

**MINUTES
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CITY OF DOUGLAS
JULY 15, 2010**

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners was held on Thursday, July 15, 2010 at 7:00 P.M. The meeting was convened in the Council Chambers of City Hall with Mayor Jackie L. Wilson presiding. Mayor Pro Tem Ronnie Anderson, Commissioners Johnnie Lee Roper, Olivia Pearson, Dennis Josey, and Marty Swain were also in attendance. Commissioner Robert Moore was unable to attend the meeting.

INVOCATION

Terrell Jacobs, City Manager, gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mike Hudson, Gas Director, led The Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

MINUTE ADOPTION

The following minutes, were unanimously approved:

**Work Session..... June 24, 2010
Commission Meeting..... June 24, 2010**

A MOTION was received by Commissioner Olivia Pearson, to approve the minutes of the previous meeting; it was seconded by Commissioner Marty Swain. The motion was unanimously carried by the Mayor and Commission. **(6-0)**

APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF THE AGENDA

The Mayor and Commission unanimously approved **(6-0)** to accept the order of the agenda.

A MOTION was received by Commissioner Marty Swain, for approval of the order of the agenda; Mayor Pro Tem Ronnie Anderson seconded the motion.

APPROVAL OF THE SECOND READING/SPEED LIMIT ORDINANCE

Following the second reading by City Attorney Jerome Adams, the Mayor and Commission unanimously approved **(6-0)**: **“AN ORDINANCE CONCERNING LOCAL AUTHORITIES POWER TO ALTER LAWFUL SPEED LIMITS WITHIN THE CITY OF DOUGLAS, COFFEE COUNTY, GEORGIA, PURSUANT TO SECTION 40-6-183 FO THE OFFICIAL CODE OF GEORGIA ANNOTATED”**

A MOTION was made by Commissioner Marty Swain, and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Ronnie Anderson.

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**APPROVAL OF THE ANNUAL CHLORINE & HFS BID FOR
WATER/WASTEWATER & PARKS/RECREATION**

Upon receiving a recommendation from Jerald Guthrie, Purchasing Director, the Mayor and Commission unanimously approved **(6-0)** a one year extension of the low bid for Chlorine & HFS. This was based on unit prices and supplies were to be ordered as needed throughout the year. Details of the recommendation are as follows: Groups A, C, & D to be ordered from Allied Universal Corporation located in Miami, FL for a total of \$27,400.00, and the acceptance of a low bid on Group B from Industrial Chemicals, Inc. located in Birmingham, Alabama for a total of \$16,740.00.

In addition, approval is requested to allow one year additional extension of time if the bid price can be held by Allied Universal Corporation and Industrial Chemicals, Inc. around this time next year.

A MOTION was made by Commissioner Marty Swain for approval and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Ronnie Anderson.

**APPROVAL TO PURCHASE TWO PUMPS FOR THE WASTEWATER
TREATMENT**

Upon receiving a recommendation from Jerald Guthrie, Purchasing Director, the Mayor and Commission unanimously approved the quote received from Carl Eric Johnson, Inc, the single source distributor for Douglas, Georgia, for two Genuine Moyno Pumps to be utilized at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. This recommendation was based on a unit price of \$9,996.00, which includes any and all freight charges for a grand total of \$19,992.00.

A MOTION was made by Commissioner Marty Swain for approval and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Ronnie Anderson.

**APPROVAL OF THE ANNUAL FOOTBALL/SOCCER EQUIPMENT BID FOR
PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

Upon receiving a recommendation from Jerald Guthrie, Purchasing Director, to approve the request by Parks and Recreation Director Roger Johnson, to accept the Sport Shop's bid the "intent" of decimals in the unit price and to accept the low bids for the 2010 football and soccer equipment. The following list of vendors to be purchased as needed for a grand total of \$20,806.50.

A MOTION was made by Mayor Pro Tem Ronnie Anderson for approval and seconded was not made.

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<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Low Bid Items</u>	<u>Total Low Bids</u>
Anaconda Sports, Inc.	G	\$ 159.00
Cannon Sports, Inc.	E, M, and N	\$ 180.36
Green Sports USA	J	\$ 159.72
MOORE than Graphics	A	\$ 6,592.50
Sport Supply Group d/b/a BSN	F, H and I	\$ 349.52
The Sport Shop, Inc.	B, C, D, K and L	\$14,807.90

After a discussion was held, Mayor Pro Tem Ronnie Anderson amended the motion to award the low bid for each group concerning the 2010 Football/Soccer Bid with the exception of Group A, which was awarded to Moore and Graphics a local vendor, seconded by Commissioner Dennis Josey. The Mayor and Commission unanimously approved **(6-0)** the amended motion.

