

**MINUTES
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CITY OF DOUGLAS
APRIL 9, 2012**

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners was held on Monday, April 9, 2012 at 7:00 P.M. The meeting was convened in the Council Chambers of City Hall with Mayor James H. Dennis presiding. Mayor Pro Tem Olivia Pearson, Commissioners Ronnie Anderson, Richard Hutchinson, Dennis Josey, Marty Swain, and Bob Moore were in attendance.

INVOCATION

Commissioner Marty Swain called on Dr. Dawn Jones, Pastor Be'thel Family Worship Center to give the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor James Dennis called on Cadet Spivey of the NJROTC to lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

RECOGNITION OF STATE BASKETBALL PARTICIPANTS

Mayor James Dennis asked Roger Johnson, Parks and Recreation Director to present the Parks and Recreation State Basketball Team coaches and participants. Mr. Johnson called on Landy Gomez, Athletic Coordinator to introduce the coaches and players. Mayor Dennis commended the coaches and players on a great season and thanked them for their participation and their excellent representation of the City of Douglas' Athletic Program. He congratulated the 13-17 year old (Jr./Sr.) boys on their title as 2011-2012 State Champions.

MINUTE ADOPTION

The following minutes were approved:

**Work SessionMarch 26, 2012
Commission Meeting.....March 26, 2012**

A MOTION to approve the minutes was made by Commissioner Dennis Josey, seconded by Commissioner Bob Moore and the Commission unanimously **(6-0)** approved the motion.

APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF THE AGENDA

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

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

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SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING OF THE TEXT AMENDMENT ZONING ORDINANCE

City Attorney, Jerome Adams read for the second time the Ordinance amending the Unified Land Development Code of the City of Douglas Georgia:

“AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE UNIFIED LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE OF THE CITY OF DOUGLAS, GEORGIA, CHAPTER 3, ZONING DISTRICTS, TABLE 3-1, TABLE OF PERMITTED USES, COMMERCIAL, PROFESSIONAL OFFICES.”

A **MOTION** to adopt the Ordinance amending the ULDC zoning districts with regard to professional offices was made by Commissioner Bob Moore, seconded by Commissioner Ronnie Anderson.

The Mayor and Commission unanimously approved **(6-0)** the motion as presented.

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION FOR MGAG DELEGATES

City Manager, Terrell Jacobs stated that the City of Douglas must appoint two (2) voting delegates to represent our city at the upcoming Municipal Gas Authority of Georgia (MGAG) conference. The recommendation he presented was that Mike Hudson, Gas Director be appointed as the primary voting delegate and that Mayor James Dennis be appointed to serve as the alternate delegate. The Mayor asked for a motion to that effect.

Motion to approve was made by Commissioner Bob Moore, seconded by Commissioner Ronnie Anderson and unanimously **(6-0)** approved.

APPROVAL OF 2012 GOVERNOR’S OFFICE OF HIGHWAY SAFETY GRANT APPLICATION

Upon recommendation from Dale Batten, Community Development Director, the Commission unanimously approved **(6-0)** a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a Governor’s Office of Highway Safety Grant Application under the H.E.A.T Program in the amount up to \$750,000.00 from the Governor’s Office of Highway Safety. Ms. Batten stated that the local Match over a three year period would be \$139,230.00 and would come from the Police Department’s operating budget. This approval would allow the Department of Community Development staff to administer the grant.

THE MOTION to approve was made by Mayor Pro Tem Olivia Pearson and seconded by Commissioner Richard Hutchinson.

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AIRPORT COMMISSION APPOINTMENT VACANCY

Dale Batten, Community Development Director announced that the death of Mr. Ray Louder had created a vacancy on the City of Douglas Airport Commission. She stated that the vacancy would be announced on Chanel 13 for the next two weeks with the appointment being made at the April 23rd meeting. She stated that applications were available at City Hall and at the Airport Terminal. Individuals who have aviation knowledge were encouraged to apply.

