

MINUTES OF THE SELMA CITY COUNCIL  
JULY 9, 2007  
5:00 P.M.

Call to Order

Invocation: Reverend Daniel Martin, Pastor  
Bethel Church

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

The Selma City Council met in a regular session in the Council Chambers of City Hall on Monday, July 12, 2007 at 5:00 p.m. with the following members present during roll call: Council President George Evans and Council members Cecil Williamson, Reid Cain, Jean T. Martin, Geraldine Allen, Johnnie M. Leashore, and Councilman Randolph. Others present were Mayor James Perkins, Jr., City Clerk Lois Williams, Assistant City Clerk Ivy S. Harrison, City Attorney Jimmy Nunn, Mayor's Executive Assistant Darlene Rudolph and City Treasurer Cynthia Mitchell. Councilwoman Crenshaw and Councilwoman Venter were absent during roll call. Councilwoman Venter was absent due to medical leave. Councilwoman Crenshaw was out of town.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

President Evans asked for the approval of the agenda items. A motion was made by Councilman Cain, and seconded by Councilman Randolph, to approve the agenda with the addition of a liquor license application (Brothers Convenient Store). The motion carried with a unanimous (show of hands) vote of the Council members present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

After approval of the agenda, President Evans asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the June 25, 2007 regular meeting. A motion was made by Councilman Williamson, and seconded by Councilman Cain, to table the minutes until the next meeting. The motion carried with a majority (show of hands) vote of the Council members present. There were six ayes and one abstention. Councilman Leashore abstained from voting.

CITIZENS' REQUESTS

None

MAYOR'S REPORT

A. Environmental Court - Update. Mayor Perkins stated the staff met this morning and they are setting up another meeting on Monday, July 16<sup>th</sup>, at 9:00 a.m., and encourages members of the Council to come and hear the findings, and the information that each one of the departments have impacted what they have identified, and what they have come up with up to this point.

B. Financial Reports. Mayor Perkins asked Ms. Cynthia Mitchell to come forward and distribute the Financial Reports to the Council. Mayor Perkins stated the sales tax is up about \$40,000.00 from the prior year; the lodging tax is up, \$9,186.26, and the tobacco tax is up, \$5,592.05. Mayor Perkins further stated the restitution payment report is on the back, and that is something that has been asked about on many occasions, and it was added to the financial documentation, which will be made available to the Council each month so that you will have that information. Mayor Perkins stated the financial reports are looking favorable.

C. Wal-Mart - Re-Opening Ceremony. Mayor Perkins stated Wal-Mart Re-Opening Ceremony was a grand event, and he expressed appreciation to them for including the City of Selma, in the "Ribbon Cutting" festivities. Mayor Perkins further stated the Chamber and everyone participated, and it was a good event.

D. Condolences - Mr. Sanford E. Smith, Uncle of Mayor Perkins. Mayor Perkins stated he wanted to express to the City of Selma, citizens and to all, the appreciation from his family of kind expressions of condolences during the loss of his uncle, Mr. Sanford E. Smith. Mayor Perkins also acknowledged that he and President Evans attended the funeral services for Councilman Leashore's brother, Dr. Bogart Leashore, since last Council meeting.

E. Selection Process for the Search Firms for the Police Chief - Update. Mayor Perkins asked Ms. Valeria Jones to come forward and address the Council. Ms. Jones addressed the Council, as requested by the Mayor's office, she has gathered and spoken over the phone with several executive search firms that specialize in the placement of police chiefs, and in general, law enforcement. Ms. Jones further stated each of the four firms she has identified have requested to

submit proposals, with one still pending. Ms. Jones stated the firms are located in Washington, D.C., Florida, Norcross, GA, and in Atlanta, GA, and all will provide a full range of services, including background and reference checks, ranging from the beginning up to the time the acceptable candidate is appointed for that particular position. Ms. Jones further stated the professional fees range from \$14,000.00 up to \$40,000.00, minimum. Ms. Jones stated with regards to the salary range recommended, the salary ranges from \$65,000.00 up to \$85,000.00. Mayor Perkins stated he will be setting up interviews after they get the proposals back from these firms, and he invites the Council to sit in on the interviews, if they choose to witness the process.

