

**MINUTES OF THE
SELMA CITY COUNCIL
AUGUST 24, 2010
5:00 P.M.**

Call to Order

Invocation: Dr. Jerry Light, Pastor
First Baptist Church

Pledge of Allegiance

The Selma City Council met in a regular session in the Council Chambers of City Hall on Tuesday, August 24, 2010 at 5:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The following Members were present during roll call: Council President Dr. Cecil Williamson and Council Members Councilwoman Susan Keith, Councilwoman Dr. Monica Newton, Councilman Samuel L. Randolph, Councilman Benny L. Tucker, and Councilman 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 Ms. Brenda Smothers. Councilwoman Angela Benjamin was absent during roll call, but arrived at 5:15 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

President Williamson asked for the approval of the agenda items. A motion was made by Councilwoman Keith, and seconded by Councilman Tucker, to approve the agenda items, as written, with the addition of the "Future Leaders/Youth Ambassador 2009/2010" Year Ending Report, and the "NBC Leo Conference" Report, to be made by Councilwoman Crenshaw. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council Members present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

After approval of the agenda, President Williamson asked for the approval of the minutes of August 10, 2010 regular meeting minutes. A motion was made by Councilwoman Newton, and seconded by Councilman Tucker, to approve the minutes of August 10, 2010, with the correction made under Item Q of the Mayor's Report, "Update on the Farmers Market Pavilion", as it relates to the commitment of each Council Member, in the amount of \$3,175.00, instead of \$5,000.00. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council Members present.

CITIZENS' REQUEST

Mr. Don Bevel
Re: Historical Markers

Mrs. Barbara Williams (Ms. Donna Harrison) - "Women's Ministry" - Crosspoint Christian Church
Re: *Beth Moore Conference* - Live "Simulcast" - September 18th, from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Attorney Faya Rose Toure'
Re: Process for Removal of Citizen(s) from the Council Chamber

Due to the length of Attorney Toure's Presentation, a motion was made by Councilwoman Newton, and seconded by Councilwoman Crenshaw, to allow her two (2) additional minutes to speak. An "ayes" vote of the Council was taken, and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council.

Before the end of Attorney Toure's Presentation, she was ruled "out of order" by President Williamson. Councilwoman Keith stated to President Williamson, "point of order", she moves to adjourn this meeting. President Williamson called for a Recess of the Council Meeting at 5:32 p.m., and everyone was removed from the Council Chamber, with the exception of Mayor Evans, Council Members, Department Heads and City Employees. President Williamson made the following statement of record: "I cleared the Chamber because of the disorderliness in the interest of public safety."

City Attorney Nunn made the following statement of record: "I want to advise the Council as it relates to disorderly conduct within the Council Chambers, during a Council Meeting. We have talked to the League of Municipalities, and we have researched and pulled the State Law; there is a leading Case on this matter in which it states clearly, . . . 'that the City Council or the President of the City Council does have a right to maintain order within the Council Chambers, but it is not an "overreaching" authority that the Council President has'. This Case deals with an individual that came to the Council Meeting and they disbarred that individual from the Council Meeting for 3 months, but the Court and the Judge did rule and state that that was "overreaching", but during a single Council Meeting where the behavior would be "decisive" to the public, or behavior that is slanderous; comments that are not on the topic, that the presiding officer at the meeting has the authority to maintain order, and keep debate to the topic at hand; to hold otherwise is to deny the presiding officer the authority to regulate irrelevant debate and disruptive behavior at a public meeting, would cause such meeting to drag on for a long time, and deny others the opportunity to "voice their opinions during the meeting." Attorney Nunn further stated that their ruling was, that the Presiding Officer of the Council, does not preclude the Presiding Officer of the City Council from having any person, not a Council Member, making personal, impertinent or slanderous remarks, who shall become boisterous or loud when Council is in session, removed from the Council Meeting. Attorney Nunn stated what this is saying is that this Case does not prevent a Presiding Officer from having someone within the Council Chambers removed from the Council Chambers so that the Council can go along and handle the business of the City. Attorney Nunn further stated that you do not want to be "overreaching" to deny that person the opportunity to come to the "next meeting, and the next meeting", because you will be "stepping on" and infringing on someone's constitutional rights.

