

**MINUTES
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CITY OF DOUGLAS, GEORGIA
AUGUST 22, 2016**

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners was held on Monday, August 22, 2016 at 7:15 P.M. in the Council Chambers of City Hall with Mayor Tony L. Paulk presiding and Mayor Pro Tem Olivia Pearson, Commissioners Bob Moore, Mike Gowen, Kentaiwon Durham, Cindy McNeill and Johnnie Lee Roper Sr. were present.

CALLED TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Commission was called to order by Mayor Tony L. Paulk.

INVOCATION

Pastor Benny Wilkey, Gaines Chapel AME Church, provided the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Coffee County NJROTC led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF THE AGENDA

The Commission approved the order of the Agenda as printed. A **MOTION** to approve the order of the Agenda was made by Mayor Pro Tem Olivia Pearson and seconded by Commissioner Bob Moore. The motion carried **(6-0)**.

MINUTES ADOPTION

The following minutes were unanimously approved as corrected in the Work Session.

Work Session.....	August 8, 2016
Commission Meeting.....	August 8, 2016

A **MOTION** to **unanimously** approve the minutes as corrected was made by Mayor Pro Tem Olivia Pearson and seconded by Commissioner Kentaiwon Durham. The motion carried **(6-0)**.

SECOND READING OF 2016 TAX MILLAGE ORDINANCE

City Attorney, Jerome Adams conducted the second reading and public hearing for of 2016 Tax Millage Ordinance. **AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF DOUGLAS, GEORGIA, PROPOSED FOR THE LEVYING OF A TAX UPON ALL TAXABLE PROPERTY WITHIN THE CITY OF DOUGLAS SUBJECT TO TAXATION UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA AND THE ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF DOUGLAS FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2016 AND FOR ALL PURPOSES.** Jerome Adams, City Attorney, proceeded to call for a public hearing. There were no comments from the public and the public hearing was closed Mr. Adams stated that this ordinance was ready for action.

A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Bob Moore and seconded by Commissioner Cindy McNeill. The motion **carried (6-0)**.

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DISCLOSURE OF POSSIBLE CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Dale Batten, being a city employee and holding the position of Community Development Director, publicly disclosed that she is related to the owners of Douglas Electric & Plumbing Company, Inc., that was awarded the Water and Wastewater Contract for CDBG Project No. 14p-x-034-2-5795. The owners being, Maudine M. Wright, Mrs. Batten's sister and Michael Purvis and David Purvis, who are her nephews. Mrs. Batten also disclosed that she has no ownership or financial interest in Douglas Electric & Plumbing Co, Inc. This grant is being administered by the Southern Georgia Regional Commission and any decisions and payment of invoices will be made by Utilities Director Mike Hudson and City Manager Terrell Jacobs.

For Informational Purposes Only. No Action Taken

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

- **APPROVAL OF FEE WAIVER FOR CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS USAGE OF GYMNASIUMS**
- **APPROVAL OF LAND BANK AUTHORITY**
- **APPROVAL OF WEATHERIZATION PROGRAM**
- **APPROVAL OF PURCHASE OF TASERS**
- **APPROVAL OF JOINT CITY-COUNTY GANG OFFICER**
- **APPROVAL OF REPAIRING THE MENZI (SPIDER)**
- **APPROVAL OF WATER/SEWER/NATURAL GAS RELOCATION CONTRACT FOR 135 WIDENING PROJECT**
- **APPROVAL OF PURCHASE OF BUCKET TRUCK**

A **MOTION** to approve all **Consent Agenda Items** listed above as discussed in the Work Session was made by Commissioner Cindy McNeill and seconded by Commissioner Kentaiwon Durham. The motion **carried (6-0)**.

APPROVAL OF USAGE OF ROUNDTREE PARK BY BOYS & GIRLS CLUB

This item was removed from the agenda. No action taken.

APPROVAL OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

Rodger Goddard, Code Enforcement Officer, recommended the first reading of an ordinance to amend Section 6-1 of the City's Alcoholic Beverage Ordinance, to include the definition of "Grocery Store" and add; Section 6-113, Distance Requirements at the meeting on this date with the second reading and public hearing to be held on September 12, 2016. Jerome Adams, City Attorney conducted the first reading tonight. "**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CITY OF DOUGLAS CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 6, ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, SECTION 6-1 DEFINITIONS AND 6-113 DISTANCE REQUIREMENTS; TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**" The second reading will be held at a regular meeting of the Mayor and Commission after properly advertising, as required under the Charter of the City of Douglas, Georgia on September 12, 2016.

No action taken at this time.

