

MINUTES OF THE SELMA CITY COUNCIL
JANUARY 23, 2006
5:00 P.M.

The Selma City Council met in a regular session in the Council Chambers of City Hall on Monday, January 23, 2006 at 5:00 p.m. with the following members present during roll call: Council President George Evans and Council members Dr. 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, City Treasurer Cynthia Mitchell, and the Mayor's Secretary Darlene Rudolph. Reverend Joe Nathion Brown gave the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance
Roll Call

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

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

Additions: None
Deletions: Items:
 IV Environmental Court
 V Trains
 VI Longevity Pay Plan

Following discussion of the agenda items, a motion was made by Councilwoman Martin and seconded by Councilwoman Allen to approve the agenda as amended. The motion carried with a majority vote (show of hands) of the Council. There were seven ayes, one abstention and one opposer. Councilman Leashore abstained from voting stating he feels the Council is in violation of the code of ordinance for rules and procedures and Councilwoman Crenshaw opposed stating there are about eight to ten items, which could have been handled outside of the Council meeting that only prolongs the Council meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

After approval of the agenda, President Evans asked for a motion to approve the minutes of January 9, 2006 regular meeting. A motion was made by Councilwoman Martin and seconded by Councilman Randolph to approve the minutes of January 9, 2006. The motion carried with a majority vote (show of hands) of the Council. There were seven ayes and two opposers. Councilman Leashore and Councilwoman Crenshaw opposed due to violation of the code of ordinance for rules and procedures.

CITIZEN REQUEST

Mrs. Mallieve Breeding
Re: Selma Community Pride

Dr. Kimberley Bossie
Re: Neighborhood break-ins

Mr. Gene Hisel
Re: Presentation of Petition - Selma Public Library

Mrs. Dorothy Hawkins
Re: Senior Care Ministry

Reverend Rodney Morton
Re: Presentation of Resolution - Selma Public Library

President Evans departed from the meeting for a very brief moment and returned. Councilwoman Martin presided.

I. MAYOR'S REPORT

A. Length of Service Recognition Awards. Mayor Perkins stated he would like to ask Mr. Willie Peoples, Cemetery Director, to come forward. Mayor Perkins stated he would like to recognize and present the following award: (1) *Five Years*, Thearthur Martin, Cemetery Department. Mayor Perkins stated thank you very much for your contributions and doing a fine job at the cemetery.

I. MAYOR'S REPORT

B. Selma Public Library Funding. Mayor Perkins stated he understands that someone inquired about what his position is concerning the Library. Mayor Perkins stated he would like to make his position clear, when he was first elected in 2000 and the first set of budget hearings was held on the Library, Mrs. Nichols came to his office and asked if he would support the restoration of funding to the Library that had been cut by the former Mayor. Mayor Perkins stated he said to her, in all due respect that he would support it wholeheartedly, but he was concerned about bringing that recommendation to the Council, so he made the suggestion that she would bring the recommendation to the Council and she did. Mayor Perkins stated he supported her recommendation and there was about \$35,000.00 to \$40,000.00 restored at that time to the Library. Mayor Perkins stated in addition to that restoration of funding, it was also agreed to pay \$6,000.00 for their insurance, that was not being paid by the City.

Mayor Perkins stated the following year Mrs. Nichols came back and asked if the City would please pay the gas bill, because the City only pays the electric bill. Mayor Perkins stated he concurred because the City agreed to pay the utility bills, so they began to pay the gas bill as well, also in addition to special appropriations made to the Library. Mayor Perkins stated he has nothing but support additional funding and increases for the Library since he has been in office, however, a close review of the minutes dating back a long time shows that the former Mayor, and he suspects that anyone else who choose to be Mayor will find themselves in the same position, upon reviewing this process, it was determined that the City of Selma was paying 75% of the public appropriation for the Library and the County was paying 25%, this was a sudden change from the 50/50 percent funding. Mayor Perkins stated a committee from this Council went to the County and simply asked the County if they would pick up an additional appropriation and consider a 55/45 percent share, where the City would continue to pay 55% and the County would pay 45%, which was chaired by Dr. Geraldine Allen.

