

**MINUTES OF THE
SELMA CITY COUNCIL
FEBRUARY 10, 2009
5:00 P.M.**

Call to Order

Invocation: Reverend Winston Williams, Pastor
Rose Chapel Church

Pledge of Allegiance

The Selma City Council met in a regular session in the Council Chambers of City Hall on Monday, February 10, 2009 at 5:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The following members were present during roll call: Council President Dr. Geraldine Allen and Council members Dr. Cecil Williamson, Susan Keith, Dr. Monica Newton, Angela Benjamin, Benny L. Tucker, Bennie R. Crenshaw and Corey Bowie. Others present were Mayor George Evans, City Clerk Ivy S. Harrison, City Attorney Jimmy Nunn, City Treasurer Cynthia Mitchell and the Mayor's Executive Assistant Brenda Smothers. Councilman Randolph was absent during roll call, but arrived at 6:13 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

President Allen asked for the approval of the agenda items. A motion was made by Councilman Bowie, and seconded by Councilman Tucker, to approve the agenda items as written. **The motion carried with a unanimous (show of hands) vote of the Council members present.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

After approval of the agenda, President Allen asked for the approval of the minutes of January 27, 2009 regular meeting minutes. A motion was made by Councilman Bowie, and seconded by Councilman Tucker, to approve the minutes of January 27, 2009. **The motion carried with a unanimous (show of hands) vote of the Council members present.**

CITIZEN'S REQUEST

Reverend Jim Johnson, Associate Pastor

Re: Gateway Baptist Church; "Walk-To-Calvary"

Reverend Johnson stated he and the Church request the Council to approve the "Walk-To-Calvary" which they do every year. Reverend Johnson stated the Celebration begins on Thursday, April 9, 2009, at 7:00 p.m., at the Songs of Selma Park, for the Last Supper and Arrest of Jesus Christ; on Good Friday, April 10th, they will be on the steps of City Hall, to have the Trial, and then they will walk down Highway 22 to Valley Creek Park where the Crucifixion is Re-Enacted, and on Sunday, April 12th, at 6:00 a.m., a Sunrise Service will be at Valley Creek Park, to celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Reverend Johnson invited the Mayor and Council, along with the Community and everyone else to come out and help with the Re-Enactment. A motion was made by Councilwoman Crenshaw, and seconded by Councilman Williamson, to grant Gateway Baptist Church the request and permit for the "Walk-To-Calvary" March, beginning on Thursday, April 9, 2009 and Good Friday, April 10, 2009, and ending on Sunday, April 12, 2009, with the Sunrise Service. **A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council members present.**

MAYOR'S REPORT

A. Stimulus Package. Mayor Evans stated he gave to each of the Council members present at the Work Session a copy of the Stimulus Package of the meeting attended on last Friday. Mayor Evans further stated there were many Mayors and individuals present at that meeting, who were trying to see how much money was available to the Blackbelt that our President is proposing in the Stimulus Package for Selma and other cities in the Blackbelt. Mayor Evans stated in that Stimulus Package there was no decision reached at that meeting, but mainly discussion as to the outcome of that Package, and how effective it would be.

B. Proposed Signage - "Gateway to Selma". Mayor Evans stated to Council that on last night he shared with them the possibility of a new sign for our City, as we come into Selma. Mayor Evans further stated right now, at the foot of the Edmund Pettus Bridge, it would just be one for the purpose that we could welcome individuals or Tourism into the City of Selma. Mayor Evans stated it is a "work in progress" which basically says "Welcome to Some Place Special - Selma", and wanted to get input/feedback from the Council as to whether or not this is something that they would like. Mayor Evans further stated he had been meeting with a committee for about two months, trying to come up with ideas as to what they can do to change our

