

**OFFICIAL MINUTES
COMMISSION MEETING OF THE CITY OF BRUNSWICK, GEORGIA
REGULAR MEETING
7:00 P. M., July 19, 1995**

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 Davis seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the meeting of July 5, 1995. The motion passed unanimously.

APPOINTMENTS TO THE GLYNN COUNTY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Walter McNeely, Chairman of the Brunswick and Glynn County Development Authority submitted the names of Jack Hardman and Jim Jordan for appointment to the Board of Governors for Brunswick and Glynn County Development Authority. Commissioner Plyman moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion accepting the nominations as submitted by Walter McNeely. The motion passed unanimously.

SMALL CITIES PROGRAM

The Director of Community Development submitted a proposal for a Community Development Block Grant single purpose application for a Storm Sewer Project on Albany Street to replace 556 feet of the old brick box culvert.

The Director of Community Development stated that the cost of the project is estimated at \$195,438.00 and the amount of the single purpose grant will be \$205,910.00. Funds in excess of the project would be used to defray administration cost. The matching grant required by the City is \$295.50.

Commissioner Lawrence moved and Commissioner Davis seconded the motion authorizing the Director of Community Development to submit the Block Grant single application to the State Department of Community Affairs. The motion passed unanimously.

AMENDING ORDINANCE ON NOMINATING PETITION

The City Attorney read the amendments to the Nominating Petition Ordinance. Commissioner Lawrence pointed out that he would like to discuss the ordinance at the next meeting in order that Commissioner MacLeod could be present before a vote is taken.

ANNEXATION ORDINANCE

The City Attorney advised the Commission that final action could not be taken at the meeting for annexation of property for the reason that the law concerning annexation has been changed to allow the county to be served within five days after an annexation application have been received from a property owner. The County has five days to respond to the notice of application.

The City Attorney requested that the Commission accept the application for annexation from First American Home Health Services to annex their property into the city and after the acceptance the county would be notified.

Mayor Wilson stated that the Commission was familiar with the location and the business operation and he personally thought the annexation into the City was needed.

Commissioner Davis moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion accepting the annexation application of First American Home Health. The motion passed unanimously.

Gloria Ellis was present and stated that she owned property adjacent on both sides of the property. Ms. Ellis questioned what kind of access would the property have and exactly what the property would be used for. Ms. Ellis explained that a one lane road was running through and coming in and across her property on both sides and the road was designed for three residences. Ms. Ellis stated that she assumed the property would be office commercial and traffic would be coming in and going out, and whether the business would be constructing another road.

Commissioner Lawrence questioned whether Ms. Ellis was requesting First American Home Health to find another way to have an easement coming to their business.

Ms. Ellis stated that an easement was already there, however she wanted to be sure that commercial traffic was not coming across her property.

The City Attorney stated that the questions would be asked before the next Commission meeting and Ms. Ellis would be notified before any action is taken at the next Commission meeting.

Ms. Ellis stated that whenever the Commission decides to annex the property she would like to have a notarized statement informing her that First American Home Health was required to put in another road.

Commissioner Plyman stated that the Commission could not commit First American Home Health as far as a notarized statement. That would have to be between Ms. Ellis and First American Home Health.

Mayor Wilson stated that First American Home Health along with Ms. Ellis should be notified about the meeting and have a representative present to answer questions.

UNFIT BUILDING ORDINANCE

The City Attorney read the amendments to the ordinance on demolition of unfit buildings.

Commissioner Plyman questioned whether the Building Inspector had the authority to write citations because in the past citations were channeled through the Deputy Marshall's office.

The City Attorney stated that the amendments to the ordinance would give the Building Official the authority to write citations for building code violations.

Commissioner Lawrence expressed concerns regarding the Building Inspector having authority to condemn or not condemn dilapidated property. Commissioner Lawrence questioned the guidelines that will be used by the Building Inspector.

The City Manager explained the Municipal Court procedure after a citation is issued by the Building Official.

Commissioner Lawrence questioned the procedure used to contact out of state property owners.

The City Attorney stated that the owners would be notified by certified mail.

Commissioner Plyman pointed out that there are many lots in the City with owners out of state who have forgotten about their lots or neglected them. Commissioner Plyman stated the City cleaned a lot of vacant lots and the Sanitation Inspector mailed letters that were returned.

Commissioner Lawrence stressed that the property owners would complain to the Commission for the reason that the Commission allowed an ordinance to be passed authorizing the Building Inspector to make these decisions.

Commissioner Plyman stated that the Building Inspector would be authorized to report dilapidated houses and deteriorating lots to the Municipal Judge.

Commissioner Davis questioned whether any buildings or lots owned by persons out of state have been cleaned by the City and billed to that owner.

Mayor Wilson stated that he found it very difficult to take any action against a property owner about a lot that has not been kept, pointing out that the City does not clean their own lots. Mayor Wilson warned that the City must be very careful about issuing citations to property owners.

The City Attorney stated that there are some guidelines limiting the Municipal Court action in some cases and added that he would submit a copy of the guidelines to the Commission before the next meeting.

This met the approval of the Commission.

LISSNER PROPERTY

The City Attorney reported that he received a copy of the Lissner deed from Attorney Bob Cunningham who represents the Old Town Preservation Association. The City Attorney stated that copies of the Lissner deed and a letter from Attorney Cunningham and a memo from the City Attorney was forwarded to the Commission to review. The City Attorney requested that the Mayor be authorized to execute the deed.

Mayor Wilson stated that the Commission discussed conveying the Lissner House to the Old Town Preservation Association. Mayor Wilson pointed out that a clause should be inserted indicating that the Lissner House would be reverted back to the City in any circumstance if the Old Town Preservation Society does not remain viable. Mayor Wilson stated the Commission wanted to make sure that the Lissner House was used for a museum and if it was not used for that purpose the Lissner House would revert back to the City.

