

**OFFICIAL MINUTES  
COMMISSION MEETING OF THE CITY OF BRUNSWICK, GEORGIA  
REGULAR MEETING  
8:30 A. M., August 3, 1994**

**PRESENT:** His Honor Mayor Homer L. Wilson, Commissioners Roosevelt Lawrence,  
Doris A. Davis Dr. James  
MacLeod and Ken Plyman.

**INVOCATION:** The invocation was given by Mark Mitchell, City Manager.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Commissioner Lawrence moved and Commissioner Plyman seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the meeting of July 20, 1994. The motion passed unanimously.

**SOLID WASTE PLAN**

The Director of Community Development appeared before the Commission to submit a Solid Waste Plan for the City of Brunswick. The Director stated that the Solid Waste Management Act requires local governments to submit Solid Waste management plans to their Regional Development Center for approval. The Solid Waste Management Act requires a 25% reduction for waste disposal per capita for all municipalities and County governments for 1996. Under the provisions of the bill no new landfill sites will be permitted by the State until the ten year plan is submitted and approved.

The Director stated that the amount of Solid Waste disposed per capita in 1990 in the City of Brunswick was 11,646 tons which equals .71 tons per capita.

The Director of Community Development discussed the pie chart which indicated that solids made up almost half of the City's Solid Waste Stream. The Director outlined the seven steps of the Solid Waste Management Plan that would be implemented in carrying out the Solid Waste Management Plan. He next requested that a Solid Waste Management Committee be created with no less than seven citizens and no more than fifteen citizens, and begin the Planning process which was estimated under \$10,000.00.

Mayor Wilson stated that he felt that the City had no choice pointing out that the Solid Waste Management Plan was mandated by the State.

The City Manager pointed out that State grants would be available when the plan is put in place.

Commissioner Lawrence questioned how long the Committee members would serve.

The Director of Community Development stated that he would gather information about the Committee members and forward it to them.

Commissioner Plyman stated that Brunswick was ten years behind and hoped that grants would be available to help with recycling.

Mayor Wilson stated that the City of Brunswick produce a lot of tonnage in Georgia and the City was behind on recycling. The biggest problems was trying to create a landfill.

Commissioner MacLeod moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion

authorizing the Director of Community Development to complete a Solid Waste Management Plan under the cost of \$10,000.00. The motion passed unanimously.

Dan Reuter, Glynn County Planning Director and Jennifer Detloff appeared before the Commission on behalf of the Brunswick Area Transportation Study to develop a bike way plan for the County and City of Brunswick. Mr. Reuter stated that the plan will help develop a transportation enhancement application for the fiscal year 1997, using the same type of funding that was used for the water front area.

Ms. Detloff explained that the bike path plan starts at the waterfront and continues through US 17 and then from Coffin Park on US 17 to the Causeway.

Commissioner Plyman stated that he found one problem with crossing from the East of US 17 to the West Side of US 17 with the speed limit and no traffic control device. He stated that it was the most dangerous spot on the bike path.

Ms. Detloff stated that crossing Highway 17 was a very valid point and finding the most logical place to cross Highway 17 will be discussed whenever the funding is in place.

Commissioner Plyman stated that the matter should be discussed before they receive the funding.

Mr. Reuter stated that he agreed with Commissioner Plyman that it was a dangerous situation.

Commissioner Lawrence asked why the bike path was not carried through Martin Luther King Blvd and onto Altama Avenue.

Mr. Reuter stated that the next route could be on Altama Avenue and Martin Luther King Blvd which could easily be converted to a bike path.

Following a discussion Commissioner MacLeod moved and Commissioner Plyman seconded the motion to approve the tentative plan for funding in the amount of \$16,000.00 and consider a traffic control device on Highway 17. Commissioner MacLeod amended the motion to include holding a public hearing. On call for question the motion passed by unanimous vote.

William A. Taylor appeared before the Commission to discuss the Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax Issue. Mr. Taylor stated that he served on the Committee with two other members, Robert Herrington and Robert Bradley. He further stated that five members were appointed to serve on the Committee by the City Commission, one member resigned and the other member stopped attending meetings. Mr. Taylor indicated that he attended all SPLOST Committee meetings. Mr. Taylor pointed out that the County was using sales tax funds to build their bike paths, and the City would not have sales tax monies to fund projects in the City. Mr. Taylor stated that he made a motion at the Committee meeting to dissolve the SPLOST Committee because of the straw pole votes. He stated that he made another motion requesting that an equal share of the Sales Tax funds be given to the City.

Mr. Taylor next discussed the interference by Commissioner Plyman calling on the radio asking citizens to support the sales tax. Mr. Taylor stated that the SPLOST Committee's credibility was destroyed. Mr. Taylor handed all of the SPLOST Committee reports to Commissioner Plyman and indicated that he would resign from the Committee adding that Commissioner Plyman told him he could be replaced.