image and perception, and the possibility of the "Gateway to Selma" being a new logo for the City. Mayor Evans stated it is his hope that the sign can be up in time for Jubilee, and any feedback from the Council and Citizens will be appreciated. Mayor Evans stated the cost of the proposed sign is about \$4,000.00, and will be funded through private donors and Tourism. During discussion, President Allen stated she would like to ask Mayor Evans, as done before with their Sub-Committees, to allow the Sub-Committee plus any individuals that he wants to have on that Sub-Committee, to meet together and maybe come up with ideas. President Allen also asked Mayor Evans if he would give them a list of names of who he would like to be on that committee. Mrs. Patti Sexton came forward and asked if she could address the Council, stating that they are on a deadline, trying to get the sign up for Jubilee which is only about 2½ weeks away. Mrs. Sexton further stated that the committee who has taken the initiative with the sign idea, is made up of members of Leadership Selma, and they are also going to help pay for it, and asked if they could at least move forward with getting the "Some Place Special" sign up, so as to at least have it up in time for Jubilee, and come back with any changes after that? President Allen stated she thinks the committee can meet quickly enough, and it should not take long for them, and Councilwoman Benjamin, as Chairperson of that Committee, stated that they could meet almost immediately, to try and have a decision made in time for the Jubilee. President Allen asked Councilwoman Benjamin if she could find out tonight and inform the Council as to when her Committee could meet.

C. **Resolution #R183-08/09 – Wiregrass Archaeological Consulting, LLC.** Mayor Evans stated to Council that Resolution #R183-08/09 was discussed at last night's Work Session, and that said Resolution #R183-08/09 represents an agreement with Wiregrass Archaeological Consulting, LLC, to perform professional archaeological services on the site of the Riverfront Development Project. Mayor Evans asked Council's favorable consideration of the same in the amount of \$7,230.00, to be expended via Account #1.6000 6800-12, with the understanding that the City will be reimbursed of said amount by the Alabama Department of Transportation. A motion was made by Councilman Tucker, and seconded by Councilwoman Newton, to approve Resolution #R183-08/09 in the amount of \$7,230.00. **A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council members present.**

D. **Mayor's Charity Ball.** Mayor Evans stated he had met with the Red Cross Committee, Ms. Jackie Caldwell, Chairperson, about the possibility of doing a Mayor's Charity Ball for the purpose of raising funds for those agencies that need financial help in our City. Mayor Evans further stated to Council that he had forwarded each of them an Invitation to the Mayor's Charity Ball, which will be on next Tuesday, February 17th, from 7:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m., at the former Goody's Building in the Selma Mall. Mayor Evans stated that there will be an Orchestra playing music, and that they may dance if they choose to, along with a wonderful menu planned for the food. Mayor Evans further stated he would love for all Citizens, and anyone else who would like to attend, to please make plans to attend. Mayor Evans further stated the ticket amounts are as follow: \$50.00 for Singles, and \$75.00 for Couples, and that this year all of the funds raised from the event will go towards the American Red Cross. Mayor Evans stated to Council that they should already have their information and encourages them, and the public to attend. Mayor Evans further stated if any additional information is needed, to please feel free to contact his office. Mayor Evans stated again, everybody is invited!

E. **Riverboat Inaugural Cruise.** Mayor Evans stated he also spoke to the Council at the Work Session last night about an invitation to the Inaugural Riverboat Cruise on Friday, February 13th at 2:00 p.m., for Council Members and their Guests. Mayor Evans further stated the Council approved the Riverboat from the Gentleman who came some months ago. Mayor Evans stated the Riverboat is here and prepared to serve our Citizens, and hopefully will be bringing in more revenue into our City. Mayor Evans stated he thinks this will be an entertaining event for the Council.

F. **Police Department Report.** Mayor Evans stated to Council that they should have before them a copy of the Police Department Report, which gives all of the incidents reports by Wards, along with a copy of the Loud Noise Complaints. Mayor Evans stated these reports were prepared by Chief of Police Riley and his Staff, for the month of January, 2009. Councilman Williamson stated he believes this is unacceptable, that there was only one loud noise citation issued in the whole City by the whole Department for the month of January. Mayor Evans stated that there is no doubt that our citizens have been constantly talking about loud noise in all of the Wards, and he is not sure what the rationale is but that he will get with Chief Riley on tomorrow for an explanation. Councilman Bowie stated he did talk with Chief Riley who informed him that he was going to be doing a Public Service Announcement, and also going through each Ward with unmarked cars. President Allen stated the citations do need to occur, and Mayor Evans stated to President Allen that he agrees "100%", and thanked Councilman Bowie for making that report, and will follow-up on that as well.

G. **Monthly Financial Report.** Mayor Evans stated to Council that they should each have a copy of the Monthly Financial Report that Ms. Mitchell has provided them with. Mayor Evans further stated that from the report it shows a reflection of the variance as to the difference, and as can be seen, things are declining, and he is sure it is because of the economy as it relates to the "down flow" of our cash.

