

**OFFICIAL MINUTES
COMMISSION MEETING OF THE CITY OF BRUNSWICK, GEORGIA
REGULAR MEETING
8:30 A. M., September 7, 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 Commissioner Dr. James MacLeod.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Lawrence moved and Commissioner Davis seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the meeting of August 17, 1994. The motion passed unanimously.

Bob Chaney, Chairman of the Downtown Development Authority introduced the new Main Street Director, Kay Shiver who begin work on yesterday. Mr. Chaney told the Commission that Ms. Shiver received a degree from the University of Georgia in Advertising and Public Relations. Ms. Shiver was the Main Street Director in Elberton, Georgia from 1991 to 1994, and she also worked for the local newspaper in Elberton, the Elberton Star for eight years as photographer and writer and other positions. Mr. Chaney thanked the Commission and the City Manager for their support.

Mayor Wilson welcomed Ms. Shiver on behalf of the Commission and stated he was delighted to have Ms. Shiver in the City of Brunswick and looked forward to the fruitful work that she will perform in the Community.

Kay Shiver stated that she was delighted to be in Brunswick and thanked the Commission for the opportunity to work with the Community.

DELEGATIONS

Mrs. Henri Woodman, representing the Chamber of Commerce appeared before the Commission to request that the City purchase two signs for the Golden Isles Parkway which is the corridor from Highway 341 in Glynn County to Houston County. Mrs. Woodman stated that when the project is completed it will be named the Golden Isles Parkway. The signs will be placed on Highway 341 at the Glynn County line. Mrs. Woodman stated that the signs would cost \$125.00 each. Mrs. Woodman stated that the Chamber of Commerce asked Glynn County to purchase four signs.

Commissioner MacLeod moved and Commisisoner Davis seconded the motion to purchase two Golden Isles Parkway signs for the City in the amount of \$250.00. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Lawrence stated he did not have a problem, with purchasing the Golden Isles Parkway signs, however he was concerned with not having the City of Brunswick placed on the signs.

Mrs. Woodman pointed out that the signs were State Road signs and placing each City and County of the signs would be impossible. Each County would have their own signs, and these signs would be point of decision signs.

On call for the question the motion passed unanimously.

APPOINTMENT TO THE HOUSING AUTHORITY

Mayor Wilson reappointed Nelson Westbrooks to serve on the Housing Authority Board for a period of six years. Mayor Wilson stated that Mr. Westbrooks was a local Accountant and he felt Mr. Westbrooks would be an asset to the City of Brunswick.

DELEGATION

William A. Taylor, a local resident stated that he was born and raised in Elberton, Georgia and he visits Elberton often because he still have relatives there. Mr. Taylor stated that he reads the Elberton Star every week and knowing what Kay Shiver has done in Elberton she would do a good job in Brunswick. Mr. Taylor Stated that the Commission will be very pleased with Ms. Shiver.

Mayor Wilson mentioned that Joe Hammil would not be present at this meeting.

Mr. Taylor stated that he and Joe Hammil had a different view point about the SPLOST Committee. Mr. Taylor stated that he came down and told the Commission that the SPLOST Committee was a failure. Mr. Taylor indicated the reason why the Committee failed was because it was not handled properly. The County interfered with the SPLOST Committee until they destroyed everything. Mr. Taylor stressed that he accomplished what he went to the meetings for and it was to bring attention to the City of Brunswick and their share of the sales tax. Mr. Taylor stated that he contacted Industrialist, Bankers and other top people in the City and voiced the need to form an Ad Hock SPLOST Committee, and everyone agreed. Mr. Taylor expressed the need to hold a round table discussion with the State Representatives and have them change the law so that cities throughout the State could collect their own sales tax. Mr. Taylor mentioned a discussion that took place at a Joint City/County meeting in which an Elected Official stated that the SPLOST Committee should be formed with Elected Officials. Mr. Taylor advised that it would fail throughout the City and County because no one would trust Elected Officials with sales tax funds.

Mr. Taylor informed the Commission that it was his last appearance at a Commission meeting and he planned to sell his house and move out of the City because he did not want to have anything to do with City Government. Mr. Taylor stated that he could not live in a City where one Commissioner was trying to override the Mayor, City Manager and other Commissioners. Mr. Taylor expressed his concerns about items that was on the agenda to be discussed by Commissioner Ken Plyman. Mr. Taylor stated that everything that was being discussed should come from the City Manager.

