



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



**City Council Meeting**

**February 01, 2010**

The regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council, held Monday, February 01, 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 Faulkner

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. Mayor Schwabe asked Councilperson Faulkner to assist with the presentation. The Swainsboro “Our Town Hero” award for the month of February 2010 was presented to Mrs. E. K. Miller. She has been assisting Swainsboro’s youth for many years and mentoring them to be better citizens. Her efforts in furthering education in our community makes her the perfect choice.

Motion to accept minutes from the previous meeting was made.

**Motion: by Stafford      Seconded: by Parker      6-0**

**A. Consensus Business**

None

**B. New Business**

1. Mayor Schwabe recognized members of the Leadership Emanuel Class of 2010 who were in attendance at the meeting. Member Heather Cook addressed the council and presented a proposal of a project the class has chosen to undertake. The project was to beautify the east section of Meadowlake Parkway from U S #1 to the entrance of East Georgia College. Since the new entrance to the college has been added, this stretch of road is much more traveled and needs some attention. Some of the suggestions were to resurface the road, plant trees in the median, add curb and gutter, and add an entrance sign at US#1 for East Georgia College. Jim Roberts stated this would be beneficial to all of the local businesses in town. Mayor Schwabe agreed and congratulated the class on picking a worthwhile project and stated the city would do everything possible to support the project.

2. Administrator Lawson presented a Resolution for consideration to the council approving the application for a 2010 Community Block Development Grant as follows;

From the

**GOVERNING BODY  
OF THE  
CITY OF SWAINSBORO  
RESOLUTION**

A RESOLUTION by the Mayor and Council of the City of Swainsboro, Georgia, to authorize submission of a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application to the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) for funding under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended.

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Council of the City of Swainsboro, Georgia, found that the program is necessary and desirable in order to improve the living conditions of low and moderate income persons living in Swainsboro, Georgia; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Council of the City of Swainsboro, Georgia, desire that the CDBG application be submitted to the Georgia DCA for funding under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended;

**NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved** by the Mayor and Council of the City of Swainsboro, Georgia, that:

The Mayor of the City of Swainsboro, or his/her successor, is hereby authorized to submit to the

READ, APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Swainsboro, Georgia on a motion made by Parker, seconded by Faulkner, and adopted on this FIRST day of FEBRUARY 2010.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Charles Schwabe, Mayor  
City of Swainsboro, Ga.

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Al L Lawson, City Adm.  
City of Swainsboro, Ga.

Motion was made to adopt the resolution as presented.

**Motion: by Parker      Seconded: by Faulkner    6-0**

3. City Administrator Lawson opened sealed bids presented to council for the upcoming year for garbage collection. The Bids were as follows

Sullivan Environmental Services	Bidding on collection and disposal
Allgreen Services	Bidding on collection and disposal

Mayor Schwabe asked that both bids be studied by the Sanitation Committee and bring full council a recommendation. The Sanitation Committee consist of Councilperson Collins, Chair, Councilperson Faulkner and Councilperson Edenfield.

### **C. Old Business**

1. Council heard the request for an alcoholic beverage license from Melanie Davis dba J & M Bistro at 108 W. Main St. for Mixed drink consumption on the premises. Mayor Schwabe announced that this was a public hearing for this application and asked if anyone was present to speak for or against the application. Motion was made to approve the request.

**Motion: by Edenfield      Seconded: by Parker 6-0**

2. Council heard the request for an alcoholic beverage license from Johnny Lee Dixon dba Dixon Enterprise at 308 New St. for retail beer and wine package only. Mayor Schwabe announced that this was a public hearing for this application and asked if anyone was present to speak for or against the application. Motion was made to approve the request.

**Motion: by Parker      Seconded: by Stafford 6-0**

3. Council heard the request for an alcoholic beverage license from Sanil Patel dba Davi Shakti Quick Shop at 202 East Main St. for retail beer and wine package only. Mayor Schwabe announced that this was a public hearing for this application and asked if anyone was present to speak for or against the application. Motion was made to approve the request.

