

TOWN OF STEELE

COUNCIL MINUTES – July 1, 2019

The Town Council of the Town of Steele, Alabama, met in Regular Session at 6:30 PM on Monday, July 1, 2019 at Steele Town Hall. Upon roll call the following members were present:

**Present: Roger Adams, Mayor
Richard Reynolds, Councilmember
Brent Dunn, Councilmember
Philip Gleason Jr., Councilmember
Rick Barnes, Councilmember
Nancy Miller-Borg, Councilmember**

Absent: None.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Adams, who asked Councilmember Reynolds to lead everyone in a word of prayer.

The Town Council having read the minutes from the Regular Council Meeting held on Monday, June 17, 2019, motion was made by Councilmember Reynolds to approve the minutes, seconded Councilmember Barnes and approved by the Town Council.

**Ayes: Reynolds, Barnes, Dunn, Gleason Jr. and Miller-Borg.
Nays: None.**

Mayor Adams stated that we had a Public Hearing on Wednesday, June 19, 2019 and the minutes taken have been given to each Councilmember.

The Town Council having reviewed the May financial reports, motion was made by Councilmember Reynolds approving the financial reports, seconded Councilmember Gleason Jr. and approved by the Town Council.

**Ayes: Reynolds, Gleason Jr., Dunn, Barnes and Miller-Borg.
Nays: None.**

A resident of Steele that lives on Chander Mountain Road, Cindy Anderson, was present and stated that she would like the speed limit reduced. She stated that the speed limit is currently 45 miles per hour and she would like it no more than 35 miles per hour due to speeding up and down the road. Mayor Adams informed Miss Anderson that Chandler Mountain Road is a County Road, not a Town owned road. Mayor Adams advised Miss Anderson that he and the Town Council will discuss the different options to handle this matter.

Hobart McClendon with CrossMark Home Services presented a monthly quote for exterminating services that they would like the Town Council to review. The Mayor and Town Council discussed the different options between CrossMark Home Services and our current service with A-1 Exterminating Co, Inc.

Mayor Adams presented Resolution 2019-009 to the Town Council for consideration and approval. The State of Alabama Community Development Block Grant Program has been established to assist local governments in meeting community development and housing needs consistent with the objective as set forth in Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. The Town of Steele is proposing a Demolition Project to remove old, dilapidated structures that are scattered throughout the Town limits. The Mayor, Roger Adams, is hereby authorized to execute and submit an application with appropriate assurances to the State of Alabama Department of Economic & Community Affairs, requesting fiscal year 2019 Community Enhancement Funds in the amount of \$189,977.00 and the Town will contribute matching funds in the amount of \$19,500.00. The Mayor, Roger Adams, is hereby designated and appointed as Financial Officer under the terms and pursuant to the provisions of Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, and is directed and empowered to make necessary assurances and to perform on behalf of the Town of Steele, those acts and assume such duties as are consistent with said position. Motion was made by Councilmember Miller-Borg adopting and approving Resolution 2019-009, seconded Councilmember Dunn and approved by the Town Council.

**Ayes: Miller-Borg, Dunn, Reynolds, Gleason Jr. and Barnes.
Nays: None.**

Mayor Adams suggested we observe the state holiday declared by Governor Ivey for Friday, July 5, 2019. Motion was made by Councilmember Reynolds declaring Friday, July 5, 2019 a paid holiday for all the Town employees, seconded Barnes and approved by the Town Council.

**Ayes: Reynolds, Barnes, Dunn, Gleason Jr. and Miller-Borg.
Nays: None.**

Mayor Adams informed the Town Council that the large garbage truck, that normally runs on Wednesdays, will now start running on Fridays. The garbage service next week will be delayed a day due to the 4th of July holiday.

Mayor Adams informed the Town Council that the Town judge, Rodney Ward, has requested a pay increase. He currently makes \$155.00 a month and is the lowest paid judge in our area. After discussion, motion was made by Councilmember Miller-Borg to increase Judge Rodney Ward's salary to \$350.00 a month, seconded Councilmember Reynolds and approved by the Town Council.

