

**OFFICIAL MINUTES
COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF BRUNSWICK GEORGIA
REGULAR MEETING
6:30 P.M., APRIL 2, 2003**

PRESENT: His Honor Mayor Bradford S. Brown, Commissioners Harold E. Jennings and Jonathan Williams.

ABSENT: Commissioners Roosevelt Lawrence and Doris A. Davis.

INVOCATION: Commissioner Jonathan Williams gave the invocation.

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

MINUTES: Regular meeting of March 19, 2003 and Called Meeting of March 26, 2003.

Commissioner Jennings made a motion and Commissioner Williams seconded the motion approving the minutes of the meeting of March 19, 2003 and Called Meeting of March 26, 2003. The motion passed.

PUBLIC RECOGNITION

Proclamation presentation to Marsha Smith, Executive Director, Keep Brunswick/Golden Isles Clean and Beautiful, for the Great American Clean Up and Jazz-up Brunswick/Golden Isles week.

Marsha Smith did not attend the meeting.

REZONING APPLICATION(S)

Consider approval of application to rezone 3322 Reynolds Street, from R-6 (Residential) to OC (Office Commercial).

Donna Moody submitted application of LaWanna Collins to rezone R-6 One Family Residential District to OC Office Commercial, Pennisula Park Ext., Lot No. 27 also known as 3322 Reynolds Street. Ms. Moody stated that parking requirements allows for eight parking spaces which could not be located in the front of the building because of the congestion, but parking could be placed in the rear of the building.

LaWanna Collins the present owner stated that she was not aware of some of the building regulations when the contractor started remodeling the house. The house was remodeled using thousands of dollars from her life savings for the use of a salon. The Building Inspection informed her of a number of things that needed to be done before the house could be rezoned. She mentioned that all the work has now gone to waste. When she first spoke to several of her neighbors they echoed that the salon would not be a problem. She further stated that there is sufficient space in the back of the building for parking. The clients that would come to the salon is scheduled by appointment only and two per hour. After speaking to the neighbors again it seem that there is now a problem with their property value increasing. She stated that her current

resident is on Cypress Mill Road. She mentioned that the City Attorney and City Manager suggested that the property be used as General Use and apply for a permit to operate the salon. She next asked for help to get the house rezoned as Office Commercial or for some type of permit to operate a salon and she would be willing to accommodate her neighbors. She stated that a petition was signed by the neighbors in favor of the proposed rezoning and that an income tax business is right down the street from the salon.

Mayor Brown mentioned that the Income Tax Office is a home occupation type business.

Commissioner Jennings questioned if a sign would be placed outside the salon. Ms. Collins stated that she does not plan to place a sign outside because her clients would be scheduled by appointment only. She mentioned that the house was rented out to tenants and she received complaints from the neighbors concerning loud music.

Mayor Brown asked persons in attendance if they would like to speak for or against the rezoning.

Roger Wren stated that he owned a house in the 3300 block of Reynolds Street and he was told that the property taxes could go up if that house was changed to Commercial Zoning. He stated that there is not a problem with Ms. Collins doing hair at all, but there would be two other people and she should be living there like the accountant down the block. He asked how the rezoning would affect them as homeowners.

The City Attorney explained that taxes would not go up because someone gets a Commercial Zoning. The only reason for taxes to go up is that the County Tax Appraisers Office would have to say that the value of a property has gone up.

Marcus Anderson a city resident stated that the owner Ms. Collins is a hard worker and a real good friend. He asked the Commission to give her a hand with the rezoning of the property.

Johnny Walthour resident of Reynolds Street who lives two houses down from Ms. Collins property stated that the salon is a very nice place and Ms. Collins is a very nice lady. He felt that she deserves a place like this because she was trying to make a living. The salon looks real good and very neat. He also goes to the salon to get his hair cut. He asked the Commission to give her an opportunity and chance to operate the salon.

Commissioner Jennings asked Ms. Collins to get a petition signed by all her neighbors who are in favor of the rezoning and present it to the Commission.

Commissioner Williams asked Ms. Collins if she was already operating the salon, pointing out that Mr. Walthour did get a hair cut.

Ms. Collins stated that at first she didn't know she had to have a rezoning, but the Building Inspector did inform her and now the business is not in operation. She reiterated on all the work that has been done on the house.

Commissioner Williams stated that he visited the property and would have not known that this was a salon. He pointed out that there are rules and regulations that must be followed and he would like to see the owner move in the property. He stressed that appointments should be made in the day and not late at night.

Mayor Brown stated that this is the first public hearing and the second hearing is scheduled for the next meeting.

DELEGATION(S)

Bonnie Dvorak, Human Resource Director, to address proposed revisions to the Human Resources Standards of Practice.

The Human Resources Director submitted Proposed Revisions to the Standard of Practice for Voluntary and disciplinary demotions (Section 6.2 Pay Plan). She recommended that the language be revised regarding disciplinary demotion to reflect provisions available in the voluntary demotions standard of practice. She next recommended to remove the job title of Communications Officer from the list of jobs eligible for certification pay since the City no longer have Communication Officers on the City payroll or in the pay plan.

The Human Resources Director requested to change the language in the Standards of Practice regarding a return to “remedial training” versus placing an employee on “probationary employment status” for disciplinary reasons. She recommended changing the language regarding a longer-term employee from “remedial” to “probation” period. This means that an employee could be placed in a “probationary status” for performance or conduct infractions.

The Human Resources Director requested a revision to the Travel Standard of Practice (4.19) pointing out that the language has become outdated because of changes to the IRS Standard Mileage Rate Reimbursement and the removal of the provision that an employee be reimbursed for one personal telephone call per day when traveling.

