

OFFICIAL MINUTES
COMMISSION MEETING OF THE CITY OF BRUNSWICK, GA
REGULAR MEETING
7:00 P.M., NOVEMBER 15, 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 City Manager, Mark Mitchell.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Plyman moved and Commissioner Davis seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the meeting of November 1, 1995. The motion passed unanimously.

REZONING

This being the date, time and place for public hearing on proposal to rezone 6.498 acres on Coral Drive from General Residential to Highway Commercial. Commissioner Plyman moved and Commissioner MacLeod seconded the motion approving the rezoning. The motion passed unanimously.

DELEGATIONS

Ted Whitten, representing Southeast Georgia Regional Medical Center appeared before the Commission to introduce Bert Whitaker, the new Administrator at the Medical Center.

Mr. Whitaker stated that he was honored to serve as the new Administrator and he was looking forward to working with the City Council to help with the business of the Community.

Mayor Wilson welcomed Mr. Whitaker to Brunswick he stated that the Council was pleased to have him at the Medical Center and the Council feels that he will do an excellent job.

Cheryl Meadows, Director of SHARE appeared before the Commission to request to open up a portion of Egret Street between SHARE property and the City Park and pave it to allow access to pick up and drop clients who attend the facility.

The City Manager stated that the request was presented to the Park and Tree Commission and they recommended that the street be one way located within the right of way and also add a curb so that persons would not drive in the park. The City Manager stated that a cost estimate was done by the City Engineer and it would cost \$24,000.00.

Mayor Wilson stated that it would be possible to give some in kind service to lessen the cost.

Commissioner Lawrence asked advice of legal counsel. Commissioner Lawrence stated that he did not have any concerns with opening up the street. He stated that he want to make sure what the City was proposing to do was crystal clear.

The City Attorney stated the he did not see a problem with opening up the street next to the park property.

Commissioner Plyman stated that he would like to go out and inspect it before a decision is made.

Mayor Wilson stated that he would give the Commission an opportunity look at the property. Mayor Wilson commended Mrs. Meadows for an excellent job she have done working with SHARE.

Mrs. Meadows thanked the Commission.

Attorney Clinton Pearson appeared before the Commission to request that a portion of Old Cypress Road be closed.

Commissioner Lawrence stated he did not see a problem with the abandoned road, however he did not want someone later to sell the property.

Attorney Pearson stated that according to the law the abandoned road could not be sold.

Commissioner Lawrence moved and Commissioner MacLeod seconded the motion authorizing the Mayor to execute the deed for closing off Old Cypress Mill Road. The motion passed unanimously.

SOLID WASTE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The Director of Community Development presented the Solid Waste Comprehensive Plan to the Commission for approval. The Director read the recommendation of the Solid Waste Advisory Board:

1. The City should enforce Solid Waste Ordinances and the Charter.
2. Work to fully utilize the Compost facility.
3. Hire a person to separate yard trash at the Staging area.
4. Purchase a Trommel Screen machine to remove dirt from yard trash.
5. Notify the public and more routine scheduling of yard trash pick up.
6. Compost should not be given away, but sold to help defray cost of purchasing Trommel Screen machine and capital equipment.
7. A fee should be charged on all trash brought into staging area by non-City residents/City Public works.
8. Actively pursue public education on Solid Waste issues. The most important element in implementing the Solid Waste plan will be education. This will help citizens understand the social and environmental issues, concerns and needs associated with Solid Waste Management.
9. It was recommended that a Video Tape be made showing the yard waste that can be taken in at Compost Facility and the yard waste that cannot be taken and why, and an overview of how compost facility operates and what citizens can do to make the operation more efficient. This video can be shown on local Cable T. V., and loaned to area businesses and schools.
10. Ten year contract with a Waste Disposal Company.

Commissioner MacLeod moved and Commissioner Plyman seconded the motion granting approval of the Solid Waste Comprehensive Plan. The motion passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION FOR AGING SERVICES PROGRAM

Commissioner Davis moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion adopting the following resolution. The motion passed unanimously.

WHEREAS, the City of Brunswick is authorized by Section 50-8-34 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated to initiate, continue, or renew arrangements with the United States Government, any agency or operation of human services program by the said City upon the signed resolution of its board and written approval by each unit of local government affected; and

WHEREAS, the Multi-purpose Center is designated by the Georgia Department of Human Resources as area agency to plan, develop, and coordinate a comprehensive system of services for older persons in Glynn County and has been granted \$13,650 to carry out such services; and

WHEREAS, the Multi-purpose Center has successfully planned, developed and coordinated such a comprehensive system of services for older persons in Glynn County since it opened in July of 1983;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City of Brunswick Commissioners and Executive Director, in regular session assembled this fifteenth day of November, nineteen hundred and ninety-five, that its Mayor and Executive Director are authorized to continue the aforesaid arrangements for the planning, development, and coordination of a comprehensive system of services for older persons in Glynn County and execute any documents required for that purpose in accordance with the applicable provisions of Georgia Law.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE RENEWALS

