

**OFFICIAL MINUTES  
COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF BRNSWICK, GEORGIA  
REGULAR MEETING  
7:00 P.M., MAY 17, 2000**

**PRESENT:** Commissioners Roosevelt Lawrence, Jonathan Williams and Doris A. Davis.

**ABSENT:** His Honor Mayor Bradford S. Brown, Mayor Pro-Tem Doris A. Davis presided over meeting.

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

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Commissioner Davis made the motion and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion approving the minutes of the meeting of May 03, 2000. The motion passed.

**DELEGATIONS:** Heather Heath, Manager of the Ritz Theatre was present to submit a proposal for the City of Brunswick's Fourth of July fireworks display at Mary Ross Waterfront Park. The turn-key show proposal was submitted by Melrose Pyrotechnics, Inc. in the amount of \$5,000.00.

Commissioner Williams asked if the Fireworks display could be coordinated between the City and County so that citizens would have the opportunity to view both firework displays.

Heather Heath pointed out that the fireworks displays are done separately, the County is in charge of the time they have their display.

Commissioner Williams recommended that the City make plans to schedule their Fireworks Display for the year 2001 so that citizens would have an opportunity to see the City and County fireworks display.

Commissioner Lawrence made the motion and Commissioner Williams seconded the motion accepting the bid of Melrose Pyrotechnics, Inc., in the amount of \$5,000.00 for the Fourth of July Fireworks Display. The motion passed.

Jerry Spencer, President of Old Town Preservation Association was present to request that an old iron fence which was stockpiled in the City Public Works Yard be installed around Hanover Square. He recommended that the City hire an iron work contractor to properly clean the 42-eight foot long panels and paint it with durable long lasting automotive metal paint and reinstall the fence panels in Hanover Square from which they originally came.

Commissioner Jennings recalled that the City refurbished the fence at Greenwood Cemetery and did a great job. The City paid approximately \$28,000.00 for the project. He asked if it would be more fence or less fence installed at Hanover Park.

Mr. Spencer stated that it would be a total of 300 feet installed and it will be done in four equal squares.

Commissioner Lawrence recommended that the City Manager get prices on refurbishing the iron fence for Hanover Park.

Commissioner Williams suggested that the Director of Public Works and Jerry Spencer work together on refurbishing the iron fence.

Commissioner Davis recommended that a fence be installed around the fountain. Commissioner Davis suggested that the City Manager get a cost on refurbishing the fence. She stated that it would be real nice to have the iron fence placed around Hanover Park.

**MONTHLY REPORTS:** The following reports for the month of May were submitted:

- 1) General Fund
- 2) Water and Wastewater fund
- 3) Community Development
- 4) Municipal Court

Commissioner Lawrence made the motion and Commissioner Jennings seconded the motion approving the monthly reports. The motion passed.

## **DISCUSSION**

### **City Dock**

The City Attorney led the discussion about issues concerning citizens being injured on the City Dock because the dock is not safe. He recommended that the City close off a portion of the West Side of the dock.

Commissioner Jennings asked if closing a portion of the dock would effect the docking of boats.

The City Attorney stated that the problem is out of state ships not having licenses for unloading or selling at the City Dock and there is no way to track off loading at this dock. He mentioned that the Department of Natural Resources requests all catches to be recorded. He stated that the City could work closely with the Department of Natural Resources to check vessels that come into the City Dock.

The City Attorney recommended that the City Adopt an ordinance to gain greater control over the City Dock and it is important to have access to the dock. He also recommended naming a Dock Master to issue written permits for ships and collect the rent that the ships must pay for docking. He pointed out that whatever rent is charged, it should be collected and ship owners must register with the Dock Master. Shrimp docks should be considered as facilities that can take care of themselves.

Commissioner Lawrence suggested looking into raising the docking fees because the City must have fees to pay the Dock Master. Commissioner Lawrence asked what hours the Dock Master would work? He pointed out that ships will come into the dock at all hours.

The City Attorney stated that Corporal Dickerson or his designee in case of an emergency would assist the Dock Master.

Commissioner Williams recalled having a meeting with shrimpers and illegal dumping was reported by shrimpers that use the dock as a homeport. All rules must be followed by persons who use the City Docks. The City is losing revenues and the Dock needs repairing.

Commissioner Williams asked where would residents park their 40 foot yacht at the City Docks. The City Attorney stated that if there is space at the dock they could dock their boat.

Mrs. Knight stated that she did research on the Dock and the original intent of the dock was regrouping of the shrimp fleet with a Municipal Dock and facilities. She pointed out that there are no facilities at the City Dock and operation is going on without any kind of inspections that are regulated by the State. The City will have to go in and revise the rules.