APPROVAL OF THE 2012 CLAM TRUCK WITH DUMP BODY BID

Upon recommendation from Stanley Merritt, the Mayor and Commission unanimously **(6-0)** approved the lowest bid meeting specifications to purchase of one (1) Clam Truck with a dump body for use by the Public Works Department and also approved the use of the same vendor (Freightliner of Savannah, Ga.) for the purchase of two (2) additional trucks which could potentially be purchased from 2013 Fiscal Year Budget funds. The approval of the purchase of these trucks will be brought back before the Commission before the trucks are ordered; however, this approval will eliminate the need to have the Purchasing Department go through the bid (procurement) process again between this date and November 30, 2012. City Attorney, Jerome Adams added further clarification for the benefit of the Motion.

THE MOTION was made by Commissioner Marty Swain, seconded by Commissioner Dennis Josey.

APPROVAL OF PROCEDURAL CHANGES REGARDING ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSES AND DEPARTMENTAL PURCHASING LIMITS

Mr. Jacobs stated that the first procedural change would allow for Alcoholic Beverage License renewals to be done once a year in December. Only **new** applications and those who are **not in compliance** would henceforth be brought before the Commission for action. He also recommended a second item with regard to increasing the “departmental” approval limit from \$300 to \$1,500 with regard to purchase orders, quotes, and requisitions.

Upon these recommendations, the Commission unanimously approved **(6-0)** the changes proposed with regard to the Alcohol Beverage License renewals and the Department Directors’ approval limit increase.

THE MOTION to approve these two procedural changes was made by Commissioner Bob Moore and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Olivia Pearson.

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STAFF COMMENTS

Georgia Henderson, Central Services Director presented an update on the Citizens' 101 Academy. She stated that "Munch and Music" is currently underway. Sponsored by the Coffee Alliance for the Arts, they are held at Emma Ward Park each Wednesday. Ms. Henderson announced the "Downtown Second Tuesday" event to be held Tuesday, April 10th along with the musical, "Honky-Tonk Angels" (also sponsored by the Arts Alliance) which is a production of female country music stars to be held that same evening.

Next week the Public Works Department will be sponsoring their "Junk Free Week" Beginning April 16th through April 20th from 8-5 p.m. and on Saturday, April 21 from 8-12 noon citizens can drop off their brown and white goods to the pole yard at 607 South Pearl Avenue.

Ms. Henderson also announced the "Spring Fling Gigantic Yard Sale" to be held April 21st from 7 a.m. until 3 p.m. The City of Douglas will also be celebrating "Georgia Cities Week" beginning April 23rd through April 27th and this week will also be filled with events for the entire community. Ms. Henderson gave the details and asked that the public come out and take part in these events.

Deadline to submit a sealed bid for police uniforms and new duty-gear is April 23rd at 2 p.m.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Mr. Larry NeSmith, President of the NAACP asked the Commission if the polygraph test had been completed with regard to the hang-man's noose incident and the Douglas Fire Department. The Mayor stated that it would be completed by May 15th.

Mr. Mitchell Simpson addressed the Commission regarding his extremely high utility bills. He stated that he wanted this researched and resolved.

MAYOR AND COMMISSION COMMENTS

Mayor Pro Tem Pearson stated that she hoped everyone had a Happy Easter and enjoyed their Easter Holiday. Commissioner Swain asked that all citizens please take advantage of the "Spring Junk Free Week" and help keep their neighborhoods clean.

Mayor James Dennis stated that he also hoped everyone had a great Easter weekend and that he wished to thank the City staff who assisted with the Tiny Tot Easter Egg Hunt and those who attended it. He also reminded Citizens to take advantage of the "Junk-Free" Week. Mayor Dennis thanked all the Department Heads and Staff for their hard work. He reminded citizens to take advantage of the anonymous tip line 912-260-3600 and asked that everyone please obey the downtown parking ordinances.

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MAYOR'S COMMENTS CONT'D

He thanked everyone for coming and again congratulated the State Basketball participants and thanked the coaches and Recreation Department for their fine job.

ADOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Commissioner Dennis Josey made a Motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting. The Motion was seconded by Commissioner Ronnie Anderson and unanimously **(6-0)** passed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

CITY OF DOUGLAS, GEORGIA

Mayor James H. Dennis

Attest

Cindy McNeill, Deputy City Clerk

