

**MINUTES OF THE
SELMA CITY COUNCIL
MAY 12, 2009
5:00 P.M.**

Call to Order

Invocation: Reverend Jonathan Lambert, Pastor
Westwood Church of God

Pledge of Allegiance

The Selma City Council met in a regular session in the Council Chambers of City Hall on Tuesday, May 12, 2009 at 5:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The following members were present during roll call: Council President Dr. Geraldine Allen and Council members Cecil Williamson, Susan Keith, Dr. Monica Newton, Angela Benjamin, Samuel L. Randolph, Benny L. Tucker, 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. Councilwoman Bennie R. Crenshaw was absent from the Council Meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

President Allen asked for the approval of the agenda items. A motion was made by Councilman Bowie, and seconded by Councilman Randolph, 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 May 5, 2009 regular meeting minutes. A motion was made by Councilman Tucker, and seconded by Councilman Bowie, to approve the minutes of May 5, 2009. President Allen stated she again wants to give accolades to their Clerk, Ivy S. Harrison, who gets their Minutes out in very expedient time, and thanked her for doing so. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council members present.

CITIZENS' REQUESTS

Ms. Essie Square
Re: Women in God's Services

Mr. David Ousley
Re: Naming Streets in Houston Park Sub-Division

Mr. Ousley stated he was here representing Mr. Julius Talton, who developed 7 lots shown on the map that they should have before them, adjacent to Houston Park. Mr. Ousley further stated he is requesting that the street name be known as "Houston Gardens"; namely, "One Houston Gardens . . . through "Seven Houston Gardens". Attorney Nunn came forward to address the Council as it relates to this matter. A motion was made by Councilman Williamson, and seconded by Councilman Tucker, to approve naming the street "Houston Gardens". During discussion, a question was asked as to whether Mr. Talton would be agreeable to naming the Street "Houston Park Gardens" so that it would be an extension of the same street name, that of Houston Park. Following discussion, Councilman Williamson withdrew his motion, and Councilman Tucker withdrew his second, in an effort to allow time for Mr. Ousley to research and see whether Mr. Talton would be agreeable to naming the street "Houston Park Gardens". President Allen also asked Mr. Ousley to follow-up with the City Attorney, and asked that he bring it back to the Council during his report at the next Council meeting.

MAYOR'S REPORT

A. **Update - Landfill.** Mayor Evans stated to Council that at the last meeting he was asked by the Council to go and look at what Montgomery has done in terms of its Landfill, and he has done that. Mayor Evans further stated he has with us a young man by the name of Mr. Josh Pierce. Mayor Evans stated Mr. Galen Thackston of Goodwyn, Mills and Cawood was supposed to be here to speak to the Council about the Landfill Closing and Opening, but he had a conflict, and is unable to be here. Mayor Evans further stated Mr. Pierce is prepared to talk with the Council about opening the Landfill, and any other questions that they may have as it relates to the Landfill. Mayor Evans asked Mr. Pierce to come forward and address the Council. Mr. Pierce introduced himself to the Council, and stated that he was an Engineer with Goodwyn,

