

**MINUTES OF THE
SELMA CITY COUNCIL
APRIL 28, 2008
5:09 P.M.**

Call to Order

Invocation: Reverend Steven Washington
Concordia College Selma

Moment of Silence

Pledge of Allegiance

The Selma City Council met in a regular session in the Council Chambers of City Hall on Monday, April 28, 2008 at 5:09 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The following members were present during roll call: Council President George Evans and Council members Jean Martin, Johnnie M. Leashore, Bennie R. Crenshaw and Jannie M. Venter. Others present were Mayor James Perkins, Jr., City Clerk Lois Williams, City Attorney Jimmy Nunn, City Treasurer Cynthia Mitchell, and the Mayor's Executive Assistant Darlene Rudolph. Councilman Williamson, Councilman Cain, Councilwoman Allen and Councilman Randolph were absent from the Chambers during roll call. President Evans stated they are a little late, but they are expected to arrive shortly.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

President Evans asked for the approval of the agenda items. A motion was made by Councilwoman Martin and seconded by Councilwoman Venter to approve the agenda as written. The motion carried with a majority (show of hands) vote of the Council members present. There were four affirmative votes and one nay vote. Councilman Leashore cast a nay vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

After approval of the agenda, President Evans also asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the April 14, 2008 Regular meeting. A motion was made by Councilman Leashore and seconded by Councilwoman Venter to approve the minutes of April 14, 2008 as written. The motion carried with a unanimous (show of hands) vote of the Council members present.

Presentations: The Family of Mr. James Marvin Melton - Resolution read by President Evans
The Family of Mr. William Carl "Bill" King - Resolution read by President Evans

CITIZENS' REQUESTS

Mrs. Carolyn Bates
Re: Selma Disability Advocacy Center

Ms. Jane Walker
Re: AMSTI - June 16th thru June 27th

Ms. Claire Compton
Re: Selma Middle C.H.A.T. Academy

MAYOR'S REPORT

A. **Resolution - Concordia College Women Basketball National Championship.** Mayor Perkins stated that he would like to present a resolution of commendation to Concordia College and asked the Concordia College Lady Hornets Basketball Team Members and Coaches to come forward. Mayor Perkins read as per the said resolution. Mayor Perkins stated that on Wednesday, April 30th at 4:00 p.m. on Broad Street and Dallas Avenue, a parade will begin honoring the Lady Hornets at Concordia College and ask that local sororities, athletic teams, area bands, high school and college organizations, community organizations and everyone to join in the celebration of the great victory and great success of Concordia College. Representatives of Concordia College were also present.

Councilman Williamson, Councilman Cain, Councilwoman Allen and Councilman Randolph all arrived respectively during discussions of the Oil Lease Monies:

B. **Oil Lease Monies.** Mayor Perkins stated that the check has been received for the municipal gas fund and oil fund. Mayor Perkins stated that this year the amount of the check is \$147,492.27. Mayor Perkins stated that the Council has, in the past, made the decision to "divide the money up amongst you, for your Ward projects...what is the Council's pleasure?" President Evans stated that as the Council is aware, "this is the money that, as the Mayor indicated, in the past we have

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voted to divide equally ten ways for all to use as we wanted...so what is your pleasure, Council?" Councilman Leashore stated that he recalls that several years back, this Council "lumped" this money and did a tremendous feat for our citizens, particularly our youth, by improving and enhancing the parks of the City of Selma. Councilman Leashore stated that there was an ordinance that disallowed our children from playing basketball in the streets, and there was a severe "outcry" from the citizens about our children playing ball in the streets, and therefore they needed somewhere to go, we "lumped" our money and you can see the results of what we have. Councilman Leashore stated that, however, last year the recommendation to once again "lump" our monies to do citywide projects, specifically in the areas that are needed, we all must agree that there are some parts of our city that are in "dire straight", there are some parts of our city who hardly need anything because "they got theirs way back when", there are some parts of our city that has been neglected for years and there is a tremendous need for improvement and enhancement in those communities. Councilman Leashore stated that, however, if this Council chooses to once again divide the money, he will ask that the Council would be responsible by not going out and doing individual contracts and doing business on their own, to allow the business of the city to flow, and therefore, let us "lump" this money together and bring about improvements within the areas that are most neglected. A motion was made by Councilman Cain and seconded by Councilwoman Martin to divide the Oil Lease Monies among each of the Council members equally, for the use in their wards for capital improvement projects in the way they see fit, and he added as well as the Mayor. During discussion, the motion was amended by motion from Councilwoman Crenshaw and seconded by Councilman Leashore that the Council would follow the guidelines and not go out and enter into individual contracts. Mayor Perkins stated that he would like to say for clarification purposes that if a Council person obligates the city in a contract without the appropriate signatures, "I will not approve the payment." "The Council person will have to deal with that through whatever means he chooses or she chooses, but if you go out and you obligate this city under an agreement without the proper authorization, it will be a consequence for that." Councilman Williamson asked if the Council projects have to be approved by the Mayor? President Evans stated that what would happen in that situation is "based on the outline structure given to the Council, if it falls under the guidelines, then certainly he would have final approval of signing the contracts, because we, as City Council members, do not have the authority to issue a contract for city business. President Evans stated that if we are doing something outside of a contract, per say, that we have used our money for that purpose or invoice maybe, to sign off, that is a different story, but if a contract based on the outline structure given to us by our Treasurer, then certainly, based on what he has read, that would need approval by the Mayor in order for it to be approved." Following further discussions, Mayor Perkins stated that he would just like to may sure that he is clear on a couple of points, as far as the discretionary accounts for the Council and Mayor, "you do have the discretion to spend the money, but you do not have the discretion to spend the money outside of the governmental accounting policies and practices." Mayor Perkins stated that it is not a function of whether or not a Council person has the right to decide what project he or she wants to do, the issue is whether or not the Council person has the right to bypass all of the accounting principles and practices and the purchasing law. President Evans stated that he would ask Ms. Mitchell to place another copy of the guidelines in the Council mailboxes. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a majority vote of the Council. There were eight affirmative votes and one nay vote. Councilman Leashore cast a nay vote.

C. **Use of City Property- Concordia College.** Mayor Perkins stated that he would like to bring to the Council attention a memo addressed to the Council members regarding Concordia College usage of city property. Mayor Perkins stated as per said memo, that "I recommend favorable consideration towards Concordia College's request to utilize said property for athletic and other official college purposes. I further recommend that Concordia College allow public access and use of the property when the college is not using the property." Mayor Perkins stated the Council may or may not be aware that there is a plot of land owned by the City that is adjacent to the Selma High property, and which was last used for the purpose of parking during the men's conference that took place at Concordia College. Mayor Perkins further stated that Concordia College has made a request to utilize that land for the purpose of Soccer practice and other athletic and band practice activities. Mayor Perkins stated that after consulting with the City Attorney with the question, the answer came back as yes, as long as it is declared by the Council as a "public purpose" and the "public purpose" as we are trying to shape this has to be concurred with by Concordia College, and before moving forward to negotiate the specifics of the "public purpose", he wanted to get a vote of confidence on the negotiations so that it will not have to be back tracked or reverse decisions after some decisions have been made about the "MOU." Following discussion, Councilwoman Allen asked that the "public purpose" be restated and Mayor Perkins stated as per letter addressed to him by City Attorney Jimmy Nunn, a motion was made by Councilwoman Allen and seconded by Councilwoman Crenshaw to approve the said request to negotiate a memorandum of understanding with Concordia College. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council.

D. **Resoluituon #R187-07/08 - Former Phoenix Building Facade.** Mayor Perkins stated that he would like to ask Ms. Charlotte Griffeth to come forward. Ms. Griffeth addressed the Council stating

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as per said resolution read in its entirety. A motion was made by Councilwoman Martin and seconded by Councilman Leashore to approve the said resolution. Ms. Griffith concurred that the reimbursement from the insurance would be replaced in this fund. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council.

