May 15, 2007
Regular Council Meeting
14809 Gates Ave.
Magnolia Springs, Al.
5:00 P.M.

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

Present – Mayor Houser, Councilmember’s: Bob Holk, Joe Sankey, Ken Underwood, Reva Hinson and Kenny Laurendine. Also present: Town Clerk, Karen S. Biel and Legal Counsel, Jim Gaines.

2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance
Councilmember Underwood led Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

3. Approval of minutes from the Council Workshop on April 10, 2007
Motion by Councilmember Hinson, 2nd by Councilmember Sankey to approve the minutes from the workshop on April 10, 2007. All in favor. Motion carried.

4. Approval of minutes from Regular Council Meeting on April 17, 2007
Motion by Councilmember Underwood, 2nd by Councilmember Holk to approve the minutes from the Regular Council Meeting on April 17, 2007. All in favor. Motion carried.

5. Committee Reports
Finance Committee: Mayor Houser stated the finance committee report was the same that was given at the workshop with the exception of the quote on the insurance on the new town hall at the amount of $600.00 annually.

Motion by Councilmember Underwood, 2nd by Sankey to accept the Finance Committee report. All in favor. Motion carried

Public Safety: Councilmember Holk reported that Mayor Houser, Councilmember Hinson and he met with Leigh Anne Ryals from Emergency Management Agency to discuss disaster clean-up after a storm. He suggested forming a separate committee to handle disaster events. For this year the Town can ask the County to piggy-back on their contract. He also said that he had a meeting scheduled with Cal Markert and someone from Hoss Mack’s office to discuss the traffic on Hwy 49. He also reported that the Fire Department had their annual meeting.

Parks, Recreation and Beautification: Mayor stated the minutes from the Parks, Recreation & Beautification Committee meeting were the same as presented at the workshop.

Motion by Councilmember Hinson, 2nd by Councilmember Sankey to accept the minutes from PR&B meeting. All in favor. Motion carried.

Councilmember Hinson also added on June 29th the PR&B along with the Community Association will hold the first annual clean-up, there will be roll-offs located here on the empty lot. The whole town will be invited to a birthday celebration at 6:00 p.m. the same day, we will have hot dogs, drinks and birthday cake.

Mayor Houser: A committee consisting of Councilmember’s Laurendine, Underwood and Sankey to work on obtaining legal representation, the Mayor then asked Councilmember Laurendine for his report. Councilmember Laurendine made a motion in accordance with the Open Meetings Act of 2005 to go into executive session to discuss their findings regarding hiring legal counsel, 2nd by Councilmember Sankey.

Roll Call Vote: Councilmember Holk – Aye, Councilmember Sankey – Aye, Mayor Houser – Aye, Councilmember Underwood – Aye, Councilmember Hinson – Aye and Councilmember Laurendine – Aye. Six Aye’s. Motion carried.

Mayor Houser stated that the meeting would recess for fifteen (15) minutes and that the meeting will reconvene at that time. The Mayor and Council then exited the council meeting room at 5:12 p.m. and entered into the Mayor’s office. At the end of the fifteen (15) minutes Councilmember Sankey asked the Clerk to announce that they needed another ten (10) minutes. The meeting reconvened at 5:37 p.m.

Motion by Councilmember Laurendine, 2nd by Councilmember Sankey to authorize the Mayor to enter into an agreement with the law firm Stone, Granade and Crosby to provide legal services for the Town at the rate of $140.00 per hour to go concurrent with the present administration. All in favor. Motion carried.

6. Councilmember Hinson – Historian Committee
Councilmember Hinson reported that the Historian Committee will present to the Council a proposal.

Motion by Councilmember Sankey, 2nd by Councilmember Underwood to accept the Historian Committee report. All in favor. Motion carried.
7. Approval of Treasurer’s Report
Mayor stated that the treasurer’s report was the same report that was presented in the workshop with the exception of a deposit of $2,438.34 sales tax.
Motion by Councilmember Laurendine, 2nd by Councilmember Holk to accept the treasurer’s report. All in favor. Motion carried.

8. Public Comment
Elaine Colli addressed the Council concerning a proposal of making the springs a beautiful and informative nature preserve and if approved, they would find a native landscape architect to submit a design. She also stated that they submitted a design for the signs for the entrances into Magnolia Springs. She thanked the Council for considering the proposal and if they were to accept the proposal, she would like to know what size for the signs, so she could report back to the Garden Club.

Motion by Councilmember Laurendine, 2nd by Councilmember Underwood to approve Resolution 2007-19, ratifying contract for web site. All in favor. Motion carried.

10. Resolution thanking the Garden Club for the Town signs
Motion by Councilmember Sankey, 2nd by Councilmember Laurendine to table the resolution. Discussion: Councilmember Sankey had some concerns with timing on the project, he then explained why he motioned to table the resolution. He felt that being presented at the workshop, to vote on at the regular council meeting that it was not given the time for consideration that it needed. In fairness and appreciation to the Garden Club that we need more time to talk about it before moving forward. Councilmember Laurendine stated his concern was the procedure and that everyone is appreciative of the Garden Club. Mayor Houser stated that it was the timing, they had received the information right before the workshop and do need the time to talk about the project. Vote: All in favor. Motion carried.

11. Resolution thanking Gayle Guthrie for her design
Motion by Councilmember Sankey, 2nd by Councilmember Holk to table the resolution. Discussion: Councilmember Sankey stated that he felt this also needs the time and consideration. Councilmember Laurendine added that it should be done as a whole process. Vote: All in favor. Motion carried.

12. Change meeting dates for June and July
The Mayor stated there had been some discussion in the past about not having enough time in between the workshop and council meeting. It was suggested for the months of June and July to change the meeting dates and when we move into the new town hall we will re-pass the ordinance with the changes needed. Motion by Councilmember Sankey, 2nd by Councilmember Laurendine to change June workshop to June 5th, the regular council meeting to June 26th and the July regular council meeting to July 24th. All in favor. Motion carried.

Councilmember Underwood said that he forwarded to the Council an email with an application about the historic workshop in Mobile on May 24th.

Legal Counsel has some suggestions for financial procedures and will write them down in a letter and send it to the council.

Mayor Houser wanted to go on record thanking Jim Gaines and his firm for his work the last few months and also for the two years of work during the incorporation.

Councilmember Hinson acknowledged the Garden Clubs proposal on developing a master plan for the springs. She asked that the Council give their approval to let the Garden Club go ahead with the proposal.
Motion by Councilmember Sankey, 2nd by Councilmember Laurendine that the Garden Club proceed with the plan as outlined in the presentation to the Beautification Committee and that is be presented to the Beautification Committee and then to the Town Council. Discussion: Councilmember Underwood stated that there would have to be survey information for that plan to be developed, but as far as contacting a landscape architect and being prepared that would be ok, but the architect is going to need the survey information. Vote: All in favor. Motion carried.
Brett Gaar reminded the Mayor and Council of the May 18th, 10:00 a.m. meeting at the Springs with different Regulatory and Resources Agencies to go over the grant and get their input on the restoration project.

Motion by Councilmember Laurendine, 2nd by Councilmember Sankey to adjourn. All in favor. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Approved this the 26th day of June, 2007

ATTEST:

Karen S. Hiei - Town Clerk

Charles S. Houser - Mayor