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Mills and Cawood, of Montgomery, and that he is prepared this evening to discuss briefly, the closing of our existing Landfill, as well as, the Permitting of the new Landfill. Mr. Pierce stated he did some brief research on our existing Landfill, and as he has discussed with the Mayor earlier, as most of them are probably aware, it has been deemed by ADEM to be closed as of October 31st. Mr. Pierce further stated in his research he has also discovered that we are in the process of finalizing a Permit for a new Landfill, and that the Landfill will have to be opened by November 1st. Mr. Pierce stated, just briefly looking into the Landfill issue, he was asked to come up with a procedure for implementation of management of the construction of the Landfill, and that is kind of where he is at this point. Mr. Pierce further stated what he wanted to relay to them would be a typical process; whether they do the work "in house", or if they consult it out to an Engineering firm, or a Project Management firm, in which they are one of those. Mr. Pierce stated he has not had a chance to review any design plans at this point or the Permit application, but that he has done some preliminary research with ADEM, and he has gotten his information from them. Mr. Pierce further stated the process would be do review the design plans, specifications, consult with ADEM, and at that point develop a Scope of Work, meaning whether all of the design was complete, or if there was some detention or retention ponds, access roads, and any other items pertinent to the Landfill construction that would be needed. Mr. Pierce stated that Scope would then be estimated as far as a budget established, basically saying that we feel it is going to cost "X amount of dollars" to do the construction and/or project management. Mr. Pierce further stated they would also assist us in bidding that process, anything over \$50,000.00, which he is sure they are aware would have to be publicly "let", and follow state guidelines, policies and procedures there. Mr. Pierce stated they would help manage and implement that particular aspect of the project as well. Mr. Pierce further stated after the Scope of Work was developed and presented to the Council he would also come up with a fee for management of their services which would be based upon the Scope of Work, the Construction, access roads, and etc. Mr. Pierce stated essentially that is the step-by-step process that they would need to go through as a Council in order to do that, whether they choose to keep that "in-house" or consult it out. Mr. Pierce further stated if Council chooses to consult it out for Professional Service, then they may have to go through a "Request for Proposal" process where they solicit proposals from qualified Engineering firms to do this management work. Mr. Pierce stated he does know that in the end ADEM will require a professional engineer to certify that the Landfill was constructed within the guidelines of their Permitting so that will be something that they will have to do. Following discussion, Mayor Evans stated time is of the essence, that they needed to make a decision as to whether or not they are going to accept Mrs. Love as Project Manager or whether or not they are going to ask someone else to be the Project Manager. Councilman Bowie made a motion, seconded by Councilman Williamson, to open this item for bid, for a request for proposal process for the Project Manager, immediately opening with a closing date of May 22, 2009. Mayor Evans stated to Council if Mrs. Love is not wanted, Mrs. Love says she will walk away, and we can eliminate her from the process. Mayor Evans further stated we have timelines that are real critical here. Mayor Evans stated Mr. Pierce has stated he wants to be a part of the selection process, and if they would prefer Mr. Pierce they can move forward, and eliminate Mrs. Love, because of the dynamics of what needs to be drawn up by Mr. Pierce and/or others, he is not sure if there is enough time. President Allen stated to Mayor Evans if the motion passes, she is going to give it to the Administrative Committee, and she thinks the Clerk can do this and she is asking that proposals be given for the Project Manager immediately to the Administrative Committee, and at their next meeting a recommendation will be given. Mayor Evans stated to Council if they want him to, he will withdraw Mrs. Love's name from this, because he does not think this will be good for her at this point, and he would like for the Council to move forward with someone neutral. President Allen stated to Mayor Evans that she is not going to agree with him that it was going to be a negative entity for her because a vote has not been taken and no one can say what her vote is going to be as it relates to that, and it is up to the other Council Persons as to what their decision would be. Councilman Williamson stated to President Allen that he still thinks they should do what she said, and for the Administrative Committee needs to put something together to do a "request for proposal" process for a Project Manager. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a majority vote of the Council members present. There were five affirmative votes and two nay votes. Councilwoman Newton and Councilman Tucker each cast a nay vote. Councilman Randolph was absent when the vote was taken.

Following more discussion, President Allen stated to Council that the Mayor stated he would withdraw Mrs. Love's name, and has given them the option to choose another firm in an effort to not prolong this process any further. President Allen further stated she is asking the Council to reconsider, and to move forward in selecting a firm. Mayor Evans stated Mr. Pierce is here and he believes he is prepared to move forward to getting everything ready, and determining what needs to be done, along with his fee. Mr. Pierce addressed the Council again, and stated he would prepare a proposal which would define the Scope of Work, Project Manager's duties, and the Engineer's responsibilities, and would detail what they would do for the City in regard to implementation of the closing of the Landfill, and opening of the new Landfill. Councilwoman Newton asked Mr. Pierce if he could have this prepared by the next Council meeting? Mr. Pierce stated he could. President Allen stated to Mr. Pierce that she would need the proposal back by next Wednesday, May 20th, and would get copies out to the Council Members. Mr. Pierce stated he could, and that it would not be a fee just to provide the proposal back to us. Mayor Evans stated, for the record, "Mrs. Love tried to talk me out of being a part of this, and I basically wanted to stay focused on it because she had been a part of it. I told Josh today that I have nothing against you personally but if the Council chooses to go a

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different direction, I will stick with the young lady who has been with us all of these years in that project. But, she tried to talk me out of it today, and I said to her 'Mrs. Love', this is nonsense; let's move forward with that. I believe it will work. I want to apologize in the Minutes to her because she asked me to eliminate it but she did state she would work on it, and she stated she wanted to see 'closure' brought to this since she had started it, but it hasn't worked out that way. So, I want to say this for the record, and please let the record reflect that, and we move on." A motion was made by Councilwoman Newton, and seconded by Councilman Bowie, that the Council request a proposal from Goodwyn, Mills and Cawood for Professional Services that detail the Scope of Work as a Project Manager, and includes an estimation of costs by Wednesday, May 20, 2009. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council members present. Councilman Randolph was absent when the vote was taken.

B. **E-911 Calls.** Mayor Evans stated he wanted to mention something for the benefit of the Council and the Citizens. Mayor Evans stated he had a situation on last Friday when he was on the Radio, wherein someone called and indicated that during Prayer time on last Thursday evening, that a group of young people on skates gathered around the Churches and would not leave, and that calls had been made to the E-911 Dispatcher to that effect. Mayor Evans further stated he researched this, and would like to state, for the record, the Dispatchers did their job; the Police Officers did their job, and what happened is a 'system priority'. Mayor Evans further stated on that day they had several 'priority' calls that came through to the dispatch. Mayor Evans stated if a call comes through that is more urgent than the call before it, then it will be delayed. Mayor Evans further stated that call that came through about the 'skaters' was not a priority call as it relates to a call coming through concerning someone who had had a wreck. Mayor Evans stated, therefore, that call concerning the skaters got delayed because they had received several other calls of a more priority nature. Mayor Evans further stated it is no doubt we do need more Police Officers. Mayor Evans stated E-911 has a record of every call that comes through, time and voice, of everything that goes through there, and that he listened and saw that 'himself'. Mayor Evans further stated those calls came through; they tried to respond based on priority. Mayor Evans stated he just want us to understand the process.

C. **Grass Cutting Schedule.** Mayor Evans stated to Council that the Grass Cutting schedule is presently being worked on. Mayor Evans further stated that they go by 'Wards', and presently they are in Ward 8. Mayor Evans stated he will bring back a report to the Council.

D. **Missing Vehicle.** Mayor Evans stated to Council that his "Fellow Council Member" said in a Council meeting last week that a car was missing, but there is no car missing. Mayor Evans further stated whatever that information was that was brought to him, was brought to him in error and he just wants the public to know.

E. **Memorial Day.** Mayor Evans stated and asked Council to remember, that on Memorial Day, May 25th, the "One Moment for Silence" in our City on Memorial Day, at 3 o'clock p.m., to give Veterans that "One Moment of Silence", as well as, non-movement in our City. Mayor Evans further stated we are still working with the Police Department, Sheriff's Department, and the State Troopers are also working with us on this. Mayor Evans stated Ms. Kay Alsobrook is Chairing that Committee for him, and others are working with him; memos also went out to the students this week in hopes that they will be able to observe that, as well. Mayor Evans stated he thinks it is critical and important that we give Veterans that "One Moment" who have lost their lives for the benefit of our safety and security.

F. **Monthly Financial Report.** Mayor Evans stated to Council as they can see the Monthly Financial Report reveals every month we have had a deficit with the exception of December, and at this point Year-to-Date, we are \$227,433.19 less now than we were last year this time. Mayor Evans further stated the economy is 'what it is' based on our revenues that come in, and he wanted them to have this for their review.

G. **Budget.** Mayor Evans stated to Council that they should have before them a copy of the Budget, and that Ms. Mitchell is working on the bound copy of the Budget for them as well.

H. **Over-Time Report - April, 2009.** Mayor Evans stated to Council that they should have before them a copy of the Over-Time Report. Mayor Evans further stated there are five more months in this fiscal period which he hopes we can make it through until then, but that he is monitoring this monthly. Mayor Evans further stated the greatest amount of money spent in over-time is in the Police Department, but in the Police and Fire Departments we do not have much of a choice.

I. **Police Department Reports - April 2009.** Mayor Evans stated to Council that they should also have within their packets a copy of the Ward Incident Reports, for the Month of April 2009. Mayor Evans further stated the report gives all of the incident reports by Wards, along with a copy of the Loud Noise Statistics. Mayor Evans further stated as seen in the report, the percentage of incidents that have been reported total 2,472 for the month in the various Wards. Mayor Evans stated he knows each of them is proud to know, as reflected in the report, that Loud Noise Citations are being issued in the Wards.

