

**MINUTES OF THE  
SELMA CITY COUNCIL  
MAY 26, 2009  
5:00 P.M.**

**Call to Order**

Invocation: Dr. Kenny Hatcher, Pastor  
Northside Baptist Church

**Pledge of Allegiance**

The Selma City Council met in a regular session in the Council Chambers of City Hall on Tuesday, May 26, 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, Benny L. Tucker, Bennie R. Crenshaw and Corey Bowie. Others present were Mayor George Evans, City Clerk Ivy S. Harrison, City Attorney Jimmy Nunn, City Treasurer Cynthia Mitchell and the Mayor's Executive Assistant Brenda Smothers. Councilman Samuel Randolph was absent from the Council Meeting due to military leave.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

After approval of the agenda, President Allen asked for the approval of the minutes of May 12, 2009 regular meeting minutes. A motion was made by Councilman Bowie, and seconded by Councilman Tucker, to approve the minutes of May 26, 2009. **A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council members present.**

**EMPLOYEES' CERTIFICATES FOR SERVICE**

Mayor Evans stated he would like to present Certificates of Service and Longevity Pins in recognition of the following employees: Mr. Rodney Reese, Finance Department, *Five Years of Service* to the City of Selma; Mr. Tommy Smith, Public Works Department, *Ten Years of Service* to the City of Selma; Fireman Darnell Ross, Fire Department, *Fifteen Years of Service* to the City of Selma; Lt. Art Freine, Selma Police Department, *Twenty Years of Service* to the City of Selma; Sgt. Tommy Weber, Selma Police Department, *Twenty Years of Service* to the City of Selma; and Ms. Judi Porter, Personnel Department, *Twenty Years of Service* to the City of Selma. Mayor Evans stated he would like to thank each of them for their Years of Dedicated Service to the City of Selma.

**CITIZENS' REQUESTS**

Ms. Nancy Ziccardi  
Re: Tourism and Community Development

Mr. Rodriguez Green  
Re: The "Peace Warriors"

Rev. Eleanor Smith  
Re: Women on the Move with Vision

A. Mayor's Youth Advisory Council. Mayor Evans stated he appreciates the Council Members who have turned in the four (4) names that they would like to be on the Youth Advisory Council for the Mayor, which will involve each of them as well. Mayor Evans further stated he is still waiting on the others to submit names, and is asking each Council Member to submit four (4) names of individuals that can serve on the Mayor's Youth Advisory Cabinet. Mayor Evans stated the individuals can range from middle school through college-aged.

B. Welcome Center. Mayor Evans stated he is still working on trying to establish a "Welcome Center" that is conducive to what he thinks the City needs, and will continue to provide the Council with an update as it progresses.

C. Municipal Broadband/Wi-Fi Initiative Mayor Evans stated to Council that he met with some Wi-Fi Representatives on last week, along with Mr. Johnson of ADECA, and his wife, who have a program that they are addressing for our City. Mayor Evans further stated Representative Salaam is also working on some projects as it relates to Broadband. Mayor Evans stated the City's IT Department is working very hard on trying to find a way to get Broadband within our City. Mayor Evans further stated he should have an update at the next Council meeting as to how this is progressing for Broadband.

D. Transfer of Property Tax Collection to County. Mayor Evans stated to Council that he had a meeting with the Staff, in an attempt to study whether or not it would be feasible, and will benefit the community. Mayor Evans further stated that the Council has been given three options in their hand-out, as to what it would cost to transfer the collection of the City's property taxes to the County. Mayor Evans stated at this time the property taxes are collected manually. Mayor Evans further stated the options should be studied more, to see what can be done in the next fiscal year.

E. 304 and 306 Second Avenue - Sewage Problems. Mayor Evans passed around some pictures of 304 and 306 Second Avenue, along with a copy of a survey of the properties that was prepared by Mr. W. H. Sommerville. Mayor Evans stated when it rains heavily these properties have some real major problems as it relates to sewage back-up. Mayor Evans further stated someone built a carport over an easement. Mayor Evans stated he wants to talk with the property owner, to ascertain whether or not he would be willing to share in the expense of having this situation remedied and repaired. Mayor Evans stated something is going to have to be done, and he will be working with Attorney Nunn to obtain a legal opinion of this matter, and will update the Council when that is complete.

