

OFFICIAL MINUTES
COMMISSION MEETING OF THE CITY OF BRUNSWICK, GEORGIA
RESCHEDULED REGULAR MEETING
8:30 A. M., December 8, 1993

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 Herrington.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Herrington moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the meeting of November 17, 1993 with the following correction: James MacLeod was elected as Commissioner of the South Ward for a term of 4 years. The motion passed unanimously.

RECOGNITION OF FIREFIGHTERS

Mrs. Whittle, local resident appeared before the Commission to commend the City firefighters for prompt and courteous service she received when a fire started at her residence. Mrs. Whittle stated that her house was full of smoke and she fell to pieces. Upon arrival the City firefighters were so polite and considerate and very understanding. Mrs. Whittle stated that she appreciated the dedicated service that she received and commended the Fire Chief for the well-trained firefighters. Mrs. Whittle further stated that the City of Brunswick could not ask for better men working in the Fire Department.

The Commission expressed their appreciation to the dedicated firefighters and stressed that the City of Brunswick is grateful for dedication and all the other services that the firefighters perform in protecting the lives of the citizens of Brunswick.

PUBLIC HEARING

This being the date, time and place for public hearing on proposal to rezone properties at 1422 Lee Street and 1710 Gloucester Street from General Residential to Local Commercial.

The City manager stated that this hearing is the first of two public hearings set for properties at 1422 Lee Street and 1710 Gloucester Street. The Commission scheduled these hearings, which were requested by the City Attorney. These buildings have been on the City's condemnation list and property owner feels that they would have a better opportunity to market these properties for renovation if property is zoned commercial. This property would be compatible to other properties in the area. Most of the property on the corner of Gloucester and Lee Street is zoned commercial.

Mayor Wilson stated that the property has been residential for five years. The roof and the front porch are falling through. The windows are boarded up, and this property could stay there for another five years until the owners find a buyer to renovate property.

The City Manager stated that Judge Ligon has scheduled hearings on the property for December 15th.

The City Attorney stated that the rezonings would be consistent with other properties in the area.

Commissioner Lawrence stated that he had a problem with rezoning residential areas at 1422 Lee Street. Commissioner Lawrence stated that rezonings of residential areas had to stop at some point.

Commissioner Herrington stated that there would be commercial property in all residential areas.

It was the consensus of the Commission to set the public hearing for December 15, 1993.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE RENEWALS

The following alcoholic beverage petitions for 1994 license renewals were submitted, having been approved by the Chief of Police and the City manager, were on motion of Commissioner Lawrence seconded by Commissioner Davis unanimously granted:

To retail alcoholic beverages including beers and wine for consumption on premises:

Nelson Hart at Double Eagle, 1621 Albany Street;

To retail alcoholic beverages including beers and wine for consumption off premises:

Willie H. Lewis at Cobra Inn Package Store, 1408 G Street;

Nelson Hart at The Keg, 3101 Johnston Circle;

To retail beers and wine for consumption off premises:

Peter J. Nermoe at Beer and Wine Depot, 1900 First Street;

To retail beers and wine for consumption on premises:

Grace R. Williams at Gilmo's Place, 1001 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.

To retail beer only for consumption on premises:

Nelson Hart at Hart's Restaurant, 1606 L Street.

HOSPITAL AUTHORITY APPOINTMENT

A list of eleven citizens was submitted to the Commission for consideration for appointment on the Hospital Authority Board to fill the unexpired term of the late Benjamin Jaudon.

Mayor Wilson asked if the Commission was prohibited from nominating someone from the table instead of the list that was submitted.

The City Manager stated that he did not know of any law, guideline or Ordinance that would prohibit appointing or nominating someone whose name was not on the list. The City Manager pointed out that it has been the practice of the Commission for sometime to advertise the vacancies on Boards and Commission to seek names of persons who are interested in serving on these Boards. He further stated from a legal standpoint there is nothing that prohibits the Commission from submitting a name that is not on the list.

Commissioner Darrisaw stated that citizens are not required to send in a resume' when the Commission has these types of openings on Boards. The General Public feels that when the Commission has an opening and closing date they should send some type of letter or some type of indication to let the Commission know they are interested. Commissioner Darrisaw further stated that if the City is going to change the process the Commission needs to discuss that change.

Commissioner Herrington asked why the last names that were submitted to the Hospital rejected.

The City Manager stated that the three names were rejected because of a conflict of interest.

The Mayor called for nominations for the Hospital Authority Board.

Commissioner Lawrence nominated Charlie D. Atkinson. Commissioner Davis nominated Levern A. Carter. Commissioner Herrington nominated Marie McCollum. Mayor Wilson nominated Charles W. Rogers, and Commissioner Darrisaw nominated Jonathan L. Williams. Mayor Wilson asked if there were any other nominations. There being no further nominations, the nominations were closed. The Commission voted on each nominee. Charlie D. Atkinson received 4 votes. Levern A. Carter received 4 votes. Marie McCollum received 1 vote. Charles W. Rogers received 1 vote. Jonathan L. Williams received 4 votes.

