

**MINUTES
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CITY OF DOUGLAS, GEORGIA
AUGUST 25, 2014**

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners was held on Monday, August 25, 2014 at 7:04 P.M., in the Council Chambers of City Hall with Mayor James Dennis presiding and Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis Josey, Commissioners Bob Moore, Marty Swain, Richard Hutchinson, Olivia Pearson, Marty Swain and Ronnie Anderson present.

INVOCATION

Pastor Willie Carter, Move of God Deliverance Center, gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Lt. Sheppard of the Coffee County School Naval JROTC led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Mayor Dennis asked that we keep Wynetta Bolder and Johnny Wilkerson in our thoughts and prayers as they are both sick. He thanked Brandy for being here to record the meeting.

MINUTES ADOPTION

The following minutes were unanimously approved as corrected:

Work Session.....August 11, 2014
Commission Meeting.....August 11, 2014

A **MOTION** to unanimously approve the minutes as corrected was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis Josey and seconded by Commissioner Ronnie Anderson.

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

APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF THE AGENDA

The Commission **unanimously** approved the order of the Agenda as set forth in the work session.

A **MOTION** to approve the order of the Agenda was made by Commissioner Richard Hutchinson and seconded by Commissioner Ronnie Anderson.

Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis Josey, Commissioners Bob Moore, Richard Hutchinson, Olivia Pearson, Marty Swain and Ronnie Anderson, **unanimously** approved **(6-0)** the order of the Agenda.

RECOGNITION OF DAN DAVIS

Roger Johnson, Parks & Recreation Director, recognized Dan Davis for receiving the Mickey Katkaveck Award.

RECOGNITION OF DAN DAVIS-CONTINUED

Mr. Johnson stated that Mr. Davis received this award at the District 2 Parks & Recreation Banquet a couple of weeks ago. District 2 covers the area from Savannah to Coffee County on the west to the ocean on the east and to the state line. He was voted for this award. Mickey Katkaveck was the director at Waycross in the early 70's and was a one man crew. The award is for the excellence in parks maintenance.

Mr. Johnson stated that Mr. Davis is the one that prepares and repairs all 7-8 ball fields during ball season everyday including when there are tournaments. Mr. Johnson stated that the department is fortunate to have Mr. Davis.

Mr. Davis thanked his director and co-workers for their help in him winning this award.

RECOGNITION OF 2014 NEW CENTURY LEADER GRADUATES

Terrell Jacobs, City Manager, appeared before the Mayor and Commission to recognize the graduates of the 2014 New Century Leaders Program.

Mr. Jacobs stated that each year the Chamber of Commerce has a New Century Leaders class. This class helps to develop individuals into leaders, if they are not already leaders. We are very fortunate that Mayor and Commission have afforded us the opportunity to send some of our staff to these classes each year.

Mr. Jacobs recognized the graduates in attendance: Kristi Morgan, Executive Assistant/Deputy Clerk; JC Boler from the Public Works Department and Marcus Pace who also works in the Public Works Department. Tim Allmond, Sergeant with Police Department, could not attend the meeting but he also graduated from the class.

2014 MILLAGE TAX ORDINANCE-2ND READING

Charlie Davis, Assistant City Manager/Finance Director recommend the approval of the second reading of 2014 Tax Millage Ordinance at the meeting on this date with the public hearing to be held immediately after the second reading. Jerome Adams, City Attorney read the second reading tonight.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF DOUGLAS, GEORGIA, PROPOSED FOR THE LEVYING OF A TAX UPON ALL TAXABLE PROPERTY WITHIN THE CITY OF DOUGLAS SUBJECT TO TAXATION UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA AND THE ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF DOUGLAS FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2014 AND FOR ALL PURPOSES.

A public hearing was held immediately after the second reading with no comments being brought forth.

A **MOTION** to adopt the ordinance was made by Commissioner Ronnie Anderson and seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis Josey.

Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis Josey, Commissioners Bob Moore, Richard Hutchinson, Olivia Pearson, Marty Swain and Ronnie Anderson, **unanimously** approved **(6-0)** the Millage Tax Ordinance.

APPROVAL OF THE CITY OF DOUGLAS PER DIEM RATES

Upon recommendation of Charles Davis, Finance Director/Asst City Manager, the Commission unanimously approved to raise the per diem rates a total of \$6 per day (\$1 dinner per diem and \$5 incidental per diem), making the total per diem rate \$41 per day.

A **MOTION** to raise the per diem by \$6 per day was made by Commissioner Marty Swain and seconded by Commissioner Ronnie Anderson.

Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis Josey, Commissioners Bob Moore, Richard Hutchinson, Olivia Pearson, Marty Swain and Ronnie Anderson **unanimously** approved **(6-0)** to raise the per diem rates a total of \$6 per day, making the total per diem rate \$41 per day.