H. Brownfield Assessment Grant – Expenditure & Revenue Account. Mayor Evans stated he thinks this came up last night after he had left, but he does have a copy of the information he thinks they asked for last night. Mayor Evans further stated he has not had a chance to read over it because he had just gotten it today, and perhaps they have not either, but that it was prepared for them to review and discuss at some point later. Councilman Williamson thanked Mayor Evans for providing this information for them, and asked the question, of whether Mrs. Love is being paid through this particular grant, and if all of the money the City is paying her, through this grant? Mayor Evans answered and stated, that it is and that Ms. Love does not receive any funds through the City, and that the percentage that she gets is through grant writing. Ms. Cynthia Mitchell came forward to further address the Council on this issue, and stated that a check is written to Mrs. Love out of the General Fund, and then the General Fund is reimbursed by Brownfield.

I. Jubilee. Mayor Evans stated to Council that as they know Jubilee will be coming up the first weekend in March, and he as Mayor, met with the Committee some months ago, and stated that the City would be a Co-Sponsor in the Jubilee, as we have always been, with Police protection and security, and that Public Works would assist with setting up, and so forth. Mayor Evans stated he indicated to the Committee, that he did not think the City or the Council had any funds to donate to that particular cause, unless it comes through individual monies from Council Members' discretionary funds, but as from the Budget side, unless the Council wanted to try and find some money to appropriate, he did not know but he did indicate at that time, in spite of most recent things that have occurred, that we would be a Co-Sponsor from the standpoint of the Police Department, Public Works; assisting with the Souvenir Booklet and to possibly try and host a reception, and that other than that, that is basically all that he made a commitment to at that time. Mayor Evans further stated he had met with the committee for the Battle of Selma, and made that same commitment. Mayor Evans stated, as Mayor, he pledges the same support to Market Day and the Pilgrimage, because it is our City and it is all about Tourism.

J. Code Enforcement Ordinance. Mayor Evans stated to Council as they know we are implementing Code Enforcement this season, and it is intended to make sure that they send a message to all of our homeowners and property owners that there is a law and that there are codes. Mayor Evans further stated that he has asked Attorney Nunn to pull the codes that are currently on the books and make copies for the Council so that they can review those ordinances to see whether or not they need to make changes, and "tweak" it before they enact policy on their Citizens in terms of their property. Mayor Evans asked President Allen to appoint a committee of Council members who would be able to report back as to their findings. Mayor Evans stated there are Citizens who have stated they would like to volunteer and become liaisons for code enforcement for their particular ward, and he welcomes that to anyone who would like to. Mayor Evans further stated that they are planning to have orientation and training as it relates to code enforcement volunteers, and certificates will be issued once training is complete. Mayor Evans stated, as a part of the process, with the Council's help, "we will change Selma" to the extent of regaining our neighborhoods, and for individuals who own property but chooses not to maintain that property, will be notified and asked to meet the requirements, or they will be cited, because that is the law. President Allen stated to Council if they are interested in being on the sub-committee for updating the codes, that they should raise their hands so that they can be put on that committee. After a show of hands, President Allen stated Councilwoman Newton and Councilwoman Keith will be a part of the Sub-Committee for Updating the Codes.

K. Signs for Street to Re-Name Jeff Davis Avenue to J. L. Chestnut, Jr. Boulevard. Mayor Evans stated to Council that they should also have within their packets the cost of the signs to re-name Jeff Davis Avenue to J. L. Chestnut, Jr. Boulevard. President Allen stated, for the record, that there are attached samples for the historic street signs at a cost of \$105.00 each, and that they will need four (4) for a total of \$420.00, plus shipping and handling. President Allen further stated they also have copies of estimates that it will cost to place the signs up, with an ending balance of \$3,059.50.

L. Back Door Policy – City Hall. Mayor Evans stated to Council that he would like to Announce to Citizens and City Employees that the back door of the City Hall Building will be eventually locked for security reasons, and that a sign has already gone up, stating for the general public to use the front door to City Hall for entrance. Mayor Evans further stated that keys, or a combination to get in and out, will be provided to City Hall Employees to gain entry, once the door is locked. Mayor Evans stated in their packets is a potential cost for that, and he is not asking the Council to take any action tonight, but that he wanted them to be aware of it. Mayor Evans stated if they have any questions, please let him know.

