

**OFFICIAL MINUTES
COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF BRUNSWICK, GEORGIA
REGULAR MEETING
8:30 A. M., OCTOBER 4, 2000**

PRESENT: His Honor Bradford S. Brown, Commissioners Roosevelt Lawrence, Jonathan Williams, and Doris A. Davis.

ABSENT: Commissioner Harold E. Jennings

INVOCATION: Commissioner Jonathan Williams gave the invocation.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Commissioner Lawrence made the motion and Commissioner Williams seconded the motion approving the minutes of the Called meeting of September 14, 2000 and the Regular meeting of September 20, 2000. The motion passed.

RECOGNITION: **Proclamation for Georgia Court Appointed Special Advocate Day.**

Mayor Brown presented a proclamation to Sandy Keller, Director of Court Appointed Special Advocate proclaiming October 7, 2000 as CASA Day in the City of Brunswick.

Resolution requesting State Tollway Authority to turn over the Torras Causeway to the State Highway System.

Cap Fendig, Commissioner Elect of Glynn County was present and gave the history of the Torras Causeway. Mr. Fendig pointed out that the Causeway is owned by the Department of Transportation and leased to the State Tollway Authority in order to collect tolls for the purpose of earning sufficient revenue to make possible the maintenance, repair and improvements to the causeway. According to the Department of Transportation records the Tollway Authority payments annually are \$413,000.00 for construction costs.

Mr. Fendig requested that a joint resolution from the City and County be issued to Governor Roy Barnes and the Tollway Authority. Mr. Fendig stated that the resolution should reflect that the debt of \$2,121,607.37 be paid and keep the funds which is in the escrow account in the amount of approximately \$5,000,000.00 for the beautification of the causeway, removal of the existing toll facility, removal of existing excessive signage and fund greenspace acquisition of the Sea Island triangle tract at the St. Simons end of the causeway. He pointed out that the lease between the Tollway Authority and the Georgia DOT could be terminated and that the Torras Causeway could be returned as a State Road maintained and funded by the Georgia DOT through the motor fuel tax revenue.

Commissioner Lawrence asked if damage occurs on the causeway will the Department of Transportation take care of those damages.

Cap Fendig suggested that the City and County forward the resolution to Governor Barnes for approval and see what happens.

Following a brief discussion Commissioner Lawrence made the motion and Commissioner Williams seconded the motion authorizing the City Attorney to get with the County Attorney and prepare a joint resolution. The motion passed.

DELEGATIONS: Tommy Summerville, 2428 Ellis Street, in reference to odor in his area.

Tommy Summerville resident of 2428 Ellis Street appeared before the Commission to request that the City adopt an ordinance requiring residents to clean up after their dogs. Mr. Summerville stated that his neighbor has three dogs on a short leash and do not clean up feces in the yard. He pointed out that the odor is unbearable. Mr. Summerville stated that he has been to the Environmental Health Agency and was told that there is not a City Ordinance to address this problem.

The City Attorney stated that all the facts have not been heard about this situation. He suggested that some of the City staff come up with a solution to solve this problem.

Mr. Summerville stated that the City's Animal Control came out to look at the situation and told him that it was nothing that could be done. Mr. Summerville mentioned that he could not open up a window for three years on the side of his house where the dogs are tied up because of the odor. He stated that everyone in the area is complaining about the odor.

Commissioner Davis stated that she knows the situation and has visited the area. She noticed that the dogs are tied up and the odor is awful and no one should have to live in that condition. Commissioner Davis stated that the City needs an ordinance.

The City Attorney stated that he would contact other municipalities who experienced the same problems.

Commissioner Williams asked whether the Humane Society have been contacted because it seems like abuse is going on. Mr. Summerville told Commissioner Williams that Corporal Dickerson was called to his residence and found that there was abuse because the dogs are being fed by their owner.

Mayor Brown stated that the only thing the City could do is check the laws to see what the City could be done in this situation.

Raleigh Randolph, R & R Tire Service in references to business practices.

Raleigh Randolph was not present to address the business practices.

APPOINTMENTS:

Municipal Judge Pro-Tem

Mayor Brown read the following names of persons who mailed in résumé's for the position of Municipal Judge Pro-Tem:

- 1) Ray E. Colglazier, Jr.
- 2) Patrick Joseph Fetter
- 3) Judge Ernest B. Gilbert
- 4) Jim Gilbert
- 5) Charles E. Lamkin
- 6) Leslie J. McLelland
- 7) Christopher J. O'Donnell
- 8) John P. Rivers
- 9) Alan David Tucker, Esq.

Commissioner Williams asked if there were any restrictions pertaining to the Municipal Judge Pro-Tem position.

Mayor Brown stated that the Commission wanted someone who lives in the City to fill the position of Municipal Judge Pro-Tem.

Commissioner Lawrence made the motion and Commissioner Williams seconded the motion appointing Christopher J. O'Donnell to serve as Municipal Judge Pro-Tem. The motion passed by vote of 4 to 0.

Mayor Brown instructed the City Clerk to send a letter to Christopher O'Donnell concerning his appointment.

Cemetery Trust Fund Board

Mayor Brown read the following names of persons who mailed in a letter for the position on the Cemetery Trust Fund Board:

- 1) Bishop James A. Brooks, Sr.
- 2) John Demery

Commissioner Davis made the motion and Commissioner Williams seconded the motion appointing John Demery to serve on the Cemetery Trust Fund Board. The motion passed by vote of 4 to 0.

