

Mayor Sherry Inman called a special Inauguration meeting at 6:00 P.M. on January 4th, 2024 in Selmer City Hall to formally administer the Oath of Office of Aldermen to newly elected LaShell Moore, Mike Cain and to Willie Sain serving a second term.

Rev. Lee Harvey opened the meeting with prayer followed by the pledge of allegiance to the United States flag of America led by Sgt Tony Westbrooks.

The meeting room was filled with strong supporter for LaShell Moore as well as for Mike Cain and Willie Sain. The WBBJ TV station was there with special interest and for an interview with LaShell Moore. Ms. Moore, a beautiful highly talented native of McNairy County, has been a vitally active servant in the Selmer area for many years. Active in her church, many civic organizations, cultural events, and has served as the Director for the Mary Lou Johnson Scholarship Foundation, that she founded, for the past 15 years. Additionally, Ms. Moore served the youth of the town of Selmer as Pre-Kindergarten teacher for many years, opened up a community beauty salon that welcomed patrons from diverse ethnicities. Being an excellent cook, she became an entrepreneur of her own catering business catering to many civic functions in Selmer and McNairy County.

Ms Moore made History as the first African American to be elected as Aldermen for the Town of Selmer and the first woman to be elected in over twenty years.

Mayor Sherry Inman, the very first woman to become Mayor of Selmer administered the Oath to Ms Moore and the entire room applauded and many screamed and whistled loudly!

LaShell thanked everyone and informed that she took this role very seriously and will do the best that she could do to fill this commitment. She said that when she won the election it was bittersweet because of what had just happened and that it still was. (Not discussed but everyone knew that she was referring to the untimely tragic death on the election day of her beloved son.)

LaShell told everyone that she was very proud to be the first African American female and the first female elected in over 20 years. LaShell not only wanted to encourage African Americans to become involved but hoped to encourage all women to become involved. She stated that she was excited about what the Mayor and Board could do for Selmer. "Selmer is a good place to live with great people, and everyone wants the best for the town and their children and grandchildren." She reiterated her serious commitment and promise to do her best for the people and the town and again thanked everyone for their support.

Mayor Inman administered the Oath to Aldermen Willie Sain. This was Willie's second four year term and again received the highest vote. Willie thanked all the citizens of Selmer for their trust in him and stated that he would always do what was right. He especially wanted to thank his campaign manager, Ms. Tommye Mitchell, and all the supporters who believed in him. He extended a Happy Birthday to his Granddaughter who was the first person to spread the word on facebook to vote for him. Willie said that everyone made mistakes and encouraged everyone to tell him if they felt he made one because he wanted to always do what was right! Everyone Applauded. (Tommye Mitchell was a Town of Selmer Aldermen back in the early 90's and was instrumental in the development of the old Selmer High School building into the Selmer Community Center as it stands on North 5th St. today.) Willie again thanked everyone for their support. All applauded.

Mayor Inman administered the oath of Aldermen to Mike Cain. Mike had been advising and studying the town finances with Mayor Inman for months prior to the November 2023 election. Mr. Cain, a life long resident of Selmer, was very knowledgeable with most laws and policies within city business. His father also an accountant served as a Selmer Aldermen back in the 1960's. Immediately following his oath he explained that he had been working on Town of Selmer needs for months and expected to continue for the next four years. He said that he was honored to get to serve in his hometown but it was an Obligation and a Commitment that he took very seriously. He told everyone when campaigning that he was only one vote but that he would do everything that he could to see that the Town did the right things in the right ways! He said that he and the other four Aldermen have made the same commitment to abide by the charter in all respects. He noted that we are not committed to doing things the way that they have always been

done, but are commitment to follow the rules and ordinances and policies and not make them up as we go. "Selmer has its issues and problems and history clearly shows that these issues primarily stem from not following the rules, resulting in chaos and distrust!" "Solving our problems requires everyone and we need to create a real Team, a "Want to Be a Team" sticking to this Commitment at every turn."

Mr. Cain said again, "I'm but one person with one vote and one voice, but I will be loud, consistent, and persistent!" "Tonight I challenge my fellow Board members, other officers and all employees to join me in accepting and abiding by the commitment and determine what's Right, do it Right, and only do it in the Right way, by the rules, with civility and high personal performance."

All agreed.

Mayor Inman told everyone that she was excited for them and looked very forward to working with them.

Meeting Adjourned.