

**MINUTES  
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
CITY OF DOUGLAS, GEORGIA  
SEPTEMBER 26, 2016**

**A Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners was held on Monday, September 26, 2016 at 7:00 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, Cindy McNeill and Johnnie Lee Roper Sr. were present. Commissioner Kentaiwon Durham was absent due to attending training.**

**CALLED TO ORDER**

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

**INVOCATION**

Mayor Pro Tem Olivia Pearson provided the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Lieutenant Commander Ortiz and Lieutenant Jr. Grade Metz with the Coffee County NJROTC.

**APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF THE AGENDA**

The Commission approved the order of the Agenda as printed. A **MOTION** to **unanimously** approve the order of the Agenda was made by Mayor Pro Tem Olivia Pearson and seconded by Commissioner Bob Moore. The motion **carried** (5-0).

**PRESENT DONATION TO THE CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS GROUP**

Georgia Henderson, Public Information Director along with Mayor Paulk, Commissioner McNeill and the Community Motorcycle Clubs presented a donation from a segment of the South Georgia BBQ & Outdoor Festival which included Motorcycle Events that was co-organized by the community motorcycle groups. A portion of the 50/50 drawing was donated to a local charity, which was the Childhood Cancer Awareness Group of Coffee County.

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

- **MINUTES ADOPTION-SEPTEMBER 12, 2016**
- **APPROVAL OF THE DOUGLAS-COFFEE COUNTY AIRPORT COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS**
- **APPROVAL OF THE MUNICIPAL GAS AUTHORITY AMENDED AND RESTATED GAS SUPPLY CONTRACT/RESOLUTION**
- **APPROVAL OF THE PROPANE AIR FACILITY REPAIRS**
- **APPROVAL OF THE PURCHASE OF THE 2016 DODGE TRUCK (ELECTIC DEPARTMENT)**

A **MOTION** to approve all **Consent Agenda Items** listed above as discussed in the Work Session was made by Mayor Pro Tem Olivia Pearson and seconded by Commissioner Bob Moore. The motion **carried** (5-0).

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**FIRST READING-ORDINANCE FOR COFFEE COUNTY BAORD OF EDUCATION**

Jerome Adams conducted the first reading of an ordinance to rezone a 25.96 acres tract, located at 1311 South Peterson Avenue, owned by the Coffee County Board of Education, from Residential Professional (RP) to Commercial General (CG); this property is the former location of the Coffee County High School/Coffee Middle School, the tract area the Board Offices. The second reading and public hearing, after properly advertising caption as required under the Charter of the City of Douglas, GA, be held on October 10, 2016. **“AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF DOUGLAS, GEORGIA, CHANGING THE ZONING ON CERTAIN PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF DOUGLAS, GEORGIA LOCATED AT 1311 SOUTH PETERSON AVENUE FROM (R-P) RESIDENTIAL PROFESSIONAL TO COMMERCIAL GENERAL (CG); LAND OF THE COFFEE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION”**

**No action taken at this time.**

**STAFF COMMENTS**

Georgia Henderson, Public Information Director, announced the following:

- There will be a new format for the utility bills that will allow customers to have a better understanding of the services they are receiving from the City of Douglas. They will be delivered to our customers the first week of October
- The new service incentives for Senior Citizens ages 65 and older has begun. The City of Douglas is offering the Senior Citizen Discount Program and the Weatherization Grant Loan Program.
- Encouraged citizens to log on to the City of Douglas website for all event information and services that are being offered.

Wynetta Bolder, City Clerk/311 Customer Call Center encouraged citizens to come to City Hall and register to win two (2) free tickets to the Coffee High Trojan Homecoming game held September 30<sup>th</sup>.

**GENERAL COMMENTS**

**No Comments**

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**COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS**

Commissioner Gowen expressed his concerns of the ongoing situation in our country with lawlessness and individuals feeling threatened by police officers as well as police officers feeling threatened by society's actions. Commissioner Gowen commended the Douglas Police Department for their professionalism during the shooting that took place in his neighborhood last week. He also gave his condolences to the family involved Ms. Merritt, for her loss. He expressed his concern of how the media is presenting the incidents that are occurring in North Carolina and other parts of the United States. He stated that the Governor has recognized that the law enforcement officers have been neglected with their pay and training. Governor Deal has authorized raises for law enforcement officers and a general review for policy and training. He concluded with thanking the city employees and Commission with keeping the city unified.

