

**OFFICIAL MINUTES
COMMISSION MEETING OF THE CITY OF BRUNSWICK, GEORGIA
REGULAR MEETING
8:30 A. M., May 5, 1993**

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

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Herrington moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion to approved the minutes of the meeting of April 21, 1993 be approved with the necessary corrections.

DELEGATIONS

Don McGlamory, Executive Director of the Housing Authority presented a check in lieu of taxes in the amount of \$28,183.34. Mr. McGlamory next discussed programs offered through the Housing Authority. Mr. McGlamory extended an invitation to tour the Housing Authority.

Elmer Harper appeared before the Commission to request an encroachment agreement to construct a fence on a portion of the City's right-of-way in the 500 Block of Norwich Street. Commissioner Herrington asked if there was anyone present that objected to granting the request. There was no objections.

Commissioner Davis moved and Commissioner Davis seconded the motion to approve the encroachment agreement with the stipulation if there is any need for the City to use the right-of-way the encroachment removal will be done at the property owners expense. On call for the question the motion passed unanimously.

Carol Highsmith, representing Trupp-Hodnett Realty Co. requested that General Motors Acceptance Corporation be able to perform a median cut on property located at 4725 Altama at the owner's expense according to DOT and City regulations. The City Manager stated that he would check with the City Engineers to find out if this would cause any problems with traffic in the area.

Commissioner Herrington moved and Commissioner Darrisaw seconded the motion to grant the request upon approval of the City Engineers traffic report in the area.

Vernon Martin updated the Commission on Coastal Cruises, Inc. and its cruise ship docking in the City of Brunswick. Branch Mahaffey, representing Coastal Cruises stated that he was impressed with the redevelopment of the downtown area and docking the Cruise ship at the waterfront was a good idea. Mr. Mahaffey pointed out that the Cruise ship would bring in up to 120 jobs in the area and would have between 10 and 14 cruises per week. Start up operations would occur between June 15 and July 1. Mr. Mahaffey next requested that the City offer the waterfront dock to Coastal Cruises, Inc. and a contract will be considered to lease the dock space in 10 to 15 days.

Commissioner Lawrence stated that he was concerned about the shrimp boats that are now docked at the waterfront. The City Manager stated that the matter would have to be

addressed and work something out with Mr. Mahaffey and the shrimpers and make them aware of what will be done. Commissioner Darrisaw moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion to grant Coastal Cruises, Inc. the use of the waterfront dock, and Coastal Cruises would make arrangements to consider a lease contract in 10 days.

Dr. N. E. Armstrong was present to discuss actions that were taken by the City, to agree to a 1989 rezoning decision to permit Dr. Henry Flournoy to change a residence into a Medical Office on Willet Street. Dr. Armstrong stated that in the third week of April construction begin on Dr. Flournoy's property. Dr. Armstrong stated that he contacted the Building Inspection Department and was told that they did not know why construction started. Dr. Armstrong stated that the Commission in 1989 denied Dr. Flournoy's rezoning request. Dr. Armstrong stated that he next spoke with the City Attorney about the construction and he was told that the Commission instructed the City Attorney to take care of the rezoning matter. Dr. Armstrong recalled that the citizens had no input about the decision to rezone the said property. Dr. Armstrong next stated that he was confused on what happened when a court order was signed to permit the rezoning. He then asked the Commission to stop the construction and investigate the matter.

Commissioner Darrisaw stated that he met with people in the Community that were concerned with the rezoning. Commissioner Darrisaw asked if a decision was made to grant the rezoning in an Executive Session and whether the decision made in an Executive Session was brought back in an open meeting. The City Attorney explained that minutes were not taken in Executive Sessions. The City Attorney recalled that the rezoning was presented in an Executive Session and was approved in the Executive Session. The City Attorney stated that litigations are suppose to be discussed in Executive Sessions and minutes should be taken in Executive Sessions. Commissioner Herrington asked if the citizens should have been notified of the litigation. The City Attorney stated that all litigations are handled in the same manner. Commissioner Darrisaw questioned the decision that was made in the Executive Session and asked the City Attorney was it illegal. The City Attorney stated that it was not an illegal decision, because all cities resolve litigations in this manner to take pressure off the local Government.

Mayor Wilson stated that he recalled it was the general consensus of the Commission to authorize the City Attorney to take care of the rezoning.

Commissioner Darrisaw moved to hold an Executive Session to discuss a legal matter. Motion was seconded by Commission Lawrence and was unanimously passed.

Following the Executive Session Mayor Wilson announced that the Commission would take the rezoning matter under advisement and will respond in a few days.

Dr. Armstrong suggested that the City get some independent investigators to make sure that the citizens interest is taken under consideration. He further stated that he trust the Commission would do what is right.

VISITORS BUREAU APPOINTMENT

On motion of Commissioner Herrington seconded by Commissioner Lawrence, Commissioner Doris Davis was unanimously reappointed to serve on the Visitors Bureau Board.

BID ON DEMOLITION OF PROPERTY

The Bid recommendation for property at 918 Martin Luther King Boulevard was deferred until the City Manager could check the condition of property to see if the property owner razed the house.

