

**MINUTES
MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CITY OF DOUGLAS, GEORGIA
MARCH 10, 2025**

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HELD A REGULAR SESSION ON MONDAY, MARCH 10, 2025, AT 6:16 PM IN THE CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS. MAYOR TONY L. PAULK PRESIDED OVER THE MEETING, WITH MAYOR PRO TEM CINDY MCNEILL AND COMMISSIONERS EDWIN TAYLOR, STEVE BAILEY, TONY PAULK II, MIKE GOWEN, AND BRENDA MOORE IN ATTENDANCE.

CALLED TO ORDER

Mayor Tony L. Paulk called to order the Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners.

INVOCATION (COMMISSIONER BRENDA MOORE)

Commissioner Brenda Moore delivered the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Coffee High Naval JROTC led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF THE AGENDA

The motion was approved unanimously (6-0) to amend the agenda order, allowing item #5 to recognize the Parks and Recreation Basketball State Champion teams (10 & 14) with the motion made by Commissioner Mike Gowen and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Cindy McNeill.

RECOGNITION OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION BOYS STATE CHAMPION BASKETBALL TEAM (10- & 14-YEAR-OLD)

Landy Elka Gomez, Athletic Coordinator, Mayor Paulk, and Mayor Pro Tem Cindy McNeill recognized the Boys State Champion Basketball teams.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS (CHARLES DAVIS, CITY MANAGER)

1. **APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 24TH, 2025, MEETING MINUTES**
2. **APPROVAL OF THE LEASE AGREEMENT WITH CHRIS ROUNDS/GEORGIA WARBIRDS ACADEMY FOR BUILDING 4**
3. **APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION FOR THE DESIGNATION OF DOWNTOWN DOUGLAS AS A LOCAL HISTORIC DISTRICT**
4. **APPROVAL TO ADOPT THE NEW RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL DESIGN GUIDELINES FOR ALL LOCAL HISTORIC DISTRICTS**
5. **APPROVAL OF STREET CLOSURES FOR 2025**
6. **APPROVAL OF THEFY25 SPORTS EQUIPMENT BID**
7. **APPROVAL OF THE FY25 SINKHOLE LIFT STATION REPLACEMENT PUMP BID**

As discussed in the Work Session, Commissioner Steve Bailey made the motion (carried 6-0) to approve all Consent Agenda items listed above, which Commissioner Edwin Taylor seconded.

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APPROVAL OF THE EXTENSION ON REHABILITATION LEASE AGREEMENT WITH CHRIS ROUNDS, OLD HOSPITAL BUILDING, WWII FLIGHT TRAINING BASE

Georgia Henderson, Assistant City Manager, recommended extending a Rehabilitation Agreement with Mr. Chris Rounds to the Commission. This agreement pertains to completing rehabilitation work on the old Hospital Building at 8 Stearman Lane, WWII Flight Training Base. If approved, Mr. Rounds will have six months to complete the project.

Once the work is finished and inspected, staff will return to the City Commission to discuss the lease agreement terms. It is important to note that Mr. Rounds is not permitted to occupy the building in any capacity until a Lease Agreement has been passed and fully executed.

Commissioner Tony Paulk II moved to approve this item, which Mayor Pro Tem Cindy McNeill seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

APPROVAL OF STREET CLOSURES FOR 2025

Georgia Henderson, Assistant City Manager, recommends that the City Commission approve the list of street closures for upcoming events in 2025.

1. ****Wings and Things Festival and Fly-In****: Airport Circle will be closed on March 22, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
2. ****First Baptist Annual Church Picnic and Easter Egg Hunt****: This two-day event will require road closures on N. Coweta Avenue, between E. Ward Street and E. Sellers Street, starting at noon on April 12, 2025, and concluding at 3:00 p.m. on April 13, 2025.
3. ****South Georgia College Graduation Ceremony****: The 100 block of West College Park Drive will be closed on May 15, 2025, from 7:00 a.m. until noon.
4. ****First Baptist Church Vacation Bible School****: N. Coweta Avenue, between E. Ward Street and E. Sellers Street, will be closed from June 15, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. until June 19, 2025, at 8:00 p.m. Additionally, they request nightly road closures during the event from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
5. ****Juneteenth Celebration****: South Gaskin Avenue will be closed from Ross Street to East College Park Drive on June 19, 2025, between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.

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APPROVAL OF STREET CLOSURES FOR 2025

6. **First Baptist Church is requesting a road closure on N. Coweta Avenue, between E. Ward Street and E. Sellers Street, to ensure the safety of children moving between activities on either side of the roadway. The event will take place from July 14, 2025, at 8:00 a.m. until July 18, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. They are also open to daily road closure for the event during the same hours, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

7. ** The Gopher Tortoise Festival will be held in front of the Central Square Complex on October 3rd and 4th, 2025. The Chamber of Commerce is requesting the closure of South Pearl Avenue from Bryan Street to the railroad track and East Bryan Street from South Madison Avenue to South Coffee Avenue. The closure will begin at 10:00 a.m. on October 4th and end at 6:00 p.m. on the same day.

8. ** Paulk Plaza will host a Halloween Party on Friday, October 31, 2025. They are requesting the closure of South Gaskin Avenue from Ross Street to East College Park Drive from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.


9. ** The Annual Festival of Lights Christmas Parade will take place on Friday, December 12, 2025. The Chamber of Commerce is requesting various street closures along the parade route from 6:00 p.m. until the event concludes.

Commissioner Tony Paulk II moved to approve this item, which Mayor Pro Tem Cindy McNeill seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 6-0. Mayor Paulk, Commissioner Brenda Moore, and Mike Gowen voted in favor of the item. Commissioner Steve Bailey abstained, stating he attends First Baptist Church. Commissioner Tony Paulk II moved to approve the item, and Mayor Pro Tem Cindy McNeill seconded the motion. It passed with a unanimous vote of 6-0. Commissioners in favor included Mayor Paulk, Brenda Moore, and Mike Gowen. Commissioner Steve Bailey abstained from voting, citing his attendance at First Baptist Church.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the Regular meeting at 6:33 p.m. The motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Cindy McNeill and seconded by Commissioner Tony Paulk II (6-0)


Wynetta J. Bolder, CMC


Mayor Tony L. Paulk