**Ayes: Miller-Borg, Reynolds, Dunn, Gleason Jr. and Barnes.
Nays: None.**

Mayor Adams informed the Town Council that the sewer pump #1 at the lift station, behind the Sunoco Truck Stop, is in need of a new float switch. The mayor stated that he has received a quote for a new one for \$584.25 from Digital Control Company. He also has received a quote for a 25 pound box of aqua packs, that help with bacteria, from Talco Industrial Chemicals for a total of \$397.64. Motion was made by Councilmember Dunn approving these expenses out of the Garbage/Sewer account for \$981.89, seconded Councilmember Barnes and approved by the Town Council.

**Ayes: Dunn, Barnes, Reynolds, Gleason Jr. and Miller-Borg.
Nays: None.**

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Mayor Adams stated that we received a letter from Leadership St. Clair County, Inc. regarding a Student Leadership St. Clair County Program for 7th, 8th, 10th and 11th graders throughout the entire St. Clair and Pell City School Systems. Leadership St. Clair County is asking each municipality to be donors for this project.

After discussion, motion was made by Councilmember Miller-Borg approving the sponsorship of \$500.00 to support the Student Leadership St. Clair County, seconded Councilmember Barnes and approved by the Town Council.

Ayes: Miller-Borg, Barnes, Reynolds, Dunn and Gleason Jr.

Nays: None.

Mayor Adams stated that we need to appoint someone for the County Board of Equalization. Several suggestions were offered by the Council Members.

Mayor Adams informed the Town Council that he was contacted by a resident on Beason Cove Road regarding water running into his garage from the road. The drive pipe at the McFarland residence at 5318 Beason Cove Road has washed away causing water to run down to the next residence's garage. Mayor Adams has been in contact with Dan Dahlke, the County Engineer, regarding this matter. Dahlke stated that if the Town purchased the drive pipe, which costs \$663.90 for a 30 ft. metal pipe, that the County would install it. The Mayor and Town Council are making the motion to purchase the drive pipe based on the following conditions.

1. The County Engineer has recommended this solution and agreed for the county to install the pipe for free.
2. The Mayor and Council determined that it presents a safety hazard due to water crossing and standing in the road.
3. Road maintenance and Fire Department determines the current installation is not serviceable.

After discussion, motion was made by Councilmember Barnes to purchase the drive pipe for 5318 Beason Cove Road for a total of \$663.90, seconded Councilmember Dunn and approved by the Town Council.

Ayes: Barnes, Dunn, Reynolds, Gleason Jr. and Miller-Borg.

Nays: None.

The Fire Chief's Silverado truck is in need of front brake rotors and four new tires for a total of \$781.14 from J&K Tire Service. Motion was made by Councilmember Miller-Borg to pay this expense, seconded Councilmember Gleason Jr. and approved by the Town Council.

Ayes: Miller-Borg, Gleason Jr., Reynolds, Dunn and Barnes.

Nays: None.

Motion was made by Councilmember Miller-Borg approving the Fire Department expense to Active911, Inc. for a yearly subscription for \$325.00 for 25 users for paging devices, seconded Councilmember Gleason Jr. and approved by the Town Council.

Ayes: Miller-Borg, Gleason Jr., Reynolds, Dunn and Barnes.

Nays: None.

Mayor Adams read Joe David Morgan's letter of resignation from the Town of Steele effective July 13, 2019 due to Morgan accepting a job with the St. Clair County Sheriff's Department. Mayor Adams wished him the best.

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Mayor Adams read a thank you letter from the YWCA for the Town's sponsorship of St. Clair County's domestic violence shelter fund raising event.

Councilmember Gleason Jr. reminded the Town Council of the Car Show that will be on Thursday, July 4th, 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM.

He also would like to order 100 biscuits from Jack's for that morning. He went over all the door prizes and confirmed that the band "Still Kickin" was lined up to perform.

The Town Council and Mayor all agreed it would be acceptable to allow a lemonade stand to set up as a vendor for the 4th celebration.

Firefighter Ashley Crawford has requested to attend the Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) classes at Gadsden State Community College this fall. Crawford will be entering into a contract with the Steele Fire & Rescue for three (3) years and if that contract is voided then she would reimburse the Fire Department for the expenses. Motion was made by Councilmember Miller-Borg approving the Fire Department expense of sending Ashley Crawford to attend Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) classes for a total of \$2,334.93, seconded Councilmember Barnes and approved by the Town Council.