BID ON AUDIT

The following bids were received for the City of Brunswick Annual Audit for a three year period:

Shell and Hogan
\$33,451 per year

Deloach, Stewart and Company
\$48,300 per year

The Director of Finance recommended that the low bid of Schell and Hogan be accepted to conduct the audit for the City of Brunswick in the amount of \$33, 451.00 per year for three years.

Commissioner Darrisaw moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion to accept the recommendation of the Director of Finance for the Audit for three consecutive years in the amount of \$33,451.00 for each year. The motion passed unanimously.

SENIOR INCENTIVE PROGRAM

Police Captain Edna Johnson appeared before the Commission to request that Senior Police Officers be granted a .50 increase to bring their pay in line with officers in other Cities the size of Brunswick. Captain Johnson stated that she conducted a survey to compare salaries of Police Officers in Brunswick to other cities similar in population. Police Chief Sidoran explained the Incentive Program for Senior Police Officers to the Commission. Following a discussion Commissioner Darrisaw moved and Commissioner Davis seconded the motion to consider increasing the Incentive Pay for senior Police Officers to .50 in the upcoming budget.

CEMETERY DEED

On motion of Commissioner Davis seconded by Commissioner Davis the following petition was unanimously granted:

- 1) Transferring Lot No. 5, Section No. 203 in Palmetto Cemetery from Mary Maddison to Pansy Maddison Cross.
Original deed surrendered.

OTHER CITY BUSINESS

The City Manager reported that the proposals for the Cafeteria Plan will be opened Monday and a recommendation would be brought back at the next Commission Meeting.

The City Manager next reported that Budget Meetings will be held next week with Department Heads.

Commissioner Herrington asked if the speeding problem has been addressed on Newcastle Street Ext. Chief Sidoran stated that the speeding has been taken care of.

Commissioner Davis reported that she received a call about the ditches on Kaiser Avenue and Player Street. The City Manager stated that the Public Works Department will start on the ditches this week.

Commissioner Darrisaw stated that citizens have some concern about courtesy extended to them when visiting certain places in the City. Commissioner Darrisaw asked the City Manager to notify all Department Heads that these citizens pay their salaries and should be treated with courtesy. Commissioner Darrisaw commend the Fire Department for the

courtesy they received when they toured the Fire Department.

Commissioner Lawrence reported that there are a tremendous amount of holes in the Streets. The City Manager stated that the holes are cave in on the storm drainage. The City Manager stated that the Public Works Director will check the cave in problems.

Commissioner Lawrence next reported that many organizations ask the City for contributions and most of the time they are denied for many reasons. These organizations were allowed to do bucket brigades at Cypress mill and Altama Avenue. The City no longer allows these brigades to solicit donations. Commissioner Lawrence asked the City Attorney can a contract be drawn up to release the City from any liability that occurs while they are soliciting donations at their own risk. The City Attorney stated that it is a General State Statue that is applicable in the City of Brunswick that makes it a traffic offense for people to solicit funds within the right of way. The City Manager was directed to explain to citizens why they cannot solicit on City Streets.

Commissioner Lawrence moved and Commissioner Darrisaw seconded the motion to sponsor two kids for the Brunswick College Minority Outreach Program in the amount of \$1,500.00. On call for the question Commissioners Lawrence and Darrisaw voted yes and Mayor Wilson Commissioners Herrington and Davis voted No. The motion failed by vote of 2 to 3.

Commissioner Herrington stated he still opposed it, pointing out that the program should include Caucasians.

Commissioner Darrisaw stated that this is not a Black, White issue and should be viewed as a community project. He further stated that it was an investment in the Community.

Mayor Wilson stated that the Commission have to be more cautious with the taxpayers money.

The City Attorney requested authorization to submit an application for rezoning 1710 Gloucester Street and 1422 Lee Street to the Glynn County Zoning Staff. The City Attorney stated that the property owner lived in California and cannot come to handle the Zoning procedure. He further stated that the property could be sold and rehabilitated for commercial purposes. The City Attorney stated that he was not asking for the Commission to make a decision on the rezoning, but only to initiate the process to bring back to the Commissioner for a Public Hearing.

Commissioner Herrington asked if there were any objections from the property owners in the area. Commissioner Lawrence stated that he had problems with rezoning a residential area. Mayor Wilson stated that he agreed with Commissioner Lawrence about spot rezoning in residential areas.

Commissioner Darrisaw moved and Commissioner Herrington seconded the motion to authorized the City Attorney to submit applications for rezoning to the Glynn County Zoning Staff. On call for the question the motion passed by vote of 4 to 1. Commissioner Lawrence voting No.

Mayor Wilson asked when the Street paving would begin in the City. The City Manager stated that the resurfacing would start soon.

Tom Fuller was present and ask the Commission to support the Outreach program. He stated that the program was not created to divide the races, the program will help build up the Community, "this matter is a public concern." He next asked the Commission to clean up the City. Commissioner Herrington stated that tax dollars should not be used for this program and offered to give his personal donation.

MEETING ADJOURNED.

Mayor

Attest _____
City Clerk