

The Saraland City Council met in regular session on June 23, 2022, at the Saraland Municipal Annex. The meeting was called to order at 6:45 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 Moye

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 June 20, 2022. Motion carried.

#### REPORT OF OFFICERS

Motion was made by Councilmember Cromer, seconded by Councilmember Moye, to authorize payment of invoice for S.C. Stagner Contracting, for the Police Department laundry room in the amount of \$14,160.00. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilmember Biggs, seconded by Councilmember Hudson, to authorize the mayor to enter into a contract with Vertex, formerly known as Shell Chemical, for the use of City parking lot for staging area during their heavy maintenance period. This contract will include stipulations for severe weather. Councilmember Cromer abstained. Motion carried.

#### REPORT OF MAYOR

Motion was made by Councilmember Biggs, seconded by Councilmember Hudson, to authorize the mayor to sign a 1-year contract with C-Spire for Microsoft licensing in the amount of \$1,729.00 per month. Motion carried.

#### APPROVAL OF INVOICES

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

##### **General Fund**

- |   |            |
|---|------------|
| 1. Galloway, Wettermark, & Rutens, LLP – Billing through 2/7/2022 | \$9,902.50 |
| 2. Sports Facilities Advisory                                     | \$9,250.00 |
| 3. Neel-Schaffer – General Consulting                             | \$3,330.00 |

Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilmember Moye, seconded by Councilmember Cromer, to approve the following invoices:

**Gas Tax Fund**

1. Neel Schaffer – Celeste Road Additional Lane

\$35,849.08

Motion carried.

**ORDERS, RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES & OTHER BUSINESS**

AFTER PROPER PUBLIC NOTICES HAVING BEEN DULY GIVEN, A PUBLIC HEARING WAS HELD TO CONSIDER THE approval of alcoholic beverage application for a Lounge Retail Liquor – Class II (Package) filed by Rajeev Reddy agent for Surya Store, LLC d/b/a Saraland Liquor, 627 Shelton Beach Road, Suite A, Saraland, AL 36571

Council President McDonald declared the public hearing open.

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

Council President McDonald declared the public hearing closed.

Mayor Rubenstein requested an executive session concerning good name and character.

Council President McDonald advised there is a matter to be discussed in executive session concerning good name and character.

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

Motion was made by Councilmember Cromer, seconded by Councilmember Biggs, to adjourn into executive session with Mayor Rubenstein, Chief James West and Andy Rutens to discuss good name and character.

The following votes were recorded:

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

Motion carried.

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

The Council adjourned into executive session with the Mayor and City Attorney at 6:51 p.m.

Motion was made by Councilmember Moye, seconded by Councilmember Biggs, to reconvene at 6:59 with all members present. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilmember Biggs, seconded by Councilmember Hudson, to deny the alcoholic beverage application for a Lounge Retail Liquor – Class II (Package) filed by Rajeev Reddy agent for Surya Store, LLC d/b/a Saraland Liquor, 627 Shelton Beach Road, Suite A, Saraland, AL 36571, based on the grounds that procedural requirements were not met. The application may re-submitted, once all requirements are properly met. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilmember Cromer, seconded by Councilmember Moye, to authorize the mayor to sign the renewal of the Blue Cross Blue Shield insurance policy for city employees and to continue the 80/20 split on the monthly premium. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilmember Biggs, seconded by Councilmember Moye to consider a resolution amending the pay plan to reflect a 10% increase in pay for employees. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2243**  
**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO REQUEST**  
**THE MOBILE COUNTY PERSONNEL BOARD TO**  
**INCREASE ALL POSITIONS WITHIN THE CLASSIFIED SERVICE**  
**AND ALL GRADES AND CLASSES WITHIN SAID**  
**POSITIONS TEN PERCENT (10%)**

WHEREAS, the City of Saraland, Alabama is a member of the Mobile County Personnel Board system; and

WHEREAS the Personnel Board system has implemented a classification plan as it concerns all City employees within the “classified service”; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Rule V of the Rules and Regulations of the Personnel Board for Mobile County, Alabama, the Personnel Board maintains a pay plan for employees within the classified service and establishes the minimum and maximum rates for grade and class of positions; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Rule V.3, the Mobile County Personnel Board may order the increase in the base salary and wage schedule and changes in the pay plan for all or some positions of employees within the classified service; and



WHEREAS the City Council for the City of Saraland recognizes the competitive nature of pay rates in the private work force, as well as within the various public entities which service the greater Saraland area; and

WHEREAS the City Council for the City of Saraland further recognizes the benefits to maintaining work staff by providing a competitive wage and benefits package; and

WHEREAS it is the determination of the City Council that the mayor is authorized to request a ten percent (10%) across the board basic salary and wage schedule change to the pay plan for all classes and grades of employees within the “classified service” as defined by the Mobile County Personnel Board.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Saraland, Alabama, that the mayor is hereby authorized to request, pursuant to the Mobile County Personnel Board Rule and Regulations, a ten percent (10%) increase in the base salary and wage schedule as it concerns the pay plan for all classes and grades of employees and positions within the City of Saraland classified service.

Adopted and approved this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of June 2022.

Motion was made by Councilmember Moye, seconded by Councilmember Biggs, to approve the architectural contract with Chambliss, King for the Sportsplex project.

The following votes were recorded:

Yes: Council President Joe McDonald  
No: Councilmember Wayne Biggs  
No: Councilmember Newton Cromer  
No: Councilmember Veronica Hudson  
Yes: Councilmember Natalie Moye

Motion was made by Councilmember Biggs, seconded by Councilmember Cromer, to postpone voting on the architectural contract with Chambliss, King until the next regular meeting. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilmember Cromer, seconded by Councilmember Biggs, to authorize the purchase of a Kubota Tractor from Capital Tractor in the amount of \$81,690.84 – from GO Warrant Funds. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilmember Biggs, seconded by Councilmember Moye, to authorize the purchase of a Kubota Wheel Loader and Root Grapple from Capital tractor in the amount of \$87,115.17, to be paid from General Obligation Warrant Funds. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilmember Cromer, seconded by Councilmember Moye to approve an advertisement with the Call News for the High School Football Preview Championship Edition. Motion carried.

Council President McDonald advised there is a matter to be discussed in executive session for the consideration the governmental body is willing to accept concerning the sale of real property and to discuss preliminary negotiations involving trade or commerce in which the City is in competition with private individuals or entities or other governmental bodies in Alabama. Motion carried.

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 Moye, to adjourn into executive session with Mayor Rubenstein and Andy Rutens to consider the governmental body is willing to accept concerning the sale of real property and to discuss preliminary negotiations involving trade or commerce in which the City is in competition with private individuals or entities or other governmental bodies in Alabama.

The following votes were recorded:

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

Motion carried.

Council President McDonald advised he anticipates the executive session to last approximately 15 minutes.

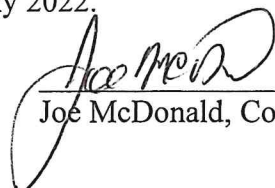
The Council adjourned into executive session with the Mayor and City Attorney at 7:04 p.m.

Motion was made by Councilmember Hudson, seconded by Councilmember Biggs, to reconvene at 7:20 with all members present. Motion carried.

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

ACCEPTED and APPROVED the 14<sup>th</sup> day of July 2022.

  
Judi Smith, City Clerk

  
Joe McDonald, Council President