

MINUTES
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CITY OF DOUGLAS, GEORGIA
APRIL 27, 2015

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners was held on Monday, April 27, 2015 at 7:00 P.M., in the Council Chambers of City Hall with Mayor James Dennis presiding and Mayor Pro Tem Richard Hutchinson, Commissioners Bob Moore, Marty Swain, Dennis Josey, Olivia Pearson and Ronnie Anderson present.

INVOCATION

Wynetta J. Bolder, City Clerk gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Coffee High NJROTC led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

MINUTES ADOPTION

The following minutes were unanimously approved as printed.

Work Session	April 13, 2015
Commission Meeting	April 13, 2015

A **MOTION** to **unanimously** approve the minutes as printed was made by Commissioner Marty Swain and seconded by Commissioner Bob Moore. The motion **unanimously** carried **(6-0)**.

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 Ronnie Anderson and seconded by Commissioner Bob Moore. The motion **unanimously** carried **(6-0)**.

APPROVAL OF THE WATER CONSERVATION PLAN UPDATE 2015

Upon recommendation from Mike Hudson, Natural Gas/Water/Wastewater Director, the Commission approved the Updated Water Conservation Plan so it can be submitted to Ga EPD along with the renewal application for the Groundwater Use Permit. A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Ronnie Anderson and seconded by Commissioner Dennis Josey. The motion **unanimously** carried **(6-0)**.

APPROVAL OF THE MGAG VOTING DELEGATE RESOLUTION

Upon recommendation from Mike Hudson, Natural Gas/Water/Wastewater Director, the Commission approved to list Michael Hudson as the primary voting delegate and Commissioner Bob Moore as the alternate voting delegate at the MGAG Annual Meeting to be held on May, 13-15, 2015. A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Olivia Pearson and seconded by Commissioner Ronnie Anderson. The motion **unanimously** carried **(6-0)**.

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APPROVAL OF THE SPLOST PROJECT SOUTH GASKIN & CORBIT AVENUE

Upon recommendation from Mike Hudson, Natural Gas/Water/Wastewater Director, the Commission approved to award this project to Douglas Electric and Plumbing Company, Inc. for the low bid of \$314,652.00 from SPLOST 5 Fund. A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Bob Moore and seconded by Commissioner Ronnie Anderson. The motion **unanimously** carried **(6-0)**.

APPROVAL OF THE SPLOST PROJECT MONTGOMERY AVENUE AND SEYMORE AVENUE

Upon recommendation from Mike Hudson, Natural Gas/Water/Wastewater Director, the Commission approved to award this project to Douglas Electric and Plumbing Company, Inc. for the low bid of \$101,561.10 from SPLOST 5 Fund. A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Marty Swain and seconded by Commissioner Dennis Josey. The motion **unanimously** carried **(6-0)**.

APPROVAL OF THE 2015 BULLETPROOF VEST PARTNERSHIP GRANT

Upon recommendation from Dale Batten, Community Development Director, the Commission approved a resolution authorizing the filing of an application for a Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant with the United States Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance in the amount of \$4,170.00 to purchase twelve (12) Galls Series AII-2 Bulletproof Vests for the City of Douglas Police Department; authorized matching funds in the amount of \$4,170.00 from the Police Asset Forfeitures Account; and authorized Mayor James H. Dennis to execute the application and grant documents upon approval. A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Marty Swain and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Richard Hutchinson. The motion unanimously carried **(6-0)**.

STAFF COMMENTS

Wynetta Bolder, City Clerk stated the following:

❖ **Older American Month**

- May 8th –Clay, Art, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m., South End of the Art Center
- May 12th- Trip to Waycross, 9 a.m., lunch on your own
- May 19th- Game Day “BINGO”, 10 a.m. -12:30 p.m., South end of the Art Center
- May 21st – Yellow Day, 11 a.m. -1 p.m. , Wheeler Park
- May 26th – Crazy Hat Day, 5 p.m., Catfish House
- May 28th –Senior Club Meeting, 11 a.m. -1 p.m., Weir Center
- May 29th, -Yard Snooping/Plant Shopping, 9 a.m. April 22nd
- For more information, call 383-7332

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STAFF COMMENTS-CONTINUED

❖ **Public Safety Day**

- The Douglas Police Department, in conjunction with other public safety entities, will host a Public Safety Day Saturday May 2nd at the Walmart Supercenter parking lot.

