

**OFFICIAL MINUTES
COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF BRUNSWICK, GEORGIA
REGULAR MEETING
8:30 A.M., DECEMBER 9, 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, Commissioners and everyone in attendance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Williams moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion approving the minutes of the meeting of November 18, 1998. The motion carried.

DELEGATION

Rev. William Ligon, pastor of the Christian Renewal Ministries appeared before the Commission to discuss research on year 2000 computer problems. Rev. Ligon presented a copy of a notebook with year 2000 information regarding computers problems with computers that could face cities throughout the United States.

Kevin Drury, Jim White, Tommie Williams and Jeri Wright participated in compiling and preparing the year 2000 information. Tommie Williams pointed out that 175 million dollars will be set aside by agencies for the year 2000 computer problems. She read a scripture and told the Commission that they have a responsibility to God to be concerned about what will happen in the year 2000. She stated that upgrading computers will not be enough. The task of solving the problem is more difficult, starting now to solve the problem is too late. People must be prepared. An essential interruption in services will occur and it is not a technical problem. This is a management problem.

Kevin Drury stated medicare payments, airport transportation, electrical and the military will be effected by the year 2000 problems Mr. Drury asked the Commission to inform the Community on Y2K problems. It will effect welfare payroll and emergency. Microchips are embedded in cables and everything is run by satellite, that is how the interruption will occur. Computers will interpret the year as 1900 instead of 2000. He requested that the City set up a training area in the City. Mr. Drury stated that they will also approach the County for funding.

Commissioner Jennings stated this issue involves software, hardware and microchips found in machines and electronic devices. It will effect food, heat, light water/wastewater, medical, tourism and churches. He expressed his concerns.

Commissioner Jennings recommended that the City ask Woody Woodside, Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce to meet jointly with the City/County in January and by July of 1999, the City will know whether or not the computers and electronic devices will be Y2K compliant.

Commissioner Jennings thanked Rev. Ligon and members of his congregation for the presentation on Y2K. Commissioner Jennings pointed out that he pushed for Y2K for one year and a half. He stated that a recommendation was made to the former City Manager.

The City Manager stated that a person was appointed to research this problem and she is present to discuss what the City has done.

The Data Processing Director stated that his staff is replacing the mainframe. He stated that many departments are Y2K compliant. Most desktop computers are on the new system. The Police Department is working on their computers and also the Fire Department.

The Director of Water and Wastewater is working on the water system and the Director of Electronics is working on the traffic systems.

Commissioner Williams stated that the City is working to meet the deadline. The Commission approved hardware and software for the Police Department. Linda Gordon staff member of Data Processing stated that she appreciated the information that Rev. Ligon submitted. She stated that information was being gathered off of the internet.

She stated every Department Head is looking into the problems. An inventory will be conducted in all departments to find embedded chips.

The City Manager pointed out that last year the City did not have funds set aside for Y2K. He stated that the funds would be in place by July.

Commissioner Jennings recommended setting aside appropriate funds for the Y2K problems.

The Director of Finance stated that there is money in the contingency fund.

Commissioner Jennings asked when will the Data Processing staff come back to discuss the Y2K problems.

Commissioner Lawrence suggested discussing the Y2K problems in a work session to go further into the needs of all the departments.

Mayor Brown thanked Rev. Ligon for the Y2K information. Mayor Brown stated that the Commission will discuss the Y2K problems in a work session.

The City Manager stated that a work session will be scheduled after the 1st meeting in January. The 15th of January will be better at 5:30 p.m.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE RENEWALS

The following 1999 alcoholic beverage license renewals were submitted and approved by the Chief of Police and the City Manager. On motion of Commissioner Williams seconded by Commissioner Lawrence, the license renewals were unanimously granted.

To retail liquor including beer and wine for consumption on premises:

Eddie L. West, Sr., Club 87 Package Store, 1604 Fourth Street

Jacob Manley, Cut Rate Beverage Center, 1411 L Street

Janice F. Courson, Cherry's Lounge, 2027 Stacy Street

Leonard Cahoon, Jr., Broilermaker Club, 1828 1/2 Wolfe Street

J. Elaine McDonald, The Hideaway Lounge, 1709 1/2 Gloucester Street

Richard E. Godbey, BPOE Elks Lodge 691, 1509 Union Street

Rosalba Cabrera, Cholos Tex-Mex Bar/Grill, 1942 Glynn Avenue

To retail liquor including beer and wine for consumption off premises:

James L. Gibson, Jr., Gibson Beverage Center, 3304 Glynn Avenue

Phillip E. Bluestein, Grogg Shoppe, 1701 Norwich Street

Linda Stayhorn, The Jug Package Store, 1300 London Street

To retail beer and wine for consumption on premises:

Jeanne Robertson, Grapevine Café, 1519 Newcastle Street

Janet Weston, Jinright Seafood House, 2815 Glynn Avenue

To retail beer and wine for consumption off premises:

James L. Gibson, Jr., J.P.'s, 3304 1/2 Glynn Avenue

To retail beer for consumption on premises:

Henry Fernandes, Brunswick Yacht Club, 1200 Glynn Avenue

Nancy Cahoon, Nan's Confectionary, 1828 Wolf Street

To retail beer for consumption off premises:

Robert Herrin, Jack's B P Food Mart, 3424 Cypress Mill Rd.

