

OFFICIAL MINUTES
COMMISSION MEETING OF THE CITY OF BRUNSWICK, GEORGIA
REGULAR MEETING
7:00 P. M., April 16, 1997

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

ABSENT: Commissioner Dr. James MacLeod

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the Commissioners and everyone in attendance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Plyman moved and Commissioner Jennings seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the Called meeting of March 12, and Regular meeting of April 2, 1997. The motion passed unanimously.

RECOGNITIONAL OF NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

Tiki Lloyd announced that on May 1st the City will hold the 6th Annual Meet at City Hall National Day of Prayer. Ms. Lloyd invited everyone to attend the program. Mayor Wilson stated that he strongly supports prayer in the City of Brunswick.

Commissioner Plyman moved and Commissioner Jennings seconded the motion proclaiming May 1, 1997 as National day of Prayer in the City of Brunswick.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE

The following alcoholic beverage petitions for 1997 license were submitted having been approved by the Chief of Police and City Manager. On motion of Commissioner Plyman seconded by Commissioner Lawrence the motion passed unanimously.

To retail alcoholic beverage including beer and wine for consumption on premises:

Pamela & Jay Coen, P & J Dakota's Inc, 4441 Altama Avenue;

Shelly D. Reeves, Crab Happy & Co., II, 2307 Gloucester Street.

DELEGATIONS

Brad Brown representing the Sons of Confederacy appeared before the Commission to discuss the rededication of the Confederate Monument on April 26th in Hanover Square. Mr. Brown stated that the Community concert band

will play at the ceremony and a parade will be held in downtown area.

Commissioner Plyman moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion authorizing the Sons of Confederacy to rededicate the Confederate Monument and hold a parade downtown. The motion passed unanimously.

Harry Tzucanow appeared before the Commission to discuss problems on the Southend of town. He pointed out that visitors contribute to the economy of the City by paying room tax. He also stated that the City have less than desirable people in the area of Egmont Street, Albermarle Street and Prince Street. Mr. Tzucanow observed a young adult male using profanity and harassing a young female.

Mr. Tzucanow asked the young male to keep his voice down and the young male asked him if he was the police, Mr. Tzucanow invited officers from the Metro Drug Squad to visit the area. Mr. Tzucanow pointed out that he is operating a business and visitors are paying money to stay at his Bed and Breakfast. Young people are playing loud music and this kind of behavior has to stop.

Commissioner Plyman stated that the tourism industry is fragile and people won't come back to visit if they are unhappy.

Pat Welch a resident of Egmont Street stated that boom boxes control the amount of sleep she gets at night. Mrs. Welch stated that Police patrol the area and the parking lot of the Little Champ is full of people late hours at night.

Commissioner Plyman requested raising the fine for noise created by boom boxes to \$252.00, pointing out that the City of Hinesville started charging that fee.

Mrs. Welch stated that people use obscene language and congregate in the street stopping cars from driving down Egmont Street.

Commissioner Plyman asked Chief Cowan the cost for violating the noise ordinance with a boom box. Chief Cowan stated the fine is \$100.00.

Mayor Wilson instructed the City Manager, the Chief of Police and his staff to get together and monitor the noise problems.

Commissioner Jennings asked the Chief of Police whether patrol officers were walking in the community. Commissioner Jennings pointed out that funds was appropriated in the budget for patrol officers to walk in the community. Police Chief Cowan stated that it is documented over 2,000 times where officers have been walking in the area. Chief Cowan stated that patrol officers cannot be there all the time and many cases have been made against boom box owners.

Commissioner Jennings asked Chief Cowan whether the City can fine citizens on private property. The Chief of Police stated that the City can fine citizens on private property.

Commissioner Jennings asked Chief Cowan whether the Police Department had a phone so that businesses in the City could call for help when they had problems. Chief Cowan stated that cellular phones would be placed in patrol

cars of supervisors to contact them about problems. Chief Cowan stated that he will handle the noise problems.

Betty McGregor appeared before the Commission to discuss the noise in Goodyear Park generated at the basketball court.

Alton Moore resident of 3015 West Park Avenue told the Commission that his mother passed two weeks ago and he called the police twice because of the noise. Mr. Moore pointed out every time the police are called in the area the persons making the noise leave. Mr. Moore stated that police officers were called to report persons playing basketball after dark. Mr. Moore stated that his mother lived in Goodyear Park for 41 years and the noise was too much for her. Mr. Moore stated that his house is located 100 feet from the basketball court.

Mr. Moore asked the Commission to move the basketball goals to the tennis court because no one uses the tennis courts.

Vero Gallo a resident of Goodyear Park stated that the noise from boom boxes and the traffic could be heard from her mother's home. Mrs. Gallo stated that she lives in her mother's house.

Mayor Wilson stated that boom boxes could be heard before and after school on Martin Luther King Blvd. Mayor Wilson stated that the violators should be arrested and taken to court.