❖ **Summer Blitz Day Registration**

- Tuesday, May 5th, 4 p.m. -6 p.m. at the Central Square Complex

❖ **Community Junk Drop Off Day**

- Saturday, May 16th, 8 a.m. – 12 p.m. at Unity Park

❖ **Memorial Day**

- City offices will be closed Monday, May 25th in observance of Memorial Day.

❖ **Hydrant Testing**

- The City of Douglas Fire Department will begin testing Hydrants Monday, April 27th and will continue through Wednesday, April 29th. Hydrants testing will begin at 8:30 p.m. each night until 4 a.m. each morning. Wards 1 and 4 will be tested this includes everything north of Ward Street.

Mayor Pro Tem Hutchinson asked about staff picking up items for disposal on Junk Drop-off Day.

City Manager, Terrell Jacobs stated that we no longer provide that service. If customer has brown and white good they may contact Trans Waste at 912.384.6001.

CITIZEN COMPLAINT

Johnnie Lee Roper, (Mayor Pro Tem Richard Hutchinson) appeared before the Commission to discuss safety issues of not having sidewalks from Pinecrest and along South Gaskin Avenue (Walmart and Carter's Fried Chicken area). Mr. Roper also stated that when it rains water is holding in the parking of the Armory and the Doctors Building. Mr. Roper concluded by expressing his concerns of filling the Parks and Recreational Director's position.

Roscoe Allen Jr. (County Resident) appeared before the Mayor and Commission to express his concerns for allowing employees to be on the Ad-Hoc Committee. Mr. Allen stated that to avoid a conflict of interest the Commission should appoint an independent committee.

Charlotte James (Owner of a Business in the city) questioned the Commission reason for not hiring Willis Crockett as the Parks and Recreational Director.



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CITIZEN COMPLAINT-CONTINUED

Mayor James Dennis responded that the city is not able to discuss this issue at the present time. This position has not been decided upon, and the job is still open. Mr. Crockett has applied and he was considered. Mayor Dennis stated that the City Manager has not made a decision and when that happens he will advise the commission and the commission will vote on the decision. Mayor Dennis concluded that personnel cannot be discussed.

COMMISSION COMMENTS

Commissioner Olivia Pearson thanked everyone who appeared before the Commission to express their concerns and issues. Commissioner Pearson stated that she had over 600 surveys mailed out to the citizens of Ward 3 regarding "how you think the City of Douglas is operating." She encouraged everyone in Ward 3 to complete the surveys that were mailed out.

Commissioner Bob Moore expressed concerns of individuals' safety when riding a mobility chair on busy streets.

Chief Casteloes stated that they are working on proposing an ordinance for mobility devices. Police Department has purchased (48) 6 foot flags to be placed on the chairs as a safety device. Chief Casteloes stated that due to lack of sidewalks, they have no choice but to ride in the road, but don't need to ride in the middle.

Mayor James Dennis recommended that officers stop and assist by giving a flag to individuals in mobility chairs and to advise them of safety precaution on the roads.

Commissioner Bob Moore also expressed concerns of those who are doing lawn work blowing the grass on the road rather than back in the yard.

Commissioner Marty Swain asked about the Roundtree Center reopening.

City Manager Terrell Jacobs, stated Roundtree is open but to have a full-time staffing is the concern and the Housing Authority was advised to look into funding from other entities.

Roscoe Allen stated that he spoke to Ms. Clara Graham, Housing Authority Director, and she is in the process of preparing a grant. This grant will allow Roundtree Center to have someone staffed there full-time.

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COMMISSION COMMENTS-CONTINUED

Commissioner Moore questioned the letters (surveys) that were sent out by Commissioner Pearson. He wanted to know if the city was sending them out or Commissioner Pearson.

Commissioner Pearson responded that the surveys are being done by herself as a commissioner of the City of Douglas, to find out what the concerns are from the citizens of Douglas.

Commissioner Moore asked who was paying the postage.

Commissioner Pearson stated the postage was paid by the city.

Commissioner Moore stated that the cost was approximately \$600.00, and he asked whether other commissioners were sending out information to their constituents.

Commissioner Pearson responded that some have sent information. She stated that if anyone wished to send something out to their constituents there is nothing illegal about it.

City Attorney Jerome Adams stated that that would be a proper expenditure.

Commissioner Ronnie Anderson questioned if it was legal for the city to pay postage of letters with commissioner's name on it.

City Attorney Jerome Adams stated this is no different than when your congressman or senator sends out letters, they do the exact same thing.