She submitted four alternatives:

1. Revise the language to keep the mileage rate at 34.5 cents per mile.
2. Revise the language to increase the mileage reimbursement rate to 36 cents per mile.
3. Remove the provision to allow one personal telephone call per day.
4. Leave the provision to allow one personal telephone call per day.

She pointed out that staff recommended to revise the language to keep the mileage reimbursement rate at 34.5 cent per mile for the reason that maintaining the current mileage rate will help the City to control expenses. The mileage rate reimbursement for the IRS was reduced from 36.5 to 36 cents on January 1, 2003. The next recommendation from staff was to remove the provision to allow one telephone call per day for the reason that everyone has cellular telephones and calling cards, City Employees have ample access to make personal calls to their home to check on family without charging this expense to the City.

Following a discussion Commissioner Jennings made a motion and Commissioner Williams seconded the motion to accept the recommendations of staff and to accept the mileage rate of 34.5 cents. On call for the vote, it failed by vote of 1 to 2. The motion failed.

Commissioner Williams made a motion to approve all recommendations presented by staff except the mileage rate until a study is conducted and results be given to the Commission at the next Commission meeting. Commissioner Jennings seconded the motion. The motion passed.

APPROVAL(S)

Burton Carter, Construction Manager, to request permission to rehab #9 Wet Well.

Burton Carter, Construction Manager submitted proposal from J & H Waterstop to rehab the Wet Well at Lift Station No. 9 in the amount of \$43,950.00.

Following a discussion Commissioner Jennings made a motion and Commissioner Williams seconded the motion to accept the proposal of J & H Waterstop to rehabilitate the Wet Well of Lift Station No. 9 in the amount of \$43,950.00. Mayor Brown recommended that the Department Head be present at the Commission meeting when approval items are on the agenda. The motion passed.

CITY CLERK'S ITEM(S)

BOARD APPOINTMENT(S)

Park and Tree – 1 Appointment

Mayor Brown reported that the Commission received the following names of two applicants for consideration for appointment on the Park and Tree Board to fill unexpired term of Sara Walls until January 1, 2007; Mary-Kate Bennett, and Burnette Fulton, Sr.

Commissioner Jennings made a motion and Commissioner Williams seconded the motion appointing Burnette Fulton, Sr., to serve on the Park and Tree Board to fill the unexpired term of Sara Walls until January 1, 2007.

Mayor Brown gave his personal opinion about the qualifications of the applicants.

On call for the vote, the motion passed by vote of 2 to 1. Mayor Brown voting no.

Zoning Board of Appeals – 2 Appointments

Mayor Brown reported that the Commission received the following names of three applicants for consideration for appointment to fill the expired terms of Robert Herrington until March 3, 2004 and Sammy Thompson until March 3, 2005; Burnette Fulton, Sr., Dr. Michael Hidek, ED and Sammy Thompson.

Commissioner Williams made a motion and Commissioner Jennings seconded the motion re-appointing Sammy Thompson to serve on the Zoning Board of Appeals until March 3, 2005 and Dr. Michael Hidek, ED to fill the expired term of Robert Herrington to serve on the Zoning Board of Appeals until March 3, 2004. The motion passed.

DISCUSSION

Drug Court Funding.

The City Manager reported that an invoice was received for \$25,000.00 for Drug Court funding. He stated that the Judge of Drug Court requested extra funding for the court in the amount of

\$25,000.00, the total funding \$50,000.00. He recalled that a decision was not made to increase the Drug Court funding.

Following a discussion the City Manager was instructed to make an amendment to the budget and add the \$25,000.00 for the Drug Court funding and bring it back at the next meeting.

CITY ATTORNEY'S ITEM(S)

Resolution naming new road at Greenwood Cemetery the Lonnie Brooks Road.

The City Attorney reported that Lonnie Brooks operated Greenwood Cemetery in the 1940's, 1950's and 1960's. Mr. Brooks did everything except the landscaping of Greenwood Cemetery. He stated that the Cemetery Trust Fund Board in their last meeting recommended that the new road at Greenwood Cemetery be named after Lonnie Brooks and that an official dedication will be held in the next several weeks.

Commissioner Jennings stated that the dedication would be held on April 15, 2003 at 10:00 a.m.

Commissioner Jennings made a motion and Commissioner Williams seconded the motion naming the new road in Greenwood Cemetery Lonnie Brooks Road.

On call for the vote, the motion passed.

**CITY OF BRUNSWICK RESOLUTION
ESTABLISHING LONNIE BROOKS ROAD**

WHEREAS the City of Brunswick owns and operates Greenwood Cemetery, which was in need of a second entrance to make it possible for citizens to come and go conveniently and with safety; and

WHEREAS a new entrance was created by the City on the southerly side of the cemetery where it is bordered by "T" Street; and

WHEREAS the caretaker at Greenwood Cemetery was for many years Mr. Lonnie Brooks, who served the City and the public diligently and with great dignity and courtesy;

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED that the newly-created entrance and roadway into Greenwood Cemetery be marked and officially named "Lonnie Brooks Road."

SO RESOLVED this 2nd day of April 2003 by unanimous vote of the City Commission upon motion duly made and seconded in regular meeting of the Commission this day.

Bradford S. Brown, Mayor

Attest

Georgia Marion, City Clerk

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Williams made a motion and Commissioner Jennings seconded the motion to hold an Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue. All voted by standing.

Following the Executive Session, Commissioner Jennings made a motion and Commissioner Williams seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed.

MEETING ADJOURNED.

/s/ _____
Bradford S. Brown, Mayor

Attest: /s/ _____
City Clerk