

MINUTES OF THE SELMA CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2001

The Selma City Council met in a regular session in the Council Chambers of City Hall on Monday, February 26, 2001 at 5:00 p.m with the following members present: President George P. Evans and Council members Glenn Sexton, Rita S. Franklin, Jean T. Martin, Nancy G. Sewell, Samuel Randolph, Benny L. Tucker, Bennie Ruth Crenshaw, and James Durry. Others present were Mayor James Perkins, Jr., City Attorney Jimmy Nunn, City Clerk Jackie Smith, and the Mayor's Secretary Tammy Maul. The Reverend Darryl Moore gave the invocation.

After roll call, President Evans declared a quorum present and the meeting was opened for the transaction of business as set forth on the agenda. President Evans asked if there were any additions or corrections to the agenda prepared for this meeting. Councilwoman Sewell asked that the agenda be amended to include a report from the Forrest Committee. There being no other additions to the agenda, on motion made by Councilwoman Sewell and seconded by Councilwoman Franklin the agenda was approved as amended.

President Evans asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the regular Council meeting held on Monday, January 22, 2001. There being no additions or corrections to the minutes, on motion made by Councilwoman Martin and seconded by Councilwoman Franklin, the minutes were approved as recorded.

I. MAYOR'S REPORT

A. Financial Report. Mayor Perkins presented the Council with the financial report for the fourth month in the fiscal year. The report shows that city departments are at a 35% spending level. The budget performance report shows the city operating \$371,820 over budget. This amount includes expenditures of \$246,775 that will be reimbursed from other agencies. Mayor Perkins explained that when factors such as these are considered, the city is actually operating under budget.

B. C.O.L.A. Retired City Employees. Mayor Perkins stated that the proposed cost of living increase for retired city employees was discussed at the last Council meeting. Mr. Bill Paul with the Retirement Systems of Alabama stated the cost to the City would be \$54,418.44 with benefits retroactive to October 1st. Councilwoman Sewell proposed the transfer of \$5,000 from each Councilperson discretionary fund to the general fund to grant this increase. Mayor Perkins stated that after carefully reviewing the budget, \$22,423.44 has been identified in the line item *Prior Year Expenditures* that means each Councilperson will only have to transfer \$3,555 from their discretionary funds for this purpose.

Attorney Nunn presented an ordinance that reduces each Councilperson discretionary fund from \$15,000.00 to \$11,445.00 with the difference being transferred back to the general fund. Councilwoman Sewell made a motion that was seconded by Councilwoman Franklin to change the amount of discretionary funds from \$15,000.00 to \$11,445.00. On roll call vote the ordinance was adopted by a unanimous vote of the Council.

Attorney Nunn presented a resolution authorizing the Council to amend the general fund budget and move \$54,418.44 to the *Retirement Systems of Alabama* account to fund the C.O.L.A. increase. A motion was made by Councilwoman Franklin and seconded by Councilwoman Crenshaw to transfer the funds to the RSA account. The resolution was adopted by a unanimous vote of the Council.

Attorney Nunn presented a resolution notifying the Retirement Systems of Alabama that the City of Selma elects to grant the C.O.L.A. as provided for under the recent legislation. A motion was made by Councilwoman Crenshaw and seconded by Councilman Sexton. On roll call vote the resolution was adopted by a unanimous vote of the Council.

I. MAYOR'S REPORT

C. Nathan Bedford Forrest Monument. Mayor Perkins stated that he had met with Friends of Forrest to discuss the proposed site at Riverview Park and they also went to an alternate possible site at the Old Live Oak Cemetery. Mayor Perkins further stated in his quest to resolve this matter the Alabama Historical Commission was contacted to provide input regarding the cemetery site. The Alabama Historical Commission concluded that there is no impediment to moving the monument to the Old Live Oak Cemetery, so long as care is taken not to locate on existing unmarked graves. Mayor Perkins asked that a decision be made as soon as possible.