Mayor Wilson stated that he would not accept Mr. Taylor's resignation because he appointed him to serve on the SPLOST Committee to look out for the City's best interest. Mayor Wilson stressed that he would not have any Commissioner speaking for the Council unless it comes to the Council table.

Mr. Taylor stated that he would like to withdraw his resignation.

Commissioner Plyman asked for five minutes of rebuttal time.

Mr. Taylor stated that he did not want to hear a rebuttal from Commissioner Plyman and exited the meeting.

Commissioner Lawrence indicated since Mayor Wilson made the appointment to the SPLOST Committee, Mayor Wilson should be the person to ask for his resignation.

Mayor Wilson stated that he did not know how much the City would receive of the Sales Tax funds, and stressed that he made numerous appeals to the County to collect the sales tax. Mayor Wilson mentioned that he found it hard to support the sales tax when he did not know what percentage the City would receive.

Commissioner Plyman suggested that he would like to see the City Manager set up a meeting between the City and County. This met the general consensus of the Commission.

### **OTHER CITY BUSINESS**

Jerry Kennedy appeared before the Commission to request that the Commission appoint a small committee to clean up the cemetery.

Commissioner Plyman stated that a City wide clean up was held and forty percent of the cemetery was clean. Commissioner Plyman urged the Community to join in and help clean the cemeteries.

Mayor Wilson stated that the City Commission would be discussing the matter in the immediate future.

Mr. Spaulding stated that he was ashamed of the condition of the graves in Palmetto Cemetery. He stated that he recently cleaned up the graves of his mother and father.

D. L. Barnett a resident of Goodyear Park appeared before the Commission to request that the residents be allowed to make left turns into Goodyear Park off of Altama Avenue. Mr. Barnett stated that the new four laning of Altama Avenue to Fourth Street South does not allow cars to turn onto Starling Street and Oriole Street, according to a sign that says no left turns. Mr. Barnett stated that there are no left turn signals at Fourth Street and Parkwood Drive.

The City Manager stated that new traffic signals are being placed at First Street and Fourth Street and a turn signal will be placed there as a part of the new traffic signals.

Mayor Wilson recommended that the City Manager meet with the Highway Department Traffic Engineer and apprise the Commission as soon as possible whether they would have to make a change through the Jesup Division. Mayor Wilson thanked Mr. Barnett for his concerns.

Ernie Craft stated that he did not agree with Mr. Taylor about the comments he made about the City not receiving any sale tax funds from the County. Mr. Craft stated that he would like to see the Commission do something through their State Representatives Willou Smith and Rev. E. C. Tillman to have the State Law changed to include Municipalities as a part of the Sales Tax Issue so that the funds would not have to go through the County. Mayor Wilson stated that he had to concur with Mr. Craft and it was regrettable that the Legislature has deemed the County as being the right body to handle the sales tax funds. Mayor Wilson stated that the City should have the latitude of knowing what portion of the sales tax money they would receive and how it would be used. Mayor Wilson stated that a freshman Legislator would have great difficulty getting the law changed, and Municipalities

should have been included rather than their rights being denied.

The City Manager suggested that the City write a letter to the Georgia Municipal Association and request that they support the City in the upcoming session of the Legislation to make that change and include it as a part of their work program.

Mr. Craft next stated that more Commissioners should attend the SPLOST Committee meetings so that they can respond to what people are saying.

Mayor Wilson stated that he was not opposed to Commissioners attending the meeting and expressing their personal feelings, but he did not want any Commissioner speaking for the Council unless he was authorized to do so by the Council.

Commissioner Plyman stated that he was never told that he could not attend the SPLOST Committee meetings and was never told he could not express his own opinion. Commissioner Plyman stated that he went to the meeting as a private citizen and spoke on behalf of Mr. Craft and restoring Old City Hall and City Hall. Commissioner Plyman pointed out that after the meeting he spoke with the City Manager and the Director of Water and Wastewater and brought the water problems that was discussed to their attention.

Commissioner Lawrence stated that when the SPLOST Committee was formed he was never told he could not attend the meetings, however the Commission was asked to attend the meetings and not offer any input in the decision making.

Mr. Craft questioned whether the road to Andrews Island has been named. Mayor Wilson stated that the road to Andrews Island was not named. Mr. Craft suggested that Andrews Island road be named after the Wilson family because their family has been involved in the City of Brunswick for the past sixty years. He recalled that years ago the Wilson family made access possible to Andrews Island, and he would like to see the road named in some way fitting to honor the Wilson family.

Mayor Wilson stated that it was a total surprise to him, referring to Mr. Craft's request. He stated that four years ago it was brought to his attention that the Andrews Island Causeway according to County Maps was known as Wilson Causeway. Mayor Wilson explained how he and his father was approached by the Corp of Engineers to encircle Andrews Island and his father agreed to try it. Mayor Wilson recalled it was a real task.

