

Saraland City Council
Pre-Meeting
October 14, 2021

MINUTES

The members of the Saraland City Council met on October 14, 2021, at the Saraland Municipal Annex at 6:07 p.m., with Council Vice President Cromer presiding.

Councilmembers Biggs, Hudson and Moye were in attendance.

Council President McDonald was absent.

Councilmember Moye opened the meeting with prayer.

Attorney Andy Rutens was present.

The Council discussed agenda items and general municipal business.

There being no further discussion the pre-meeting adjourned at 6:16 p.m.

ACCEPTED and APPROVED the 28th day of October 2021.



Judi Smith, City Clerk



Newton Cromer, Council Vice President

The Saraland City Council met in regular session on October 14, 2021, at the Saraland Municipal Annex. The meeting was called to order at 6:16 p.m. by Council Vice President Cromer. Roll call was as follows:

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

Attorney, Andy Rutens was present.

Councilmember Moye opened the meeting with prayer.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Councilmember Hudson, seconded by Councilmember Moye, to approve the minutes of the meeting of January 14, September 23, October 4, and 11, 2021 and Motion carried.

REPORT OF MAYOR

Motion was made by Councilmember Hudson, seconded by Councilmember Biggs, to authorize a resolution requesting the Mobile County Personnel Board institute salary and wage changes for the City of Saraland Department of Public Safety Pay Plan. Motion carried

RESOLUTION 2217
A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE MOBILE COUNTY
PERSONNEL BOARD INSTITUTE SALARY AND WAGE CHANGES
FOR THE CITY OF SARALAND DEPARTMENT
OF PUBLIC SAFETY PAY PLAN

WHEREAS, the employees of the Police Department and the employees of the Fire Department of the City of Saraland make up the City of Saraland Department of Public Safety; and

WHEREAS, the City of Saraland values greatly the work performed by all members of the Department of Public Safety; and

WHEREAS, almost all employees of the Department of Public Safety are classified employees under the Rules and Regulations of the Mobile County Personnel Board and, as such, their salary and wages are determined by the applicable pay plan; and

WHEREAS, the City of Saraland leadership would like to adjust and change the pay plan so that members and employees of the Saraland Department of Public Safety receive increases in

their wages in order to reflect the value of their service, as well as to become more competitive with other jurisdictions in south Alabama; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Rule 5.3 of the Rules and Regulations of the Mobile County Personnel Board, the City of Saraland requests the Mobile County Personnel Board approve changes to the pay plan concerning employees of the Saraland Department of Public Safety, and for a series of percentage raises to occur in the pay plan and to apply to all employees who are not within their entry level probationary status; and

WHEREAS, the Saraland Police Department currently employs individuals in the following positions:

- Public Safety Officer Assistant 1;
- Jailer/Dispatcher 1;
- Jailer/Dispatcher 2;
- Jailer/Dispatcher Supervisor;
- Police Officer;
- Police Corporal;
- Police Sergeant;
- Police Lieutenant;
- Police Captain;
- Police Assistant Chief; and

WHEREAS, the Saraland Fire Department currently employs individuals in the following positions:

- Fire Fighter;
- Fire Medic;
- Fire Service Driver;
- Fire Service Captain;
- Fire Service Battalion Chief;
- Fire Service Deputy Chief; and

WHEREAS, the City of Saraland requests the Mobile County Personnel Board to amend the entire pay plan as it concerns employees in those classifications such that all current employees not currently within their initial probationary period receive an immediate five percent (5%) pay increase, employees currently within their initial probationary status to receive said raise upon completion of their probation; and

WHEREAS, the City of Saraland requests the Mobile County Personnel Board further approve a salary and wage increase beginning October 1, 2022 of five percent (5%) pay increase for the designated classifications, excluding only employees then in their initial probationary period, said raise to apply to those individuals once they complete their initial probationary status; and

WHEREAS, the City of Saraland requests that the Mobile County Personnel Board approve a 2.5% pay increase in salary and wages beginning October 1, 2023 for all employees in the designated classifications, excluding only those employees then in their initial probationary status, those individuals to receive the pay increase upon completion of their probationary status; and