E. **Contract - Web Video of City Council Meetings.** Mayor Perkins stated he would like to ask Mr. Bruce Williams to come forward to present the video web contract for Council meetings. Mr. Williams, IT Director, addressed the Council stating that what is proposed in this contract is a new technology called "Hello World", which allows the capture of the Council meetings in streaming video real time. Mr. Williams stated that anywhere in the world with internet connection, the council sessions can be captured. Mr. Williams stated that it's a very economical price with the start-up fee as \$79.00 and \$39.00 per month. Mayor Perkins stated this would be paid from the IT budget. A motion was made by Councilman Leashore and seconded by Councilman Randolph to approve the said contract. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council.

F. **Resolution - #R189-07/08 Street Striping Project.** Mayor Perkins stated that he would like to ask Mr. Henry Hicks to come forward to present the street striping project. Mayor Perkins stated that if the Council recalls, on January 14, 2008, \$71,750.00 was approved from the 7 cents Excise Gas Tax Revenue to do the Street Striping Project and started working on the streets and provided the locations to the Council. Mayor Perkins stated that this item was bided and we did not get the kind of responses needed, then came back and negotiated the project with the vendor who operates in this region. Mayor Perkins stated that the negotiated price is \$109,055.00, and asked the Council's favorable consideration of this project, also stating that the Council would be authorizing this fund to come from the Excise Gas Tax Revenue. Mr. Hicks, Public Works Director, concurred that the amount in the general fund budget is not a part of this proposal. Following discussion, a motion was made by Councilwoman Crenshaw and seconded by Councilman Leashore to approve the said resolution to proceed with this project. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council.

G. **Resolution - #R183-07/08 Purchase of Curb and Gutter Equipment - Public Works.** Mayor Perkins stated that while Mr. Hicks is present, he would like to present resolution #R183-07/08 for the purchase of curb and gutter equipment from the State Gasoline Excise Tax cash account for an estimated amount of \$250,000.00. Mayor Perkins stated that this is restricted funds and can be used for this particular purpose and this is for the purchase of a piece of capital equipment that would be used citywide to construct curbs, gutters and sidewalks and asked Council's favorable consideration of said resolution. A motion was made by Councilwoman Crenshaw and seconded by Councilman Leashore to approve the said resolution. Councilman Cain stated that this item would come out of the committee and no decision was made at the time of the committee meeting. Councilman Williamson stated that there is also a list of Phase I proposed to curb and gutter, and he is familiar with Ward 1, but he does not know where the others are and asked President Evans if he could look at one through eight and tell him which ward each is located that is being proposed to curb and gutter. Mr. Hicks stated that the committee asked him to go out and do a Phase I and that is what he did, starting with at the worst scenario and working back to the second worst scenario, and those are in Ward 8, Ward 5 and Ward 6. A motion was made by Councilman Williamson and seconded by Councilman Cain to table this item. President Evans stated that he would follow the process, and that is that this motion has been amended to table the item. Councilman Leashore stated that if the Council recalls, the Mayor has presented these resolutions at a work session and when it got to the Council, and the Council wasn't against the expenditures, however, they wanted more input from the Council and "you put these expenditures into committees so therefore, I would request that you not entertain that motion but receive the report from the committee from which this money was discussed, and then with a recommendation that would be forthcoming from these committees, based on the monies that the Mayor has asked us to operate the city with. President Evans stated to Councilman Leashore that "my only request would be that you called my hand on the amended and the main motion which would have been the opportunity to call my hand on, you didn't call my hand on the main motion and ask for a report from the committee, now you call my hand on the amended motion, so my point would be that you didn't ask me to disallow the first motion but you asked me to disallow the amended motion and neither one carry a report coming from the Chair of that committee, at this point I will allow the Chair to give a report, but certainly it would be inappropriate for me to disallow the amendment." Councilman Leashore stated to President Evans that "not to be argumentative and not to disagree with you, you are absolutely correct, I am merely trying to faction a lot of things in my mind, but then it caught my attention when there was an attempt by my colleague to block this expenditure that is needed by this city and it is a fact, Mr. President, and I think you will attest to this, these are expenditures and these resolutions were put into committees, so I think in all fairness to the Mayor of this city, who we put in charge of administering on a day to day basis, since we have not choose to vote this resolution up or down, however, but to delegate them to committees, to get more input, which we have done, I would think the most honorable and the most decent thing to do would be to hear from the committee based on the expenditures that has been brought before this Council by the Mayor of the citizens." During lengthy discussions, Councilwoman Venter stated that a copy of the minutes was given to everyone from the meeting that was held on this past Friday, which she stated was