Commissioner Lawrence asked Mr. Taylor if he would attend a Commission meeting at the request of the City Commission.

Mr. Taylor stated that there have to be some dignity and prestige of a City Official and expressed his concerns.

Robert Griffin asked Mr. Taylor was he implying that one Commissioner was ignoring four other intelligent Commissioners. Mr. Taylor stated that was exactly what he was implying. Mayor Wilson stated that he was going to serve as Mayor of the City of Brunswick until 1998 and no other Commissioner will usurp the Mayor's position or any other Commissioner in the City of Brunswick.

Mr. Taylor expressed his concerns and the way he felt. Mayor Wilson thanked Mr. Taylor for sharing his concerns.

DELEGATIONS

Jennifer Detloff and Dan Reuter, representing the Glynn County Planning Department appeared before the Commission to explain the Transportation Improvement Program. Mr. Reuter stated that the six year Transportation document consists of Federal and State Transportation construction dollars which is spent on projects. Ms. Detloff discussed the first tier projects and the second tier projects and the four laning and six laning of roads in the City.

Commissioner Lawrence voiced his concerns about holding public hearings for public input on project such as L Street.

The City Manager explained the Transportation improvement plan and how public input from Public hearings are used to determine whether the project will be considered. He further stated that Glynn County is considered a Metropolitan Planning Area as a result of the 1990 Census and projects have to be included in the plan to be studied and considered for any possible Federal and State funding.

OTHER CITY BUSINESS

The City Manager reported that he spoke with a representative from the Department of Transportation and he was informed that the City could change the speed limit from 35mph to 25mph on Martin Luther King Boulevard.

Commissioner Lawrence voiced his concerns about the 35mph speed limit from Gloucester Street to R Street which is strictly a residential area with a school. Commissioner Lawrence stressed that he did not object to holding a public hearing to reduce the speed on Martin Luther King Boulevard.

Commissioner Plyman stated that he could not condone reducing the speed limit any lower and pointed out that building a four lane artery on Martin Luther King Boulevard was not for the purpose of impeding the flow of traffic.

Commissioner MacLeod stated that the traffic should be slow in a residential district with a school in the area.

Commissioner MacLeod described Martin Luther King Boulevard as strictly being a residential district and the speed limit would have to be reduced entirely on Martin Luther King Boulevard.

Commissioner Lawrence pointed out that Martin Luther King Boulevard was not residential from R Street to Waverly Pines. Commissioner Plyman stated that Mercer Altama Apartments, Oriole, Starling and Altama Circle was residential districts. Mayor Wilson pointed out that the streets named were not on Martin Luther King Boulevard. Commissioner Plyman stated that he understood, however four laning of Martin Luther King Boulevard was to improve North/South traffic flow.

Commissioner MacLeod suggested that the City Manager get information on what areas are actually residential on Martin Luther King Blvd, and a list of the areas that would not be considered as residential.

The City Manager next reported that the railroad crossing on Fourth Avenue was on a State Route and the Department of Transportation was responsible for maintenance. The Department of Transportation and the Railroad met to identify problems and will correct those problems. Improvements and repairs are being made by DOT at the crossing on Fourth Avenue to make it smooth.

Commissioner Plyman questioned the crossing on Fourth Street. The City Manager stated that Fourth Street could be checked along with Fourth Avenue.

The City Manager stated that the Commission at a budget session discussed writing a letter to the County Commission requesting automatic aide between the Fire Departments.

Commissioner MacLeod moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion authorizing the City Manager to write a letter to the County requesting automatic aide between the City and County Fire Departments. The motion passed unanimously.

The City Manager stated that he was asked to write a letter to the Georgia Municipal Association concerning Cities having involvement in the special purpose local option sales tax to guarantee that Cities receive a percentage of the tax. A response was received from the Georgia Municipal Association indicating that they would be happy to consider it as a part of the work program and invited the City to present a proposal at the Revenue and Finance Committee meeting at the Pre-Legislative Conference in Augusta next month.

