

**OFFICIAL MINUTES
BRUNSWICK CITY COMMISSION MEETING
PUBLIC HEARING**

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17, 2022

AT 12:00 P.M.

1229 NEWCASTLE STREET, 2nd FLOOR

&

STREAMED LIVE AT THE BELOW WEB ADDRESS:

<https://www.facebook.com/citybwkga>

PRESENT: Honorable Mayor Cosby Johnson, Commissioner John Cason III, Commissioner Julie Martin ~ *(arrived at 12:07)* and Commissioner Kendra Rolle

ABSENT: Mayor Pro-Tem Felicia Harris

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Johnson - *meeting began at 12:00 p.m.*

INVOCATION: Mayor Johnson

PUBLIC HEARING(S) – FINANCE

- 1) City of Brunswick Proposed 2022 Millage Rate. *(R. McDuffie)*

City Manager McDuffie gave an overview of the computation of the proposed 2022 millage rate. She explained that although the millage rate of 13.219 is the same as it has been for the past several years, a property tax increase must be advertised per O.C.G.A. 48-5-32.1(c) because the “rollback” millage rate is lower than the proposed millage rate, which results in an overall tax increase of 7.44% due to overall property values showing a net increase in the reassessment of existing real property. She explained if home values did not change property owners’ property taxes would not change; owners would only see changes if their home values increased or if there was an addition made to the property.

Mayor Johnson opened the floor for anyone wanting to address the commission regarding the proposed 2022 Millage Rate.

The following individual addressed the commission:

- A. Anita Collins, 1602 Tillman Avenue, inquired about the percentage of homes being impacted by the increase because of their home value having increased. City Manager McDuffie stated 10%.
Ms. Collins inquired how City services will be impacted. City Manager McDuffie stated City services would be enhanced.
Collins stated there are a lot of churches located in city and the city receives no taxes. She asked if the City has any plans or some type of proposal – for churches that own undeveloped properties.

Commissioner Martin made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Commissioner Cason. Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING ADJOURNED - *meeting adjourned at 12:17 p.m.*

**OFFICIAL MINUTES
BRUNSWICK CITY COMMISSION MEETING
PUBLIC HEARING**

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17, 2022

AT 5:30 P.M.

1229 NEWCASTLE STREET, 2nd FLOOR

&

STREAMED LIVE AT THE BELOW WEB ADDRESS:

<https://www.facebook.com/citybwkga>

PRESENT: Honorable Mayor Cosby Johnson, Mayor Pro-Tem Felicia Harris~ *via zoom*,
Commissioner John Cason III, Commissioner Julie Martin and Commissioner Kendra
Rolle

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Johnson - *meeting began at 5:30 p.m.*

INVOCATION: Pastor Kevin Broomfield ~ "O" Street Church of God

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Recited in unison

ADDENDUM TO AGENDA:

Commissioner Cason made a motion to defer item number seven (7); seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Harris. Motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. Adoption of August 17, 2022 Regular Meeting Agenda.

Mayor Pro Tem Harris made a motion to approve the adoption of the above-referenced agenda to include approved addendum referenced above; seconded by Commissioner Martin. Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING(S) – FINANCE

- 1) City of Brunswick Proposed 2022 Millage Rate. (*R. McDuffie*)

City Manager McDuffie gave an overview of the computation of the proposed 2022 millage rate. She explained that although the millage rate of 13.219 is the same as it has been for the past several years, a property tax increase must be advertised per O.C.G.A. 48-5-32.1(c) because the "rollback" millage rate is lower than the proposed millage rate, which results in an overall tax increase of 7.44% due to overall property values showing a net increase in the reassessment of existing real property. She explained if home values did not change property owners' property taxes would not change; owners would only see changes if their home value increased or if there was an addition made to the property.

Mayor Johnson opened the floor for anyone wanting to address the commission regarding the proposed 2022 Millage Rate.

No one came forth to address the commission.

PUBLIC HEARING ADJOURNED – (5:42 p.m.)

RECOGNITION(S), PRESENTATION(S), & AWARD(S)

- 2. Ryan Moore, President and CEO of Golden Isles Development Authority to give an update regarding the organization programs and initiatives.

