

**MINUTES OF THE RECONVENED  
SELMA CITY COUNCIL  
NOVEMBER 30, 2005  
5:30 P.M.**

The Selma City Council met in a reconvened session in the Council Chambers of City Hall on Wednesday, November 30, 2005 at 5:30 p.m. with the following members present: Council President George Evans and Council members Cecil Williamson, Reid Cain, Jean T. Martin, Dr. Geraldine Allen, Samuel L. Randolph, Johnnie M. Leashore Bennie R. Crenshaw and Jannie M. Venter. Others present were Mayor James Perkins, Jr., City Clerk Lois Williams, City Attorney Jimmy Nunn and City Treasurer Cynthia Mitchell. Reverend S. M. Nelson gave the invocation.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

After review of the agenda items, the following amendments were made:

Additions: None

Deletions: None

A motion was made by Councilman Leashore and seconded by Councilwoman Martin to approve the agenda as written with unanimous consent of the Council.

**BUSINESS ITEMS:**

**I. APPLICATION FOR LIQUOR LICENSE - MR. CARVIN THOMAS - 12<sup>TH</sup> STONE**

President Evans stated everyone should have copies now of the application for a liquor license for Mr. Carvin Thomas regarding the 12<sup>th</sup> Stone. President Evans asked if there was any further discussion on this matter, which the Council delayed vote on until tonight. President Evans stated he did contact Mr. Thomas since the Council last met and he is present if anyone wants to ask him any questions. President Evans stated Mr. Thomas indicated to him that he took over the business from another person who was already operating the business and that he did not have a license, however, he was operating under that management, and that four weeks ago, he shut the business down because he wanted to take ownership himself and as a result of shutting down, he is now applying for a license for himself to operate the business. President Evans stated he gave Mr. Thomas a copy of the complaints and he recognized all of them indicating that the majority of the complaints made he actually called the police to get assistance on those problems, and he does have security to try to resolve problems there. President Evans asked Mr. Thomas if he would come forward to address this issue to the Council.

Mr. Thomas addressed the Council regarding the complaint involving a guy that came through his back door, stating he told his security to call the police. Mr. Thomas stated the police arrived, took the guy outside, searched him and that's when drugs were found in his pockets. Mr. Thomas stated when he has a problem he calls the police when he cannot handle it.

During further discussion, President Evans stated to Councilman Cain that the Council is not open for discussion regarding statements made about Mr. Thomas' past, but the question is whether or not the business can survive in our City, or if there are enough complaints against that business to the fact that this Council should not approve license for that business. President Evans stated he does not know of anything that the Police Chief or anyone has brought to our attention to say that a license would not be recommended for the business. A motion was made by Councilwoman Crenshaw and seconded by Councilman Leashore to approve the liquor license for the 12<sup>th</sup> Stone and Mr. Carvin Thomas. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a majority vote of the Council. There were six ayes, two nays and one abstention. Williamson, and Cain both cast a nay vote. Venter abstained from voting.

**II. NEW YEAR'S HOLIDAY**

President Evans asked Mayor Perkins if any decision has been made regarding the New Year's Holiday. Mayor Perkins stated we cannot go with the extended holiday schedule, however, if the Council chooses to extend the due date on the Ad Valorem tax by the number of days that are eliminated from the citizens being able to pay their taxes for this year. Mayor Perkins stated if the December 30, 2005 is taken out as a working day, then we would have to extend the tax due date until January 3, 2006 so that citizens would have the opportunity to pay their Ad Valorem taxes with the same number of days as any other citizen in any other city. During discussion, Mayor Perkins stated at this juncture, he is undecided about the holiday and he would like to wait for the deliberation by the Council on the pay plan. President Evans stated currently the Council has already approved those days, on Friday and Monday, for both holidays, but the question now is will they have to rescind them since the matter was brought up about the tax situation and what could be worked out. Mayor Perkins stated he asks the Council perhaps we should consider extending the days.

**BUSINESS ITEMS:**

**III. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

President Evans stated he would like to finalize this issue tonight as to whether or not there is a functioning Public Safety Committee. President Evans stated he has spoken with Councilwoman Crenshaw and Councilwoman Venter and they have indicated dealing with the Ethics and a statement made by Councilman Cain pertaining to what they did was unethical and they wanted an apology because his statement was inappropriate. President Evans asked Councilman Cain if planned to apologize to the Council members indicated. Councilman Cain answered, stating no, there is no need to apologize. President Evans stated Councilman Cain has indicated he is not going to apologize for a statement he made to the newspaper and asked Councilwoman Venter if she planned to serve on the committee. Councilwoman Venter stated not unless someone else is present, the Mayor or the Chief. President Evans asked Councilwoman Crenshaw if she planned to serve on the committee. Mayor Perkins stated he is confused because he thought there was an agreement and asked why are we dealing with this now. Mayor Perkins stated in the last meeting, it was discussed to move forward and he has since issued a letter requesting a meeting, and he thought they would participate in the meeting. President Evans stated it was indicated to him that they could not participate under the conditions. Councilwoman Crenshaw stated she would deal with public safety issues only if the Mayor or both of you are present, but she will not outside of that. Councilwoman Crenshaw stated they are having a terrible time meeting with issues coming out of public safety with Councilman Cain because nothing come out the truth and she has consented that when the Mayor asks for a meeting with public safety, she will meet with public safety at that time and only then. Following further discussion, President Evans stated the next Public Safety Committee meeting would be held on December 15, 2005 at 5:00 p.m. to discuss the curfew ordinance.