The following alcoholic beverage petitions for 1996 license renewals were submitted, having been approved by the Chief of Police and City Manager, were on motion of Commissioner Davis seconded by Commissioner Lawrence, unanimously granted:

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

H. E. Bluestein at the Grog Shoppe, 1701 Norwich Street;

Peter J. Nermoe at Bottle Time, 1900 First Street;

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

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

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

Eddie L. West, Sr., at Club 87/ Fourth Street Grill, 1604 Fourth Street;

Jacob Manley at The Beverage Center, 1411 L Street;

Jack W. Wiley at The Lounge, 2303 Gloucester Street;

Scott B. Jackmore at Red Carpet Lounge, 300 F Street;

John Roy Collins at Temptations, 4420 Altama Avenue ;

Paul L. Marshall at Veterans of Foreign War, 2120 Davis Street;

N.H. Enterprises Inc., at Double Eagle, 1621 Albany Street;

Nelson Hart at Harts Restaurant, 1606 L Street;

Nelson Hart at The Keg Lounge, 3101 Johnston Circle;

Alfredo Escamilla at El Potro Restaurant, 3460 Cypress Mill Road;

Louis Dyer Jr., at Golden Isles Cruise Line;

Angela M. Smith at the Hideaway Lounge, 1709 1/2 Gloucester Street;

Linda Strayhorn at The Jug Package Store, 1300 London Street;

Sandy L. Webb at Bamboo II Lounge, 1717 Glynn Avenue;

To retail beers and wines for consumption off premises:

Peter J. Nermoe at Beer and Wine Depot, 1900 First Street;

Henry Sowell at Bunky's Foods, 2834 Glynn Avenue;

Issac Davis at Pointe Plaza Five Points, 1609 R Street;

Milton J. Arras at Jacks Country Mall, 1001 First Avenue;

Robert Cooke at Kroger, 4980 Altama Avenue;

Curtis Gowen at Sprint Food Store, 2935 Glynn Avenue;

Michael C. Gaffney at Lil' Champ #324, 803 Albermarle Street;

Michael C. Gaffney at Lil' Champ #323, 2408 Newcastle Street;

Michael C. Gaffney at Lil' Champ #390, 1910 Newcastle Street;

Michael C. Gaffney at Lil' Champ #381, 1008 Bay Street;

Michael C. Gaffney at Lil' Champ #379, 3001 Altama Ave;

Michael C. Gaffney at Lil' Champ #372, 2722 Norwich Street;

Michael C. Gaffney at Lil' Champ #337, 3320 Glynn Avenue;

Michael C. Gaffney at Lil' Champ #371, 1409 Gloucester Street;

To retail beers and wines for consumption on premises:

Gene M. Chow at New China Restaurant, 3202 Glynn Avenue;

Murray K. Wilson at The Oyster Box, 2129 Glynn Avenue;

Sidney L. Cottingham at Pizza Hut #62178-3186; 4441 Altama Avenue;

Keith Middleton at Pizza Inn, 2803 Cypress Mill Road;

Nancy H. Cahoon at Nan's Confectionery, 1828 Wolfe Street;

To retail beer only for consumption off premises:

Lynn Atkins at Eckerd Corp/Eckerd Drugs, 4535 Altama Avenue;

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

Dale W. Carswell at Eckerd Drugs #2341, 1945 Glynn Avenue;

Benny M. Giddens at Bay Service Station/L & L Oil Co. Inc.,
3227 Norwich Street;

Robert S. Puccini at Sunstar Amocco #101, 4528 Altama Avenue;

To wholesale beer and wine for consumption off premises:

Gary F. Sheffield at Sheffield Distributing Co., 2129 Line Street;

Michael C. Carlos at Standard Distributing Co., 1725 Line Street;

BOONE BUILDING

The City Manager stated that he spoke to Mr. Boone about the status of the building on Albany and Gloucester Streets and he found out there have been no changes to the building because of Mr. Boone's health concerns.

Mayor Wilson stated that he would like to see something done to the building.

Commissioner Davis recalled that the owner was given fourteen months to repair his building and pointed out that other buildings in the City are in the same condition.

Commissioner Plyman stated that no repairs have been done to the Boone building. He recalled when his business caught fire and how he repaired the building in a timely manner. Commissioner Plyman questioned the agreement which was supposed to be drawn up to assure that the building would be repaired or taken down. Commissioner Plyman pointed out that the Boone building should not be compared to other buildings in the City.

Commissioner Lawrence stated he felt that the building was not a great danger because Commissioner Plyman took a picture in front of the building for the Brunswick News.

Mayor Wilson mention the he and Commissioner Plyman offered \$500.00 each to tear down the building. Mayor Wilson added he would like to see this building taken down.