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discussed at length, she proceeded to read an excerpt from those minutes and also stated her recommendation is to vote on this tonight, up or down. Councilwoman Allen asked if the committee meetings would be discussed? Councilwoman Allen stated that there are some additions to these minutes which Councilwoman Venter read. Councilwoman Allen stated that she first stated that this money is the constituents' money and before spending any of this money, she needed to see a plan, therefore, she did ask the question: What does Public Works consider the most needed areas? Councilwoman Allen stated that she also stated during the meeting that before she could make a determination and whether she would agree with a recommendation, because a recommendation was made by Sister Venter that we go ahead in favor of the resolution to pass, but another recommendation was made by Mr. Cain in that same meeting that it be tabled, and she expressed to both of them that she would probably have that vote of which side it goes, but she left that open that night because she asked that she gets this information today and she was also told by Mrs. Rudolph that she would probably email it to me. Councilwoman Allen stated she is just reading this information, but she did say that before she could favorably determine whether to have this recommend to either have this resolution go forward or to table it, she would like to see some type of plan, and in it Mr. Cain advised that there should be a Phase I, so I made the possibility of Mr. Hicks going out and identifying immediate needs, Mr. Hicks said that he would do his best to do that and Mrs. Rudolph said she would get that information to us so that a decision could be made before this meeting, and there was no decision made at that meeting. Mayor Perkins further stated that he feels everyone knows that he believes that the Bond was the best financial approach to getting advantage of the city funds in Public Safety, Financial Management, and Public Works solved, and when that Bond did not pass, he feels we temporarily lost the best financial approach, but the fact that the Bond did not pass, does not change the fact that the city has these critical Public Safety, Technology, and Public Works needs. Mayor Perkins stated that therefore, it is his responsibility to seek out and propose another plan, that is what he is doing and he stated he admits that Plan B, in his opinion, "the cash plan," as he will call it, is not as good as Plan A, which was the Bond. Mayor Perkins stated that he is asking the Council to work with him on this issue because it is his understanding that the resolution of intent, referring to Councilman Williamson who concurred with a nod per the Mayor Perkins; was talked about as the possibility of coming back with another Bond and it is also his understanding that this resolution of intent that was passed prior to this process is still alive and still applies so that any authorization to spend money could still be recovered in future Bonds as long as the first expenditure of that is within an eighteen month window of the time that the Bond was actually executed. Mayor Perkins stated that he is "delayed but not denied, knocked down but not knocked out," and he still see where we can get the money back into our savings and back into the accounts if we work together to get this done. A roll call vote was taken on the motion to table and the motion passed with a majority vote of the Council. There were five affirmative votes and four nay votes. Councilman Randolph, Councilman Leashore, Councilwoman Crenshaw and Councilwoman Venter each cast a nay vote.

H. Resolution - #R182-07/08 Upgrade Administrative and Financial Software. Mayor Perkins stated he would like to ask Mr. Bruce Williams to come forward. President Evans asked if there is a committee report from the Chair of this committee or its members on this item? Councilman Williamson stated he does not have a report. Councilman Leashore stated he would make the report, since the Chair's schedule, for whatever reason, would not permit after several attempts, could not come to a consensus as to when he would be able to meet, however, Councilwoman Venter and himself did meet with the consent of Councilman Williamson. Councilman Leashore stated as per prepared minutes concluding that this committee recommends a vote from the Council to approve Resolution #182-07/08 in the amount of \$355,850.00; a motion was made by Councilman Leashore and seconded by Councilwoman Crenshaw to approve the said resolution. A motion was then made by Councilman Cain and seconded by Councilman Williamson to table this item. Councilwoman Venter asked "on what grounds is he tabling this one? Councilwoman Venter stated "to wait until after the election, I hope that when you all get out there to campaign for mayor and everything, you will let these people know that the city is not progressing because you all are holding up progress, we need this stuff done now." President Evans stated that he would like to pass the gavel to President Pro Tem Martin to make a statement that needs to be made, "I think," "I know that citizens don't understand a lot of things and we have a way of saying things to the citizens to get our point over, and we can make it sound anyway we want to make it and we can say everybody is doing something wrong and things like that, but in reality, we as stewards of the funds must do our do diligence in terms of what we do and how we do it." President Evans stated that "Anybody can make a case on anything we do up here, and depending on who you are talking will believe it or not believe it, the point I make on this is that, what is so unfortunate, I guess, is that this money we are talking about approving tonight has been in the caucus for over two years, and we have done nothing about it and tonight we come and do this; there is a whole lot of uncertainty in terms of intent of the expenditure, one of which, I will bring up to you is the fact that we are talking about changing some things dealing with Finance through this software, and if we go and purchase software, then we are talking about reorganization or reshuffling of everything; this is a bad time to do that." President Evans stated that "this is bad time to go and reshuffle money in Finance that could possibly... we don't know, we just don't know, and I think we have not gotten our... we have not had any