Mayor Perkins stated the city could not continue at that level and a lot of agencies were cut in the past couple of years, and it was done because the citizens said to balance the budget and so the budget was balanced. Mayor Perkins stated when the \$80,000.00 was taken out, the meters between the City Hall Complex, the Library and the Convention Center were simply separated and suggested to the County Commission that they needed to step up and do more and asked the Library to step up to try to raise additional monies and it was also indicated that the City would continue to try to help, but did not feel the full burden should be on the City of Selma alone. Mayor Perkins stated this reduction left the City still paying 66% of the Library appropriations to date and the County paying 33%. Mayor Perkins stated the County is still being asked to step up to do this, their general fund budget states that they have \$90,000.00 unappropriated, so the County was asked to pay half of the \$80,000.00. Mayor Perkins stated Commissioner Towns and Commission Williams took this proposal to the County Commission and it was voted down by a vote of three to two and it was at that point that the delegation of folk started demanding that the City pays all of this amount, but not saying one word to the County and that is not right, Mayor Perkins stated he says no to this and that is his position on this matter.

Mayor Perkins stated he has since met with Judge Johnny Jones, Mrs. Becky Nichols, Library Director, and Senator Sanders on Friday, and he was hoping to receive a call from Judge Jones today regarding the proposal on the table to bring to the Council on tonight, however, the probate judge did not contact him, but he was feeling good about it because he was looking for a number that the County can do at the beginning of the new fiscal year onward and if this can be done, for the County to pay the \$80,000.00 onward, Mayor Perkins stated the City could come back and do something with the remainder of this year, but until the County Commission tells us something definitive about what they are going to do, his recommendation to the Council is that the City does not do anything until the City and County completes discussion and negotiation on this matter.

C. Morgan Academy Football - AISA State Champions. Mayor Perkins stated Morgan Academy football coach is present, Mr. Robert Gartman. Mayor Perkins stated Morgan Academy is the winner of the AISA State Championship and he wanted an opportunity for this institution to be recognized by the City of Selma for its achievements in sports and he feels what they have done is outstanding and they are to be commended and the public needs to be aware. Mr. Robert Gartman addressed he would like to thank the City of Selma, especially Mayor Perkins, for recognizing their football team's achievements this year and stated they are very proud to be a very small part of the City of Selma. Mr. Robert Gartman further stated they have a great group of young people who work extremely hard, a great administration and great parents and support.

I. MAYOR'S REPORT

D. St. James Hotel Update - Mr. Larry Striplin. Mayor Perkins stated the Council had asked Mr. Larry Striplin for an update on the St. James Hotel and he invited him to the meeting and asked him to come forward to address the Council. Mr. Striplin addressed the Council stating several months ago it was pointed out that there was a need for some maintenance at the hotel and he agreed to do that, according to a list of things determined during a walk-through by Attorney Jimmy Nunn and Mr. Bonner, a former interested buyer of the franchise. Mr. Striplin stated at this time, just about all of the repairs have been completed with the exception of buying some hair blowers, which could be obtained by asking someone at the front desk. Mr. Striplin stated he engaged with Mr. Ivan Johnson for some noted repairs and he is present if the Council has any questions. Mr. Striplin further stated, in addition, complete new linen has also been purchased for the hotel. Mr. Johnson also addressed the Council with further details of the repairs.

E. Longevity Pay Plan and Revised Copy of Approved Pay Plan. Mayor Perkins stated the final version of the pay plan information has been provided to the Council contained in the yellow folder given to the Council. Mayor Perkins stated to President Evans that this has already been approved and this is the final documentation. Mayor Perkins stated at the time this plan was approved there has been constant fluctuation that will never stop, you will always have people coming and going that will change the numbers, but the bottom line is this is an accurate reflection of the plan which includes both development, implementation cost summary, classification listings, general pay structure and worksheets for appointed and non-appointed employees. Mayor Perkins stated he encourages the Council to review this information at their own leisure and if there are any questions, get them to him and he will make certain to get the Council a reply.

