

**MINUTES
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CITY OF DOUGLAS
JUNE 27, 2013**

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners was held on Thursday, June 27, 2013 at 7:05 P.M. The meeting was convened in the Council Chambers of City Hall with Mayor James H. Dennis presiding. Mayor Pro Tem Marty Swain, Commissioners Richard Hutchinson, Robert Moore, Ronnie Anderson Olivia Pearson and Dennis Josey were in attendance.

INVOCATION

Tommy Harrell, Customer Service Manager gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Jacob Lott, Public Works Director/City Engineer led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor James Dennis welcomed Commissioner Pearson and Anderson back from recuperating from their surgeries.

MINUTE ADOPTION

The following minutes were unanimously approved:

**Work SessionJune 10, 2013
Commission Meeting.....June 10, 2013**

A **MOTION** to **unanimously** approve the minutes as presented was made by Commissioner Dennis Josey, and seconded by Commissioner Richard Hutchinson.

Mayor Pro Tem Swain, Commissioners Robert Moore, Olivia Pearson, Ronnie Anderson, Dennis Josey and Richard Hutchinson, **unanimously** approved **(6-0)** the minutes.

APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF THE AGENDA

The Commission **unanimously** approved the order of the Agenda and as stated in the work session with the addition of the agenda item "*Purchase of the (2) Gateway Signs*".

A **MOTION** to approve was made by Commissioner Bob Moore, and seconded by Commissioner Ronnie Anderson.

Mayor Pro Tem Swain, Commissioners Robert Moore, Olivia Pearson, Ronnie Anderson, Dennis Josey, and Richard Hutchinson, **unanimously** approved **(6-0)** the order of the Agenda as discussed in the work session.

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RECOGNITION OF RETIREMENT –DANNY BURKHALTER

Judy Carter, Human Resources Director appeared before the Mayor and Commission to recognize Danny Burkhalter upon his retirement from the City of Douglas with 38 years and 7 months of service with the Police Department.

POLICE OFFICERS OATH OF OFFICE

Commander Raymond Harper introduced the newly hired Douglas Police Officers. Mayor James Dennis accompanied by Commissioner Richard Hutchinson officially swore in the following City of Douglas Police Officers: Brittany Coleman, Larry Carter, Thomas Groll, Eric Hughes, Dustin Peak and Justin Kelly.

APPROVAL OF THE 2013 BURN CONTAINER (COMPOST SITE)

Upon recommendation from Stanley Merritt, the Mayor and Commission unanimously approved the purchase of one (1) New 2013 Burn Container from Air Burners, LLC of Palm City, Florida for a grand total of \$105,125.00.

A MOTION to approve was made by Commissioner Bob Moore and seconded by Commissioner Ronnie Anderson.

Mayor Pro Tem Swain, Commissioners Robert Moore, Dennis Josey, Ronnie Anderson, Olivia Pearson and Richard Hutchinson, **unanimously** approved (**6-0**) the new 2013 Burn Container (Compost Site).

APPROVAL OF THE VOTING DELEGATES FOR MEAG POWER, ECCG AND GEORGIA PUBLIC WEB

Upon recommendation from Lamar Hill, Electric Department Director, Mayor and Commission authorized Lamar Hill to remain as primary voting delegate and also allowing Commissioner Bob Moore to remain as an alternate for the Annual MEAG meeting held at Amelia Island.

A MOTION to approve was made by Mayor Pro Tem Marty Swain and seconded by Commissioner Dennis Josey.

Mayor Pro Tem Swain, Commissioners Robert Moore, Dennis Josey, Ronnie Anderson, Olivia Pearson and Richard Hutchinson, **unanimously** approved (**6-0**) to allow Lamar Hill and Commissioner Bob Moore to remain the primary and alternate voting delegates for MEAG Power.

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APPROVAL OF THE PURCHASE OF (2) GATEWAY SIGNS

Upon recommendation from Terrell Jacobs, City Manager, Mayor and Commission unanimously approved the purchase of (2) Gateway signs, \$14,000 for the purchase of both signs that will be located on Hwy 441 North and South, provided by Moore than Graphics and not to exceed \$24,000 for the masonry and labor. Work will be done through Lott Builders.

A MOTION to approve was made by Commissioner Ronnie Anderson and seconded by Commissioner Olivia Pearson.

Mayor Pro Tem Swain, Commissioners Robert Moore, Dennis Josey, Ronnie Anderson, Olivia Pearson and Richard Hutchinson, **unanimously** approved **(6-0)** to purchase (2) Gateway signs.

APPROVAL OF THE REVOCATION OF THE WESTERN HOTEL LICENSE AND UTILITIES

Jerome Adams, City Attorney called a hearing for the Western Hotel located in Douglas Georgia. Mr. Adams explained that they currently owe \$15,000.00 in arrears. He explained that the city has a hotel and motel tax for those that accommodate lodging in Douglas sec. 82-31 of the city code. Mr. Adams stated that the arrears are in the amount of approximately \$15,000.00. Mr. Patel the owner contacted the city attorney to request an additional time. Later during the day City Manager, Terrell Jacobs was notified that they had the money to pay.