The Commission selected the names of Charlie D. Atkinson, Levern A. Carter and Jonathan L. Williams for consideration for the Hospital Board.

DELEGATIONS

Tom Fuller representing the Glynn Clean and Beautiful Committee appeared before the Commission to request that a representative from the City be appointed to serve on the Board.

Commissioner Darrisaw moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion

appointing Commissioner Davis to serve on the Glynn Clean and Beautiful Committee. The motion passed unanimously.

Betty Mohr appeared before the Commission to request that the City adopt a resolution to protect children at the local high schools from cigarette smoke. Mrs. Mohr asked that the City adopt an ordinance recognizing possession and use of tobacco as a misdemeanor for minors.

Commissioner Lawrence asked if students were allowed to smoke on campus.

Mrs. Mohr stated that students smoke before and after school off campus.

Following a discussion Commissioner Darrisaw recommended that the matter be tabled for legal advice.

Ben Slade, representing Habitat for Humanity was present to discuss the development in Brunswick. Mr. Slade introduced the members that were present Walter McNeely, Charlie Thrower, LaRon Bennett, and Doug Alexander. Mr. Slade reported on the homes that have been built in the City. Mr. Slade asked what did Habitat have to do to receive lots from the City.

Mr. McNeely stated that Habitat for Humanity is pleading with the City to do whatever they could do to help the Habitat organization.

Commissioner Darrisaw stated that the Commission supports the Habitat project 100%. There is no problem with the Commission working with the project. Commissioner Darrisaw moved and Commissioner Herrington seconded the motion to cooperate and support Habitat. Commissioner Davis stated that she is 100% for the Habitat Project, and she is in the process of getting her relatives to donate two lots to Habitat. The motion passed unanimously.

The City Attorney stated that the City owns tract 124A of Urban Renewal property 180' x 180' and six houses could be constructed on this property. This property has to be advertised for proposals.

Commissioner Lawrence questioned the 38 lots that the City owned. He stated that he found out that only 11 lots could be used.

The City Manager stated that Habitat was made aware that there were only 11 lots.

Commissioner Darrisaw requested that he would like for the Director of Community Development to straighten out the problem about the 38 lots.

The City Attorney stated that the list came from the Tax Assessors Office and the list was doubled checked and found that the City owned 11 lots that were vacant.

Commissioner Darrisaw moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion authorizing the City Attorney and Attorney Alexander to meet and make recommendations to move ahead with the Habitat project. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Darrisaw moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion authorizing the City Attorney to advertise Lot 124A Urban Renewal Property

on Bay Street for bids. The motion passed unanimously.

FOOD GIFT CERTIFICATES

Commissioner Herrington moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion approving food gift certificates for City employees. The motion passed unanimously.

CEMETERY DEEDS

Petition received from H. E. Head for deed to Plots E and F of Lot No. 122 in Palmetto Cemetery in lieu of original deed, which has been lost, misplaced or destroyed, but City records verify ownership. Commissioner Darrisaw moved and Commissioner Davis seconded the motion to grant petition. The motion passed unanimously.

OTHER CITY BUSINESS

The City Manager reported that a traffic study should be made by DOT of the intersection of Talmadge Avenue and Highway 17. It was the consensus of the Commission to authorize the City Manager to have a traffic study made at the intersection of Talmadge Avenue and Highway 17. Commissioner Herrington brought up for discussion transferring the Building Inspections Department from the County to the City. Commissioner Herrington stated that it would be a source of revenue for the City and the Department would be self-supporting. Commissioner Darrisaw stated that he had questions that he would like answered before he would vote on it.

Mayor Wilson asked the City Manager if the City advised the County Commission that the City was planning to bring the Building Inspections Department back to the City. The City Manager stated that he spoke with the County Administrator and he stated that the County would like to receive a letter from the City outlining the problems they are having with the Building Inspections Department.

Commissioner Darrisaw moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion authorizing the City Manager to write a letter informing the County that the City is considering bringing the Building Inspections Department back to the City. The motion passed unanimously.

It was the consensus of the Commission to place the Building Inspections Department on the next Agenda.

Commissioner Herrington asked the City Manager the closing date for accepting applications for the Police Chief's position. The City Manager stated that the deadline for submitting applications was set for December 17, 1993. Commissioner Herrington stated that the Commission authorized the City Manager to advertise the Police Chief's position in November. The City Manager explained that it took time to advertise because the position was listed in a lot of publications.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Darrisaw moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion to hold an Executive Session to discuss a Personnel Matter.

Following the Executive Session Mrs. Jymie Herrington appeared before the Commission to request that she be placed on the next agenda to discuss crime in the City, the Building Inspections Department and contributions of City property to Habitat.

MEETING ADJOURNED.

Mayor

City Clerk