The City Attorney stated that the City have to address access to the Docks. He pointed out that the City never meant to get in the Seafood Business. The City never wanted to unload anyone's catch.

Commissioner Lawrence questioned in the event that a person brought shrimp from boats at the City Dock and got sick, would the City be liable. The City Attorney stated that the City would not be liable.

Mrs. Knight expressed her concerns about boats selling their catch at the City Docks. She stated that a representative from the Agriculture Department was asked to attend the Commission meeting and she wished he could be here.

Commissioner Jennings asked the City to regulate the access of trucks to the City Docks or put up a gate to keep large and small trucks out.

The City Attorney stated that the City can tax trucks with freezers and if trucks are traveling across the State line to sell their catch then it is a Federal offense.

Commissioner Jennings recommended that the City control access of cars and trucks to Mary Ross Waterfront Park. Commissioner Lawrence stated that he agreed with Commissioner Jennings to immediately place a fence around Mary Ross Waterfront Park.

Commissioner Williams suggested that the City Attorney check with the Department of Natural Resources concerning ships unloading at the City docks.

Commissioner Jennings stated that the Health Department should be involved with mishandling of seafood.

**CITY MANAGER'S ITEMS:**

**Update on the following projects:**

**SPLOST**

The City Manager reported that the City has 19.2 million dollars in SPLOST projects. He stated that Burton Carter was present to give a report on some of the projects.

Burton Carter reported that the following projects were completed:

- I-95 Water extension Project
- Stanton Road on New Jesup Road at the railroad
- Water Tank Project
- College Park Storm Drainage Project
- Water Line Project on Sweetgum and Poplar
- Magnolia Park Drainage Project

Commissioner Jennings asked how much of the 19.2 million dollars have been spent. The City Manager stated that 8 million dollars has been spent on projects.

Commissioner Jennings asked how many projects have run out of funding. The City Manager stated about 3 projects.

The City Manager stated that there are projects that the City do not have enough money to complete them.

Burton Carter stated that the Magnolia Park Drainage Project has been put on the shelf until the Commission makes a decision on it's completion.

Commissioner Williams asked that a record be made on the problems that exist within the City. Mr. Carter mentioned that he keeps a daily journal and record plans and place them on file in the Engineer Department.

The City Manager stated that Magnolia Park Drainage Project will cost \$850,000.00. He stated that the City would apply for a hazardous mitigation grant. The City will look at every opportunity to get grant assistance.

The City Manager stated that the City received a hazardous mitigation grant to fund the College Park Storm Drainage Project. This was originally a SPLOST project. The City is looking at ways to make Brunswick better.

The City Manager reported that the City is working with citizens in College Park. They have established a College Park Citizens Community Organization. On Saturday at 11:00 AM a ground breaking ceremony will be held at the Park in College Park Subdivision.

**CITY CLERK'S ITEMS:**

Petition received from Ellen Howell to return for resale Section 30, Lot 7-A, Spaces B, C and D in East Palmetto Cemetery, Original deed surrendered. Commissioner Lawrence made the motion and Commissioner Williams seconded the motion granting the cemetery petition. The motion passed.

**MAYOR PRO-TEM DAVIS'S ITEM:**

**US Highway 17 Beautification**

Mayor Pro-Tem Davis stated that Howard Coffin Park and the surrounding areas near Highway 17 are kept clean by a City worker, Michael Hall and this employee has done this work alone. She stated that the worker shows pride and recommended that the City place something in his personnel file about all the great things he has done in this community.

The City Manager stated that Michael Hall is doing a good job and letters are in his personnel file and also other Public Works employees who have done an excellent job keeping the City of Brunswick looking beautiful.

Commissioner Williams commended the Public Works Department for cleaning up Mary Ross Water Park after the parade on Saturday. He stated that they cleaned up and cleared tables and did an excellent job and had fun while doing it.

Commissioner Davis reported that Gloucester Street was cleaned and edged and the Public Works employees did a great job.

The City Manager stated that Archie Bailey a Public Works Crew Leader is responsible for cleaning and edging the side walks in the City.

Commissioner Lawrence stated that he would like to discuss at the next meeting some things concerning Wayne Shackelford, Commissioner of the Georgia Department of Transportation.

Commissioner Lawrence made the motion and Commissioner Jennings seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. All voted by standing.

**MEETING ADJOURNED.**

/s/ Bradford S. Brown  
Mayor

Attest: Georgia E. Marion  
City Clerk