J. Phoenix Park Proposal. Mayor Evans stated to Council as they recall, the Phoenix Park Proposal was discussed at the last Council meeting, and they had requested further clarification. Mayor Evans stated that Mr. George Needham, of the Selma/Dallas County Historic Preservation Society, is here and he asked him to come forward to address the Council. Mr. Needham came forward to discuss the proposal for the Phoenix Park, in more detail. Mr. Needham stated at the last Council meeting the Council had asked for more detail, and he has prepared a handout which details the order of accomplishment of the things that have to be done for the Phoenix Park. Mr. Needham further stated he has prepared a "Scope of Work" in detail for the Phoenix Park, and he passed it around for the Council, and stated he would be happy to bring more copies to them later. Mr. Needham stated he is proposing to them a quality park that will be very well facilitated. Following Mr. Needham's explanation, President Allen asked Attorney Nunn to come forward and address the Council as it relates to the "Development and Use Agreement" between the Selma-Dallas County Historic Preservation Society and the City of Selma. Attorney Nunn came forth, and stated that he has been in communication with Mr. Needham on last week and also this morning. Attorney Nunn further stated to Council that they should have before them a 'Development and Use Agreement' between the Selma-Dallas County Historic Preservation Society and the City of Selma. Attorney Nunn stated that some of the issues that may come up, that they need to pay close attention to would be Item D, on the first page of the Agreement, under the "Recitals", "If public utilities, including but not limited to, water, sewer, electrical and gas are required and/or needed, the Historic Preservation Society shall be required to and responsible for any and all cost associated with the connection and establishment of services." Attorney Nunn further stated he thinks it has been agreed upon that once the Selma Water Works & Sewer Board sets the meter, that they will do all of the "hook-ups" as it relates to the meter. Attorney Nunn stated the other concern is that, on page 3 of the Agreement, under "Maintenance", that the "City shall . . . be responsible for payment of all utilities once installed and upon completion of project (water, electrical)." Attorney Nunn further stated on page 2, there are descriptions; one is Lot 1 and Lot 2, and that this is where the dilapidated buildings were on Water Avenue that have been cleaned off, and are now vacant lots. Attorney Nunn explained the remainder of the Agreement in detail, and stated that this is the Agreement that has been prepared as it relates to the Phoenix Park Proposal, and if there are any changes or revisions, per Council, he will be glad to do so. President Allen asked Attorney Nunn, as due diligently as he can, to try and get these types of items to them at least the Thursday prior to the Tuesday Council meeting, or at least by Friday, so that our Council can review those, and he will not have to stand there and read them. Mayor Evans concurred with President Allen. Mayor Evans stated Mr. Needham is basically asking for at least 7 years in terms of this Project, and that if we had to eliminate the contract agreement, that we would have to pay all of the invested monies in that, and he thinks the Council needs to know that because that was not part of the initial discussion he had with the Council. Mayor Evans further stated he has met with Mr. Needham as it relates to this, and that the discussion he had as it relates to the Agreement would be on a month-to-month Agreement because he did not want to be locked in, but with the understanding that they would have a month's notice of the intent to terminate the Agreement. Mr. Needham addressed the Council again and stated he and Mr. Nunn have had serious discussions, and that the Agreement does not represent their discussions. Mr. Needham stated the Phoenix Park is at "no cost to the City; we don't want the property, the land, operating responsibility, we don't want revenue. We want to do something to preserve and that's our Charter, to preserve; to preserve Water Avenue." Mr. Needham further stated Attorney Nunn did a very good job from his point of view, but he is not willing to sign any document like this that extends beyond a "letter of agreement, a simple one-page letter of agreement; I am not going to take on any liabilities". Mr. Needham stated they will use licensed contractors, which means they will obey all of the rules, and obey all of the codes, and will give us a nice looking park, and at a lot of money. Mr. Needham further stated, "please consider this during your deliberations, if you want us to do it. I do not want to sign this." During discussion, President Allen thanked Mr. Needham, and stated she concurs with the Council and Mayor Evans, that this is a project that can be very beneficial to our entire City, and the "aesthetic" appearance of our City. President Allen further stated she is going to place this item into the hands of the Administrative Committee, and ask that the Committee in meeting with Mr. Needham and the Members of this Historic Society once this Memorandum of Agreement is established, that it also be done with the recommendations brought forth by our City Attorney.

K. CNN. Mayor Evans announced to the Council and everyone present that CNN is here, and that they are planning to do an interview with him, and they also want to put us all on "National T.V." Mayor Evans further stated that he just found out on yesterday that they wanted to do this, and he agreed to do it. Mayor Evans stated we are proud to have them in Selma, and proud that they came early in order to televise everybody. Mayor Evans, along with President Allen, thanked CNN for being here, and stated they will let us know when we can see ourselves on "T.V.", and we look forward to that.

