

**OFFICIAL MINUTES
COMMISSION MEETING OF THE CITY OF BRUNSWICK, GEORGIA
REGULAR MEETING
8:30 A. M., January 4, 1995**

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

ABSENT: Commissioner James MacLeod.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Plyman moved and Commissioner Davis seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the meeting of December 14, and December 21, and the Called meeting of December 28, 1994. The motion passed unanimously.

APPOINTMENT OF MAYOR PRO-TEM

Commissioner Lawrence moved and Commissioner Plyman seconded the motion nominating Commissioner Davis to serve as Mayor Pro-Tem. The motion passed unanimously.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE RENEWAL

Petition received from Albert White Jr. to retail beers for consumption on premises at A & W Fast Foods, having been approved by the Chief of Police and City Manager Commissioner Lawrence moved and Commissioner Davis seconded the motion to grant petition. The motion passed unanimously.

DELEGATION

Essie Crosby representing Murphy Taxi Cab Company appeared before the Commission to request that the City license and regulate taxi cabs based in the County, but operating in the City of Brunswick. Mrs. Crosby stated that the County asked her to purchase a business license.

Mayor Wilson asked the City Attorney what could be done to alleviate the problems. The City Attorney stated that the City could regulate taxi cabs based in Glynn County, but transporting passengers in the City of Brunswick.

Commissioner Plyman stated that he observed a cab with metallic signs on a two door Thunderbird. Commissioner Plyman stated that the City and County should meet jointly to discuss the matter.

Mayor Wilson stated that the City should implement laws to protect taxi companies in the City limits.

Commissioner Lawrence asked what kind of relief could be given to Murphy Taxi Cab. The City Attorney stated that uniform regulations in the City and County are needed.

The City Manager stated that under the new business and occupational tax law if the primary place of business is located in the City the owner would not have to purchase a County license.

Commissioner Plyman stated that regulations are needed to control Medical Transport vehicles because they are transporting families.

The City Manager read the requirements from the charter for vehicles that transport which stated that all vehicles must be painted one uniform color or combination of colors, have four doors, have letters not less than four inches high the full name of the owner of the vehicle and the phone number of the company.

PARK AND TREE RECOMMENDATION

Commissioner Plyman stated that he attended the Park and Tree Commission meeting and recommended to change ingress and egress in Hanover Park to add sidewalks and to place lights in Hanover Park and eight benches. Commissioner Plyman stated that his recommendations were approved by the Park and Tree Commission. Commissioner Plyman recommended that concrete work for the side walks could be done in house.

The City Manager stated that the cost for the wiring the lights should also be considered.

Commissioner Lawrence stated that he would like to have Commissioner MacLeod present before the Commissioner makes a decision.

Commissioner Davis stated that the full Commission should be present to vote on matters especially when an expenditure is being considered.

Mayor Wilson went on record to state that no items would not be brought before the Commission unless it was a budgeted item.

Mayor Wilson stated that a lot of widowed women would like to have lights in their neighborhood.

Commissioner Lawrence stated that he had a problem with making improvements to one park and not making improvements to other parks in the City. Commissioner Plyman stated that it would be a surplus on lights and other lights would be placed in other parks in the City.

Robert Griffin stated that he would like to know whether the City had already purchased the lights. Commissioner Plyman stated that he purchased the lights with personal funds.

Mayor Wilson stated that Commissioner MacLeod should be present before a \$10,000.00 expenditure could be approved. This met the consensus of the Commission.

The City Manager stated that he received a letter from Mr. Boone requesting that Commissioner Plyman brace up his building on the corner of Gloucester and Albany Streets. Mr. Boone also stated that he paid off the mortgage on the building. Commissioner Plyman stated that he would like for Mr. Boone to be present.

Commissioner Lawrence asked Commissioner Plyman if he would brace up the wall of the building for Mr. Boone. Commissioner Plyman stated that he would not brace up one wall on the building, because all the walls should be braced up. Commissioner Plyman pointed out that the building needs significant improvements and that the building was an eyesore and dangerous.

Commissioner Lawrence stated that the property on the causeway was in the same condition for three years and citizens started complaining by writing letters and nothing has been done. Commissioner Lawrence stated that Mr. Boone has written a letter and he should be given enough time to make repairs to his property.

Commissioner Plyman stated that the building on the causeway was just an eyesore and the building was not an imminent danger to anyone.

Commissioner Lawrence recommended that Commissioner Plyman get in touch with Mr. Boone to discuss bracing up the building.

Mayor Wilson stated that Mr. Boone should be present at the meeting to discuss the matter.