Upon recommendation from Jerome Adams, City Attorney, the Commission unanimously approved **(6-0)** to adopt a motion to revoke business license and suspend utilities at the Western Hotel if not paid by 12 noon Friday, June 28, 2013.

A MOTION to approve was made by Commissioner Bob Moore and seconded by Commissioner Richard Hutchinson.

Mayor Pro Tem Swain, Commissioners Robert Moore, Dennis Josey, Ronnie Anderson and Richard Hutchinson, **unanimously** approved **(6-0)** to revoke the Western Hotel License and utilities by 12 noon if payment is not remitted.

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STAFF COMMENTS

Roger Johnson, Parks and Recreational Director introduced Keyonta Smith who works through a program called Teen Work.

Keyonta Smith appeared before the Mayor and Commission with his guardian Michael Stull, Heart Foundation Youth Home for Boys. Mr. Stull stated that Keyonta is one of the young men that resides in the youth home and acknowledged his accomplishments.

Terrell Jacobs, City Manager announced that if citizens have signed up for the recycling carts they should have been picked up and returned for usage. The recycling carts will be picked up every other Friday and carts should be placed back after pickups by 6 a.m. the next morning. Mr. Jacobs also explained the scheduling of the regular pickup within the community.

Mr. Johnson updated the Mayor and Commission concerning the girls softball team ages 10 years old and up were undefeated and will be attending the State.

Mayor Dennis thanked all volunteers and coaches for participating in the summer program in working with the youth in our community.

Blondale Thomas, Media Relations/Event Coordinator informed the citizens the following:

Transwaste will run their regular route the week of the 4th of July including July 4th.

The Wild Game Supper tickets are on sale for \$15.00.

South Georgia Outdoor Expo will be held August 22 - 24th \$5.00 admission 12 years and up.

Bids for Football and Soccer equipments: Deadline to submit the bid will be July 22nd.

Parks and Recreation has openings in the Summer Camp.

Fourth of July Freedom Feast will be held at 5 p.m. at the J C. Adams Park

World War II flat training museum will have their open house admission is free.

Tommy Harrell, Customer Service Manager explained the policy and procedures of the Contract Payment Plan and the Average Monthly Plan. Mr. Harrell stated that these policies will be implemented beginning July 1st.

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STAFF COMMENTS-CONTINUED

Dale Batten, Community Development Director, stated that the city has received the CHIP Grant for Rehab Housing. The amount of the grant was close to \$300,000.00. Ms. Batten thanked Ken Hayes, City Grant Writer for this accomplishment in writing the grant.

MAYOR AND COMMISSION COMMENTS

Commissioner Olivia Pearson thanked everyone for support during her time of illness.

Mayor Pro Tem Swain gave encouraging words to Keyonta Smith by telling him to stay focused.

Mayor James Dennis stated the following:

- Informed citizens that City Hall will be closed July 4th and reopened July 5th.
- Thanked Staff for their hard work
- Congratulated Commissioner Richard Hutchinson with receiving his 42 hours training certificate at the GMA Conference.
- Encouraged citizens to help keep our community clean
- The Hospital Foundation is raising money for a 3 D Mammogram Machine and is requesting for private donations.
- Have a fun safe Fourth of July, be careful with fireworks and be safe on the roads.

City Manager stated that the Exchange Club will be doing the Fourth of July Event. Mr. Jacobs encouraged citizens to go out and support the Exchange Club with this event.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss in the Regular Meeting, a motion to adjourn to Executive Session was made by Commissioner Richard Hutchinson and was seconded by Commissioner Ronnie Anderson. The Commission unanimously approved **(6-0)** to adjourn to the Executive Session.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor James H. Dennis, Mayor Pro Tem Marty Swain, Commissioners Richard Hutchinson, Robert Moore, Ronnie Anderson, Olivia Pearson and Dennis Josey were in attendance of the Executive Session.

PERSONNEL ISSUES

Terrell Jacobs, City Manager, discussed personnel issues with the Mayor and Commission. Jerome Adams, City Attorney, and Judy Carter, Human Resources Director, were in attendance.

Commissioner Bob Moore made the **MOTION** to adjourn from Executive Session and to return to the regular meeting, **MOTION** was seconded by Commissioner Ronnie Anderson, and **approved** by all. **(6-0)**

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Commissioner Bob Moore made the motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ronnie Anderson. The Commission unanimously approved **(5-0)** at 8:35 p.m.

CITY OF DOUGLAS, GEORGIA

James H. Dennis, Mayor

Wynetta J. Bolder, City Clerk