**Commissioner McNeill** recognized the Childhood Cancer Awareness group for an excellent job and efforts for the month of September with bringing awareness to the community regarding Childhood Cancer. She also praised the community with supporting the Beta Sigma Phi Sorority for the month of October with "Painting the Town Pink" for Breast Cancer Awareness.

**Mayor Pro Tem Pearson** recommended a correction in the work session on page (5) *Discussed Corner Lott, LLC Alcoholic Beverage License Application*

- **Before Correction:** *After much discussion, it was the consensus of Mayor and Commission to waive the disqualification of the misdemeanor convictions and **bring the item forward for vote.***
- **Correction:** *After much discussion, it was the consensus of Mayor and Commission to waive the disqualification of the misdemeanor convictions and **place the item on the Consent Agenda for approval.***

Mayor Pro Tem Pearson informed the Commission about a meeting with the Georgia Municipal Association Board of Directors concerning important information that was shared, she will have Kristi to place this information in their box. She gave an update on a workshop that was held in Valdosta Georgia, sponsored by the Georgia Municipal Association called "Community Policing". Also October 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> there will be a SAAB Conference held in Tennessee. Mayor Pro Tem stated she was thankful that the City of Douglas has not been having the issues like other places in the United States. She expressed concerns of people not taking ownership for being wrong. She also stated that everyone deserves to be treated fairly and not targeted for speaking against injustice. She feels we need to come together to make things better.

**Commissioner Moore** thanked everyone for the work they do.

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**Commissioner Roper** stated that we must learn to live together. Commissioner Roper asked everyone to get their minds and hearts right to give for the Miracle Park, so that the handicapped children will have a place to go.

**MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

Mayor Tony Paulk discussed the following:

- ❖ Incident with the police in our society
- ❖ Acknowledging the Parks and Recreation Department
- ❖ Commending the JROTC Program
- ❖ Preparing for Veterans Day
- ❖ Announcement of the Christmas Celebration
- ❖ Participating with the Christmas Parade
- ❖ Encouraging Pastors and Community to participate in the MLK Event in January

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to discuss, Mayor Tony Paulk to recess from the Regular Meeting so that the Commission could enter into Utilities Appeal Meeting.

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Tony L. Paulk, Mayor

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Wynetta J. Bolder, City Clerk

**UTILITY COMMISSION MEETING  
CITY OF DOUGLAS  
SEPTEMBER 26, 2016**

A Utility Commission Meeting was held on Monday, September 26, 2016. The meeting was convened in the Council Chambers of City Hall with Mayor Tony Paulk presiding. Pro Tem Olivia Pearson, Commissioners Cindy McNeill, Mike Gowen, Bob Moore, and Johnnie Lee Roper Sr. were in attendance. *Commissioner Kentaiwon Durham was absent due to attending training.*

*Charles Davis, Assistant City Manager, Jerome Adams, City Attorney and Tommy Harrell, Utility Billing and Payment Manager, Michael Hudson, Utility Director and Wynetta J. Bolder, City Clerk appeared before the Mayor and Commission to discuss and receive recommendations.*

Tommy Harrell, Utility Billing and Payment Manager, presented the following information:

**Judy Davis/ Eva Marie Gloss Hoskins- 610 Letitia Avenue Acct# 412-18324-05**

Judy Davis is the landlord of Eva Marie Gloss Hoskins -412-18324005 Ms. Hoskins was not present at Utilities Appeal Meeting, but Ms. Davis was there to represent her.

On the behalf of Ms. Hoskins, Ms. Davis, appealed to the Utility Committee September 21, 2016. The Utility Committee could not grant an adjustment since there appeared to be a toilet leak. Ms. Davis appeared before the Utility Commission requesting an adjustment on her tenants water account due to there were no signs of a leak and based on passed average consumptions the present amount was a drastic increase. After much discussion it was the consensus of the commission to grant Ms. Davis an adjustment.

A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Bob Moore to enter into Regular Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Johnnie Lee Roper. The motion was carried **(5-0)**.

A **MOTION** to approve an adjustment of \$239.34 from the water and sewer was made by Commissioner Cindy McNeill, and seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Olivia Pearson. The motion was **unanimously** carried **(5-0)**

**ADJOURNMENT**

A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Bob Moore to adjourn the Regular Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Johnnie Lee Roper. The motion was carried **(5-0)**.