

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL CALLED
SELMA CITY COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 1, 2009
5:00 P.M.**

Call to Order

Invocation: Reverend Councilman Benny L. Tucker

Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL

The Selma City Council met in a Special Called Session in the Council Chambers of City Hall on Tuesday, September 1, 2009, at 5:00 p.m., with the following Council Members present during roll call: Council President Dr. Geraldine Allen and Council Members Dr. Cecil Williamson, 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. Councilwoman Keith was absent during roll call, but arrived at 5:12 p.m. Councilman Randolph was absent from the Special Called Meeting.

President Allen stated the purpose of this Special Called Meeting is to discuss the Bond Ordinance, and placing it on 1st Reading.

I. PROPOSED BOND DISCUSSION - ORDINANCE #O120-08/09, AN ORDINANCE ORDERING AN ELECTION TO BE HELD IN THE CITY OF SELMA ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2009, FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUBMITTING TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE CITY, FOR THEIR DETERMINATION BY BALLOT, THE PROPOSITION TO ISSUE BONDS FOR VARIOUS MUNICIPAL IMPROVEMENTS.

President Allen asked Mayor Evans if he was passing out the revised information as it relates to the Bond, as well as, the answers to the questions from the Council's Work Session. Mayor Evans passed out information related to that and stated that there had been some items deleted since the Council's Work Session, which include the 15 Hand-Held "Walkie-Talkies" from the Police Department, and One-Half Million Dollars taken from the IT Department. Mayor Evans further stated that the Bond Projects have now been cut down to Eleven Million Dollars. During discussion, Mr. Tommy Smith, Interim Public Works Director, was asked to come forward and address the Council with questions that they had as it relates to the Side Curbing and Gutter Machine. Mrs. Kay Jones, Public Buildings Director, was also asked to come forward and address the Council as it relates to answering the question about the amount of \$72,000.00 in the Bond for the Elevator at the Vaughan-Smitherman Museum. Chief Riley was asked to come forward and address the Council as it relates to answering the question about the cost of the 30 Rugged Notebook Computers. President Allen stated each item that has been brought up by the Council Members for discussion will be voted on individually; namely:

- (1) \$50,000.00 for Each Ward for Neighborhood Revitalization - Dilapidated Houses or Repair of Roads;
- (2) \$350,000.00 for Trash-Landfill Closing Project;
- (3) The possibility of adding Street Pavement, Gutter and Sidewalk Equipment in the amount of \$250,000.00 (Councilwoman Crenshaw);
- (4) Addition of Old Marion Junction Road from Crescent Hill to the City Limits (Councilman Williamson);
- (5) \$500,000.00 Reduction in Short-Term Equipment, and \$500,000.00 additional Increase in Sewer Projects to be determined by the Council;
- (6) \$500,000.00 Reduction in Public Buildings; and
- (7) Deletion of Business Application Upgrade/Software Modules by \$125,000.00.

Mayor Evans addressed the Council and stated to Council that based upon shifting items to the General Fund at this point, "It's just not there unless something wonderful happens in terms of economic prosperity". Mayor Evans further stated items such as, Cars, Zero Turns and Trucks, are on the front-end of the Bond for the purpose of paying them off first, and within the first five (5) years, will be paid off in the Bond, and are not extended through the life of the Bond. Mayor Evans stated if we go to a Twelve Million Dollar Bond there is also potential for about \$800,000.00 in the Bond, to still decide where they want to go with it, and it could be for infrastructure. Also, during discussion, Mayor Evans passed out a "sample" of what the Ballot would look like.

Mayor Evans stated what is in the Bond now are items that are "first priorities" in terms of "needs" now. Mayor Evans further stated that there is no question about the Fire Stations in our City, and the "dire" needs that they are in need of in terms of improvements now. Mayor Evans further stated Fire Station #2, in his opinion, is the worst one of all, and needs a major "overhaul". Councilwoman Newton stated she had done site visits to the Fire Stations today, and concurs that they are in very bad need for improvements; particularly, the air conditioning for the Fire Stations.

During discussion, President Allen stated she has spoken with Attorney Nunn about the process for this, and his statement to her was that the best way to do this is, any additions and deletions of the Bond Projects to vote on those prior to voting the full Bond itself, and that is what they will do. President Allen stated those items are:

- (1) Street Pavement, Gutter and Sidewalk Equipment in the amount of \$250,000.00. Councilwoman Crenshaw asked that this item be removed.
- (2) Old Marion Junction Road from Crescent Hill until the City Limits in the amount of \$112,000.00.
- (3) \$50,000.00 Each Ward Offered to Neighborhood Revitalization for Road Repair or Demolition of Houses. President Allen stated that she has spoken with Attorney Nunn who stated, legally, it has to be specific to what is allowed in the Bond, and that this would be managed just as condemned properties are; approval by the Council, and then followed by the same procedures that are in place for condemned properties.
- (4) \$350,000 for the Trash-Landfill Closure.
- (5) \$500,000.00 Reduction in Short-Term Equipment with an Additional \$500,000.00 in Sewage Repair.
- (6) \$500,000.00 Reduction in Repair of Public Buildings.
- (7) Deletion of Business Application Upgrade/Software Modules by \$125,000.00.