M. Prayer Vigil. Mayor Evans stated they had an awesome Prayer Vigil last night, and that he is excited about the turn-out. Mayor Evans stated it was not 400 people in attendance, but that it felt like it was, and that he felt revitalized when he left. Mayor Evans further stated it was a genuine and sincere Prayer Time, that he could feel the Spirit. Mayor Evans stated this will be ongoing, every 2nd Monday in the month, from 5:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. Mayor Evans stated he welcomes the opportunity to do it again, and thanked the Council members who were present, along with the Citizens who attended. President Allen stated to Mayor Evans that she and the Council concur with him, that it was very powerful.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

A. Submission to Justice Department – Precinct Changes. Attorney Nunn stated to Council that they should have before them a copy of the Submission to the Justice Department, to Mr. Christopher Coates, from the City of Selma, requesting pre-clearance for the voting precinct changes in Wards Two, Three, and Six. Attorney Nunn further stated said Submission was forwarded to the Justice Department on January 29th.

B. Submission to Justice Department – Special Election. Attorney Nunn stated to Council that they should also have before them a copy of the Submission to the Justice Department, to Mr. Christopher Coates, from the City of Selma, requesting approval to have a Special Election on April 28, 2009, to give the Citizens an opportunity to decide whether or not they want to change the method of selecting school board members, elected vs. appointed. Attorney Nunn further stated said Submission was forwarded to the Justice Department on February 2nd. Attorney Nunn stated within the next week he will be giving them a call because we do need to know their answer very quickly on this so that we can move forward with the election.

C. Resolution #R182-08/09 – Globe Metallurgical, Incorporated. Attorney Nunn stated that Resolution #R182-08/09 represents a support letter to Globe Metallurgical, Incorporated. Attorney Nunn further stated he thinks that everyone knows that Globe Metallurgical has given an announcement that they would cease operations for at least six months, beginning on March 22nd of this year. Following the reading of said Resolution #R182-08/09 in its entirety by Attorney Nunn, a motion was made by Councilwoman Newton, and seconded by Councilman Williamson, to approve Resolution #R182-08/09. **A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council members present.** Attorney Nunn stated a copy of the original copy of Resolution #R182-08/09 will be presented to Globe Metallurgical, Incorporated by Mayor Evans and President Allen.

D. City of Selma and Gaiter Ventures, Incorporated – Definitive Agreement. Attorney Nunn stated that the Council should have before them the Definitive Agreement, between the City of Selma and Gaiter Ventures, Incorporated, as it relates to the Theater that is going to be located within the Selma Mall. Attorney Nunn further stated Gaiter Ventures has entered into an agreement with Aronov Realty to construct the Theater at the Mall. Attorney Nunn stated early on, this Council decided that they wanted to do something as an incentive to assist them in bringing a Theater to the City of Selma. Attorney Nunn referenced Page 5, Article 2.1, a-d, of the Agreement, which outlines the Incentives; namely, the City of Selma waiving and exempting Gaiter Ventures for any and all building permit fees related to the construction of the Theater, and that the City of Selma agrees to pay Gaiter Ventures, on a quarterly basis, Seventy-Five cents (.75) for every ticket sold at the Theater, and that Twenty-Five cents (.25) would go towards the security. Attorney Nunn stated State Law will allow us to do this under 94.01 Constitutional Article IV, and in doing that there are several Opinions out there that state the Council must take this action as it relates to voting on the agreement and also a resolution to accept the agreement and to provide this incentive. Attorney Nunn further stated that they will do this at the next Council meeting, via the resolution and adopting the agreement. Attorney Nunn stated that State law states they must do it at a public meeting, and he is planning to bring this up at the next Council meeting. Attorney Nunn stated the second thing is that they must give notice to the public as it relates to the public meeting or the Council meeting. Attorney Nunn stated in order to comply with State Law, they have to give notice seven (7) days prior to the meeting, which they are already doing for normal Council meeting announcements, so that the Citizens can attend this meeting, and if their desire is to speak, then they can be allowed to speak during that Council meeting. Attorney Nunn stated the League of Municipalities suggests that the public hearing be during the Council meeting, or thirty minutes before the meeting starts. Attorney Nunn further stated the Council must meet those two qualifications before it can take a vote on providing public funds to a private industry. During discussion, Attorney Nunn was asked to find out how much the building fees are, that are being waived and to bring back a report to the Council at the next Council meeting. During further discussion, President Allen stated that the Council will have a Work Session prior to the next Council meeting, and that they would discuss this matter in more detail during the Work Session, prior to a vote on this matter.