APPROVAL OF THE PURCHASE OF FOUR (4) 2014 FORD F-150 TRUCKS

Upon recommendation from Stanley Merritt, Purchasing Agent, the Commission approved the purchase of four (4) 2014 Ford F-150 trucks to replace four worn out vehicles.

A **MOTION** to approve the purchase of four (4) 2014 Ford F-150 trucks was made by Commissioner Olivia Pearson and seconded by Commissioner Ronnie Anderson.

Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis Josey, Commissioners Bob Moore, Richard Hutchinson, Olivia Pearson, Marty Swain and Ronnie Anderson **unanimously** approved **(6-0)** the purchase of four (4) 2014 Ford F-150 trucks.

APPROVAL OF THE PURCHASE OF TWO (2) 3-PHASE PAD MOUNTED TRANSFORMERS (WAREHOUSE INVENTORY)

Upon recommendation from Stanley Merritt, Purchasing Agent, the Commission approved the purchase of two (2) 3-phase pad mounted transformers to be maintained in warehouse inventory and used as needed.

A **MOTION** to approve the purchase of two (2) 3-phase pad mounted transformers was made by Commissioner Olivia Pearson and seconded by Commissioner Marty Swain.

Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis Josey, Commissioners Bob Moore, Richard Hutchinson, Olivia Pearson, Marty Swain and Ronnie Anderson **unanimously** approved **(6-0)** the purchase of two (2) 3-phase pad mounted transformers.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS / REAPPOINTMENTS

Dale Batten, Community Development Director, announced that there are three (3) vacancies on the Historic Preservation Commission. Per policy, these positions will be advertised for a period of two (2) weeks and recommendations for appointments/reappointments will be brought forth at the September 8, 2014 meeting.

No action was taken on this item. It was for informational purposes only.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF AIRPORT COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS / REAPPOINTMENTS

Dale Batten, Community Development Director, announced that there are three (3) vacancies on the Airport Commission. Per policy, these positions will be advertised for a period of two (2) weeks and recommendations for appointments/reappointments will be brought forth at the September 8, 2014 meeting. People with aviation interest and/or knowledge are encouraged to apply.

No action was taken on this item. It was for informational purposes only.

APPROVAL OF CELLULAR PROVIDER FOR THE CITY OF DOUGLAS

Upon recommendation from Terrell Jacobs, City Manager, the Commission approved for the Mayor to execute the agreement with Verizon Wireless to provide cellular services.

A **MOTION** approving the Mayor to execute the agreement with Verizon Wireless was made by Commissioner Bob Moore and seconded by Commissioner Ronnie Anderson.

Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis Josey, Commissioners Bob Moore, Richard Hutchinson, Olivia Pearson, Marty Swain and Ronnie Anderson **unanimously** approved (**6-0**) the Mayor to execute the agreement with Verizon Wireless to provide cellular service.

APPROVAL OF THE USE OF THE MARTIN CENTER FOR CLCP FUNDRAISER

Upon recommendation from Terrell Jacobs, City Manager, the Commission approved the use of the Martin Center for the CLCP trivial pursuit fundraiser on November 13, 2014.

A **MOTION** to approve the use of the Martin Center for the CLCP fundraiser was made by Commissioner Marty Swain and seconded by Commissioner Olivia Pearson.

Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis Josey, Commissioners Bob Moore, Olivia Pearson, Marty Swain and Ronnie Anderson **unanimously** approved (**5-0**) the use of the Martin Center for the CLCP trivial pursuit fundraiser on November 13, 2014.

Because Commissioner Richard Hutchinson is the Chairperson for CLCP, he recused himself from the discussion of this agenda item and from voting.

APPROVAL OF APPLICATION FOR ALCOHOL LICENSE FOR LD BRITTON ENTERPRISES, INC.

Upon recommendation from Rodger Goddard, Code Enforcement Officer, the Commission approved the application for alcohol license for LD Britton Enterprises, Inc. D/B/A Britt's Steak and Seafood.

A **MOTION** approving the application for alcohol license for LD Britton Enterprises, Inc. D/B/A Britt's Steak and Seafood was made by Commissioner Marty Swain and seconded by Commissioner Ronnie Anderson.

APPROVAL OF APPLICATION FOR ALCOHOL LICENSE FOR LD BRITTON ENTERPRISES, INC. CONTINUED

Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis Josey, Commissioners Bob Moore, Richard Hutchinson, Olivia Pearson, Marty Swain and Ronnie Anderson **unanimously** approved **(6-0)** the application for alcohol license for LD Britton Enterprises, Inc.