WHEREAS, the City of Saraland requests the Mobile County Personnel Board approve a 2.5% pay increase in salary and wages beginning October 1, 2024 for all employees in the designated classifications excluding only those individuals then in their initial probationary period, those individuals to receive that pay increase upon satisfactory completion of their probationary period; and

WHEREAS, the City of Saraland requests the Mobile County Personnel Board approve a 2.5% pay increase in salary and wages beginning October 1, 2025, for the individuals then employed in the above designated classifications, excluding only those individuals then in their initial probationary status, those individuals to receive that pay increase upon satisfactory completion of their probationary period; and

WHEREAS, the Director of Public Safety/Chief of Police, as well as the Fire Chief, are contract employees currently serving outside of the classified service and each have performed their positions admirably and with great skill; and

WHEREAS, the City Council for the City of Saraland authorizes the Mayor to enter into an Addendum with the Public Safety Director/Police Chief and Fire Chief to change their pay provided under their current contract to reflect the percentage pay increases commensurate with and as contained within this Resolution applying to those employees in the classified service for as long as the current Public Safety Director/Police Chief and Fire Chief hold their respective positions.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Saraland City Council that this Resolution be submitted to the Mobile County Personnel Board for action in revisions of the pay plan for the positions designated consistent with the terms as outlined herein, and the Mayor is directed and authorized to enter into an Addendum contract agreement with the Public Safety Director/Police Chief and the Fire Chief pursuant to the provisions contained herein.

ADOPTED this 14th day of October 2021.

Motion was made by Councilmember Biggs, seconded by Councilmember Moye, to approve a one-time expense of \$1,000.00 for advertising with the Saraland YMCA. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF INVOICES

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

General Fund

- | | |
|--|-------------|
| 1. Neel-Schaffer – General Consulting Services | \$10,485.00 |
| 2. R. Jeffrey Perloff, PC – September 2021 Statement | \$2,431.00 |
| 3. Volkert, Inc. – General Engineering Services – 2021 | \$171.93 |

Motion carried.

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

Gas Tax Fund

- | | |
|---|-------------|
| 1. James H. Adams & Son Construction Co. – Scott Drive Bridge | \$46,648.96 |
| 2. McDade Valuation & Consulting, LLC – Celeste Road Project | \$15,540.00 |
| 3. Neel-Schaffer – Celeste Road Project | \$4,979.62 |

Motion carried.

ORDERS, RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES & OTHER BUSINESS

AFTER PROPER PUBLIC NOTICES HAVING BEEN DULY GIVEN, A PUBLIC HEARING WAS HELD TO CONSIDER THE transfer of alcoholic beverage application, off premises only (050-Retail Beer & 070- Retail Table Wine) filed by BD2 Convenience LLC d/b/a Saraland Shell, 1100 Highway 43, S. (aka: Saraland Boulevard, S.).

Council Vice President Cromer declared the public hearing open.

There was no one in favor of or in opposition to the application.

Council Vice President Cromer declared the public hearing closed.

Motion was made by Councilmember Biggs, seconded by Councilmember Moye, to suspend the rules to allow for immediate consideration of the transfer of alcoholic beverage application, off premises only (050-Retail Beer & 070- Retail Table Wine) filed by BD2 Convenience LLC d/b/a Saraland Shell, 1100 Highway 43, S. (aka: Saraland Boulevard, S.).

The following votes were recorded:

Yes: 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 transfer, motion was made by Councilmember Biggs, seconded by Councilmember Moye, to approve the transfer of alcoholic beverage application, off premises only (050-Retail Beer & 070- Retail Table Wine) filed by BD2 Convenience LLC d/b/a Saraland Shell, 1100 Highway 43, S. (aka: Saraland Boulevard, S.)

The following votes were recorded:

Yes: Councilmember Wayne Biggs
Councilmember Newton Cromer
Councilmember Veronica Hudson
Councilmember Natalie Moye

Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilmember Biggs, seconded by Councilmember Moye, to approve a bail bondsman application for J'mocus Jones with M & J Bail Bonds. Motion carried.

