

**OFFICIAL MINUTES  
COMMISSION MEETING OF THE CITY OF BRUNSWICK, GEORGIA  
REGULAR MEETING  
7:00 P. M., May 18, 1994**

**PRESENT:** His Honor Mayor Homer L. Wilson, Commissioners Roosevelt Lawrence, and Dr. James MacLeod.

**ABSENT:** Commissioner Doris A. Davis

**INVOCATION:** The invocation was given by Commissioner Dr. James MacLeod.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Commissioner Lawrence moved and Commissioner MacLeod seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the Called meeting of May 2, and the meeting of May 4, 1994. The motion passed unanimously.

**RECOGNITION OF MRS. JIMMIE SMILEY**

Mayor Wilson presented a certificate of appreciation to Mrs. Jimmie Smiley for the beautification of the 1300 block of Stonewall Street. Mrs. Smiley received certificate with words of appreciation. Mrs. Smiley expressed her concerns about the excessive amount of water she used for the beautification project and requested that the City send a truck out once a week to water the flowers in the area.

**PUBLIC HEARING REZONING**

This being the date, time and place for public hearing on proposal to rezone a tract of land consisting of 3.01 acres off of Altama Avenue via a fifty foot easement from Highway Commercial to Planned Development.

The City Manager stated at the last meeting the first public hearing was held and at the meeting tonight the City will hold a second public hearing. The City Manager stated that Attorney Cunningham was present to answer questions about the rezoning.

Commissioner Lawrence stated that he asked at the last meeting whether a sign was posted in the area informing citizens about the proposed rezoning. He stated that a sign was not posted in the area, and requested that in the future signs are properly posted.

The City Manager stated that he contacted the County's Planning and Zoning Department, the agency that handles the City's rezoning applications to request that signs be posted on the property. He stated that the County was responsible for posting signs as well as placing the ads in the newspaper. He further stated the he intended to write a letter to the County Administrator to request that the matter be looked at to ensure that this does not happen in the future.

Commissioner MacLeod stated that he would like to add to the statement of Commissioner Lawrence made, the City should appoint an official if the County is not doing its job of handling the rezoning request for the City.

Commissioner MacLeod asked if the elderly apartments would interfere with the City's tax base.

The City Manager stated that the apartments would enhance the City's tax base.

Mayor Wilson questioned the egress and ingress of the property.

Attorney Cunningham showed the Commission a sketch of the drawing of the apartments. He stated that there were two established ways in and out of the property. One exit was from Tara Lane behind the First Federal Savings Bank and also a thirty five foot access owned by the developers.

Attorney Cunningham showed the main access as being Tara Lane with fifty foot easement rights from Altama Avenue.

Mayor Wilson asked Attorney Cunningham if he felt that the Department of Transportation would remove the median so that the traffic may travel south and to the north of Altama Avenue.

Attorney Cunningham stated that this request have not been made to DOT.

Mayor Wilson asked Attorney Cunningham about traffic congestion on Tara Lane and Altama Avenue.

Attorney Cunningham pointed out that traffic could be routed on Tara Lane to Habersham Street.

Mayor Wilson asked Attorney Cunningham if the apartments would be excluded from the ad valorem tax base.

Attorney Cunningham stated that the taxes would not be excluded from the tax base.

Mayor Wilson stated that he would not want to have the developers come in and ask that the elderly apartments be designated as low income and request federal assistance to be excluded from paying property taxes.

Commissioner MacLeod stated that he would like to stress the Mayor's statement. He pointed out that the City have been taking property off the tax base and the City should give notification to people that the City has done it's share of taking property off the tax roll.

Commissioner MacLeod moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion to approve the rezoning. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **PROPERTY INSURANCE RENEWAL**

Paul Warwick, representing Hilb, Rogal and Hamilton Company appeared before the Commission to discuss the renewal terms and conditions for the City's Property Insurance for the amount of \$74,941.00. Mr. Warwick stated that several items were increased and some were decreased. The compost plant was added and the City had a slight increase from last year almost \$25,000.00. Mr. Warwick stated that this area was still being blamed for damages caused by Hurricane Hugo and Hurricane Andrew.

Commissioner Lawrence requested a report on how much the City is paying for insurance and to what companies.

