June 23, 2009
Regular Council Meeting
12191 Magnolia Springs Hwy.
Magnolia Springs, Al.
5:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order
Mayor Houser and Councilmember Underwood were not present. Councilmember Laurendine agreed to conduct the meeting and it was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call
Councilmember’s present – Bob Holk, Joe Sankey, Brett Gaar, and Kenny Laurendine. Also present: Town Clerk - Karen S. Biel
Reva Hinson asked the clerk if the Mayor had informed her that she would be there to make a presentation. He did not. Councilmember Laurendine stated to Mrs. Hinson that she would be allowed to make her presentation after the Invocation and Pledge.

3. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance
Councilmember Laurendine led the invocation and pledge.

Mrs. Hinson was there to honor the town clerk. She stated “after incorporation and realizing that we needed a town clerk, Kenny Laurendine suggest that he might know someone. Karen came to the installation to meet the council members. Joe and I had the pleasure of interviewing Karen and we all told Charlie that she would be good. She started working within the next couple of weeks. Karen came to us with a lot of enthusiasm, the can do’s and what can I do to help you and we appreciate you for that. You always greet everyone with a smile and you have become our friend. Karen does more than just the clerks job, she does it all around here and I am here to thank you, not just from me but from all of us. I have had the pleasure of nominating Karen for the Municipal Clerks Honor Roll. They sent me a certificate and pin that I would like to present to her.” Reva presented Karen with the certificate and placed on the pin. Karen thanked Reva and the council for the nomination and stated “that she really does like working for the Town of Magnolia Springs”.

4. Approval of council minutes from 05/12/09 workshop and 05/26/09 regular meeting
No corrections or additions.

Motion by Councilmember Holk, 2nd by Councilmember Sankey to approve the council minutes from 05/12/09 and 05/26/09 as submitted. All in favor. Motion carried.

5. Approval of financial reports and expenditures for January
Clerk reported: for the month of May – Bank balance – May 31st: $10,891.40. General Fund Income: $10,103.10 – Expenditures: $31,210.90. Vendor Expenses: $27,904.96. Money Market balance: $106,908.46. CD Balance: $50,803.51. Special Revenue – 4, 5 & 7e income - $373.43 - Account balance $9,307.73. The clerk provided the council with the present bank balance of $4,304.92 and accounts payable due at this time is $13,289.38. The clerk is requesting approval to transfer $15,000 - $20,000 from the Money Market to the General Fund to pay the monthly expenditures.

Motion by Councilmember Sankey, 2nd by Councilmember Gaar to authorize the clerk to transfer $20,000.00 from the Money Market into the General Fund. All in favor. Motion carried.

Councilmember Gaar asked the clerk what the project revenue for May was, she did not have that answer for him but stated that revenue was down. The clerk also stated that for the July workshop she will be providing the council with a 9 month year-to-date in comparison with the budget.

Motion by Councilmember Sankey, 2nd by Councilmember Gaar to approve the May financials and expenditures. All in favor. Motion carried.

6. Public Comment
Donna Esslinger – she wanted to thank the council from the Historic Commission for considering the resolution on the moratorium on demolition. She also informed the council that the proposed historic district boundaries and the Design Review Guidelines are coming along and the commission should have their public hearing before the council workshop in August. Donna explained to the council that after the Historic Commission has the public hearing, they will make recommendation by resolution to the council for adoption of the Historic District along with the Design Review Guidelines. Council requested a copy of the proposed historic district map, and the clerk will email a copy to the council members.
7. **Boy Scouts – 4th of July Parade**
Councilmember Laurendine stated that the council discussed paying the Boy Scouts to cleanup the streets after the parade.
**Motion by Councilmember Sankey, 2nd by Councilmember Gaar to give the Boy Scouts $300.00 to cleanup the street after the 4th of July Parade. All in favor. Motion carried.**

8. **Approval of requests/recommendation made to the council**
   
a. **Garden Club - $400.00 expenditure for Arbor Day 2010** - Councilmember Laurendine stated the expenditure is for the tree seedlings for Arbor Day 2010, which need to be ordered now.
   **Motion by Councilmember Holk, 2nd by Councilmember Sankey to approve the expenditure of $400.00 for the purchase of trees for Arbor Day 2010. All in favor. Motion carried.**

   b. **MSVFD - requesting extra traffic control for the parade**
   Councilmember Laurendine asked Deputy Gandy about making arrangements for extra patrol that day. Deputy Gandy didn’t seem to think there would be a problem.
   
c. **Recommendation by Finance Committee - pay off renovations loan $20,000 - clerk recommended waiting till finances were better. Will be looked at after the nine month budget totals.**

9. **Resolution 2009-04 – Moratorium on demolition of historic properties, buildings or structures**
Councilmember Laurendine reminded the council that this resolution came as a recommendation from the Historic Preservation Commission and asks that it be passed till the Historic District is in place.

