

**OFFICIAL MINUTES  
COMMISSION MEETING OF THE CITY OF BRUNSWICK, GEORGIA  
CALLED MEETING  
5:15 P. M., FEBRUARY 27, 1992**

**PRESENT:** His Honor Mayor Homer L. Wilson, Commissioners Otis Herrington, Roosevelt Lawrence, Doris A. Davis and Rev. G. E. Darrisaw.

**INVOCATION:** The invocation was given by Commissioner Otis G. E. Darrisaw.

Mayor Wilson announced that this meeting was called for the purpose of discussing the bid recommendation for Fleet Insurance and the expansion of Georgia Ports Authority.

**BID**

The City Manager stated that the Fleet Insurance for the City's current carrier did not intend to renew coverage for 1 year and the only way they would renew was on a short-term basis through March 31st. The renewal date for the Fleet Insurance in March 1st of this year.

The Director of Finance explained a recap of quotes received from several insurance companies. The Director of Finance recommended Select Insurance Company which is a subsidiary of Gulf Insurance Co. because it has the same coverage the City is currently carrying with no deductible. Trupp McGinty is the agent and the premium is \$78,611.00 for 12 months.

The City Manager stated that the trend he is seeing in insurance companies with single types of coverage is moving toward wanting more types of coverage other than one kind. He suggested moving insurance renewal dates together.

Following discussion Commissioner Darrisaw moved approval of staff recommendation of Select Insurance Company in the amount of \$78,611.00 for 12 months. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Lawrence and was unanimously carried.

Mr. Benefield was present to discuss the expansion of the ports authority. He stated that some details have already been outlined at previous meetings with the Commission. Georgia Ports Authority would like to acquire at fair market value from the City of Brunswick the present location of the Farmers Market. This would permit GPA to expand Mayor's Port Terminal and continue the great success the Authority have enjoyed. Customers are asking for more space and want GPA to expand the terminal to take care of their needs, the Authority is suffering some severe space problems at Mayor's Port Terminal.

Commission Darrisaw asked if the City would let the Ports Authority have the property, how much time would the City have to vacate the farmers market property.

Mr. Benefield stated that the Authority could safely commit to letting the farmers market remain through the next selling season, at least the majority of it. If the City made a favorable decision today the property would have to be appraised, and the Authority would have to secure permission from the State's property Commission to purchase property and engineering studies on the warehouse would take several months, then the Authority can begin construction. It will be about late summer we can certainly commit through the end of November.

A concerned citizen stated that he asked several times why can't the port expand south.

Mr. Benefield explained that the Authority's only door is to the south and to build on to the south end simply means closing the door to the trucks that come and go from the south. Preliminary engineering studies have been done and the land to the south simply; is not as good as the land to the south. There is an underlayment of unsuitable soil.

The Commission heard mixed views from a number concerned citizens.

Mayor Wilson announced that he received some news from the Senator's office five minutes ago. The contract with Jered Brown was cancelled. This news certainly dampens all of us in the Community, we were looking forward to a relationship with the company that would have been most pleasant.

Citizens that were present asked the reason for the cancellation.

Mayor Wilson explained that the Governor of Michigan and the Congressional Staff stated that a disgruntled contractor who bid on the project maintained that Jered Brothers were going to use foreign labor and was also procuring things of a foreign nature and while this was being questioned for sometime there was never a stop order on the contract until a few minutes ago. The Assistant Secretary of the Navy made the determination.

Tommie Herrington stated that if the Georgia Ports Authority means so much to the Community and economic growth of the Community then why did the Ports Authority allow outside people to come in and work. He further stated that he was under the impression that if Longshoremen were working at the Port, why would the Authority allow nonunion workers to come in and work.

Mr. Benefield explained that the Authority have to because last year that question was answered in Savannah in Federal Court about refusing to let non union people come and work in the Savannah Port. The Ports Authority was sued by non union workers and the Authority lost the suit. The Authority is proud of the Longshoremen they do an excellent job at every opportunity we urge people to use their services. We cannot prevent non union people from working.

Frank Scriven stated that the time is now to move forward in growth. The City has too many people in the street without jobs. If we don't open doors Glynn County would not grow. Our concern should be letting the Industries come in.

Many citizens were in favor of expansion.

Commissioner Herrington asked if GPA would be receptive to exchanging land for land on the waterfront.

Mr. Benefield explained that the property of the old Concrete Products site was just acquired and the Authority has that property programed for development of port activities.

Commissioner Darrisaw offered the motion that the City grant the request continued That the City make an equal swap that can be in finance, land or a mixture of both. The swap is to be decided on, the location and terms of relocating the farmers market at a later date. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Lawrence.

Many citizens stated that they were concerned about where the farmers market would be relocated. They expressed their concerns of opposition in relocating it in Mary Ross Waterfront Park. The citizens also opposed selling the land to Georgia Ports Authority.

Mrs. Lyde stated that she was in favor of the purchase of property by GPA.

Mayor Wilson stated that he wanted to make sure all the citizens was heard, and that the relocation of the farmers market should not be in the park. The City should naturally receive a handsome price like Concrete Products.

On call for the question the motion carried by vote of 5 to 0.

Ernie Craft requested the use of a ledger book dating from 1915 to 1918 to put on display at the Coastal Museum until September.

Commissioner Herrington asked Mr. Craft if he would be responsible for the return of the ledger book. Mr. Craft stated that he would not be held responsible because the Coastal Museum will display the book at the lighthouse on St. Simons. The Commission voted 3 to 2 not to allow the book to be displayed because of its historical value.

**MEETING ADJOURNED.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

Attest \_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk