

The Saraland City Council met in regular session on November 20, 2023 at the Saraland Municipal Annex. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Council President McDonald. Roll call was as follows:

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

Attorney, Andy Rutens was present.

Councilmember Hudson 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 November 6, 2023. Motion carried.

REPORT OF OFFICERS

Motion was made by Councilmember Cromer, seconded by Councilmember Moye to authorize the mayor to hire James Clark as an architect to assist in securing the new city hall complex as well as to assist with the future remodeling and/or design of the city hall complex. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilmember Cromer, seconded by Councilmember Moye to authorize the mayor to execute the contract with Rabren Construction for Phase 1 of the Saraland Sportsplex. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilmember Moye, seconded by Councilmember Cromer, to authorize training expenses and adopt a resolution for a cash advance for Jennifer Jemison to attend CAPZO training courses, November 27th, 2023 in Lincoln, Alabama. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2318

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

WHEREAS a cash advance for Jennifer Jemison to attend CAPZO training courses, November 27th, 2023, in Lincoln, 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 20th day of November 2023.

Motion was made by Councilmember Hudson, seconded by Councilmember Moye to authorize the mayor to sign an access agreement with the New Pilgrim Missionary Church. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilmember Cromer, seconded by Councilmember Moye to authorize payment for invoice #1092238 and invoice #1092236 from Neel-Schaffer in the amount of \$294.00 and \$5,475.00, to be paid from the general fund. Motion carried.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Motion was made by Councilmember Cromer, seconded by Councilmember Moye to authorize the purchase, after consultation with the mayor and the parks and recreation department, of Christmas ornaments for the tree at Town Center Park, not to exceed \$5,000.00. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF INVOICES

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

General Fund

1. Galloway Wettermark & Rutens, LLP – Billing thru 08/18/2023 \$9,255.00

Motion carried.

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

General Obligation Warrant

1. KemperSports – November Services Fee \$23,500.00

Motion carried.

ORDERS, RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES & OTHER BUSINESS

Motion was made by Councilmember Cromer, seconded by Councilmember Moye, to authorize training expenses and adopt a resolution for a cash advance for Billy Odell to attend the Cryptocurrency Investigations Training, December 11-12, 2023 in Montgomery, AL.

Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2319

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

WHEREAS a cash advance for Billy Odell to attend Cryptocurrency Investigations Training, December 11-12, 2023, in Montgomery, 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 20th day of November 2023.

Motion was made by Councilmember Moye, seconded by Councilmember Hudson to approve a resolution to declare the piano, boardroom table and (8) boardroom chairs, boxing bag wall hanger from the Civic Center as surplus.

Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2320

BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Saraland, as follows:

WHEREAS, the City of Saraland, Alabama, has certain equipment which is no longer needed for public or municipal purposes; and

WHEREAS, Section 11-43-56 of the Alabama Code of 1975 authorizes the municipal governing body to dispose of unneeded property; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of Saraland, Alabama, as follows:

Section 1: That the below listed copier is personal property owned by the City of Saraland, Alabama that are not needed for public or municipal purposes:

- (1) Piano
- (1) Boardroom table
- (8) Boardroom chairs
- (1) Boxing bag wall hanger

Section 2: That the surplus property indicated above owned by the City of Saraland be auctioned or donated to charitable organizations.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED this the 20th day of November 2023.

Motion was made by Councilmember Hudson, seconded by Councilmember Moye, to approve the Saraland Christmas Parade expenses for December 2023. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilmember Cromer, seconded by Councilmember moye, to approve to purchase a 2024 Ford F350 for Public Works Department – Budgeted item. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilmember Cromer, seconded by Councilmember Hudson, to authorize the mayor to negotiate and enter into an agreement for the remodeling of Fire Station 1 in an amount not to exceed \$338,000.00 with SC Stagner Contracting, Inc. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilmember Moye, seconded by Councilmember Cromer, to approve waiving business license fees for vendors at the Christmas Tree Lighting and The Mistletoe Market. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilmember Cromer, seconded by Councilmember Moye, to adopt recommendation of Sportsplex Steering Committee to authorize Mayor to negotiate a final contract for venue event and operations services for the Sportsplex with Kemper Sports. Motion carried.

Council President McDonald advised there is a matter to be discussed in executive session concerning real estate purchase and/or leasing.

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 Moye, to adjourn into executive session with Mayor Rubenstein and Andy Rutens to discuss real estate purchase and/or leasing. 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 6:53 p.m.

Motion was made by Councilmember Cromer, seconded by Councilmember Moye, to reconvene at 7:12 p.m. with all members present. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilmember Cromer, seconded by Councilmember Moye, to authorize the mayor to draft a resolution from the council recognizing Lori Lein's achievements and congratulating her on her retirement. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2321

**A RESOLUTION HONORING
LORELEI (LORI) LEIN
ON HER RETIREMENT**

WHEREAS, Lori Lein joined the Alabama League of Municipalities legal department in 2001, bringing with her a solid background in local government issues; and

WHEREAS, Lori Lein, during her many years of service to the League, has advised municipal officials and employees from over 400 member cities and towns working closely with the League's state and federal legislative agenda and has been a frequent speaker on issues relating to municipal law in Alabama; and

WHEREAS, Lori Lein has giving unselfishly of her time and talents in offering her abundant knowledge and invaluable guidance to hundreds of municipal officials and employees, who deeply appreciate her willingness to do so; and

WHEREAS, Lori Lein is retiring from the position as the League's General Counsel, effective December 1, 2023.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Saraland City Council, on behalf of the City of Saraland's Mayor and employees, extend heartfelt gratitude and wish her happiness, good health and prosperity in her retirement.

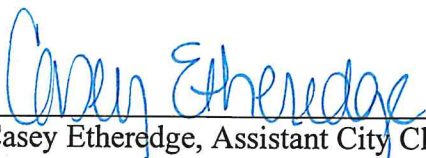
ADOPTED AND APPROVED this the 20th day of November 2023.

There being no further business to come before the Council, motion was made by Councilmember Cromer to adjourn at 7:18 p.m.

ACCEPTED and APPROVED the 14th day of December, 2023.



Veronica Hudson, Temporary Chair



Casey Etheredge, Assistant City Clerk