

OFFICIAL MINUTES  
COMMISSION MEETING OF THE CITY OF BRUNSWICK, GEORGIA  
REGULAR MEETING  
8:30 A. M., May 06, 1998

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

INVOCATION: The invocation was given by Commissioner Harold E. Jennings.

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 approving the minutes of the meeting of April 15, 1998. The motion carried.

PROCLAMATION PRESENTED FOR NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

Mayor brown presented Tiki Lloyd a proclamation proclaiming May 7, 1998 as National Day of Prayer in the City of Brunswick.

Mrs. Lloyd invited everyone to attend the National Day of Prayer ceremony at 12:00 p.m. on Thursday May 7th at City Hall.

RECOGNITION OF MARIANE GRIFFITH

Mayor Brown thanked Mariane Griffith, owner of Tropical Treasures on behalf of the Commission and residents of the City for graciously donating and planting 72 azaleas and 4 crepe myrtles in Hanover Square. Recreation employees assisted Mrs. Griffith in planting the flowers around the fountain. Mayor Brown stated that the City of Brunswick appreciate the donation of the beautiful plants and flowers.

Mrs. Griffith stated that it is an honor and privilege to donate the plants to the City. She further stated that the City has been supportive of her family and the employees of Tropical Treasures.

ADOPTION OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT

The Director of Community Development recommended adoption of the Community Development Block Grant awarded to the City of Brunswick on April 21, 1998 for the expansion of the Multipurpose Center in the amount of \$396,000.00 and a cash match from the City of Brunswick in the amount of \$121,500.00.

Commissioner Lawrence moved and Commissioner Jennings seconded the motion unanimously adopting the following resolution:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Commission of the City of Brunswick that it hereby approves the Small Cities Public Facilities Block Grant in the amount of \$396,000.00 for the expansion of the Multipurpose Center.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Brunswick commits Community Development funds in the amount of \$121,500.00 to be used as a cash match for the Small Cities Public Facilities Block Grant for the expansion of the Multipurpose Center.

#### ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE RENEWAL

The following 1998 alcoholic beverage license renewal was submitted and approved by the Chief of Police and City Manager. On motion of Commissioner Davis and seconded by Commissioner Lawrence the petition was unanimously granted.

#### To retail beer and wine for consumption off premises:

Randy Blackman at Winn Dixie #60, 1941 Glynn Avenue.

Petition received from Samuel J. Oglesby, Jr. to retail beer for consumption on premises at South End Bar 1001 Martin Luther King Blvd. The alcoholic beverage license petition was submitted and approved by the Chief of Police and City Manager. Commissioner Lawrence questioned whether the new license was for a new business or new management.

The City Manager stated that there has been a business at that location in the past and the business is opening up under different management.

Commissioner Davis moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion to grant the petition. The motion carried.

#### DIXVILLE COALITION

Robert Bradley, Vice Chairman of the Dixville Coalition for Growth Incorporated appeared before the Commission to give an update on activities held by the organization. Mr. Bradley stated that the Coalition was organized in 1994 and held many Community Cleanup projects in Dixville and the surrounding areas. He pointed out that they sponsor Boys and Girls Basketball Tournaments, and Senior Citizens Day. Mr. Bradley acknowledged the contributions of food from Wells Produce, Kroger and Winn Dixie for the coalition after school program. Mr. Bradley thanked State Representative E. C. Tillman, the Rotary Club and the City of Brunswick for the playground equipment. Mr. Bradley thanked Hercules and area Banks for their contributions. Mr. Bradley submitted pictures of children in Dixville who made the honor roll this year. Mr. Bradley pointed out these children are tutored every afternoon and are training to become good citizens.

Mr. Bradley noted that many organizations have used Dixville Coalition's name to receive grants and not any funds were given to the Coalition.

Mr. Bradley thanked the Chief of Police for doing a good job and expressed concerns about drug problems in the area.

Mr. Bradley thanked Commissioner Davis for supporting the Coalition and participating in community activities sponsored by the Coalition.

Mr. Bradley mentioned that the Coalition installed Bus Shelters in the community and added additional recreational equipment to the park on Prince Street.