D. J. Sullivan, King & Prince, 100 Lanier Blvd.

To wholesale beer and wine for consumption off premises:

Michael C. Carlos, National Distributor Co., 1725 T Street

EMPLOYEES GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE

The Director of Finance recommended the following companies for Group Insurance:

TPA – Covenant Administrators, Inc. –	\$41,257.20
HRH Insurance – Local Agent Mike Maloy	
Lumberman's Mutual – Stop Loss Carrier –	\$106,224,60
Total	\$147,481.80

The Covenant Group also submitted bids, however they missed the deadline.

Commissioner Davis recommended that the City pay the remainder of all claims for December and start January 1st with Covenant Administrators, Inc.

Commissioner Jennings moved and Commissioner Williams seconded the motion accepting the low bid of Lumberman's mutual and Covenant Administrators, Inc., in the amount of \$147,481.80. The motion carried.

EMPLOYEE'S ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The City Manager suggested that the Commission go with the Committee's recommendation for the Employee's Assistance program. He stated that the services were bidden out.

Commissioner Davis offered a motion to accept the low bid of Center for Family Growth in the amount of \$6,400.00.

Commissioner Lawrence recalled at the last meeting he requested that Center for Family Growth and Charter Health Center appear before the Commission to discuss their bids and services.

The City Manager stated that he is to blame. There were two companies that were asked to appear before the Commission to discuss their services. He stated that it was recommended that the two companies not appear and the City rebid the Employee Assistance program.

Commissioner Lawrence recalled that the Commission asked that the two companies appear before them and whether it was right or wrong the two companies should be present.

Commissioner Davis stated that all the bids should have been thrown out at the last meeting and had the two companies appeared before the Commission she would have not voted.

Commissioner Williams pointed out that the City Manager appointed a Committee and they recommended the company that was best to serve the City of Brunswick.

The City Manager told the Commission that he did not want them to think that he was going against their wishes. He stated that they do not have anything to do with voting. He is present to honor their wishes.

Commissioner Williams stated that he did not like the idea and the bids should have been thrown out at the last meeting.

The City Attorney stated that the Commission must go with the recommendations and it is proper to recognize people at the meeting and let them speak. Bidders may want to address their proposals. The Commission may request if they are not satisfied with the proposal that the bidder come back. Either course will be proper. He next stated that the Commission needs to do one or the other, either accept the recommendations or throw out the bids.

Commissioner Lawrence recalled at the last meeting the Commission did not discuss going along with the Committee's recommendation. The Commission asked for both companies to appear before the Commission, by requesting this the Commission did not violate any rules.

The City Attorney stated what was done was proper. The Commission did not do anything wrong. They could have compared apples to apples.

Mayor Brown stated that a recommendation can be made today or defer the bids.

Commissioner Lawrence stated that the Commission needed more information and the Committee's recommendation should be respected and the City Commission's wishes should be respected.

The City Manager asked whether the other bidder needed to be contacted.

The City Attorney stated that any bidder can be present and anything else would send a bad message. The City may re-bid and accept the lowest bid. The City may also reject all the bids. The point is not to under bid the lowest bidder if everyone knows what the low bid is.

Commissioner Williams questioned whether the bidders met the requirements and whether the company is capable.

The City Manager stated that according to the Committee's recommendation the company met the specifications.

Commissioner Lawrence stated that this is a form of disrespect to the Commission Board. The Companies were asked to come before the Commission to present their proposals.

Commissioner Davis stated that the other company should have not been allowed to speak.

Commissioner Williams moved to accept the recommendation from the Committee for the Employee Assistance Program. Center for Growth in the amount of \$6,400.00. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. The motion carried by 4 to 1. Commissioner Lawrence voting no.

Commissioner Lawrence asked that the record show that the reason he voted no was for the reason that the bidders were asked to appear before the Commission and they did not come.

BRUNSWICK WATERFRONT STAGE PAVILION RENOVATION

The following bids are submitted by the Purchasing Director for Brunswick Waterfront Renovations:

Bid opening for Stage Pavilion Renovations was held on November 19, 1998, 2:00 p.m., City of Brunswick, Commission Room:

Owens and Prigden	\$22,576.00
James Roberts Construction	\$23,275.00
Randy Parr Construction	\$25,908.70

The City Manager stated that windows and doors will be placed in the pavilion to prevent people from sleeping in the pavilion when the weather is bad. The City manager stated that the project will be funded by the IS TEA Program.

Commissioner Williams moved and Commissioner Davis seconded the motion accepting the low bid of Owens and Prigden in the amount of \$22,576.00. The motion carried.