F. E-911 Police Dispatch Within the City and Police Jurisdiction. Mayor Perkins stated he would like to ask Chief Jimmy Martin to come forward to have a discussion about the issue of crime and police response. Chief Martin addressed the Council stating he has set up at the police department assignments for citizens' complaints on response time, and also if extra patrol is needed, officers have been advised to have the citizens call him direct. Chief Martin further addressed the Council with details regarding response issues. Chief Martin stated in January 2001, he started a collection of data from citizens calling in that did not get response from law enforcement after a call, they were under the impression that they were calling the police department, not so, they were calling either 911 or 6611 which is a designated number for the police department. Chief Martin stated during that time and even now, we do not have a police officer at dispatch, the calls are dispatched to the officers. Chief Martin further discussed priority of police calls by call type.

Councilwoman Crenshaw stated she feels what the citizens really need is an understanding of the E-911 dispatchers. Councilwoman stated the E911 moved to the County, which means that the people that are hired, the people that get the calls, do not work for the City, they work for the County. Mayor Perkins concurred stating; the Sheriff hires the dispatchers and they work for the County. Councilwoman Crenshaw stated there has been a problem with this situation ever since this move, in the last two to three years there has been a horrific amount of crime where people understand that the police will not show up, somehow they know the connection between E-911 moving under the County, we are not getting what we need at this point.

Councilman Williamson stated to Chief Martin that it was interesting what he said and including a lot of general information, but asked specifically about Ms. Bossie's complaint, asked if he was able to tell the Council the time the police were informed of this call, and if he is, why the police did not respond, and was there some kind of riot going on, or murder going on, because a burglary in progress should have some priority. Chief Martin stated he would have to check with E-911 dispatch communication and the log sheet maintained by the officers, but allow him to answer his questions. Mayor Perkins stated don't answer at this time, he will get the answers, and the answer is yes, unless the tapes have been destroyed, we can go back and review the tapes to determine what time the call was dispatched and make some determination. Mayor Perkins stated he would like to ask Ms. Bossie if she would work through him, because he really wants to know too and he will let the Council know at the next Council meeting.

During further discussion, Mr. Richard Bean and Mr. Steve Tidwell of the E-911 Communications Center addressed the Council regarding the procedures and responsibility of the E-911 telecommunicators/dispatchers and system details. In conclusion, Mr. Bean stated citizens can call him with complaints at his office at 872-4712, President Evans stated citizens who experience problems with dispatch, please call your Council member or him.

I. MAYOR'S REPORT

G. Task Force Committee Appointments. Mayor Perkins stated on January 6, 2006 to the Council making a recommendation to revitalize the Crime Task Force and he met with Mr. Billy Atchison and Mrs. Barbara Brown and they have agreed to continue to co-chair, so he is encouraging the Council to now proceed to prepare their recommendation of individuals to serve on this Crime Task Force and get appointments to him to convene the committee. Mayor Perkins stated this is a reminder to the Council and each Council member appoints one member to the committee, the President of the Council appoints two members and the Mayor appoints three members.

H. Resolution - Retirement of K-9 Rolf. Mayor Perkins stated on last week the Council was given copies of a resolution requesting the retirement of K-9 Rolf and he has had a chance to talk with Chief Martin about this retirement and he now make the recommendation that Council approves this request. A motion was made by Councilwoman Martin and seconded by Councilwoman Venter to approve the said resolution. The motion carried with a unanimous vote (show of hands) of the Council members present. Councilman Leashore was absent from the Chamber at the time of the vote, however, when he returned he voted aye.

I. Ad Valorem Tax Renewal for Public School Purposes. Mayor Perkins stated the Council has been given copies of the ordinance for renewal and continuation of the Ad Valorem Tax for public school system purposes. Mayor Perkins stated the ordinance calls for an election to be held on April 25, 2006 and this is presented to the Council for the purpose of reviewing and he asks that it will be placed on first reading for action on the first Council meeting in February. A motion was made by Councilwoman Martin and seconded by Councilwoman Crenshaw to place the said ordinance on first reading. The motion carried with a unanimous vote (show of hands) of the Council members present. Councilman Leashore was absent from the Chamber at the time of the vote, however, when he returned he voted aye.