F. **Fiscal Year 2007/2008 - Budget.** Mayor Perkins stated we are in the middle of the fiscal year 2007/2008 budget, and the department heads are anticipating having everything in to Ms. Cynthia Mitchell by end of day on Friday. Mayor Perkins further stated he will have the opportunity to go through the content and work with them individually the remainder of the week, and by the last Council meeting in this month we should have a draft budget ready for review by the Council.

G. **E-911 Tower - Update.** Mayor Perkins stated there is no update at this time.

H. **Administrative Committee - Discussion.** Councilman Leashore stated this subject is not new; it has been brought up before. Councilman Leashore further stated there was an instance where one of his colleagues asked another colleague a question about his affiliation with a neo-confederate group called the League of the South, and the colleague never responded. Councilman Leashore stated, however, the next day the colleague who the question was posed went on WAKA and blatantly disrespected the colleague that asked the question by calling her one of the most ignorant persons he has every encountered. Councilman Leashore stated, "Mr. President, it is a fact that the colleague that asked the question at some point in his life was a member of the League of the South and that the League for the South is a hate group and it has been depicted by the Poverty Law Center. Councilman Leashore stated, the information that was retrieved by the Poverty Law Center also indicated an article that one of the colleagues and if "I may be permitted to read some excerpts from it . . ." "As a member of the Dallas County Board of Education I attended the Convention of the National Association of School Boards in San Francisco in April of 1999 and there were more than 8000 school board members present representing every state; there are now Hispanic Americans, African-Americans, Asian-Americans, native and every other kind of American . . ." Councilman Williamson interjected and asked if this was a part of the Mayor's report? President Evans stated if the Mayor wanted to make this a part of his report it would be acknowledged; otherwise, it would be a business item that the Council would come to. Councilman Leashore stated he respectfully requested Mayor Perkins to make this a part of his report. Mayor Perkins stated he does not have a problem with that. Councilman Leashore continued and stated . . . "the masses now worship at the feet to false gods diversity. In this same article, it states in 1998, he served on the State Textbook Committee to select textbooks in the State of Alabama in the areas of Social Studies, Arts and Foreign Languages". He further states, "I assure you that under the guise of the culturally devised agenda, intellectual and literal goals are being replaced by social and political goals; efforts to incorporate more ethically varied reasoning into textbooks go to raise minority student's self-esteem has systematically "dumb-down" the African-American educational system". Councilman Leashore stated, "Mr. President, I think the Chairman of the Administrative Committee who selects school board members should not be Cecil Williamson because of his racial rhetoric and therefore because of his stance on the education of our children; this very important and sensitive committee should not be chaired by a person of his caliber and I respectfully request you, Mr. President to remove Councilman Williamson as Chairman of the Administrative Committee". Mayor Perkins stated the question he'd like to ask is, to Councilman Williamson, "Is this your writing?" Councilman Williamson did not respond. Mayor Perkins stated the effects to what he thought he heard was . . . "incorporates more ethically varied reading into the books to raise minority student's self-esteem". Mayor Perkins further stated, he interpreted that to mean in an effort to make the textbooks more inclusive to raise the minority student's self-esteem, that that has systematically "dumb-down" the American Education system and that is how he interpreted that. Councilman Leashore stated he thinks he interpreted correct "Mr. Mayor, there is nothing wrong with diversity - this is something that all of us should be embracing; however, there are those amongst us who will not ever embrace it". Mayor Perkins stated, he would like to make a suggestion . . . "I'd like to ask if Councilman would be willing to have a meeting with Councilman Leashore, President Evans and myself, because this has come up before, to have a discussion about it so that we can put this to "bed or whatever", if the Councilman is willing to meet. President Evans stated this has come up before and he thinks the minutes will reflect that. President Evans further stated Councilman Leashore read it at one of "our" meetings before, and he didn't interpret it the same way, as being a put-down but more of a challenge; a challenge to educational system so that it wouldn't be a "dumb-down" effect. President Evans stated, if he misread that, that's what he misread but that's what he interpreted