Commissioner Davis pointed out that buildings on Highway 17 are an eyesore and burned out buildings could be found all over the City. Commissioner Davis stated that she served on the Council for 3 years and 10 months and all those buildings are in the same condition. Commissioner Davis recalled in a meeting on January 18, 1995 the Commission granted Mr. Boone 14 months to repair his building and she read an excerpt form the minutes of that meeting directing Mr. Boone to meet with the City Attorney and the City Manager to prepare an agreement outlining how the building would be repaired.

Commissioner Plyman asked the City Attorney whether the agreement was binding.

The City Attorney stated that the agreement was not binding because Mr. Boone never submitted an agreement.

Commissioner Lawrence requested information concerning restoring historical buildings in the City from the Director of Community Development. He stated that the City have not preserved any building for African Americans and he was going to fight for his history.

The Director of Community Development stated that many areas in the City received grants to restore property in the Historical District in the City and African American property owners did not receive grants to restore their properties.

The Director of Community Development stated that he worked with persons in the community to help obtain grants for Historical Buildings in the city.

The City Manager explained the process used by the City to obtain Historical grants for citizens. He stated that the Director of Community development was working with Mr. Boone to secure funds to restore his building.

Zack Lyde was present and stated that every time a discussion comes up concerning the Boone building racism shows its ugly head. He stated that all citizens should be given an equal opportunity. He further stated that the history of African Americans in this city have been torn down because it does not matter.

Commissioner Plyman responded to Mr. Lyde and stated that he was protecting the lives of all citizens and the Boone building was a danger to the Community. Commissioner Plyman told Mr. Lyde not to refer to him as a racist because he was not a racist.

Commisisoner MacLeod questioned whether the 14 month agreement was valid with Mr. Boone. The City Attorney stated that no agreement was reached with Mr. Boone and he was reluctant to base an opinion on that.

Harold Jennings candidate for Commissioner from the South Ward suggested that the City set up a Committee with local black community leader to up with a viable solution and funding for the Boone building.

Mayor Wilson stated that the Commission would discuss the matter in the immediate future in a work session.

PRIVATIZATION COMMITTEE

Commissioner MacLeod stated that a request was received from the Governor's Office to appoint citizens to a Privatization Committee. Commissioner MacLeod stated that the Privatization Committee would be an advisory group.

Commissioner Plyman stated that garbage and sanitation services will not make a profit and there would be problems with equipment replacement.

Mayor Wilson stated that he was not in favor of privatization, however he would like to have persons serve on that committee.

Commissioner MacLeod moved and Commissioner Plyman seconded the motion to appoint a privatization Committee. On call for the question the motion passed by vote of 4 to 1. Commissioner Lawrence voting No. Commissioner Lawrence stated that it is not fair for persons to do a job and their work go unnoticed.

MONTHLY REPORTS

The following reports for the month of October, 1995 were received and filed as information: (1) General Fund (2) Water and Wastewater Fund (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

The City Manager recommended that the millage rate be set at 11 mills and the millage would show a five percent reduction.

Commissioner Plyman asked if refunds was taken into consideration. The City Manager stated that refunds was taken into consideration which would be handled by the appeals process.

Commissioner Lawrence moved and Commissioner seconded the motion authorizing the City to advertise the mileage rate for 1995 taxes at 11 mills. The motion passed unanimously.

The City Manager stated that the Georgia Municipal Association requested an extension for Cable Franchise for one month. This met the general consensus of the Commission to extend the cable franchise for one month.

Commissioner Plyman requested a legal opinion from the City Attorney after he review the document.

Commissioner Davis reported that she received a complaint about the congestion of traffic after school at the intersection of R and Altama Avenue. Commissioner Davis recommended that a traffic light be placed at the intersection and also to place a police officer at the corner after school.

Commissioner Davis requested an update on the waterfront project. The City Manager stated that the City was in the process of letting bids for the project.

Commissioner Plyman stated that he would like to have a representative come in to present the thirty year retirement plan to the Commission at a work session.

Commissioner Plyman suggested that the City hire a Personnel Director/Purchasing Agent. He stated that this person should free the City Manager from performing personnel duties.

Commissioner Lawrence reported Starling Street need to have in place a no left turn sign.

Commissioner Lawrence reported that a request was made for the Mayor to present a Key to the City at a convention which will be held on Jekyll Island. Commissioner Lawrence recommended that the Mayor attend the opening ceremony and present the Key.

Mayor Wilson reported a roof fell in after a house was burned in the 500 block of Wolfe Street. Mayor Wilson reported that vacant houses on L & Martin Luther King, 800 Amherst Street and J & Ellis Street need to be repaired or torn down.

The City Manager stated that he would check the list of abandoned properties to see if these properties are listed.

Mayor Wilson reported dumping of lumber and trash on vacant lots in the City. Mayor Wilson stated that cases should be made against persons for illegal dumping.

Commissioner Lawrence moved and Commissioner Davis seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting.

MEETING ADJOURNED.

Mayor

Attest: _____

City Clerk