

OFFICIAL MINUTES
COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF BRUNSWICK, GEORGIA
REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2009 AT 6:30 P.M.
OLD CITY HALL
1229 NEWCASTLE STREET, 2ND FLOOR

PRESENT: Honorable Mayor Bryan Thompson, Mayor Pro-Tem Mark Spaulding, Commissioner James H. Brooks, Sr., Commissioner Cornell Harvey and Commissioner Jonathan Williams

CALL TO ORDER: Honorable Mayor Bryan Thompson

INVOCATION: Commissioner Cornell Harvey

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Recited by all in attendance

RECOGNITION(S), PRESENTATION(S) & AWARD(S)

Mayor Thompson acknowledged the presence of Regent Jim Bishop.

1. Dr. Valerie Hepburn, President, College of Coastal Georgia update on Master Plan Process. (B. Thompson)

Dr. Valerie Hepburn presented a power point presentation on the Master Plan Process for the College of Coastal Georgia.

Regent Jim Bishop spoke briefly reiterating Dr. Hepburn's presentation.

Following presentation; Mayor Thompson thanked Dr. Hepburn for the update.

2. Earth Hour Proclamation.

Mayor Thompson presented the above-referenced proclamation to Karen Giovengo, Project Manager for Coastal Sustainable Communities Program, supporting Earth Hour on March 28, 2009.

Karen Giovengo thanked the Commission and presented an Earth Hour poster recognizing the City of Brunswick as an Earth Hour Day participant.

PUBLIC HEARING(S) – LAND USE

3. Variance Petition No. 09-02 from Brian Dolan with the Boys and Girls Club, petitioning to (a) decrease the separation distance for freestanding signs, (b) increase the height and (c) increase the size of wall signs located at 4226 Coral Park Drive. (A. Glaeser)

Arne Glaeser, City Planner, presented an overview for the above-referenced variance petition. He recommended granting the three variances.

Mayor Thompson asked if there was anyone present to speak in favor or opposition of the proposed petition.

No one came forth to speak in favor or opposition.

Commissioner Brooks made a motion and Mayor Pro-Tem Spaulding seconded the motion to approve the above-referenced petition. The motion passed unanimously by a vote of 5 to 0.

4. Variance Petition No. 09-03 from HKS, Inc., agent for the Southeast Georgia Health System, petitioning to (a) increase the height of a wall sign, (b) increase the size of a wall sign and (c) reduce the front yard setback for an expansion to the women's health unit, located at 2415 Parkwood Drive. (A. Glaeser).

Arne Glaeser, City Planner, presented an overview of the above-referenced variance petition. He recommended granting the three variances.

Mayor Thompson asked if there was anyone present to speak in favor or opposition of the proposed petition.

No one came forth to speak in favor or opposition.

Mayor Pro-Tem Spaulding made a motion and Commissioner Harvey seconded the motion to approve the above-referenced petition. The motion passed unanimously by a vote of 5 to 0.

5. Brunswick Urban Redevelopment Plan. Public Hearing. (A. Glaeser)

Arne Glaeser, City Planner, requested approval of three resolutions adopting the Brunswick Urban Redevelopment Plan, following tonight's public hearing.

Public Hearing

Mayor Thompson asked if there was anyone present to make a statement regarding the above-referenced plan.

- James Kent, Architect, stated that Brunswick Housing Authority was in support of the Brunswick Urban Redevelopment Plan.

Mayor Pro-Tem Spaulding made a motion and Commissioner Brooks seconded the motion to close the Public Hearing. The motion passed unanimously by a vote of 5 to 0.

Commissioner Harvey made a motion and Mayor Pro-Tem Spaulding seconded the motion approving the first resolution for the above-referenced plan. The motion passed unanimously by a vote of 5 to 0.

Commissioner Brooks made a motion and Commissioner Harvey seconded the motion approving the second resolution for the above-referenced plan. The motion passed unanimously by a vote of 5 to 0.

Mayor Pro-Tem Spaulding made a motion and Commissioner Brooks seconded the motion approving the third resolution for the above-referenced plan. The motion passed unanimously by a vote of 5 to 0.