L. Stewart King-McKenzie Building. Mayor Evans stated he has been in contact with the owners of the Stewart King-McKenzie Building, and they are going to be forwarding information to us later for the purpose of that Building. Mayor Evans further stated that our City Attorney will be working through the legal process of that.

M. List of Boards and Commissions - Draft. Mayor Evans stated to Council what they have before them is still a "work in progress", but this is the best of their knowledge that they can come up with.

Mayor Evans asked Council to review and if there are any changes to please forward those to him. Mayor Evans stated there are currently some appointments that the Council needs to make. President Allen stated to Mayor that they have been asking for this for some time, and thanked him for preparing it for them.

N. Mayor's Youth Advisory Council. Mayor Evans stated to Council that he asked each Council Member for their help on this, and to turn in at least four names of individuals within the City of Selma in your individual Ward, who can serve on the Mayor's Cabinet as an Advisory Committee. Mayor Evans further stated he would like to get this established this summer, and have our Youth involved in whatever is going on in Selma, in an effort to meet and have dialogue, working together. President Allen asked Council if they, if they have not done so, to please have those names forwarded to Ms. Smothers by next Thursday.

O. Selma-Dallas County Library - Repairs and Maintenance. Mayor Evans stated to Council that Mrs. Becky Nichols had come and met with him, as it relates to some additional help the Library has need of. Mayor Evans further stated he has agreed to donate some of his Oil Lease Money. Councilman Bowie stated he had also spoken with Mrs. Nichols and agreed to give towards the additional help that the Library is in need of. President Allen stated she was going to give some, and asked all Council Members to "show in good faith" with the Mayor and give of their Oil Lease Money. A motion was made by Councilman Bowie, and seconded by Councilwoman Keith, to each give \$986.55 to the Selma-Dallas County Library from the Oil Lease Money. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a majority vote of the Council members present. There were six affirmative votes and one nay vote. Councilman Tucker cast a nay vote, and stated he had had already contributed to the Library. Councilman Randolph was absent when the vote was taken.

P. Dallas County Juvenile Detention Center - Quarterly Performance Report. Mayor Evans stated to Council that he was providing them a copy as an update of the Dallas County Juvenile Detention Center's, Quarterly Performance Report.

Q. Resolution #R200-08/09 - Resolution Authorizing the Adoption of a Written Procurement Policy for the City of Selma. Mayor Evans stated to Council that they should have before them Resolution #R200-08/09, Authorizing the Adoption of a Written Procurement Policy for the City of Selma. Mayor Evans asked Ms. Charlotte Griffeth to come forward in case there are questions from the Council. Mayor Evans further stated Resolution #R200-08/09 represents a procedure that is done every year by the government. Ms. Griffeth stated the Procurement Procedures Resolution is something that has to be adopted for the purpose of ADECA, and in particular, now that the Stimulus money is coming down there are a lot of strict guidelines and regulations, and we need to have that on file to comply with the OMB CIRCULA, and the Common Rule adopted by the State of Alabama in terms of the expenditures of federal funds. Councilman Williamson stated to President Allen that he knows this is routine but the document is nine pages long and he doubts that anyone has had a chance to read it. Mayor Evans stated to President Allen that he received it today or yesterday, and it can be continued until the next Council meeting. President Allen asked Council to please do their due diligence and read it, and be prepared to vote on it at the next Council meeting.

R. Resolution #R201-08/09 - Selection of Proposal for Professional Services as it Relates to the Stabilization and Restoration of the Future Site of the Selma Voting Rights Interpretive Center. Mayor Evans stated to Council that the City is the recipient of funding in the amount of \$492,000.00 appropriated by the United States Congress via the United States Department of the Interior National Parks Service, to continue the stabilization and restoration work on the site of the future Selma Voting Rights Interpretive Center. Mayor Evans further stated he needs Council's approval to ratify engineering of that process. Ms. Griffeth addressed Council and stated one engineering firm submitted their RFP for the Interpretive Center Stabilization Project, which was Goodwyn, Mills and Cawood, and that they are asking Council's approval of appointment of this firm for the preliminary engineering for the Interpretive Center Stabilization Project. A motion was made by Councilman Bowie, and seconded by Councilman Tucker, to approve said Resolution #R201-08/09. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council members present. Councilman Randolph was absent when the vote was taken.

