January 12, 2010
Council Workshop
12191 Magnolia Springs Hwy.
Magnolia Springs, Al.
5:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order
Mayor Houser called the workshop meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call
Councilmember’s present – Mayor Houser, Bob Holk, Joe Sankey, Ken Underwood, Brett Gaar and Kenny Laurendine. Also present: Town Clerk - Karen S. Biel and Legal Counsel – Brad Hicks

3. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance
Mayor Houser led the invocation and pledge.

Council received the minutes before the workshop for review, no corrections were noted.

5. Discussion – Financials and Expenditures for October, 2009

6. Public Comment
No public comment

7. Discussion – Tree Committee
Mayor Houser discussed the establishment of the tree committee as: Three members – consisting of 2 council members and 1 horticulturist. Horticulturist will serve as chairman and compensation will be determined at time of appointment. The committee will meet when necessary to consider a tree permit application. Mayor Houser stated that Terry Underwood would be a perfect candidate for the position, he is a trained horticulturist and he has completed the tree survey. Mayor Houser also recommended Brett Gaar and Kenny Laurendine as the council members that would serve on the committee. Nancy Gaines asked if the town might feel that an urban arborist would be more appropriate than a horticulturist. Councilmember Holk added the position will have to be someone that will be available when called on, so that someone applying for a permit doesn’t have to wait a long period of time. Councilmember Gaar stated that he feels Terry is capable and if he needs further assistance then he could call in an arborist. The Council will make its recommendation and appointment at the regular meeting. Will be on the agenda

8. Discussion – South Baldwin Chamber Contract
Councilmember Laurendine is the Town’s representative on the chamber board. South Baldwin Chamber is requesting that the town to renew the yearly contract at the price of $600.00. The amount is the same as the previous year. Will be on the agenda

9. Discussion – AlaTax/RDS contract
Mayor Houser stated that the contract is for three (3) years and the present one expires on March 31st. Councilmember Sankey asked the clerk if she was satisfied with their service. Clerk stated that she was satisfied with the service.

10. Discussion – United Way contract
United Way is requesting a contractual agreement with the town. The Finance Committee discussed it and is recommending the council approve $750.00, which is $1.00 per citizen per year. Mayor Houser stated that United Way funds 44 partner agencies. Will be on the agenda

11. Discussion – Arbor Day Proclamation
Mayor Houser stated that the Garden Club is requesting the town hold its Arbor Day on February 20, 2010. Will be on the agenda
12. Discussion – Ordinance – Last call
The Council was given two draft ordinances – Limiting the hours of on-premise consumption and a noise ordinance. After some discussion by the council it was recommended to research it further. Will not be on the agenda

Mayor Houser addressed the peacock situation by stating that he and legal counsel have not had any time to work on the situation.

13. Committee reports
Finance: Committee talked about the United Way contract and is recommending $750.00.
Public Safety: Council had a copy of the Police & Fire report. Councilmember Holk stated the Fire Department is working on the ISO rating.
Parks & Recreation: Committee discussed the installation of the sidewalk at the Springs. Councilmember Laurendine said they also discussed the Park property negotiations and some long term plans for the newly acquired property from the mayor.
Public Works: Councilmember Sankey stated there was no meeting but as an update the two resolutions the council passed have been sent to the County Commission, but it is not on their agenda yet. Brad is trying to contact the District Attorney’s office about the enforcement of the Land Disturbance Ordinance in their court. Councilmember Sankey also added that ALDOT will be starting to work on the street at Highway 98 and County Rd. 49.
Historic Preservation: Councilmember Underwood stated the committee reviewed four applications for demolition. The committee approved two of the applications and is working with the applicant to preserve the other two structures.
Environmental Protection: The committee discussed sign placement for OAW. Councilmember Gaar was told if the cost of the signs were within his budget he did not need approval for the purchase but the council would have to approve the design.

14. Council, legal counsel and staff comments
Councilmember Sankey asked what the status is with the proposed zoning ordinance. Mayor Houser stated that the Planning Commission has received and reviewed the ordinance and will hold a public hearing for the public's input. It will then go to the Town Council for review and they also will have a public hearing before adopting. Nancy Gaines asked if there was any way to show the changes from the old ordinance to the proposed one. Councilmember Holk stated that it has been redrafted and there was not a way to show all the changes because the outline of the document has also changed.

Workshop ended at 6:50 pm

Approved this the 23rd day of February, 2010

[Signature]
Charles S. Houser - Mayor

ATTEST:

[Signature]
Karen S. Biel – Town Clerk