City Attorney M. Lynn Frey III reiterated that the first resolution constitutes the office of Community Development as the redevelopment agency; the second resolution describes the boundary of the redevelopment area and the third resolution adopts the Brunswick Urban Redevelopment plan.

Resolutions on file at the Office of the City Clerk.

ITEM(S) TO CONSIDER FOR APPROVAL

6. Minutes of the March 4, 2009 Work Session and Regular Scheduled Meeting. (N. Atkinson)

Commissioner Brooks made a motion and Commissioner Williams seconded the motion approving the above referenced work session. The motion passed by a vote of 3 to 0; with Mayor Pro-Tem Spaulding and Commissioner Harvey abstaining as they were not in attendance.

Commissioner Williams made a motion and Commissioner Brooks seconded the motion approving the above-referenced regular scheduled meeting minutes. The motion passed by a vote of 4 to 0; with Mayor Pro-Tem Spaulding abstaining as he was not in attendance.

7. COMMISSION AND BOARD APPOINTMENTS: Brunswick Historic Preservation Board-One Appointment. (N. Atkinson)

The City Clerk announced that the above-referenced board had been advertised for one vacancy, but no names or letters of interest were submitted to the office of the City Clerk.

The City Clerk was instructed to re-advertise for the above-referenced board.

8. Fiscal Year 2009 Budget Adjustments. (M. Hendley)

Martha Hendley, Finance Director, requested approval of adjustments made to the current 2008/2009 fiscal year budget.

Mayor Pro-Tem Harvey made a motion and Commissioner Williams seconded the motion approving the requested adjustments. The motion passed unanimously by a vote of 5 to 0.

9. Request from Signature Squares to name the new City Hall/Customs House Park in honor of Joy Craft. (J. Hunter).

Julie Hunter, Executive Director, Signature Squares of Brunswick, asked the Commission to consider naming the new City Hall/Customs House Park in honor of Joy Craft (Joy Craft Park).

Commissioner Harvey made a motion and Commissioner Williams seconded the motion to naming the new City Hall/Customs House Park the Joy Craft Park. The motion passed unanimously by a vote of 5 to 0.

Ms. Hunter further announced that the dedication of the park is planned for Saturday, March 21, 2009.

10. North School Site RFP- Affirmation of Selection Committee's Candidate. (B. Weeks)

William Weeks, Assistant City Manager, asked the Commission to consider the contract of W. H. Gross Construction, from Kingsland, GA for the sale and development of approximately 5 acres of property located at 3400 Norwich Street formerly known as the C. B. Greer Elementary School.

Following discussion, Mayor Pro-Tem Spaulding made a motion and Commissioner Williams seconded the motion accepting the RFP of W. H. Gross Construction. The motion passed by a vote of 4 to 0 with Mayor Thompson abstaining.

MAYOR THOMPSON'S ITEM(S)

11. Johnston Street Traffic Issues.

Mayor Thompson reported that he had received calls and visits regarding speeding on Johnston Street; he stated that residents on Bartow Street are complaining about speeding

also. He further stated that a neighborhood study was to be executed and presented back to Commission; but he did not recall receiving said study.

Mayor Thompson suggested placing four-way stop signs on the streets in question until a neighborhood traffic study was completed.

Mayor Thompson entertained a motion to place suggested placing four-way stop signs at every two-way stop in that section along those corridors and have this completed no later than Monday, March 23, 2009.

Commissioner Williams made a motion and Commissioner Brooks seconded the motion to have four-way stop signs placed at every two-way stop in the corridors mentioned and have this completed by Monday, March 23, 2009. The motion passed unanimously by a vote of 5 to 0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Thompson asked if there was a need for an executive session; there being none, Commissioner Williams made a motion and Commissioner Harvey seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously by a vote of 5 to 0.

MEETING ADJOURNED

/s/ Bryan Thompson
Bryan Thompson, Mayor

Attest: /s/ Naomi Atkinson
Naomi Atkinson, City Clerk