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**APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT TO THE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE ORDINANCE
REGARDING DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS**

Rodger Goddard, Code Enforcement Officer, recommended the first reading of an ordinance to amend Chapter 6, Alcoholic Beverage Ordinance by adding Section 6-173, Reporting of Disciplinary Actions, as required by State Law at the meeting on this date with the second reading and public hearing to be held on September 12, 2016. Jerome Adams, City Attorney conducted the first reading tonight. **“AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF DOUGLAS, GEORGIA TO PROVIDE FOR NOTIFICATION TO THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE UPON THE MUNICIPALITY TAKING DISCIPLINARY ACTION AGAINST ANY PERSON ISSUED A LICENSE TO OPERATE A BAR; TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE; TO REPEAL ALL ORDINANCES AND PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.”** The second reading will be held at a regular meeting of the Mayor and Commission after properly advertising, as required under the Charter of the City of Douglas, Georgia on September 12, 2016.

No action taken at this time.

**APPROVAL OF JOHNNY'S NEW YORK STYLE PIZZA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE
LICENSE**

This item was removed from the agenda. No action taken.

STAFF COMMENTS

Georgia Henderson, Public Information Director, announced the following:

- Douglas-Coffee County Parks & Recreation Department is taking early registration for Soccer from now until September 9th. Regular registration will be from September 12th through 23rd. They are also taking registration for Fall Ceramics
- Coffee County Historical Society is looking for history or memorable stories from individuals who lived in Coffee County from 1966 – 1972 for a history documentary project
- City of Douglas will be closed on Monday, September 5th for Labor Day
- South Georgia BBQ & Outdoor Festival will be held on September 9th and 10th –no general admission, however, you will need to purchase a ticket if you wish to attend the concert on Friday night. Go to Rock Dawg website for more information on tickets

GENERAL COMMENTS

Judy Artis, CEO of Boys & Girls Club, announced the opening of the Roundtree Youth Center on September 16, 2016 for 8th – 12th Grades.

Jerome Loving, American Legion Post 515, came to discuss the Wreaths Across America Fundraiser. Goal is over \$34,000. Currently have raised over \$24,000. Various fundraisers currently underway. Call 912-592-6413 for more information.

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COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Commissioner Gowen stated that he appreciated Mr. Loving being here tonight. He talked about some history and sacrifices taken so that we can have freedom. He told Mr. Loving that he hoped they raised a lot of money for such a worthy cause.

Commissioner McNeill stated that what Ms. Artis and staff are doing with the Boys & Girls Club is adding so much to our community and it is appreciated. She encouraged the young adults in Coffee County to participate in any activities possible such as the Young Professionals Lunch hosted by the Chamber. She also stated she enjoyed the Comedy Act at the Martin Center this past weekend. Encouraged citizens to take part in events at the Martin Center and show your support.

Commissioner Durham stated that it is a blessing to be here. He asked that everyone keep his family in your prayers. He thanked all city workers for doing such a good job. He commended the Electric Department for their work during the black out last week. He also thanked the Customer Care Center, Police Department as well as the Fire Department for all work done during the black out. It thanked the citizens of Ward 2 for electing him and allowing him to serve.

Commissioner Roper stated that it is a pleasure just to be here. He has seen a lot of changes over the years. We need everyone to help the wheel keep turning.

Commissioner Bob Moore thanked everyone for the work they do. Encouraged everyone to keep things picked up and cleaned.

Mayor Pro Tem Pearson welcome the new pastors of Gaines Chapel. She asked everyone to keep our employees as well as everyone else who has lost loved ones in your thoughts and prayers. She also gave her appreciation to Mr. Jerome Loving, Ms. Judy Artis and Mrs. Barbara Dockery for all that they do to make this community a better place. She also made a couple of announcements: A Gospel sing fundraiser on August 27 at 6 pm at Shiloh Baptist Church and South Rural Black Women for Economic & Social Justice will be having Planning Strategies on August 28th from 3 pm to 5 pm. Everyone is invited to attend. This group is also sponsoring a bus to meet with State legislators at the State Capital on September 10th. Lastly, she asked the citizens to be patient with us as we work through the widening project.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Tony Paulk gave kudos to Mr. Jacobs making sure that the City is always running. The true test of leadership is the absence of leadership. Also, Jerome Adams for keeping us straight and under the law. He talked about the upcoming holidays and organizations that provide food/boxes to the less fortunate. Volunteer if you can help out with some of these organizations. He also encouraged everyone to go ahead and start planning their floats for the Christmas Parade. MLK Day is the same time every year and there will be activities at the Martin Center. Lastly, he stated that he has had a very good time thus far sitting as Mayor and he thanked all of the Commissioners for their wisdom, knowledge and hard work.

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MAYOR'S COMMENTS CONTINUED

Commissioner McNeill encouraged everyone to pray for the individuals in Louisiana during the flooding. Some organizations are compiling items to send for support. If you are interested in helping or donating, please contact Commissioner McNeill.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Mayor Pro Tem Olivia Pearson made the **MOTION** to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 8:06 pm and was seconded by Commissioner Bob Moore. The motion **carried (6-0)**.

Tony L. Paulk, Mayor

Kristi L. Morgan, Deputy City Clerk