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discussion of the budget at this point, we have gotten a copy of it, we have not gotten the management letter either to determine what are those things that we need to be trying to fix, so...you know, everybody wants to make everything political, I don't chose to make it political, I just chose to vote according to what I believe is fair and right; and whether somebody agrees with that, that's fine and I can't...the point I make is that those of you who are sitting in the audience, and you may disagree with me and I assure you, you could be up here and the voters will disagree with you too." President Evans further stated that "it is not unusual to disagree, but you take my seat and see how many folk who will sit out there would disagree with you; that's just life and you have to take a stand in what you believe in; when I take a stand on something, it is what I believe in, its what I believe is fair whether you agree with me or not, I believe its fair and I give my reason and my rationale, as you would give yours on a given situation, and that's where I am on that and it is not because I want to be elected to anything, that is not the issue at all, and that is not what my life is dependent on, being elected to something," "The point is I still must speak tonight based on what I do that is fair and right, and I'm not in anybody's camp, but George Evans' camp, the camp of what I believe is fair and right, that's all." Mayor Perkins stated that if the Council chooses to vote to table this item, there really is no need to bring the Public Safety Committee resolution because these two software products interfaces with each other, so if you "kill" one you have just eliminated the need to deal with Public Safety. Councilwoman Allen stated that she has a comment relating to that because that question was asked when the line item was reviewed, and she read as per excerpts of the prepared committee minutes; stating the answer from the minutes was that "this software does not require that the entire city system change, and that is in conflict with what was given to us as information in the Public Safety Committee meeting. Mayor Perkins stated that the Public Safety software includes the court management software, magistrate office software and all of those financial components interface with the financial package, and the other thing that the Council needs to be aware of is that we have been notified that IBM intends, and he believes all were made aware of that in the Committee, to discontinue its support of our existing system, so if you "kill" this we could be left without the ability to have support in the future. Following discussions, President Pro Tem Martin asked for a vote on the motion. A roll call vote was taken on the motion to table and the motion failed for lack of a majority vote of the Council. There were only four affirmative votes and five nay votes. Councilwoman Martin, Councilman Randolph, Councilman Leashore, Councilwoman Crenshaw and Councilwoman Venter each cast a nay vote. President Evans retrieved the gavel after this vote was taken and asked for a vote on the main motion to approve the said resolution. A roll call vote was taken and the motion failed for lack of a majority vote of the Council. There were only four affirmative votes and five nay votes. President Evans, Councilman Williamson, Councilman Cain, Councilwoman Martin and Councilwoman Allen each cast a nay vote.

I. Resolution #R188-07/08 Public Building Repairs. Mayor Perkins stated that he would like to ask Mrs. Kay Jones to come forward to address Resolution #188-07/08. Councilman Williamson stated this is another resolution just like the last three and rather than read it, you referred the other three to a committee, and because of the expenditure of money, you put them off until the next meeting, so he would ask that this one is dealt with the same. During discussion, Mayor Perkins stated that this resolution was a part of the committee discussions and he would like to have Resolution #188-07/08 considered by the Council to be placed on first reading. A motion was made by Councilman Cain and seconded by Councilman Williamson to move the said resolution to committee for further review. President Evans stated that he would make this a part of the Public Safety Committee; to be placed with the committee for our next meeting. **The motion carried with a unanimous (show of hands) vote of the Council members present. Councilman Leashore and Councilwoman Crenshaw were absent from the Chambers at the time this vote was taken.** Mayor Perkins stated he would like to state that this resolution was discussed in the committee and was to be brought out by the committee itself.