President Williamson asked Attorney Nunn, "is it your opinion that we can go on with this meeting, and that we've cleared the Chamber because of disruption?" Attorney Nunn answered and replied, "it is my opinion that anyone who has been disorderly or anyone who is using slanderous remarks, or becomes boisterous, within the City Council can be removed, and not be allowed to come back into "this" meeting." Attorney Nunn stated if someone is disorderly he or she will have to be escorted out of the Council Meeting, so that we could have the Meeting.

During discussion, President Williamson stated to Mayor Evans; "Mayor we are going to take your suggestion; we'll let everybody back in." Chief Riley stated to President Williamson that before they let individuals back in, he would like to make the Announcement to the "croud", that if they get out of hand, they will be escorted out, and will not be allowed to come back into this particular meeting. President Williamson stated to Chief Riley, "getting out of hand" includes anyone who speaks from the audience without the permission from the Chairperson, because we have an Ordinance in place which supports that; "we won't have shouting and hollering from the audience". President Williamson asked Chief Riley to go ahead and make the Announcement, and allow people back in. Following the removal of everyone from the Council Chamber, in an effort to restore "order", individuals were allowed to come back into the Council Chamber, and the Council Meeting was called back to order, and continued at 6:13 p.m.

Mr. Buddy Swift
Re: Old Y.M.C.A. Building

Reverend Franklin Fortier
Re: S.C.L.C. Selma City Clean-Up

Mrs. Katie Clark
Re: Accountability of the City Council

MAYOR'S REPORT

PRESENTATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS

Mayor Evans stated he would like to indicate that there was a *Presentation* made by the Rotary Club by Mr. Beau Boyd and Attorney Valerie Chittom, to the Farmers Market in the amount of \$2,500.00, but they had to leave and did not know whether this Council Meeting would be continued after Recess, but they did present a check to the City of Selma, on behalf of improvements to the Farmers Market at Bloch Park. Mayor Evans stated that he wanted to thank the Rotary Club for their contribution towards improving that Facility.

MAYOR'S REPORT

**Proclamation Declaring September 17, 2010 – September 23, 2010,
as "Constitution Week" in the City of Selma, Alabama.**

Mayor Evans read a Proclamation in Honor of "Constitution Week, 2010" in the City of Selma, Alabama in its entirety, and encouraged all Citizens to reaffirm the ideals the "Framers" of the Constitution had in the year, 1787. Mayor Evans, on behalf of himself as Mayor, the City Council, and the City of Selma recognized this magnificent document, and the anniversary of its creation, and the said Proclamation was received with a "round of applause".

PRESENTATION OF LONGEVITY CERTIFICATES AND PINS

Mayor Evans stated he would like to present Certificates of Service and Longevity Pins in recognition of the following employees: Police Officer Willie Calhoun, Selma Police Department, *Five Years of Service* to the City of Selma; Ms. Nicole Reeves, Legal Department, *Five Years of Service* to the City of Selma; Mr. James Hunter, Cemetery Department, *Ten Years of Service* to the City of Selma; and Mr. Jonas Lewis, Cemetery Department, *Thirty-Five Years of Service* to the City of Selma; a very "Special Thank You" for so many years of service to our City. Mayor Evans stated he would like to thank each of them for their Years of Dedicated Service to the City of Selma, and also presented each of them with a Longevity Pin. They were each received with a "round of applause".

A. **Resolution #R262-09/10, Authorization to Enter into Agreement with American Traffic Solutions, Incorporated to Provide an Automated Red Light Enforcement System.** Mayor Evans stated to Council that Resolution #R262-09/10, Authorization to Enter into Agreement with American Traffic Solutions, Incorporated to Provide an Automated Red Light Enforcement System, if they recall represents authorization of the Mayor to enter into Agreement with American Traffic Solutions, Incorporated, for the purpose of moving forward, and it is his recommendation to do so. A motion was made by Councilman Bowie, and seconded by Councilwoman Newton, to approve Resolution #R262-09/10, Authorization to Enter into Agreement with American Traffic Solutions, Incorporated to Provide an Automated Red Light Enforcement System. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a majority vote of the Council. There were seven affirmative votes and one nay vote. Councilwoman Crenshaw cast a nay vote. During roll call, Councilwoman Crenshaw stated her vote is "no" due to the fact that this only identifies a tag, and not an individual.