S. Resolution #R202-08/09 - Authorizing a FY 2009 Stimulus CDBG Grant Application to be Filed for the City of Selma Street Reconstruction Project. Mayor Evans stated to Council that Resolution #R202-08/09 deals with Stimulus funds the City is applying for via a CDGB grant, to fund "The City of Selma Street Reconstruction Project", in the amount of \$500,000.00 to improve our streets. A motion was made by Councilwoman Newton, and seconded by Councilwoman Benjamin, to approve said Resolution #R202-08/09. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council members present. Councilman Randolph was absent when the vote was taken.

T. Bridge Maintenance Proposal. Mayor Evans stated we need to proceed with the maintenance and upkeep of our bridges, and he asked Council approval to accept his recommendation to proceed with the proposal amount of \$10,000.00 for three years for maintenance and upkeep of our bridges. A motion was made by Councilman Bowie, and seconded by Councilwoman Newton, to approve \$10,000.00 for the cost of the maintenance and upkeep of our bridges, to be paid out of the Gas Tax Account. A roll call

vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council members present.

U. Voting Rights Walking Tour Sites. Mayor Evans stated he was going to step out, in order to conduct his interview with the CNN Representatives, and asked Mrs. Patti Sexton to come forward and address the Council as it relates to the locations of the historic Markers by the National Parks Service on the National Voting Rights Trail. Mrs. Sexton addressed the Council and stated the Maps that they have show the Sites within the City limits that the Wayside Markers will go, as well as, replacing the City's Markers down on the M.L.K. Jr. Street Walking Trail. Mrs. Sexton further stated there is a Memo in front of their packet of information, that explains what this does for us, which relieves us of the responsibility of the Markers and the maintenance of those Markers. Mrs. Sexton stated keeping them maintained will now become National Parks Service property, and part of the National Trail. Mrs. Sexton further stated the National Trail officially starts at Brown Chapel and goes to the Capitol, but the marking system starts at First Baptist Church/M.L.K. and goes the same route that our Walking Tour encompasses, and then the other Sites are satellite sites around the City that are historic sites that are pertaining to the National Trail. Mrs. Sexton further stated they are all on City's Right-of-Way with the exception of 2 that are Federal and we do not have to approve, and they already have concurrence from the Federal Government to place them; one at the Post Office and one at the Federal Building. Mrs. Sexton stated this is just an update for the Council, about where they are going to be located.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

A. Alcoholic Beverage License - Rothia Johnson WJ's Social Club - 1317 Voeglin Avenue. Attorney Nunn stated to Council that this is a license for a lounge retail liquor license application on behalf of Ms. Rothia Johnson, WJ's Social Club, located at 1317 Voeglin Avenue, which was placed on 1st Reading at the April 14th Council meeting. During discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Tucker, and seconded by Councilwoman Keith, to deny the said lounge retail liquor license application as it relates to WJ's Social Club Lounge Retail Liquor License Application. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council Members present.

B. Ordinance #O118-06/07 - Abatement of Weeds in the City of Selma. Attorney Nunn stated to Council that they should have before them a copy of Ordinance #O118-06/07 which deals with Abatement of Weeds in the City of Selma, and that said Ordinance was passed in July of 2007. Attorney Nunn further stated, as stated in Ordinance #O118-06/07, growth of grass or weeds that exceeds 12 inches high declares property as a public nuisance. Attorney Nunn referenced the "Notice" that goes out, listed on page 2 of said Ordinance, and stated that all of this is per State Law, which was drafted parallel to State Law in July of 2007. Attorney Nunn further stated Ordinance #O118-06/07 is being provided to Council for information purposes, as it relates to the procedure and process that we must follow in cases such as these.

C. Special Election - Update. Attorney Nunn stated to Council that he has placed several calls in to the Justice Department, as it relates to the November date for having the Election. He has called, and they have called him back, but they have not had an opportunity to actually make contact as of yet. President Allen asked Attorney Nunn if he would also look into the date of October for the Election, as well as, that of the November date, and Attorney Nunn stated he would.

BUSINESS ITEMS:

I. FAMILY LIFE CENTER - 850 WOODROW AVENUE

Councilwoman Benjamin stated during the Ward 4 April meeting, Pastor Effel Williams was present to inform them about Family Life Center, which is on the grounds of Tabernacle of Praise Church. Councilwoman Benjamin further stated tonight she is specifically asking the Council to assist in helping the young people go to summer camp which is \$40.00 total for 8 weeks at the Family Life Center, from age 6 - 18. President Allen asked Councilwoman Benjamin if she would forward that request to the Council Secretary so that she could very quickly pass out a discretionary fund request.

