

Silverhill establishes Save the Little Hall Board to meet monthly

Posted Monday, December 5, 2011 5:00 am

By John Underwood

SILVERHILL, Alabama — In continued support of the Save the Little Hall Committee, the Silverhill Town Council voted at its meeting Monday, Dec. 5 establishing a Save the Little Hall Board for the town.

According to Resolution No. 451, approved unanimously at Monday's meeting, the Board will meet monthly at Town Hall. Meetings will be open to the public and minutes from the meetings will be submitted for approval at the Council's second monthly meeting, held the third Monday of every month.

Also, monthly bank account statements and invoices will be submitted to the town clerk/treasurer and recorded in the town's financial records, all monies will be received through Town Hall and purchases made by the Board of over \$500 must be approved by the Council and purchase orders must be signed by the mayor and mayor pro-tem.

Checks written on the Committee's account must include two signatures, either the mayor or mayor pro-tem, and either the Committee chairman or treasurer. The town clerk/treasurer will also be authorized to give receipts of donations, deposit and record bank transactions, and have access to banking information.

At Monday's meeting, with all members present, the Council voted unanimously by roll call vote, first to suspend the rules, then to adopt the resolution.

The Little Bohemian Hall was built in 1920 southwest of Silverhill to serve as a school for the Czech children in the Silverhill area.

In 1928, after students were bussed to the new public school in Silverhill, the building was used as a community center for meetings, dances and social activities. It was also used to teach Czech language classes and church services.

In 1956, the newly established Silverhill Farmers Club merged with the Czechoslovakian Farmers Association and the building was sold to the Farmers Club for \$1. For over 20 years the Silverhill Farmers Club and the Extension Homemakers Club used the building for meetings. The building was also used for martial arts club meetings.

In 1978, the building was sold for \$1 to Silverhill School and was moved to the Silverhill School campus where it was used as a band room and an assembly hall. The building was later donated to the town of Silverhill and moved onto town property near the ballparks and water tank to make room for a new gym facility at the school.

The building was shifted off its foundation and sustained extensive damage during a tornado that struck in Silverhill March 9. The Silverhill Town Council voted at its meeting Monday, May 16 to proceed with plans to build a new structure and plans have been discussed to move Little Hall from its current location and refurbish the structure.

At its meeting on Monday, Nov. 21, the Council voted to support moving the building to Paul Anderson Park and pay half, up to \$4,000, to right the building and prepare for moving.

Committee Chairman Frankie Kucera told Council members in November that pledges totaling nearly \$13,000 had been given in support of the move and the Committee had established a goal of raising \$30,000 to move and refurbish the structure.