

OFFICIAL MINUTES
COMMISSION MEETING OF THE CITY OF BRUNSWICK, GEORGIA
REGULAR MEETING
8:30 A. M., October 2, 1996

PRESENT: His Honor Mayor Homer L. Wilson, Commissioners Roosevelt Lawrence, Dr. James MacLeod, Ken Plyman, and Harold E. Jennings.

INVOCATION: The invocation was given by Rev. Jackson, Pastor of Zion Baptist Church.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Plyman moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the meeting of September 18, 1996, with the exception of the statement made by The Director of Community Development concerning the fact that Mr. Fairman was willing to pick-up refrigerators, mattresses and other household items in the City. Commissioner Plyman questioned why Mr. Fairman was singled out to offer these services to the City. Mayor Wilson stated that the Director of Community Development should be present to discuss the statement concerning Mr. Fairman. Commissioner MacLeod pointed out that the Director of Community Development's statement was a part of the minutes and the statement made should not be eliminated from the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

GENE ALLEN OF STEPHENS, INC.

Gene Allen, representing Stephens, Inc. appeared before the Commission to submit information on funding the Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax Projects. Mr. Allen recommended that the City take advantage of the 1986 Tax Code to fund the renovation of Old City Hall and the Water and Sewer Projects. Mr. Allen also recommended that the City start by short term borrowing five million dollars and bid out to local financial institutions to fund the projects.

Commissioner Plyman stated that the City would not require five million dollars to begin projects. The City will borrow only the amount of money needed. He stated that a promise was made to constituents to use the most cost effective method to fund City projects.

Commissioner MacLeod stated that the matter should be discussed at a work session.

Commissioner Jennings expressed his concerns about the cost for stabilizing the roof on Old City Hall, dechlorinating water at the treatment plant, and controlling pigeons around Old City Hall. Commissioner Jennings suggested that the City borrow under five million dollars for these projects. He stated that the City did not want to borrow more than needed for the projects.

The City Manager mentioned that Mr. Tuten was present to discuss Restoring Old City Hall. He stated that the City Commission appointed a Restoration Committee to submit recommendations for restoring Old City Hall in the 1980's.

Commissioner Lawrence suggested that the drainage be considered first, dechlorinating the water be considered second, and restoring Old City Hall be considered third. Commissioner Lawrence asked if local bankers would be willing to take care of financing these projects. A representative from Sun Trust Bank stated that he would like an opportunity to arrange financing for the projects.

Gene Allen stated that a work session would be conducted to find out what projects would be considered.

The City Manager stated that he agreed with Mr. Allen's recommendation. He stated that the staff is putting together a proposed schedule for the Commission to review and this schedule would give the public an idea when projects would begin.

Ernie Craft stated the Old City Hall Restoration Committee was created in 1989 by former Mayor Paul Warwick, Jr. Mr. Craft stated that he served as chairman and appointed other members to serve on the committee. An Engineering firm conducted a study to see if the building was stable enough for restoration. The Engineering firm found the building stable enough for restoration. Members of the Restoration Committee LaRon Bennett and Patricia Barefoot gave a report on the Restoration and use of Old City Hall. Larry Evans and John Tuten recommended that the City conduct this study for Old City Hall. Mr. Craft stated that the City had no funding for the Restoration of Old City Hall. Mr. Craft requested to continue the committee, and requested to put the Old City Hall Restoration Committee back together.

Mr. Craft stated that he visited Wilmington, N.C. to look at a building similar to Old City Hall to use as a model for the City of Brunswick.

Commissioner MacLeod questioned when the committee was appointed and how many members were deceased. Mayor Wilson told Commissioner MacLeod that the Old City Hall Restoration Committee was created in 1989 and the late Attorney Jack Lissner served on the Committee. Mayor Wilson stated that he would like to see the committee back in force and members should be appointed by the City Commission.

The City Attorney stated that the Commission can change the procedure used to appoint members to serve on the Old City Hall Restoration Committee.

Commissioner MacLeod pointed out that all committees should be equal and all citizens should be given an opportunity to serve on committees. Commissioner MacLeod suggested advertising openings for the Old City Hall Restoration Committee.

Commissioner Plyman moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion authorizing the City Manager to advertise appointments for the Old City Hall Restoration Committee and set terms with an expiration date. The motion

passed unanimously.

Larry Evans and John Tuten appeared before the Commission to give an update on the Restoration of Old City Hall. Mr. Evans stated that a detailed study was conducted on restoring the clock tower, roof and chimney, fire stairs and elevator. Mayor Wilson stated that he was concerned about the condition of the balcony. Mr. Evans stated that anything that needs to be removed will be removed by exploratory demolition. Mayor Wilson questioned whether a design would be used to restore the clock. Mr. Tuten stated that the City would be able to use a replica of the clock.

Commissioner Plyman asked Mr. Tuten if he submitted a proposal or cost estimates on the project. Mr. Tuten stated that he would submit a proposal to the City.

Commissioner MacLeod stated that other companies should be allowed to bid on the project and that Mr. Evans and Mr. Tuten services should be bid out. The City should receive bids from an architecture firm and bids on the structure.

The City Manager asked for clarification on the specifications from an architectural firm for roof work and the clock tower. He stated that the same company or group would have to work with a construction firm on the project.

Commissioner Jennings stated that he would like a firm from Brunswick to bid on the project. Commissioner Lawrence stated that every firm would be given an opportunity to bid on all phases of the project.

The City Attorney pointed out that the City does have a procurement ordinance that requires the City to advertise bids and services. The projects should be bid out and the City can divide the project up into phases.

Commissioner Plyman moved and Commissioner Jennings seconded the motion authorizing the City Manager to advertise for architects to bid on the work on Old City Hall. The motion passed unanimously.

Ed Pinckney, resident of the City stated that citizens of Brunswick passed SPLOST and the City should make sure that the bids stay in the community and keep the money in Glynn County. Mr. Pinckney stated that he serves on the Hospital Authority Board and they took a lot of heat for bidding projects out to firms in Glynn County.

Robert Griffin resident of the City commended the Commission for the list of SPLOST projects that they submitted. Mr. Griffin stated that Commissioner Lawrence did a lot of leg work to let the citizens know about SPLOST and Commissioner Plyman was present to discuss SPLOST projects on the local radio talk show. Commissioner Plyman called in and answered questions from persons who were concerned about SPLOST issues. Mr. Griffin commended the Commission for a job well done.

Mayor Wilson stated that he did not have time to talk on a talk show; however, he did discuss the SPLOST issues with his church members.

Commissioner Jennings stated that the City Manager and the Chamber of Commerce did a lot of discussion on SPLOST projects.

GARBAGE CARTS

The City Manager submitted bid recommendation on 95 gallon garbage carts.

Cascade Engineering 4550 Thirty Seventh Street Grand Rapids, Michigan	\$53.18
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Otto Industries P.O.Box 410251 Charlotte, NC 28421-0521	\$40.92
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Mayo Co. Inc. (Shaefer Cart) P.O. Box 708 Austell, GA 30001	\$42.43
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The City Manager recommended the low bid of Otto Industries be accepted in the amount of \$40.92 per cart. The City Manager stated that the garbage carts from Otto Industries are of good quality they meet and exceed the specifications. The City Manager pointed out that the Housing Authority residents would be using the carts instead of the dumpsters and each resident will pay the \$8.50 per month garbage fee.

Commissioner Plyman moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion to accept the recommendation of Otto Industries in the amount of \$40.92 per cart. The motion passed unanimously.

RETIREMENT PLAN

Commissioner MacLeod moved and Commissioner Jennings seconded the motion to accept Option 2-1.60 for the Retirement Plan.

Commissioner Plyman stated that he would like to receive bids from other companies to manage the Pension Fund because this would be an on going expense for the City.

Commissioner MacLeod stated that the City was taking the smaller of the two options and there was no risk.

On call for the question, the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Jennings asked what power does one Commissioner have to do things on his own. He stated that he would like to have the answer in writing from the City Attorney.

The City Attorney stated that spending money is an official act and official action may be taken by the majority of the Commission Board. A majority is absolutely required by law. All business transactions should be done in an open meeting.

Mayor Wilson stated that a Commissioner does not have any authority to tell

any Department Head what to do. They have no power. The City Manager is the Chief Operating Official and can use up to \$10,000.00 to take care of any City business.

Commissioner Lawrence stated that there is a strong Mayor with no City Manager or a strong City Manager with a weak Mayor.

Commissioner Lawrence stated that the City Manager is considered as the Chief Official who handles day to day operation.

Commissioner Jennings stated that he would like to have violations of City Commissioners in writing.

OTHER CITY BUSINESS

The City Manager reported that Mr. Robert Henderson resigned from the Structural Fitness Board and the appointment to the Board should be advertised.

Commissioner Plyman moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion to advertise the appointment to the Structural Fitness Board. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Jennings stated that he would like to see more Police patrol on Third Avenue and Norwich Street. The City Manager recommended placing a four way stop sign on Norwich Street at 3rd Avenue.

Commissioner Jennings moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion to place a four way stop sign on Norwich Street at 3rd Avenue. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Jennings reported that Mr. Bob Torras wrote a letter concerning Military Operations in Southeast Georgia and maneuvering of Military Aircraft in this area. Mr. Torras pointed out in his letter that these military operations would keep new industries from coming to Glynn County.