II. PLAYGROUNDS FOR EACH WARD

Councilwoman Newton stated one of the things that they had talked about while attending the National League of Cities' Convention, was having a "playful City", and had forwarded some information to the Office of Planning and Development about the same. Councilwoman Newton further stated one of the things she thinks that all of them want is to beautify their Wards, and give the Constituents in their Wards a place to have fun. Councilwoman Newton stated she learned recently that Ward 5 does not have a playground, and that one of the things talked about in the Community Development Committee meeting was to use Oil Lease Money and collaboratively as a Council, place playgrounds that are prominent structures in each Ward, and do it 2 Wards per year. Councilwoman Newton further stated a safe playground with new

BUSINESS ITEMS:

equipment that is up-to-date, mostly made up plastic and fiberglass material runs about \$25,000 - \$30,000 for a small playground, and that what they would be looking at would be an expenditure of about \$50,000 - \$60,000 out of the \$250,000.00 in Oil Lease Money that they get, and that they would like to have that each year for the next 4 years as they continue in term as a Council together. Councilwoman Newton stated they would like to have the first playground go in Ward 5 since Ward 5 does not have any playgrounds or parks, and choose another Ward to get a playground this year, and then go through the same process for next year and so on. Councilwoman Newton further stated she would like to receive feedback from the Council as it relates to this Project. President Allen asked Councilwoman Newton to give them something in writing with complete details and the descriptives as it relates to the amount for each item required for the playground, and bring back a report to the Council at the next meeting for action to be taken at that time.

III. MONTHLY UPDATES AND REPORTS FROM OFFICE OF PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

Councilwoman Benjamin stated the Community Development Committee would like to receive monthly updates for all Council members. President Allen stated she would write a letter of request to that effect, and place a copy in her mailbox.

IV. PLANNING COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS AND ORIENTATION/TRAINING

Councilwoman Benjamin stated the Mayor appoints the Planning Commission as well, and she and the Community Development Committee would like to know if he would consider recommendations from the Council before he makes his final decision on the appointments, and that the new Planning Board members would be trained. President Allen asked Councilwoman Benjamin to forward her a letter to that effect, and she would then forward a letter to the Mayor.

V. SUNDAY LIQUOR SALE

President Allen stated she did make contact with our Honorable Senator Sanders as was requested by this Council. President Allen passed out a response letter that was sent to Senator Sanders as it relates to the Sunday liquor sales being introduced in the Legislative Session. President Allen further stated in that letter was stated that the City Council appreciates his consideration in allowing this Body to make the decision as to whether liquor should be sold on Sundays within the City limits. President Allen stated Senator Sanders thought that it was a request that was reasonable, and he said that he would do his due diligence to do so.

VI. POLICE PATROL OF CEDAR PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, FRESH ANOINTING CHURCH, AND LAWRENCE STREET

Councilwoman Benjamin stated there was some vandalism at Cedar Park Elementary School and Fresh Anointing Church, which was of similar-type; coiling from the air conditioner was taken, air conditioning units were destroyed, and on Lawrence Street, she has received several calls about two abandoned houses. Councilwoman Benjamin stated she would like to request extra Police patrol in those areas, and she was asked by President Allen to put that request in writing to Chief of Police Riley, along with a copy to the Public Safety Committee. President Allen also asked that Public Safety Committee would bring back a report to the Council of that discussion.

VII. BEAUTIFICATION COLLABORATION

Councilwoman Benjamin stated on this coming Saturday, May 14th, Ward 4 is asking for Volunteers for a massive "clean-up", especially around the parameters of Ward 4, and join with them as "neighbors helping neighbors". President Allen asked Council to immediately after adjournment of this meeting, to please get with the Council Secretary and express to her who can assist.

VIII. ENTRANCE INTO CITY "WELCOME" SIGNS

Councilman Williamson stated earlier in this Administration, the signs of the Council Members' Names and the Mayor' "Welcome" signs at the foot of the bridge and on W. Dallas Avenue, were removed and nothing has been put in their place. Councilman Williamson further stated he noticed today the sign at the foot of the bridge that everything is gone, and it is just a big "blank" there, and asked if there was anything going to be put in its place. Mayor Evans stated the signs were taken down, and work is underway to have them placed back. Mayor Evans further stated some of them need to be refurbished, and even repainted in his opinion but that they have not been thrown away. Mayor Evans passed around a copy of what is being done to the sign that is going to be available for the citizens to review and have input. Mayor Evans stated on the "pillars" will be the names of the civic organizations, and some of them may need to be repainted. Mayor Evans further stated he is meeting with the civic organizations on Monday to offer an explanation, and answer any questions that they may have as it relates to the intent of the signs.