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

the last time he saw it and he doesn't agree with racial groups and racism at all; and I didn't want to continue to try and answer for Councilman Williamson; he's a man and he'll stand for whatever he feels he needs to stand for - I'll be happy to meet if Councilman Williamson wants to but I do not plan to remove Councilman Williamson from the Administrative Committee based on this because I don't think there's a need for it - he has not demonstrated to me anything that violates the committee chairperson position that he serves in but I do understand the consequences of anything like that - that's my stand. I'll be happy to meet Mayor." Councilman Leashore stated to President Evans . . . "this entire article if you read the entire article, maybe perhaps you'll have a different opinion - this entire article which is entitled, "The Real Reason Our Heritage is Attacked" is "plagued" with racism, racial bigotry; it's just saturated with down-right hatred of people of color." Councilman Leashore further stated, "Mr. President, if you read this article I think you'll have a different opinion about this particular paragraph that was read. Mr. President, once again, I've asked this Council to censor Mr. Williamson for his blatant disrespect to Councilwoman Venter for going on public television, accusing her of being one of the most ignorant persons that he has encountered simply because she asked him the question and it is a fact that he is, or was, a member of the League of the South which is portrayed as a hate group by the Poverty Law Center; that is a fact, and that is an undisputed fact". President Evans thanked Councilman Leashore, stating "we have been down this road on this particular matter, and Councilman Williamson did say in one of the meetings that he was not a member; he didn't say whether he'd been a member; he just said he was not a member at this time and certainly any other information pertaining to that, he can stand for on that. President Evans stated I do not agree with anybody calling anybody ignorant. President Evans further stated he does recall that statement being made, and in talking with Councilman Williamson he clarified that to him. President Evans stated he asked the question, "what did you mean by calling another Council person ignorant, and he said to me, and I think he can say to each of you, he did not necessarily call her ignorant; he called her ignorant of the fact about his involvement in that group; not an ignorant person in terms of intellect; ignorant in terms of her information about the group. President Evans further stated if he has misquoted anything he can rebut or answer for it but that's the information he received and he doesn't know what a person's heart is, but that's not his place to judge anyone here tonight or anytime in the future. President Evans stated to Councilman Williamson, "I think I have tried to answer based upon my dialogue with you as it pertains to this, but if you want to add to this, that's certainly available to you". Mayor Perkins stated the only thing he can add is that, "Councilman Williamson will tell you that he has not approached me about any requests and I have not respectfully responded and I'm willing to continue in that same spirit". Mayor Perkins further stated, "I think Mr. Evans, you have approached me about meeting with you and Mr. Cain; we were able to sit down and have a civil discussion in working it out. I think this issue keeps coming up and the same protocol would perhaps work. Mayor Perkins stated Councilman Williamson can explain to everyone what he meant in his article, or maybe whether he even wrote it -he hasn't said whether he wrote it or not - I don't know but what would be my input if we're going to be consistent let's go ahead and deal with this and just move on. President Evans thanked Mayor Perkins and Councilman Leashore for participation in this matter, and stated they will take it to the next level, provided Councilman Williamson chooses to.

I. **Request for Information - Accounts Payable - Meeting.** Councilman Cain stated a meeting was held between Mayor Perkins, City Treasurer Mitchell, President Evans, and himself. Councilman Cain further stated he got a basic overview of the accounts payable that he was concerned about, in terms of what the auditors had presented to them and the highlighted areas. Councilman Cain stated it was a good meeting, and he appreciates Ms. Mitchell's time, and that she did a very thorough job in explaining the report. Mayor Perkins stated to Council that in the Financial Report that they have, it reflects that the City should be at 75% of our projected expenditures for the year, and that is where we are this fiscal year, and we are consistent with our budgeted projections for this year.

