

OFFICIAL MINUTES
COMMISSION MEETING OF THE CITY OF BRUNSWICK, GEORGIA
REGULAR MEETING
8:30 A. M., MARCH 2, 1994

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

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Lawrence moved and Commissioner Darrisaw
seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the meeting of
February 16, 1994. The motion passed unanimously.

APPOINTMENTS TO CITY BOARDS

Mayor Wilson instructed the City Clerk to advertise the
upcoming appointments on the Hospital Board and the Zoning
Board of Appeals.

REZONING

Mayor Wilson stated that a public hearing was held at the
last meeting to consider rezoning the Northern 30 feet of Lot
31 and Southern 15 feet of Lot 33 Town Commons from Office
Commercial to General Commercial. Mayor Wilson asked the
City Attorney to define the General Commercial Zoning
Classification.

The City Attorney explained the uses of each zoning as set
forth in the City of Brunswick Zoning Ordinance. He stated
that there is not a great difference between Office
Commercial, General Commercial, and Local Commercial Zoning
classifications.

Mayor Wilson asked the City Attorney if there was anyway an
encroachment would displace the property owners that live in
the surrounding area.

The City Attorney stated that he did not think it would and
explained that the property rights of the Commercial property
owner ends at his property line. An encroachment cannot be
made over the adjoining property owners line unless the
General Commercial Zoning Classification requires a side set

back or rear set back.

Mayor Wilson asked the City Attorney if he knew any reason why the General Commercial Classification would create problems such as noise or any other type problem.

The City Attorney stated that there is not much difference in the permitted uses of the two zoning classification and as far as noise is concerned there are already General Commercial Zoning very close by the neighborhoods, Revco Drugs, Office Park and the four laning of MLK will cause a great deal of traffic in the neighborhood.

The City Attorney explained the different classifications in the immediate neighborhoods.

Commissioner Darrisaw stated that he had no objections to the General Commercial Zoning classification, but citizens in that area have great concern as to whether or not they would have to move later because of the problems it might create for property owners who have worked all their lives to pay for homes. Commissioner Darrisaw further stated that he would not take any action on the proposed rezoning until he had a very clear understanding of what effect the change would have on citizens in the neighborhood.

The City Manager submitted an outlined plot plan of the present owner Mr. Roy Smith.

Commissioner Lawrence stated that one of his concerns was having an Industrial air conditioning unit placed right beside a resident's window creating a noise problem.

The City Manager stated that the city could require that a buffer or vent be put in place.

The City Attorney explained the requirements for General Commercial Zoning Districts and pointed out that the property owner could not encroach on the adjoining property. Commissioner Darrisaw asked if the property is zoned General Commercial would the adjoining property also become General Commercial.

The City Attorney stated that the rezoning would not change the adjoining property to General Commercial. The property is currently zoned General Residential and will remain Residential.

Commissioner Darrisaw moved and Commissioner MacLeod seconded

the motion to approve the rezoning with the condition that letters are mailed to citizens apprizing them that the rezoning will not change the status of the present zoning of their property. The motion passed unanimously.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE

Petition received from Nelson Hart to pour alcoholic beverage for consumption on premises at the Keg, 3101 Johnson Street. The City Manager stated that Mr. Hart is requesting an additional license for drinks to be served on premises in a building next to his liquor store.

Commissioner Lawrence asked the City Manager if Mr. Hart met all requirements required by law. The City Manager stated that Mr. Hart met the requirements of the City ordinance.

Commissioner MacLeod asked if there was any objections from the neighbors in the area.

Attorney Joe Ferrier stated that he was accompanied by Eleanor Brooks and her husband. Attorney Ferrier stated that some members were on the Commission last year when Mr. Hart applied for an alcoholic beverage license and there was a great deal of concern about approval of it. Attorney Ferrier stated that an early morning meeting was very difficult for a lot of concerned citizens who would like to attend. Mr. Ferrier requested that the Commission continue the matter at a night meeting to give the citizens in surrounding neighborhoods an opportunity to give their input along with the delegation of concerned parents. Attorney Ferrier updated Commissioner MacLeod on Mr. Hart's request that was denied to sell alcoholic beverages at the same location in 1992. Attorney Ferrier stated that he certainly is opposed to selling alcoholic beverages at that location.

Commissioner MacLeod stated that he would certainly hesitate to do anything without a full hearing and input from the neighbors.

Commissioner MacLeod moved to defer the matter to a night meeting in order to give citizens an opportunity to attend the meeting. Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion and requested that the Commission make a final decision on whether they would grant Mr. Hart an alcoholic beverage license. The motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Lawrence stated that Commissioner MacLeod should also know that the Keg was there before the school and all the facts should be told.

Mayor Wilson stated that he certainly did not want to do anything that would jeopardize children lives, nor did he condone alcoholic beverages, and gave his personal opinion.

Attorney Ferrier requested that each Commission be present at the meeting.

GLYNN CLEAN AND BEAUTIFUL UPDATE

George Jacobus, chairman of the Brunswick Clean and Beautiful Commission and other members appeared before the Commission to request that the property at the entrance of the causeway be condemned. Mr. Decoatis stated that the City of Brunswick will be the window of the 1996 Olympics and the city cannot continue to put the matter off. Mayor Wilson stated that the City Council has long been aware of the blemish in that area. The Commission have talked with the City Manager a number of times about the property. Mayor Wilson stated that the Commission is convinced that something must be done. A group of speculators and local Realty Company is trying to negotiate a sale for that property.

The City Manager explained the legal steps that could be taken under the unfit buildings provision.

The Commission discussed making the laws more stringent. Commissioner MacLeod recommended that a case be drawn up for unsafe buildings and the legal ramifications.

The City Manager suggested that he and the City Attorney meet with the Realtor and the owner and express the concerns of the Commission and the citizens in the community about the property and prepare a report for the next meeting outlining their position on the property and find out what steps could be taken based on the feed back they receive.

Jymie Herrington was present and stated that she agreed with the committee that something should be done about the property because it is a haven for homeless persons and drug transactions.

Commissioner MacLeod recommended that the City Manager precede in getting affidavits from the police department stating that the property is not safe in order that the Commission may take action on the matter.

Mr. Bradley thanked the Police Department, the City Manager, and Commissioners Darrisaw and Davis for doing a great job on

the Dixville Clean Up project.

OTHER CITY BUSINESS

Joe Herrington, representing the International Masons and the Eastern Star organization appeared before the Commission to request that his organization adopt MLK Blvd. to keep it clean. Commissioner Darrisaw recommended that the group work with the MLK Advisory Board and the Clean and Beautiful Committee. Mr. Herrington was advised to contact the City Manager before his group starts to clean up MLK Blvd. Commissioner Darrisaw commended Mr. Herrington and his group for their services.

Jymie Herrington, representing the Bible Mission appeared before the Commission to request that her mission be allowed to operate out of the Old Red Cross building or another City owned building to continue operating a shelter for the homeless. Ms. Herrington explained the services that she provide to citizens of Brunswick who are homeless.

Commissioner Darrisaw moved and Commissioner MacLeod seconded the motion to consider Mr. Herrington's request and take action at the next meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner MacLeod moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion to proclaim March the 11th as G.E. Darrisaw Day in the City of Brunswick. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner MacLeod moved and Commissioner Davis seconded the motion authorizing the City Manager to hold public hearings on the Cable Franchise agreement and receive input from citizens. The motion passed unanimously.

The Commission heard a report from the Police Department on the progress of the ISSUE 94 campaign.

MEETING ADJOURNED.

Mayor

Attest-----
City Clerk