

**MINUTES
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CITY OF DOUGLAS, GEORGIA
MAY 12, 2014**

A regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners was held on Monday, May 12, 2014 at 7:00 P.M., in the Council Chambers of City Hall with Mayor James H. Dennis presiding and Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis Josey, Commissioners Richard Hutchinson, Bob Moore, and Marty Swain, Olivia Pearson and Ronnie Anderson were present.

MAYOR'S OPENING STATEMENT

Mayor James Dennis wished everyone a Happy Mother's Day.

INVOCATION

Commissioner Richard Hutchinson gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

MINUTES ADOPTION

The following minutes were unanimously approved:

Work Session.....April 28, 2014
Commission Meeting.....April 28, 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, Marty Swain, and Richard Hutchinson, Olivia Pearson, 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 published.

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

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

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RECOGNITION OF THE CITY OF DOUGLAS GAS DEPARTMENT

Mike Hudson, Gas/Water/Wastewater Director presented the awards that were given to the City of Douglas Gas Department while attending the MGAG Annual Conference held in Lake Lanier. The City of Douglas received second place for “Projects for the Year and first place for the 2013 Marketing Excellence Award.

APPROVED THE SUBMITTAL OF BULLET PROOF VEST GRANT

Upon recommendation of Dale Batten, Community Development Director, the Mayor and Commission approved the resolution authorizing Mayor James H. Dennis to execute an application for a Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant from the United States Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance, in an amount of \$5,075 to purchase 15 new Galls LX Series II Bulletproof vests for the City of Douglas Police Department; authorizing matching funds in the amount of \$5,075 from Asset Forfeitures, and authorize the Mayor to execute the necessary documents if the grant is approved.

A **MOTION** to approve the resolution authorizing Mayor James H. Dennis to execute an application for a Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant from the United States Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance, in an amount of \$5,075 to purchase 15 new Galls LX Series II Bulletproof vests for the City of Douglas Police Department; authorize matching funds in the amount of \$5,075 from Asset Forfeitures, and authorize the Mayor to execute the necessary documents if the grant is approved was made by Commissioner Richard Hutchinson and seconded by Commissioner Bob Moore.

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

APPROVED THE REQUEST OF FIRST BAPTIST - TEMPORARY STREET CLOSURES

Upon recommendation of Rodger Goddard, Code Enforcement Officer, the Mayor and Commission approved the request from First Baptist Church to close a portion of North Coweta Avenue from Cleveland Street to East Sellers Street Monday, June 9th, through Friday, June 13th, from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and East Sellers Street from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. on the same days.

A **MOTION** to approve the request from First Baptist Church to close a portion of North Coweta Avenue from Cleveland Street to East Sellers Street Monday, June 9th, through Friday, June 13th, from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and East Sellers Street from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. on the same days was made by Commissioner Ronnie Anderson and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Dennis Josey.

Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis Josey, Commissioners Bob Moore, Marty Swain, Richard Hutchinson, Olivia Pearson and Ronnie Anderson **unanimously** approved **(6-0)** the request of the First Baptist Church- Temporary Street Closures.

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ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE BOARD OF APPEALS APPOINTMENT

Rodger Goddard, Code Enforcement Officer announced the upcoming appointment to the Board of Appeals, which will be properly advertised for two weeks. This appointment will be discussed and considered at the May 27, 2014 Commission Meeting.

No Action was taken

APPROVED THE PARTIAL CLOSURE OF BRYAN STREET FOR SUMMER BEACH BASH

Upon recommendation of Georgia Henderson, Public Information Director, the Mayor and Commission approved to allow the portion of Bryan Street from Madison Avenue to Pearl Street to be closed on June 3, 2014 from 3pm – 9pm. for the Annual Summer Beach Bash.

A **MOTION** to approve to allow the portion of Bryan Street from Madison Avenue to Pearl Street to be closed on June 3, 2014 from 3pm – 9pm. for the Annual Summer Beach Bash was made by Commissioner Marty Swain and seconded by Commissioner Olivia Pearson.

Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis Josey, Commissioners Bob Moore, Marty Swain, Richard Hutchinson, Olivia Pearson and Ronnie Anderson **unanimously** approved **(6-0)** the partial closure of Bryan Street for the Summer Beach Bash.

APPROVED THE RENEWAL OF W & W VIDEO PRODUCTIONS CONTRACT FOR CHANNEL 13 PROGRAMMING

Upon recommendation of Georgia Henderson, Public Information Director, the Mayor and Commission approved to renew the agreement with Johnny Wilkerson, dba W & W Video Productions to provide programming on WDTV Channel 13, with the current contract being extended July 2014 through June 2016.

A **MOTION** to approve to renew the agreement with Johnny Wilkerson, dba W & W Video Productions to provide programming on WDTV Channel 13, with the current contract being extended July 2014 through June 2016 was made by Commissioner Olivia Pearson and seconded by Commissioner Ronnie Anderson.

Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis Josey, Commissioners Bob Moore, Marty Swain, Richard Hutchinson, Olivia Pearson and Ronnie Anderson **unanimously** approved **(6-0)** the renewal of W& W Video Production contract for Channel 13 programming.

APPROVED THE VOTING DELEGATE FOR GMA ANNUAL CONVENTION

Upon recommendation of Terrell Jacobs, City Manager, Commission approved to appoint Mayor James Dennis as a voting delegate to represent the City of Douglas at the Annual GMA Business Meeting on June 23rd in Savannah Georgia.

A **MOTION** to appoint Mayor James Dennis as a voting delegate to represent the City of Douglas at the Annual GMA Business Meeting on June 23rd in Savannah Georgia was made by Commissioner Ronnie Anderson and seconded by Commissioner Bob Moore.

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APPROVED THE APPROVED THE VOTING DELEGATE FOR GMA ANNUAL CONVENTION-CONTINUE

Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis Josey, Commissioners Bob Moore, Marty Swain, Richard Hutchinson, and Ronnie Anderson **unanimously** approved **(6-0)** the voting delegate for GMA Annual Convention.

STAFF COMMENTS

Georgia Henderson, Public Information Director announced the following:

- School Nutrition Program hosting Summer Meal Program June 7th – July 17th
- City of Douglas Mosquito Spraying Program
- Carlos Woodard Golf Tournament, May 16th at 11:00 a.m.
- Community Clean up May 17th Unity Park
- When Pigs Fly Event will be held Saturday, May 17th at 11:00 a.m.
- City Pool will open May 29th
- Registration/Vendors/Sponsors for the Summer Beach Bash and the Indoor and Outdoor Expo
- WALB will be broadcasting at Atkinson Plaza Thursday, May 15th

Roger Johnson, Parks and Recreation Director stated the following information:

- Update on the Summer Breakfast/Lunch Program
- Blitz Day that was held on May 6th
- City Pool Salt Water System
- Update on the Baseball Program closing out with their cancellation games
- Discussed the availability of the swimming program for the summer.

MAYOR AND COMMISSION COMMENTS

Commissioner Olivia Pearson wanted an update concerning educating the citizens and churches with the Firearm State law issues. Terrell Jacobs, City Manager stated that staff has met and is reviewing the new state law and its implications on churches and government buildings. Commissioner Pearson stated that she hoped everyone had a Happy Mother's Day.

Commissioner Richard Hutchinson reiterated concerning the availability of the Summer Lunch Program. Commissioner Hutchinson acknowledged the Recreational Department track team with their accomplishments at the track meet in Carrollton Georgia.

Commissioner Marty Swain requested an update on the CNG Station. Mike Hudson stated that there was an issue with the ground water, but the project seems to be ahead schedule.

Mayor Dennis stated the following:

- ❖ Election will be held on May 20th
- ❖ Congratulations to the Chamber and EDA on their new facility
- ❖ Encourage Citizens to come out to the live broadcast of WALB at Atkinson Plaza on May 15, 2014
- ❖ Help the Child Advocacy Center with their event “ When Pigs Fly”

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MAYOR AND COMMISSION COMMENTS-CONTINUE

- ❖ Thanked everyone that participated with the Dancing with the Stars a benefit for the Boys and Girls Club
- ❖ Keep Douglas Clean.
- ❖ Advised every one of the Tip Line ---- “See something, Say Something”
- ❖ Coffee High Trojans Baseball Team will play in the Elite 8 on Tuesday and Wednesday.
- ❖ Thanked Staff for all their work

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss in the Regular Meeting, a motion was made to adjourn the regular meeting and to enter into the Utility Appeals Meeting by Commissioner Richard Hutchinson and seconded by Commissioner Ronnie Anderson. The meeting was adjourned at 7:34 P.M.

James H. Dennis, Mayor

Wynetta J. Bolder, City Clerk

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UTILITY COMMISSION MEETING

Tommy Harrell, Customer Service Manager, appeared before the Mayor and Commission concerning the past bill of Julie Rhodes Latham Haigh of 709 N. Gaskin Ave.

The Utility Appeals Board agreed to a **motion** made by Commissioner Anderson and seconded by Commissioner Pearson to allow Julie Rhodes Latham Haigh to establish an account at 709 N. Gaskin Avenue with normal deposits of \$125.00 plus the \$20.00 processing fee. The upfront amount of \$1,798.18 required under the Customer Service Policy, it was agreed to allow her to pay the remainder less the \$145.00 when she receives her disability or by November 1, 2014, whichever comes first. Commissioners Moore and Hutchinson **opposed the motion**. The **motion carried**. In addition to the approved up front delayed amount, she will sign a Contract Payment Plan in the amount of \$364.77 under the Conditions Concerning Previous Bills for Service for the remainder of the old write-off debt when she receives her disability or by November 1, 2014.

Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis Josey, Commissioners Marty Swain, Olivia Pearson and Ronnie Anderson voted in favor of the motion (**4-2**) Commissioners Bob Moore, and Richard Hutchinson **voted against** the motion.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss in the Utility Appeals Meeting, meeting was adjourned.