J. **Noise Ordinance.** A lengthy discussion took place as it relates to this item. During discussion, President Evans asked Mayor Perkins if he was aware of a situation where anyone has been given permission to have noise in a community or neighborhood, which violates the ordinance we have in place? President Evans yielded to Councilwoman Allen for a question she has. Councilwoman Allen asked if there was something in place that regulates the decibel amount of volume during home parties? Mayor Perkins stated the answer to both of their questions, to his knowledge, was no. Mayor Perkins further stated no one has the authority to supersede an ordinance, but the Council, unless it is state or federal law. Mayor Perkins stated he has not issued directives, verbal or otherwise, that would be contrary to an ordinance. Mayor Perkins stated that he thinks this conversation is giving the men and women of the Police Department a bad "rap" because what "you're basically saying is that they're not doing the jobs and I don't agree with that". Mayor Perkins further stated "anytime they witness a noise violation, I think they do their jobs; I have not witnessed otherwise so I won't condone any statements saying

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they're not. At the same time, I still say as we deal with this situation that you have to give the citizens their due process - I think when a person is caught, I think they write the citation, and whatever they need to do with those individuals. I believe they're doing that, and I think to say anything other than that, unless you have first-hand knowledge, is providing a disservice to the officers". Mayor Perkins stated the other thing that he would like to remind the Council is that we gave up the 900 Response Center; the City of Selma and the Selma Police Department have nothing to do with the 911 Call Center. Mayor Perkins further stated if they identify the specific day and time that a call was made to that Center and reported noise and an officer did not show up, he can follow up with those facts to determine what happened. Mayor Perkins stated he does not agree with this "tone. Councilwoman Allen stated, "Mr. President, I am going to have to state that I did not say several officers; I witnessed one time that it has occurred, and that was witnessed by me so that is not a lie, but I will say that I do support police officers". Councilwoman Allen further stated she did witness such an occurrence and she is going to tell the truth; she is not trying to set a "tone" against our police officers because we need them for security but is asking citizens to keep a record so that they can investigate. Councilwoman Allen stated she is not condoning all the officers but "I did witness one incident, Mr. President". President Evans stated he thinks all of them are getting calls and he is trying to work with them as best he can. President Evans further stated since there is such a miscommunication of what is happening he encourages citizens to keep a record of the details of their calls and pass this along to Mayor Perkins and the Police Chief. President Evans stated, for the record, this is not a put-down on the officers at all. Councilman Williamson stated he concurs with what has been said, to document those calls and get the information to the Mayor, the time they called, the date, and to whom they spoke with at the Dispatch Office. Mayor Perkins stated his point is that in this discussion until he made his statement the "tone" was that the Police Department was not doing its job, and that's what he spoke to, that the Police Department was not doing its job, not writing citations, and if anyone was offended by it personally, he apologizes for any personal offense made but he stands by what he said. Councilman Cain stated there are dead zones in our City that officers cannot communicate from and that is why we need to move forward on getting our equipment onto that Tower so that they can communicate and have a more efficient communication system. President Evans stated they have thoroughly addressed the noise situation in our City, and that he thanks everyone for their thoughts, as well as, the Mayor sharing his points on this matter, and hopefully it will improve the circumstances.

**CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

A. **Ordinance #O118-06/07 - Abatement of Weeds in the City of Selma.** Attorney Nunn stated this is an ordinance that was placed on 1<sup>st</sup> Reading at the last Council meeting, and Council favorable consideration for approval of the same. A motion was made by Councilman Leashore, and seconded by Councilwoman Martin, to approve Ordinance #O118-06/07. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council members present. President Evans stated, for the record, Councilwoman Crenshaw and Councilwoman Venter were both absent for a vote from this particular meeting.

B. **Noise Ordinance.** Attorney Nunn stated to Council that they are receiving a copy of the Noise Ordinance, Amending Ordinance Number COS 21-01/02, as it relates to excessive and loud noise. Attorney Nunn further stated there was a question as it relates to a resident having a party at the house, playing the radio, and whether or not it could be controlled. Attorney Nunn stated this is the ordinance as it looks now, and if they look, the "A. Section" deals with anyone driving a vehicle and the music can be heard within 5 feet from a motor vehicle, or 10 feet in case of a pedestrian, and the "B. Section" deals with a business or a residence. President Evans asked Council to review, and bring back to the next Council meeting for discussion and any changes, and to refer any legal questions about it to Attorney Nunn in case he needs to research prior to the next Council meeting.