F. City's Recreation Department - Schedule. Mayor Evans stated to Council that each of them should have gotten a copy of the Recreation Program Schedule in their mailboxes, which gives them a complete outline of all of the recreation activities for the summer. Mayor Evans further stated that Tennis will also be taught this summer for youth, as well as, for adults.

G. FY 2008-2009 - Budget. Mayor Evans stated to Council that Ms. Cynthia Mitchell has given each of them a bound copy of the Budget for the fiscal year. Mayor Evans asked Council to please review, and if they have questions, to please contact Ms. Mitchell or himself.

H. Summer Youth Program. Mayor Evans stated to Council that he will be writing a letter, on behalf of all of them, thanking the businesses and individuals who gave money for our Summer Youth employment. Mayor Evans further stated we picked up additional monies to employ 14 more today, which brings our total now up to 27 for the summer youth program; 63 are being hired through the Career Center, however, they must meet certain other criteria. Mayor Evans also thanked Ms. Irvin (Federal Programs), Ms. Debra Howard (Career Center), along with Ms. Valeria Jones for working so hard on this project.

I. Resolution #R203-08/09 - Authorizing an Application for Funding for the FY 2009/2010 Selma Digital Opportunity Americorps Program. Mayor Evans stated to Council that they should have within their packets Resolution #R203-08/09, as it relates to the Selma Digital Opportunity Americorps Program. Mayor Evans asked Ms. Charlotte Griffeth to come forward and address the Council as it relates to Resolution #R203-08/09. Ms. Griffeth addressed the Council and read Resolution #R203-08/09 in its entirety. Resolution #R203-08/09 represents the authorization for the City of Selma to submit a FY 2009-2010 competitive grant application to Corporation for National and Community Services (CNCS) requesting \$260,915.00 to fund the Selma Digital Opportunity Americorps Program, and a commitment to obligate the required cash match, not to exceed \$120,000.00 to be designated in the FY 2009/2010 Budget via the "Grant Matching Funds" line item. A motion was made by Councilwoman Crenshaw, and seconded by Councilman Bowie, to approve said Resolution #R203-08/09. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council members present. Councilwoman Benjamin was absent when the vote was taken.

J. Resolution #R205-08/09 - Authorizing an Application for a FY 2009 Assistance to Firefighters Grant to Purchase Firefighter Equipment. Ms. Griffeth addressed the Council, and read Resolution #R205-08/09 in its entirety. Resolution #R205-08/09 represents the City's authorization of an

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

application to be submitted for FY 2009 assistance to Firefighters' Grants funding in the amount of \$96,683.00, with a 10% match for this application, not to exceed \$10,742.00, via the FY 2009/2010 budget "Grant Matching Funds" line item. A motion was made by Councilman Bowie, and seconded by Councilman Tucker, to approve said Resolution #R205-08/09. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council members present. Councilwoman Benjamin was absent when the vote was taken.

K. **Resolution #R206-08/09 - Authorizing an Application for a FY 2009 Assistance to Firefighters Grant to Purchase a Custom Fire Engine (Pumper).** Ms. Griffeth addressed the Council, and read Resolution #R206-08/09 in its entirety. Resolution #R206-08/09 represents the City's authorization of an Application for a FY 2009 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) funding to Purchase a Custom Fire Engine (Pumper), in the amount of \$333,900.00, with a 10% match for this application, not to exceed \$37,100.00, via the FY 2009/2010 budget "Grant Matching Funds" line item. A motion was made by Councilwoman Newton, and seconded by Councilman Tucker, to approve said Resolution #R206-08/09. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council members present. Councilwoman Benjamin was absent when the vote was taken.