J. Noise Ordinance Citations. Councilman Williamson asked if Mayor Perkins has had a chance to validate the report of the noise citations reported at the last Council meeting that only one person was charged during the month of December for violating the noise ordinance. Mayor Perkins stated he spoke with Chief Martin on last week regarding this matter, however, they have not completed the review of the numbers. Mayor Perkins further stated he has just recently learned that the City of Valley Grande crime statistics were removed from the City of Selma; the City of Valley Grande calls were no longer being logged as the City of Selma calls. Chief Martin stated this was done in the last two months. Mayor Perkins stated this was a function of how it was being done at the E-911 center and attached to the City of Selma. Mayor Perkins stated in the process of the review this was discovered and now the review is to find out how this is affecting all the numbers. Chief Martin stated what was turned in is accurate. President Evans asked Mayor Perkins or Chief Martin if there is a plan in place, currently, or being implemented by the Police Department that addresses this issue of noise and calls received regarding noise. Chief Martin stated about eight months ago the Council made a request of him about the loud noise ordinance and what can the citizens do. Chief Martin stated based on the Attorney General's Opinion, citizens of the City of Selma can issue a warrant for a person with loud music. Chief Martin stated they would take these complaints and work with the citizens. Following further discussion, President Evans asked if it is the general consensus of the Council to have unmarked cars on patrol in an effort to enforce the noise ordinance. The Council concurred.

K. Presentation of Certificate of Leadership. Mayor Perkins stated he wants to issue congratulations to several members of the Council who have assumed leadership roles and received certificates of training improving their skills with the Council. Mayor Perkins stated Councilwoman Crenshaw has been appointed to the Public Safety and Crime Prevention Steering Committee with the National League of Cities, Councilwoman Crenshaw has also received the Gold Certificate Leadership Ambassador Certificate; Councilwoman Jannie Venter has been awarded a certificate for Excellence in Government Building Communities with Accountability, Honesty and Integrity & Diversity Awareness: More Than Just Black and White; Councilman Randolph has also received the Bronze Certificate of Leadership Ambassador Certificate. Councilman Leashore stated he has received notice from the NLC that he will be awarded the Bronze Certificate at the congressional city meeting in March, along with Councilwoman Venter. Attorney Nunn stated Mayor Perkins was also appointed to the NLC Board of Directors. President Evans stated this is correct and this appointment has been a lot of publicity on the news and in the paper and he congratulates Mayor Perkins for this achievement.

II. CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

A. Alcoholic Beverage Liquor License. Attorney Nunn stated at the last Council meeting an alcoholic beverage license application was placed on first reading for Cosby Enterprises D/B/A Idle Inn #2 located at 907 Broad Street. Attorney Nunn stated this license is up for consideration by the Council tonight. A motion was made by Councilwoman Martin and seconded by Councilwoman Crenshaw to approve the said license. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a majority vote of the Council. There were six ayes and three nays. Councilman Williams, Councilman Cain and Councilwoman Venter cast nay votes.

B. Policy and Procedures Established for Application for Liquor License. Attorney Nunn stated the Council has been given copies of the policy and procedures established and voted on by the Council as it relates to alcoholic beverage license and application process. Attorney Nunn stated per the request of the Council, his office has prepared the notice that will be placed on the structure of the building of the applicant applying for the license. Attorney Nunn stated the procedures have also been revised to include this notice in step #8. A motion was made by Councilman Cain and seconded by Councilwoman Martin to approve the said policy and procedures including notice for liquor license. The motion carried with a unanimous vote (show of hands) of the Council.

C. Ordinance - O102-05/06 Adoption of City Council Rules and Procedures. Attorney Nunn stated the Council has a copy of ordinance #O102-05/06 as it relates to adopting the City Council rules and procedures. Attorney Nunn stated this ordinance was placed on first reading during the last Council meeting. Councilman Leashore stated this ordinance is the document he made reference to during the discussion of the agenda when he stated has not been voted on and the Council has put the cart before the horse in conducting business of the Selma City Council. Attorney Nunn stated it was the consensus of the Council that the League of Municipalities would be called as it relates to section #15 of the ordinance, and this did take place on today. Attorney Nunn stated several concerns were discussed regarding this section, which he conveyed to the Council. President Evans gave further dialogue on this discussion. Following some discussion, Councilwoman Crenshaw stated the Council needs to have a really good look at this document before it is passed and she feels it should be tabled. A motion was made by Councilwoman Crenshaw and seconded by Councilman Williamson to table this item until the next Council meeting. The motion carried with a unanimous vote (show of hands) of the Council. Attorney Nunn stated this is the amended ordinance that will be published in the newspaper and if this ordinance is not approved, the rules and procedures would revert back to the old or current ordinance #O102-04/05. Attorney Nunn stated the whole ordinance would not be included, because all sections are not being amended, however, he will print a final draft and include the amended sections, but this will not be the ordinance, which the Council will be voting on.