Ayes: Miller-Borg, Barnes, Reynolds, Dunn and Gleason Jr.

Nays: None.

Councilmember Reynolds would like to purchase four (4) new tables at \$140.00 each for the Nutrition Center.

Motion was made by Councilmember Reynolds approving the purchase of four (4) tables at the Nutrition Center at a cost of \$560.00, seconded Councilmember Gleason Jr. and approved by the Town Council.

Ayes: Reynolds, Gleason Jr., Dunn, Barnes and Miller-Borg.

Nays: None.

Motion was made by Councilmember Reynolds to purchase three (3) new cigarette receptacles at \$165.00 each, seconded Councilmember Barnes and approved by the Town Council.

Ayes: Reynolds, Barnes, Dunn, Gleason Jr. and Miller-Borg.

Nays: None.

Motion was made by Councilmember Barnes for the reimbursement to Nancy Miller-Borg for the July 4th decorations for a total of \$53.74, seconded Councilmember Dunn and approved by the Town Council.

Ayes: Barnes, Dunn, Reynolds, Gleason Jr. and Miller-Borg.

Nays: None.

Councilmember Miller-Borg stated that Fire Chief Martin has received a quote from Ancro Door Company for the repair on a spring on door #2 for Fire Station # 1 in the amount of \$550.00. Fire Chief Martin stated that there has never been any yearly maintenance on the doors, that is why they are falling apart. Councilmember Miller-Borg made a motion to approve the expenditure of \$550.00 to Ancro Door Company for the repair on door #2 and checking into a yearly maintenance agreement, seconded by Councilmember Barnes and approved by the Town Council.

Ayes: Miller-Borg, Barnes, Reynolds, Dunn and Gleason Jr.

Nays: None.

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Councilmember Miller-Borg stated that Fire Chief Martin has requested to attend the 2019 Alabama Association of Fire Chief's Summer Conference August 11 -14, 2019 in Orange Beach. Motion was made by Councilmember Miller-Borg to pay the \$250.00 registration fee, mileage, food expenses and lodging expenses at \$763.88, seconded Councilmember Barnes and approved by the Town Council.

**Ayes: Miller-Borg, Barnes, Reynolds, Dunn and Gleason Jr.
Nays: None.**

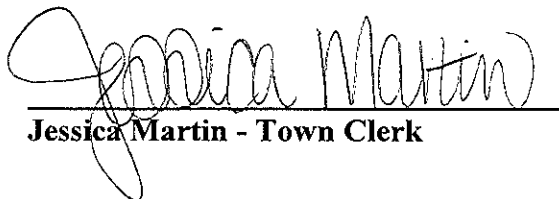
Councilmember Miller-Borg asked if the public works employees could wear shorts in the summer? Mayor Adams commented no.

Mayor Adams informed the Town Council that since Joe David Morgan is leaving and going to work for the St. Clair County Sheriff's Department that the Police Department will have some open shifts. He mentioned that the Town's part-time pay currently for police officers is \$12.36/hr. Police Chief Ward stated that the City of Ashville is paying the Sheriff's Department officers that work part-time at Ashville \$14.00/hr. Ward has spoken to a few officers that will be working at Steele, but they don't want to work for \$12.36/hr. Police Chief Ward has requested a pay increase of \$1.64 for the part-time officers. The Mayor stated that part-time officer John Bowlin received a pay increase in October, but the other part-time workers didn't.

After discussion, motion was made by Councilmember Reynolds approving a temporary pay increase for the part-time police officers to \$14.00/hr which will terminate six months from now or until the new fiscal year, seconded Councilmember Dunn and approved by the Town Council.

**Ayes: Reynolds, Dunn, Gleason Jr., Barnes and Miller-Borg.
Nays: None.**

With there being no further business to come before this Regular Council Meeting of July 1, 2019, Councilmember Barnes made a motion to adjourn the meeting, 2nd Councilmember Miller-Borg, adjourned at 8:08 PM.



Jessica Martin - Town Clerk



Roger Adams - Mayor