B. **Resolution #R254-09/10, Authorization to Amend Contract Agreement with Hogg Engineering Corporation As It Relates to the Water Avenue Streetscape/Utility Project.** Mayor Evans stated to Council that they should have before them a copy of Resolution #R254-09/10, Authorization to Amend Contract Agreement with Hogg Engineering Corporation, as it relates to the Water Avenue Streetscape Project. Mayor Evans asked Ms. Charlotte Griffeth to come forward, in the event the Council has questions. Mayor Evans stated it is his recommendation to approve Resolution #R254-09/10. A motion was made by Councilman Randolph, and seconded by Councilman Tucker, to approve Resolution #R254-09/10, Authorization to Amend Contract Agreement with Hogg Engineering Corporation, as it relates to the Water Avenue Streetscape/Utility Project. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a majority vote of the Council. There were seven affirmative votes and one nay vote. Councilwoman Crenshaw cast a nay vote.

C. **Resolution #R266-09/10, Award of Contract in the Amount of \$808,781.00 to Cooper Brothers Construction Company, for Proposed Improvements to the Public Buildings and the Library.** Mayor Evans stated to Council that they should each have before them a copy of Resolution #R266-09/10, Award of Contract in the Amount of \$808,781.00 to Cooper Brothers Construction Company, for Proposed Improvements to Public Buildings, and the Library. Mayor Evans stated it is his recommendation to accept the low bid from Cooper Brothers Construction Company, for the purpose of improvements to our Public Buildings, and the Public Library. Mayor Evans further stated as a reminder to the Council to see if the additional amount of \$40,000.00 over the budgeted amount is still needed to complete this Project, and whether it could be funded with Oil Lease Monies. President Williamson stated that he would circulate the Form around to all of the Council, in the event they would like to help with this Project. Councilwoman Crenshaw stated she was glad to know that local contractors had bidden and received contracts for bond projects; however, she had real concerns for the considerations of minorities to get work. Councilwoman Crenshaw asked Mayor Evans for a report on the number of Minorities that have been hired as subcontractors and laborers. Mayor Evans stated that we did stress that in our bond process and that he certainly concurs with her on that, and he will be happy to solicit that information, and get it for her, as well as, to the Council. Mayor Evans stated that he indicated to Mr. McKee that we certainly want Minorities employed; locally mainly. During discussion, a motion was made by Councilwoman Newton, and seconded by Councilman Tucker, to approve Resolution #R266-09/10, Award of Contract in the Amount of \$808,781.00 to Cooper Brothers Construction Company, for Proposed Improvements to the Public Buildings and the Library. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council.

D. Resolution #R267-09/10, Award of Contract in the Amount of \$609,542.00 to Cooper Brothers Construction Company, for Proposed Improvements to Selma Fire Departments and the Police Department. Mayor Evans stated to Council that they should also have before them a copy of Resolution #R267-09/10, Award of Contract in the Amount of \$609,542.00 to Cooper Brothers Construction Company, for Proposed Improvements to the Selma Fire Departments, and the Police Department. Mayor Evans stated it is his recommendation to accept the low bid from Cooper Brothers Construction Company, for the purpose of improvements to the Selma Fire Departments, and the Police Department. Mayor Evans further stated as a reminder to the Council to see if the additional amount of \$40,000.00 over the budgeted amount is still needed to complete this Project, and whether it could be funded with Oil Lease Monies. President Williamson stated that he would circulate the Form around to all of the Council, in the event they would like to help with this Project. During discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Bowie, and seconded by Councilwoman Newton, to approve Resolution #R267-09/10, Award of Contract in the Amount of \$808,781.00 to Cooper Brothers Construction Company, for Proposed Improvements to the Public Buildings and the Library. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council. Note: President Williamson stated to Mayor Evans that they have \$19,000.00, depending on what he wants to give out of his, and that Councilman Bowie is going to give once he gets his "total", and that they said on last night that they would place the remaining amount in the Budget, which in this case would be \$16,000.00 minus whatever Councilman Bowie is able to give.

E. Resolution #R265-09/10, Authorization to Enter into Agreement with Blackbelt Technologies for Engineering and Inspection Services for Broadband Infrastructure Bond Project. Mayor Evans stated to Council that they should each have before them a copy of Resolution #R265-09/10, Authorization to Enter into Agreement with Blackbelt Technologies for Engineering and Inspection Services for Broadband Infrastructure Bond Project. Mayor Evans stated to Council that Resolution #R265-09/10 authorizes him to negotiate, and bring back bids for the Council to approve at a later date. A motion was made by Councilwoman Benjamin, and seconded by Councilwoman Newton, to approve Resolution #R265-09/10, Authorization to Enter into Agreement with Blackbelt Technologies for Engineering and Inspection Services for Broadband Infrastructure Bond Project. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council.

F. City Marina - Update. Mayor Evans stated to Council that the City Marina is still a "Work-In-Progress", and that we will still have to discuss how we are going to put that Project together for the Marina.

G. Walking Trail - Update. Mayor Evans stated to Council that the Walking Trail is approximately 50% of Completion, which is a 10 Foot Wide Area Walking Trail that originates at the foot of Grumbles Restaurant, and goes around the Warehouse. Mayor Evans stated it is going to be a beautiful sight once it is completed.

H. City of Selma - Open House - Update. Mayor Evans stated that he appreciates the Council Members and Citizens who came by on last week, Tuesday and Thursday, for the benefit of all of Department Heads and Staff, doing Presentations, PowerPoint Presentations and Handouts, to give the public information about "what we do", and "how we do it", and to answer any questions that they may have had. Mayor Evans further stated he wanted to commend the Departments and Staff, for the outstanding and professional job that they did. Mayor Evans stated he was really surprised himself how "super" well the Departments did with that Project, and he just want to say publicly that they did an outstanding job, and it is his intention and plan to do similar events such as that, twice a year, and that the next one would be probably be done in March, 2011, possibly at the Convention Center.

I. Reminder, and Announcements. Mayor Evans stated he would like to announce and advise the Council of the following:

(1) *City-Wide Clean-Up Day - September 18th - Mayor Evans reminded the Council and Citizens of the City-Wide Clean-Up Day, on September 18th, and encouraged anyone who would like to be a volunteer to be a part of this to meet between 7:00 a.m. and 7:30 a.m., at the Convention Center.*

(2) *Pavement of our Streets' Bids will go out on September 23rd.*

(3) *Bush Hog - Update - Governor Riley awarded us \$300,000.00 for the Bush Hog Project, and when the Bids go out, it will encompass all of the streets in that vicinity, and it is still a Work-In-Progress.*

(4) *The Rescue Truck for the Selma Fire Department will be delivered to us on Thursday, August 26th, tentatively around 2:00 p.m., per Chief Stokes.*

(5) *Mayor Evans stated it had just been brought to his attention that, Mrs. Amelia Boynton celebrated her 100th Year Birthday this past weekend, he thinks in Atlanta, and that he would like for us to give her a "round of applause" in Honor of her Birthday! Following her applause, Mayor Evans stated she is so deserving of that "round of applause", and that he is going to prepare a Proclamation to be sent to her, on behalf of all of us, acknowledging her*

"100th Birthday", and thanking her for what she did to make it possible for all of us to be where we are today as Elected Officials, and Black Leaders of our Country.

J. **Bid Process.** Councilwoman Crenshaw stated to Mayor Evans that she just has a question, for the record, since we have started bidding on Projects. Councilwoman Crenshaw further stated that she had a person to ask her, where should a person go to put in a bid for a contract, and I sent him to Ivy, as City Clerk. Councilwoman Crenshaw stated that this individual came back to her, and stated that Ivy referred him to the Mayor's office, to obtain information about that particular Bid, because it was her understanding that Mr. Walter McKee was handling the bids and proposals on the Bond Projects for Public Buildings. Councilwoman Crenshaw asked Mayor Evans who is to handle the bidding process? Mayor Evans responded and stated that Mr. Walter McKee would be accepting the contracts for bids on those Projects, and that those bids come from his office, and anybody who would like to be considered, to get the information to Mrs. Ivy Harrison. Councilwoman Crenshaw stated that Mrs. Harrison did not have any information and the person had to go to Mr. McKee. Mayor Evans stated he just found out today that she was in a meeting when they brought the Bids here to be opened on that day, and they were opened in front of Ms. Charlotte Griffeth, but did take place here in the Council Chamber. Mayor Evans further stated to Councilwoman Crenshaw that the Council got a copy of who the low Bidders were. Mayor Evans stated Mrs. Harrison should be a part of bid openings, and he is not sure of where the breakdown may have occurred on that, and would have to apologize to anyone for that. Mayor Evans further stated that he will have to get with Mrs. Harrison to find out the details on that, but that is what happened.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

A. **Resolution #R263-09/10 - Authority to Abate and Remove Weeds Declared as Public Nuisance (Weed Abatement, Phase 2).** Attorney Nunn stated to Council that what they have before them is Resolution #R263-09/10, Authority to Abate and Remove Weeds Declared as Public Nuisance, Weed Abatement Phase 2. Attorney Nunn further stated that there are 26 properties listed, along with a listing of the Wards that the properties are located within. Attorney Nunn further stated they have been declared a public nuisance by the Council, and the property owners have failed to cut the weeds and grass within their property, and we did not receive any objection within the City Clerk's office. Attorney Nunn stated Resolution #R263-09/10 gives the Public Works Department authority to proceed in cutting the weeds and/or grass on the property, or a reputable private contractor to provide the lowest responsible quote to remove the weeds and/or overgrown grass on the properties. A motion was made by Councilwoman Newton, and seconded by Councilman Randolph, to approve Resolution #R263-09/10, Authority to Abate and Remove Weeds Declared as Public Nuisance (Weed Abatement, Phase 2). A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council Members present.

B. **Alcoholic Beverage License - Danny Ray Huett d/b/a Bottoms Up - 2519 Highway 14, East.** Attorney Nunn stated to Council that they should have before them an Alcoholic Beverage License Application as it relates to Bottoms Up for a Lounge Retail Liquor - Class I License, which is located at 2519 Highway 14, East. Attorney Nunn stated if Council recalls, said Alcoholic Beverage License Application was brought before the Council in 2009, and expired this year in 2010, and that it is being presented to the Council for consideration to renew his license. Attorney Nunn stated said Alcoholic Beverage License Application is up for 1st Reading tonight, and asked Council's consideration of the same. A motion was made by Councilman Randolph, and seconded by Councilman Tucker, to place said Alcoholic Beverage License Application of Bottoms Up, on 1st Reading. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a majority vote of the Council. There were seven affirmative votes, and one abstention. Councilwoman Newton abstained from voting.

C. **Ordinance #O112-09/10 - Smoking Ordinance Amendment, An Ordinance Amending Ordinance #O110-04/05, Known as the "Smoking Ordinance".** Attorney Nunn stated to Council that if they recall during the Work Session, Ordinance #O112-09/10, Smoking Ordinance Amendment, is being sponsored by Councilwoman Keith, to make revisions so that it will encompass sports' pavilions, parks, playgrounds, trails, bike trails, sport complexes, stadiums, gymnasiums, health spas, boxing arenas, swimming pools, roller and ice skating rinks, bowling alley, amphitheater, and other similar places where members of the general public assemble. Attorney Nunn further stated Ordinance #O112-09/10 was placed on 1st Reading, and is up for passage tonight. A motion was made by Councilwoman Keith, and seconded by Councilwoman Newton, to approve Ordinance #O112-09/10, Smoking Ordinance Amendment, an Ordinance Amending Ordinance #O110-04/05, known as the "Smoking Ordinance". A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council.

D. **Special Municipal Election - Update.** Attorney Nunn stated during the last Council Meeting we did vote on the Election Officials for the Special Municipal Election on September 28, 2010. Attorney Nunn further stated we only had two (2) people to qualify for the Special Municipal Election; Attorney Tommy Atchison, and Mr. John Jowers, for the Vacancy of Ward One. Attorney Nunn stated to Council that the Absentee Voting process started this morning, anyone who wants to vote Absentee and lives in Ward 1, can vote Absentee. Attorney Nunn stated he also wanted to state to the public, that we did receive clearance

from the U. S. Department of Justice, in which the Attorney General does not interpose any objection to the remaining specified changes as it relate to the Special Election. Attorney Nunn further stated that they also state as it relates to the November 9th Special Municipal Run-Off, that they did not interpose any type of objection to the same.

E. Resolution #R247-09/10 - Recycling Ordinance. Attorney Nunn stated to Council that they should have Resolution #R247-09/10, Recycling Ordinance, which is also being sponsored by Councilwoman Keith. Attorney Nunn stated to Council during last night's Work Session, Councilwoman Keith presented a list of different properties in which she wanted the Recycling Ordinance to apply. Attorney Nunn further stated that he has attached the list to Resolution #R247-09/10, and asked for Council's consideration to place said Resolution #R247-09/10 on 1st Reading. During discussion, a motion was made by Councilwoman Keith, and seconded by Councilman Tucker, to place Resolution #R247-09/10 on 1st Reading. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council.

F. Pending Litigation. Attorney Nunn stated to Council that, per President Williamson, a request had been made to provide a list of all of the pending litigation before the City Council, and hopefully he will have the list and update of all pending litigation at the next Council Meeting.

BUSINESS ITEMS:

I. NBC LEO CONFERENCE REPORT

Councilwoman Crenshaw reported that she attended the NBC Leo Conference in Memphis, Tennessee, in August, 2010. Councilwoman Crenshaw stated that the Conference's central theme was "Strong Leadership during Challenging Times". Councilwoman Crenshaw stated the emphasis of the Conference was "Connecting" community to government by building inclusive communities, creating productive youth programs, providing technology grants for Citizens, and electing effective leaders. Councilwoman Crenshaw further stated that she was appointed by the Alabama Caucus to serve as the Regional 15 Director.

II. FUTURE LEADERS/YOUTH AMBASSADOR 2009/2010 YEAR ENDING REPORT

Councilwoman Crenshaw reported that there were 42 Members of the 2010 Program. Councilwoman Crenshaw stated at the Annual Reception, "Special Honors" were given to 6 seniors. Councilwoman Crenshaw further stated Shelby Irwin, graduating senior from Meadowview Christian School, received the "Jessica Lolley Humanitarian" Scholarship, and 18 seniors will be attending colleges and universities around the State of Alabama. Councilwoman Crenshaw expressed a "Special Thank You" to the City Council Members who helped to make this 2009-2010 Program a success!

III. NOISE ORDINANCE

Continued.

IV. MS. BARBARA HUNTER - CITY PROPERTY BEHIND 2309 NORTH BROAD STREET

Councilwoman Benjamin stated Ms. Barbara Hunter is requesting a small piece of land; an "alley" that is owned by the City of Selma, behind 2309 North Broad Street. Councilwoman Benjamin further stated that her assignment was to go and look at this land, and make a recommendation. Councilwoman Benjamin stated she did measure this piece of land, and that it is approximately 25 feet by 7 feet, located behind Ms. Hunter's home, and used to be an alley. Councilwoman Benjamin stated it is her recommendation to allow Ms. Hunter to have the said piece of property. During discussion, a motion was made by Councilwoman Benjamin, and seconded by Councilwoman Newton, to approve allowing Ms. Barbara Hunter to have the said piece of property, 25 feet by 7 feet, with the understanding that Ms. Barbara Hunter, will bear the cost of the City to vacate the said portion, the alley located behind her property at 2309 North Broad Street. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council.

V. WARD 4 STREETS, CURBS AND GUTTERS REPORT

Councilwoman Benjamin stated that the work has been started in the Columbus, Agee, Montague, Church and Dawson areas, and asked Mayor Evans if he would get a date to her that the work is expected to be completed. Councilwoman Benjamin further stated she made the request to add 1815 Marie Foster Street to the Weed Abatement List, during the last Council Meeting, and wanted to state it again as a reminder.

