

**MINUTES
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CITY OF DOUGLAS, GEORGIA
MAY 26, 2015**

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners was held on Monday, May 26, 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, Dennis Josey, Olivia Pearson and Ronnie Anderson present. Commissioner Marty Swain was absent due to medical treatment in Atlanta.

INVOCATION

Pastor Van Henderson, Perpetual Praise and Worship Ministries, gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Deputy Chief Brannen Pruette led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

MINUTES ADOPTION

The following minutes were unanimously approved as printed.

Work Session.....	May 11, 2015
Commission Meeting.....	May 11, 2015

A **MOTION** to **unanimously** approve the minutes as printed was made by Mayor Pro Tem Richard Hutchinson and seconded by Commissioner Olivia Pearson. The motion **unanimously** carried **(5-0)**.

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 Dennis Josey and seconded by Commissioner Ronnie Anderson. The motion **unanimously** carried **(5-0)**.

**RECOGNITION OF THE "IF I WERE MAYOR" ESSAY CONTEST WINNERS
(REMOVED FROM THE AGENDA)**

INTRODUCTION OF THE NEW PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR

Terrell Jacobs, City Manager, introduced Stevie Young as the new Parks and Recreation Director. Mr. Jacobs stated that his scheduled arrival date will be June 8th.

Mr. Stevie Young introduced his wife, Sharon Young, and his daughter, Essence Clements. He stated that he has 24 years of Parks and Recreation and he is looking forward to bringing his experience to our community and continue to build on what we have and to take us to another level.

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PUBLIC HEARING -- FY'16 BUDGET (PRESENTATION)

Charles Davis, Assistant City Manager/Finance Director presented a power point for the benefit of the viewers concerning the FY'16 Budget before the public hearing.

Mr. Davis stated that after being properly advertised, the FY'16 Budget is ready for a Public Hearing to be presented for adoption at the next meeting held on June 8, 2015.

Jerome Adams, City Attorney announced that the public hearing for the FY'16 Budget was opened.

Johnnie Lee Roper, (711 S Daughtry Avenue) expressed concerns with the increase of charges for the usage of credit cards.

City Manager, Terrell Jacobs explained that the city pays a transaction fee and the city has been absorbing the cost of approximately five figures.

There were no other comments from the public. Therefore, the public hearing was closed and the FY'16 Budget will be presented for discussion at the work session and adopted at the next City Commission meeting scheduled for June 8, 2015.

No Action taken at this time

APPROVAL OF THE RENEWAL OF GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS CONTRACT

Upon recommendation from Jacob Lott, Public Works Director/City Engineer, the Commission approved the renewal of the contract between Georgia Department of Corrections and the City of Douglas to provide right-of-way, grounds and cemetery maintenance at a cost of \$79,000.00 and authorized Mayor Dennis to execute the contract. A **MOTION** was made by Mayor Pro Tem Richard Hutchinson and seconded by Commissioner Ronnie Anderson. The motion **unanimously** carried **(5-0)**.

APPROVAL OF THE CITY OF DOUGLAS ELECTIONS AGREEMENT

Upon recommendation from Wynetta J. Bolder, City Clerk, the Commission approved the agreement with the Coffee County Board of Elections and Registration to conduct the 2015 City of Douglas Elections. A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Ronnie Anderson and seconded by Commissioner Dennis Josey. The motion was carried **(3-2)**. Mayor Pro Tem Richard Hutchinson and Commissioner Olivia Pearson opposed the motion.

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APPROVAL OF THE ALCOHOL BEVERAGE LICENSE FOR VIDHI N VEER INC.

Upon recommendation from Rodger Goddard, Code Enforcement Officer, the Commission approved the request of Harinbhai Patel for an Alcohol Beverage License for retail sales of beer and wine for Vidhi N Veer, Inc. located at 608 E. Baker Hwy, Douglas, Georgia. A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Ronnie Anderson and seconded by Commissioner Olivia Pearson. The motion **unanimously** carried (5-0).

APPROVAL OF THE SAMARITAN UNLIMITED MINISTRIES WALK

Upon recommendation from Rodger Goddard, Code Enforcement Officer, the Commission approved the request of Samaritan Unlimited Ministries of Sears Street Church of God to conduct a prayer walk on Saturday, June 6th beginning at 10:00 AM. The route will begin at Sears Street Church of God, proceed to the George Washington Carver Shopping Center and end at Roundtree Park. The participants will walk on the sidewalk along the route. A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Ronnie Anderson and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Richard Hutchinson. The motion **unanimously** carried (5-0).

FIRST READING OF THE ORDINANCE AMENDMENT/OPEN AND CLOSURE FOR CITY PARKS

Terrell Jacobs, City Manager recommended the first reading of an ordinance amending the open and closure for city parks to sunrise to sunset at this meeting on this date with the second reading to be held on June 8, 2015. Jerome Adams read first reading tonight. **AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CITY OF DOUGLAS CODE OF ORDINANCE CHAPTER 66 PARKS AND RECREATION SEC. 62.2 OF HOURS OF OPERATION PROVIDE FOR THE EFFECTIVE DATE AMENDING OPEN AND CLOSURE OF CITY PARKS.**

No Action was taken.