STAFF COMMENTS

Georgia Henderson, Public Information Director announced the following:

- Thanked everyone for support and help with the expo
- Blood Drive August 27th, 10 am to 3 pm
- Jobs: Full-time Maintenance Worker
- Reminded everyone that applications are accepted year round for Certified Police Officers and Fire Fighters
- City Offices will be closed on Monday, September 1st for Labor Day
- Transwaste schedule will be moved back one day due to holiday on Monday. Will pick up Tuesday through Saturday
- Programs being offered for fall months. For more information, call 384-5978
- Hometown Harvest is coming up in October
- Registration for Annual Festival of Lights Christmas Parade being accepted now. Rules and information is on the City website.

GENERAL COMMENTS

Pastor Willie Carter (County Resident) spoke on behalf of some of his church members. Some of his members are on disability and have limited income. With the increasing utility bills, they are struggling to pay their bills during the months that there are five weeks. In the months when there are five weeks, their checks don't come until the 5th week, which results in their utilities being cut off. They either stay in the dark for one day or they rent a hotel room for one day. Just wondered if there was anything the city could do to help these individuals.

Mayor Dennis advised Pastor Carter to have these members contact Mr. Jacobs or Tommy Harrell to see what we can do to help them out.

Pastor Carter also announced that his church is having Pastor Appreciation on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of this week at 7:30 pm nightly. He invited everyone to attend. Address is 121 Pinecrest Drive.

COMMISSION COMMENTS

Commissioner Olivia Pearson thanked Georgia and her staff for all of the hard work on the South Georgia Outdoor Expo. She also congratulated Joshua Peavy on his accomplishments on the TV show Rising Star and hope he did well.

Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis Josey stated that he really enjoyed the Wild Game Supper.

COMMISSION COMMENTS - CONTINUED

Commissioner Bob Moore talked about people blowing trash in the road. Said he wondered if the Police Officers were paying attention to people who are doing this. Stated he saw two last week who were blowing straw and grass in the road and the police officers road by without stopping and doing anything. Chief Casteloes asked that in the future he contact them so they can send someone out. Commissioner Moore stated that he did call but no one was sent out. Chief Casteloes assured Commissioner Moore that he would check into it.

Commissioner Marty Swain thanked Georgia and her staff for the hard work on the South Georgia Outdoor Expo.

MAYOR COMMENTS:

- Commended Georgia and her staff for all of the hard work on the expo. He thanked the volunteers for making the event such a success. He heard a large amount of comments from vendors about what a good place Douglas is and how good they had been treated.
- Congratulated the 2014 New Century Leader Graduates
- Congratulated Dan Davis on his award
- Blood Drive August 27th
- Support the Trojans Friday night
- See Something, Say Something Campaign – 260-3600
- Thanked all of staff for hard work

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss in the Regular Meeting, a motion was made to adjourn and enter into the Utility Meeting by Commissioner Olivia Pearson and seconded by Commissioner Ronnie Anderson. The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 P.M.

James Dennis, Mayor

Kristi L. Morgan, Deputy Clerk

**UTILITY COMMISSION MEETING
CITY OF DOUGLAS
August 25, 2014**

A Utility Commission Meeting was held on Monday, August 25, 2014 at 8:00 P.M. The meeting was convened in the Council Chambers of City Hall with Mayor James Dennis presiding and Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis Josey, Commissioners Ronnie Anderson, Bob Moore, Richard Hutchinson, Marty Swain and Olivia Pearson were in attendance.

Mike Hudson, Gas/Water and Wastewater Director, Rand Vickers, Electric Department and Tommy Harrell, Customer Service Manager, appeared before the Mayor and Commission to discuss and receive recommendations.

Smoke Wise – 1428 W. Baker Hwy

The Utility Appeal Board went into session after the regular commission meeting. Clyde Hall, landlord of said property, 1428 W. Baker Hwy, Temp account #312-03840-06, appealed on behalf of business owner, Steven Johns, due to high utility bill. After much discussion, Commissioner Bob Moore made a motion to deny the request for adjustments to the water and sewer portions of the bill. Commissioner Ronnie Anderson seconded the motion. Commissioners Olivia Pearson and Marty Swain opposed the motion. All others were in favor of the motion. Therefore, the motion carried in favor of denying the adjustments with a vote of 4 to 2.

Janis O’Conner – 806 Spring Street

Janis O’Conner, account holder for said property, 806 Spring Street, account #109-12186-04, appealed due to high utility bill. After much discussion, Commissioner Ronnie Anderson made a motion to deny the request for adjustments to utility bill. Commissioner Richard Hutchinson seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried denying adjustments 6 to 0.

With no further business to discuss in the Utility Committee Appeals Meeting, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm.