

The Saraland City Council met in regular session on July 8, 2021, at the Saraland Municipal Annex. The meeting was called to order at 6:12 p.m. by Council President McDonald. Roll call was as follows:

Present: Council President Joe McDonald
Councilmember Wayne Biggs
Councilmember Newton Cromer
Councilmember Veronica Hudson
Councilmember Natalie Moya

Attorney, Andy Rutens was present.

Councilmember Biggs opened the meeting with prayer.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Councilmember Biggs, seconded by Councilmember Hudson, to approve the minutes of the meeting of June 10, 24, 25 and July 1, 2021. Motion carried.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Saraland Area Chamber of Commerce report was given.

REPORT OF OFFICERS

Councilmember Cromer introduced a temporary ordinance amending timing provisions contained in Chapter 22, Article IV, of the Saraland Code of Ordinances to allow the display of fireworks on July 9, 2021, at the Fountain of Life Church.

ORDINANCE 1198

A TEMPORARY ORDINANCE AMENDING TIMING PROVISIONS CONTAINED IN CHAPTER 22, ARTICLE IV, OF THE SARALAND CODE OF ORDINANCES TO ALLOW THE DISPLAY OF FIREWORKS ON JULY 9, 2021 AT THE FOUNTAIN OF LIFE CHURCH

WHEREAS, the display of fireworks in honor and recognition of the Fourth of July holiday is a long-standing and valued tradition to the citizens of the City of Saraland, Alabama; and

WHEREAS, the City adopted a fireworks ordinance that concerns the sale and holding of fireworks displays within the City to protect the citizens, but to allow for the proper display of fireworks shows; and

WHEREAS, Section 22-162 of the City of Saraland Code of Ordinances limits the display of fireworks beyond the traditional Fourth of July holiday; and

WHEREAS, due to Covid restrictions in 2020, fireworks displays were prohibited throughout the City; and

WHEREAS, the greater Saraland area endured significant rainfall during the July 4th and 5th period of 2021, which precluded the effective showing of fireworks; and

WHEREAS, it is the determination of the Mayor and City Council of the City of Saraland that the patriotic display of fireworks is appropriate given the preclusion of fireworks displays in 2020 and the unfortunate timing of the rain events of July 4th and 5th of 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Fountain of Life Church, through their sponsor, Harrison Faircloth, requested application and obtained approval to have a fireworks show during July 4, 2021, which was unable to take place because of weather; and

WHEREAS, the Fountain of Life Church incurred expenses in obtaining fireworks for the display and was unable to use them during the periods allowed by Saraland Code Section 22-162; and

WHEREAS, the Fountain of Life Church has requested the ability to hold a fireworks show on Friday, July 9, 2021, at approximately 7:30 p.m. at the Fountain of Life Church located at 1277 Jubilee Drive in Saraland, Alabama; and

WHEREAS, it is the finding of the Mayor and City Council for the City of Saraland that this fireworks display will promote civic pride and provide an opportunity for the citizens of the City of Saraland to express their support for the freedoms given by Divine Providence and recognized by the United States Constitution.

THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Saraland, Alabama that Section 22-162 of the Saraland Code of Ordinances is temporarily suspended to allow for the fireworks display requested by the Fountain of Life Church to be held on Friday, July 9, 2021.

ADOPTED this the 8th day of July, 2021.

Motion was made by Councilmember Cromer, seconded by Councilmember Hudson, to suspend the rules to allow for immediate consideration of the proposed temporary ordinance amending timing provisions contained in Chapter 22, Article IV, of the Saraland Code of Ordinances to allow the display of fireworks on July 9, 2021, at the Fountain of Life Church.

The following votes were recorded:

Yes: Council President Joe McDonald
Councilmember Wayne Biggs

Councilmember Newton Cromer
Councilmember Veronica Hudson
Councilmember Natalie Moye

Motion carried.

Unanimous consent being given to allow for immediate consideration of the proposed ordinance, motion was made by Councilmember Biggs, seconded by Councilmember Hudson, to adopt the temporary ordinance amending timing provisions contained in Chapter 22, Article IV, of the Saraland Code of Ordinances to allow the display of fireworks on July 9, 2021, at the Fountain of Life Church.

The following votes were recorded:

Yes: Council President Joe McDonald
Councilmember Wayne Biggs
Councilmember Newton Cromer
Councilmember Veronica Hudson
Councilmember Natalie Moye

Motion carried.

REPORT OF MAYOR

Motion was made by Councilmember Biggs, seconded by Councilmember Hudson, to authorize expenses for the Mayor and Councilmember Cromer to attend the Board of Directors meeting in Montgomery, July 21 and 22, 2021. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF INVOICES

Motion was made by Councilmember Hudson, seconded by Councilmember Cromer, to approve the following invoices.

General Fund

1. Volkert, Inc. – General Engineering Services	\$2,990.16
2. R. Jeffrey Perloff, PC – June 2021 Statement	\$2,014.50

Motion carried.

ORDERS, RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES & OTHER BUSINESS

Second reading of the proposed ordinance for annexation of Parcel # R021801110000001.018, 9455 Ridge Road, filed by owners Kathy L. Moebes, Darina Zirlott & Jeremie.

Failed for lack of a motion.

Motion was made by Councilmember Cromer, seconded by Councilmember Biggs, to approve the purchase of a Chevrolet truck from the state bid list for the Building Department, not to exceed \$29,000. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilmember Hudson, seconded by Councilmember Cromer, to authorize training expenses and adopt a resolution for a cash advance for Jeff Ludlam and Irvin Rentz to attend the AAFC Conference in Orange Beach, AL on August 8-11, 2021. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2199

BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Saraland, that

WHEREAS, a cash advance for Jeff Ludlam and Irvin Rentz to attend the AAFC Conference, August 8-11, 2021, in Orange Beach, Alabama; and

WHEREAS, a statement of said expenditures will be presented to the City Clerk immediately upon return, at which time all monies will be balanced.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 8th day of July, 2021.

Council President McDonald advised there is a matter to be discussed in executive session concerning a potential real estate transaction.

City Attorney, Andy Rutens, advised this is appropriate use of executive session as authorized by state law.

Motion was made by Councilmember Biggs, seconded by Councilmember Cromer, to adjourn into executive session with Mayor Rubenstein and Andy Rutens to discuss a potential real estate transaction.

The following votes were recorded:

Yes: Council President Joe McDonald
Councilmember Wayne Biggs
Councilmember Newton Cromer
Councilmember Veronica Hudson
Councilmember Natalie Moya

Motion carried.

Council President McDonald advised he anticipates the executive session to last approximately 30 minutes.

The Council adjourned into executive session with the Mayor and City Attorney at 6:23 p.m.

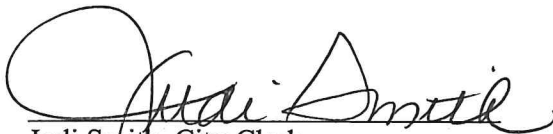
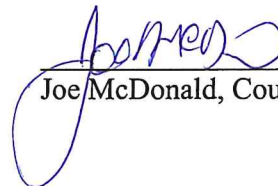
Motion was made by Councilmember Biggs, seconded by Councilmember Hudson, to reconvene at 6:40 with all members present. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilmember Cromer, seconded by Councilmember Moye, to authorize the Mayor and Attorney to accept the counteroffer, not to exceed \$700,000 subject to appraisal showing sales price greater than or equal to the fair market value, as well as submitting the non-refundable \$5,000 earnest money. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilmember Cromer, seconded by Councilmember Biggs, to authorize the mayor to contract with a surveyor, in an amount not to exceed \$15,000. Motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the Council, motion was made by Councilmember Hudson to adjourn at 6:45 p.m.

ACCEPTED and APPROVED the 22nd day of July 2021.


Judi Smith, City Clerk
Joe McDonald, Council President