

OFFICIAL MINUTES
COMMISSION MEETING OF THE CITY OF BRUNSWICK, GEORGIA
RESCHEDULED REGULAR MEETING
8:30 A. M., December 14, 1994

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

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

RECOGNITION OF HAROLD J. FRIEDMAN, SR.

Mayor Wilson presented a Resolution to Harold J. Friedman, Jr. in recognition of his father the late Harold J. Friedman, Sr., for his many contributions and dedicated service to the City of Brunswick. Harold J. Friedman, Jr. expressed thanks appreciation and gratitude. Commissioner Plyman presented a duplicate of the street sign dedicating the Harold J. Friedman Road to Mr. Friedman.

APPOINTMENTS TO CITY BOARDS

The City Manager stated that terms will expire on the Pilot Commission, the Park and Tree Board and the Library Board. He requested authorization to advertise the openings in the newspaper to seek interested parties who would like to serve on the boards. The City Manager stated that all names would be presented to the Commission for consideration.

Commissioner Lawrence moved and Commissioner Plyman seconded the motion authorizing the City Manager to advertise the openings on the Boards in the Brunswick News.

The City Manager stated that he had another Board he would like to include. The City Manager stated that he spoke with the Director of Community Development and was informed that a Solid Waste Advisory Committee should be developed as a part of the Solid Waste Plan and requested that Committee be advertised.

Commissioner Lawrence questioned how many persons would serve on the Committee. The City Manager stated that the Committee would consist of five people.

Mayor Wilson questioned whether the Structural Fitness Board was meeting on a regular basis. The City Manager stated that the Board was meeting regularly.

On call for the question the motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Plyman stated that the term of W. W. Crosby

expires on the Hospital Board in March and requested that the opening on that Board be advertised, pointing out that Mr. Crosby was a resident of the County.

Commissioner Lawrence stated that the City could make an appointment to the Hospital Authority Board and any other Board and that person does not have to live in the City. The City Attorney confirmed that the person appointed to serve on the Hospital Authority Board does not have to be a resident of the City of Brunswick.

Mayor Wilson questioned whether persons can live in the County and serve on other Boards in the City. The City Attorney stated that persons can serve in certain cases.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE RENEWALS

The following alcoholic beverage petitions for 1995 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 Plyman unanimously granted:

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

R. E. Godley at B.P.O.E. #691, 1509 Union Street;

Leonard J. Cahoon at the Boilermaker, 1828-1/2 Wolfe Street;

Jack S. Cotney at the Hideaway Lounge, 1709-1/2 Gloucester Street;

Jacob Manley at The Beverage Center/Mr. Jays Lounge, 1411 L Street;

John R. Collins at Temptations, 4420 Altama Avenue;

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

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

Henry Sowell at Bunky's Foods, 2803 Glynn Avenue;

Percy L. Lawrence at Dixville Package Store, 1509-1/2 London Street;

To retail beers and wine for consumption on premises:

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

William Robertson at Grapevine Cafe, 1519 Newcastle Street;

Kam Mee Chow at New China Restaurant, 3202 Glynn Avenue;

Ding Mu Lai, at Golden Dragon, 3102 Glynn Avenue;

To retail beer only for consumption on premises:

Nancy Cahoon at Nan's Confectionary, 1828 Wolfe Street;

To retail beer for consumption off premises:

Robert J. Herrin at Jack's B. P. Food Mart, 2816 Cypress Mill Road;

Benny M. Giddens at L & L Oil Co., Inc., 3227 Norwich Street;

DELEGATIONS

Lavern Cooper representing Court Appointed Special Advocate appeared before the Commission to request support of \$1,000.00 to help neglected and abused children from the Courts in Glynn County.

Commissioner Plyman stated that he was familiar with the Court Appointed Special Advocate program and he planned on joining the program.

Commissioner Lawrence asked Ms. Cooper if this was a one-time contribution. Ms. Cooper confirmed that it was a one-time contribution.

Commissioner Lawrence moved and Commissioner Plyman seconded the motion granting the Court Appointed Special Advocate program \$1,000.00.

Mayor Wilson stated that the City was prohibited from allocating funds to any groups. The City Attorney stated that the City may grant funds under a contractual service. On call for the question the motion passed unanimously.