Commissioner MacLeod moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion authorizing the City Manager and City Attorney to develop a proposal guaranteeing Cities a percentage of the Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Lawrence moved and Commissioner Plyman seconded the motion appointing Commissioner Davis as a voting delegate at the GMA Pre -Legislative Conference in Augusta, Georgia on October 20, 1994. The motion passed unanimously.

The City Manager reported that in finishing the design work there was a need to perform some core borings on the buildings at the water front park to analyze the soil. He stated he received a proposal from Atlanta Testing and Engineering who performs most of the core borings in this area for \$1,500.00. The City Manager stated that he would like to use a portion of the funds received from the Port Authority to perform the core borings.

Commissioner Plyman moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion authorizing the City Manager to accept the proposal from Atlanta Testing and Engineering to perform the core borings at the water front park at a cost not to exceed \$1,500.00. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner MacLeod stated that he would like to call attention to the fact that nothing has been done about the abandoned ruined motel on the St. Simons Causeway. He stressed the need to keep the pressure up and write the owners again to let them know that something has to be done to that property.

Commissioner Plyman stated that he would like for the City Manager and City Engineer to visit Grant and F Street because there is a ten foot eight inch side walk with a two and half inch lift curb in the road. He suggested to expand the street to four feet or three feet, to make enough room for trucks to travel on Grant Street.

Mayor Wilson stated that the City Manager should check to see if the work could be performed without any cost to the City.
This met the consensus of the Commission.

The City Manager stated that they have been working with merchants over the past several months trying to get truck traffic onto Grant Street.

Commissioner Plyman requested that the City Manager write a letter to Senator Paul Coberdell requesting assistance in the removal of barges on Andrews Island and also to Congressman Jack Kingston for assistance. Commissioner Plyman stated that the barges was an eyesore and the Core of Army Engineers or the Federal Government should get involved to remove the barges.

Mayor Wilson stated that the Georgia Ports owned Andrews Island. He further stated that the City condone old vessels and barges that are placed there. The City in previous years cleaned up the area a number of times and the City has a certain responsibility to write letters requesting for funds to clean the area.

Commissioner Lawrence reported that the alley off of Brailsford Avenue and Norwich Street Lane has a pile of trash in it that has almost covered the alley. Residents that live there reported that attempts have been made to get the City to pick up the trash. Commissioner Lawrence stated that he would like to make sure that this was City property.

The City Manager stated that the City have looked at the property and had it cleaned up once before. The residents have been notified that in the future they are not to mix garbage with trash, and it should be put out separately. The City Manager stated that he visited the area with the Public Works Director a couple of weeks ago and yard trash, garbage and other things were mixed with the trash. He stated that the residents were told that the Sanitation Inspector will come out the next time and have them separate the garbage, and trash before the City would pick it up.

Commissioner Lawrence asked the City Manager to send a letter to the residents outlining the problem.

The City Attorney stated that he would like to meet with the Commission briefly in an Executive session.

Mayor Wilson asked the City Manager what departments would be at the next budget session. The City Manager stated that the big departments have attended their sessions and at least two or three departments could attend the next session. He stated that he would schedule budget sessions for next week and by the end of the next week have all other departments completed.

Mayor Wilson asked the City Manager have any changes been made about parking on Gloucester Street and Martin Luther King Blvd.

The City Manager stated that he spoke with the Department of Transportation and was informed that they have come up with a plan to allow some parking on Gloucester Street and Martin Luther King Blvd. The City Manager stated that he set up a meeting with a representative from DOT to look at the plans that were drawn up to allow parking on Gloucester Street and Martin Luther King Blvd. He stated that the DOT wanted property owners involved so that they would have an opportunity to look at the plans to see if the changes would address the parking problem.

Mayor Wilson stated that the First African Church owns a business on Gloucester Street and the Wilson family owns a business there also. He expressed his concerns about the parking problems that was created by the highway department.

Commissioner Davis reported that trucks are still driving on Newcastle Street. She requested that the matter be investigated. The City Manager stated he would take care of the problem.

Commissioner Plyman requested that the Department of Transportation make changes on Altama Circle for residents to turn in their driveways. Commissioner Plyman stated that consideration was not made for persons living on Altama Circle, and Oriole Street. He stated that he was appalled that DOT designed a road without input from the Commission or the residents.

Mayor Wilson stated that he had to agree with Commissioner Plyman because the Commission was not warned about the changes that was made by DOT. The City Manager stated that the plans did not indicate that the roads were being designed that way.

