

MINUTES

April 19, 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 19th day of April, 2011.

Councilmember Jackson gave the invocation.

Councilmember Black 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

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 for pre-council at 6:00 P.M. and Mayor Stewart discussed with Council agenda items.

Mayor Stewart presented the minutes of the regular meeting on April 5, 2011 for approval. Councilmember Monk made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Councilmember O'Gwynn seconded the motion and it carried.

VISITORS

1. Fire Chief Clyde Miler came before Council to give a report on the Prom Promise held at Satsuma High School. He stated that several agencies participated including the Satsuma Police, Newman's Ambulance, Mobile County EMA and Pitts and Sons. He stated that the event depicted an accident with fatal injuries caused by drinking and driving presented to the Juniors and Seniors of Satsuma High School. This year the event also included a message on texting and driving. After the event, students signed a pledge promise not to drink and drive. Chief Miller thanked all the paid and volunteer fire fighters who participated.

2. Nathan Rogers came before Council to discuss the property on Tajuacha that he owned but was foreclosed on due to nonpayment of the sewer assessment. Mr. Rogers stated that he has been discussing with the City Attorney, Jay Minus, about purchasing two of the lots back from the city. He would like Lot 8 and Lot 26. Council inquired as to why he wanted just these two lots. Mr. Rogers explained that one of the lots will give him access to his property located behind the lot and the other has the potential of being developed. He stated that the access that he did have is being blocked by a pumping station.

Mayor Stewart asked Mr. Rogers to give Council time to process the request and he would be contacted with their decision.

MAYOR'S REPORT

1. Mayor Stewart asked Tom Briand to discuss the information he has on providing the residents on Woodard and Knights drive another access to their residence. Tom Briand stated that there were two options: 1) to follow a current 30' right of way which would have to be cleared and a road created which would give access to the back of their lots. 2) create an ingress and egress along the property line between the track of land owned by the Brewers and the current homeowners. In this case, the city would have to acquire the right of way from the property owners. After discussing the matter, council agreed that a survey and soil test would be required in order for the city to pursue the matter further. Council gave Tom Briand the authority to contact the city engineer and request them do a survey and give an estimated cost to do the project.

2. Mayor Stewart reported that the vote was held to increase the Ad Valorem tax by 7.5 mills on April 12, 2011. He stated that at a canvass meeting held at 12:00 noon, Council certified the results of the elections with 981 FOR and 600 AGAINST. Mayor Stewart stated that the city will begin accepting applications for school board members and continue until May 9, 2011. Mayor Stewart stated that part of the report recommended that the city would also have to increase the

sales tax. He stated that the other surrounding cities are at 10% and the city is at 9%, so most of the citizens are already paying the higher amount. Jay Minus was asked to move forward on creating an ordinance increasing the sales tax to 10%.

3. Mayor Stewart stated that he would like to recommend a 5% merit increase for Lisa Cooper, Cindy Ingram and Bridgett Nolan effective April 23, 2011.

Councilmember Williams made a motion to give Lisa Cooper a 5% special merit increase effective April 23, 2011. Councilmember Jackson seconded the motion and it carried.

Councilmember Williams made a motion to give Cindy Ingram a 5% special merit increase effective April 23, 2011. Councilmember Jackson seconded the motion and it carried.

Councilmember Monk made a motion to give Bridgett Nolan a 5% special merit increase effective April 23, 2011. Councilmember Williams seconded the motion and it carried.

REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEES

Parks and Recreation:

Councilmember Jackson reported that the softball tournaments held at Wright Park went well.

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:

Councilmember Monk expressed condolences on behalf of the Mayor and Council to the families in the deaths of Satsuma residents Willie Hartley and Quinton Wigler.

Councilmember Monk reported that there were some repair problems with the leaf vacuum and the public works employees were able to do all the labor and repair the piece of equipment.

Public Safety:

Councilmember Williams stated that with the consensus of Lisa Cooper, Court Magistrate, and Police Chief David Benefield, he would like to recommend increasing the community service fee from \$25.00 to \$50.00 effective August 1,

2011. He stated that the increase is needed to help offset the overtime required for supervision of the participants. With no further discussion, he then made a motion for the increase. Councilmember Monk seconded the motion and it carried.

Public Works:

Councilmember Black stated that he and Councilmember Monk attended the grand opening of a new business in the city called "Fashion Diva"

Councilmember Black reported that Alabama Power is sponsoring a river clean up day on April 28th and the public works department will be participating by helping off load the garbage from the boats.

Councilmember Black reported that the public works employees will be receiving training on the new stripping machine this Thursday.

RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES, ORDERS AND OTHER BUSINESS

1. Resolution 2011-04-02- A Resolution of the City of Satsuma to authorize a line of credit in the amount of \$500,000 from Regions Bank to provide additional revenue.

Councilmember Jackson made a motion to introduce Resolution 2011-04-02. Councilmember Williams seconded the motion and it carried. Councilmember O'Gwynn abstained due to conflict of interest since she is employed by Regions Bank.

2. Resolution 2011-04-05- A Resolution authorizing the participation in the Port Security Grant Program.

Councilmember Williams reported that he and Fire Chief Miller attended a meeting held by Spencer Collier of Homeland Security in which local entities were given information on the Port Security Grant Program and what is available through the grant. He stated that the funds can be used to aid in monitoring Steele Creek and associated waterways adjacent to the city with a fire boat, truck, trailer, and any items needed to supply the boat. He stated that, if approved, Cara Stallman, grant writer, will prepare the grant for a new 19' fire boat with Fire Pump and electronics, a trailer, and a Ford F250 Truck. The total of the grant is \$96,681.00 with the city having a 25% match of \$24,670.25.

With no questions or comments, Councilmember Williams made a motion to suspend the rules and put up Resolution 2011-04-05 up for immediate adoption. Councilmember Monk seconded the motion and on roll call the following answered:

Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, Councilmember Monk made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Williams seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 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