E. Liquor License Application – Danny Huett - Bottoms Up – 2519 Alabama Highway 14, East. Attorney Nunn stated to Council that they should have before them an alcoholic beverage license application on behalf of Mr. Danny Huett, Bottoms Up, located at 2519 Alabama Highway 14, East, which was placed on 1st Reading during the meeting prior to the last Council meeting. Attorney Nunn asked Council consideration of the same. Councilwoman Crenshaw stated she has a few concerns as it relates to the police report on the application, and asked if she was the only one concerned? President Allen stated she concurs that she is concerned, and other Council members acknowledged that they, too, are concerned. Councilwoman Crenshaw stated she is also concerned about the location, and how far it is from the Church. During discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Randolph to table said alcoholic beverage license application until the next Council meeting, in an effort for the Applicant to come before the Council and address the Council with their concerns. **The motion failed for lack of a second.**

F. **Ordinance #O107-08/09 – Conveying Property – Old High School on Tremont Street to the Selma-Dallas County Historic Preservation Society.** Attorney Nunn stated Ordinance #O107-08/09 represents transfer of the Tremont School to the Selma-Dallas County Historic Preservation Society. Attorney Nunn further stated said Ordinance #O107-08/09 was placed on 1st Reading at the last Council meeting. Attorney Nunn stated Councilwoman Newton had requested that changes be made on last evening, and that those revisions have been made, and that they should have copies of the same within their packets. Attorney Nunn further stated no changes were made on the first page, but on the second page, changes were made as follow: Section III. (a) Restrictions; the language that deals with the site remaining a historical and tourist site was taken out; and (b) the structure is to be immediately stabilized by repairing the roof and windows, and completion of the restoration and renovation project be completed within a reasonable time after the transfer, not to exceed one year for restoration and renovation of the main floor, and five years from date of transfer for the completion of the four phases of restoration, attached and marked as "Exhibit A". Following discussion, a motion was made by Councilwoman Newton, and seconded by Councilman Randolph, to approve and adopt Ordinance #O107-08/09, Conveying the Old High School on Tremont Street to the Selma-Dallas County Historic Preservation Society. **A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council.**

G. **Khafra Engineering – Inspection of Bridges for the City of Selma.** Attorney Nunn stated there was an agreement from Khafra Engineering, and that the Federal Highway Administration requires the State of Alabama to administer bridge inspections, all over the state, and then it trickles down to the municipality. Attorney Nunn further stated the Department of Transportation requires municipalities to do the inspections every two (2) years, and that the last inspection was done in 2006, and that we should have had one done in 2008. Attorney Nunn stated that Khafra Engineering did the last inspection, and that they have presented a contract which Council should have before them, to perform the bridge inspection services, in the amount of \$6,300.00. Attorney Nunn further stated Mayor Evans has been doing some negotiating and he can explain it further. Mayor Evans addressed the Council, and stated he has approached Probate Judge Kim Ballard, and requested some assistance with this project, in hopes of saving us some money. Mayor Evans stated the County has Engineers to do the Project, and some years back they did work with the City on doing the inspections, and it was less costly. Mayor Evans further stated he and Judge Ballard are scheduled to meet on tomorrow, and that Judge Ballard has indicated that he will not charge the City any more than what it would cost them to do it. Mayor Evans stated it is his request that the Council rescind the contract with Khafra, and move forward with getting it done for less cost via the County.

H. **Ordinance #O108-08/09 – Petition for Annexation by Mr. Michael Todd Byrd, and Ordinance #O109-08/09 – Petition for Annexation by Mr. Michael Motes.** Attorney Nunn stated the Council should have before them a Petition for Annexation, along with Exhibit A, which is a legal description of said property, and Exhibit B, which is a map that has been highlighted as it relates to the property and its relevancy to the City of Selma. Attorney Nunn further stated to Council if they recall, we have two (2) annexations that are pending before the Justice Department now; one was Dr. Aksut, and one for Mr. Speir, and both properties are located by Golden Ranch Restaurant. Attorney Nunn stated the other two pieces of property are located between Mr. Speir's property and Marion Bank & Trust Company, owned by Mr. Byrd and Mr. Motes, who are both now requesting to be annexed into the City of Selma, represented by the Petitions in the form of Ordinance #O108-08/09, and Ordinance #O109-08/09. During discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Williamson, and seconded by Councilman Bowie, to place Ordinance #O108-08/09, Petition for Annexation by Mr. Michael Todd Byrd, and Ordinance #O109-08/09, Petition for Annexation by Mr. Michael Motes, on 1st Reading. **A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council.**