VOTING DELEGATES FOR NATIONAL LEAGUE OF CITIES:

Commissioner Lawrence made the motion and Commissioner Williams seconded the motion appointing Commissioner Doris A. Davis as the Voting Delegate and Commissioner Jonathan Williams as the Alternate Voting Delegate for the National League of Cities Conference that will be held in Boston, Massachusetts on Saturday, December 9, 2000. The motion passed.

DISCUSSION: Brunswick Police Department

Police Chief Cowan appeared before the Commission to discuss the Citizens Involved to Eradicate drugs Program. He stated that the C.I.T.E.D. program was

previously discussed with the Commission and the program has under gone legal review. He asked the Commission for their endorsement of the program.

Sergeant David Hines-Bey stated that he had been employed with the City of Brunswick for eight years and there are places in the City that are eyesores in this community. He explained the process and the overview of the C.I.T.E.D. program.

Commissioner Lawrence stated that he listened to what the C.I.T.E.D. program has to offer and pointed out that there are more drugs being peddled on street corners than in abandoned houses. He asked what does the City do when these person are moved out of abandoned houses on to the streets.

Police Sergeant Hines-Bey pointed out that drug dealers run into abandoned houses and place drugs in the houses. He pointed out that the Police Department must have probable cause to enter into a house.

Commissioner Williams stated that there is a need to get citizens involved.

Police Sergeant Hines-Bey stated that he is willing to talk to citizens in the community to bring them together. He pointed out that citizens do not want illegal activity in their community.

Commissioner Lawrence suggested that Town Hall meetings be held and feedback from these meetings be brought back to the Commission. Mayor Brown stated that a Town Hall meeting would postpone the approval of the C.I.T.E.D. program and he felt that the program is a valuable tool needed to help the community.

Following a discussion Commissioner Williams made the motion and Commissioner Davis seconded the motion adopting the Citizens Involved to Eradicate Drugs Program. On call for the vote the motion passed by vote of 3 to 1. Commissioner Lawrence voting No.

Commissioner Lawrence stated that the record should reflect that his vote does not mean that he is against the program, but citizens should have an overview of this program before it is adopted by the Commission.

STRUCTURAL FITNESS BOARD:

Commissioner Lawrence made the motion and Commissioner Davis seconded the motion authorizing the City Clerk to advertise for an appointment to the Structural Fitness Board for an appointment to the Structural Fitness Board for the un-expired form of William Slaughter. The motion passed.

UPDATE ON RFP'S FOR CENTRALIZED BANKING:

The Director of Finance stated that he met with several local bank officials since the September 6th meeting. He suggested that ninety days from the date of the contract an award would be sufficient in order to complete the transition. He stated that concerns were sent to the City Attorney in the form of a memo.

Commissioner Lawrence made the motion and Commissioner Davis seconded the motion authorizing the Director of Finance to send out RFP for Centralized Banking. The motion passed.

REQUEST FOR A LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR GLYNN COUNTY'S GREEN SPACE PROGRAM

Nancy Brooks, Secretary of Community Development appeared before the Commission to submit information about the Green Space program. Ms. Brooks requested a letter in support of the Green Space program.

Dick Newborn, representing Glynn County Community Development and Charles Bennett representing the Department of Natural Resources was present to discuss the Green Space program.

Charles Bennett stated that thirty-one counties have qualified for the Greenspace program and the City if they wish to participate would qualify for a noncompetitive grant in the amount of \$124,000.00. He pointed out that Glynn County would have to develop an acceptable Green Space plan and submit it to the State by November 20, 2000.

Following a discussion Commissioner Williams made the motion and Commissioner Lawrence seconded the motion to submit a letter in support of the Green Space program. The motion passed.

CITY CLERK'S ITEM:

Petition received to transfer Section 212, South ½ of Lot 3, Lot 5 and South ½ of Lot 6 in Palmetto Cemetery. Original deed surrendered.

Commissioner Lawrence made the motion and Commissioner Davis seconded the motion granting the petition. The motion passed.

CITY MANAGER'S ITEM:

Introduce new Recreation Director, Reggie Jackson.

The City Manager stated that seven department heads have been hired and the new recreation Director is Reggie Jackson.

Reggie Jackson stated that he grew up in Brunswick, played football for a Glynn Academy and played for Savannah State College on a scholarship. He pointed out that the Recreation Director's position gives him an opportunity to serve the community.

Commissioner Lawrence mentioned that it means a great deal to the City of Brunswick to open doors for a native of Brunswick. Commissioner Williams welcomed Reggie Jackson and offered to help him in anyway that he could. Mayor Brown stated that Reggie Jackson is a great role model to the youth of the community.

COMMISSIONER WILLIAMS ITEM:

To commend citizens for all their efforts in trying to improve their property.

Commissioner Williams stated that there are new spirits in the City; Business people are making their businesses look more attractive by painting and planting, shrubbery. Commissioner Williams stated that he would like to commend those businesses that made their building attractive.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

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

Following the Executive Session Commissioner Lawrence made the motion and Commissioner Williams seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting.

MEETING ADJOURNED.

/s/Bradford S. Brown
Mayor

Attest: /s/Georgia E. Marion
City Clerk