**IV. CITY'S DISASTER PLAN REPORT**

President Evans stated he and the Mayor have discussed this matter and this item will be delayed due to the needed involvement of the Police Chief and other officers. President Evans stated a meeting will be scheduled by the Mayor to discuss at a later date.

**V. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COPIER**

President Evans asked if this item should be discussed further. Attorney Nunn stated this item could be tabled at this time.

**VI. CITY'S PROPOSED PAY PLAN DISCUSSION**

President Evans stated Mayor Perkins and Ms. Jones would address the Council concerning this matter. Mayor Perkins stated at the last meeting the Council asked Dr. Clark and Ms. Jones to go back and put together some additional information and it is his understanding that the Council has copies of the supplement to that proposal. Mayor Perkins asked if there were any questions at this time. Councilman Williamson asked what is the bottom line cost of the plan that is before the Council tonight, and what is the plan being recommended including the benefits. Councilwoman Allen asked which recommendation does Dr. Clark refer to in her comment of the proposal that states "the last one". Ms. Jones stated that recommendation is the three percent. Ms. Jones stated Dr. Clark is recommending two proposals, (1) a five percent minimum for non appointed employees or a four percent minimum across the board, (2) a three percent minimum across the board with a high longevity pay. Ms. Jones stated the recommended proposal cost would be \$497,405.59, which does not include the fifteen percent longevity. Councilwoman Crenshaw stated she would like the Council to disregard the longevity at this point to deal with at a later date. Councilman Cain stated he understands the Mayor wants to go ahead and pass this plan tonight, however, he has information he would like to share with him and Ms. Jones concerning some research he received on yesterday afternoon as well as today to better discussion some particular positions and making sure that there is fairness within the plan for all employees. During discussion, Mayor Perkins stated he is currently in favor of the four percent minimum that would be a total of \$453,613.00, which also reflects a twelve month implementation schedule, however, if the Council were to prorate the implementation being in December, it would be a ten month implementation schedule versus a twelve month. Mayor Perkins stated this is an estimated amount of \$37,801.00 per month needed for salaries and over a ten month period \$378,011.00. Mayor Perkins stated if you include the fifteen percent estimated cost for fringe benefits the total amount for the complete implementation in this fiscal year, Councilman Williamson, would be \$434,712.00 and this is his recommendation, that we move forward and he asks the Council

**BUSINESS ITEMS:**

favorable vote on that recommendation. Councilwoman Allen stated she wants to be clear that this recommendation includes no changes to the appointed employees. Mayor Perkins concurred, stating this is his present recommendation. Councilwoman Crenshaw stated of the three appointed positions, one of which in the Finance Department really needs to be dealt with, and one other position she would like to make a recommendation to the Council to amend this to maybe between \$47,000.00 to \$49,000.00, at \$48,000.00, but the other two she feels are really warranted. President Evans stated he does not have a problem with this, but he feels the increments would have been better for the high salaries oppose to one increase. Following further discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Leashore and seconded by Councilwoman Venter to accept the Mayor's recommendation for four percent across the board, the pay raises inclusive of the appointed employees, revisit the longevity issue in January 2006, and amended by Councilwoman Crenshaw to amend the salary of \$51,000.00 to \$48,000.00. A roll call vote was taken and the motion failed for lack of a majority vote of the Council. There were three ayes and five nays. President Evans, Council members Williamson, Cain, Martin and Allen all cast a nay vote. Councilman Randolph had departed from the Chambers when the vote was taken.

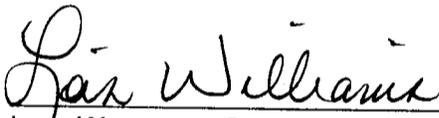
**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Council, on motion made by Councilman Williamson and seconded by Councilwoman Crenshaw, the Council voted by unanimous consent to adjourn this meeting at 6:55 p.m.



GEORGE P. EVANS, *PRESIDENT*

**ATTEST:**



LOIS WILLIAMS, *CITY CLERK*

**APPROVED:**



JAMES PERKINS, JR., *MAYOR*