I. **Properties Transferred.** Attorney Nunn stated he thinks there was a question asked by Councilwoman Crenshaw, concerning the properties that have been transferred. Attorney Nunn further stated, according to his recollection, there have been five properties that have transferred, and those properties are: Jonathon Daniels CDC, Mr. Glover, Alabama Power Company, Heritage Village, and Hopewell Baptist Church. Councilwoman Crenshaw asked Attorney Nunn if he would place in her mailbox, a list of the locations and dates of transfer, of those properties. President Allen asked Attorney Nunn if he would provide a copy of that information for all of the Council members.

J. **Department Heads Not Living in City.** Attorney Nunn stated he had a conversation with the Personnel Director as it relates to a question asked by Councilman Williamson concerning what do we need to do with regard to Department Heads not living in the City of Selma. Attorney Nunn further stated he is still researching it, but at this point in time he does not think that there are any Department Heads that do not live in the City of Selma.

K. **Amendment to Chapter 19, Section 19.1 - Street and Avenue Destinations.** Attorney Nunn stated he thinks this question was asked by Councilman Williamson which came up after the re-naming of J. L. Chestnut, Jr. Boulevard. Attorney Nunn further stated documentation was presented to the Council during the last Council meeting that there are probably over 200 streets which are named differently than streets and avenues. Attorney Nunn stated he is attempting to get clarification from Council as to whether or

not they want to repeal Section 19.1 in its entirety, or do they want to come up with some type of procedure to use if a street is named. During discussion, a motion was made by Councilwoman Crenshaw, and seconded by Councilwoman Newton, to table this matter for further discussion. **A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council.**

L. Public Building Fees - Resolution. Attorney Nunn stated he had talked with Councilman Bowie concerning a resolution for public building fees. Attorney Nunn further stated he, Councilman Bowie and his committee, are to meet to try and come up with an ordinance or a resolution, that will reflect what came out of the committee on the public buildings. President Allen stated to Attorney Nunn that she concurs, and that she is asking the same of the Sub-Committee on the Garbage.

M. Graffiti - Ordinance. Attorney Nunn stated he had also spoken with Councilman Bowie concerning a request of his office to prepare an ordinance, as it relates to graffiti on a lot of buildings in the City. Attorney Nunn stated that he will try and have a draft of said ordinance at the next Council meeting.

BUSINESS ITEMS:

I. BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS

President Allen stated to Council that they should all have received a copy of documentation as it relates to review of possible options for Budget cuts as had been asked of her. President Allen further stated on today she met with Mayor Evans, and they reviewed those particular items. President Allen stated the item, Page 3, as it relates to the Code Enforcement Officer, that they had talked about holding off on one of the officers, but that Mayor Evans asked that they keep the Code Enforcement Officer, but that he believes the Neighborhood Officer could be cut. President Allen stated on the last page, where there was a "hold" on the IT Assistant position, and that Mayor Evans asked that they not place a hold on it because there is a need for an assistant, since there is only one person in that department at this particular time, and that the salary could be cut down to about \$15,000.00. President Allen further stated with the possible options for cuts made here, there would be a total of \$210,722.00 cuts made, and that that would take care of not having to cut the Police and Fire Departments by 12.5%. During discussion, Ms. Cynthia Mitchell addressed the Council and stated she had gone back on last night and restored the salaries of the Police and Fire Departments, and after doing that, the amount changes to \$285,000.00. President Allen asked Council to again review these options, and she asked Ms. Mitchell to give the Council a complete budget that has all of the changes, that also has the amount that is needed to be cut, as of last night. President Allen further stated she has been asked by Ms. Becky Nichols to meet with her as it relates to another issue that has come up with the utility bills. President Allen asked if a Sub-Committee made up of Councilwoman Newton, Councilwoman Benjamin, and Councilman Bowie, along with herself, could meet with Ms. Becky Nichols, for library solutions to the utility bill appropriations. Following discussion, a motion was made by Councilwoman Keith, and seconded by Councilman Williamson, to authorize President Allen to continue to review the budget and bring back recommendations to the Council. **The motion carried with a majority (show of hands) vote of the Council. Councilwoman Crenshaw cast a nay vote, stating it was based on the information that she needed to receive in terms of a full budget amount.**