Commissioner Lawrence pointed out that the dry cleaning business on Altama have dropped fifty percent.

Mayor Wilson mentioned that two years ago the City discussed paving or to resurface Union Street. The Highway Department assured the City that they were going to pave Union Street, however the paving was deferred because the bids were more than the City expected.

The City Manager stated that the Department of Transportation agreed to fund a portion of the paving. Mayor Wilson stated that he did not want the front of the Mayor's house resurfaced, however he would like to see Union Street resurfaced from First Avenue to Gloucester Street because of all of the cuts that was made on Union Street.

Mayor Wilson asked the Commission if they would consider placing Union Street on the list to be resurfaced. Commissioner Plyman suggested that Union Street be placed on the LARP program to be resurfaced. Mayor Wilson stated that Union Street could not be placed on the LARP program.

The City Manager recommended that Union Street be rebid for resurfacing to come up with a price.

ITEMS DISCUSSED BY COMMISSIONERS

Sidewalks and lighting on Lanier Boulevard.

Commissioner Plyman led the discussion on placing a four foot sidewalk from London Street to Gloucester Street on Lanier Blvd. He recommended that the sidewalks be installed on the East side of Lanier Blvd. and work be done in house. Commissioner Plyman stated that sidewalks should have been installed to keep pedestrians from walking in the street.

Commissioner Plyman stated that there was no adequate lighting on Lanier Blvd. He requested that the City do a feasibility study in the area.

Commissioner MacLeod questioned whether separate studies should be done on the lighting and sidewalks.

Commissioner Plyman stated that the lights were more important and need to be in placed right now, and a sidewalk is needed on the two lane street to keep people from walking in the street.

Commissioner MacLeod asked for the number of street lights that would be needed in the area.

The City Manager stated that there are two lights between Howard Coffin Park and Prince Street, a total that would be five blocks and five lights would be needed in the area. The cost would be \$1,500 for Georgia Power to install the lights at a price of \$300. per pole and an additional \$15.00 per light per month at \$900. per year. The total cost for five lights would cost about \$2,400.00 annually to place a light in the middle of each block.

Commissioner MacLeod stated that the cost of the lighting did not sound unreasonable.

Commissioner MacLeod offered the motion to install the lighting and wait for a study on the sidewalks. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion.

Commissioner Lawrence mentioned that residents on Tara Lane need sidewalks because kids are walking in the streets after school. Commissioner Lawrence stated that Tara Lane also needs to be looked at and studied.

Mayor Wilson stated that he was familiar with that street. He also stated that there are elderly people living in Brunswick that do not have street lights and they are not affluent enough to have a yard light. Mayor Wilson stated that he found it very hard to continue to light up a thoroughfare when there are elderly women who cannot walk to the local churches at 6:00 in the afternoon because of no lights.

Commissioner Plyman stated that the houses on Lanier Blvd. are set so far back off the road and the area is black at night.

Mayor Wilson pointed out that the City should go in all other areas and place street lights in the half block.

Commissioner Lawrence stated he received requests from residents for lights in their

neighborhood for two and a half years and they have not received the lights. He stated that he had a problem with placing lights on Lanier Blvd. in a matter of two or three days.

Commissioner MacLeod stated that the residents that requested lights two and a half years ago should be offered some aid with placing street lights in their neighborhood.

Commissioner Lawrence reported that requests for lights were made for the 1700 block of Gordon, the 2200 block of Lee Street, the 2200 block of Davis Street and the 2500 block of Stonewall Street.

Mayor Wilson stated that he felt strongly about the lighting and would like to advocate a one mill tax increase in the City to be used to purchase lighting in the City.

Commissioner MacLeod stated that he would not support an ad valorem tax increase of one mill. Commissioner MacLeod stated that the Commission could keep the street light project down to a reasonable amount without having to raise the millage rate.

On call for the question the motion passed unanimously.

AMENDING THE NO SMOKING POLICY

Commissioner Plyman requested that the Commission consider introducing an ozone generating device which is genetically known as a smoke eater to an area in the building at City Hall where some employees could smoke without the fear of jeopardizing the health of other employees.

Commissioner Lawrence questioned the price of the device. Commissioner Plyman stated that the price was \$500.00.

