

OFFICIAL MINUTES
COMMISSION MEETING OF THE CITY OF BRUNSWICK, GEORGIA
REGULAR MEETING
8:30 A. M., December 6, 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 November 15, 1995. The motion passed unanimously.

ADOPTION OF 1995 MILLAGE RATE AND DUE DATE

Commissioner Lawrence moved and Commissioner MacLeod seconded the motion adopting the following resolution:

AD VALOREM TAX RESOLUTION

Pursuant to order of the Superior Court of Glynn County providing for the temporary and immediate collection of ad valorem taxes for the current year, it is hereby resolved by the Commission of the City of Brunswick that an ad valorem tax of thirty-one dollars and sixty-seven cents (\$31.67) per thousand dollars (\$1,000) of assessed valuation is hereby levied and assessed for the calendar year 1995 upon all tangible property that is subject to taxation within the City. Pursuant to Official Code of Georgia Annotated 48-8-91, it is further resolved that said millage rate of 31.67 mils shall be reduced by twenty and sixty-seven one-hundredths (20.67) mils, that being the millage rate which, if levied against the tangible property within the City of Brunswick, would produce an amount equal to the distribution of local option sales tax received by the City of Brunswick during 1994, leaving a net millage rate of eleven (11.00) mils, which shall be the millage rate upon which each taxpayer's bill shall be based.

The City Manager stated that the City by law must give taxpayers sixty days to pay their bills. The City Manager recommended that the due date be set for February 1996.

Commissioner Lawrence moved and Commissioner Plyman seconded the motion setting the due date for property taxes in February. The motion passed unanimously.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE RENEWALS

The following alcoholic beverage petitions for 1996 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 Davis unanimously granted:

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

Rydell Thomas at Ray's Lounge/Two Spot Package, 1807 L Street;

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

Lorraine M. Lawrence at Dixville Package Store, 1509-1/2 London Street;

To retail beers and wine for consumption on premises:

Maria L. Tresvant at Chiko's Lounge, 1912 Norwich Street;

Jeanne Robertson at Grapevine Cafe, 1519 Newcastle Street;

To retail beers and wine for consumption off premises:

Jerry L. Adams at Kayo Oil Co./DBA Conoco, 3879 Altama Avenue;

FOOD GIFT CERTIFICATES

The City Manager stated that the City each year issue food gift certificates for \$10.00 to City employees for Christmas. Commissioner Plyman moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion to raise the amount of the food gift certificates to \$20.00.

Mayor Wilson recommended that the amount be raised to \$15.00 instead of \$20.00. Commissioner Plyman stated that the cost of living have changed and the amount should be increased to \$20.00.

On call for the question the motion passed unanimously.

DELEGATION

Harold Johnson resident of the City appeared before the Commission to request that the Commission adopt an ordinance on Juvenile Parental Responsibility. Mr. Johnson stated that holding the parents responsible would cut down on Juvenile crime and recommended that the City take the first step and adopt an ordinance making parents responsible and pay a fine.

The City Attorney stated that he drew up an ordinance pertaining to a Juvenile curfew and the Commission did not adopt the ordinance. The City Attorney stated that he could not recommend that the City adopt an ordinance on Juvenile Parental Responsibility.

Commissioner Lawrence questioned how parents would punish a child for violating a rule. He pointed that parents are prosecuted for child abuse. Mr. Johnson stated that there is a fine line between child abuse and spanking.

Mayor Wilson questioned who would supervise the parent and what will the courts do with parents who refuse to pay the fine. Mr. Johnson stated that the courts could send parents to parenting class and the parents who refuse to pay fines should be treated the same as parents who do not pay

child support.

Mayor Wilson asked Mr. Johnson what will happen to the grandparents who are raising their grandchildren. Mr. Johnson stated that the grandparents would be fined the same way.

Commissioner Lawrence stated that he would like to follow the recommendation of legal counsel.

Commissioner Plyman suggested that Mr. Johnson contact Ed Boshears to find out if the State could adopt a resolution on Juvenile Responsibility. Commissioner Plyman recommended that the City prepare a resolution on Juvenile Responsibility and submit it to the local Legislature.

This met the consensus of the Commission.

Ray Snow, Chairman of the HarborFest appeared before the Commission to request that Gloucester Street from Reynolds to Bay Street and Newcastle Street from F to Mansfield Street be closed off to hold the HarborFest at the Waterfront park.

Commissioner Plyman suggested that the property at Coffin Park be used to hold the HarborFest.

Mr. Snow stated that a Coast Guard ship will be at the Waterfront Park and the downtown area will be used to promote business in the area.

Mayor Wilson stated that he did not object to the closure of the streets in the downtown area from Friday to Sunday.

Commissioner Plyman questioned where the truck traffic would be rerouted and asked if the Department of Transportation have been contacted.

Commissioner MacLeod moved and Commissioner Davis seconded the motion to approve the request to close Gloucester Street from Reynolds Street to Bay Street and Newcastle Street from F to Mansfield Street to hold the HarborFest. The motion passed by vote of 3 to 2. Commissioners Plyman and Lawrence voting No.

Commissioner Lawrence stated that he would like to receive a list of the HarborFest members.

The City Manager stated that he received a letter from the Glynn County Commission outlining that they would accept Commissioner Plyman's appointment to serve on the JTPA Board in exchange for Joseph Jaudon serving as the Joint City/County appointee on the RDC Board.

Commissioner Plyman resigned his appointment on the JTPA Board. Commissioner Plyman stated that he would not be used as a wedge. Commissioner MacLeod concurred with Commissioner Plyman. The City Manager stated that the matter could be resolved at a Joint City/County meeting in January.

Commissioner Lawrence stated that the City has been agreeing with the County in the past accepting their nominee.

Commissioner Lawrence suggested that Robert Herrington's name be submitted as the City's nominee to serve on the RDC Board.

Chuck Moore representing Qualified Pension Consultants appeared before the Commission to discuss the City's Retirement Plan. Mr. Moore stated that other Cities have changed their retirement requirement to 25 years and 30 years of service.

He stated that the cost would be \$320,000.00 per year and this would benefit the City because persons would be allowed to retire. This enables the City to hold on to employees. Mr. Moore stated that he recommend the 30 year retirement plan.

The Director of Finance stated that the City has the money in the budget this year and he hoped that an amendment could be added to the plan. The Director of Finance stated that he was pleased with the numbers.

Commissioner Lawrence questioned whether pressure would be placed on employees to stay past their 30 years of service. The Director of Finance stated that management would not place pressure on employees to retire before their time. The City Manager stated that no one would be pressured to retire. He stated that the City has three employees that qualify for retirement.

Commissioner Plyman stated that the Commission should say Thank you in the kindest way they can because employees could choose to retire. Commissioner Plyman pointed out that the retirement plan makes working for the City more attractive.

Commissioner MacLeod moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion approving the 30 year retirement plan. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Wilson stated that the retirement plan was attractive.

APPOINTMENT TO THE RECREATION BOARD

Commissioner MacLeod moved and Commissioner Davis seconded the motion appointing Keith Collier to serve on the Recreation Board.

ELECTION RETURNS

The City Clerk submitted the following consolidated Election Returns for the General Municipal Election held on the 7th day of November 1995, signed by Cecil Little, Superintendent of Elections and his assistants. For Commissioner of the North Ward---J. Wray Avera II received 267 votes, Charles E.

Harris received 310 votes, Tommie (Tom) Herrington, Jr. received 302 votes and Ken Plyman received 911 votes. Ken Plyman was elected as Commissioner of the North Ward.

For Commissioner of the South Ward--- Doris Atkinson Davis received 702 votes, Otis (Joe) Herrington received 290 votes and Harold E. Jennings received 803 votes. This resulted in a run-off election between Doris Atkinson Davis and Harold E. Jennings.

Commissioner Lawrence moved and Commissioner Plyman seconded the motion

accepting the Election Returns. The motion passed unanimously.

The following consolidated Election returns for the General Municipal Run-Off Election held on the 21st day of November, 1995 was submitted. For Commissioner of the South Ward--- Doris Atkinson Davis received 639 votes and Harold E. Jennings received 685 votes. Harold E. Jennings was elected as Commissioner of the South Ward.

Commissioner Plyman moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion accepting the Election returns. The motion passed unanimously.

OTHER CITY BUSINESS

Commissioner Plyman recommended that the City Attorney write an ordinance to protect the City of Brunswick and its work force. The City Manager stated that information regarding BFI and the City would be submitted at the next meeting and issues would be resolved.

Commissioner Plyman stated that the would like legal counsel to entertain a one year contract.

The City Attorney stated that the City would not have to advertise for bids.

The City Attorney reported that the Commission would have to adopt a new Business License ordinance by the end of the year. The City Attorney was directed to bring information on how businesses would be charged for occupational licenses in the City.

Mayor Wilson suggested monitoring taxicabs in the City. He stated that meters should be installed in taxicabs and this should be addressed. Commissioner Plyman stated that he tried to get meters installed taxicabs 20 years ago.

The City Manager stated that Corporal Dickerson handles the inspection of taxicabs and all rates must be posted in the taxicabs. The City Manager was directed to look into the matter.

The City Attorney reported that property owned by Mrs. Wertz in the City was erroneously transferred. The City Attorney requested that the Mayor be authorized to execute a quit claim deed so that the owner could transfer the property to Habitat.

Commissioner Plyman moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion authorizing the Mayor to execute a quit claim deed. The motion passed unanimously.

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

MEETING ADJOURNED.

Mayor

Attest: -----
City Clerk