

**MINUTES
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CITY OF DOUGLAS, GEORGIA
OCTOBER 10, 2016**

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners was held on Monday, October 10, 2016 at 7:05 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

Commissioner Mike Gowen provided the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Lieutenant Commander Ortiz and Seaman Recruit Torrez 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 Kentaiwon Durham. The motion **carried (6-0)**.

SECOND READING-ORDINANCE FOR COFFEE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

City Attorney Jerome Adams conducted the second 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. **“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”**

A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Cindy McNeill and seconded by Commissioner Johnnie Lee Roper Sr., the motion **carried (6-0)**.

**MINUTES
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CITY OF DOUGLAS, GEORGIA
OCTOBER 10, 2016**

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

- **MINUTES ADOPTION-SEPTEMBER 26, 2016**
- **APPROVAL OF THE FORTY SIX (46) NEW FACILITY SIGNAGE**
- **APPROVAL OF THE WAIVER FEE OF CENTRAL SQUARE GYMNASIUM “B” (SANCTUARY CHURCH OF GOD)**
- **APPROVAL OF THE WAIVER FEE OF CENTRAL SQUARE GYMNASIUM “B” (INVESTING IN OTHERS)**
- **APPROVAL OF THE FIVE (5) YEAR WORK PLAN PROJECT-WIRE ORDER**
- **APPROVAL OF THE RATIFICATION OF CUSTOMER APPRECIATION UTILITY BILL CREDITS**

APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSED 2017 HEALTH PLAN CHANGES

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

APPROVAL OF THE DOWNTOWN BANNER POLICY

Upon recommendation from Georgia Henderson, Public Information Director, the Commission approved the Downtown Banner Policy.

Discussion- Commissioner Roper expressed concerns of allowing everyone to be able to place banners on the poles. Mayor Pro Tem Pearson stated that according to the policy, whatever signs that are not already approved by the Commission, will be approved before they are put up.

A **MOTION** to approve the Downtown Banner Policy was made by Mayor Pro Tem Olivia Pearson and seconded by Commissioner Kentaiwon Durham. Commissioner Mike Gowen, Cindy McNeill and Bob Moore voted in **favor** of the motion. Commissioner Johnnie Lee Roper voted **against** the motion.

BETA SIGMA PHI – PASSIONATELY PINK PROMOTION

Regan Miller, representative of the Beta Sigma Phi Alpha Theta Chapter, appeared before the Commission to promote Breast Cancer Awareness for the month of October. A Proclamation was signed proclaiming October 27th as “Passionately Pink” day. The Beta Sigma ladies invited everyone’s participation and support for this event.

STAFF COMMENTS

Georgia Henderson, Public Information Director, announced the following:

- Fire Prevention Week, October 9th -15th
- Martin Center- “Carn Evil” October 14th -31st and the Winston Slade Concert, November 5th, 7 p.m.
- 63rd AAF-FTD Reunion, October 19th -22nd
- Ghost Tour- “Evening in the Dark” at the Ashley Slater House, October 18th
- Annual Hometown Harvest, October 27th
- Southern Home Vintage Market, November 4th
- Community Thanksgiving Spectacular, November 19th
- Registration for the 53rd Annual Festival of Lights Parade

**MINUTES
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CITY OF DOUGLAS, GEORGIA
OCTOBER 10, 2016**

GENERAL COMMENTS

Larry Nesmith, American Red Cross along with Roger Goddard, Code Enforcement Officer gave an update concerning the evacuee shelter that was located at the Central Square Gym. Mr. Nesmith stated there were approximately 383 people that came through the shelter due to Hurricane Matthew. Mr. Nesmith thanked Mr. Goddard as well as the Community for coming together making individuals in the shelter feel comfortable and safe. He also stated he was overwhelmed with the contributions and volunteers. Mr. Nesmith encouraged citizens to volunteer and attend training for the American Red Cross.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Commissioner Gowen thanked Mr. Nesmith, city employees and the community for their contributions to the shelter. Mr. Gowen expressed concern for the need for updating the Parks and Recreation facilities. He encouraged citizens to attend the Douglas and Coffee County Parks and Recreation meeting that is being held Tuesday, October 11th.

Commissioner McNeill thanked everyone for coming together during Hurricane Matthew and helping at the shelter. She encouraged citizens to participate with the Passionately Pink Day that will be held on October 27th. She also congratulated Becky Miller for receiving the Jackie Wilson Award.

Commissioner Durham expressed his appreciation to the community for coming together to serve those in the shelter during their time of need. He stated that on October 21st will be Kayla Day, this event is for the children in Coffee County with disabilities.

Mayor Pro Tem Pearson commended Pastor Powell, Keisha Williams and Mr. Moss for sponsoring events and working with the young people in the community. She also commended the volunteers in the community for their dedication with serving those in the shelter. Mayor Pro Tem Pearson applauded those that participated with the Women in Pink event that was held on October 6th. She stated that the City of Douglas will be giving six (6) individuals \$100.00 credit, customers must register at City Hall. Mayor Pro Tem Pearson stated she received a certificate for attending the GMA Community Policing Workshop in Valdosta, Georgia. She also attended a reception for State Representative Stacy Abrams in Albany, Georgia. She encouraged citizens to register to vote for the upcoming elections.

Commissioner Moore thanked Larry Nesmith, Williamson Foods and the community for the work they had done at the shelter during Hurricane Matthew.

