

**OFFICIAL MINUTES
COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF BRUNSWICK, GEORGIA
CALLED MEETING
2:00 P.M. JUNE 19, 1998**

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

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

Mayor Brown announced that the meeting was called to discuss the construction of a Fire Station on the Northend of Brunswick.

Mayor Brown stated that the Commission asked for information on contracts of warranty performed by the Department of Corrections.

The City Attorney stated that The Department of Corrections does not warrant any work, but they will submit a letter describing the scope of work and a subletting contract. He stated that The Department of Corrections has completed 248 construction projects and recourse is Public Relations between The Department of Corrections.

Commissioner Lawrence asked whether The Department of Corrections is willing to issue a warranty on work.

The City Attorney pointed out that the City will have recourse with a contractor and The Department of Corrections will construct the building with a contract.

Commissioner Lawrence asked the City Attorney whether the city should accept the conditions from The Department of Corrections. The City Attorney stated that he would accept the conditions as an individual.

Commissioner Davis questioned whether all the construction projects that The Department of Corrections completed did they ever have to go back to make repairs to any of the facilities. The City Attorney stated if The Department of Corrections did they took care of the problem.

Commissioner Jennings questioned whether the city contracted any of the 248 construction project facilities that The Department of corrections constructed.

The City Attorney stated that he has not checked with any of the 248 facilities.

Roosevelt Harris, Interim City Manager stated that he visited Richmond Hill and spoke with Mr. Stevens about the facility that The Department of Corrections constructed. Mr. Stevens told Mr. Harris that he assumed the role of general contractor. Mr. Harris submitted pictures of the facility built by The Department of Corrections. He inspected the building and found no flaws. Mr. Harris stated that Richmond Hill recently built a senior citizens multifamily complex and they want them to build a City Hall.

Mayor Brown pointed out that Wayne County used The Department of Corrections and Americus Georgia. Mayor Brown stated that he did not receive any derogatory comments from anyone concerning the construction projects. He stated that Jekyll Island will use The Department of Corrections to build an office on Jekyll.

Fire Chief Lee Stewart stated that he visited Odum Georgia's Fire Station and the station has no flaws.

Commissioner Jennings recommended that the City Attorney call and do a random sampling of construction projects completed by The Department of Corrections. He stated that there should be negative and positive feedback.

Mayor Brown recommended that a decision be made by the Commission.

Commissioner Jennings moved to table the construction of the Fire Station until the City received information from cities where The Department of Corrections have built projects such as schools and buildings. There was no second to the motion.

Commissioner Lawrence expressed his disappointment. He pointed out that the City did not receive anything in writing as instructed in the meeting on Wednesday night June 17th.

The City Attorney mentioned that The Department of Corrections does not enter into contracts. Commissioner Lawrence asked if that was the way the city needed to go and allow The Department of Defender Rehabilitation to build a Fire Station without a contract? The City Attorney told Commissioner Lawrence that it is a policy question and he could not make a recommendation to the City.

Commissioner Williams asked if there is a Legislative Bill approving The Department of Corrections to construct buildings. The City Attorney stated that there is a Legislative Bill approving the construction.

Commissioner Williams mentioned that State Government has to stand behind the law which was passed and The Department of Corrections was put out there to help with this service.

Commissioner Jennings asked how much money would the City save. The City Manager stated that the City could save 12 to 17 percent on the total project.

Commissioner Davis moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion to bid the project out.

Commissioner Williams questioned how long it will take to bid out the project. It was stated that the construction would begin in about a year due to the SPLOST prony list.

Commissioner Lawrence recommended that the City place a temporary fire truck o the Northend to increase fire protection in the area. Fire Chief Lee Stewart stated that the city does not have the facility to house a fire truck or any staff members.

Commissioner Lawrence asked the Fire Chief Lee Stewart to make a suggestion. Chief Stewart stated that the City must follow the codes and a temporary station is not the answer.

On call for the vote the motion tied by vote of 2-2-0. Commissioner Davis and Lawrence voting yes, and Mayor Brown and Commissioner Jennings voting no. Commissioner Williams abstained. The motion failed.

Commissioner Williams stated that he abstained for this reason, he cannot see the city putting off something they can do today. He could not see putting off the construction of the Fire Station.

Commissioner Lawrence mentioned when the City added the construction of the Fire Station to SPLOST the City agreed to build the Fire Station with any prison labor. The City should have placed the construction of the Fire Station on the SPLOST priority list.

The City Manager explained that the Fire Station was scheduled for a later SPLOST project. The Fire Station should have been a top priority project. The City was given an opportunity to build the Fire Station quicker and cheaper. He pointed out that the city could have waited for the South end.

SEWER PROJECT

Commissioner Jennings stated that this is the hardest decision he had to make in two and one half years. Commissioner Jennings moved and Commissioner Williams seconded the motion to use the Department of Corrections to build the Northend Fire Station. The motion carried by vote of 3 to 2. Mayor Brown, Commissioners Williams and Jennings voting yes and Commissioners Davis and Lawrence voting no.

MEETING ADJOURNED

/s/ Bradford S. Brown
Mayor

Attest: /s/ Georgia E. Marion
City Clerk