J. Resolution #R186-07/08 Summer Youth Employment. Mayor Perkins stated that he would like to ask Ms. Val Jones to come forward to address the Council regarding Resolution #186-07/08 for Summer Youth Employment. Ms. Jones, Personnel Director, addressed the Council and read the said resolution in its entirety "to increase the Summer Youth salaries line item by \$28,200.00 and FICA line item by \$2,168.00 to accommodate the hiring of 100 youth for summer employment," "to amend the budget by transferring \$30,368.00 from unfilled positions in the Finance Department and the Community Outreach Department." Following a brief discussion, a motion was made by Councilwoman Martin and seconded by Councilwoman Venter to approve the said resolution. **A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council members present. Councilman Leashore and Councilwoman Crenshaw were absent from the Chambers at the time this vote was taken.**

Councilman Leashore and Councilwoman Crenshaw returned to the Chambers during discussion of the following item K.

K. Resolution #R181-07/08 Selma Police Department Improvements and System Upgrade. Mayor Perkins stated that Resolution #181-07/08 dealing with the Police Department is the same issue at \$742,077.00, which went to committee and he would like to ask Chief Riley and Mr. Bruce Williams to address this issue. President Evans asked if Councilwoman Allen could give her committee report at this

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time. Mayor Perkins concurred. Councilwoman Allen read as per her report, concluding that the committee voted to recommend the favorable adoption of the said resolution. Mr. Williams, IT Director, addressed the Council stating that he would like to deal with the technical issue of incapability between if we adopt a new Public Safety system software upgrade and technical issues involved with that: 1) It is more cost effective and a guarantee of high systems availability to have a homogenous system, which means like components, if the police departments is on New World software the finance department needs to be on New World software. Mr. Williams stated that currently both systems are on old New World software and as part of our disaster recovery plan, equipment is stored in the police department building to backup financial and vice versa equipment stored in the financial building to backup the police department, in case of a catastrophe those two systems can backup one another. Mr. Williams stated that if we go with a MSP system with the police department only, that means that he can no longer backup the financial department with the police department and vice versa; 2) Putting the magistrate system in as part of the police department network and the magistrate system also interfaces with our financial system, so again we have the incompatibility issue, the financial system would be on IBM AS400 and the public safety and court system would be on MSP; they will not communicate with one another and it would take a manual system to be put in place to be able to deal with that; and 3) There are training issues associated having with two different sets of software and hardware and he wants the Council to consider those issues. During discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Williamson and seconded by Councilman Cain to approve the said resolution minus the New World Software package. An amended motion was made by Councilman Leashore and seconded by Councilwoman Crenshaw to table this item. A roll call vote was taken and the motion failed for lack of a majority vote of the Council. There were only four affirmative votes and five nay votes. President Evans, Councilman Williamson, Councilman Cain, Councilwoman Martin and Councilwoman Allen each cast a nay vote. President Evans stated that he would go back to the main motion at this time. After consulting with City Attorney Jimmy Nunn, an amended motion was then made by Councilman Randolph and seconded by Councilwoman Venter to approve the said resolution with the inclusion of the New World software package. Chief of Police William Riley addressed the Council stating that this software is important because they need to track what is happening with police services, they need to be able to communicate with outside organizations and right now they are just an "island to ourselves"; information is around us in a loop and cannot process efficiently. Chief Riley stated that the software would allow them to move not only into the technological future, but right now they are operating on Windows 95 as our software and we cannot update some of our systems because they are too old; he understands that the Council is looking at the cost, but understand that over the last ten years some of the software they have now has not been properly updated and we are behind in times and cannot go back and make IBM/Bill Gates produce that software anymore, there is no going backwards and the longer we stay in this loop the more expensive it will get and what this software will allow is to do is upgrade our system so that as other organizations upgrade their systems, we can communicate, but to deny the needed software will hurt us in the "long run" and in the "short run" because we cannot communicate with the federal agencies that offer certain financial and statistical data that is needed that would help with some of the future costs involved with upgrading. Chief Riley stated that this is a factor that affects public safety and it is a factor that affects the quality of life for the citizens of Selma. Chief Riley further stated that what he's doing is a "shotgun" approach to policing, which is antiquated, and which should be unacceptable to everybody here and in the community and what needs to be understood is that he is not political and his only vote is for the welfare of the citizens of Selma and "I need this information." Following further discussion, a roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