Ken Neumann, City Engineer gave a detailed report about the drainage problems in Riverside Subdivision. The City Engineer presented his findings and recommended that an easement be placed on a vacant lot in Riverside to allow the city to place lines in the area to correct the problems in the area.

Commissioner Lawrence questioned if the easement would allow property owners to make improvements to their property.

The City Manager stated that the LARP program would begin in March and some of the streets in Riverside would be paved.

Mayor Wilson stated that the City should identify the problems in Riverside and use City equipment to correct those problems in the area. This met the consensus of the Commission.

Attorney Jim Benefield, representing Billy Williams stated that the property located on Martin Luther King Blvd was in the Williams family since 1912 and the property was operating under non-conforming use. Attorney Benefield stated that Mr. Williams used the building to operate his cleaning business and the City would not issue him a business license to operate a convenience store or issue a license to sell beer out of the store. Attorney Benefield stated that Mr. Williams mentioned to him that the building was used to sell beer in 1977 and 1979. Attorney Benefield stated that the two issues should be separated.

Commissioner Lawrence stated that the City never denied Mr. Williams a license for a general store. Commissioner Plyman asked if the City could issue a business license to Mr. Williams to operate a convenience store. The City Attorney stated that he did not have a problem with City Inspectors treating this as a non-abandonment. Mayor Wilson concurred.

Rev. Zack Lyde stated that this was the same reasoning why L Street should be looked at. Rev. Lyde stated that no one was against Mr. Williams operating a General Store, but residents were opposed to having beer sold in the area.

Commissioner Plyman moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion to grant the business license to operate a Convenience Store. The motion passed unanimously.

Frank Scriven was present and stated that people from both churches did not want alcoholic beverages sold in the convenience store.

Mr. Williams stated that it was a lot of misinformation about selling beer and consuming it on the premises.

The meeting was recessed for five minutes.

The meeting was reconvened at 9:40 A. M.

Larry Walker, representing Harbor Lights Cafe appeared before the Commission to request that Newcastle Street at Monk Street to Gloucester Street be blocked on New Year's Eve to have entertainment on a flat bed truck from 9:00 P.M. to 1:00 A.M. Mr. Walker stated also requested to consider a variance to the open container ordinance to allow him to serve beer on New Year's Eve. Mr. Walker stated that security guards would be available to control the crowd.

Commissioner Plyman stated that Mr. Walker could not have control over selling beer to minors. Commissioner Plyman stated that there is no problem with blocking off the streets.

Mr. Walker stated that armbands would be used to identify the minors and it would cost a huge expense to bring in the equipment and to pay the band.

The City Attorney stated that the open container law prohibits drinking alcoholic beverages in the park.

Commissioner Plyman asked the City Manager to check with the County to see whether they issued variance to the open container law. The City Manager reported that the County did issue variance to sell beer on the streets or in the park.

Commissioner Lawrence stated that the City denied the Seafood Festival organizers a variance to sell beer a couple of years ago.

Commissioner Plyman suggested that Mr. Walker charge \$5.00 for admission to the New Year's Eve celebration to help defer his expenses.

Commissioner Lawrence moved and Commissioner Plyman seconded the motion to grant a variance to close off Newcastle Street from Monk to Gloucester Streets.

Keith Collier was present and stated that the City could not allow Mr. Walker to block off streets and charge money for public access. Mr. Collier stated that he had a problem with charging persons who wanted to enter a public street.

Commissioner Plyman stated that places of business would be closed and persons would not have a reason to want access to that street.

On call for the question the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner MacLeod stated that he would like to know if the City could lease the street to Mr. Walker for that night.

Mr. Collier stated that a park could not be leased and he objected to paying to pass through a public street.

Mickey Reeves, president of Coastal EMS appeared before the Commission to request that the City of Brunswick continue to refer 911 calls to his company. Mr. Reeves stated that persons that call 911 expects the City to send the closest qualified emergency service. He further stated that persons involved in accidents have to wait for help to come from Buckswamp or Gloucester Street. Mr. Reeves pointed out that his company was closer and he did not receive any emergency calls.

Rev. Lyde stated that he witnessed an accident and it took 30 minutes to get any kind of help. He stated that Coastal EMS should be allowed to respond to the closest calls.

Commissioner Lawrence asked Mr. Reeves why his company could not locate on St. Simons Island or take 911 calls for the Islands. Mr. Reeves stated that he was closer to the hospital, and it was better for his company to respond to calls on L Street up to areas on Fourth Street. Mr. Reeves further stated that he was not asked to locate on St. Simons Island because it is not enough business on the Islands.