The City Manager stated that this was the second year of a three year bid and recommended that the City accept the low bid of Hartford Steam Boiler Insurance Company.

Commissioner MacLeod moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion to accept the City Manager's recommendation of Hartford Steam Boiler Insurance Company in the amount of \$74,791.00 for 1994-95. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **MONTHLY REPORTS**

The following reports for the month of April 1994 were submitted and filed as information:

(1) General Fund (2) Community Development (3) Water and Wastewater (4) Metro Squad (5) Municipal Court (6) Uncollectible Water Accounts. On motion of Commissioner Lawrence seconded by Commissioner MacLeod the reports were unanimously approved.

### **OTHER CITY BUSINESS**

The City Manager submitted information on the Fire Engine that was requested at the last meeting to be declared as surplus. The City Manager recommended that the Fire Engine be declared as surplus and sold for a minimum bid of \$20,000.00. Mayor Wilson recommended that the engine remain with the City and not be declared as surplus. The City Manager stated that the City had no place available to house the Fire Engine.

Commissioner MacLeod moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion to investigate the cost of housing the engine and finding a place to store it.

On motion of Commissioner Lawrence seconded by Commissioner MacLeod the following resolution was adopted by unanimous vote:

**WHEREAS**, Reverend G. E. Darrisaw served the City of Brunswick well for many years in numerous capacities, including election to the Brunswick City Commission; and

**WHEREAS**, these years of service have been marked by exemplary dedication to the best interests of the community as he worked constantly for the betterment of its economic, cultural and religious development; and

**WHEREAS**, he earned the admiration and high regard of those with whom he came in contact, and the affection of his fellow public servants; and

**WHEREAS**, his performance of the duties and responsibilities of a member of the City Commission were characterized by excellent and constructive contributions to municipal government in our City;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mayor and City Commission of the City of Brunswick, and on behalf of all our citizens, extends its heartfelt sympathy to his bereaved family, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Mayor and the Commission does hereby recognize his distinguished service to this community and the manner in which he carried out his duties and responsibilities.

**ADOPTED** by unanimous vote of the City Commission on May 18, 1994.

The City Clerk requested that the Commission designate a voting delegate and alternative delegate for the annual Georgia Municipal Association Business Session in Savannah on Tuesday June 28 at 9:00 A. M.

Mayor Wilson stated that delegates would be appointed at the next meeting.

Commissioner Lawrence stated that the Post Office requested to hold a bucket brigade to collect funds for the Jerry Lewis Telethon.

The City Manager stated that in the past organizations used Cypress Mill Road. Organizations must clear the use of Cypress Mill Road with the Department of Transportation.

The City Attorney stated that General State Law prohibits persons from standing in streets collecting money.

Commissioner Lawrence stated that he was led to believe that liability was an issue that prohibited persons from collecting funds.

The City Attorney stated that he would have to review the law to make a decision.

The City Manager updated the Commission on the withdrawal of water from the upper Floridian Aquifer. The City Manager stated that he would inform the Commission when he receives more information.

Mayor Wilson discussed keeping alleys clean in the City. He suggested that citizens not place trash in alleys.

The City Attorney reported that eighteen houses would be placed on the list for demolition next week.

Police Chief T. C. Cowan was present to discuss changing the color on the police cars to red, blue and green. He next reported that the Crime '94' was encouraging and citizens are working on beautification in the City. Chief Cowan stated that he would give a full report about crime at the next meeting.

Chief Cowan reported that the Buckle Up For Safety Awards would be presented on May 25th in Atlanta.

Commissioner Lawrence questioned the morale of Police Officers in the Department. The City Manager stated that he was working on the problem throughout the City.

Mrs. Willie Mae Lewis reported that a sewer drain collapsed and sand that had an awful odor was placed in the area. Mayor Wilson asked the City Manager to look in to the problem.

Mrs. Jimmie Smiley reported that a gas line was run through her sewer line and her house had an awful odor. The City Manager was asked to check the problem.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Commissioner MacLeod moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion to hold an Executive Session to discuss pending litigation.

Following the Executive Session the meeting was adjourned.

#### **MEETING ADJOURNED.**

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Mayor

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