L. **Bond Issue Project - List.** Mayor Evans stated to Council that each of them should have received a list of potential Bond Projects for our City, and that a copy has also been forwarded to each Department Head. Mayor Evans further stated that he is in the process now of trying to move forward with listing items that each Council Member feels is necessarily needed for our City as it relates to a Bond in the future. Mayor Evans stated basically these are the items that were on the previous Bond, and some of the things have already been taken care of; for instance, the movie theater. Mayor Evans further stated he would like for each Council Member to review, and come up with an idea or suggestion, and that he has also asked Department Heads to come up with their ideas and suggestions, as well. Mayor Evans stated once this has all taken place, he would like for us to then go to the public and get feedback from them, in the various Wards, as it relates to the Bond, that he hopes we will have ready to go sometime in September or October of this year.

M. **Controlled Burns and Demolitions.** Mayor Evans stated to Council he wanted to do a "quick" synopsis on what we have in place for our "Neighborhood Watch" and Code Enforcement. Mayor Evans further stated Officer Fitts, Mr. Darryl Moore, Ms. Natalie Shelton, and Mr. Derriet Moore are present tonight. Mayor Evans, along with Officer Fitts, Mr. Darryl Moore, Ms. Shelton and Mr. Derriet Moore, did a PowerPoint presentation of properties that they have been working on so far, which included fire controlled burns; identified dilapidated structures; grasscutting of identified overgrown lots; cars moved out of neighborhoods as a result of being abandoned; Leash Law Ordinance violations; and others. Mayor Evans stated to Council that he would like a visit in each of their Wards, to do a PowerPoint Presentation to the citizens in their Ward, informing them about what they are doing as it relates to properties that are cited in their Ward, and what can be done as a remedy. Mayor Evans stated that they are going to serve notices, and also citations when necessary. Mayor Evans further stated it is a "work in progress".

**CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

A. **Ordinance #O112-08/09 - Ordinance to Exempt Certain Items from the Sales Tax During First Weekend of August, 2009 (Sales Tax Holiday).** Attorney Nunn stated to Council that every year they go through a process, via the State of Alabama, as it relates to the Sales Tax Holiday scheduled for August 7 - 9, 2009. Attorney Nunn further stated that there is a deadline to pass the Ordinance and forward it to the Department of Revenue for registration by July 6<sup>th</sup>. Attorney Nunn stated what is attached to their copy of the draft of Ordinance #O112-08/09, is a list of the local governments who are participating in the Sales Tax Holiday, and also a copy of items exempt from the Sales Tax Holiday. Attorney Nunn stated he is asking favorable consideration to place said Ordinance #O112-08/09 on 1<sup>st</sup> Reading, to be considered for approval at the next Council meeting. A motion was made by Councilwoman Newton, and seconded by Councilman Tucker, to place Ordinance #O112-08/09 on 1<sup>st</sup> Reading. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council Members present. Councilwoman Benjamin was absent when the vote was taken.

B. **Ordinance #O111-08/09 - Ordinance Declaring the Parking of Motor Vehicles in Front Yards Illegal.** Attorney Nunn stated to Council that Ordinance #O111-08/09 was placed on 1<sup>st</sup> Reading as it relates to parking vehicles between the sidewalk and the front of a house or business, and fines up to \$50.00 each time the Ordinance is violated. Attorney Nunn asked for Council consideration of the same at tonight's meeting. A motion was made by Councilwoman Keith, and seconded by Councilman Bowie, to approve said Ordinance #O111-08/09. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed by a majority vote of the Council Members present. There were six affirmative votes and one nay vote. Councilwoman Crenshaw cast a nay vote. Councilwoman Benjamin was absent when the vote was taken.

C. Ordinance #O113-08/09 - Ordinance to Make Certain Changes to the Zoning Map. Attorney Nunn stated to Council that they should have before them a copy of the Planning Commission's Minutes that the subject of this Ordinance went before the Planning Commission on April 7<sup>th</sup>, whereby the Planning Commission did request for, and make a recommendation, that the same be zoned to a "B-2 District". Attorney Nunn further stated that they should have a newspaper clipping which states on today, May 26<sup>th</sup>, the City Council will consider the adoption of the following Ordinance, and that anyone for or against said zoning of this piece of property will be able to speak at this time during the meeting. Attorney Nunn stated they should also have a draft copy of the Ordinance itself, and Exhibit B which states where the property is located. Attorney Nunn further stated to Council if they recall these are properties that were annexed into the City of Selma, between Golden Ranch Restaurant and Marion Bank. Attorney Nunn stated this is the last phase after tonight's meeting, and afterwards it will be forwarded to the Justice Department, via his office, to get approval for a "B-2 District". Following opening the meeting up to the public for a hearing, and no one coming forward to address the Council, Attorney Nunn asked Council for favorable consideration to place Ordinance #O113-08/09 on 1<sup>st</sup> Reading. A motion was made by Councilwoman Keith, and seconded by Councilwoman Newton, to place said Ordinance #O113-08/09 on 1<sup>st</sup> Reading. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed by a unanimous vote of the Council Members present. Councilwoman Benjamin was absent when the vote was taken.