Commissioner Roper stated that he serves as the Chairman for the Democratic Caucus. He encouraged everyone to attend the meetings on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month. He also expressed concerns of staff keeping the ditches clean in our community. Commissioner Roper spoke of the importance of the community coming together to build the Miracle Park, so that the handicapped children and others with disabilities will have a place to go.

**MINUTES
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CITY OF DOUGLAS, GEORGIA
OCTOBER 10, 2016**

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Tony Paulk stated that the community has so many things for our young people to become involved with. He stated:

- 460 children playing football and cheering with the Recreation Department
- Boys and Girls Scout Troops
- Boys and Girls Club

Mayor Paulk announced the following:

- New utility bills, that will be easy to read, will be distributed this month
- Churches participating with the Christmas Parade
- Christmas Thanksgiving Spectacular
- Preparing for Veterans Day
- Encouraging Pastors and Community to participate in the MLK Event in January

He concluded by expressing gratitude to the community for their output of service to those that were in the shelter due to Hurricane Matthew. Mayor Paulk stated that the City of Douglas made the individuals at the shelter feel safe.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Tony L. Paulk, Mayor

Wynetta J. Bolder, Certified Municipal Clerk

**UTILITY COMMISSION MEETING
CITY OF DOUGLAS
OCTOBER 10, 2016**

A Utility Commission Meeting was held on Monday, October 10, 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, Kentaiwon Durham and Johnnie Lee Roper Sr. were in attendance.

Terrell Jacobs, City Manager, Jerome Adams, City Attorney and Tommy Harrell, Utility Billing and Payment Manager, and Wynetta J. Bolder, City Clerk appeared before the Mayor and Commission to discuss and receive recommendations.

REGULAR SESSION

A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Bob Moore to enter back into Regular Meeting, and seconded by Commissioner Johnnie Lee Roper. The motion was carried **(6-0)**.

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

Shiloh Baptist Church (George Clark/Church Member)-605 E. Ross Street # 203-10086-01

George Clark of Shiloh Baptist Church reported a high utility bill (\$971.99) due to an increase of water and sewer. He stated that it was the toilet and they repaired the mechanism in the back of the toilet. After much discussion it was the consensus of the Commission to grant Shiloh Baptist Church an adjustment. *(Mayor Pro Tem Pearson removed herself from this item due to conflict of interest)*

John Clark (Elaine Clark) -1111 Kitchens Avenue # 205-07306-01

Elaine Clark, reported a high utility bill (\$446.91) due to an increase of water (customer does not have sewer). It was discovered the water softener system had malfunctioned and caused her last three (3) utility bills to increase. After much discussion, it was the consensus of the Commission to grant Mrs. Clark an adjustment.

A **MOTION** to approve an adjustment for Shiloh Baptist Church 605 E. Ross Street for \$206.56 from the water and sewer was made by Commissioner Kentaiwon Durham, and seconded by Commissioner Johnnie Lee Roper Sr. The motion was carried **(5-0) Mayor Pro Tem Pearson did not vote due to conflict of interest.**

A **MOTION** to approve an adjustment for John Clark (Elaine Clark) of 1111 Kitchens Avenue for \$200.48 from the water (no sewer at this location) was made by Commissioner Kentaiwon Durham, and seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Olivia Pearson. The motion was **unanimously** carried **(6-0)**

ADJOURNMENT

A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Bob Moore to adjourn the Regular Meeting to enter into the Executive Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Johnnie Lee Roper. The motion was carried **(6-0)**.

**MINUTES
EXECUTIVE SESSION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CITY OF DOUGLAS, GEORGIA
OCTOBER 10, 2016**

An Executive Meeting of the Board of Commissioners was held on October 10, 2016 at 8:30 PM, in the Council Chambers of City Hall with Mayor Tony L. Paulk presiding and Mayor Pro-Tem Olivia Pearson, Commissioners, Bob Moore, Cindy McNeill, Mike Gowen, Kentaiwon Durham and Johnnie Lee Roper, Sr. present. Terrell Jacobs, City Manager, Jerome Adams, City Attorney, Wynetta J. Bolder, City Clerk and Judy Carter, Human Resources Director were also in attendance.

LITIGATION ISSUES

Terrell Jacobs, City Manager, discussed litigation issues for informational purposes with the Mayor and Commission.

PERSONNEL ISSUES

Terrell Jacobs, City Manager, discussed personnel issues with the Mayor and Commission.

Mayor Pro-Tem Olivia Pearson made the **MOTION** to adjourn from Executive Session and **MOTION** was seconded by Commissioner Kentaiwon Durham.

REGULAR SESSION

Mayor Pro-Tem Olivia Pearson made the **MOTION** to re-enter back into Regular Session and **MOTION** was seconded Commissioner Cindy McNeill.

A **MOTION** to approve Larry Wilson, as the new City of Douglas Fire Chief and Casey Wright the Assistant Fire Chief was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Olivia Pearson and was seconded by Commissioner Mike Gowen. Commissioner Kentaiwon Durham, Cindy McNeill and Johnnie Roper voted **in favor** of the motion. Commissioner Bob Moore voted against the motion. **MOTION** carried **(5-1)**.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss Mayor Pro-Tem Olivia Pearson made the **MOTION** to adjourn the Regular Session. The **MOTION** was seconded by Commissioner Johnnie Roper. The Commission unanimously approved **(6-0)** and the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 PM.

Tony L. Paulk, Mayor

Wynetta J. Bolder, Certified Municipal Clerk