APPROVAL OF PARTNERS WITH COMMUNITY BACK TO SCHOOL RALLY

Upon receiving a recommendation from Terrell Jacobs, City Manager, the Mayor and Commission unanimously approved **(6-0)** for the City of Douglas to partner with Southwire, Chamber of Commerce and other local businesses, industries, and community organizations to host a Community Back to School Rally at Central Square Complex on August 2, 2010 at no charge and to waive the rental fee due to partnership.

A MOTION was made by Commissioner Johnnie Lee Roper for approval and seconded by Commissioner Olivia Pearson.

APPROVAL OF THE RESIDENTIAL DOOR-TO-DOOR RECYCLING CITY-WIDE

Upon receiving a recommendation from Charlie Davis, Assistant City Manager, the Mayor and Commission unanimously approved **(6-0)** the implementation of the Residential Door to Door Recycling Program city wide; it will be in effect October 2010.

A MOTION was made by Commissioner Dennis Josey for approval and seconded by Commissioner Johnnie Lee Roper.

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**INFORMATION CONCERNING PUBLIC DISCLOSURE NOTICE/CHIP
REHABILITATION PROGRAM**

Dale Batten disclosed that Johnnie E. Roper, Jr. desires to have his house rehabilitated under the CHIP Program. Mr. Roper is the son of Commissioner Johnnie Lee Roper, Sr.; under the CHIP requirement this constitutes a Conflict of Interest. A Public Notice was placed on the City Hall Bulletin Board and was placed on the agenda for further disclosure. Mr. Roper does not have any dealings with eligibility determination. The City Attorney Jerome Adams has submitted a letter stating that there is no Conflict of Interest.

This item was for information purposes

**APPROVAL OF THE LOCAL MAINTENANCE & IMPROVEMENT GRANT
(LMIG) PROGRAM**

The Commission unanimously approved **(6-0)** the recommendation of Community Development Director Dale Batten for resurfacing of East Walker Street from Golf Club Road to the West Green Highway under the Department of Transportation Local Maintenance & Improvement Grant Program and authorized Mayor Wilson to execute the Certificate of Ownership and Agreement form.

A MOTION was made by Mayor Pro Tem Ronnie Anderson for approval and seconded by Commissioner Johnnie Lee Roper.

**APPROVAL OF THE FUEL FARM CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT &
OBSTRUCTION REMOVAL CONTRACT**

The Commission unanimously approved **(6-0)** the recommendation of Community Development Director Dale Batten to award the low bid received on the Aviation Fuel Farm project to Cobb Environmental & Technical Services, Inc., in the amount of \$437,253.75 and authorized the local match in the amount of \$10,931.35 from SPLOST 2000 funds.

A MOTION was made by Commissioner Dennis Josey for approval and seconded by Commissioner Johnnie Lee Roper.

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COMMENTS

City Manager Terrell Jacobs stated that Chief Casteloes will present to the Mayor and Commission an update on the assessment of the Police Department at the next Commission Meeting on July 26, 2010.

The City of Douglas will host a local television program on DCTV channel 3 titled "Douglas on my Mind". This show will focus on providing information to the citizens; the first program will spotlight the Recycling Program.

Mr. Jacobs stated that a speaking bureau will be established. The Department Directors have information concerning city services that can be shared with churches and civic groups. Please contact the City of Douglas to arrange for someone to speak to the groups.

The next town hall meeting will be held in the month of August. The date will be announced at a later date.

Mr. Jacobs stated that he will be on vacation July 22-30, 2010. Assistant City Manager Charlie Davis will be available and in charge.

Commissioner Johnnie Lee Roper stated that Walker Street can be an open door for our community, and it needs to be seriously considered for repairs.

Mr. Jacobs announced that next Tuesday July 20, 2010, the Police Department Records Division hours of operation will be changed to 8 am – 5 pm, but Police Department Patrols will continue to be in full operational 24 hours/7 days a week.

Commissioner Johnnie Lee Roper encouraged the citizens to keep Douglas beautiful by cooperating with the recycling program.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Cheryl Cunningham of 207 Pinecrest Drive, Douglas Georgia, stated that her water was disconnected on June 24th. She stated that she sent a family member to pay her bill a few weeks later, but was unaware her water account had been closed out. The family member requested services be reinstated, but due to the policy that states customers must reapply for services after accounts have been closed, the family member was unable to do so. Policy also requires that the account holder be present to reapply for services and present identification. Mrs. Cunningham stated that she came to City Hall to have the service reinstated with a receipt. She was told that due to the fact her rental receipt did not have an address on it, her services still could not be reinstated.

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Mrs. Cunningham stated that nothing had changed since the time services were initially activated at the residence. Because her rental receipt did not contain an address, representatives could not activate services at the home.