The City Manager stated that the clause was already in the deed.

Commissioner Lawrence expressed his reservations about the Old Town Preservation Association conveying the Lissner House to another organization without approval of the Commission.

The City Attorney stated that the Commission could limit the conveyance to any other organization. The City Attorney requested that he be authorized to meet with Attorney Cunningham to place the restriction in the deed and have the Mayor execute the deed.

Commissioner Plyman moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion authorizing the Mayor to convey the Lissner property to the Old Town Preservation Association with the conditions that the property cannot be conveyed or given to another organization without the approval of the Commission as set forth in the deed. The motion passed unanimously.

Debbie Brown, representing the Old Town Brunswick Preservation Society thanked the

Commission for all the work they have done in considering the request to make the Lissner House a museum.

DELEGATIONS

Mrs. Inez Grovner appeared before the Commission to request funds to assist with the Georgia Sea Island Festival that will be held on August 19th and 20th on St. Simons Island.

Rev. Frank Denegal stated that he spoke with Mrs. Quimby who directed the Festival for many years and found that she would not be able to conduct the Festival. Rev. Denegal stated that a request was made to the county to promote the festival and it was denied.

Rev. Denegal indicated that his congregation at St. Luke Methodist Episcopal Church would host the Festival and requested that the Commission allocate funds for the Sea Island Festival.

Commissioner Plyman asked Rev. Denegal if he asked for support from the Golden Isles Tourism Bureau because they promote tourism.

Commissioner Lawrence expressed his concerns about holding the festival in the county. Commissioner Lawrence stated that he had no objections about contributing to Sea Island Festival.

Commissioner Davis pointed out that the City in the past has supported the Sea Island Festival.

It met the consensus of the Commission to take the matter under consideration and take action at the next meeting.

Elmo Richardson, representing Tribble and Richardson Engineering Company appeared before the Commission to discuss repairs to the Wastewater Plant. Mr. Richardson submitted pictures of repairs that are needed at the Wastewater Plant. Mr. Richardson stated that Federal mandates have been placed on all municipalities. Mr. Richardson stated that repairs over the next few years would cost 7.7 million dollars.

The Director of Water and Wastewater stated that capital improvements are not included in the Water and Wastewater budget and there is no reserve account for the department.

Mayor Wilson stated that municipalities must meet Federal mandates and there are no funds available.

Mayor Wilson stated that a work session would be scheduled to discuss the mandates and repairs at a work session.

Dan Altobelli appeared before the Commission to discuss the U.S. 17 Highway improvements. Mr. Altobelli stated that the Highway 17 project was not well received by many citizens. Mr. Altobelli stated that he would like to help make recommendations for the Highway 17 widening project.

Mr. Altobelli stated that he was successful in making changes to the Highway 341 project so that persons would have access to their businesses.

The City Manager stated that he asked Mr. Altobelli to look at the Highway 17 widening project to see if changes could be made that could be acceptable to business owners and the Commission.

Commissioner Davis asked the cost of the study. Mr. Altobelli stated that he could not give an estimate until he reviewed the plans.

After substantial discussion about Mr. Altobelli's proposal to find a solution to the City on

widening Highway 17, the consensus of the Commission was to defer taking action.

A concerned citizen questioned whether the City had a policy which allows consulting firms to bid on City projects. He next suggested that the City allow consulting firms to bid on projects.

The City Attorney stated that the City is not required to receive competitive bids on consulting projects.

Mr. Mack Wilson representing the Highway 17 Loop Association was present to discuss the widening of Highway 17. A letter was read opposing a raised median on Highway 17.

Commissioner Lawrence recommended that the Highway 17 Loop Association be notified of any changes on the Highway 17 widening project.

QUITCLAIM DEED

Petition received from William T. Ligon, Jr., as attorney for Fleming and Berdie Roberts for quitclaim deed in favor of his client on Urbana Block C to clear title record of tax deed taken by the City, which was subsequently redeemed, but was lost without being recorded. Commissioner Davis moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion unanimously authorizing the Mayor to execute redemption deed as petitioned for.

REDEMPTION DEED

Redemption requested in the name of present owner Ralph Hodges on Old Town Lot 60 E-61'. Property acquired at tax sale. All taxes, interest and costs in the amount of \$1,995.19 have been paid and account is clear. Commissioner Davis moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion unanimously authorizing the Mayor to execute redemption deed as petitioned for.

MONTHLY REPORTS

The following reports for the month of June, 1995 were received and filed as information: (1) General Fund, (2) Water and Wastewater, (3) Community Development, (4) Metro Squad, (5) Municipal Court and (6) Uncollectible Water Accounts. Commissioner Lawrence moved and Commissioner Davis seconded the motion to accept the monthly reports. The motion passed unanimously.

OTHER CITY BUSINESS

Matthew Ball resident of Windsor Park submitted a copy of 700 signatures from residents opposing the Waste Transfer Station in their community. Mr. Ball submitted a copy of an ordinance which would restrict a waste transfer station in Windsor Park and asked the Commission to take the ordinance under consideration at the next meeting.

Mayor Wilson stated that the Commission would look at the ordinance submitted by Mr. Ball.

The City Manager recommended that bid specifications be drawn up for the pitch roof at the Police Department.

Commissioner Davis reported trash was being placed in Orange Park.

Commissioner Plyman discussed placing a berm on two 100 foot sections of road on Riverside Drive. The City Manager stated that he would check to see if there is any run off in the Riverside Subdivision.

MEETING ADJOURNED.

Mayor

Attest _____
City Clerk