



CITY OF GEORGIA
Swainsboro
Crossroads of the Great South

City Council Meeting

July 06, 2009

The regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council, held Monday, July 06, 2009, at 6:00 P.M. at Swainsboro City Hall.

Members Present: Parker, Edenfield, Stroud, Collins, Stafford & Faulkner,

Members Absent:

Prayer of Invocation: Councilperson Parker

Mayor Schwabe presented the “Our Home Town Hero” Award. He explained that the city would be giving this award each month to a citizen who displays an extra effort to make our town better. The Swainsboro “Our Town Hero” award for the month of July was presented to Ann Peebles for her efforts in supporting the city in all endeavors. Mayor Schwabe stated she is always taking care of others asking nothing in return.

Motion to accept minutes from the previous meeting was made.

Motion: by Stafford Seconded: by Parker 5-0
Collins Absent

A. Consensus Business

1. The Swainsboro Jaycee’s request the 2009 Fireworks Grant - \$3000.00 Budgeted item
 2. The Pin High Golf Association request the 2009 Grant - \$500.00 Budgeted item
 3. The Emanuel County Historic Society request the 2009 grant - \$5,000.00 Budgeted item
- Motion to approve consensus business.

Motion: by Parker Seconded: by Edenfield 5-0
Collins Absent

B. New Business

1. Mr. Willie Dawson was on the agenda to address council but was not present.

2. Mr. George Elder representing the Emanuel Historic Society addressed council and thanked them for their continuous support and gave an update on the restoration of the Sam’s Drive In Rocket. He stated the rocket was ready for display and can be used, for a display, when the city needed it.

3. Council heard the request for an alcoholic beverage licence for Mixed Drink Consumption on the premises from Sarah Hackle dba North Main Grill located at 317 north Main St. This application would be for advertisement only. Motion to advertise was made.

Motion: by Edenfield Seconded: by Stafford 6-0

4. Council was presented the bids for the 2008 CDBG Project to rehabilitate sewage lines in the Church St. area. The bids were as follows:

1. Instuform Technologies	\$477,811.50
2. CaJenn Construction	\$536,224.28
3. Southeastern Pipe	\$539,955.00
4. Shockley Plumbing	\$556,554.00
5. Inland Waters	\$627,759.00

Motion to accept the low bid of \$477,811.50 from Instuform Technologies was made and to proceed with the project.

Motion: by Edenfield Seconded: by Stafford 6-0

5. DDA Director Anthony Faris presented a new program called “Creative Marketplace Competition” to the council. He stated this program would market the vacant buildings in the downtown area. He reported that the contest would have three awards in three different areas.

Area 1 - Restaurant; Area 2- Retail; Area 3 - Arts or Entertainment

Each category would have one winner from the applications received. He asked the city to participate by offering the following concessions:

1. Waving the Business License Fees for 2009 & 2010
2. Waving the inspection fees for new construction or renovation
3. Offering free water up to \$32.50 per month for one year.

The contest will run from July 2009 until September 2009 and will be judged by one member from each of the following organizations: Joint Development Authority, Chamber of Commerce, City of Swainsboro and the Downtown Development Authority. The DDA will work with the owner of the buildings to make this program a success. Motion was made to adopt and support the contest.

Motion: by Parker Seconded: by Edenfield 5-0

Stafford - Abstained

6. DDA Director Anthony Faris presented a plan to turn the Old Christian Youth Center Building into an Arts & Crafts/Antique Mall. Teresa Ellison, a DDA Member and a freelance architect, shared concept plans with the Council. Council had many question on the proposed project. Mayor Schwabe stated this would be a self supporting project. Anthony stated he hoped to have this project underway by the beginning of 2010.

C. Old Business

None

D. Committee Reports

Police: Councilperson Stafford presented the Police Report.

Mayor Schwabe asked the Police Committee to meet and come up with a recommendation for Council on the hiring procedure for a new Police Chief. He stated he had talked with the Georgia Chiefs’ Association and they could help in the narrowing down of the applications.

Police Chief Johnny Shuman reported that Officer David McVey had been recognized by the District Attorney’s Office for his outstanding detective work.

Building and Safety: Councilperson Faulkner had no report

Executive: No Report

Public Works: Councilperson Collins reported everything routine.

Recycle: Councilperson Collins reported everything routine.

Fire : Councilperson Parker reported everything routine.

Councilperson Parker announced that the Swainsboro Fire Department had applied for a \$1.4 Million dollars grant to build a new Fire Training Facility.

Mayor Schwabe asked Councilperson Parker to look into the possibility of restarting the SPLASH program now that the statewide water ban had been lifted.

Recreation: Councilperson Stroud reported everything routine.

Airport: Mayor Schwabe reported that the fencing project at the airport was almost finished.

Water & WW: Councilperson Edenfield reported everything routine.

Councilperson Edenfield reported on an emergency expenditure at the waste water treatment plant of \$21,000 for a new aerators in one of the collection basins.

Downtown Development - Anthony Faris DDA Director’s report was given in new business.

Administrative: Administrator Lawson gave Council an update on all grant applications what have been submitted in the last few months. He also updated council on all of the grant projects the city is undertaking.

Mayor : Mayor Schwabe gave Council an update on the ongoing projects of the city.

Mayor Schwabe read a letter from DCA stating that they are cutting staff and will be closing the Dublin, Ga. office.

He informed everyone about the name changing ceremony at Southeastern Technical College on July 7, 2009 at 10:00am.

Mayor Schwabe announced there will be a special called budget work session on July 20th at 6:00 o'clock at City Hall.

Councilperson Edenfield congratulated the Swainsboro Jaycees on a job well done on the July 4th fireworks.

Council Adjourned

Submitted: **A / L Lawson**, City Administrator