Mr. Craft next suggested that the City merge with the County Parks and Recreation Department. He stated that it would be to the City's advantage if a lot of money was involved in the SPLOST funds for Parks and Recreation. Mr. Craft pointed out that he served with Cynthia Williams on the Blythe Island Advisory Board, he described her as a professional.

Mayor Wilson stated that the City had a working agreement in the past with the County and the County cancelled that agreement with the City almost over night and left the City in mid year to finish the program. Mayor Wilson stated that he supports recreation and that it was more to recreation than playing softball. Mayor Wilson asked where was the horse shoes for the elderly and spoke about the need for recreation for the elderly.

Mr. Cook appeared before the Commission to ask if the Commission made a decision on the request of \$1,000 to fund the Super One Training Program.

Mayor Wilson stated that he read all the information Mr. Cook submitted and questioned whether the County agreed to allocate \$1,000 for the program. Mayor Wilson asked Mr. Cook did he discuss the program with the Board of Education and other agencies.

Mr. Cook stated that he did not make a request to the County, and he did not discuss the program with the Board of Education or any other agencies.

Mr. Cook explained that the program was not a school project or juvenile court project. He stated that the program was used as an alternative for the school and juvenile court to help kids and parents.

Mayor Wilson stated that Mr. Cook was not on the agenda. Mr. Cook stated that he was on the last agenda. The City Manager pointed out Mr. Cook was placed on the last agenda, but he did not request to be placed on the present agenda.

Mr. Cook stated that he met with the Juvenile Court Judge and the Judge was supportive of the program. Mr. Cook pointed out that the Atlanta School system used the program, as a substitute for suspension.

The City Manager stated that if the City was considering to support the program, the City should know whether the School Board was intending to use the program as an alternative. The City Manager stressed that the City should know whether the School Board would agree to use the program before the City could make a commitment to support it. The Commission should know how and where the program will be used in the Community.

Commissioner Plyman indicated that the Courts had an advocate program in place at the hospital. Commissioner Plyman stated that he made a request in writing to Judge Manning to be considered as a mediator. Commissioner Plyman stated that he received a response from Judge Manning about a program funded by the State of Georgia which requires thirty hours of training. Commissioner Plyman asked Mr. Cook did Judge Manning discuss the program with him.

Mr. Cook stated that he talked with Judge Manning about the Super One Program.

Commissioner Plyman explained the conversation he had with Judge Manning about the State program.

After deliberation, Commissioner Plyman moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion to allocate \$1,000 for the Super One Program when letters of intent are received from the Board of Education and Judge Manning confirming that they would use the Super One Program, and Judge Manning must confirm that the Super One program is not a duplication of the State Program.

On call for the question the motion passed by vote of 3 to 2.  
Mayor Wilson and Commissioner Davis voting No.

Mr. Cook stated that he could set up a meeting with the Juvenile Court, Mental Health and the County if the City would agree to meet with the spokesperson for the Super One Program.

Commissioner Plyman stated that he did not have a problem with that.

Mr. Joe Francis stated that he would like to know who was in charge of the Recreation Department. Mr. Francis stated that he is always referred to the City Manager whenever he calls to ask questions about the goals. Mr. Francis stated that the goals were not put up in Dixville park and also the play ground equipment they requested to be placed in the park.

The City Manager explained that the Recreation Department does not have a Director and all questions are referred to his office. The City Manager stated that one goal was placed in the park and the other goal has been ordered. The City Manger stated that the play ground equipment should be considered at a budget session.

The City Manager reported that he received a request from the St. Simons Council of Garden Clubs to adopt the area around the Lanier Oak and the marker on Glynn Avenue to do some planting and maintain the area. It met the consensus of the Commission.

The City Manager next reported that the Brunswick Jaycees requested that the City waive the rental of the Softball field and entry fees to hold a Softball Tournament on the weekend, and the proceeds would go to flood victims in other communities. This met the consensus of the Commission.

Commissioner MacLeod stated that he would like to see some organization adopt Lover's Oak.

The City Manager reported that a request was made to install a fence to control access to Lanier Plaza next to the American Roaster restaurant.

Mayor Wilson stated that he had reservations about closing the area. Mayor Wilson asked the City Manager to find out when old Glynn Avenue was closed.

Commissioner Plyman stated that he would like to submit an amendment to the litter ordinance for information.

Mayor Wilson advised the City Manager to give a copy of the amendment to the City Attorney and bring back to the Commission.

Commissioner Plyman requested that a Janitor be hired at City Hall full time.

The City Manager was instructed to submit the annual fees for the Janitorial services.

**MEETING ADJOURNED.**

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Mayor

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