

**OFFICIAL MINUTES  
COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF BRNSWICK, GEORGIA  
REGULAR MEETING  
8:30 A.M., MARCH 1, 2000**

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

**INVOCATION:** Commissioner Williams gave the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by everyone in attendance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Commissioner Lawrence stated that the Deputy City Clerk did a great job in the absence of the City Clerk at the last Commission meeting.

Commissioner Lawrence made the motion and Commissioner Davis seconded the motion approving the minutes of the called meeting of February 9, 2000 and regular meeting of February 16, 2000. The motion carried.

The City Manager introduced the new Public Works Director, John Butts.

**BOARD APPOINTMENTS:** Mayor Brown read the following names of applicants for consideration for appointment to the Hospital Authority Board:

- 1) Marsha Certain, MD
- 2) Sandy Dean
- 3) Linda S. Penson
- 4) Milledge Glenn Smith, II
- 5) Kathleen L. Upham, RNC, MS

Mayor Brown pointed out that there is one City resident who serves on the Hospital Authority Board.

Commissioner Jennings recommended that the Commission table the Hospital Authority Board Appointment and re-advertise for City residents.

Commissioner Lawrence stated that if citizens are sending in their business addresses then the City should request that they send in their home address.

Commissioner Jennings made the motion and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion to table the Hospital Authority Board Appointment and re-advertise for citizens who live in the City Of Brunswick. The motion carried.

**LIBRARY BOARD:** Commissioner Jennings nominated Lynn Krauss to serve on the Library Board. Commissioner Davis seconded the nomination. There being no further nominations, the nomination was closed. Lynn Krauss was unanimously appointed to serve on the Library Board.

**BRUNSWICK HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOARD:** Mayor Brown stated that citizens resigned from the Brunswick Historic Preservation Board for many reasons.

Commissioner Davis made a motion to accept the names of Liane Brock, Anthony Doliviera and James Eppings to serve on the Brunswick Historic Preservation Board. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. The motion carried. Liane Brock will replace John Tuten, Anthony Doliviera will replace Joy Croft and James Eppings will replace Ernest Stewart.

Commissioner Jennings reported that the Historic Preservation Public Hearing was a success.

The City Attorney stated that the Public Hearing was held to allow residents to voice their opinions.

Mayor Brown pointed out that all property owners in the Historic District was notified by mail and the Historic Preservation Public Hearing was advertised in the newspaper.

**DELEGATION:** Marvin Davis appeared before the Commission to request that a portion of Lot 100 on Oglethrope Street be quit claimed to the present owners. Mr. Davis stated that this property was purchased from his mother-in-law and he has been paying taxes on property. He stated there has not been any success since Mark Mitchell was City Manager in resolving this issue.

Commissioner Williams stated he visited the property yesterday and was impressed with the upkeep of the property.

Mr. Davis submitted a map of the property explaining the legal boundaries. He stated that when he purchased the property an old carport was built on the lot. He had the property appraised and found out that the family was paying taxes on the property. The property has been in the family since 1917 and obviously there has not been any interest in this property.

The City Attorney stated that the property was acquired by the City at a tax sale. The property is 45 X 90 and a carport was built in 1970 and encroached the City's property. The encroachment has been included in Mr. Davis's taxes and he has been paying taxes on this property. He suggested that the City auction the property or advertise the property for sale in the news paper to abide by State law.

Commissioner Lawrence stated that he has seen this happen before in the City. Property on "O" Street should have been put out for bids or auctioned. He agreed that the City should bid out the property and start with a minimum bid.

Commissioner Williams stated that the City should stay within the law.

Mr. Davis stated that the Little Theatre property was quit claimed to the McGarvey's by the City in 1990. Mr. Davis submitted a copy of the quit claim deed.

Commissioner Jennings asked if there was any law relating to squatter's rights.

The City Attorney stated that squatters rights is not for City owned property it is only for private property.

Mr. Davis mentioned that he is the only one interested in acquiring the property.

Commissioner Williams recommended that the City postpone taking any action until the next meeting. It will be inappropriate for the Commission to make a decision.

Mayor Brown stated that things may have happened in the past and we are trying to correct them. The Commission will see how the property next door will effect this property. The price will have to be evaluated.

Commissioner Lawrence pointed out that the minutes should reflect the quit claim deed that was given to the McGarvey's for the Little Theater on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of August, 1990. The City Clerk was instructed to give a copy of the minutes of the Mayor and Commissioners.

Commissioner Williams made a motion instructing the City Attorney to look at the situation and find out the legalities by the next meeting. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Commissioner Lawrence mentioned that the City will not advertise the property for bids until after the next meeting.