During further discussion, Councilwoman Crenshaw stated if they do not get the \$50,000.00 for each Ward for Neighborhood Revitalization passed, then her recommendation is to move the Public Buildings Repair to the Ward Neighborhood Revitalization.

Following the above discussion, President Allen again stated that the Council will vote on Additions and Deletions first, and then vote on the Bond Ordinance, #O120-08/09 separately:

(1) Addition to the Bond - Old Marion Junction Road from Crescent Hill to the City Limits in the amount of \$112,000.00. A motion was made by Councilman Williamson, and seconded by Councilwoman Keith, to approve the addition of Old Marion Junction Road from Crescent Hill to the City Limits in the amount of \$112,000.00 to the Bond. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council Members present. Councilman Randolph was absent from the Council Meeting.

(2) Addition to the Bond - \$50,000.00 to each Ward for Neighborhood Revitalization which includes Road Repair or Demolition of Houses. A motion was made by Councilman Bowie, and seconded by Councilman Tucker, to approve the amount of \$50,000.00 to each Ward for Neighborhood Revitalization which includes Road Repair or Demolition of Houses, in the amount of \$400,000.00 to the Bond. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council Members present. Councilman Randolph was absent from the Council Meeting.

(3) Addition to the Bond - \$350,000.00 for the Trash-Landfill Closure. A motion was made by Councilwoman Crenshaw, and seconded by Councilman Bowie, to approve the addition of \$350,000.00 for the Trash-Landfill Closure to the Bond. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a majority vote of the Council. There were six affirmative votes and two nay votes. President Allen and Councilman Williamson each cast a nay vote. Councilman Randolph was absent from the Council Meeting.

(4) \$500,000.00 Reduction in Short-Term Equipment - Addition to the Bond - \$500,000.00 to Sewage Repair. A motion was made by Councilwoman Newton, and seconded by Councilman Tucker, to approve the \$500,000.00 Reduction in Short-Term Equipment with an Addition of \$500,000.00 to Sewage repair, and that it includes Old Marion Junction Road for Sewage Repair in the amount of \$112,000.00. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a majority vote of the Council. There were six affirmative votes and two nay votes. President Allen and Councilwoman Benjamin each cast a nay vote. Councilman Randolph was absent from the Council Meeting.

(5) Deletion from the Bond - \$500,000.00 from Public Buildings Repair - Addition to Short-Term Equipment - \$500,000.00. A motion was made by Councilwoman Crenshaw, and seconded by Councilwoman Benjamin, to delete \$500,000.00 from Public Buildings Repair, and an Addition back to Short-Term Equipment of \$500,000.00. Councilwoman Newton asked if the motion could be amended to be split between Public Buildings Repair and the Public Works Department. During discussion, an amended motion was made by Councilwoman Crenshaw, and seconded by Councilwoman Benjamin, to decrease the amount of \$250,000.00 from Public Buildings Repair and from the Public Works Department each, total reduction of \$500,000.00 overall, and place \$250,000.00 back to Short-Term Equipment. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a majority vote of the Council. There were six affirmative votes and two nay votes. Councilman Williamson and Councilman Tucker each cast a nay vote. Councilman Randolph was absent from the Council Meeting.

(6) Deletion from the Bond - \$125,000.00 - Business Application Upgrade - Software Modules. A motion was made by Councilman Williamson to delete Software Modules for the Business Application Upgrade from the Bond in the amount of \$125,000.00. The motion failed for lack of a second to it.

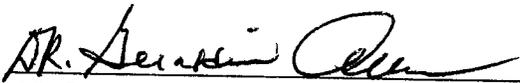
Following the above discussion and action, a motion was made by Councilman Bowie, and seconded by Councilman Tucker, to place the Bond Ordinance, #O120-08/09, on 1st Reading, subject to revisions to add Seven Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$750,000.00) to the Bond, and correction of the voting precinct locations, not to exceed the amount of Twelve Million Dollars (\$12,000,000.00) for the Bond. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council Members present. Councilman Randolph was absent from the Council Meeting.

II. PRESENTATION ON TRAFFIC TICKET CAMERAS.

Mr. Graham L. Champion, Chairman, Public Strategies, LLC. Mr. Champion who represents LaserCraft, a Public Safety Equipment Company, presented the Council with an overview and summary of services as it relates to "Automated Red Light Enforcement (Traffic Ticket Cameras)" for the City of Selma.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, a motion was made by Councilman Williamson, and seconded by Councilwoman Crenshaw, to adjourn, and by unanimous consent of the Council, this meeting adjourned at 6:57 p.m.


DR. GERALDINE ALLEN, *Council President*

ATTEST:


IVY S. HARRISON, *City Clerk*

APPROVED:


GEORGE PATRICK EVANS, *Mayor*