   **Motion by Councilmember Gaar, 2nd by Councilmember Sankey to adopt Resolution 2009-04, a moratorium on demolition of historic properties, buildings, structures or sites.**
   **Discussion:** Councilmember Holk stated the reason the resolution is being adopted at this particular time is we now have a time frame on the adoption of the historic district and Design Review Guidelines, before we didn’t have a time frame. It would not have been fair to institute a moratorium for an uncertain length of time. He also added that he didn’t think 120 days was a long time frame and it would give a person that length of time to get the project in order. The council discussed notifying the residents of the resolution. Clerk suggested calling Guy Busby at the press register to do an article on the moratorium, to send out a mailing to all residents and to post the resolution as normally done.
   Council was in agreement.
   **All in favor. Motion carried.**

10. **Ordinance 2009-XX – Establishment of a Public Library**
Councilmember Laurendine stated since this ordinance was not discussed at the workshop he asked that Bob Zeannah, who had some information, be able to speak to the council before considering the adoption of this ordinance.

   **Bob Zeannah** stated that he was brought in quickly on this, and he has been in touch with the State Library and understands that if we have certain things in place by July 1 that we would be eligible to receive funding provided a library is in place by this October 1st. This state funding would be approximately $1.00 per resident in the town limits and in addition to that we would be eligible for some federal funding of up to $5,000 - $10,000 at a 4-1 match. We would have to have the ordinance and a library board in place by July 1st and we would need a building up and in operation with a minimum of 16 hours per week by October 1st of this year. Alida Given stated that just because we have the paperwork completed if we don’t have a library till the following year, we can not apply for any grant money. Alida introduced Liz Reed, who is with the Baldwin Library Cooperative, she did state that to apply for grant monies you do have to have the library up and running at least 16 hours a week and a full time librarian on staff, but should you have the paper work completed and ready for the next year would be good. Ms. Reed also stated that she was approached by Reva Hinson to have the bookmobile start coming back to Magnolia Springs, which Ms. Reed thought was a good idea.

   **Councilmember Gaar** asked if the ordinance is passed tonight that does not obligate the town to spend any funds but will put us in the position to receive funding. Alida answered we will not get any funding until we start a library.

   **Councilmember Laurendine** asked Bob Zeannah what funding would we be eligible for. Bob stated that if the library was open by October 1st for this funding cycle we would be eligible for state funding of approximately $700.00. We would also be eligible to make application for federal of $5,000 - $10,000 with a 20% match.

   **Councilmember Sankey** stated that he feels this needs to be discussed at a workshop session and he’s been trying to get some information to answer some questions that he has and the library committee hasn’t even met yet.

   **Councilmember Holk** stated that after this discussion the only funding that we would really be eligible for is about $700.00 if a library is open before October 1st and he didn’t foresee a federal grant
application being ready by that time also. He would feel comfortable tabling the ordinance for further discussion.

**Councilmember Laurendine** suggested instead of tabling the ordinance we could vote to remove the item from the agenda and that would give the committee and the council time to review.

**Motion by Councilmember Laurendine, 2nd by Councilmember Sankey to remove the ordinance from the agenda and place on the July workshop agenda. All in favor. Motion carried.**

11. **Committee Recommendation**

**Finance** – Mayor Houser was not present but the council had a copy of his agenda and minutes. The clerk stated that the Mayor has been approached about buying the townofmagnoliasprings.com domain. The council was in agreement that the Mayor should purchase the domain.

**Public Safety** – Councilmember Holk had no recommendations.

**Parks & Recreation** – Councilmember Laurendine had no recommendations, the committee is still waiting on a bid for clearing the leased property. Councilmember Sankey stated that the Mayor has to get with the tree removal company to see about getting onto the property.

**Public Works** – Councilmember Sankey reported in 1-2 weeks we should have the Volkert (street inventory) report. Goodwyn, Mills and Cawood (drainage study) phase one report should be completed in about 3 weeks.

**Historic Commission** – Councilmember Underwood was not present.

**Environmental Protection** – Councilmember Gaar stated that a training session is scheduled on June 26th with eight people attending and he would like to provide lunch for the volunteers. The clerk will check with legal counsel about paying for lunch.

12. **Council, Legal Counsel and Staff Comments**

No comments

13. **Any other business that might come before the meeting**

Clerk Biel stated that a group of quilters are preparing a quilt for the Baldwin County Bicentennial and they are preparing a square for each municipality. The Mayor would like to suggest to the council the mail delivery by river boat. The council was all in agreement.

**Motion by Councilmember Gaar, 2nd by Councilmember Sankey to use the mail delivery by river boat as the square for Magnolia Springs on the Bicentennial Quilt. All in favor. Motion carried.**

With no other business:

**Motion by Councilmember Holk, 2nd by Councilmember Gaar to adjourn. All in favor.**

**Meeting adjourned at 6:07 P.M.**

Approved this the 2nd day of July, 2009

Charles S. Houser – Mayor

**ATTEST:**

Karen S. Biel – Town Clerk