Ms. Cunningham stated that she then contacted the following individuals and gave their responses to her situation: Mayor Wilson, whom she stated was very rude to her; Terrell Jacobs, City Manager, who was out of town when she contacted him, and was unfamiliar with the situation at hand-she stated that he was very blunt; and Charlie Davis, Assistant City Manager, whom she stated was extremely rude to her. She went on to say that over the years she has observed a number of rules being broken by Mr. Davis.

She provided the following incident: Ms Cunningham explained that a couple of years ago when Mayor Wilson's daughter -in-law's utilities had been disconnected, she witnessed as Mayor Wilson's daughter-in-law presented a check to Customer Service Representative Donna Carter. Mrs. Carter would not accept the check due to the City of Douglas' policy "checks are not to be accepted if services are disconnected". Mayor Wilson's daughter-in-law went into Mayor Wilson's office, and returned presenting Customer Service Representative Barbara Anderson with a check from Mayor Wilson's, this check was also refused. Mayor Wilson then, came out of her office and approached Ms. Anderson's window stating that "She should never refuse her checks, they are always good." Ms. Anderson then went to Charlie Davis to advise him of the situation and he allowed Ms. Anderson to accept the check.

Commissioner Pearson questioned Charlie Davis on the accusation of services being disconnected and closed in two weeks.

Charles Davis, Assistant City Manager responded that yes, when someone's account is disconnected it is closed out in two weeks.

Commissioner Pearson questioned the length of time this rule had been implemented.

Charles Davis, Assistant City Manager, stated that Mrs. Cunningham did not want to complete the application and bring her identification to City Hall. Mr. Davis stated that he explained to Mrs. Cunningham that on November 28, 2009 this mandate was implemented by City law, due to identity theft. Mr. Davis also explained the procedure for finalizing out accounts has been in effect since he became employed ten (10) years ago.

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Ms. Cunningham suggested that the rule of utility bills being closed out in two (2) weeks be extended to thirty (30) days and to inform the customers of policies that are being changed.

Mayor Pro Tem Ronnie Anderson stated to Ms. Cunningham that when the bill is due and you are not able to pay it on the due date policy states that a customer should fill out a utility committee form.

Mayor Wilson stated that she has paid hundreds of people bills that she did not know, never expecting to get a cent back. Mayor Wilson also stated that her daughter-in-law does not reside in the city limits.

Commissioner Olivia Pearson apologized for the treatment that Ms. Cunningham experienced. Commissioner Pearson agreed that two weeks was sudden for a bill to be closed out.

After much discussion Commissioner Pearson stated that this issue will be investigated and that Ms. Cunningham can return to the next meeting which is held on July 26, 2010. Also Commissioner Pearson suggested to Ms. Cunningham for future reference that if her rights have been violated she has the right to fill out a complaint or grievance form which is located in the City Manager's office.

A MOTION was made to enter into Executive Session by Commissioner Dennis Josey and seconded by Commissioner Johnnie Lee Roper. Mayor and Commission unanimously approved the motion to enter into Executive Session.
(6-0)

EXECUTIVE SESSION

LAND ACQUISITION

Terrell Jacobs, City Manager, and Dale Batten, Community Development Director, discussed land acquisition issues with the Mayor and Commission.

The Mayor and Commission unanimously approved **(6-0)** to reconvene to the regular meeting and end the executive session. Mayor Pro Tem Ronnie Anderson made a motion for approval, and it was seconded by Commissioner Johnnie Lee Roper.

APPROVAL OF LAND AND ACQUISITION

Upon the recommendation of Community Development Director Dale Batten, the Commission approved the acquisition of 1.19 acres of land from Mr. Gene Taylor in the amount of \$4,000. In addition, it allowed Mr. Taylor to lease the 2.62 acres he currently leases from the city at no charge for five years. The Mayor and

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Commission approved the acquisition of 0.82 acre of land from Mr. Clinton Murray in the amount of \$3,200 and authorized payment from Airport Capital Improvement funds in the Community Development Department; his property is needed for tree clearance in the airport approach zone.

A MOTION was made by Mayor Pro Tem Ronnie Anderson for approval and seconded by Commissioner Johnnie Lee Roper.

APPROVAL OF OBSTRUCTION REMOVAL CONTRACT

Upon the recommendation of Community Development Director Dale Batten, the Mayor and Commission unanimously awarded the low bid received on the Obstruction Removal project at the airport to Ricketson Construction Company, Inc., in the amount of \$48,000 and authorized the local match in the amount of \$1,200 to be funded from SPLOST 2000 funds.

A MOTION was made by Commissioner Dennis Josey for approval and seconded by Commissioner Marty Swain.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Mayor Pro Tem Ronnie Anderson made a motion to adjourn and his motion was seconded by Commissioner Dennis Josey. The Mayor and Commission unanimously approved **(6-0)** the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 pm.

Jackie L. Wilson, Mayor

Wynetta J. Bolder, City Clerk