D. Ordinance #O114-08/09 - Ordinance to Make Certain Changes to the Zoning Map. Attorney Nunn stated to Council that, again they should have before them a copy of the Planning Commission's Minutes that the subject of this Ordinance went before the Planning Commission on April 7<sup>th</sup>, whereby the Planning Commission did request for, and make a recommendation that the same be zoned to a "B-2 District". Attorney Nunn further stated that they should have a newspaper clipping which states on today, May 26<sup>th</sup>, the City Council will consider the adoption of the following Ordinance, and that anyone for or against the said zoning of this piece of property will be able to speak at this time during the meeting. Attorney Nunn stated they should also have a draft copy of the Ordinance itself, and Exhibit B which states where the property is located. Attorney Nunn further again stated to Council that these are properties that were annexed into the City of Selma, between Golden Ranch Restaurant and Marion Bank. Attorney Nunn stated as before that this is the last phase, and afterwards it will be forwarded to the Justice Department, via his office, to get approval for a "B-2 District". Following opening the meeting up to the public for a hearing, and no one coming forward to address the Council, Attorney Nunn asked Council for favorable consideration to place Ordinance #O114-08/09 on 1<sup>st</sup> Reading. A motion was made by Councilwoman Newton, and seconded by Councilman Bowie, to place said Ordinance #O114-08/09 on 1<sup>st</sup> Reading. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed by a unanimous vote of the Council Members present. Councilwoman Benjamin was absent when the vote was taken.

E. Single Event Facilities - Application. Attorney Nunn stated to Council, per our Resolution #R118-08/09, the date said Resolution #R118-08/09 goes into effect is June 1, 2009, as it relates to renting our facilities; namely, Performing Arts Centre, Dallas Academy Building, Carl Morgan Convention Center, and the Vaughan-Smitherman Building. Attorney Nunn further stated that they have revised the application and the agreement, which is before them within their packets. Attorney Nunn stated this is the application that Ms. Kay Jones will be using, effective June 1, 2009.

F. Alcoholic Beverage License - Mohammed Islam (The Moon of Selma, Incorporated d/b/a CITGO Food Mart, 406 U.S. Highway 80, East). Attorney Nunn stated to Council if they recall this is an application for a retail table wine and retail beer license application, for off premises only, on behalf of Mr. Mohammed Islam, The Moon of Selma, located at 406 U.S. Highway, 80 East, in the Police Jurisdiction of the City. Attorney Nunn further stated said application has already been placed on 1<sup>st</sup> Reading, and is up for consideration by the Council tonight. A motion was made by Councilwoman Crenshaw, and seconded by Councilwoman Newton, to approve the said liquor license application. 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 Williamson cast a nay vote. Councilwoman Benjamin was absent when the vote was taken. During the opening of the meeting for a public hearing for citizens to speak for or against the consideration of the liquor license application, no one came forward to address the Council.

G. Alcoholic Beverage License - Sabrina Cunningham (Parkman's Grocery, 313 Parkman Avenue). Attorney Nunn stated to Council if they recall this is an application for a retail table wine and retail beer license application, for off premises only, on behalf of Ms. Sabrina Cunningham, Parkman's Grocery, located at 313 Parkman Avenue. Attorney Nunn further stated said application has already been placed on 1<sup>st</sup> Reading, and is up for consideration by the Council tonight. During discussion, President Allen stated she is in receipt of a petition with an estimated total of 82 names of residents of the residential area who are in support of the liquor license application being approved for this location. President Allen opened the meeting for anyone present who desired to speak before the Counsel's consideration of the liquor license application. Ms. Patti Sexton came forward and addressed the Council, and stated she wanted to make the Council aware of the fact that this business is located in the Historic District on Parkman Avenue. Councilwoman Newton stated she has received an estimated 20 letters against the approval of a liquor license for Parkman Grocery. Ms. Sabrina Cunningham, Applicant, came forward and addressed the Council, and stated that they have had a liquor license there before, in 2005, and have never had a problem of any kind.

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Ms. Cunningham further stated this property is owned by her father. Following discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Tucker to approve the said liquor license application. The motion failed for lack of a second; therefore, the liquor license application was not approved.

**H. Justice Department - Pre-Clearance - Setting of Election Date.** Attorney Nunn stated to Council that they should have a copy of a letter from his office to President Allen, as it relates to the Justice Department of approval of the April 28, 2009 Referendum. Attorney Nunn further stated, per Council, he has talked with the Justice Department, Civil Rights Division, as it relates to any further pre-clearances concerning the Election of the April 28<sup>th</sup> Referendum. Attorney Nunn stated on December 11, 2008, the City of Selma received pre-clearance of the Legislative Act 2008-498, and again on February 24, 2009 we further received pre-clearance on the Special Referendum that was held on April 28<sup>th</sup>. Attorney Nunn further stated the Attorneys and Staff of the Justice Department assigned to review our initial submission have concluded that no additional review is required, and that the Act went into effect upon the passage of the Referendum. Attorney Nunn stated they further concluded that the District lines and the racial make-up of each district were reviewed during the initial submission and no additional review is required by the Justice Department. Attorney Nunn further stated upon the Council setting a date for the election of members to the Selma City School Board, another submission will be made to the Justice Department for their approval of said date. Attorney Nunn stated at this point and time if the Council will consider it, he is looking for the next date for the election to be held this year. President Allen stated to Council that Attorney Nunn gave her the following dates as possibilities: October 13<sup>th</sup>, October 27<sup>th</sup>, November 10<sup>th</sup> or November 24<sup>th</sup>. During discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Bowie, and seconded by Councilman Tucker, to approve the date of October 27, 2009 for the election, authorizing Attorney Nunn to prepare submission documents to be forwarded to the Justice Department for approval of said date.

**I. Street Naming - Houston Park Gardens.** Attorney Nunn stated to Council that Mr. David Ousley had come before the Council at last Council meeting as it relates to a newly constructed subdivision, and naming the street that of "Houston Park Gardens". A motion was made by Councilman Williamson, and seconded by Councilman Tucker, to approve acceptance of the name of "Houston Park Gardens" for the street to be named. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed by a unanimous vote of the Council Members present. Councilwoman Benjamin was absent when the vote was taken.

**BUSINESS ITEMS:**

**I. LANDFILL PROPOSAL**

Mayor Evans stated the Proposal that was sent was not informative as it relates to a Project Manager being selected, or the fee in doing so. President Allen stated she remembers Mr. Pierce told the Council that a cost would not be included, until the proposal was considered, and then if considered they would offer a cost, if she remembers correctly. Mayor Evans stated in terms of an Engineering firm, it is going to be a costly project. Mayor Evans further stated he has met with Attorney Nunn, Mr. Tommy Smith, and Ms. Charlotte Griffeth. Mayor Evans asked Ms. Charlotte Griffeth to come forward and address the Council to share some "thoughts" about some possible options that they had come up with during their meeting. During discussion, Ms. Griffeth stated if they take "project management" out, and allow that to be done by the Staff and the City Attorney, which it can be done, then they would need to look for "Construction Administration and Engineering Services" in their R.F.P. Process. Mayor Evans stated to Council if this meets with their approval, he would like to move forward with this process, to allow the City Attorney and the Staff to put it together as best they can, with it being monitored and checked by A.D.E.M., to make sure that they are meeting all of the guidelines. Mayor Evans further stated the "Administrative" person that comes in will still charge us. Mayor Evans stated this is just another approach, and it is his recommendation at this time. A motion was made by Councilman Williamson, and seconded by Councilman Tucker, to accept the recommendation made by Mayor Evans to move forward with a Construction Administrative Manager, in an effort to move forward with the Landfill Project. 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. Councilwoman Crenshaw cast a nay vote. Councilwoman Benjamin was absent when the vote was taken. During roll call, Councilwoman Crenshaw stated she does respect the Mayor's candid answer to her question that they could be moving forward without any problems that they're having now, and she thinks at some point this Council should accept what the Mayor presents to them in order to move things on smoothly.

**II. ATTORNEY GENERAL'S REPORT ON MISSING CARS AND MONEY**

Councilman Williamson stated they were told the Attorney General did an investigation as it relates to the missing cars and money, and he would like to see a copy of the Attorney General's report. Mayor Evans stated Attorney Nunn talked with a Gentleman initially who stated he had been over on three occasions trying to get information about this case. Mayor Evans further stated the Gentleman stated he would not put anything in writing just yet, because the case is still open, for any future investigations. Mayor

Evans stated as far as he knows there does not exist a written report at this time. Councilwoman Keith stated to President Allen that she would like to request that the Council go into Executive Session, for the sake of name and character, on this case for approximately 7 minutes, for the purpose of discussing the Attorney General's report on missing cars and money. A motion was made by Councilwoman Keith, and seconded by Councilwoman Newton, to recess into executive session at the end of the discussion of business items, to discuss the Attorney General's report on the missing cars and money. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a majority vote of the Council Members present. There were four affirmative votes and three nay votes. President Allen, Councilwoman Crenshaw, and Councilman Bowie each cast a nay vote. Councilwoman Benjamin was absent when the vote was taken.

III. UPDATE ON CONCEPTUAL RENDERING OF AN AVIATION MUSEUM

Continued.

IV. UPDATE ON GEO-TECH STUDIES ON RIVERFRONT PROPERTIES

Continued.

V. UPDATE ON LAB ANALYSIS OF PESTICIDES, HERBICIDES, AND PCB'S BY GAS CHROMATOGRAPHY WITH MASS SPECTROMETRY ON THE LOVELADY BUILDING - \$4,080.00

Continued.

VI. INCENTIVES TO DOWNTOWN BUSINESSES FOR EXPANSION

Continued.

VII. UPDATE ON WATER AVENUE STREETScape IMPROVEMENT

Mayor Evans stated this is an on-going project; a "work-in-progress".

VIII. UPDATE ON MULTI-USE HISTORIC RIVERFRONT WALKING AND BICYCLE TRAIL

Mayor Evans stated the Bicycle Trail is a part of the Riverfront Project, and it is a "work-in-progress", as well. Ms. Griffeth came forward and addressed the Council as it relates to an update, and stated the first phase is funded already and they are just waiting for the authorization from A.L.D.O.T. to proceed. Mayor Evans made an announcement that June 16, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. is the tentative date set for the groundbreaking ceremony, and that State and Federal Officials will be here for the ceremony.

IX. UPDATE ON CDG ENGINEERS AND HOLLAND TECHNICAL SERVICES PROPOSAL - \$61,346.50

Councilman Williamson asked Mayor Evans for an update on the work being completed by the CDG Engineers; particularly the \$61,346.50. Ms. Griffeth addressed the Council and stated the \$61,346.50 was to take us through the Permitting of the Landfill process, and \$39,000.00 for some additional work which all of that work has been completed, to date. Ms. Griffeth further stated that the \$39,000.00 has already been approved by the Council for payment.

