May 8, 2012  
Council Workshop  
12191 Magnolia Springs Hwy.  
Magnolia Springs, Al.  
5:00 P.M.

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

2. Roll Call  

3. Invocation and Pledge – led by Councilmember Underwood.

4. Discussion of minutes – 4/10/12 Workshop and 4/24/12 Regular Meeting  
There were no corrections or additions to the minutes. Councilmember Holk did advise the council that the Fire Departments annual meeting is May 14th at 7:00 pm.

5. Discussion of financials and expenditures for April  
The Mayor reported: General Fund Balance 04/30/12 - $92,863.11. Income - $24,167.60 – Expenses - $58,795.65, expenses were over due to paving Jessamine Street. Money Market - $102,474.35. CD - $52,793.28. Deepwater Horizon - $182,891.29. Special Revenue 4, 5, & 7¢ Gas Tax – Income $304.65 – Balance $5,703.35. Clerk stated that the town received the Alabama Trust Fund check in the amount of $7,054.00 and the Council should discuss whether to pay that amount on the turn lane loan or plan to pave another road. The funds must be used for capital improvements such as renovations or resurfacing/paving of roads.

6. Public Comment  
Frances Cleverdon – wanted an explanation from Town Council why Richard Holk was approved to build a building such as he did in a residential area next to her sister’s house. Councilmember Holk explained that when Richard submitted his land-use certificate, he met all setbacks and height requirements. Mrs. Cleverdon said that Richard’s backyard is her sister’s front yard and it will devalue her property. Mayor Houser suggested talking to Richard about planting a buffer across his back yard. Mrs. Cleverdon has been trying to sell her sister’s property since she died and now feels that it won’t sell. Mayor Houser and Councilmember Gaar will approach Richard Holk about planting a buffer on the backside of his property.

7. Discussion – Pier restrictions on the river  
The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has implemented some new construction restrictions on piers and decks on the river. The Town Council is concerned with some of the size requirements and did agree to draft a letter to the Corp with their concerns on the new regulations.

Mayor Houser explained that the State of Alabama is having a sales tax exempt holiday July 6th – 8th on certain items for severe weather preparedness and they are asking the municipalities to pass a resolution to participate. The clerk will draft the resolution and send to legal counsel for review.

9. Committee reports  
Finance: Mayor Houser stated that the committee approved submitting a grant request for traffic calming project on Hwy 49 and will seek funding for our 20% of the project. The Town has been approved through AMFund and we are awaiting two other proposals from banks. Councilmember Gaar said that he has heard that the state received a lot of ATRIP applications and from what he understands they took out all projects submitted that are classified minor arterial roads which is what Highway 49 is. Councilmember Gaar feels that it does not look good for the town on this first go around. Councilmember Odess suggested creating a file for future opportunities.
Public Safety: No report  
Parks & Recreation: No report  
Public Works: No report  
Planning Commission: No report  
Historic Preservation: Councilmember Underwood stated that they met the Community Association and they have come up with a design which will be worked on as funds become available. The Commission is still working on signage and four of the member will be attending some training in Orange Beach.
Environmental Protection Committee: Councilmember Odess stated that the Bay Street project will be starting in about two weeks. After the pier is complete, U.S. Fish and Wildlife will be donating $1,300 worth of plants and we will be looking for volunteers to help plant.

12. Council, legal counsel and staff comments
No comments

Motion by Councilmember Laurendine, 2nd by Councilmember Odess to adjourn the workshop. All in favor. Motion carried.

Meeting ended at 6:10 pm

Approved this the 18th day of June, 2012

Kenneth Underwood
Mayor Pro Tempore

ATTEST:

Karen S. Biel – Town Clerk