



CITY OF  
**Swainsboro**  
*Crossroads of the Great South*



**City Council Meeting**

**October 03, 2011**

The regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council, held Monday, October 03, 2011, at 6:00 P.M. at Swainsboro City Hall.

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

**Members Absent:** Edenfield

**Prayer of Invocation:** Mayor Schwabe

Mayor Schwabe presented the “Our Home Town Hero” Award to Mr. Neil Kalmanson. “A quiet but effective person of our community” stated Mayor Schwabe. He has brought a lot of culture to our city. Mr. Kalmanson is a true asset to our community and a perfect “Our Home Town Hero”.

Motion to accept minutes from the previous meeting was made.

**Motion: by Stafford Seconded: by Parker 5-0**

**A. Consensus Business**

1) Grant for Georgia Firefighters Burn Foundation \$500.00

Motion to approve consent agenda as presented.

**Motion: by Parker Seconded: by Faulkner 5-0**

**B. New Business**

1. Mr. Michael Bright asked that the council consider closing Roger Shaw St. on Nov. 12, 2011 from 7:00am to 4:00pm for a car show. Motion to grant the request was made.

**Motion: by Stafford Seconded: by Parker 5-0**

2. Council considered a proposal from the Emanuel County Commissioners to add on an additional two bays to Fire Station One to store two county trucks. These bays would be built on the West Side of Station One. Council discussed other options and the proximity to the adjacent property. After hearing the opinion of Fire Chief Strobridge, motion was made to allow the county to build the addition involving no cost to the city.

**Motion: by Stafford Seconded: by Parker 5-0**

**C. Old Business**

None

**D. Committee Reports**

**Police:** Councilperson Faulkner reported the Police Department was routine.

Chief Ellison reported that he had received a judgment on the case against, Gwen Foster dba The Way, located on Gumlog St. He reported The Way had been found guilty of having alcohol on the premises while operating with a Game Room License. This is a violation of city ordinance and she has been fined \$150.00. He reported this to council so action could be taken on the license. Council asked what could be done. The license could be suspended, revoked, the business could be fined, or a combination of all of the above. After a long consideration, motion was made to revoke the license.

**Motion: by Stroud Seconded: by Stafford motion failed 3-2**  
**Collins, Parker, and Faulkner against**

Council then asked if any bad incidents have occurred since the club was caught with the alcohol on the premises. Chief Ellison reported there have been other calls to that location including an incident involving gun shots into a vehicle. Council then discussed that other businesses have been closed for similar indictments and this should be reconsidered. Motion was then made to revoke the license of Gwen Foster dba The Way.

**Motion: by Parker Seconded: by Stafford motion carried 3-2  
Collins and Faulkner against**

Police Chief Ellison reported that next year before homecoming he would be having a meeting with the Juniors and Seniors to inform them that there would be repercussions for any property damage or violations during homecoming week. He stated that a lot of dangerous incidents had taken place last week and he would be trying to take measures to prevent anyone from getting hurt.

**Executive:** Councilperson Stroud had no report.

**Public Works:** Councilperson Parker reported as follows: OMI is working on an equipment list for the upcoming year.

**Fire:** Councilperson Stafford reported everything routine.

Fire Chief Strobridge reported on the Calvary Methodist Church fire. He reported that the Swainsboro Fire Department, Swainsboro Police Department, the GBI, and the Georgia Fire Marshall's Office have been looking into the cause of the fire. He reported the fire was arson and any person having any knowledge of this fire should contact the Swainsboro Fire Department or the Swainsboro Police Department. He stated there is a \$10,000 reward for any information assisting with the investigation. Mayor Schwabe stated the city stands ready to assist the church in any way possible.

**Recreation:** Councilperson Collins everything routine. She gave a schedule of the events taking place in October. She stated the television show "Toddlers and Tiaras" would be filming at the Swainsboro Auditorium on Oct 15, 2011.

Councilperson Collins asked that Garnell Smith be hired as a maintenance department worker. This slot was vacated by the promotion of Larry Shepard. Motion to accept the recommendation and hire Garnell Smith was made.

**Motion: by Stroud Seconded: by Stafford 5-0**

**Airport:** No Report

**Water & WW:** No report due to Councilperson Edenfield's absence.

**Downtown Development:** Lynn reported that the DDA had held a vision statement meeting last week to come up with a vision statement for the Swainsboro Downtown Development Authority. The statement decided on by the committee was as follows;

Downtown Swainsboro is a growing, vibrant cultural center that has become a destination for art and antiques, while continues to grow as a business center but, still keeping the small town feel of a safe, family environment.

Lynn reported on the activities on the month upcoming. She invited everyone to the Arts Stroll on Oct. 7, 2011, the Arts Festival on Oct. 15, 2011, and the Fall Festival on Oct 27, 2011.

Lynn reported that Administrator Lawson and herself had attended the Georgia Downtown Association Award's Banquet in Rome last Wednesday night and the City of Swainsboro Downtown Development Authority was awarded a state award for Economics Restructuring for the Main Street Market at the Boneyard Project. This was one of 12 awards given out throughout the whole state. Mayor Schwabe accepted the award and congratulated Lynn and the DDA for a job well done.

**Administrative:** Administrator Lawson read a request from Raven Hall, a Breast Cancer Awareness Advocate, to die the fountain pink to support Breast Cancer Awareness Month. This will be the third year she has colored the fountain pink in support of Breast Cancer Awareness. Council had no problem with the request.

**Mayor :** Mayor Schwabe stated that East Georgia College would be holding an "East Georgia College Day" and he encouraged every citizen of Swainsboro to support the college and its endeavors.

Meeting was adjourned.

Submitted: **Al L Lawson, City Administrator**