Commissioner Pearson concluded that before the letters were sent out she discussed it with the commission, and no one had any concerns at that time.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

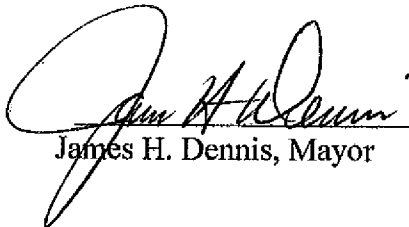
- Thanked everyone who participated in the Great American Clean-up at the parks
- Encouraged citizens to contact the anonymous tip line 260.3600 for any suspicious activities.
 - Chief Casteloes stated that the City of Douglas Police Department has made numerous arrest in the past weeks through information from the See Something, Say Something tip line and encouraged all citizens to continue to assist with these efforts
- Encouraged citizens to register their children for the Blitz Day, held May 5th
- Thanked staff and everyone that had a part of tonight's meeting

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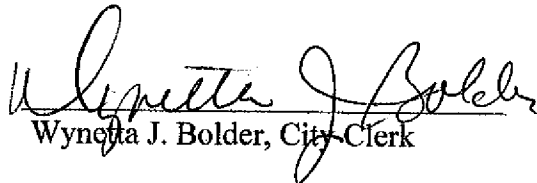
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ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss in the Regular Meeting, a motion was made to adjourn to Executive Session by Commissioner Dennis Josey Pearson and seconded by Commissioner Olivia Pearson. The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 P.M.



James H. Dennis, Mayor



Wynetta J. Bolder, City Clerk

MINUTES
EXECUTIVE SESSION OF THE BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS
CITY OF DOUGLAS, GEORGIA
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Mayor James Dennis, Mayor Pro-Tem Richard Hutchinson, Commissioners Olivia Pearson, Ronnie Anderson, Dennis Josey, Bob Moore, Marty Swain were in attendance.

PERSONNEL ISSUE(S)

City Manager Terrell Jacobs discussed personnel issues with the Mayor and Commission, Jérôme Adams, City Attorney and Judy Carter Human Resources Director were in attendance.

Commissioner Bob Moore made the **MOTION** to adjourn from Executive Session and return to the regular meeting, **MOTION** was seconded by Mayor Pro-tem Richard Hutchinson and **approved** by all (6-0).

A **MOTION** to approve the discussion that was recommended in Executive Session was made by Commissioner Pearson and seconded by Commissioner Ronnie Anderson and **approved** by all (6-0).

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Mayor Pro-Tem Richard Hutchinson made the **MOTION** to adjourn Regular Session. The **MOTION** was seconded by Commissioner Olivia Pearson. The Commission unanimously approved (6-0) and the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Affidavit

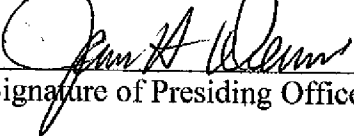
The undersigned presiding officer, under oath, certifies that at a City of Douglas Commission Meeting, held on April 27, 2015, the Mayor and Commission closed its meeting as permitted by the Open Meetings Act of Georgia [O.C.G.A. 50-14-1 through 50-14-6]. The only matter(s) considered or discussed during the closed meeting are as indicated below:

 To discuss future acquisition of real estate [O.C.G.A. 50-14-3 (4)].

 x To discuss or deliberate the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of an employee [O.C.G.A. 50-14-3 (6)].


 To consult with legal counsel pertaining to pending or potential litigation, settlement, claims, administrative proceedings, or other judicial actions brought or to be brought by or against the agency or an officer or employee or in which the officer or employee may be directly involved [O.C.G.A. 50-14-2].

This day of 27th April, 2015



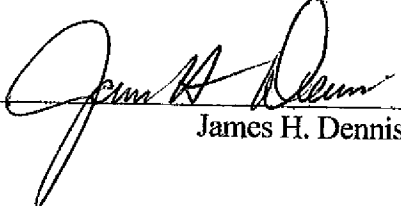
Signature of Presiding Officer

Sworn to & Subscribed Before Me
On The Above Indicated Date:



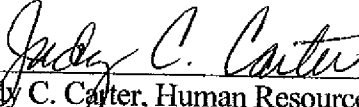
Notary Public, State of Georgia
Commission Expires _____

The Mayor and Commission unanimously approved to enter into executive session.



James H. Dennis, Mayor

Witness:



Judy C. Carter, Human Resources Director