**APPROVALS:** The following bids were submitted for purchase of Computers for various departments:

Vendor	Comments	Total
PC Store* 1604 Newcastle St. Brunswick, GA	3 year warranty, on site- next day service	\$40,864.35
Patco Technologies 2175 Kingsley Ave., #205 Orange Park, FL 32073		\$4,1184.00
Network Computer Solutions 601 Wolf St. Brunswick, GA 31520		\$42,176.00
Gibson Office Products P.O. Box 456 Brunswick, GA		\$44,105.00
A V Networks 4431 B Brookfield Chantilly, VA 20151		\$49,962.88
I B I 30 Technology Pkwy. S. Suite 400 Norcross, GA 30092		\$53,760.00

Commissioner Lawrence made the motion and Commissioner Jennings seconded the motion accepting the low bid of PC Store in the amount of \$40,864.35. The motion carried.

The following bids were received for purchase of a 2000 Truck for the Fire Department:

Vendor	Comments	Total
Carl Gregory Dodge *	State Contract Delivery (60) DAYS	\$14,384.50*
King's Colonial Ford		\$17,500.00
Nalley GMC Truck		\$18,800.00
Dan Vaden Chevrolet		\$19,485.00

Commissioner Davis made the motion and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion accepting the low bid of Carl Gregory Dodge in the amount of \$14,384.50. The motion carried.

### **DISCUSSION GLYNN PEYTON BUILDING:**

The City Manager reported that the Glynn Peyton Building is used for storage and the City's carpenter shop. The Glynn Peyton Building is located adjacent to a City Park.

The City Manager stated that the largest cost associated is discarding away debris. It is approximately three loads which will be 38.50 per ton at a cost of \$12,000.00.

Commissioner Williams stated that the building is an eye sore and it could be salvaged.

Commissioner Williams stated that the City is paying \$1,800.00 per month for rent for the Water Department Building. He asked for a survey to see how much it will cost to renovate the Glynn Peyton Building to create a building that the City can use. The City will have to relocate the Water Department so that they will not continue to pay rent.

Mayor Brown mentioned that citizens at the Historic Preservation Hearing were concerned about the condition of the building and how it affects the neighborhood.

### **CITY MANAGER'S ITEMS:**

#### **COLLEGE PARK**

The City Manager reported that College is ready for bids. He stated that a neighborhood meeting was held and residents gave very good input about how things were going in College Park.

## **MULTIPURPOSE CENTER**

The City Manager reported that the Multipurpose Center for Senior Citizens is second to none in Georgia and the center can handle a large number of day care patients. He stated that a fence would be installed around the center because citizens have a tendency to wander.

## **OVERLOOK PARK**

The City Manager reported that the City had a dedication at the Overlook Park. The Recreation Department did a wonderful job in maintaining the park. An employee built benches for a cost of \$40.00.

## **BARNETT BANK**

The City Manager reported that he is working on a relocation plan. The phone company is making repairs and lighting have to be upgraded. Citizens will need lighting when attending meetings at night. A door will have to be installed in the conference room so that the Commission will not have to go through the audience.

Commissioner Jennings asked how will the City pay for the Bank building?

The City Manager stated that recaptured funds will be used and L.O.S.T. money and interest off of the S.P.L.O.S.T. The City did not do any planning for relocation of City Hall employees.

Commissioner Lawrence stated that no matter what building the City relocated to the cost would have existed.

## **CITY ATTORNEY'S ITEMS:**

### **Georgia Mutual Aid Agreement**

The City Attorney stated that some situations require immediate action of the fire department in Brunswick and Political subdivisions in the State. He pointed out that a Georgia Mutual Aid Agreement exist and the City of Brunswick Fire department would like to become a member.

Fire Chief Stewart discussed the importance of the Georgia Mutual Aid Agreement.

Commissioner Lawrence expressed his concerns about a fire that occurred in Magnolia Park on Woodland Way in December and questioned why it took a 30 minute response time. He pointed out that Ballard fire station was closer and they should have responded.

Commissioner Jennings stated that the response time was suppose to be less when the new fire station was placed on 4<sup>th</sup> Street.

Fire Chief Stewart stated that he recalled that the fire was burning a while before the City's fire station was notified.

Mayor Brown stated that it is hard to believe that it took 30 minutes for the city's Fire Department to arrive. He suggested that the 911 tapes be used to find out the actual response time.

Following a discussion the Fire Chief was asked to send a letter to the Mayor and Commissioners explaining the fire in Magnolia Park.

Mayor Brown stated that the Fire Chief would get information to the City as soon as he can research the information that took place in December. He would give out the time the call was made and who responded the City or County. When did the fatality occur and how long it took to respond.