X. PROPOSAL FOR PLAYGROUNDS IN EACH WARD

Councilwoman Newton stated one of the biggest problems in our community is obesity; greater than 30% of Alabamians are obese, and 19% of 6-11 year old children are obese. Councilwoman Newton further stated in the *League of Cities* Newsletter it shows that Cities are taking the "lead" in obesity prevention, and she would like Selma considered as one of those Cities, that's being progressive and trying to intervene. Councilwoman Newton stated parks do make a difference, and she included in their proposals the random research studies that were done in 2009. Councilwoman Newton stated she is proposing neighborhood playgrounds; for instance, small playground projects that can be done in everybody's Ward, on City lots that are currently being mowed for approximately \$25,000 - \$30,000 at which 50-60% would be in the materials themselves; possibly 30% in shipping and installation and if the community does the build with a community oversight there can be considerably cost savings there, with 20% to groundcover and/or alternative substances that provide for safety; for example, rubber pellets and tile. Councilwoman Newton stated another issue is liability, and she included in their packets information on the Alabama Recreation Use Statute for them to review. Councilwoman Newton further stated her action plan is to meet with the Superintendent about opening up the City parks, and she is encouraging each of the Council members to consider and participate in the Neighborhood Playground Project. Councilwoman Newton asked Council Members to contact her if they are interested in participating in this Project. President Allen stated she will

**BUSINESS ITEMS:**

also ask their Council Secretary to do a Memorandum to the Council Members, as to whether they may be interested in donating some of their Oil Lease Money towards this project.

**XI. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM GARBAGE COLLECTION & ENVIRONMENTAL COURT SUB-COMMITTEES**

Councilwoman Keith asked Mr. Roosevelt Goldsby to come forward and make a report as to the Amnesty Program. Mr. Goldsby addressed the Council and stated the Amnesty Period did not go as well as they would have liked it to go, and overall they collected \$11,000.00 gross, and 30% subtracted from that, and a little over \$7,000.00 was their net. Mr. Goldsby stated there is a plan to continue working on this in hopes of collection delinquent garbage fees. Councilwoman Keith stated to Mr. Goldsby and his Department who worked hard on this project, that she will not say that it was not a success but that it did not bring the successes that they thought it would, but that it was \$7,000.00 more than they had. Councilwoman Keith and the Council thanked Mr. Goldsby and the Department for their hard work on this project.

Councilwoman Keith stated, as it relates to the Environmental Court Sub-Committee, Councilman Williamson and Councilman Tucker are looking at the Environmental Court structure, and they are going to be looking at qualified candidates for a Judge, and a Prosecutor, and they also will be looking at initial qualifications and interested parties for those personnel positions. Councilwoman Keith further stated she is working with Attorney Nunn to get all of the Environmental Codes together and Codified.

**XII. NOISE ORDINANCE**

Continued.

**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**

No report.

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE - Councilman Benny Tucker, Chairperson**

No report.

**DISCRETIONARY COMMITTEE - President Geraldine Allen, Chairperson**

President Allen made a report: Peace Warriors, for a total of \$225.00 from President Allen, Councilman Williamson, Councilwoman Keith, Councilwoman Newton, and Councilman Bowie; Ms. Lettie Lewis, G.W.C. Nutrition Center, a total of \$300.00 from President Allen, Councilman Williamson, Councilwoman Keith, Councilwoman Newton, and Councilman Bowie; and Ms. Essie Square, Women in God's Service, a total of \$150.00 from President Allen, Councilman Williamson, Councilwoman Keith, Councilwoman Newton, and Councilman Bowie; Discretionary Fund total amount of \$650.00.

**SELMA-DALLAS YOUTH AMBASSADORS - Councilwoman Bennie Ruth Crenshaw, Chairperson**

No report.

**CHILDREN AND FAMILIES - Councilwoman Angela Benjamin, Chairperson**

No report.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

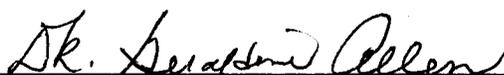
A motion was made by Councilwoman Keith, and seconded by Council, to recess into Executive Session at 7:50 p.m.

Following Executive Session, President Allen declared and reconvened the Council meeting back into its regular session at 8:19 p.m.

**CLOSING REMARKS BY EACH COUNCIL MEMBER.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

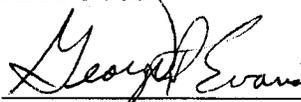
There being no further business to come before the Council, a motion was made by Councilman Williamson, and seconded by Councilwoman Newton, to adjourn, and by unanimous consent of the Council, this meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
DR. GERALDINE ALLEN, *Council President*

**ATTEST:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
VY S. HARRISON, *City Clerk*

**APPROVED:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
GEORGE PATRICK EVANS, *Mayor*