Mayor Rubenstein announced, agenda item #3 would be moved to the end of the meeting.

Motion was made by Councilmember Moye, seconded by Councilmember Hudson, to authorize expenses and adopt a resolution for a cash advance for Sophia Anthony to attend Grant Writing for Law Enforcement course, October 27, 2021, in Anniston, Alabama. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2218

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

WHEREAS a cash advance for Sophia Anthony to attend the Grant Writing for Law Enforcement course, October 27, 2021, in Anniston, AL; 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 14th day of October 2021.

Motion was made by Councilmember Moye, seconded by Councilmember Hudson, to authorize expenses and adopt a resolution for a cash advance for Raymond Pecue to attend Ballistic Shield course, November 15-16, 2021, in Forsyth, Georgia. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2219

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

WHEREAS a cash advance for Raymond Pecue to attend the Ballistic Shield course, November 15-16, 2021, in Forsyth, GA; 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 14th day of October 2021.

Motion was made by Councilmember Hudson, seconded by Councilmember Biggs, to suspend the rules to allow for immediate consideration to amend the 2021-2022 library property purchase budget to \$26,000.00.

The following votes were recorded:

Yes: Councilmember Wayne Biggs
Councilmember Newton Cromer
Councilmember Veronica Hudson
Councilmember Natalie Moya

Motion carried.

Unanimous consent being given to allow for immediate consideration to amend the 2021-2022 library property purchase budget to \$26,000.00.

The following votes were recorded:

Yes: Councilmember Wayne Biggs
Councilmember Newton Cromer
Councilmember Veronica Hudson
Councilmember Natalie Moya

Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilmember Hudson, seconded by Councilmember Wayne, to authorize continuation of the City of Saraland's participation in the ADOR Severe Weather Preparedness Tax Holiday as notated in Ordinance 1104. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilmember Biggs, seconded by Councilmember Moya, to approve the parade permit for Saraland Mardi Gras Association for Saturday, February 26, 2022. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilmember Biggs, seconded by Councilmember Hudson, to approve the Fire Chief and Police Chief to order budgeted items. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilmember Biggs, seconded by Councilmember Moya, to approve the repair and purchase additional doors for the Public Works Department at a cost of up to \$7,500 to be paid from the Alabama Trust Fund account. Motion carried.

Council Vice President Cromer advised there is a matter to be discussed in executive session concerning good name and character and possible litigation.

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

Motion was made by Councilmember Moye, seconded by Councilmember Biggs, to adjourn into executive session with Mayor Rubenstein and Andy Rutens to discuss good name and character and possible litigation.

The following votes were recorded:

Yes: Councilmember Wayne Biggs
Councilmember Newton Cromer
Councilmember Veronica Hudson
Councilmember Natalie Moye

Motion carried.

Council Vice President Cromer advised he anticipates the executive session to last approximately 20-25 minutes.

The Council adjourned into executive session with the Mayor and City Attorney at 6:35 p.m.

Motion was made by Councilmember Biggs, seconded by Councilmember Hudson, to reconvene at 6:52 p.m. with all members present. Motion carried.

Upon reconvening, Attorney Andy Rutens gave a brief description of the bid options for the solid and bulky waste contract.

Motion was made by Councilmember Biggs, seconded by Councilmember Hudson, to accept the bid alternate #1, vendor would perform the solid waste collection, the city would perform the bulky waste collection and the vendor would bill for both and submit to the city on a regular basis. Motion carried.

Attorney Andy Rutens made a recommendation to the Mayor and Council, to accept the proposal from WastePro for a charge of \$20.35 per month, for a twice weekly pickup of solid waste or garbage, as well as billing and collecting of both garbage and trash pick up and submitting payment to the city on a regular basis. Attorney Rutens further explained his reasoning for this recommendation.

Motion was made by Councilmember Hudson, seconded by Councilmember Biggs, to accept the recommendation of the Attorney. Motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the Council, motion was made by Councilmember Hudson to adjourn at 7:20 p.m.

ACCEPTED and APPROVED the 28th day of October 2021.


Judi Smith, City Clerk


Newton Cromer, Council Vice President