

SPECIAL CALLED CITY COMMISSION MEETING
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2003 -7:00 p.m.

Mayor Gilley called the meeting to order with all commissioners in attendance, as well as Currie Milliken, the city attorney.

AGENDA

Discussion - legal matter

The Mayor said since the purpose of the meeting was to discuss litigation matters, the commission would be declared in closed session. He then turned the meeting over to the city attorney. Mr. Milliken said he had received a letter from Rebecca Alderson's attorney stating that Ms. Alderson had agreed on a settlement with the city in the amount of \$12,000.00. Mr. Milliken said he thought in a former meeting to discuss this matter the commission had thought \$10,000 would be ample. Comm. Pierce said he thought it was \$9,000. Mr. Milliken ask Ms. Alderson's attorney to stipulate in the agreement that Ms. Alderson would hold the commission free and clear from any future claims regarding this law suit. Comm. Pierce and Comm. Martin wondered if this would include them since Ms. Alderson had made the statement that she intended to also file suit against them. Mr. Milliken said that he had never heard or read, where this could be possible. He added that in freeing the commission of any future claims, this did not include former mayor Walt McCay as she intended to proceed with her suit against him. He cited as an example, the fact that Mr. McCay had phoned three of the commissioners for decisions against Ms. Alderson, then made that decision on his own. Which is illegal, as decisions regarding the city are to be made only in a formal City Commission meeting. He explained the Whistle blowers act, which Ms. Alderson's attorney acted under, was initiated by the government so people who felt they had been treated wrongfully could persue action. Comm. Watt said he would like to change the wording of the decision to read, both the former commissioners under Mr. McCay as well as the current commissioners would be held free and clear from any future claims or

lawsuits against them in this matter. All commissioners were in agreement with this change.

Mr. Milliken then contacted Ms. Alderson's attorney, Robert Harrison, and told him of the commissions decision and ask if he would contact Ms. Alderson to see If she agreed with this decision. Mr. Harrison then called Mr. Milliken back and told him Ms. Alderson had agreed to the terms as stated. Comm. Cooke then presented a motion to accept the \$12,000 settlement, seconded by Comm. Pierce. Roll call and vote - Cooke yes, Martin yes, Pierce yes, Watt yes, Gilley yes. The mayor ask if there was any further discussion. With none to be heard he declared the closed session adjourned.

APPROVED: _____
James R. Gilley, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Dorothy J. Neal, Acting City Clerk