Commissioner Plyman stated that he has been living in Goodyear Park for 28 years and no one ever uses the tennis courts. The tennis court is 250 feet away and the businesses are closed on the weekend. Commissioner Plyman stated that the City should consider placing the basketball goals in the tennis courts.

Commissioner Jennings stated people are already using the basketball goals that were placed in the tennis court in Orange Park.

Commissioner Jennings stated that he went by Goodyear Park to hear the noise and the cursing. Commissioner Jennings pointed out that the City can resolve the problems and recommended placing the basketball goals on the tennis courts. Commissioner Jennings stated that homeowners have equity tied up in their homes.

Commissioner Lawrence stated that he heard what the residents of Goodyear Park had to say, but there are other areas in the City where the same thing is happening. Commissioner Lawrence asked how do you think people feel that live in McIntyre Court and Albany Street?

James Bryson a resident of Goodyear Park stated that he played basketball there thirty years ago. Mr. Bryson stated that all of a sudden the goals were back up. He stated that he observed young people hanging on the nets and asked them not to do that. Mr. Bryson stated he was told that when the nets are torn down the residents would have to come to their neighborhood to play basketball. He also stated that he tried to police the area and sympathized with citizens who can complain about the noise on Albany Street. Mr. Bryson asked the Commission to stop by and listen to the language that

is used on the basketball court. Mr. Bryson stated that he could sit in his living room and hear the abusive language and sit on his doorstep and hear the abusive language. Mr. Bryson asked the Commission to enclose the basketball court and make it noise proof. Mr. Bryson stated that a home is a place to enjoy yourself.

Commissioner Lawrence asked Mr. Bryson did he think the citizens in McIntyre Court are entitled to hear the noise? Mr. Bryson stated no, but if they chose to live in that area than noise could be expected.

Commissioner Lawrence told Mr. Bryson that he did not play in Goodyear Park thirty years ago. Mr. Bryson stated that he watched the goals go up in Goodyear Park and come down.

Mayor Wilson stated that moving the goals over will help the situation. Mayor Wilson stated that no place will be quiet.

Mr. Bryson suggested raising the goals to ten feet to stop people from pulling basketball and hanging on the rims because the goals are too low. Mr. Bryson stated that the solution is moving the basketball goals to stop the boom box noise and abusive language.

Commissioner Jennings stated that the City does not have the money to build soundproof buildings. He recommended moving the basketball goals to the tennis courts.

Commissioner Lawrence stated that he has noise in his neighborhood and he enjoys his neighborhood. He stated that the parks belong to taxpayers not the residents in these neighborhoods. Commissioner Lawrence stated that he was concerned about whatever goes on in Goodyear Park goes on in McIntyre Court.

Betty McGregor stated that she did not like battling with the Commissioners when something effects her home life, health, and her spouse. Mrs. McGregor read a letter from Dr. Lawson concerning her husband's health urging Mr. McGregor to stay quiet and peaceful.

Mrs. McGregor stated that Mrs. Moore enjoyed sitting on her front porch and could not continue to sit on the porch after the basketball goals were installed in Goodyear Park.

Mrs. McGregor recommended that the Commission speak to Mr. Jack Hardman Chairman of the County Commission about using Selden Park basketball court because residents do not play out there anymore. Mrs. McGregor stated that she was told to talk to Ed Lowe about the use of Selden Park basketball court. Mrs. McGregor stated that they could curse, play boom boxes and play basketball at Selden Park. Mrs. McGregor observed two girls at Goodyear Park who got into a confrontation and one girl stated she had a gun. She stated that a stray bullet could hurt anyone and this was a potential danger spot. Mrs. McGregor urged the Commission to move the goals to Selden Park.

Mrs. McGregor asked the Commission if she could play a recording taken on Saturday night from people who used the basketball court.

Mayor Wilson asked Mrs. McGregor to address the council and not the audience.

Commissioner Lawrence told Mrs. McGregor that he sympathize with Mr. McGregor. Commissioner Lawrence told Mrs. McGregor he hoped she was not taking this position because she is the secretary to the Chief of Police. Mrs. McGregor stated she was not using her position as the Chief of Police's secretary.

Robert Herrington asked if Goodyear Park, Orange Park and McIntyre Court Park suppose to rate higher than any parks in the area. Mr. Herrington stated that people have to attend church on Sunday and listen to the abusive language in McIntyre Court Park. This generation has no self-respect. Mr. Herrington stated that if the City amends the rules for one park then they must amend the rules for all the parks for the betterment of the City of Brunswick.

Commissioner Plyman recalled that kids used a portable basketball goal in the street and he asked the Commission to place basketball goals in Goodyear Park so that these kids did not have to play basketball in the street. Commissioner Plyman stated that he put the goals in Goodyear Park. He stated that President Clinton has midnight basketball in Washington, D.C. and so does the City of Brunswick.

Commissioner Plyman recommended using Selden Park and Howard Coffin Park to play basketball.

Joey Cason, Recreation Director stated that he met with the County Recreation Director to see if it was feasible to put basketball goals.

Commissioner Lawrence stated that Selden Park is a public park and why does the City Recreation Director have to meet with the County Recreation Director.

Mayor Wilson stated that he did not mind elevating the goal post in the area and he hated to admit that Police officers cannot enforce the law.

The Recreation Director stated the goals are regulation height at ten feet and an employee has been monitoring Goodyear Park since Monday. The Recreation Director stated that he will try to do programming at H street Community Center to have a three-on-three league. The Recreation Director pointed out that the City was keeping a record of how many residents visit Goodyear Park.

Commissioner Jennings moved and Commissioner Plyman seconded the motion to move the basketball goals to the tennis courts and put in regulation goals 10 feet high as a temporary measure in Goodyear Park. The motion passed by vote of 3 to 1. Commissioner Lawrence opposing.

BIDS

The following bid was submitted for the purchase of a machine for cleaning sewer and storm drains:

Consolidated Disposal System No Bid

Van-Con, Inc.	Base price	167,633.00
969 Hall Park Dr.	Add Equipment	1,953.00
Green Cove Springs, Fl. 32043	Trade-In	(\$35,000.00) Total
		132,633.00

Commissioner Plyman moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion authorizing the City to purchase equipment to clean sewers and storm drains upon receiving warranty in writing. The motion passed unanimously.

The City Manager stated that he received a quote for a garbage truck body to replace the body on the old garage truck used in public works.

Commissioner Plyman questioned what type of body will be placed on the garbage truck.

The Commission tabled purchasing a body for the garbage truck.

MONTHLY REPORTS

The following reports for the month of March were submitted and were 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 Plyman seconded the motion to accept the reports. The motion passed unanimously.

CEMETERY DEEDS

On motion of Commissioner Lawrence seconded by Commissioner Plyman the following cemetery petitions were unanimously granted.

Petition received for Joyce Googe to exchange cemetery lots in Catholic Section 47C. Petitioner requested deed to Catholic Section 47B in lieu of original deed which has been lost, but city records verify ownership.

Petition received from Leon Guest to return for resale Catholic Section, N-1/2 of lot 88b. Original deed lost, but city records verify ownership. Petition received to transfer Lot No. 4, Section No.125 in Palmetto Cemetery from Lillian Brewer to Debra B. Brown. Original deed lost, but city records verify ownership.

Petition received from A. T. Alves to return for resale Catholic Section Lot 41. Original deed lost, but city records verify ownership.

REDEMPTION DEEDS

Petition for redemption deeds, all taxes, interest and cost have been paid and account is clear.

- 1) Robert W. Lampkin on New Town Lots 1491 and 1492 for \$144.91 or the year

1987;

- 2) Robert W. Lampkin on S-1/2 of W-1/2 of Town Commons Lot N. 149, between Cochran & Stonewall for \$70.96 for the year 1988;
- 3) H. & D. of J. H. Sloan on E-60 of Lot No. 41 of Old Town Bay for \$289.83 for the year 1984;

Commissioner Lawrence moved and Commissioner Plyman seconded the motion authorizing the Mayor to execute redemption deeds. The motion passed unanimously.

OTHER CITY BUSINESS

The City Manager reported that the County Commissioners requested a date for a joint meeting with the City.

Commissioner Jennings reported that he has been trying for 15 months to put a fence up at Greenwood Cemetery for his beloved brothers and sisters. Commissioner Jennings stated that tourist pass by and see the old fence torn down. He stated that he would like to see something done about putting a fence around Greenwood Cemetery.

Commissioner Plyman asked about the progress on the roof of the Police Department. The City Manager told Commissioner Plyman that he is still working on plans for the roof.

Commissioner Plyman reported that carpet companies remove carpet from houses in the City and leave the carpet on the street. The City Attorney stated that the City has an ordinance that prohibits littering in the City of Brunswick. Commissioner Plyman stated that the City should notify carpet companies about the ordinance.

Commissioner Plyman stated that he called Chicago to order sirens for the fire trucks. Commissioner Plyman requested the City purchase sirens for the fire trucks.

The City Manager stated that these are backup fire trucks that are not used everyday.

Commissioner Plyman requested that the City Manager investigate to see if the sirens could be used for the fire trucks.

Commissioner Lawrence reported that seals are coming loose on caskets. Commissioner Lawrence questioned who is responsible for the sealing the caskets. The City Manager stated he would speak with the Director of Public Works.

Commissioner Lawrence told the Commission that he was very much disappointed what the City agreed to do concerning Goodyear Park. Commissioner Lawrence pointed out that the decisions that the Commission make for young people today in the Community, will result in young people having have an opportunity later on in life to make decisions concerning them. Commissioner Lawrence stated that the Commission should look out for all residents and take care of other areas in the City.

The City Attorney reported that the agreement for collection of water

payments by Five Points Supermarket is completed for a temporary 90-day trial period. The City Attorney stated that the owner Charles Loving must provide insurance and a hold harmless agreement. The City Attorney stated that Mr. Loving have already agreed to this.

MEETING ADJOURNED.

Mayor

Attest _____
City Clerk