Commissioner Jennings moved and Commissioner Plyman seconded the motion authorizing the City Manager to send letters to Senator Jack Kingston opposing Military Operations in this area. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner MacLeod recommended using the Old Glynn Paton building as a Police substation to prevent crime in the area. He stated that this should have a calming effect on everybody.

Commissioner Plyman stated that he would like to have a substation across from his residence on Parkwood Drive.

Mayor Wilson stated that a great deal of traffic is in the area of the Old Hospital. There are two convenience stores in the area and six or seven houses were broken in.

Commissioner Jennings stated there are other areas of the City that need patrolling. He suggested that the Police Department conduct a survey on high crime areas. He stated that he would like to have 3 or 4 satellite

stations in the community.

Commissioner Lawrence recommended that the Chief of Police meet with the City Manager to discuss the matter.

Commissioner Plyman moved and Commissioner Jennings seconded the motion dedicating the new building in Palmetto Cemetery to Phil Salkin. On call for the question the motion failed by vote of 2 to 3. Commissioners Plyman and Jennings voting yes and Mayor Wilson, Commissioners MacLeod and Lawrence voting no.

Commissioner Lawrence stated that he objected and he would like to see a former Commissioner's name submitted. He suggested that each commissioner submit a name for consideration.

Commissioner Jennings recommended dedicating the new building in Greenwood Cemetery to the late former Commissioner James A. Stephens.

Commissioner MacLeod moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion to use a trustworthy method to submit names for dedication of buildings. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Plyman recommended using steel to add an extension to the Public Works Building.

The City Manager stated that the steel could be used for other projects in the City. Mayor Wilson suggested that the City Manager authorize the use of steel for City projects.

Commissioner Lawrence recommended starting work on the building in Greenwood Cemetery instead of the Public Works Building.

Mayor Wilson stated that the City needs a new Public Works Building and projects should be done in order. Mayor Wilson pointed out that the City offers other services to residents.

Commissioner Plyman suggested purchasing a new Kut Kwick mower for Greenwood Cemetery and repair of the old mower. The City Manager stated that the mower was not a budgeted item. He stated that would look into the cost of purchasing a new mower for Greenwood Cemetery.

Commissioner Lawrence stated that he requested a patrol officer on R Street in the mornings to control the traffic. The City Manager stated that he would place a SLOW sign on R Street and follow up with a patrol officer on R and Altama Avenue.

Commissioner Plyman stated that the Board of Education has ordered SLOW signs for school crossing guards.

The City Attorney reported that the 1996 Tax Digest filed by Glynn County has been rejected and the County filed a petition for collection of taxes according to the figures listed in the tax digest. The City Attorney stated that he needed authorization to file a petition for collection of 1996 City taxes.

Commissioner Jennings moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion authorizing the City Attorney to file a petition in Superior Court for collection of 1996 City taxes. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Jennings moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion authorizing the Director of Finance to advertise to hold a Public Meeting to set a millage rate for 1996 for the City of Brunswick. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Plyman stated that he would like the Commission to adopt a Resolution for perpetual care in Palmetto and Greenwood Cemeteries. The City Attorney stated that a Board of Trustees should be appointed to invest funds along with two citizens and two Funeral Home Representatives and one City Commissioner.

The City Attorney reported that a deed of correction should be submitted to the State Properties Commission on the Lissner Property. He stated that 15 1/2 feet of the Department of Labor's Parking Lot was inadvertently deeded to the Old Town Preservation Association.

Commissioner Plyman moved and Commissioner Jennings seconded the motion authorizing the City Attorney to draft a resolution and deed of correction on the Old Lissner Property for the Old Town Preservation Association and submit changes to the State Properties Commission. The motion passed unanimously.

The City Attorney discussed equalizing water rates in the County under an intergovernmental contract with the County. The City Attorney stated that this was brought up during the discussion of SPLOST projects with the County.

Commissioner Jennings stated that this was done verbally and it is not a binding agreement because no agreement was made.

Mayor Wilson stated that the City should discuss the matter with the County.

Jerry Kennedy resident of the City questioned the cost of the new building in Palmetto Cemetery. The City Manager stated that the building cost \$4,000.00. Mr. Kennedy stated that he was told that the building would be dedicated to Phil Salkin. Mr. Kennedy stated that Mr. Salkin was a good member of the community.

Mayor Wilson stated that a lot of people served the community and he did not know why one name was chosen. He pointed out that one or two persons could not make the decision to dedicate a building for the City Commission.

MEETING ADJOURNED.

Mayor

Attest _____
City Clerk