Councilwoman Franklin presented a report from the Forrest Council Committee. The ad hoc committee made several recommendations, one being allowing the monument to remain at the Smitherman Building. After briefing the Council on the report Councilwoman Franklin asked that the report be made a part of the official Council minutes.

Councilwoman Martin motioned for the Nathan B. Forrest monument be carefully placed in Confederate Circle of the Old Live Oak Cemetery and condones any vandalism or damage to the monument. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Crenshaw and on roll call vote the motion passed with a majority vote of the Council. There were five affirmative votes and four negative votes. Council members Martin, Evans, Crenshaw, Randolph and Sewell voted in support of the motion. Council members Durry, Franklin, Sexton and Tucker voted against the motion. Several Council members pledged the use of their bond fund monies to install additional lighting in the cemetery and restroom facilities.

II. CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

A. Contract – All Lock Timber Deed. Attorney Nunn presented the Council with a contract for the removal of timber on the All Lock property. The highest bidder on the timber removal was submitted by Thornton Timber Company in the amount of \$17,807. Councilwoman Franklin suggested International Paper Company be contacted for re-planting. A motion was made by Councilman Sexton and seconded by Councilwoman Sewell to enter into a contract with Thornton Timber Company for the timber removal. On roll call vote, the Council voted unanimously to accept the high bid and enter into the contract as stated.

A. Approval of Contracts for Renovations to Fire Stations. Attorney Nunn presented the Council with a contract for renovations to Fire Station Number Three in the amount of \$2,775. The lowest bidder on the renovations of Station Three was Goodwin Construction. A contract was also presented for renovations to Fire Station Number Four in the amount of \$3,200. The lowest bidder on the renovations to Station Four was Lewis and Carter Construction. A motion was made by Councilwoman Sewell and seconded by Councilwoman Franklin to accept the contracts as presented. On roll call vote the Council voted unanimously to accept the contracts for fire station renovations.

III. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

RECREATIONN COMMITTEE REPORT

The Recreation Committee report was informational only.

III. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

A. All Lock Security Contract. Councilwoman Crenshaw stated that at the last Council meeting she was authorized to talk with Mr. and Mrs. Vension Baker who are currently under contract to provide 24-hour security at the old All Lock facility. After meeting with the Bakers, Attorney Nunn and City Clerk Smith, Councilwoman Crenshaw recommended that Mr. Vension Baker be placed on the city's payroll at an annual salary of \$17,350 with Mr. Baker paying the premium for health insurance coverage on his spouse. The current contract is in the amount of \$27,500 and an additional payment of \$3,600 in health insurance premiums. The recommendation of Councilwoman Crenshaw will save the city approximately \$17,350 annually. A motion was made by Councilman Sexton and seconded by Councilwoman Sewell to accept the recommendation of Councilwoman Crenshaw to re-negotiate the security arrangements as stated. On roll call vote, the Council voted unanimously to accept the recommendations as stated.

B. Housing Revitalization. Councilwoman Crenshaw asked the Council to ratify, affirm and approve a \$1,000 payment to Mr. Stidden with the Department of HUD for a visit to Selma to gather information for a Housing and Economic Development Strategy for Selma. A motion was made by Councilwoman Crenshaw and seconded by Councilwoman Franklin. On roll call vote the motion was unanimously adopted.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT

A. Retail Table Wine Application for SpeDeeC., Inc. Councilwoman Franklin stated that an application for a retail table wine licenses on behalf of Mr. Ben F. Beard for the SpeDeeC store located 602 Broad Street and 215 Highland Avenue was placed on first reading at the last Council meeting. A motion was made by Councilwoman Franklin and seconded by Councilwoman Sewell to approve the application for the retail table wine licenses. The Council voted unanimously on the motion.

Other reports from the Public Safety Committee were informational only.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

The Community Development Committee report was informational only.