A. **Parking on sidewalks and grass.** Attorney Nunn stated that on Thursday evening per Councilwoman Martin's request to present the ordinance and state law as it pertains to parking on sidewalks. During discussion, Attorney Nunn stated that in section 21-195(a)1, which means that "no person shall stop, stand or park a vehicle," "on a sidewalk or on any grass plot or paved area between the sidewalk and curb;" and also there is the state code 32-5A-137, which states that the same.

B. **Dallas Academy Building - Letter to Tenants.** Attorney Nunn stated that on Thursday evening a letter was presented to the Council as it relates to the Dallas Academy Building. Attorney Nunn stated that this is dealing with non-profit organizations and prohibiting political activity within their offices; and he read as per this letter to the Council.

C. **Ordinance #O111-07/08 Sales Tax Holiday.** Attorney Nunn stated that the next issue is Ordinance #111-07/08 presented to the Council on Thursday night. Attorney Nunn stated that this is the ordinance dealing with the exemption of certain covered items from the municipal sales and use tax during the first full weekend in August 2008, which is authorized by Act No. 2006-574 generally referred to as the Sales Tax Holiday. Attorney Nunn stated that the deadline is June 30th. A motion was made Councilman Cain and seconded Councilwoman Venter to place this ordinance on first reading. The motion carried with a unanimous vote of the Council.

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D. Ordinance - #O109-07/08 Theft of Copper. Attorney Nunn stated that during the last Council meeting, ordinance #109-07/08 pertaining to providing criminal penalty for theft of copper, and if the Council recalls, there were two ordinances in which the City of Montgomery presented and one is at the Supreme Court level now dealing with the buildings and we are trying to get unified ordinance that will contain surrounding counties so that they cannot steal in one county and go to another county. Following discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Cain and seconded by Councilman Randolph to approve the said ordinance. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council.

E. Alcoholic Beverage License - Selma City Marina. Attorney Nunn stated that the Council has been given an application for restaurant retail liquor license; name of applicant Brandon Weaver, trade name Selma City Marina located at 1 Marina Drive. Attorney Nunn stated that this license is requested to be placed on first reading. A motion was made by Councilman Cain and seconded by Councilwoman Martin to place the said liquor license on first reading. The motion carried with a unanimous vote of the Council members present. Councilman Williamson was absent from the Chamber at the time of this vote.

F. Voting Precincts. Attorney Nunn stated that his last item is dealing with the voting precincts and if the Council recalls, this item was discussed on Thursday evening and he placed this information in writing as it relates to the findings. Attorney Nunn discussed and read the said letter to the Council in its entirety. Attorney Nunn concluded stating that "it is my recommendation that the City Council allow the voting precincts to remain the same for the August 26, 2008 election. Further, that any recommended changes, to any of the precincts shall be presented to the incoming City Council and Mayor who takes office in November." Following discussion, it was the consensus of the Council to concur with Attorney Nunn's recommendation.

G. Good Samaritan Lease Agreements. Attorney Nunn stated that it has been brought to his attention that the Good Samaritan lease agreements have been provided to the Council in their respective mailboxes.

H. Unpaid Court Costs and Fines Update. Attorney Nunn stated that there was a letter from the Magistrate's Office stating that this has to be done manually.

BUSINESS ITEMS:

I. NOISE ORDINANCE

President Evans stated that this item has been taken care of.

II. MISSING MONEY FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

President Evans stated that this item would be continued. President Evans asked Attorney Nunn to research this item for legal ramifications.