BUSINESS ITEMS:

III. SELMA PUBLIC LIBRARY FUNDING

A motion was made by Councilman Williamson and seconded by Councilman Cain to restore the Library funding in the amount of \$80,000.00. Following a lengthy discussion and comments from each Council member and President Evans, the motion was amended by Councilwoman Allen and seconded by Councilwoman Venter to table this item until the next Council meeting to hear the report of the meeting and discussion held. A roll call vote was taken on the amended motion and the motion passed with a majority vote of the Council. There were eight ayes and one nay. Councilman Williamson cast a nay vote. (Prior to the meeting adjournment Councilman Cain stated he would like to change his aye vote to a nay vote. President Evans accepted.)

IV. TRAVEL - MILEAGE RATE

President Evans stated the Council would need to take a vote on the mileage rate per documents distributed to the Council. President Evans stated this rate change would allow the citizens who work for the City to travel and be reimbursed at a rate of \$.44.5 per mile. Following a brief discussion, a motion was made by Councilwoman Crenshaw and seconded by Councilman Randolph to table this item until some figures could be worked up in terms of a budget amendment. Councilman Leashore stated if the City will go by what the State travel rate is, this rate of \$.44.5 is an adjustment from \$.48.5, so the City was using \$.37.5, that was not even at the higher rate level. The motion carried with a unanimous vote (show of hands) of the Council.

BUSINESS ITEMS:

V. SELMA WATERWORKS AND SEWER BOARD MONTHLY REPORT

President Evans stated this item is being discussed for the purpose of the Board to hopefully agree to give the Council a monthly report or update on the Water Board situation. Councilman Leashore asked President Evans what specific information is being requested. During discussion, President Evans stated by the next meeting he would give some specifics regarding information being requested.

VI. COUNCIL TRAVEL BALANCE

President Evans stated he received a report that the Council initially started with a travel budget of \$50,000.00; at this point there is an expenditure of \$12,435.33 and there is about \$37,564.67 left in the budget for Council members to travel.

VII. REVISIT COPY FEE

Councilwoman Crenshaw stated she received information that people are coming in astronomical requests. A motion was made by Councilwoman Crenshaw and seconded by Councilman Leashore to move the fee for copies back with one change from 25 copies to 20 copies at \$1.25 per page and all copies over that amount \$1.75 per page. During discussion, Councilman Williamson asked if Ms. Williams has a report of how many requests are being received. Ms. Williams stated she does not have a report at this time. Councilman Leashore stated he does not feel this is an unreasonable cost and he read from a letter stating, "the public information policy of the Dallas County Commission imposes a copying charge of \$1.00 per page for all public records copied pursuant to a written request". The motion was presumed amended by Councilman Cain and seconded by Councilman Williamson to table this item until the next Council meeting. A roll call vote was taken and the motion failed for lack of a majority vote. President Evans stated now a vote will be taken on the original motion. President Evans stated individuals who have already made requests would be charged the previous cost for copies at \$.25 per page up to 25 pages and \$.10 thereafter and any request after tonight's vote will fall under the new policy, if passed. A roll call vote was taken on the original motion and the motion passed with majority vote of the Council. There were seven ayes and two nays. Councilman Williamson and Councilman Cain cast nay votes.

VIII. NLC CONFERENCE REPORTS

Council members Crenshaw, Leashore and Venter gave reports to the Council regarding the NLC Conference.

IX. UPDATE ON OUTSTANDING GARBAGE FEES

Councilman Williamson stated the last time the Council received a report there were \$434,000.00 in outstanding garbage fees that had not been paid. Councilman Williamson stated he was wondering if this amount has increased or has it been reduced and what efforts are being made to correct this issue. Councilman Williamson asked if the Council could get an update on this matter at the next Council meeting. President Evans stated he would get with the Mayor to ask Mr. Goldsby where the City stands on this issue. Councilwoman Venter stated she has a solution for this and suggested that each Councilperson would be given a list of the names of the persons in his/her ward and the amount owed and let them go out and collect the money. Councilman Williamson and other Council members agreed.

