



CITY OF
Swainsboro
Crossroads of the Great South



City Council Meeting

March 04, 2013

The regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council, held Monday, March 04, 2013 at 6:00 P.M. at Swainsboro City Hall

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

Members Absent:

Prayer of Invocation: Rev. Paul Leigh, First Baptist Church

Motion to accept minutes from the previous 2 meetings was made.

Motion: by Parker Seconded: by Stroud 6-0

Mayor Schwabe presented the Our Town Hero award for the month of March 2013 to Sarah Jane McKay. She was in the city cemetery with her neighbor visiting and saw that some of the flowers had fallen over so she took it upon herself to go through the entire cemetery and set up all of the fallen flowers. She was not told to do this. She saw a need and answered the call. Commander Richard Peacock was present to share this story with the council which explained why she was nominated to be the March 2013 Our Town Hero.

A. Consensus Business

1. Council agreed to give the Pine Tree Festival Committee the \$2500.00 grant from the Hotel/Motel Budget. This is a budgeted item.

B. New Business

1. Council heard the application request, for advertisement only, by Sheth Rashmikant dba SAYSAS Inc., 502 North Main St., for beer and wine package only. Motion was made to advertise the application.

Motion: by Edenfield Seconded: by Stafford 5-1 Faulkner opposed

2. Council heard the reading of a proclamation supporting the Georgia Main Street Designation as follows:

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF SWAINSBORO, EMANUEL COUNTY,
GEORGIA, AS FOLLOWS:**

WHEREAS, the Georgia Main Street Program is a self-help community development approach intended to revitalize Georgia's downtown. The program develops vision and leadership through planning and implementation. The result will be improved quality of life and economic development within the community.

WHEREAS, the program is a 4-point approach using proven principles to restore communities:

Organization Promotion Design Economic Restructuring

WHEREAS, the city of Swainsboro is an excellent candidate to participate in this program. Being a Main Street city will bring economic revitalization, jobs, and an ongoing commitment for improvements to the City.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF SWAINSBORO THAT,** The City of Swainsboro supports this Georgia Main Street Program and will submit an application with appropriate attachments to the Georgia Department of Community Affairs within the year of 2013. The City of Swainsboro looks forward to a successful partnership in this program.

PASSED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Swainsboro, County of Emanuel, State of Georgia, on the 4th Day of March, 2013, and deposited and filed in the Office of the City Clerk on that date.

Members, Jerry Cadle, Stephanie Flanders, and Daisy Reeves were present to support the proclamation.

Motion was made to adopt proclamation as presented.

Motion: by Parker Seconded: by Faulkner 6-0

3. Jen Meadows representing the Emanuel Arts Council addressed council inviting them to the April 13, 2013 Eighth Annual Arts Emanuel Festival. She asked that Roger Shaw and Green Street be closed off for this event. Motion was made to grant the request.

Motion: by Stafford Seconded: by Edenfield 6-0

4. Adm. Lawson asked council to adopt a new personnel policy for city employees. This hand book brings the old book up to date. It includes new policies needed for the city. Motion was made to postpone the adoption until next meeting.

5. Council heard the reading of a Public Indecency Ordinance as follows:
Sec. 62-140. - **Public indecency prohibited.**

(a) A person commits the offense of public indecency when he or she performs any of the following acts in a place where a person should reasonably expect to be in view of the public:

- (1) An actual or simulated act of sexual intercourse or masturbation;
- (2) Exposure of the genitals;
- (3) A lewd appearance in a state of partial or complete nudity;

(4) A lewd caress or indecent fondling of the body of another person;

(5) A lewd caress or indecent fondling of the sexual organs of any person, including oneself;

(6) Urination or defecation; or

(7) Appears wearing pants or skirts more than three (3) inches below the top of the hips (crest of the ilium) exposing the skin or undergarments.

(b) Fines and penalties. A citation shall be issued to the offender and the person shall be subject to a penalty of not less than twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) on the first offense and not more than two hundred dollars (\$200.00) for each subsequent offense. In addition to the fine, the court may order such person to participate in up to forty (40) hours of court-approved community service activities. Violators shall not be subject to arrest or imprisonment for violation of this section, however, the municipal court shall have the same authority as the superior court to enforce obedience to its orders, judgments and sentences.

(c) Defenses. It is a defense under this section if it is determined, after a hearing or trial, that the person was exercising rights protected by the federal or state Constitution. Any defense under this section must be asserted prior to any hearing or trial in the matter.

This will constitute the first reading of this ordinance. Motion was made to formally consider this ordinance.

Motion: by Stafford Seconded: by Stroud 6-0

6. Ann Lawson, representing the class of 1963, addressed council asking permission from the council to place a bench in Pine Brook Park in memory of one of their classmates, Sgt. Ronald Bruce Price, who was killed in the Vietnam War. She stated that she understood there are plans to place a wall in memory of the fallen soldiers of Emanuel County in the park, and this would be a complementary addition. Motion was made to allow the placement of the bench.

Motion: by Stafford Seconded: by Stroud 6-0

C. Old Business

1. Council heard the application request, by Nicholas Beasley dba Jr's Place, 112 Central St., for beer and wine consumption on the premises. Mayor Schwabe announced this was a Public Hearing. Is anyone present to speak for or against the request. No one was present. Motion was made to advertise the application.

Motion: by Stafford Seconded: by Faulkner 6-0

D. Committee Reports

Police: Councilperson Stafford gave the February Police Report.

Public Works: Councilperson Parker reported everything routine.

Fire: Councilperson Collins presented the January and February Fire reports.

Recreation: Councilperson Faulkner everything routine. The SPLASH pad project was coming along and should have a contract within 30 days.

Airport: No Report

Executive: Councilperson Stroud had no report.

Water & WW: Councilperson Edenfield the basin project has been started.

Downtown Development: No report

Administrative: Councilperson Stroud reported the computer change over has started and is on track for April 1, 2013.

Building Inspection: Adm. Lawson reported on the progress of three of the houses that have been started for removal or remodeling.

Councilperson Faulkner asked that the council take a ride around the town to identify other areas that need attention.

Mayor : Mayor Schwabe gave a list of the streets that are scheduled to be paved in the first round of the TIA projects. The streets are:

1. Lakewood Drive
2. Neal Street
3. Youmans Street
4. North Green Street
5. Lambs Bridge Road
6. North Coleman Street
7. East Meadowlake Parkway
8. King Circle Drive
9. Braswell Blvd.
10. Short Street

Mayor Schwabe announced that the new joint fire station the city and county is planning to build will not fit on the site chosen and a new site is being sought.

Mayor Schwabe asked all council to meet with the respective Department Heads and see what can be reduced in the upcoming 2014 Budget.

Mayor Schwabe stated he has been talking with some health insurance providers and they are looking at saving the city on it's health insurance premiums. He asked the Department Heads to give them their corporation in a survey they will be conducting, of all city employees, at City Hall on Thursday and Friday of this week and Tuesday and Wednesday of the following week.

Meeting was adjourned.

Submitted: A L Lawson, City Administrator