Mr. Scott was present and asked why Coastal EMS could not meet Glynn County requirements. Mr. Reeves stated that the State was in the process of placing his company on the Region Nine register.

Commissioner Plyman stated that he was concerned about a fire at Brunswick High School on November 28th. The Principal of Brunswick High School called to report a fire at the school and the closest Fire Station was Ballard, and they did not respond. They in turn called the Brunswick Fire Department and it took them five minutes to arrive at the location. Commissioner Plyman stated that he thought the City and County had an automatic mutual aid between the two governments.

The City Manager stated that he called the County Administrator and never received a confirmation from the County since the Joint City/County meeting.

Commissioner Plyman stated that the Commission could dispatch 911 calls to Mr. Reeves zone and requested that Mr. Reeves present a copy of his Region Nine certification when he receives it. Commissioner Plyman stated that the Commission would have to decide whether they would want to dispatch calls to Mr. Reeves until he receives his certification.

Commissioner Plyman moved to include Coastal EMS in the City's 911 calls. The motion failed for lack of a second.

Commissioner MacLeod asked if the City holds a liability. The City Attorney stated that the City should receive a copy of Coastal EMS certification from the State to make sure that they are in the proper zone. The Attorney recommended that the City make a decision at the next meeting.

Commissioner Lawrence moved and Commissioner MacLeod seconded the motion to table the matter until the next meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Plyman moved and Commissioner MacLeod seconded the motion authorizing the City of Brunswick to apply to the State of Georgia to dispatch 911 calls to the Region Nine Zone. The motion passed unanimously.

CEMETERY DEED

On motion of Commissioner Davis seconded by Commissioner Lawrence the following petition were unanimously granted:

- (1) Petition received from D. L. Whiteside to return for resale S-1/2 of Lot No. 17, Section No. 17, in Palmetto Cemetery. Original deed lost, but City records verify ownership.
- (2) Petition received from D.L. Whiteside to return for resale S-1/2 of Lot No. 17, Section B-12 in Palmetto Cemetery. Original deed lost, but City records verify ownership.

OTHER CITY BUSINESS

Commissioner Davis stated that the City should put up new street signs, and monitor the traffic on Highway 17. The City Manager stated that he will discuss the matter with DOT and report back to the Commission.

Commissioner Plyman stated that the traffic light on L Street was holding up traffic. Commissioner Lawrence pointed out that the same amount of traffic was on both Stonewall and Martin Luther King Blvd. The City Manager recommended placing a caution light on Stonewall Street. Commissioner Lawrence stated that the caution light would not help with the traffic problems on Stonewall Street. Mayor Wilson recommended that the City Manager meet with the

Traffic Engineers to find a solution to the traffic problems on L Street.

Commissioner Plyman stated that he would like to place lamps in the City Parks at a cost of \$95.00 per lamp. Commissioner MacLeod stated that the City should check with the Park and Tree Commission to get input from them about placing the lamps in City parks.

Commissioner Plyman moved to lease property from Dr. Thompson on Parkwood Avenue for \$1.00 per year to be used as a City Park, until Dr. Thompson develops the property for his own use. The motion failed for lack of a second.

Commissioner Plyman thanked the Southeast Georgia Regional Hospital Medical Center for donating the benches for the Park.

Commissioner MacLeod recommended that the Park and Tree Commission be informed about leasing the property for a park. Commissioner MacLeod stated that he did not object to the general idea, but he was against the procedure.

Commissioner Lawrence stated that he was not familiar where the park would be located and he did not recall the Commission entertaining the idea.

Commissioner Plyman stated that he approached Dr. Thompson and asked him to lease the property to the City. The City Manager asked if Dr. Thompson anticipated in receiving a reduction on his City taxes. Commissioner Plyman stated that Dr. Thompson did not expect to receive any tax reduction on the property. Commissioner Plyman further stated that he would be responsible for maintenance of the park.

Commissioner Lawrence stated that he would like to place signs on dead end streets.

David Latham a member of the Park and Tree Commission Board stated that he would not like to lose the property that would be donated for the park. He asked Commissioner Plyman to please consider discussing the park with the members of the Park and Tree Commission Board.

MEETING ADJOURNED.

Mayor

Attest: -----
City Clerk