APPROVAL OF THE PURCHASE OF TENNIS COURT LIGHTS

Upon recommendation from Terrell Jacobs, City Manager the Commission approved the purchase of lighting for the tennis courts (Roundtree, Eastside, and Wheeler) from Gresco Utility Supply in the amount of \$20,040.00. A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Ronnie Anderson and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Richard Hutchinson. The motion **unanimously** carried (5-0).

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STAFF COMMENTS

Georgia Henderson, Public Information Director, stated the following:

- ❖ **Summer Beach Bash**
 - Tuesday June 2nd held in the vacant lot next to City Hall, 4 p.m. to 8p.m.
- ❖ **Coffee County Historical Society**
 - June 4th at the Heritage Station Museum a reception will be held from 10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. and the exhibit from the Rogers studios will be on display until August 8th.
- ❖ **Douglas Information Station**
 - June 19th will host a promotion called “Stay-cation”.
- ❖ **Community Junk Drop Off Day**
 - Saturday, June 20th, 8 a.m. – 12 p.m. at Eastside Park.
- ❖ **Douglas Exchange Club**
 - 4th of July Freedom Festival will be held at the Municipal Park, gates will open at 5 p.m.
- ❖ **City of Douglas Police Citizens Academy**
 - Participants must be 18 years of age or older, the classes will be held from 6 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. beginning August 13th- September 24th.
- ❖ **South Georgia Expo**
 - Vendors are being accepted for the 5th annual South Georgia Expo.

Gina Gibbs, Fitness Coordinator, stated the following:

- Thanked everyone for participating with the Blitz Day.
- Thanked the city employees for participating with the Wellness Program.
- Announced there are still available slots for the summer camp program.
- Ronnie Bullock, Parks and Recreation Department, will be having a golf and tennis team 7-18 years of age.
- Ceramics class ages 6 and up.
- Soccer Camp 3 years of age
- Cool Summer Camp will be held in the month of June.

Terrell Jacobs announced the Summer Feeding Program, by the Coffee County School Program will be offering to serve breakfast and lunch to the kids at different sites.

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CITIZEN COMMENTS

Johnnie Lee Roper, (Mayor Pro Tem Richard Hutchinson) thanked Jacob Lott, Public Works Director and his staff for correcting the drainage system by the National Guard and Doctor's buildings located on Ward Street. Mr. Roper expressed concern of not moving forward in the City of Douglas as we should and encourages the Commission to serve a little better than what they are doing.

COMMISSION COMMENTS

Commissioner Olivia Pearson expressed concerns regarding the Coffee County Election and Registration Agreement. Jerome Adams, City Attorney stated that Representative Chuck Sims specifically stated that the city shall contract with the Board of Elections. He also stated that the Commission vote on the contract every year due to possible changes. Terrell Jacobs stated that this contract expounds on the fee structure. Commissioner Pearson stated that she trust everyone had a good Memorial Day weekend. Commissioner Pearson welcomed the new Parks and Recreation Director Stevie Young and Family. She also wished Ms. Rodella Robinson a happy 96th birthday, and sent out condolences to the Sparkman and Gaskin Family with the loss of their loved ones. Commissioner Pearson concluded by announcing lunch will be served at the Gladys Coley Center.

Commissioner Ronnie Anderson spoke about his experience of 49 years ago when he returned home from Vietnam.

Commissioner Dennis Josey welcomed Stevie Young to the Parks and Recreation Department.

Commissioner Ronnie Anderson also welcomed Stevie Young and family.


Commissioner Bob Moore welcomed Stevie Young and his family to the Recreation Department and also thanked Tommy Harrell, Customer Service Manager for presenting a report regarding individuals that have appeared before the Utility Commission.

Mayor Pro Tem Richard Hutchinson asked who gave the authority to give out the financial information concerning the Bike Blues and Barbeque, when it was agreed by the Commission to not receive the report until after the South Georgia Expo. Terrell Jacobs, City Manager responded that there were a couple of Commissioners requested for the financial report for the Bike Blues and Barbeque, therefore the information was given to all parties. He also welcomed Mr. Young to the Parks and Recreation Department. He concluded by wishing his father "Boss Hutchinson" a happy 91st birthday.

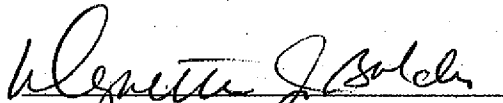
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ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss in the Regular Meeting, a motion was made to adjourn to Executive Session by Commissioner Dennis Josey and seconded by Commissioner Ronnie Anderson. The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 P.M.



James H. Dennis, Mayor



Wynetta J. Bolder, City Clerk