

**OFFICIAL MINUTES  
COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF BRUNSWICK, GEORGIA  
CALLED MEETING  
3:00 P.M., JULY 27, 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.

**ADOPTION OF FISCAL YEAR 2000 – 2001 BUDGET:** The Director of Finance submitted the following 2000-2001 Fiscal Year Budget amounts:

General Fund	\$13,718,036.00
Water and Waste Water	\$ 9,299,289.00
Community Development	\$ 933,543.00

He stated that the City Manager has met with Brian Thompson, Main Street Director and he also received some more information concerning the budget amount requested for the Downtown Development Authority.

The City Manager stated that Commissioner Lawrence requested more information relative to the Downtown Development Authority Budget and their reserve. He recommended that the Commission approve the amount the Downtown Development Authority requested, but the City do not release those funds until such time as they show that they have in fact used their reserves. The DDA would have to come back to the Commission and show that they have actually used their reserves in order to receive additional funding. He pointed out that his recommendation would keep the budget balanced and at the same time this will allow them to use their reserves.

Mayor Brown asked if the Commission has any more questions?

Commissioner Jennings stated that the public should know that the Commission has not raised the milage rate in many years, in fact the Commission lowered the milage rate in 1994.

The Director of Finance stated that the Commission lowered the milage rate even though property values went up.

Commissioner Jennings stated that the Commission is doing everything they can to keep this City solvent and everything to keep the morale of the City employees high and the citizens happy based on the Director of Finance predictions that the City of Brunswick is in good shape with this budget.

The Director of Finance stated the total combined budget for fiscal year 2000-2001 is \$23,944,976.00

Commissioner Jennings asked the Director of Finance if the budget was balanced and whether the City of Brunswick is in good shape to meet this budget.

The Director of Finance concurred.

Commissioner Davis made the motion and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion adopting the fiscal year 2000-2001 Budget in the amount of \$23,944,976.00.

Commissioner Williams mentioned that employees in the Tax Assessor's office quit because of their raises. He questioned whether Glynn County sets the tax rate for the City.

The Director of Finance explained the process that leads up to the Commission adopting the milage rate. He next explained that the City projected maintaining the same milage rate as last year.

On call for the vote the motion passed.

**TEA 21 PROJECTS:** Mayor Brown reported that he and Commissioner Williams has been working on a project for a park underneath the new Sidney Lanier Bridge. He stated that the Director of Community Development would submit the proposed layout of the Park. He further stated that the Park is something that was actually requested by the City of Brunswick from the Department of Transportation. Several months ago they mentioned that the Park would be a good idea underneath the area. The Department of Transportation informed the City that the application had to be turned in by the end of the month, which was a short notice. He pointed out that the Director of Community Development has been working on the proposal for the City and will make a presentation to the Commission.

The City Manager stated that the Director of Community Development has been working on the project, but he would stop him from working and start him back again. He stated that he was looking for the best way to begin the same funding. He pointed out after Mayor Brown explained to him what the Commission has been talking about this seemed a little excessive. He explained that what the Commission has in front of them covers everything and if the City was going with a first high quality park it covers everything including water and sewer. He mentioned that Mayor Brown indicated earlier that water and sewer was not included. He recommended that the City steps back from that and talk about other parts of the project.

Mayor Brown stated that he should clarify the Department of Transportation explained to him that \$400,000.00 would probably be the maximum amount that the City would get based on the cost estimates that the Community Development Director has put together for the City which is \$1,900,000.00. The \$400,000.00 amount is not going to do everything, but he believes \$400,000.00 can get the City the boat ramp and the Boardwalk area and some other improvements.

The Director of Community Development stated that Old Highway 17 which will actually be a parking lot, will be included within the \$400,000.00 leading up to the

fishing pier which is presently the old Sidney Lanier Bridge. He stated that he believed that it would be lime rocked which will cut down drastically the amount proposed. The Boardwalk area, which is both on the eastside and westside of the new bridge, will also be included within the \$400,000.00, and the deck area. Most of the vegetation on the westside of Old Highway 17 already exists and vegetation on the right side will have to be added in and also the vegetation along Terry Creek will also have to be added. All these items would be included in \$400,000.00 including the Palm trees along the Boardwalk.

The City Manager asked for the cost of the proposed Broad walk. The Director of Community Development stated the cost would be \$157,250.00. The City Manager next asked the cost of the vegetation on the eastside. The Director of Community Development stated the cost would be \$75,000.00. He pointed out that this figure was added in and he was not looking at there being existing vegetation on the westside of Highway 17. The figure would be a little lower.

Commissioner Jennings asked if the rest of the area would be leased to a private individual. The City Manager stated that the City was doing a bit of dreaming this matter would be completely out of the proposed project.

Mayor Brown explained that the original proposal actually had the restaurant sitting on the end of the old bridge with 300 feet of the bridge left. The Department of Transportation informed the City that it could not be done because nothing can be built on the bridge. And a request was made to place the restaurant on the base of the bridge. The Department of Transportation came back and said no, the City can not have any for profit commercial facility on their right of way. The Park will be on the Department of Transportation right of way because of the new bridge. The City will have to allow the Department of Transportation to make the necessary repairs if they ever have any.

He pointed out that there are some negotiations and discussions going on with some adjacent property owners about the possibility of having a restaurant located on adjacent property with access coming through the park.

Commissioner Lawrence questioned if it was on the Terry Creek side. Mayor Brown stated that it is on the westside where the proposed restaurant will be located.

Commissioner Lawrence questioned if the park will have sixty parking spaces. Mayor Brown stated yes.

Mayor Brown recommended naming the boat ramp after Commissioner Jonathan Williams because he kept asking for this ramp in the City.

Mayor Brown pointed out that there have been concerns that the Bridge Park Project may actually be in completion with the Highway 17 Beautification Project, which the City approved last week. He stated that the Department of Transportation for some reason is very much in favor of this particular project coming about.

Commissioner Lawrence made the motion and Commissioner Davis seconded the motion adopting the following resolution by unanimous vote in support of the Bridge Park under Sidney Lanier Bridge.

**RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Brunswick is coordinating an improvement project involving a public park and recreational area, to include vehicle parking, a boat landing and public dock, a boardwalk and handicap access, to be located at the northern foot of Sidney Lanier Bridge in Brunswick;

**WHEREAS**, in the search for possible funding sources for the project, the City discovered the apparent eligibility for Tea-21 Intermodal Surface Transportation Act enhancement Activity funds;

**WHEREAS**, the City of Brunswick has committed \$150,000.00 of its recaptured funds for the local matching share for the project;

**WHEREAS**, an additional \$400,000.00 is needed to be pooled with the local matching funds for the project and the City of Brunswick, as a legally eligible applicant, has agreed to pursue funding for the project through Tea-21 Enhancement Activity funds;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Commission of the City of Brunswick that the City hereby commits to contribute \$150,000.00 as the local matching share for the project, making the total of local matching funds and Tea-21 funds combined of the sum of \$550,000.00.

This 27<sup>th</sup> day of July 2000.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Georgia E. Marion, City Clerk

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Bradford S. Brown, Mayor

Mayor Brown reported that Joint City/County SPLOST meeting will be held next week. He mentioned that the additions to the Bridge Park that will not be funded by the \$400,000.00 from the Department of Transportation would be listed as one of the SPLOST projects.

He stated that the City should start part of the project and have something in that area instead of waiting until the City gets the money in hand.

Commissioner Lawrence made the motion and Commissioner Davis seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting.

**MEETING ADJOURNED.**

/s/ Bradford S. Brown  
Mayor

Attest: /s/ Georgia E. Marion,  
City Clerk