The following bids were received for two 1999 Flatbed trucks for Public Works Sanitation Department:

Vendor	
Dan Vaden 1004 Gloucester Street Brunswick, Georgia	\$39,893.27
Nalley 178 Altama Connector Brunswick, Georgia	\$39,972.00
Kings' Colonial Ford	\$43,614.00

3365 Community Road
Brunswick, Georgia

Commissioner Davis moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion accepting the low bid of Dan Vaden in the amount of \$39,893.27. The motion carried.

CITY MANAGER ITEMS

The City Manager reported that full-time and part-time employees received gift certificates for \$20.00 last year from the City of Brunswick.

Commissioner Williams stated that he noticed in the last six months workers are actually working instead of riding. The streets have been swept, trash is being picked up and it will send a good message to workers if the Commission increases the gift certificates to \$25.00. It will show that the Commission likes the work the employees are doing and that is why the Commission is granting a \$5.00 increase.

Commissioner Jennings suggested that a memo be included with the gift certificates.

Commissioner Williams moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion approving a \$25.00 gift certificates to full-time and part-time employees. The motion carried.

The City Manager reported that the joint City/County Legislative meeting will be held Tuesday December 15, 1998 at the Royal Café.

The City Manager announced that Recreation Director, Joey Cason had resigned to take a job in Columbus, Georgia. Commissioner Lawrence instructed the City manager to get on top of hiring a new Recreation Director and do not let programs lapse like before.

The City Manager stated that Joey Cason has done a lot for the Brunswick Recreation Department and several championship games have been played in the City of Brunswick. He pointed out where kids go parents usually follow and this has also brought economic development to this City.

The City Manager announced that the HB 489 Committee will meet.

Commissioner Jennings stated that the HB 489 Committee members asked the City to define "duplication of services".

The City Attorney stated the City does not have to define "duplication of services"

Mayor Brown stated that he will speak with the HB 489 Committee members along with the Chairman of the County Commission. He pointed out that the function of the HB 489 Committee members is to work together with the City and County for recommendations.

The City Attorney stated that HB 489 Committee members must act in good faith and must have a plan of action. They must communicate with each other.

The City Attorney stated that he looked at General Revision of ordinances and the ordinances should be advertised. He recommended advertising the tax collection and unfit building ordinances. He stated that he looked at the Telecommunications Tower, Animal Control and City Dock Rental ordinances.

Commissioner Jennings moved and Commissioner Davis seconded the motion authorizing the City Attorney to advertise ordinances. The motion carried.

Commissioner Davis reported that she received phone calls concerning the great City Christmas Parade. Commissioner Davis stated that she attended the National League of Cities and did not have an opportunity to see the parade. She recommended at the next meeting that some kind of recognition be given to the City employees that organized the Christmas Parade.

Commissioner Jennings stated that the Christmas parade was the longest and best parade in ten or fifteen years. He suggested giving the employees a present or something for public relations.

Commissioner Williams stated that he would like to go on record congratulating the Glynn Academy and Brunswick High coaches and players for an excellent football season. He stated that there are over 100 young men who are not in a juvenile line up. He suggested that the City show their appreciation by inviting both coaches and captains of the football team to attend the next Commission meeting.

Commissioner Lawrence expressed his concerns about the opening of bids in the City. Commissioner Williams recommended that citizens participate in bid openings.

Commissioner Lawrence recommended that all bids once they are opened be given to the City Manager for review.

Commissioner Lawrence reported that all citizens should be treated the same when it comes down to animal control situations in the City. He recommended that every citizen be given the same consideration.

Commissioner Lawrence reported that a citizen was asked to be finger-printed after a fine was paid. The citizen was refused and he was not released. Commissioner Lawrence asked if the City would pay \$40.00 per day for that person or would the citizen have to pay for the detention service. The Mayor suggested that the City Attorney look into this.

Mayor Brown announced Friday at 3:00 p.m., a tree planing ceremony will be held for the late Paul Warwick, Jr.

Mayor Brown announced that Hubert Lang, a member of the Downtown Development Authority passed away. He requested that the City advertise the vacancy on the DDA Board for the first meeting in January, 1999.

Commissioner Lawrence recommended that the family of the late Hubert Lang be given something in honor of his dedicated service on the Downtown Development Authority.

Mayor Brown stated that Old Town purchased a tree for Mr. Warwick. Commissioner Lawrence recommended giving a plaque to the family from the City.

Commissioner Lawrence suggested that the City have the Veteran's Day Program in Brunswick. He pointed out that the program used to be held in the City.

Mayor Brown stated that the Veteran's Council changed the Veteran's Day Ceremony to St. Simons Island. Memorial Day Services is held in the City and Veterans Day is held in the County. The Commission may need to have the Veteran's Council come in and discuss the Memorial Day and Veteran's Day ceremony.

The City Manager reported that a Liberty Ship Relocation meeting will be scheduled.

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

Find in the minutes

when the City closed

the alley behind this

property of Janice Roberts

and deed it to her.

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1661-0661