Commissioner MacLeod stated that he understood the present no smoking policy already have a designated area established by Department Heads for smoking which is outside the building. Commissioner MacLeod questioned if the policy would be amended to a room inside the building and the cost of smoke eater would be \$500.00 per building.

Commissioner Plyman pointed out that he was not requesting that all buildings have a smoke eater installed in them just City Hall.

Commissioner MacLeod stated that he could not see setting up a smoking room in one building for City employees and not setting up in other buildings. Commissioner MacLeod asked how many buildings would be involved.

The City Manager stated that it would be 10 or 12 buildings.

Commissioner MacLeod stated that the cost would be about \$6,000. and it seemed to him that would not be money well spent to put in individual smoke eaters in the buildings when employees could step outside of the building.

Commissioner Plyman stated that in winter the employees would have to go outside to smoke. Commissioner Plyman stated that no one on the Commission smokes. Commissioner Davis stated that she did smoke, but not in City Hall. Commissioner Davis pointed out that she offered the motion to adopt the no smoking policy.

Commissioner Lawrence stated that Dr. MacLeod made a comment that the City move in the direction of the Federal Government with non-smoking in public buildings and the City is doing that. He further stated that he would not do anything to change that.

Commissioner Plyman stated that the Federal Government have succeeded in the past with diluting and eroding every right citizens have ever had in this country. Commissioner Plyman expressed his concerns about employees being treated as second class citizens having to go

outside to smoke a cigarette.

Commissioner MacLeod stated that he could justify approving lighting for citizens and he would prefer not to consider purchasing smoke eaters for \$6,000.

Commissioner Lawrence stated the smoking policy in City Hall would remain the same.

JANITOR AT CITY HALL

Commissioner Plyman stated that he would like to see a janitor at City Hall and he will ask for one until someone realize that a live human being is needed at City Hall 40 hours a week.

Commissioner MacLeod stated that placing a janitor at City Hall would take an estimated \$5,000.

The City Manager stated that the \$5,000 would be in addition to what the City is paying for the clean-up service.

Mayor Wilson stated that hiring a person at minimum wage would cost the city \$14,000 per year including benefits.

Commissioner MacLeod stated that he did not see a need to spend an additional \$5,000 when the present clean up service was doing an adequate job. Commissioner MacLeod further stated that paying an additional \$5,000 is not a wise use of taxpayer's money.

Mayor Wilson stated that the City was still balancing the budget and the Commission would know what would be left. Mayor Wilson mentioned that this was something the Commission could look at.

ESTABLISHING A CEMETERY COMMISSION

Commissioner MacLeod let the discussion and questioned whether the cemetery is under the Parks and Tree Commission in the City.

The City Manager stated that the Park and Tree Commission do not oversee the cemetery except for instances when a tree in the cemetery needs to be cut then the City would consult with the Park and Tree Commission. The Park and Tree Commission is not involved with any other matter in regards to the operation and maintenance of the Cemetery. The Public Works Department is over maintenance of the Cemetery.

Commissioner Lawrence asked if the Park and Tree Commission was contacted about taking the responsibility of cleaning the cemetery as a part of their duties. The City Manager stated that the matter has not been discussed with the Park and Tree Commission.

Commissioner MacLeod stated that establishing a Cemetery Commission would also entail establishing a Police Commission and other commissions in the City.

Commissioner Plyman stated that the cemetery commission was not an enforcement or an advisor board. The cemetery commission would have the duties of identifying and marking every unknown grave. There are thousands of overgrown and neglected graves and the cemetery commission would find the relatives and ask them to clean the grave of their loved ones.

Commissioner Lawrence suggested that churches that bury persons should be asked to help keep the graves clean.

Commissioner Plyman stated that the administrative assistant mailed letters to churches requesting their help and only one church responded.

Commissioner Plyman stated that four persons expressed their desire to serve on the cemetery commission. He further stated that six persons are cleaning the cemetery and there are no volunteers, Mr. Kennedy and his paid help, Commissioner Plyman and his paid help, and two community workers.

Commissioner Plyman pointed out that the City Attorney was asked to check on a perpetual care fund. These funds would be accepted by the City for a life time care of cemetery lots.

Commissioner Lawrence stated that he understood the City Attorney being asked to put together an ordinance to create a cemetery commission.