X. UPDATE ON OUTSTANDING COURT FINES

Councilman Williamson stated the last time the Council received a report on this item there were \$227,000.00 in uncollected court fines and he wondered what is the present figure. Councilman Williamson stated maybe the same procedure Councilwoman Venter suggested could be used.

XI. CITIZENS' REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Councilman Williamson stated if a policy or suggestion could be made regarding a reasonable time for information to be provided to an individual making a request. Councilman Williamson stated he is referencing a copy of a request that was placed in their boxes dated

BUSINESS ITEMS:

January 6, 2006 and now this request is approaching three weeks. President Evans stated he would get with the Mayor and Ms. Williams to find out what could be done about this matter.

XII. GOOD SAMARITAN POWER BILLS

Councilman Williamson stated during discussion regarding the Library power bill, he was interested to find out if the power bill for the Good Samaritan is in the City's name and also the outside lighting. Councilman Williamson asked if the City is paying the power bill for the Good Samaritan or is it somehow being charged back to the tenant. President Evans stated his understanding of this matter after dialogue indicated that all funds used for paying bills are taken from monies collected from the tenants.

XIII. FINANCIAL REPORTS

Councilman Williamson stated all of the accounts have numbers and when the Council receives the financial report, there are 700 checks listed, but there is not a number to which account these checks are charged. Councilman Williamson stated there is no way to look at those checks and see who spent it or where it was spent. Councilman Williamson gave an example to the Council and stated he has made a request to the Mayor for this information.

XIV. SOUTHERN PLAYGROUND BID SHEET

Councilman Williamson stated in the financial report received for last month there was a payment to Southern Playgrounds for \$20,000.00 and asked President Evans if he recalls when this bid was accepted. President Evans stated he does remember this item. Councilman Williamson stated he has made a request for this information.

XV. CHECK REGISTER

Councilman Cain stated he concurs with the information Councilman Williamson was indicating and he is sure that with the New World software technology can sort by account and it is just a matter of working on getting that information to the Council members so that the check register can be balanced. President Evans stated whatever information is requested and is legal; we should find a way to supply it.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

RECREATION COMMITTEE - COUNCILMAN SAMUEL RANDOLPH, CHAIRPERSON

Councilman Randolph stated this committee met on Tuesday, January 17, 2006 at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. Councilman Randolph stated anyone interested in coaching should contact the Recreation Department at 874-2140.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE - COUNCILWOMAN DR. GERALDINE ALLEN, CHAIRPERSON

There is no report for the Administrative Committee.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE - COUNCILMAN REID CAIN, CHAIRPERSON

Councilman Cain stated the Public Safety Committee met on January 20, 2006 at 5:00 p.m. Councilman Cain stated the curfew ordinance was discussed and the next meeting would be held on February 2, 2006.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE - COUNCILWOMAN JEAN MARTIN, CHAIRPERSON

There is no report for the Community Development Committee.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE - COUNCILMAN LEASHORE, CHAIRPERSON

There is no report for the Public Works Committee.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

DISCRETIONARY FUNDS COMMITTEE - COUNCILWOMAN CRENSHAW, CHAIRPERSON

Councilwoman Crenshaw asked that the Council give from discretionary funds to the Selma High School workshop and the Children's Council.

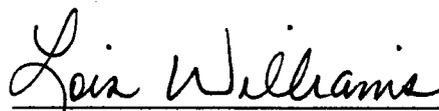
ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, on motion, the Council voted by unanimous consent to adjourn the meeting at 9:06 p.m.



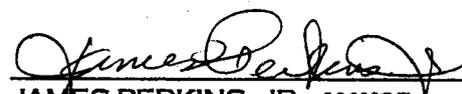
GEORGE P. EVANS, *PRESIDENT*

ATTEST:



LOIS WILLIAMS, *CITY CLERK*

APPROVED:



JAMES PERKINS, JR., *MAYOR*