sidewalk will be put outside the right of way and an easement is required from the landowners, Foundation North Mobile Retirement. He stated that the owner has requested a payment of \$2140.00 and the state is requiring a title search and certificate of title. The cost to do the title search is \$100 per hour. He stated that Resolution 2011-02-03 is a resolution authorizing payment for the easement and title search.

Councilmember Williams made a motion to suspend the rules and put Resolution 2011-02-03 up for immediate adoption. Councilmember O’Gwynn seconded the motion and on roll call the following answered:

Councilmember Jackson	yes
Councilmember O’Gwynn	yes
Councilmember Williams	yes
Councilmember Black	yes
Mayor Stewart	yes

Mayor Stewart declared the motion passed unanimously.

Councilmember Williams made a motion to adopt Resolution 2011-02-03. Councilmember O’Gwynn seconded the motion and it carried.

CITY OF SATSUMA

RESOLUTION NO: 2011-02-03

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SATSUMA, ALABAMA THAT THE CITY OF SATSUMA WHILE IN REGULAR SESSION ON February 1, 2011, as follows:

SECTION 1. WHEREAS, the City of Satsuma is the recipient of a Alabama Department of Transportation Grant Safe Routes to School Program, for a total amount of \$ 135,050.00 from the State of Alabama to construct a sidewalk on Baker Road between the schools and Interstate 65; and

SECTION 2. WHEREAS, the City has been required to obtain an easement from Foundation North Mobile Retirement LLC for property for the proposed sidewalk which lies outside the dedicated street right of way at a cost of \$2140.00; and

SECTION 3. WHEREAS, the City is also being required to provide a Certificate of Title on the said easement and has selected Cullen Duke as the Title Abstractor in order to determine that Foundation North Mobile Retirement is the rightful owner.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council that

1. The City agrees to pay Foundation North Mobile Retirement LLC. an amount of \$2,140.00 for the easement.
2. The City agrees to pay Cullen Duke \$100 per hour to search and submit a Certificate of Title on the easement.

CERTIFICATION

I, William F. Stewart III, Mayor, City of Satsuma, Alabama, hereby certify that the foregoing is true and correct copy of the Resolution passed on February 1, 2011.

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

ATTEST:

/s/ Vicki Miller
CITY CLERK

4. Mayor Stewart stated that the new community center/shelter has been completed and a small opening ceremony was held to allow the senior citizens to move in, however a community grand opening is planned for March 19. He stated that more information will follow.

REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEES

Parks and Recreation:

1. Councilmember Jackson reported that he has received a request for sponsorship from a team from Satsuma High School which will be participating in the annual chili cook off. He stated that this is the first time a high school has been invited to participate.

With no comments or questions, Councilmember Jackson made a motion to approve an expenditure of \$250.00 for advertising. Councilmember O'Gwynn seconded the motion and it carried.

Administration and Finance:

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

Municipal Services:**Public Safety:**

Councilmember Williams gave the January Police and Fire Reports as follows:

Fire: 56 total calls with 39 Medical/EMS and 11 fire related with a response

Police: 1796 Assignment with 221 cases.

Councilmember Williams stated that he has a request for the Fire Department to use the community center for a basic boating seminar hosted by the Alabama Marine Police on March 5th. The seminar will be geared for the fire department. He then made a motion to approve usage of the building for the event. Councilmember Jackson seconded the motion and it carried.

Councilmember Williams reported that Chief Benefield has requested the council approve Linda Henry, jailer/dispatcher, to attend an 80 hour Jail Management class hosted by the Mobile County Sheriff's Department at a cost of \$200.00. He stated that class will begin February 14, 2011.

Councilmember Williams then made a motion to approve the expenditure of \$200 for the management class for Linda Henry. Councilmember Jackson seconded the motion and it carried.

Public Works:

Councilmember Black stated that the council discussed some paving projects and new street signs in the pre-council. However, both matters need to be looked into further.

Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, Councilmember Black made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Williams seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:30 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