VI. VALLEY CREEK PARK IMPROVEMENTS

Councilwoman Newton stated she passed out to the Council a "drawing" that they had done of the Valley Creek Park; the playground at Bloch Park, near the Walking Trail. Councilwoman Newton further

stated that that is a well used playground and the City needs a playground that is A.D.A. accessible to all Kids, and it is in her Ward. Councilwoman Newton stated not only is some of the equipment outdated, but is unsafe. Councilwoman Newton stated that they are going to make some changes to the Park to make the playground equipment accessible for handicapped children, and she is requesting some help. Councilwoman Newton stated the total project cost to preliminarily transform the playground in Phase I is \$21,000.00, so she is asking for help from the Council with Oil Lease Monies to see that project come into fruition.

VIII. SELMA CITY SCHOOL BOARD REPORT

Councilwoman Newton stated that she thinks that one of the key components in our community is not just government, but also some cohesiveness with our City School System. Councilwoman Newton further stated she had an idea about trying to keep City Council apprised, to work together with the School System, and invite them to participate in our meetings in some ways, and maybe quarterly give us some type of report or an update about what is going on in the City School System, and what we can do to "help them, help us". A motion was made by Councilwoman Newton, and seconded by Councilman Randolph, that Mayor Evans entertain a discussion with the Superintendent, to look at recommendations for collaboration with the City Council and the School Board. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council Members present.

IX. WATER BOARD APPOINTMENTS

President Williamson asked Councilman Bowie and his committee to meet to discuss this item.

X. OLD Y.M.C.A. BUILDING

Councilwoman Keith stated that she wanted to make a statement; "I want to remind everybody that Selma is a historic town, with tourism as one, if not the greatest industry that we have". Councilwoman Keith further stated that we do want to encourage people to procure historical buildings; we do want people to live in the nice historical homes, and operate businesses out of the historical buildings, and we do want to preserve buildings when at all possible. Councilwoman Keith stated when people procure buildings by whatever means, they have the understanding that it is historical property, and certain responsibilities and the Historical Commission provides the oversight. Councilwoman Keith stated, however, when we have cases where there have been pending, and this has gone on for years with the old Y.M.C.A. Building, we do not need to be putting this off for the Historical Commission to come and talk with us; she feels that should have been done a while back. A motion was made by Councilwoman Keith, and seconded by Councilman Tucker, that stabilization begins immediately if that is to be done, and if the façade is able to be saved, with the property owner (Mr. Tom Bolton) bearing the cost of the stabilization, and to invoke the Municipal Improvement Code. 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. Councilwoman Crenshaw and Councilman Bowie each cast a nay vote. During roll call, Councilwoman Crenshaw asked the question, "if there is no money, how are we going to stabilize the building, the money coming from us to stabilize the money?" President Williamson answered and stated that we will not be beginning any work until we know where the money is coming from. Councilwoman Crenshaw stated, "let's find the money". Following roll call, President Williamson stated, "it's been approved to stabilize the building, but I'm sure we're not going to do it until we find the money".

XI. RESOLUTION REGARDING DR. CECIL WILLIAMSON

Councilman Randolph stated that before he reads his Resolution that he would like to make a statement, and stated: "I think it's very important for us as a Council to make a stand; we owe it to our constituents. If we agree with Dr. Williamson attending the Forrest' Rallies, we need to go on record. But, as it stands now we are hiding behind the 'coat tail'. We listen to what people say, but we won't make a statement, but my constituents asked me to make a statement, and I'm making a statement. The only thing that I'm asking the Council to do is vote my resolution 'up or down'. And, this is not trying to attack Dr. Williamson; it's not about an attack; it's about what's right. I like Dr. Williamson as an individual; I do, and I tell him that all the time. We just got to make a stand; the only thing I'm going to do is read my resolution, and Council you can vote it 'up' or 'down'. As I stated in the past, if you vote against it, I understand because it's going to be some people in the community who don't like this resolution, but I understand because all of us have our reasons. So, when I read my resolution I'm going to still be at peace." Councilman Randolph read Resolution, Vote of No Confidence for the City Council President Cecil Williamson and the Call for His Resignation, in its entirety. Following reading of the Resolution, a motion was made by Councilman Randolph, and seconded by Councilwoman Crenshaw, to approve the Resolution, Vote of No Confidence for the City Council President Cecil Williamson and Call for His Resignation. During discussion, Councilwoman Crenshaw made a statement for the record: "The only thing that I want to say is this, Cecil, and that's what I want to call him tonight, that he is a racist and a white supremacist. He has never denied this in his conversations with me, and he should not be serving as President of the Selma City Council. Cecil is who he is, and the ball has dropped in his lap, as the gatekeeper for those who hid behind him." During further