C. **Ordinance #O121-06/07 - Amending Ordinance #COS 21-01/02.** Attorney Nunn stated Council should have received Ordinance #O121-06/07, as it relates to the noise ordinance. Attorney Nunn stated if Council recalls, during last Council meeting a vote was taken to proceed to revise the ordinance, and bring it before the Council at the next meeting, to add tent revivals. Attorney Nunn further stated nothing in "Section A." shall be construed to prohibit special performances by a band or orchestra in a hall, building or in the open air and church tent revivals after proper permits have been obtained from the Chief of Police. Attorney Nunn stated "Section B." was increase the penalty up to \$250.00, and "Section C." was added authorizing the Chief of Police shall review and research all permit requests and shall at his or her discretion have the authority to grant or deny said permit. Attorney Nunn asks Council favorable consideration to approve to place Ordinance #O121-06/07 to be placed on 1<sup>st</sup> Reading. A motion was made by Councilwoman Martin, and seconded Councilwoman Allen, to place said Ordinance on 1<sup>st</sup>

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Reading, to be kept on 1<sup>st</sup> Reading until such time Council is ready to proceed. The motion carried with a unanimous (show of hands) vote of the Council members present.

- D. **Resolution #R226-06/07 - Michael Perry - Retirement and Possession of Weapon and Badge.** Attorney Nunn stated Resolution #R226-06/07 Captain Michael Perry who served as an officer of the Selma Police Department for 25 years, and that he retired, in good standing, in November, 2006. Attorney Nunn further stated Captain Perry desires to retire his weapon, and retain possession of his weapon and badge upon his retirement, and asks Council to take some action on this matter. A motion was made by Councilman Leashore, and seconded by Councilman Randolph, to approve said Resolution #R226/06/07. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council members present. President Evans stated to Mayor Perkins and the Council that he wanted to acknowledge and congratulate Captain Perry for the 25 years he gave our City as an Officer, and further stated to Captain Perry that we do appreciate what he has done in serving our City.
- E. **Letter Dated July 9, 2007 - Councilman Cecil Williamson - Request for Definition of a Certified Police Officer.** Attorney Nunn stated Councilman Williamson had requested he research the legal definition of "certified" as it pertains to a Selma Police Officer, and the requirements thereof. Attorney Nunn read his response to Councilman Williamson's inquiry in its entirety (copy attached).
- F. **Memorandum of Agreement - City of Selma and Pride of Alabama Elks Lounge Liquor.** Attorney Nunn stated there was a concert at the Elks Lodge and they requested to use the All-Lock Facility Parking Lot to park vehicles. Attorney Nunn further stated we entered into a Memorandum of Agreement in the event something would have happened that night, to indemnify us from any liability. Attorney Nunn asks the Council favorable consideration to ratify and affirm what was done with that Agreement. A motion was made by Councilman Leashore, and seconded by Councilman Randolph, to approve said Memorandum of Agreement. The motion carried with a unanimous (show of hands) vote of the Council members present. During discussion, Attorney Nunn stated the City did not receive ample notice. Mayor Perkins stated, for the record, that there was nothing censored about this transaction.
- G. **Section 11-43-45, Code of Alabama and Selective Readings, Page 51.** Attorney Nunn stated to Council that they should have before them copies of Section 11-43-45, Code of Alabama, and Selective Readings, Page 51. Attorney Nunn further stated a question was asked he thinks by Councilman Leashore as it relates to voting on appointed individuals from the Selma City Council, whether or not it had to be a vote by hand or voice. Councilman Leashore interjected with a correction, stating "emphatically, it was a law required by voice when it came down to officers". Attorney Nunn stated the Council asked him to research, and he did research it, and Section 11-43-45 of the Code of Alabama states, that the name of each member and for whom he voted for shall be recorded, and further stated on page 51 of Selective Readings, "Particular care should be taken by the Council to see that the vote of the Council is polled by the Clerk for the election officers and for the passage of ordinances and resolutions of a permanent nature; in such cases, the vote of each member should be recorded". Attorney Nunn further stated to Council he thought someone on the Council had made this request, and they do have it before them. Councilman Williamson stated to Council that he would write a letter to our City Attorney, requesting him to research this matter as to whether or not a roll call vote was required on appointments that have already been made.
- H. **License Application - Bobby Wilkerson, (Brothers Convenient Store), 906 Washington Street.** Attorney Nunn stated Brothers Convenient Store liquor license application was approved at the reconvened Council meeting on June 29<sup>th</sup>, pending no objections to come forward from the public. A motion was made by Councilman Leashore, and seconded by Councilman Randolph, to approve the said liquor license. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a majority vote of the Council present. There were six ayes and one nay vote. Councilman Williamson cast a nay vote.
- I. **License Application - Red Room, LLC, 111 U.S. Highway 80, East.** Attorney Nunn stated he asks Council favorable consideration to place liquor license application for Red Room, LLC on 1<sup>st</sup> Reading. A motion was made by Councilman Leashore, and seconded by Councilman Randolph, to place the said liquor license on 1<sup>st</sup> Reading. The motion passed with a unanimous (show of hands) of the Council present.
- J. **City of Prichard - Rental Homes and Apartments - Attorney General's Opinion.** Attorney Nunn stated during the last Council meeting they discussed the City of Prichard, Alabama, concerning apartments and rental homes within municipalities where the City of Prichard asked whether or not they could go inside of rental homes and apartments for

