



CITY OF
Swainsboro
Crossroads of the Great South

GEORGIA

City Council Meeting

January 05, 2010

The regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council, held Monday, January 05, 2010, at 6:00 P.M. at Swainsboro City Hall.

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

Members Absent: None

Prayer of Invocation: Councilperson Collins

Middle Circuit Court Judge Bobby Reeves was present to swear in the newly elected officials for the upcoming terms. Judge Reeves congratulated Councilpersons Johnny Ray Stafford, Rita Faulkner, Bobbie Collins, and Charles Schwabe, on winning re-election and their willingness to serve. After administering the oath to the elected council members, Judge Reeves then gave the oath to Mayor Schwabe. Each will serve a four year term.

Mayor Schwabe ask council to ratify the 2009 election results as presented. (See attached Page)
Motion was made to accept the results as presented.

Motion: by Parker Seconded: by Stroud 6-0

Middle Circuit Court Judge Bobby Reeves was present to swear in the newly hired Police Chief Randy Ellison. Judge Reeves administered the oath to Chief Ellison in a ceremonial procedure in front of a group of family and friends.

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 January 2010 was presented to Mrs. Virginia Bolton. She has been gathering interviews with World War II Veterans and documenting them for all to enjoy and for future generations. Mrs. Bolton has donated a lot of her time and efforts to make this project a success.

Motion to accept minutes from the previous meeting was made.

Motion: by Stafford Seconded: by Stroud 6-0

Mayor Schwabe called for an election by council of a Mayor Pro-Tem for the up coming year. Councilperson Stafford nominated Councilperson John Parker. No other nominations were made.

A. Consensus Business

None

B. New Business

1. Council heard the request for an alcoholic beverage license, for advertisement only, from Melanie Davis dba J & M Bistro at 108 W. Main St. for Mixed drink consumption on the premises. Motion was made to approve the request for advertisement.

Motion: by Edenfield Seconded: by Parker 6-0

2. Council heard the request for an alcoholic beverage license, for advertisement only, from Johnny Lee Dixon dba Dixon Enterprise at 308 New St. for retail beer and wine package only. Motion was made to approve the request for advertisement.

Motion: by Parker Seconded: by Faulkner 6-0

3. Council heard the request for an alcoholic beverage license, for advertisement only, from Sanil Patel dba Davi Shakti Quick Shop at 202 East Main St. for retail beer and wine package only. Motion was made to approve the request for advertisement.

Motion: by Stafford Seconded: by Parker 6-0

C. Old Business

1. Building Inspector Bruce Kirby presented a recommendation from the Planning Commission to re-zone some property owned by James Morgan located on Hwy 56 North. This property is currently zoned R3 and is recommended to be re-zoned to C8. Administrator Lawson read the Re-zone request and the description of the properties requested. Council asked if anyone had objected to the request. No one objected at the Public Hearing. Motion was made to grant the request as recommended.

Motion: by Faulkner Seconded: by Stafford 6-0

3. Council heard the request for an alcoholic beverage license from Bhargav Patel dba Sunoco Foods at 350 East Main St. for retail beer and wine. Mayor Schwabe announced that this was a Public Hearing and asked if anyone was present to speak for or against the application. No one opposed the application. Motion was made to approve the request as presented.

Motion: by Edenfield Seconded: by Stafford 6-0

4. Council heard the request for an alcoholic beverage license from Bhargav Patel dba Kali Foods at 504 East Main St. for retail beer and wine. Mayor Schwabe announced that this was a Public Hearing and asked if anyone was present to speak for or against the application. No one opposed the application. Motion was made to approve the request as presented.

Motion: by Parker Seconded: by Stroud 6-0

D. Committee Reports

Police: Councilperson Stafford presented the Police Report.

New Police Chief Randy Ellison thanked the council for the opportunity of working for the city of Swainsboro and gave an update on actions at the Police Department.

Chief Ellison informed the council that there is an opening at the Police Dept. for a secretarial position and ask permission to advertise for that position. No one objected.

Councilperson Edenfield brought up the subject of unattended dogs in the city and stated he had received complaints that needed to be addressed. Mayor Schwabe and the council discussed the problem and stated that some action would be coming and the ordinances governing animals would be enforced.

Building and Safety: Councilperson Faulkner gave an update on the delapidated houses that were being pursued. She reported that letters had been sent to the land owners and the city was waiting on the responses and would be taking action at the next council meeting.

Inspector Bruce Kirby informed council that the city had cleaned up 12 houses in 2009 and were continually working on others.

Executive: No Report

Public Works: Councilperson Collins reported everything routine.

Recycle: Councilperson Collins reported everything routine.

Fire : Mayor Pro-Tem Parker reported everything routine.

Fire Chief Strobridge reported that the Swainsboro Fire Dept. had lost a retired volunteer firefighter to death, Frank Nasworthy Sr, and his funeral would be at First Baptist Church at 2:00pm Tuesday.

Recreation: Councilperson Stroud reported everything routine. She reported that Tim Jones had resigned to take another job and that position would not be filled at this time.

Airport: Mayor Schwabe had no report.

Water & WW: Councilperson Edenfield reported everything routine.

Downtown Development -No Report

Administrative: Administrator Lawson read a letter from Al Huston representing the Emanuel County Chapter of the NAACP inviting all of the city council and the Mayor to participate in the annual Martin Luther King Jr Parade on January 18, 2010.

Mayor : Mayor Schwabe presented a copy of blighted condition property ordinance for council to read and study and see if it would work in Swainsboro. This would be discussed at a future meeting.

Mayor Schwabe discussed three things he would like to see done in 2010 as follows:

- 1) Reduce the city budget
- 2) Create jobs and increase employment
- 3) Enforce the Ordinances on the books
 - Infuses on the Animal control ordinances
 - Infuses on the Litter ordinances

Mayor Schwabe explained that the garbage contract with Sullivan was up this year and asked permission to seek bids for a new contract. No one objected. Permission was given to Administrator Lawson to seek bids for the upcoming years.

Mayor Schwabe announced he would be making council committee assignments in February.

Mayor Schwabe made the following committee assignments for the 2010 year.

Emanuel County Health Board

Reappoint - Mary Clair Brannon Term Until December 2013

Animal Control Committee

Appoint - Police Chief Randy Ellison

Airport Committee

Reappoint - Charles Schwabe Term Until December 2010
Reappoint - Cleve Edenfield Term Until December 2010

Downtown Development Authority

Appoint - John Dunn Term Until December 2013

Recreation Authority

Reappoint - Jerry Lawson Jr. Term Until December 2013
Reappoint - Erma Jenkins Term Until December 2013

Recreation Oversight Committee

Appoint - Sandra Stroud Term Until December 2010
Appoint - Johnny Ray Stafford Term Until December 2010

Franklin Memorial Library Board

Appoint - City Representative Bobbie Collins Until December 2010
Reappoint - Donald Jenkins Term Until December 2013

Swainsboro Planning Commission

Reappoint - Alton W. Lawson Term Until December 2013
Reappoint - Gloria Mason Term Until December 2013
Appointment - Julian Sconyers Term Until December 2012 (Unexpired Term)

Mayor Schwabe and council agreed that their would be a work session meeting with the Chamber of Commerce and the Joint Development Authority on February 15, 2010 to discuss future planning for the upcoming year.

Mayor Schwabe and council also set a work shop meeting to meet with the Swainsboro Golf Club Association on March 15, 2010 to discuss future planning for the Swainsboro Golf Course.

Council Adjourned

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