**Motion: by Stafford      Seconded: by Stroud 6-0**

### **D. Committee Reports**

**Police:** Councilperson Stafford presented the Police Report.

Councilperson Stafford stated that the Police Personnel Committee had interviewed applicants for the Secretary's Position at the Swainsboro Police Department and after reviewing 64 applications and 8 interviews, Mrs. Vicki Davis was chosen. Councilperson Stafford presented a recommendation from the committee to hire Mrs. Vicki Davis. Motion was made to hire Vicki Davis at the Swainsboro Police Department.

**Motion: by Stafford      Seconded: by Faulkner    6-0**

**Building and Safety:** Building Inspector Bruce Kirby presented a number of Resolutions for council's consideration in abating of nuisances for delapidated properties. These properties have been identified and the owners have been notified about their condition. The following Resolutions were presented for consideration;

## A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SWAINSBORO AS TO ABATE OF CERTAIN REAL ESTATE AS A NUISANCE

**WHEREAS**, this body has been advised that the City Building Inspector has implemented and carried out the process for abatement of a nuisance as provided under Sec. 62-101 of the Official Code of Ordinances of this City relating

to the abatement of nuisances; AND,

**WHEREAS**, the property which is subject matter of the abatement is owned by **Arthur W Chance III** and is known and designated as, **(842 West Main St) Parcel 026 Map S47** on the Tax Maps of said city; AND,

**WHEREAS**, it appears that a notice by certified mail was given to the property owner; and property owner was given the opportunity to cure the same but has failed to do so within time specified and as requested; AND

**WHEREAS**, due to the potential health hazard existing on said property, the City Building Inspector has recommended that said property be abated as a nuisance; AND

**WHEREAS**, the Owner has been notified and the findings of fact for abatement have been reported to this body and found to exist;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the City that said nuisance be abated and that the Municipal Court of Swainsboro process with a hearing in said matter as prescribed by ordinance.

Motion was made to abate the property as a nuisance as presented.

**Motion: by Edenfield    Seconded: by Stroud    5-1**  
**Collins - opposed**

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AS TO ABATE OF CERTAIN REAL ESTATE AS A NUISANCE**

**WHEREAS**, this body has been advised that the City Building Inspector has implemented and carried out the process for abatement of a nuisance as provided under Sec. 62-101 of the Official Code of Ordinances of this City relating to the abatement of nuisances; AND,

**WHEREAS**, the property which is subject matter of the abatement is owned by **Mr. John Gunn** and is known and designated as, **(325 New Street) Parcel 061 Map S23** on the Tax Maps of said city; AND,

**WHEREAS**, it appears that a notice by certified mail was given to the property owner; and property owner was given the opportunity to cure the same but has failed to do so within time specified and as requested; AND

**WHEREAS**, due to the potential health hazard existing on said property, the City Building Inspector has recommended that said property be abated as a nuisance; AND

**WHEREAS**, the Owner has been notified and the findings of fact for abatement have been reported to this body and found to exist;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the City that said nuisance be abated and that the Municipal Court of Swainsboro process with a hearing in said matter as prescribed by ordinance.

Motion was made to abate the property as a nuisance as presented.

**Motion: by Stroud    Seconded: by Faulkner    5-1**  
**Collins - opposed**

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**WHEREAS**, the property which is subject matter of the abatement is owned by **Mrs. Annie Mae Kemp** and is known and designated as, **(208 Mc Leod Bridge Rd. ) Parcel 129 Map S23** on the Tax Maps of said city; AND,

**WHEREAS**, it appears that a notice by certified mail was given to the property owner; and property owner was given the opportunity to cure the same but has failed to do so within time specified and as requested; AND

**WHEREAS**, due to the potential health hazard existing on said property, the City Building Inspector has recommended that said property be abated as a nuisance; AND

**WHEREAS**, the Owner has been notified and the findings of fact for abatement have been reported to this body and found to exist;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the City that said nuisance be abated and that the Municipal Court of Swainsboro process with a hearing in said matter as prescribed by ordinance.

