

**OFFICIAL MINUTES  
COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF BRUNSWICK, GEORGIA  
REGULAR MEETING  
7:00 P.M., FEBRUARY 17, 1999**

**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 Mayor, Commissioners and everyone in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Commissioner Davis moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion approving the minutes of the meeting of February 3, 1998. The motion carried.

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE WIDENING OF HWY 32 AND HWY 82**

Mayor Brown read the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted by a vote of 5 to 0:

**PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTION TO EARNEST SAPP AND CHARLIE JOHNSON**

Mayor Brown presented a Resolution in recognition of two city employees, Ernest Sapp and Charlie Johnson for rescuing an Alzheimer patient, who left home in the middle of the night.

**DELEGATIONS**

Dale Smith, resident of 1120 Union Street appeared before the Commission to request that the City clean the storm drains and install drainage pipes to prevent flooding on Union Street.

The City Manager pointed out that the problem began with the construction on Bay Street, and that the City Engineer estimated the cost at one million dollars to address the drainage problems.

Commissioner Jennings questioned how many houses are effected by the drainage problem. The City Manager stated that the drainage effects the entire area.

Commissioner Lawrence suggested cleaning the ditches in the area.

The City Manager pointed out that cleaning the ditches would not help the drainage problem. The problem is the terra cotta drainage pipes that were installed in the area.

Commissioner Lawrence suggested tying in the drainage problem with the South end project.

Elmo Richardson stated that he would look at the possibility of tying in the two projects.

The City Manager stated that he would like to meet with the City Engineer and Mr. Richardson to bring back a recommendation at the next meeting.

The City Manager mentioned that there are some SPLOST funds that may be available.

The City Manager was instructed to meet with Mr. Smith when the City Engineer and Mr. Richardson make a recommendation.

Commissioner Lawrence pointed out that the City need to handle drainage problems throughout the City.

A resident at 835 Egmont Street requested that the Commission look at the drainage problems on the Southend and find a solution to the flooding.

Mayor Brown pointed out that the solution is the cost. Commissioner Williams suggested cleaning out the culvert. Mr. Smith suggested that the street sweeper clean Union Street.

Dale Smith next reported that cars are speeding in front of the school on Union Street. He requested that STOP signs be placed in the area.

Commissioner Lawrence stated that he hopes police officers are pursuing the persons doing the speeding.

Jeff Egan requested that the City place 4-way STOP signs between Union and George Street by Glynn Middle School.

A resident at 1215 Union Street stated that the storm drain was abandoned and the water ended up in her front door. She stated that after a hard rain, a roadblock had to be placed in front of her house.

A resident at 1217 Union Street stated that he had to build a bridge after the last hard rain in front of his house. He reported that police cars are flying down Union Street with no lights on.

William Powell, Director of Water and Wastewater, stated that he lived on the corner of Union and Howe Street for a long time. He pointed out that placing STOP signs on every block is not the way to control speeding.

Police Chief T.C. Cowan stated that he is concerned with Police Officers speeding. He stated that Officers have no reason to speed and the residents should report this in a timely manner to the Police Chief or Shift Commander. He stated that he agrees with Mr. Powell about not using STOP signs to control speeding. He pointed out that Traffic Engineers should make a determination on controlling 4,000 vehicles in an eight-hour period.

Mayor Brown recommended that a study be done on the traffic. He pointed out that the Martin Luther King Project will begin and some traffic will be taken off other streets.

Police Chief T. C. Cowan stated that the traffic wagon would be placed on Union Street.

## **CEMETERY TRUST FUND**

Arlie McNeill, representing the Cemetery Trust Fund Board, appeared before the Commission to discuss the duties of the Board. He stated that the Cemetery Trust Fund Board wants to take care of all the cemeteries, Greenwood, Palmetto and Oak Grove. He stated that \$50,000.00 is in the Trust Fund and the City is placing funds from the grave openings and closings in this fund. Mr. McNeill stated that he felt that the County is responsible for the cemeteries because they are located in the County. He stated that the improvements are needed in all the cemeteries and hope that funds can be generated from the community.

Commissioner Lawrence moved and Commissioner Jennings seconded the motion expanding the duties of the Cemetery Trust Fund. The motion carried.

Commissioner Jennings recommended that the City hire two more people to work in the cemetery.

Mayor Brown suggested that the Cemetery Trust Fund Board members appear as a delegation before the County Commission to request support and funding.

Ken Plyman, member of the Cemetery Trust Fund, suggested that Board members attend the Joint City/County Meeting. Mr. Plyman pointed out that all persons buried in the cemetery are from Glynn County.

The City Manager reported that a Joint City/County Meeting would be held at 5:00 p.m., March 9, 1999.

Bob Ingram requested that a STOP sign be placed on the corner of Dartmouth and Albany Streets.

Barney Fletcher requested that the City release an easement to property owners at 1923 Reynolds Street and 500 "J" Street on a five-foot alley.

Commissioner Davis moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion authorizing the City to release an easement on a five-foot alley to property owners at 1923 Reynolds Street and 500 "J" Street. The motion carried.

#### **BROADCASTING SUNDAY SERVICE AT JOHNSON TEMPLE**

Paul Lawrence and Gregory Demery appeared before the Commission to request that Johnson Temple, First Born Church, be allowed to place speakers on top of the church to get the message out to citizens in the area on Sunday mornings. Mr. Demery pointed out that citizens who receive this message would come to church and become a better citizen.