Mr. Bradley stated that the Coalition's long range plan is to acquire a building for the inter-city Community Youth Center. Commissioner Davis commended the members of the Dixville Coalition for doing a wonderful job. She stated that the Coalition celebrated their 4th Anniversary and held a banquet in honor of their anniversary. A former resident Alvin Atkinson was the guest speaker.

Mr. Bradley pointed out that Mr. Atkinson was also the guest speaker and serves as the Vice President of Wachovia Bank in

Winston Salem, North Carolina.

Mayor Brown stated that the City appreciates what Dixville Coalition has done in the Community. He stressed that it takes a joint effort and it will make a difference.

#### **WATERFRONT PARK BID**

Mayor Brown stated that the management of the Waterfront Park was rebid and Golden Isles Arts and Humanity Association submitted a bid.

Commissioner Davis moved and Commissioner Jennings seconded the motion to accept the bid from Golden Isles Arts and Humanity Association in the amount of \$36,000.00.

Commissioner Lawrence led a discussion regarding accepting the bid offered by Golden Isles Arts and Humanities. Commissioner Lawrence questioned whether the City had to accept the bid for \$36,000.00. He stated that he would like to grant the contract for the management of the Waterfront Park for \$30,000.00 instead of the \$36,000.00

The City Attorney advised the Commission that the bid for \$36,000.00 can be rejected and the City may rebid the management of the Waterfront Park. He stressed that the Commission cannot decrease the bid amount to \$30,000.00. Commissioner Jennings questioned whether the City receives funds from the Waterfront Park. The City Manager stated that the fees generated from the Waterfront Park have to be used for the upkeep of the Park and turned over to the City.

Commissioner Lawrence questioned whether the contract for the management of the waterfront Park indicated that all fees must come back to the City. The City Manager explained that the proposal states that all revenues received from the Waterfront Park must be returned to the City.

On call for the vote. The motion carried.

#### **BID RECOMMENDATION SOUTH END SEWER PROJECT**

The Director of Water and Wastewater submitted the following bids for the South End Sewer Project:

Douglas Electric	\$1,495,390.75
Morris Electric and Plumbing	\$1,508,786.00

The Director of Water and Wastewater recommended awarding the bid to Douglas Electric Company.

Commissioner Jennings led a discussion concerning the \$900,00.00 the City allocated to use on the South End Sewer Project. Commissioner Jennings pointed out that the City has a problem.

The City Manager explained that the City has a miscellaneous fund that could be used for the project. Sewer lines will have to be removed from the alley and placed in front of homes. He pointed out that this amount has been placed in the budget. The funds will come from the Sewer Rehabilitation Account.

Commissioner Jennings expressed concerns of the residents about having their lawn and driveways replaced by the City after the project is completed. The City Manager stated that this is included in the contract to take care of the lawns and driveways once the project is completed.

Commissioner Davis recalled when the water lines were replaced the work was never completed by the City. She stated that the work was finished by most homeowners.

Commissioner Lawrence questioned how long it would take to put the streets back in order when the sewer project is completed. The City Manager stated that the City would work closely with the contractor to make sure everything is put back in order.

The Director of Water and Wastewater explained that the project will last for 430 days and will begin on June 6th, 1998.

Commissioner Lawrence questioned when other areas of the City would receive help for their drainage problems.

The City Manager stated that the SPLOST project would cover drainage and sewer problems in other areas of the City. Commissioner Davis moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion to accept the bid of Douglas Electric in the amount of \$1,495,390.75. The motion carried.

#### **CEMETERY TRUST FUND BOARD MEMBERS**

The City Manager reported that the City adopted a resolution to create a Board of Trustees, which shall consist of five persons appointed by the City Commission. He stated that the five member Board of Trustees shall be two residents, two Funeral Directors and one City Official.

Commissioner Lawrence stated that the Commission should appoint Board the five panel.

Commissioner Williams moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion authorizing the Funeral Directors to select two persons to serve on the Board of Trustees and the Commission appoint two residents and a Commissioner to serve on the Board of Trustees.