III. UNPAID GARBAGE FEES

President Evans stated that this item would be continued and they are working on it. Councilman Cain stated that the garbage fees used to be a part of the Selma Water Works and it was taken away from them and placed with the city because it was thought to be more efficient and more advantageous for the City. Councilman Cain further stated that it is several years now and the city has this large unpaid garbage fees and he feels the Council should consider placing it back with the Water Works. During discussion, President Evans stated that before it came to the City they were having problems with getting the money. Councilman Leashore stated that, he could be wrong, but the collection of the garbage fees was sent back to the city after the Water Board fired the Mayor as the Superintendent. President Evans stated that he believes that it was the City who, in turn, took over this collection. Councilman Leashore stated he is just one member, but "we don't want it." President Evans stated that there is an agency that is trying to remedy that problem for the City; we have not received a report yet, we will continue to try to get answers.

IV. PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING LEAKING

President Evans stated that the resolution was referred to the committee and the Council awaits a report from the committee on this item. Councilwoman Allen concurred.

V. REQUEST FOR AUDIT MANAGEMENT LETTER

President Evans stated that the Council is still waiting for the audit management letter.

VI. SELMA CITY SCHOOL BOARD APPOINTEES

President Evans stated that this item is still in the Senate for approval. Councilman Leashore stated that he feels the committee Chair should be charged to move expeditiously on this issue and not just let it go. President Evans stated that the ads are running and the Chair knows the deadline. Councilman Williamson stated that he understood that the same procedure would be followed to run in the newspaper five times and the deadline is May 5th for applications. During discussion, Councilman Williamson stated that he has only received one application and he would like to ask that anyone listen who would like to serve on the school board to send an application by May 5th and when all applications are received a meeting would be scheduled to interview applicants, "like we always have."

VII. SECOND MEETING DATE IN MAY

President Evans stated that the meeting date conflicts with Memorial Day and if the Council wishes to discuss this later that would be fine. Following discussion, President Evans stated that a decision would be made at the next Council meeting. The Council concurred.

VIII. SEWER PROBLEMS

Councilman Cain stated that this issue has been taken care of.

IX. TRAFFIC LIGHTS

President Evans stated that this item has been taken care of.

X. SEWER PROBLEMS

Councilman Cain stated that the Council has not received the requested schedule of the summer grass cutting schedules for each ward.

XI. UPCOMING CITY GOVERNMENT MEETINGS, COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES

Councilwoman Martin and Councilwoman Crenshaw gave a brief discussion on this item pertaining to the youth leadership travel. A motion was made by Councilman Leashore and seconded by Councilman Randolph to approve the expenditure of \$9,050.00 of the Council's travel budget for registration, lodging and transportation for the Youth Leadership Training Institute in Savannah, GA. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

RECREATION COMMITTEE - Councilman Reid Cain, Chairperson

No Report.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE - Councilman Dr. Cecil Williamson, Chairperson

Report Attached.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE - Councilwoman Dr. Geraldine Allen, Chairperson

Report Attached.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE - Councilwoman Bennie Ruth Crenshaw, Chairperson

No Report.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE - Councilwoman Jannie Venter, Chairperson

Report Attached.

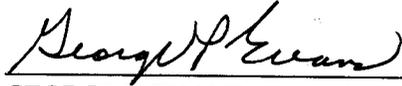
DISCRETIONARY FUNDS COMMITTEE - President George Evans, Chairperson

No Report.

CLOSING REMARKS BY EACH COUNCIL MEMBER.

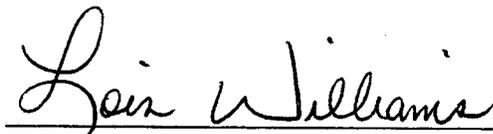
ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, a motion was made by Councilman Leashore and seconded by Councilwoman Martin, to adjourn, and by unanimous consent of the Council, this meeting adjourned at 9:28 p.m.



GEORGE P. EVANS, *Council President*

ATTEST:



LOIS WILLIAMS, *City Clerk*

APPROVED:



JAMES PERKINS, JR., *Mayor*