

The Saraland City Council met in regular session on May 22, 2023, at the Saraland Municipal Annex. The meeting was called to order at 6:33 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 Hudson opened the meeting with prayer.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Councilmember Hudson, seconded by Councilmember Moya, to approve the minutes of the meeting of May 8, 2023. Motion carried.

#### REPORT OF OFFICERS

Motion was made by Councilmember Moya, seconded by Councilmember Cromer, to approve advertising in the 2023 All-Star Sports Week in an amount not to exceed \$300.00. Saraland School Systems has 4 students attending. Council President McDonald abstained from the vote. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilmember Cromer, seconded by Councilmember Hudson, authorizing the Mayor to sign the MS4 Report. Motion carried.

#### REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Motion was made by Councilmember Hudson, seconded by Councilmember Cromer, to approve a special noise permit for a block party to be held May 27, 2023, from 11:00 – 4:00 p.m. at the end of Bernard Street. Motion carried.

#### REPORT OF MAYOR

Mayor Rubenstein asked that the following statement be added to the minutes:

I am withdrawing my application to serve as a Board Member for the Saraland City School System. Our city attorney has informed me that initial indications from the attorney general's office is that they will rule that serving as both mayor and school board member is legally permissible. However, in view of the outstanding other candidates who have expressed interest in serving on the school board, as well as the

increasing demands of my current position due to the growth of our city, I feel that I should continue to focus my time and energy on performing my duties as mayor. I have supported our city school system in a myriad of ways since before it was even formed and will continue to work and advocate for excellence in education for Saraland's children. I would like to thank those council members who expressed their trust and support for my candidacy and will be proud to continue as the City Liasson to the Saraland Board of Education. Thank you for your understanding.

#### 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 – Professional Services	\$9,800.45
2. Neel-Schaffer – Inv.# 1087384 - Second Ave. Drainage Project	\$7,180.00
3. Neel-Schaffer – Inv. # 1087381 – General Services	\$3,560.00
4. Wattier Surveying – Inv.#23-087 – Surveying – Incinerator	\$1,500.00

Motion carried.

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

##### Gas Tax Fund

1. Neel-Schaffer – Inv.# 1087382 - Celeste Rd. Widening	\$37,229.92
2. John G. Walton - #3(Final) 2 <sup>nd</sup> Ave Planing and Resurfacing	\$5,000.00

Motion carried.

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

##### General Obligation Warrant

1. Chambless King – Inv.# 22014.9 – The “Land” Sportsplex	\$225,653.00
2. Surety Land Title – Inv.# 180064 – Key # 2937399	\$453.00
3. Surety Land Title – Inv.# 180063 – Key # 107690	\$392.00
4. Surety Land Title – Inv.# 180059 – Key #2509663	\$366.00

Motion carried.

ORDERS, RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES & OTHER BUSINESS

Motion was made by Councilmember Cromer, seconded by Councilmember Biggs to postpone items one (1) and two (2) on the agenda until the June 8, 2023, meeting. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilmember Cromer, seconded by Councilmember Moye, to authorize training expenses and adopt a resolution for Bruce Harbin, John Andrews, Justin Wells and Sophia Anthony to attend Safe Schools Conference, June 5-9, 2023, in Gulf Shores, Alabama. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION 2286**

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

**WHEREAS** a cash advance for Bruce Harbin, John Andrews, Justin Wells and Sophia Anthony to attend the Safe Schools Conference, June 5-9, 2023, in Gulf Shores, 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 22nd day of May 2023.

Motion was made by Councilmember Hudson, seconded by Councilmember Cromer, to authorize training expenses and adopt a resolution for Kenny Mathews, E.G. Hearn, and Donald Taylor to attend APOST Firearms Instructor Development Course, June 12-13, 2023, in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION 2287**

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

**WHEREAS** a cash advance for Kenny Mathews, E.G. Hearn, and Donald Taylor, to attend APOST Firearms Instructor Development Course, June 12-13, 2023, in Tuscaloosa, 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 22<sup>nd</sup> day of May 2023.

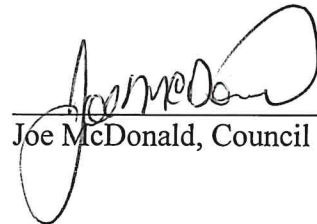
Motion was made by Councilmember Hudson, seconded by Councilmember Biggs, to postpone voting on the ThreatAdvice cybersecurity policies until the attorney has reviewed. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilmember Cromer, seconded by Councilmember Moye, to approve an advertising contract with City league baseball and softball teams. Motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the Council, motion was made by Councilmember Hudson to adjourn at 6:54 p.m.

ACCEPTED and APPROVED the 8<sup>th</sup> day of June 2023.

  
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Judi Smith, City Clerk

  
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Joe McDonald, Council President