inspections. Attorney Nunn further stated he had received from the Attorney General's office, which was passed out to the Council. Attorney Nunn read the ruling, which states, "Municipalities have the authority to impose an ordinance requiring the annual inspection of apartments, and rental houses for the purpose of ensuring compliance with the local building code. (Copy Attached.) Attorney Nunn stated, per the Council, he will proceed to look into it in more detail to see what needs to be done to get a similar ordinance here in the City of Selma. President Evans thanked Attorney Nunn for gathering this information, and asked Council to read and review, and come back with it before the next Council meeting for discussion.

**K. St. James Hotel - Spreadsheet - Daily Operations - Update.** Attorney Nunn stated to Council that they should have before them a spreadsheet of the Daily Operations of the St. James Hotel from June 26<sup>th</sup> through July 8<sup>th</sup>; the overall total revenue is \$32,985.40, which is showing a cash flow as of date.

**L. St. James Hotel - Gourmet Services, Incorporated - Letter.** Attorney Nunn stated the Council should have a copy of a letter he received from Gourmet Services, Incorporated, and that they are not ready to enter into a lease agreement with the City of Selma, but are prepared to enter a management agreement on last week. Attorney Nunn further stated his office still attempted to prepare the lease agreement, and the intent was for the management letter to be similar to a lease agreement and roll over into a lease agreement in 60 days. Attorney Nunn stated we did not receive the management letter until about 3:00 p.m. today, and they are still working on that lease agreement. Attorney Nunn further stated he is not asking the Council to enter into a management agreement, and still want to proceed with the lease agreement, which was agreed upon initially. Attorney Nunn stated they are approximately 60% complete on the lease agreement, and will begin to communicate with the attorneys on the lease agreement. Attorney Nunn asks Council favorable consideration to keep the management group that we had, and to extend for approximately 2 weeks, so that they can continue until we can get the lease agreement approved and passed by the Council. A motion was made by Councilman Leashore, and seconded by Councilwoman Martin, to approve the extension of two weeks to allow the current management team to remain until the Lease Agreement is completed, signed and executed. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council members present.

**BUSINESS ITEMS:**

**I. SELMA & DALLAS COUNTY BOARD OF EQUALIZATION BOARD APPOINTMENTS**

Names and Nominees for Appointments are: (1) Mr. Leonard Ingram, (2) Mr. Gary Morgan, and (3) Mr. Jimmie Coleman. A motion was made by Councilman Leashore, and seconded by Councilman Randolph, to do a roll call vote as to the three names listed; namely, Mr. Leonard Ingram, Mr. Gary Morgan, and Mr. Jimmie Coleman, to be appointed to the Equalization Board, for a term of six (6) years. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council members present.

**II. CRAIG FIELD INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD APPOINTMENT**

Councilman Cain stated, for the record, congratulations to Mr. Buddy Perkins in his new appointment as our new member of the Craig Field Industrial Development Board Appointment. Council concurs. President Evans stated they want to at this time extend a "Thank You" for serving to Mr. Johnny Brown who served in this capacity for 15 or more years, and currently serve as Chairman. Council concurs.