Commissioner Williams pointed out that Johnson Temple is close to three other churches and may cause a disturbance with other churches. Commissioner Williams asked how many complaints would cause the church to stop broadcasting the morning service.

The City Attorney stated that if a complaint is filed with the Police Department and the church does not stop broadcasting their service they are subject to a noise ordinance violation.

Commissioner Lawrence pointed out that the complaints must have some caliber.

Police Chief, T.C. Cowan, stated that if a complaint were filed, then the police would ask the church to turn the broadcast down.

#### **HOSPITAL BOARD APPOINTMENTS**

Commissioner Lawrence moved and Commissioner Williams seconded the motion approving three names for consideration for appointments to the Hospital Board: Dr. D.H. Manning, Milledge Glenn Smith, II and Tommie Herrington. The motion carried.

#### **ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE RENEWAL**

The following 1999 alcoholic beverage license renewals were submitted and approved by the Chief of Police and the City Manager. Commissioner Lawrence moved and Commissioner Davis seconded the motion approving the following renewals:

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

Jay and Pamela Coen, P&J Dakotas, Inc.  
4441 Altama Avenue

Troy Wright, Jr., Taurus Sports Bar & Grill  
1311 G Street

**BID RECOMMENDATIONS**

The following bids were received to purchase two Lumina automobiles and five Crown Victoria automobiles for the Police Department:

VENDER	COMMENTS	TOTAL
Dan Vaden Chevrolet* 1000 Gloucester Street Brunswick, GA 31520	Available Immediately	\$31,440.48
Brannen Motor Co. P.O. Box 746 Unadilla, GA 31091		\$32,730.00
Bill Heard Chevrolet P.O. Box 8888 Columbus, GA 31908		\$33,000.00

\*Recommend – Low Bid

King Colonial Ford * 3565 Community Road Brunswick, GA 31523	Delivery 6-8 weeks	* \$102,056.75
Beardry Ford 141 Piedmont Ave. Atlanta, GA 30303		\$102,685.00
Brannon Motor Co. P.O. Box 746 Unadilla, GA 31091		\$103,060.00
Arrington Blount Ford 2300 University Pkwy. Lawrenceville, GA 30043		\$103,440.00

\*Recommended -- Low Bid

Commissioner Davis moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion to accept the low bids. The motion carried.

**CITY MANAGER ITEMS**

The City Manager reported that the Arbor Day Celebration would be held on March 9, 1999.

The City Manager reported that he purchased a 1993 garbage truck with a new engine from Raleigh, NC in the amount of \$33,000.00. He stated that everything appeared to be in good condition.

The City Manager that the City employees completed Customer Service Certifications and Mayor Brown and Commissioner Williams spoke at the ceremony. The Personnel Director, Bonnie Dvorak sponsored the training session for the employees.

The City Manager reported that he completed all evaluations of Department Heads.

Commissioner Jennings stated that he would like to see things happen with the 21 goals set by the Commission.

Commissioner Jennings suggested that the newspaper publish a good article once a month about the City of Brunswick.

Mayor Brown stated that City employees will be listed in the newspaper that is the first step.

Personnel Director, Bonnie Dvorak reported that the month of March is Red Cross Month and the City of Brunswick has been approached to contribute \$250.00 or \$500.00 donation and the City's name will be placed on the back of the 1999 dress down T Shirt sold in Glynn and McIntosh Counties.

Deborah Powell, Administrative Secretary explained the projects that are funded by the American Red Cross. Mrs. Powell was successful with the United Way campaign project.

Commissioner Jennings moved and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion contributing \$250.00 to the Red Cross as a sponsor for the 1999 Red Cross Dress Down Day. The motion carried.

Commissioner Lawrence moved and Commissioner Williams seconded the motion appointing Pansy Perry to serve on the Board of Health for a term of six years. The motion carried.

The City Attorney stated that he would like to address the Commission in an Executive Session to discuss pending litigation.

The City Attorney discussed the GMA telecommunication contract. He stated that there is no renewal of the franchise agreement and requested to move ahead toward closure. He recommended that the City get involved with the current year FCC rate. He suggested meeting with GMA personnel and present a status report at the next meeting.

Commissioner Lawrence stated that the former City Manager was asked to get a status report on the franchise agreement and bring the information back to the Commission.

Commissioner Lawrence stated that he would like the City to be a subscriber to provide gas to residents in the City. He recommended that the City buy the gas so that the residents may purchase gas from the City.

Commissioner Jennings stated that the City may become an agent for gas companies, but the City does not have to provide gas.

Police Chief T. C. Cowan presented the Crime rate statistics to the Commission for 1998. He stated that officers are interested in doing a good job.

Mayor Brown reported that Keep Golden Isles Beautiful Workshop will be held and encouraged everyone to attend. Information will be presented to reduce waste in the City.

Commissioner Lawrence moved and Commissioner Williams seconded the motion to hold an Executive Session to discuss pending litigation. The motion carried.

Following the Executive Session the meeting was adjourned.

**MEETING ADJOURNED.**

/s/ Bradford S. Brown  
Mayor

Attest: /s/ Georgia E. Marion  
City Clerk