discussion, Councilwoman Benjamin made a statement, and stated: "During last Council Meeting, Councilman Randolph directed to me, sexist and racist remarks, not about me but to me. The Councilwoman from Ward 3 (Councilwoman Newton) as you can see is White; she's female, also, who went before me regarding this Resolution and she made certain comments about what she would support concerning the Resolution. I came after she did and said the same thing. When I said the same thing I was lashed out at, and 3 words were used to reference me: crazy, African-American, and woman, and so there was nothing said to my 'White Counterpart' over here from Ward 3; not a thing - we were saying the same thing. So, I asked the Council Representative from Ward 5, what was the difference, and his answer to me was, because I'm Black. And, so, 'this Councilwoman, White Female from Ward 3' gets to say to him whatever she pleases, I assumed, from his statement to me. Well, here we go; I'm saying the same thing as she did; if you listened to the radio and you were in the audience, then you saw and you heard what happened. I'm not going to tolerate from the seven or the incoming 8 Council Members here because I respect everybody on this Council; I don't lash out at you or call you names. But, when you directly speak to me, and ask me a question, you need to be ready for the answer. So, these are my remarks concerning the Resolution, and what happened on last week. I'm representing my Constituents as well, but I don't disrespect any of you from Ward 1 through 8, and I expect the same, which is common decency, from all of you." Councilman Randolph made a statement: "To my Colleague Ms. Benjamin, I get offended by an African-American who calls me crazy for talking about racism. I told you that I was going to publicly apologize to you; I'm not too bad of a man to say I'm sorry; I apologize to you. But, anytime a person says what you said to me, as an African-American, I have issues with that. You might say that Dr. Newton is White, but I understood where she was coming from but I can't understand the same thing from you. You can say what you want to say, but I'm apologizing to you if I offended you, but don't come to me talking about "no craziness" as an African-American Woman." Councilwoman Benjamin responded and stated: "I hate it when people put words into my mouth; 'Councilman' I don't know who called you crazy up here or whether you were thinking it yourself; it was not me. I told you what I would support in the Resolution 'period'." Councilwoman Crenshaw stated to President Williamson, that this is her last statement on this, but all she wants to say is, "you have gotten away from the issue, and the reason we are having this confrontation now is because we do not want to deal with the issues". Following discussion, President Williamson called for action on the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion failed for lack of a majority vote of the Council. There were two affirmative votes, five nay votes, and one abstention. Councilwoman Keith, Councilwoman Newton, Councilwoman Benjamin, Councilman Tucker, and Councilman Bowie each cast a nay vote. President Williamson abstained from voting.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

RECREATION COMMITTEE - Councilwoman Monica Newton, Chairman

No Report.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE - Councilman Corey Bowie, Chairman

No Report.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE - Councilman Samuel Randolph, Chairman

No Report.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE - Councilwoman Susan Keith, Chairperson

No Report.

PUBLIC WORKS/GENERAL SERVICES COMMITTEE - Councilwoman Susan Keith, Chairperson

No Report.

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES - Councilwoman Angela Benjamin, Chairperson

No Report.

SELMA-DALLAS YOUTH AMBASSADORS - Councilman Corey Bowie, 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 Councilwoman Keith, and seconded by Councilwoman Benjamin, to adjourn, and by unanimous consent of the Council, this meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.



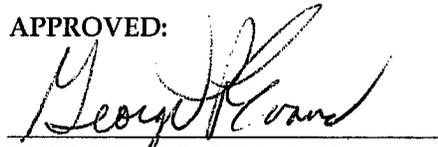
DR. CECIL WILLIAMSON, *Council President*

ATTEST:



IVY S. HARRISON, *City Clerk*

APPROVED:



GEORGE PATRICK EVANS, *Mayor*