Commissioner Williams moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion appointing Commissioner Jennings to serve on the Board of Trustees and the Mayor to serve as an ex-officio member. The motion carried.

Eddie Parker, a member of the Glynn Academy Class of 1941 stated that a donation of over \$7,000.00 was made to the Cemetery Trust Fund. Mr. Parker stated that the class would like to suggest a couple of residents to serve on the Board of Trustees.

Mr. Parker requested that Mr. Joe Whittle and Mrs. Bernice Palmer be appointed to serve on the Board of Trustees.

Commissioner Lawrence questioned why Mr. Parker was not recommended to serve on the board of Trustees. Mr. Parker told Commissioner Lawrence that he is a resident of the County. Commissioner Lawrence suggested that the Resolution be amended to allow county residents to serve on the Board of Trustees.

Commissioner Lawrence suggested that the Commission set dates for the Board of Trustees to serve on the Cemetery Trust Fund. He stated that the Commission should discuss the term dates.

Sara Cassidy stated that she compiled a book listing names of people buried in Palmetto Cemetery.

Commissioner Jennings moved and Commissioner Lawrence

seconded the motion to appoint Eddie Parker as an ex-officio member of the Board of Trustees. The motion carried.

Mayor Brown instructed the City Manager to submit the names of the residents selected by the Funeral Directors to serve on the Board of Trustees at the next meeting.

#### OTHER CITY BUSINESS

The City Manager reported that the Housing Authority requested that the City close off Amherst Street to traffic between K and L Street. He stated that he received information that the area created a dangerous situation for children and traffic.

Commissioner Lawrence suggested that Amherst Street be changed to one way going South. He stated that businesses are in the area and closing the street would not allow access to these businesses.

The City Manager suggested closing off the area with a fence to prevent cars from entering off K Street.

Commissioner Jennings moved to table the closing of Amherst Street until the owners of the businesses could be contacted. Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion.

Commissioner Lawrence stated that residents will be congregating and parking at the fence. Commissioner Williams recommended placing a gate so that residents will have access to K Street. Commissioner Lawrence suggested getting input from residents. On call for the vote the motion carried.

Commissioner Jennings moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion authorizing the Mayor to execute project agreement with the Department of Transportation for paving Coral Park Drive. The motion carried. The City Manager submitted a proposal for the Water payment collections by a Collection Agency. The Director of Finance stated that most accounts are ninety days to one year and the accounts are for residents who moved.

Commissioner Lawrence questioned the percentage that would be charged by the Collection Agency. The Director of Finance stated that the Collection Agency would charge thirty percent.

The Commission discussed at length the collection of delinquent water accounts. Commissioner Lawrence recommended that the Commission be notified before any changes take place in the way delinquent water customers are notified concerning a bill and they should kept abreast of all changes occurring with the collection process.

Commissioner Jennings moved and Commissioner Davis seconded the motion accepting the proposal of Coastal Collection Agency to collect delinquent water accounts. The motion carried.

The City Manager reported that the City received a proposal from Winn Dixie to use an office in the store on Altama Avenue as a stop station to compile police reports. The City Manager pointed out that Jacksonville Florida Stores have STOP Stations for Police officers.

The Chief of Police stated that the Police Officers would be able to finish reports instead of driving to the Police Station on the South End of Brunswick. He stated that Winn Dixie is moving next door to a better location.

Commissioner Jennings expressed concerns about the store having more police privileges than citizens.

Following a lengthy discussion Commission Davis moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion approving Winn Dixie on Altama Avenue as a Police Stop Station. The motion was carried.

Commissioner Williams stated that it would be better to have a Police Officer visible and other things would be derived from this. Commissioner Williams stated that he would like to see Police Officers parked in the dangerous areas of the City to stop some of the dangerous activity. Commissioner Williams stated that this is a wonderful positive idea.

Joseph Francis mentioned that the City could not sweep the streets when cars are parked on the street. He stated that there are many cars that the City needs to move off the streets.

Mr. Francis expressed his concerns about the use of abandoned houses and empty lots to dump trash.