Motion was made to abate the property as a nuisance as presented.

**Motion: by Stroud    Seconded: by Faulkner    5-1**  
**Collins - opposed**

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**WHEREAS**, the property which is subject matter of the abatement is owned by Mr. Archie Wimberly and is known and designated as, (407 South Street) Parcel 034 Map S37 on the Tax Maps of said city; AND,

**WHEREAS**, it appears that a notice by certified mail was given to the property owner; and property owner was given the opportunity to cure the same but has failed to do so within time specified and as requested; AND

**WHEREAS**, due to the potential health hazard existing on said property, the City Building Inspector has recommended that said property be abated as a nuisance; AND

**WHEREAS**, the Owner has been notified and the findings of fact for abatement have been reported to this body and found to exist;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the City that said nuisance be abated and that the Municipal Court of Swainsboro process with a hearing in said matter as prescribed by ordinance.

Motion was made to abate the property as a nuisance as presented.

**Motion: by Stroud    Seconded: by Stafford    5-1**  
**Collins - opposed**

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**WHEREAS**, the property which is subject matter of the abatement is owned by Mrs. Geraldine S. Jackson and is known and designated as, (308 New Street) Parcel 057 Map S23 on the Tax Maps of said city; AND,

**WHEREAS**, it appears that a notice by certified mail was given to the property owner; and property owner was given the opportunity to cure the same but has failed to do so within time specified and as requested; AND

**WHEREAS**, due to the potential health hazard existing on said property, the City Building Inspector has recommended that said property be abated as a nuisance; AND

**WHEREAS**, the Owner has been notified and the findings of fact for abatement have been reported to this body and found to exist;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the City that said nuisance be abated and that the Municipal Court of Swainsboro process with a hearing in said matter as prescribed by ordinance.

Motion was made to abate the property as a nuisance as presented.

**Motion: by Stroud    Seconded: by Faulkner    5-1**  
**Collins - opposed**

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**WHEREAS**, the property which is subject matter of the abatement is owned by Mr. Dessie Davis and is known and designated as, (339 New Street) Parcel 065 Map S23 on the Tax Maps of said city; AND,

**WHEREAS**, it appears that a notice by certified mail was given to the property owner; and property owner was given the opportunity to cure the same but has failed to do so within time specified and as requested; AND

**WHEREAS**, due to the potential health hazard existing on said property, the City Building Inspector has recommended that said property be abated as a nuisance; AND

**WHEREAS**, the Owner has been notified and the findings of fact for abatement have been reported to this body and found to exist;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the City that said nuisance be abated and that the Municipal Court of Swainsboro process with a hearing in said matter as prescribed by ordinance.

Motion was made to abate the property as a nuisance as presented.

**Motion: by Stroud    Seconded: by Faulkner    5-1**  
**Collins - opposed**

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AS TO ABATE OF CERTAIN REAL ESTATE AS A NUISANCE**

**WHEREAS**, this body has been advised that the City Building Inspector has implemented and carried out the process for abatement of a nuisance as provided under Sec. 62-101 of the Official Code of Ordinances of this City relating to the abatement of nuisances; AND,

**WHEREAS**, the property which is subject matter of the abatement is owned by Mr. Heath James Estate and is known

and designated as, (412 Racetrack St.) Parcel 015 Map S37 on the Tax Maps of said city; AND,

**WHEREAS**, it appears that a notice by certified mail was given to the property owner; and property owner was given the opportunity to cure the same but has failed to do so within time specified and as requested; AND

**WHEREAS**, due to the potential health hazard existing on said property, the City Building Inspector has recommended that said property be abated as a nuisance; AND

**WHEREAS**, the Owner has been notified and the findings of fact for abatement have been reported to this body and found to exist;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the City that said nuisance be abated and that the Municipal Court of Swainsboro process with a hearing in said matter as prescribed by ordinance.