II. CURFEW ORDINANCE - #O114-03/04

Councilwoman Benjamin stated she had a Ward Meeting last month, and the Citizens in Ward 4 had questions and would like to know about the enforcement of the Curfew Ordinance. Mayor Evans addressed the Council as it relates to this issue. Mayor Evans stated some years ago a Task Force was assigned for the purpose of bringing back recommendations to the Council, and one of those recommendations was for a curfew on our youth. Mayor Evans further stated an ordinance was drawn up but it was never passed because they could not enforce it, and they could not enforce it because it was no place to retain the youth; the jailhouse was inadequate. Mayor Evans stated if they picked up a youth at night, and could not find his or her parents, then the liability would fall on the City. Councilwoman Crenshaw stated it was a serious thing then, and it still is but one of the first things needed was a court system set up in order to make the procedures outlined in said Curfew Ordinance to work, from the child to the parent. President Allen asked the Public Safety Committee and the Families and Children Committee to review this issue, and to include Chief Riley and possibly our Judges in their meetings and discussions, and come back to our Council with a report.

III. ENVIRONMENTAL COURT

Councilwoman Newton stated we have serious problems with litter, and other environmental issues. President Allen asked Attorney Nunn to come forward and address the Council as it relates to this issue, and where it ended. Attorney Nunn stated he recalls that it was up under the administration of Judge Chittom, and that this has gone on even prior to her. Attorney Nunn also stated if Council recalls, Judge Ramone from Mobile, along with Councilwoman Jean Martin and Councilwoman Crenshaw, had met as it relates to this issue. Attorney Nunn further stated it seemed as if the Judges were a little hesitant as it relates to Environmental Court. Attorney Nunn stated he and Judge Chittom also went to Mobile, and a package was

BUSINESS ITEMS:

sent back up as it relates to the Environmental Court. Attorney Nunn further stated it was not a hard process to get started. Attorney Nunn further stated they would start with establishing a day to have court, and that they already have jurisdiction as a result of the ordinances and the City Code. Attorney Nunn stated that this is about where they left off at, and that shortly thereafter, Judge Chittom resigned from her position. Councilwoman Crenshaw stated she thinks it got to be an issue about the time in court, because they wanted to know when could they implement environmental court with an already crowded docket. Councilwoman Newton asked if she, along with Councilwoman Keith, could review the Codes, concerning environmental court with Attorney Nunn, and the Sub-Committee come up with some plan about environmental court. President Allen stated that would be fine, and to include the Code Enforcers, along with the Municipal Court Judges. President Allen asked Councilwoman Keith if she would be Chairperson of that Committee, and to move forward by making contact with those individuals.

IV. ADVERTISEMENT ON PUBLIC EASEMENT

Councilman Bowie stated he is planning to get with Attorney Nunn as it relates to this issue, for a copy of the ordinance as it relates to Public Easements. Councilman Bowie further stated he is hoping that this can be worked through the Public Safety Committee, along with the Code Enforcement Officer, during the Public Safety meeting. Councilwoman Newton stated that she thinks the Police Department is responsible for taking down the signs on public easements. President Allen asked Citizens to please not put their advertisements up against the ordinance. Councilman Williamson stated the Police Chief is responsible for taking down the signs. President Allen asked Attorney Nunn to provide the Council with a copy of that ordinance, and also asked Councilman Bowie if this issue could be addressed at the Public Safety Committee meeting.

V. PROCESS FOR RESOLUTIONS & PROCLAMATIONS TO BE SIGNED BY COUNCIL

President Allen stated to Council that she is asking of all Council members, if there is a resolution or proclamation that relates to family members, that the process come through Council's office now. President Allen further stated she wanted to apologize to Councilwoman Newton who made it known to her that she wanted to sign the Proclamation that was written in Honor of Mrs. Sherri James, and she was unable to do that even though she was late coming to their meeting. President Allen stated Councilwoman Newton had expressed it at their Work Session but did not know that it had been taken up, and that her name had not been placed on the Proclamation without her signature. President Allen again apologized to Councilwoman Newton for that, and asked Council to guide this process through the Council's office, so that their Council Secretary can assist in making sure that all Council members who would like to sign off on a proclamation or resolution in honor of a family member, will be able to do that.