Commissioner MacLeod stated that he thought the commission should study this because he was not in favor of establishing a cemetery commission unless the City establish a Police Commission and other Commissions for public works.

Commissioner Plyman stated that the Police Department has a Police Chief and the Public Works Department has a public works Director and there is no one speaking for the dead people at the cemetery.

Commissioner MacLeod suggested that the cemetery commission be tabled and discussed later. Commissioner Plyman stated the matter be placed on the agenda for discussion.

Commissioner Davis pointed out that there are cemeteries in Georgia that are well kept and these cemeteries may be privately owned or maintained by the city or county. She stated that there is a difference of how some people care for cemeteries and how some people don't care.

Commissioner Lawrence instructed the City Manager to ask the Park and Tree Commission to consider adding the cemeteries to their list. This met the general consensus of the Commission.

EMPLOYEES SELLING BACK VACATION TIME

Commissioner Plyman stated that the City have employees that gain several weeks of vacation time and some that have critical ratings. Some employees would use their vacation time and other employees lose their time if they do not use it.

The City Manager stated that employees do not lose all of their time they carry forward a portion of their time.

Commissioner Plyman pointed out that employees lose their time and do not break even on it. The City cannot function without some employees for the duration of their vacation, therefore employees would like to sell their vacation time back to the City.

Commissioner MacLeod questioned the number of City employees.

The City Manager indicated that the City has three hundred and twenty employees.

Commissioner MacLeod pointed out if the employees start selling back vacation time for three hundred employees that the amount would be substantial. Commissioner MacLeod warned the Commission that Mayor Wilson just reminded them of the City's very limited income.

Commissioner Plyman stressed the critical ratings in supervisory positions. Commissioner MacLeod stated that there are not three hundred twenty five supervisors in the City of Brunswick.

Commissioner MacLeod stated that Commissioner Plyman did not state that he would like for some particular employees to sell back vacation time. He asked Commissioner Plyman to clarify his statement to consider what particular employees would be permitted to sell back

vacation time.

Commissioner Plyman indicated that he did state that the City did have some critical ratings in supervisory positions.

Mayor Wilson stated that he was totally opposed to selling back vacation time. He stated that he asked the council to stop employees from selling back vacation time because it was going to break the city government. Mayor Wilson stated that Mayor Holtendorff was in office at the time and \$52,000 worth of time was claimed the first year and \$70,000 plus the next year. Mayor Wilson stated that he stood to received \$1,700 and he urged the Council not to give it to him.

Commissioner Lawrence asked if the City have already tried selling back vacation time. Mayor Wilson confirmed the City did.

Commissioner Lawrence stated that he agreed with Commissioner MacLeod, Commissioner Lawrence stated that he could not make something available for one person working for the City of Brunswick and not for another.

CLEANING AIR DUCTS THROUGHOUT CITY HALL

Commissioner Plyman stated that he asked the City Manager to call several air duct specialist or air engineers and several of them including a local vendor was contacted. Commissioner Plyman mentioned City Hall was a sick building because soot from a fire that occurred several years ago was falling on desks. Mole spurs and dust mites are in the ducts which have never been cleaned or sanitized.

The City Manager stated that he received quotes for \$5,000, \$4,310 and \$4,833. The City Manager explained the sanitizing process. Commissioner MacLeod asked if the City established a need for sanitizing City Hall. The City Manager stated that Commissioner Plyman asked him to look into the cost of having it done.

Commissioner MacLeod asked if a health group made a request for City Hall to be examined.

Commissioner Plyman stated that the employees that work on the first floor and basement uses a lot of sick days about four to one for respiratory illnesses in the basement level. Commissioner Plyman stated the area in the basement was a very good place for Legionnaire disease and other respiratory illnesses.

Commissioner MacLeod asked how many buildings the City would have to sanitize.

The City Manager stated the he did not know whether any of the other buildings have been sanitized.

Commissioner MacLeod stated that the City would have to sanitize approximately 10 or 12 buildings at a cost of 40 or 50,000 dollars.

Commissioner Lawrence stated that he was concerned about employees getting sick. He asked if employees complained about their illnesses.

The City Manager stated that he did not have a specific complaint made about illnesses or respiratory problems.