Motion was made to abate the property as a nuisance as presented.

**Motion: by Stroud    Seconded: by Stafford    5-1**  
**Collins - opposed**

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**WHEREAS**, the property which is subject matter of the abatement is owned by Mr. John Gunn and is known and designated as, (323 Hopkins Street) Parcel 061 Map S23 on the Tax Maps of said city; AND,

**WHEREAS**, it appears that a notice by certified mail was given to the property owner; and property owner was given the opportunity to cure the same but has failed to do so within time specified and as requested; AND

**WHEREAS**, due to the potential health hazard existing on said property, the City Building Inspector has recommended that said property be abated as a nuisance; AND

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Motion was made to abate the property as a nuisance as presented.

**Motion: by Stroud    Seconded: by Faulkner    5-1**  
**Collins - opposed**

Building Inspector Bruce Kirby presented a recommendation from the Planning Commission to amend the Zoning ordinance as follows;

“This amendment to section 7-3 of the C6-D district zone would prohibit the use of storefronts as storage. This would be for visible storefronts of none occupied buildings. See Zoning code for a more complex explanation.”

Council heard the request and motion was made to allow this to be the first reading of the ordinance change. The city will hold a public hearing and second reading before the ordinance is considered.

**Motion: by Stafford    Seconded: by Edenfield    6-0**

**Executive:** No Report

**Public Works:** Councilperson Collins reported everything routine.

Mike Connolly with OMI announced to the council that Brad Kirby will be on the Public Works portion of OMI. If you had any issues call Brad or himself.

**Recycle:** Councilperson Collins reported everything routine.

**Fire :** Mayor Pro-Tem Parker reported everything routine.

**Recreation:** Councilperson Stroud reported everything routine.

**Airport:** Mayor Schwabe had no report.

**Water & WW:** Councilperson Edenfield reported everything routine.

Administrator Lawson reported that the city has reapplied with the Georgia Environmental Facility Administration to receive some of the stimulus money that was allocated to cities that can not meet the deadlines. The application is for \$2.5 million dollars to repair the water tanks.

**Downtown Development:** Anthony Faris reported that the old Christian Youth Center project was coming along and the DDA has received a grant to help with the project. He reported that in order for the DDA to get a loan from a local bank to finish the project, the property must be in the DDA name so they can use it for collateral. He asked the council to consider deeding the property to the DDA. Council discussed the matter and a motion was made to deed the property to the DDA for continuation of the project.

**Motion: by Stafford    Seconded: by Stroud    6-0**

Mr. Faris presented the Mayor and council with a new “Shop Downtown” card that would allow citizens to receive discounts at participating stores in the downtown area. The card will be distributed by city hall to all citizens who would like to have one. Mr. Faris stated that a lot of businesses would be participating with the discount card and he would have a list of the participants shortly.

Mr. Faris also informed council that he had tenured his resignation because he would be leaving to go to New Orleans to graduate school. He plans on staying until a replacement is found. Application for this position will be accepted until March 1, 2010.

**Administrative:** Administrator Lawson had no report.

**Mayor :** Mayor Schwabe asked everyone to review a copy of blighted condition property ordinance and be prepared to discuss it at the next council meeting. Mayor Schwabe announced he would be making council committee assignments in February.

Mayor Schwabe reminded everyone about the importance of the 2010 Census. He asked all the city council to encourage everyone to participate.

Councilperson Faulkner reported that she attended an After School Conference in Atlanta that was hosted by Savannah Mayor Otis Johnson. She received information on work programs the city could participate in and receive money from the DCA.

Councilperson Collins thanked everyone who participated in the Martin Luther King Jr parade and spoke of it’s success.

Council Adjourned

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