VI. SCHEDULING OF COUNCIL CHAMBER

President Allen stated she is asking Council members if they want to use the Council Chambers for a meeting, it must be done through the Council's Secretary, so that they would not have meetings that would be in conflict with each other. President Allen further stated to Council members if they are going to use the Council Chambers, they can not do so unless they get an appointment through the Council Secretary. President Allen stated she would try and have a schedule out on a monthly basis.

VII. SELMA WATER WORKS & SEWER BOARD APPOINTMENT

President Allen stated that there has not been a Selma Water Works & Sewer Board meeting, but it will be coming up on next week, and she does intend to be in attendance for that meeting.

VIII. NOISE ORDINANCE

President Allen stated to Chief Riley, who is here now, that she just reiterates that they did look at the report that was given to the Council, and they were very disappointed as it relates to only one noise citation given. Chief Riley addressed the Council and gave a report as it relates to the noise complaints.

IX. COUNCIL PHOTO

President Allen stated she was assigned the duty to see if there were any funds available that could be utilized for the Council photo, and there was money from the Council Special Projects that was pointed out to her through Ms. Mitchell, in the amount of \$4,000.00 that was not used, and that she did cut that line item, but left enough in there to get the photo done, for the Council photo. Councilwoman Crenshaw stated inasmuch as they are looking at this budget for cuts, she does not think that it is expedient that they deal with a photo at this time, and possibly putting it off until some time later. Councilwoman Newton concurs, and stated she would like to see if there is someone within City Government who could photo them for a picture for the City's website. Councilwoman Benjamin stated someone passed around a package from a young man in the Mall, and the prices seemed very reasonable and low. Councilwoman Benjamin further

BUSINESS ITEMS:

stated she wonders if \$10 out of their pockets would get them a photo, and stated she would pursue checking into this, and bringing back a report to the Council.

X. IDEAS FOR CITY'S WEBSITE

Councilwoman Newton stated she has been looking over the City's Website, and that they are looking for a "new face" for the Website. Councilwoman Newton further stated she has been in communication with Ms. Curtis, IT Director, who asked that she make the Council aware that they are free to submit information to her about their meetings, and other things that they would like to include as well. Councilwoman Newton stated she just wanted to make them aware of this, and to encourage the Council to work with Ms. Curtis as she is working on the Website.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

RECREATION COMMITTEE – Councilman Samuel Randolph, Chairman

No report.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE – Councilwoman Dr. Monica Newton, Chairperson

No report.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE – Councilman Corey Bowie, Chairman

No report.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE – Councilwoman Angela Benjamin, Chairperson

Councilwoman Benjamin made a report.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE – Councilman Benny Tucker, Chairperson

Councilman Tucker made a report.

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES - Councilwoman Angela Benjamin, Chairperson

Councilwoman Benjamin made a report.

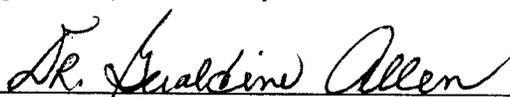
DISCRETIONARY FUNDS COMMITTEE – Council President Dr. Geraldine Allen, Chairperson

President Allen stated they have \$2,375.00 in discretionary funds that are going to be given to Selma-Dallas Dollars for Scholars, Dallas County Juvenile Detention Center, and BlackBelt African-American Genealogical and Historical Society.

CLOSING REMARKS BY EACH COUNCIL MEMBER.

ADJOURNMENT

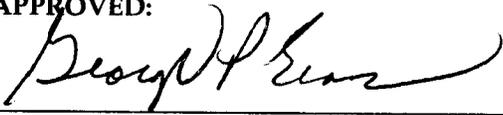
There being no further business to come before the Council, a motion was made by Councilwoman Crenshaw, and seconded by Councilman Randolph, to adjourn, and by unanimous consent of the Council, this meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.


DR. GERALDINE ALLEN, *Council President*

ATTEST:


IVY S. HARRISON, *City Clerk*

APPROVED:


GEORGE PATRICK EVANS, *Mayor*