PUBLIC WORKS/GENERAL SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT

The Public Works/General Services Committee report was informational only.

IV. READ ACROSS AMERICA.

Councilwoman Sewell informed the Council that Friday, March 2nd has been declared Read Across America Day. Mayor Perkins and Council members will be visiting area schools to read to the students at 9 o'clock. Councilwoman Sewell read a proclamation and asked the Council to support its adoption. The proclamation promotes reading and supports the observance of March 2nd as Read Across America Day. A motion was made by Councilwoman Sewell and seconded by Councilwoman Franklin to adopt the proclamation as read. The motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Council.

V. C.H.A.S.M.

Councilwoman Sewell presented a request from Mr. Carl Rawls, Director of C.H.A.S.M. asking the Council to appropriate \$5,000 from their discretionary funds to assist the center with expenses related to providing much needed services to the citizens of Selma. Councilwoman Sewell stated that a request form would be available for each Council member to make a donation.

VI. MR. TORIANO NEELY – RESCUE SQUAD.

Mr. Toriano Neely of the Selma-Dallas County Rescue Squad stated he was present before the Council to request financial assistance for the purchase of a much needed rescue boat. The estimated cost of the boat is \$13,000 and an equal share of \$6,500 is being requested from the city and the county. Mr. Neely stated there are no other rescue boats in this immediate area and the boat that is currently being used is outdated. President Evans thanked Mr. Neely for sharing the information and stated this matter will be addressed at a future work session.

VII. CARL C. MORGAN, JR.

Mr. Carl C. Morgan, Jr., who serves as a liaison to the Council presented the Council with a monthly report from the different organizations he represents on behalf of the City. Mr. Morgan's report contained information from meetings with the following organizations: Cahawba, Rural Development Authority and the Farmer's Market Authority.

VIII. MRS. CAROLYN BATES

Mrs. Carolyn Bates stated she was present before the Council to seek support on establishing a program of children with disabilities in the Selma Public School System. President Evans asked Mrs. Bates to leave the information for Council members to review.

IX. MR. CLARENCE WILLIAMS

Mr. Clarence Williams stated he was present to thank the Council for the decision made regarding the Nathan B. Forrest monument. Mr. Williams encouraged the Council to continue working together for the good of Selma.

X. SIERRA INTERNATIONAL GROUP

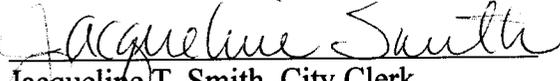
Councilman Jim Durry made a presentation on behalf of Mr. Alray Sumpter, President of the Sierra Group. Councilman Durry stated he thinks it is unfair to keep this matter in limbo and asked the Council to consider allowing Mr. Sumpter use of the All-Lock facility. Several Council members suggested a lease agreement rather than selling the building for less than its current value. Council members Franklin, Durry and Sewell agreed to meet with Mr. Sumpter to discuss a lease agreement and report back to the Council at the next Council meeting.

There being no further business to come before the Council, on motion made and duly seconded, the Council voted by a unanimous consent to adjourn at 7:25 p.m.



George P. Evans, President

ATTEST:



Jacqueline T. Smith, City Clerk

APPROVED:

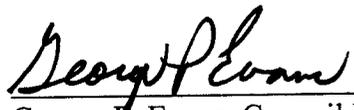


James Perkins, Jr., Mayor

RESOLUTION

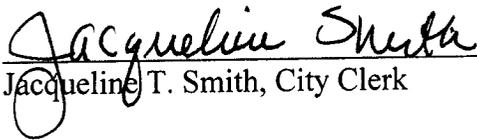
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SELMA, ALABAMA, that the City Council of the City of Selma hereby notifies the Retirement Systems of Alabama that the City of Selma elects to grant the C.O.L.A. (Cost of Living Adjustment) for retired city employees of the City of Selma, retroactive to October 1, 2000, in the amount of \$54,418.44 under the provisions of Section 2 of Act 2000 - 809.