Commissioner Plyman stated that he had complaints from employees in writing and on the phone and in person.

Commissioner Plyman stated that the difference between City Hall and other City buildings was that downstairs there was no chance of fresh air getting down there. Commissioner Plyman mentioned the Legionnaire outbreak on cruise ships and pointed out that the City has

the best breeding ground in the world in the ducts.

Commissioner MacLeod stated that the sanitizing process would not last more than thirty days.

The City Manager stated that it was a wide disparity in sanitizing.

Commissioner Plyman requested that the City check the boiler and the pipes that are wrapped in asbestos which was decaying and falling on the floor.

CLOSING OFF ALLEYS AND SELLING PORTION TO PROPERTY OWNERS

Mayor Wilson stated that the general rule for closing alleys was that the City gave adjoining property owners five feet.

Commissioner Plyman stated that some alleys have been encroached upon so badly. Trucks have no way of getting in the alleys to pick up trash. Commissioner Plyman stated that people throw mattresses in many of the alleys in the city.

Mayor Wilson mentioned the tires that are thrown in the alleys and the median. Commissioner Plyman stated that he understood a surcharge is charged for disposal of tires in Georgia.

The City Manager stated that the City would have to look in the alleys to see if utilities are there to make sure that the City has access to the utilities as well as Georgia Power and Southern Bell.

Commissioner Lawrence stated that some alleys also have sewer lines in them.

Commissioner Plyman stated that the alleys are not maintained properly because they have been encroached upon and the Public Works Department has been chastised for this.

Commissioner Plyman pointed out that citizens use their alleys for garbage pick-up and the City trucks cannot go through the alleys because all of the trash is in them.

Commissioner Lawrence stated that the City needs to get in and clean the alleys.

Commissioner MacLeod stated that the property owners should be told to remove the trash from the alleys and closing the alleys was not the solution.

Mayor Wilson stated that people who have encroached on alleys with fences and structures should be told that the City will take action. Mayor Wilson instructed the City Manager to write a letter and also place it in the Brunswick News that the City will take action on persons that have encroached on the public right-of-way.

PLACING MORATORIUM ON RAZING CONDEMNED HOUSES

Commissioner Plyman stated that the City was operating against their own charter. In Section 5, No. 180 of the City Charter under eminent domain, no building whether being historical or not should not be allowed to stand if it produces eminent danger to the public. Commissioner Plyman mentioned five or six weeks ago Mr. Boone appeared before the Commission and the City asked him to secure the wall and place a fence around his building to keep the kids out and to find the funding to clean up and repair the building. Commissioner Plyman stated that Mr. Boone has placed a chain linked fence around the building which takes up all the right of way of pedestrians and left no space for cars to park.

Commissioner Plyman stated that he spoke with Mr. Boone about purchasing the steel necessary to secure the wall through his company at cost. He stated that he offered the use of his crane at cost and to assemble a knee brace for his building.

Commissioner Plyman stated that he could not in good clear conscience ask any property owner to remove a building in the City.

Commissioner MacLeod stated that he agreed with Commissioner Plyman because the City is in violation of the City Charter. He stated that the building should be torn down and he did everything that could possibly be done to get that building to come down. Commissioner MacLeod stated that Commissioner Plyman requested that no building in the City be torn down. The City must not let progress stop on all buildings, because that is not the answer.

Commissioner Lawrence asked the time limit that was set on Mr. Boone's property to complete the work. The City Manager stated that no time was set. Commissioner Lawrence asked Commissioner Plyman the price it would cost to secure Mr. Boone's building.

Commissioner Plyman stated that it would cost \$2,500 to purchase the steel and bore holes in the brick wall. Commissioner Lawrence stated that if the Commission asked to remove Mr. Boone's building and Mr. Boone could not have it removed or torn down would the City have it torn down and charge the amount to Mr. Boone's taxes.

The City Manager stated that the City have done this in the past. Commissioner Lawrence asked if the City could get Commissioner Plyman to brace get Commissioner Plyman to brace up the building for the price of \$2500 and charge it to Mr. Boone's taxes.

Commissioner Plyman stated that he could not entertain such an idea because Commissioner Lawrence would be asking the City to build something.

Commissioner Plyman stated that the City was not in the loan business to loan people money to repair their businesses and tax payers money could not be used for repairs.