Commissioner Lawrence made the motion and Commissioner Davis seconded the motion approving the following Georgia Mutual Aid Agreement:

**RESOLUTION  
BY THE MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS OF THE  
CITY OF BRUNSWICK**

WHEREAS, disastrous incidents and immediate response emergencies occur, during which conditions of extreme peril exist which threaten the safety of person and property; and

WHEREAS, such incidents and emergencies potentially present major public safety problems which are likely to be beyond the control of the personnel, equipment, facilities and other resources of the Brunswick Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, other political subdivisions the State are likely to be confronted by similar disastrous incidents and immediate response emergencies, which are likely to be beyond the control of the response emergencies, which are likely by similar disastrous incidents and immediate response emergencies, which are likely to be beyond the control of the resources of those other jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, by combining the resources of the Brunswick Fire Department with the resources of the other political subdivisions of the State of Georgia during disastrous incidents and immediate response emergencies, the like and property of all citizens may be better protected; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Commissioner of the City of Brunswick desire to provide the best possible protection to its citizens, businesses and visitors, and to prevent disastrous incidents from occurring, and to maximize the protection of like and property when such incidents do occur; and

WHEREAS, the State of Georgia has provided for Mutual Aid Resource Pacts through O.C.G.A. Section 25-6-1 et seq. And Section 36-69-1- et seq.;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Brunswick has determined to join the Georgia Mutual Aid Group Resource Pact; and

It is further resolved that the City of Brunswick designates the Fire Chief or his/her designee to act on behalf of the City on all matters relating to the activities and functions of the Georgia Mutual Aid Group Resources Pact; and

It is further resolved that the City may withdraw its membership from the Pact by delivering written notice to an office or the Pact giving 90 days notice of its decision to withdraw; and

It is further resolved that there shall be liability imposed on the City of Brunswick for any action or failure to act as a party of the Georgia Mutual Aid Group Resources Pact and the City does not waive any immunity or defense it or any of its officers, firefighters, officials or employees may otherwise hold by entering this Pact.

SO RESOLVED this \_\_\_ day of March, 2000, by unanimous vote of the Mayor and Commissioners upon motion duly made and seconded.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bradford S. Brown, Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Georgia Marion, Secretary

**MAYOR BROWN'S ITEM:**

**Jekyll Island Tax Bill.**

Mayor Brown reported that he visited Atlanta along with several County Commissioners. He read a letter concerning the Jekyll Island tax bill. He asked that the City work on a solution not to raise property taxes in the City of Brunswick.

Commissioner Jennings asked if a few County Commissioners and Mayor could make a binding agreement with Jekyll Island and the City Commissioners did not know anything about it.

The City Attorney explained the agreement and pointed out that the agreement was unconstitutional.

**Update on South Ward Town Hall meeting**

Mayor Pro-Tem Davis reported that the town hall meeting was a success and 60 residents attended the meeting. Residents discussed upgrading sidewalks and

repair of Glynn Peyton Building. She stated that the Commission would like to hold another Town Hall meeting in June.

The City Manager reported that staff is still installing and repairing side walks in the City of Brunswick. Staff is also making octagon pavers for sidewalks.

Mayor Brown mentioned that the sidewalks in the 200 block of Union Street have not been completed.

Commissioner Davis mentioned that another study needs to be conducted on placing stop signs on Union Street and First Avenue.

Commissioner Davis reported that that young people are hanging out in the Park in the 900 Block of Lee and Gordon Street. She stated that some kind of control is needed.

Commissioner Williams stated that the citizens should be informed by a newsletter on events that happen in the City. He mentioned that citizens should read about themselves especially in College Park and Town Hall meetings and other areas in the City.

### **COMMISSIONER LAWRENCE'S ITEMS**

Commissioner Lawrence recalled that he asked that a notice of employment for the hiring of a Recreation Director be placed in the newspaper and also hiring of a Community Development Director.

He stated that the Department Heads who are hired should live in within the City of Brunswick. He pointed out that City residents should be hired to work for the City of Brunswick. He expressed his concerns about City Department Heads who do not live within the City who have to take at least fifteen minutes to get to the City in case of an emergency.

The City Attorney stated that the City cannot place a residence requirement on employees who live in the County.

Commissioner Lawrence stated that he would like to have Department Head jobs filled because it makes the City Manager do the jobs of the other Department Heads.

The City Manager stated that he have narrowed down the position to six persons and will be in a position to hire someone soon. There is still one more applicant to interview. A Public Works Director and Engineer Director have been hired and he will proceed with interviewing for the Water and Wastewater Director.

Commissioner Lawrence told the City Manager that the Commission should be informed about the hiring of the new Department Heads.

The City Manager stated that he hoped to have all the jobs filled by the 15<sup>th</sup> of May, 2000.