BUSINESS ITEMS:

IX. MEADOWCRAFT LETTER

Councilwoman Keith stated that they all should have received a copy of a letter from Meadowcraft on this last week, and that she is glad that they made contact with the Council before it got to be circumstances like some of the other manufacturing companies did. Councilwoman Keith further stated that she wanted to ask whether President Allen and Mayor Evans could send a letter, and if they could do what they did before for the other companies, and to ask our Legislative Delegates to research every resource possible to assist Meadowcraft. A motion was made by Councilwoman Keith, and seconded by Councilman Tucker, that President Allen and Mayor Evans prepare a "Letter of Support" to Legislators on behalf of Meadowcraft. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council members present.

X. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM GARBAGE COLLECTION & ENVIRONMENTAL COURT SUB-COMMITTEES

Councilwoman Keith stated she and Councilman Tucker met on yesterday about the Garbage Committee. Councilwoman Keith further stated the Amnesty Period that they had had a lot of hope for did not yield a lot of results. Councilwoman Keith stated the Committee will be meeting again on Tuesday, May 19th, to discuss collection activities and further recommendations on how those garbage collections should best be handled. Councilwoman Keith stated that they will be moving forward with the establishment of the Environmental Court, and will also be meeting on next Tuesday on that as well. Councilwoman Keith further stated they had made application for a recycling grant, but unfortunately it was not approved. Councilwoman Keith stated that they are still going to move forward with the recycling program.

XI. SKATEBOARD ORDINANCE

Councilman Williamson stated to President Allen, if she recalls, the last Council spent about \$80,000.00 for a "state of the art" park, and now we are having a problem with people skating through Prayer meetings, and on Church properties, and things like, and asked if we have a skateboard ordinance in this City? President Allen and Mayor Evans both responded that we do not. Councilman Williamson stated he would like to see what other cities have in place as it relates to a skateboard ordinance. Mayor Evans stated he would be asking the Chief of Police to follow-up on this problem. President Allen asked that the City Attorney research this issue as it relates to a skateboard ordinance, and forward a draft of this to the Public Safety Committee.

XII. MOVIE THEATER - UPDATE

Mayor Evans stated he spoke with Ms. Boynton of the Selma Mall this week, and that a tentative date for the opening of the Movie Theater is set for sometime in August.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

RECREATION COMMITTEE - Councilman Samuel Randolph, Chairman

No report.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE - Councilwoman Monica Newton, Chairman

Councilwoman Newton made a 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

No report.

DISCRETIONARY COMMITTEE - President Geraldine Allen, Chairperson

President Allen reported on Family Life Center, 850 Woodrow Avenue, for a total of \$500.00 from Mayor Evans, Councilman Williamson, Councilwoman Keith, Councilwoman Newton, Councilwoman Benjamin, Councilman Bowie and herself, as sponsors for the Summer Youth Camp there.

Note: President Allen stated she is asking each Standing Committee to please give the time and date of your committee meeting to the Council Secretary, whereby she can send out E-mails to all of them.

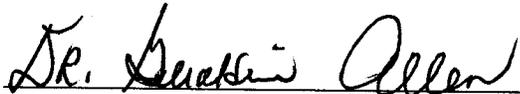
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES - Councilwoman Angela Benjamin, Chairperson

Councilwoman Benjamin made a report.

CLOSING REMARKS BY EACH COUNCIL MEMBER.

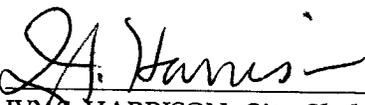
ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, a motion was made by Councilwoman Keith, and seconded by Councilman Randolph, to adjourn, and by unanimous consent of the Council, this meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.



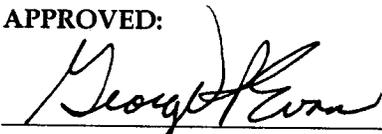
DR. GERALDINE ALLEN, *Council President*

ATTEST:



IVY S. HARRISON, *City Clerk*

APPROVED:



GEORGE PATRICK EVANS, *Mayor*