Commissioner Lawrence stated that the City would not lose any money because the amount is charged to the property owner's taxes and it would be paid back whether it is torn down or not. The City will not be loaning Mr. Boone money.

Commissioner Plyman asked the City Attorney if it would be in line to loan Mr. Boone money to repair his building.

The City Attorney told Commissioner Plyman that the City could not loan money from the City's General Fund.

Commissioner Plyman stated that it was not fair for the City to circumvent the law and make exceptions and issue variances. Commissioner MacLeod stated that he did not think it was fair, but it was unfortunate and life must go on in spite of many misfortunes and handicaps. Commissioner MacLeod stated that he would like to see the destruction of houses that need to be destroyed. He stated that he was not willing to stop tearing down all the buildings because of the existence of one building.

PURCHASING FRONT END LOADER

Commissioner Plyman stated that the Public Works Director informed him that he may have located a surplus front end loader in Jacksonville, Florida. Commissioner Plyman stated that purchasing the front end loader would be a savings of \$50,000 or \$60,000 to the City.

Commissioner MacLeod asked if the City was tabling the matter until the City hear from Jacksonville.

The City Manager stated that the City of Brunswick has discovered that the City of Jacksonville has a number of surplus items that could be available to the City. The Public Works Director visited Jacksonville two weeks ago and found a front end loader and a couple of garbage trucks in very good condition. The City of Jacksonville has declared these items

surplus and are anticipating having a sale. The City of Jacksonville might be able to make the items available to local governments at a very reasonable cost and the City of Brunswick would like to explore this to see if the City might be able to get some good surplus equipment.

Mayor Wilson agreed that the City needed more equipment. He stated that an additional street sweeper is also needed, one for the northend and one for the southend. The average life of a street sweeper engine was estimated at six months.

Commissioner Plyman stated that he would like the City Manager and the Public Works Director to travel to Jacksonville to the auction and bid on the front end loader.

Mayor Wilson asked the City Manager if the City could spend \$50,000. without having to go into the reserves. The City Manager stated that the City was in the portion of the year where the City draw down the reserves in order to meet the expenditures for the month. The City will issue tax bills and business licenses and revenues would exceed expenditures.

Mayor Wilson stated that the City would have to be extremely careful with the expenditures because the Council could be asking for an ad valorem tax increase. The money is just not there.

Commissioner Lawrence stated according to the Mayor the City is not able to purchase any equipment.

The City Manager told the Commission the City would have to use the reserves to purchase equipment for \$50,000.

The City Manager stated that he would report back to the Commission at the next meeting on whether the City could purchase the equipment without having to go through an auction.

Commissioner Davis stated that a new street sweeper was purchased in 1992 and questioned the condition of that sweeper.

The City Manager stated that the sweeper was holding up well. The City Manager explained the upkeep of the City sweepers.

Mayor Wilson stated the City should be very conscience of and try and find equipment at a good price that is affordable to the City.

SALE OF CITY LICENSE PLATES

Commissioner Plyman stated that the City Attorney advised him that the City could not sell city license plates to generate funds for cleaning up the City because of the change in State Law Revenue. All license plates to generate funds for cleaning up the City because of the change in State Law Revenue. All license plates have to be sold and collected by the County Finance Department.

COST ESTIMATES FOR CLEANING TOP FLOOR OF CITY HALL

Mayor Wilson stated that the City discussed the renovation of the second floor of City Hall during the years of Mayor Holtzendorff.

Commissioner Lawrence stated that the matter was also discussed in 1991. The City Manager stated that when Commissioner Herrington was on the Commission he requested that the City check prices for the renovation of upstairs. He stated that the City has a list of work that would be required for the second floor, but a cost estimate has not been done.

Commissioner Plyman stated that he spoke with the City electrician and was advised that the city could not attach any more power to the system downstairs.

Commissioner Lawrence suggested that the City take the study that was done and update it.

The City Manager stated that renovation of City Hall was included in the sales tax project. He suggested that the City get a better estimate of the work that would be required for renovation of City Hall.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Davis moved and Commissioner Plyman seconded the motion to hold an Executive Session to discuss a legal matter.

The motion passed unanimously.

Following the Executive Session the meeting was adjourned.

MEETING ADJOURNED.

Mayor

Attest _____
City Clerk