**III. DATE SELMA WATER WORKS & SEWER BOARD CHAIRMAN SALARY TO TAKE EFFECT**

Councilman Williamson stated when he voted that day, he thought the Board Chairman salary would take effect immediately. Councilman Cain stated his "second" was for it to take effect immediately as well. Councilman Williamson further stated he wants to know what the Council's intent was when they voted on the 14<sup>th</sup>. Councilman Randolph asks President Evans, "what does the law state"? Councilman Randolph stated, a board member salary cannot be changed until his time is up; so, this should not affect Councilman Leashore. President Evans stated he believed that when they voted that night they all had the understanding that they were within the law to set that salary at that time which makes it current, and later finding out that they possibly had violated the law in terms of doing so based upon the report that came to them from Attorney Nunn, which would alter what they did, but he voted thinking it would go into effect the next day. Councilwoman Allen stated her intent for her vote for the salary was in accordance with

**BUSINESS ITEMS:**

the law; whatever the law is, is what she votes by. Councilman Williamson stated they were going to take to this Court and he really wanted to know what their intent was about the salary because the salaries have never been set; he cannot find anywhere in the minutes where the Council ever approved \$25,000 for the chairman, regardless of who it was. Councilman Williamson further stated he would like to ask the Court for Declaratory Judgment to clarify what the law is. Councilman Leashore stated, for the record, whenever that vote was taken, the record reflects that he abstained. Councilman Leashore further stated, for the record, that he welcomes his colleague to go to the courts because this is a matter he did not and had no part of; this is something that he inherited so he has no problem with him pursuing that. Councilman Leashore states he is going to abide by whatever the law says.

**IV. REPAIRS TO POLICE DEPARTMENT BUILDING**

Councilman Cain had some questions as it relates to the repairs that have been made to the Police Department Building. President Evans stated he would ask Mayor Perkins to give an update at the next Council meeting as it relates to this item.

**V. UPCOMING CITY GOVERNMENT MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES**

Councilman Leashore stated that the Council received information about a NLC conference to be held in New Orleans, in November of this year. President Evans encouraged Council who are interested in attending to proceed with making reservations. Councilman Leashore stated to President Evans that he would like to make an appeal to all of his colleagues to attend this conference, not only because of the valuable information that they would receive, but because of the citizens of New Orleans, and the things that they have been affected by with Hurricane Katrina.

**VI. RESOLUTION ON BEHALF OF THE LATE MR. SANFORD E. SMITH**

President Evans stated he has a resolution on behalf of the Late Mr. Sanford E. Smith, which Councilwoman Crenshaw had prepared and asks that the Council sign off on. President Evans stated he would pass around for signatures of the Council members who are present, if the Council chooses to do so.

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**RECREATION COMMITTEE - Councilman Leashore, Chairperson**

No Report.

**ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE - Councilman Dr. Cecil Williamson, Chairperson**

No Report

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE - Councilwoman Dr. Geraldine Allen, Chairperson**

No Report.

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE - Councilwoman Bennie Ruth Crenshaw, Chairperson**

No Report.

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE - Councilwoman Venter, Chairperson**

No Report.

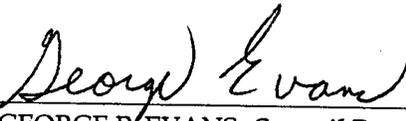
**DISCRETIONARY FUNDS COMMITTEE - President Evans, Chairperson**

No Report.

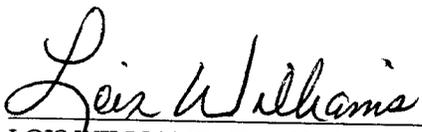
**CLOSING REMARKS BY EACH COUNCIL MEMBER.**

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SELMA CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
JULY 9, 2007  
5:00 P.M.  
ADJOURNMENT

Following discussion of the above, a motion was made by Councilman Leashore, and seconded by Councilman Randolph, to adjourn, and by unanimous consent of the Council, this meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

  
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GEORGE P. EVANS, *Council President*

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
LOIS WILLIAMS, *City Clerk*

APPROVED:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JAMES PERKINS, JR., *Mayor*