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SELMA, ALABAMA, on this the 26th day of February, A.D., 2001.

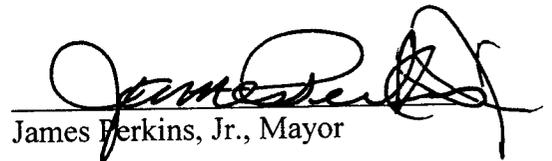


George F. Evans, Council President

ATTEST:


Jacqueline T. Smith, City Clerk

APPROVED:


James Perkins, Jr., Mayor

RESOLUTION

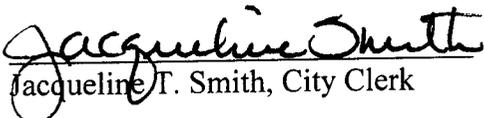
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SELMA, ALABAMA, that the City Council of the City of Selma hereby amends the budget and hereby authorizes \$54,418.44 to be withdrawn from its general fund account and be deposited in the Retirement Systems of Alabama account to fund a cost of living increase for retired city employees.

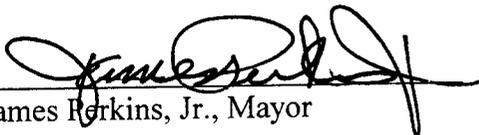
IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the above-stated amount shall be withdrawn from these different line items within the general fund account. \$22,423.44 will be withdrawn from line item entitled - Prior Year Projects Unpaid and \$31,995.00 will be withdrawn from line item entitled - Community Based Projects.

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SELMA, ALABAMA, on this the 26th day of February, A.D., 2001.


George P. Evans, Council President

ATTEST:


Jacqueline T. Smith, City Clerk


James Perkins, Jr., Mayor

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Nathan Bedford Forrest (1821-1877), was an American Confederate Calvary General, born near Chapel Hill, Bedford County, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Nathan Bedford Forrest led Confederate troops during the Battle of Selma, where they were defeated and surrendered; and

WHEREAS, during this time Nathan Bedford Forrest is noted, by some historians to have served as one of the first leaders of the original Ku Klux Klan by which hundreds of Blacks were lynched; and

WHEREAS, the Old Live Oak Cemetery contains many Confederate monuments and historic figures including a United States Vice President, a U.S. Commissioner of Education, U.S. Senators and Alabama's first black Congressman, Benjamin Sterling Turner and many others.

WHEREAS, the Old Live Oak Cemetery was named to the National Register of Historic Places and is admired nationwide for its monuments and statues within the cemetery.

WHEREAS, a memorial was dedicated in 1873 after the erection of a statute and the Relocation of 156 Confederate veterans in the Old Live Oak Cemetery.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Selma City Council and the Mayor of the City of Selma do hereby agree that the monument of Nathan Bedford Forrest, be relocated from the lawn of the Joe T. Smitherman Historic Building, to the Old Live Oak Cemetery, as part of history.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City of Selma hereby adopts this Resolution and it is hereby resolved that the monument of Nathan B. Forrest shall be relocated to the Old Live Oak Cemetery as part of history, and a committee be appointed by the Mayor to research the authenticated history of Confederate General Nathan Bedford Forrest in order to provide a more balanced representation of the historical significance of the monument.

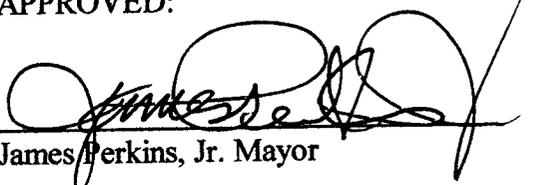
ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SELMA, ALABAMA, on this the 16th day of February, 2001.


George Evans, City Council President

ATTEST:


City Clerk

APPROVED:


James Perkins, Jr. Mayor