Mr. Francis suggested that Police Officers park their cars and walk in the Dixville area.

Mr. Francis invited the Mayor and City Commissioners to visit the Dixville area.

Mayor Brown told Mr. Francis that the City Brunswick is working on some of the problems and encouraged residents to continue to give information to Police Officers. He stated that the City would keep focusing on the Dixville area. Commissioner Lawrence recommended that the City contact residents and let them know when the City will sweep the streets so that they can move their cars.

The City Manager stated that he would submit a copy of the street sweeping schedule and place signs in the area.

Charles Scott, chairman of the Downtown Development Authority appeared before the Commission to speak on the Waterfront Management Contract.

Commissioner Lawrence asked Mr. Scott the reason the Downtown Development Authority did not accept the contract for managing the Waterfront Park.

Mr. Scott told the Commission that the contract was very good.

Commissioner Davis asked Mr. Scott what was the reason why DDA did not want to manage the Waterfront Park.

Mr. Scott explained that the DDA'S main objective is to accomplish their mission. The DDA followed supporters and their mission was to support anyone who managed the park. Mr. Scott stated that the consensus of DDA was to withdraw their proposal to manage the Waterfront Park.

Commissioner Jennings recommended that the Commission use a point scoring process to select a City Manager. The same process used to select the City Attorney.

Mayor Brown stated that he would like to select the applicants by the 15th of the month. He suggested that each Commissioner and Mayor select ten applicants and submit them and the Commission will narrow down the selection and proceed with the interviewing process.

The Commission set May 15th at 3:30 p.m. to hold a Called Meeting to review the applications.

Commissioner Jennings suggested that the City put in place a policy to establish docking fees for the City Dock. He recommended that the City raise the fee to \$5.00 or \$6.00 and charge \$50.00 for boats to dock overnight.

The City Manager stated that he is working on contacting other communities to get some rates.

Commissioner Williams recommended placing electricity on the dock and repairing the dock.

Commissioner Jennings recommended that the City revise the Credit Card Policy. He instructed the City Manager to speak with other cities to find out their policies on credit cards.

Commissioner Davis reported that a Town Hall meeting will be held on the 26th of May. Commissioner Jennings and Commissioner Davis will host the Town Hall Meeting.

Commissioner Davis reported that Tires are piling up on Gloucester Street.

Commissioner Davis recommended that the meeting scheduled for May 20th be rescheduled to May 27th at 7:00 p.m. Commissioner Davis instructed the City Clerk to advertise the rescheduled meeting.

Commissioner Davis moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion to reschedule the meeting of May 20th to May 27th and advertise the rescheduled meeting. The motion carried.

Commissioner Davis mentioned that the Citizens graduated from the Citizens Police Academy. She stated that the program was a success and the City Manager was a great speaker. Commissioner Davis pointed out that Mayor Brown is a sharp shooter and he also graduated from the Citizens Police Academy.

Commissioner Williams reported that residents in 1900 Block of Reynolds Street lost their cable and called him to complain. He questioned whether the City could do anything about the problem. Residents were not able to get through the cable's 24-hour service.

The City Manager stated that the City does not have any authority over the Cable Company. The City Manager stated that he would give the Cable Manager a call concerning the problem.

Commissioner Lawrence mentioned that he received calls from handicap residents concerning the access to stalls at Mary Ross Waterfront Park. He suggested that the City discontinue renting out stall number 24 and make the aisle handicap accessible.

Commissioner Lawrence stated that he would like to discuss a Personnel matter.

Commissioner Lawrence moved and Commissioner Jennings seconded the motion to hold an Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter. The motion carried.

Mayor Brown reported that the Harborfest would begin on Saturday with a parade. He asked each Commissioner to confirm the luncheon for the Chamber of Commerce at 12:00 p.m. on May 26th. Mayor Brown announced that the next joint City/County meeting would be held on the 28th of May at Glynn County.

Following the Executive Session Mayor Brown stated that the Commission did not have a decision or resolution.

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

MEETING ADJOURNED.

/s/Bradford S. Brown  
Mayor

Attest: /s/Georgia E. Marion  
City Clerk