

OFFICIAL MINUTES  
COMMISSION MEETING OF THE CITY OF BRUNSWICK, GEORGIA  
REGULAR MINUTES  
8:30 A. M., February 4, 1998

PRESENT: His Honor Mayor Bradford S. Brown, Commissioners Roosevelt Lawrence, Harold E. Jennings and Jonathan Williams and Doris Davis.

INVOCATION: The invocation was given by Commissioner Jonathan Williams.

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Commissioner Lawrence moved and Commissioner Jennings seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the meeting of January 21, 1998. The motion carried.

**APPOINTMENT TO LIBRARY BOARD**

Commissioner Lawrence nominated Hattie Coleman to serve on the Library Board. Commissioner Jennings seconded the nomination. There being no further nominations, the nominations for the Library Board was closed. On call for the vote Hattie Coleman was unanimously appointed to serve on the Library Board for 2 years.

**APPOINTMENT TO PARK AND TREE BOARD**

The City Manager informed the Commission that the request for appointment to the Park and Tree Board was received yesterday.

Mayor Brown stated that he did not have an opportunity to study the credentials of the applicant to serve on the Park and Tree Board. Mayor Brown mentioned that he spoke with citizens that may be interested in serving on the Park and Tree Board. He recommended that the appointment to the Park and Tree Board be tabled. Commissioner Jennings moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion to table the appointment to the Park and Tree Board until the next Commission meeting.

Commissioner Lawrence suggested that each Commissioner be given the latitude to submit a name for appointment to the Park and Tree Board.

On call for the vote the motion carried.

**BID RECOMMENDATION**

The City Manager recommended accepting the low bid from Kings Colonial Ford for the purchase of a 1998 Pick-Up Truck for the Building Inspections Department.

Vendor	Comments	Total
Dan Vaden      1998	2WD S-10 Pick-Up Reg. Cab 6.1 Box	\$11,577.34
Kings Colonial Ford, Inc.	Ford Ranger Regular Cab 4 x 2 112" Wheelbase	\$11,215.70

Commissioner Lawrence questioned the purpose of having a pickup truck for the Building Inspector when the Inspector already have a car.

The City Manager stated that the City have two people that work in the office. -- It is actually two Building Inspectors one full time and one part time. The part time Building Inspector has been using his personal vehicle. Purchasing a truck will allow both Inspectors to have transportation.

Commissioner Lawrence stated that the Director of Community Development is in charge of that Department and the request to purchase a truck did not come through his office. Commissioner Lawrence pointed out that the Director of Community Development did not appear before the Commission requesting to purchase a pick up truck.

The City Manager stated that the pick up truck was submitted by the Director of Community Development in his budget recommendation for the 1997-98 budget.

Commissioner Lawrence recommended that the Director of Community Development be aware of all purchases for that Department due to the fact that the Building Inspectors job is under that Department.

The City Manager stated that the Director of Community Development is fully aware of the purchase of a pick up truck for the Building Inspectors Department. The Director of Community Development was involved in the bid process reviewing the bids when they came in.

Commissioner Lawrence asked if the City had two Building Inspectors. The City Manager responded that the City have another part time Building Inspector.

#### DELEGATIONS

Robert Bradley representing the Dixville Coalition thanked the Commission for the playground equipment in Dixville Park. Mr. Bradley also thanked Representatives Rev. E. C. Tillman for securing funds for the equipment and the Rotary Club. Mr. Bradley stated that the playground equipment was installed in two weeks.

Mr. Bradley invited the Commission to attend Dixville Coalition's annual banquet on March 28, 1998. Mr. Bradley stated that young successful men and women who lived in Dixville will be honored. Mr. Bradley pointed out that citizens who lived in Dixville have been looked down upon for a long time.

Mayor Brown thanked Mr. Bradley for voicing his concern. Mayor Brown told Mr. Bradley that the City would dedicate the new playground equipment in Dixville Park.

#### PEOPLE'S BUDGET

Commissioner Jennings stated that the People's Budget would give structure and firmness to the City's 320 employees. The People's Budget will also give accountability to citizens to inform them on employee's progress through evaluations. Commissioner Jennings stated that each Department Head would submit five goals they wish to accomplish through the Budget progress. The media will be informed at the end of each year on the accomplishments. Commissioner Jennings pointed out that every City employee would be evaluated. The City Commission will evaluate the City Manager, City Attorney and City Commission Secretary. All other Department Heads will be evaluated by the City Manager and employees will be will be evaluated by Department Heads. Commissioner Jennings

pointed out that every institution has evaluations.

Commissioner Jennings asked the City Manager to come up with evaluation forms used by Government, Schools and Industries.

Commissioner Lawrence asked whether only Department Heads would be considered to serve on the People's Budget. Commissioner Jennings stated that citizens would give input on the People's Budget. A financial Budget is recorded on paper and a People's Budget will give reports on how employees are doing through evaluations. The citizens will know exactly what the Commission is trying to do by evaluating the 320 employees that work for the City.

Commissioner Williams stated that he thought Commissioner Jennings idea was good, but whenever he call it the People's Budget it have a tendency of turning everybody's thought toward money. Commissioner Williams suggested that Commissioner Jennings word it another way or call it a checkmark or whatever he prefer to call it rather than a budget. Commissioner Williams stated that the City pay a salary to persons to administer the City's Budget.

Commissioner Jennings asked the Commission to come up with a different name to eliminate the word budget. Commissioner Lawrence suggested changing the word people. Commissioner Lawrence pointed out when the word people are used that means every citizen feels that they will have an opportunity to serve on the People's Budget. Commissioner Jennings stated that 16,000 citizens cannot serve on the People's Budget.

Mayor Brown stated that the People's Budget should be a working document.

Rev. Rance Pettibone suggested changing the name from the People's Budget to the City's Accountability Report.

Commissioner Jennings moved and Commissioner Davis seconded the motion adopting the City's Accountability Report. The motion carried.

#### **CEMETERY DEEDS**

Petition received to transfer Lot No. 1, Section No. 97 in Greenwood Cemetery from Willie D. Baker to Dave Whitfield, Sr. Original deed surrendered. Commissioner Davis moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion granting the petition. The motion carried.

Petition of Larry V. Bullard for deed to Lot 36, Section No. C-7, Plots 2, 3, and 4 in Palmetto Cemetery in lieu of original deed, which has been lost, misplaced or destroyed; but City records verify ownership. Commissioner Davis moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion granting the petition. The motion carried.

#### **DELEGATIONS**

Patricia Barefoot thanked the Commission for the opportunity to appear before them to discuss the deannexation of Quarantine Island from the City of Brunswick. Mrs. Barefoot stated that the original and sole intent was to seek tax relief from the City due to the fact that she received no services for their resident on Quarantine Island. She pointed out that there are no roads, bridges, sidewalks, street lamps, water or sewage facilities, no garbage collection, emergency medical service or fire protection for their property on Quarantine Island. Mrs. Barefoot told the Commission that she did not anticipate their support and wished to refrain from being embroiled in prolonged controversy with the City. For these reasons she asked to withdraw their request for deannexation from Quarantine

Island from the City at this time. Mrs. Barefoot stated that they would contact Senator Ed Boashears, Representative Rev. E. C. Tillman and Stephen Scarlett to notify them of their wishes.

Commissioner Lawrence asked one question in lieu of Mrs. Barefoot's request to be exempted from taxes based on not receiving any services from the City. Commissioner Lawrence questioned whether the County rendered any services to them on Quarantine Island. Mrs. Barefoot told Commissioner Lawrence that she did not wish to discuss what County services she received on Quarantine Island. Commissioner Lawrence stated he was just asking a question.

Mrs. Barefoot stated that it was understood that Georgia Law requires Municipalities to provide some type of services to taxpayers.

Commissioner Lawrence asked Mrs. Barefoot whether she paid County taxes since the work taxes was used. Mrs. Barefoot stated that she paid County and City taxes.

Commissioner Williams stated that Mrs. Barefoot made a statement concerning she anticipated the Commission not agreeing with her.

Commissioner Williams stated that he felt it was unfair to the Commission because Mrs. Barefoot has not spoken to anyone. Mrs. Barefoot stated that she did not want to bother Commissioner Williams at work. Commissioner Williams told Mrs. Barefoot that a public statement was made and it seems as if she can determine what the Commissioners are thinking even before they voiced their opinion. Commissioner Williams asked Mrs. Barefoot and all citizens to approach the Commissioners and see what they have to say rather than just guessing. He stated that what the citizen's guess may not be their feelings.

Mrs. Barefoot stated that whenever she speaks of the City of Brunswick it is in a positive way. She stated that the issue was strictly tax relief and no harm was intended for the City of Brunswick.

Commissioner Jennings stated that it was kind of prejudicial to ask the City for tax relief to save \$422.00 when paying the County \$900.00.

Commissioner Jennings further stated that he spoke with Mrs. Barefoot about deannexation. He suggested the use of the Coast Guard Service for emergencies. He pointed out if the City set a precedence then other subdivisions in the City may ask for tax relief.

Mayor Brown stated that it was not appropriate to continue to discuss the issue.

Commissioner Lawrence stated that he did not have an opportunity to discuss the issue with Mrs. Barefoot. Mrs. Barefoot stated that she did attempt to contact Commissioner Lawrence.

Mayor Brown stated that he would like to hold an Executive Session.

#### OTHER CITY BUSINESS

Commissioner Jennings moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion adopting the following resolution for participation in the Lease Pool. The motion carried.

Commissioner Davis stated that a copy of the Federal Mandated

Issues was placed in their box and would like to discuss it at the next meeting.

Commissioner Lawrence mentioned that graves were coming up in the cemetery. The City Manager stated it is wet and the City has to wait until everything dries out.

Commissioner Lawrence recommended that the City make homes better looking to blend in with the streetscape. He suggested that the City look into how other cities received their funding to beautify their community. The City Manager stated that he would request information on the Clean Cities Communities and other cities who have streetscapes. Commissioner Lawrence recommended that the City change the zoning in Perry Park to R-9 One Family Residential District. He pointed out that other subdivisions in the City like Windsor Park, College Park and Magnolia Park are zoned R-9 One Family Residential District.

Commissioner Jennings stated that he received phone calls from citizens concerned about the activities at the Lil' Champ Store. He recommended that the City not renew the alcoholic beverage license.

Mayor Brown stated that the issuance of the alcoholic beverage license for Lil Champ could be discussed at a Work Session.

Commissioner Jennings moved and Commissioner Davis seconded the motion to hold an Executive Session to discuss a Personnel matter.

Following the Executive Session Mayor Brown announced that the City Attorney resigned. He stated that the City would advertise for a New City Attorney.

**MEETING ADJOURNED.**

/s/Bradford S. Brown

Mayor

Attest: /s/Georgia E. Marion  
City Clerk