Robert Griffin asked if it was possible to reconstruct the Boone building and use some of the original brick that was left in the building.

Mayor Wilson stated that the front of the building was not in danger of falling, but the back side of the building would collapse. Mayor Wilson stated that the Cody building burned and the City purchased over five hundred dollars worth of lumber to close up the burned building while the City pursued the owners. Mayor Wilson mentioned many buildings in the City that are in dire need of repair.

After substantial discussion regarding the Boone building, Commissioner Lawrence moved and Commissioner Davis seconded the motion giving Mr. Boone more time to repair his building and allowing Mr. Boone an opportunity to appear at the next Commission meeting. On call for the question the motion passed by vote of 3 to 1. Commissioner Plyman voting No.

Commissioner Davis asked whether the City had a policy to pick up heavy equipment like refrigerators and stoves for citizens. The City Manager stated that the City workers could move the equipment by appointment only.

Commissioner Davis stated that trash cans in Overlook Park should be changed to keep the birds out of the trash. The City Manager stated that he would look into changing the trash cans.

Police Chief Cowan appeared before the Commission to discuss the cities that allow off-duty Police officers to wear their uniforms while working part-time security jobs. Chief Cowan stated that the City of Jacksonville, Florida and the City of Savannah, Georgia allows off-duty officers to wear uniforms on certain jobs. The City of Jacksonville receives payment for the officers salary and for uniform cleaning.

Commissioner Plyman offered the motion to change the City's policy to allow off-duty Police officers to wear uniforms while working part time jobs. Mayor Wilson relinquished his chair and as Commissioner Wilson he seconded the motion.

Mayor Wilson asked about the City's liability if a person was injured by an off duty officer. The City Attorney stated that both parties could be sued.

The City Manager stated that the City would have to look into the matter because the City was self insured. The City Manager stated that the City could require that merchants sign an agreement stating that the officer would be covered under their worker's compensation.

Mr. Griffin sated that the City would be of great liability and that they would be opening up the City for a big mess.

The Commission deliberated on the matter.

The City Attorney stated that worker's compensation would be paid by the merchant and the City of Brunswick because they would be liable if an officer was injured while working on a

part-time job.

On call for the question the motion failed by vote of 2 to 2. Mayor Wilson and Commissioner Plyman voted yes and Commissioner Davis and Commissioner Lawrence voted No.

Commissioner Plyman moved and Commissioner Davis seconded the motion approving City Commissioners to attend County Commissioner meetings. The motion passed by vote of 3 to 1. Commissioner Lawrence voting No. Commissioner Plyman stated that he would like for County Commissioners to attend City Commission meetings.

Commissioner Lawrence questioned the purchase of litter barrels.

The City Manager stated that Commissioner Plyman purchased the barrels with his own personal funds.

Mayor Wilson stated that persons are driving too fast going south on Martin Luther King Blvd and asked the City Manager to take a look at the intersection.

Mayor Wilson reported that the house located at 2204 Martin Luther King Blvd was almost falling down and the City should locate the owners to request that they demolish the property. The City Attorney stated that the residence was on the City's condemnation list.

Mayor Wilson asked if lumber could be disposed of at Beverly Shores because the County was charging too much for the use of the landfill.

Mayor Wilson pointed out that Bay Street needs to be cleaned and washing machines need to be picked up in the 700 Block of Oglethrope Street.

Robert Griffin stated that Commissioner Plyman was running ahead of the Commission because no one has the right to purchase anything for a project without the consent of the Commission. He stated that the City did not authorize the purchase and the Commission should work together as a body. He further stated that the citizens need to know if the Commission could not work together.

Commissioner Plyman stated that he was retired and had time to clean the City and felt obligated to the City. Commissioner Plyman stated that he spent money to fix up things in the City because he felt that they needed to be done. Commissioner Plyman stated that he was spending his money and his time to clean the City of Brunswick. He stated that the City of Brunswick was a clean City years ago and he will try his best to work with the Commission Board.

Mr. Griffin stated that he understood how Commissioner Plyman felt, however he would like to see the Commission work together and be involved. He stated that he did not want to see one person running the City and this was not a personal attack.

Commissioner Plyman stated that he invited all the Commissioners to join him in cleaning up the City. Commissioner Plyman named projects the he brought before the Commission for approval and they were voted down. Commissioner Plyman stated the he did take it personal.

Mr. Griffin stated that the Commission should focus on things that are primary concerns in the City.

Mayor Wilson stated that he would like to be fair. He stated that he would never support sending Community service workers out on Sunday morning to clean up the City.

MEETING ADJOURNED.

Mayor

Attest _____
City Clerk