Following questions and answers commission thanked Mr. Moore for the update.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- 3. John Guest, 501 “L” Street to address the Commission regarding Environmental Control. Mr. Guest was not present to address the commission.

PUBLIC HEARING APPEAL – ALCOHOL BEVERAGE LICENSE (A. Brown)

4.

Name of Business	Business Owner/Manager	Business Address	Permit Type
Family Dollar Store #24826	Manager: Alana Jenkins	4420 Altama Ave., Suite 27	Retail sale of beer & Wine.

Dan Weigel attorney with Taylor English Duma, LLP pleaded appeal case on behalf of Family Dollar Store.

Following questions and comments:

Commissioner Cason made a motion to approve the above-referenced alcohol license. Motion failed due to lack of a second.

Commissioner Martin made a motion to deny the above-referenced alcohol license; seconded by Commissioner Rolle. Motion passed unanimously.

City Manager McDuffie was directed to ensure all new alcohol license applicants are aware of the Neighborhood Planning Assembly meeting schedules and contact information; and to inform all Neighborhood Planning Assembly of the reason new alcohol license applicants would be contacting them.

APPOINTMENT(S)

- 5. Agency (N. Atkinson)

I. Urban Redevelopment Agency – Four Appointments (Mayoral Appointments)

Mayor Johnson reappointed Andrew Smith and appointed Denise Taylor and Taylor Ritz to the above-referenced agency.

ITEM(S) TO BE CONSIDERED FOR APPROVAL

- 6. Consider Approval of August 3, 2022 Regular Scheduled Meeting Minutes. (subject to any necessary changes.) (N. Atkinson)

Mayor Pro Tem Harris made a motion to approve the above-referenced minutes; seconded by Commissioner Cason. Motion passed unanimously.

- 7. Consider Approval for the Designation of Gordon Street as Honorary Street for R. L. Jones. (J. Hunter)

~The above-referenced item was deferred. ~

- 8. Consider Approval of Revision to the Downtown Development Authority Area Boundary. (M. Hill)

Commissioner Martin made a motion to approve the above-referenced area boundary revisions; seconded by Commissioner Cason. Motion passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Martin made a motion to adjourn into executive session to discuss personnel and litigation; seconded by Commissioner Rolle. Motion passed unanimously.

RECONVENE FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Johnson announced no action was taken.

Mayor Pro Tem Harris made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Commissioner Martin. Motion passed unanimously.

MEETING ADJOURNED – *meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.*

/s/Cosby H. Johnson
Cosby H. Johnson, Mayor

Attest: /s/ Naomi D. Atkinson
Naomi D. Atkinson
City Clerk

**OFFICIAL MINUTES
BRUNSWICK CITY COMMISSION
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24, 2022 AT 6:00 P.M.
1229 NEWCASTLE STREET
&
STREAMED LIVE AT THE BELOW WEB ADDRESS**

<https://www.facebook.com/citybwkga>

PRESENT: Honorable Mayor Cosby Johnson, Mayor Pro-Tem Felicia Harris,
Commissioner John Cason III, Commissioner Julie Martin, and Commissioner
Kendra Rolle

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Johnson - *meeting began at 6:00 p.m.*

INVOCATION: Mayor Pro Tem Harris

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Recited in unison

PUBLIC HEARING - FINANCE

1. City of Brunswick Proposed 2022 Millage Rate. *(R. McDuffie)*

City Manager McDuffie gave an overview of the computation of the proposed 2022 millage rate. She explained that although the millage rate of 13.219 is the same as it has been for the past several years, a property tax increase must be advertised per O.C.G.A. 48-5-32.1(c) because the “rollback” millage rate is lower than the proposed millage rate, which results in an overall tax increase of 7.44% due to overall property values showing a net increase in the reassessment of existing real property. She explained if home values did not change property owners’ property taxes would not change; owners would only see changes if the home values increased or if there was an addition made to the property.

Mayor Johnson opened the floor for anyone wanting to address the commission regarding the proposed 2022 Millage Rate.

No one came forth to address the commission.

PUBLIC HEARING ADJOURNED – (6:06 p.m.)

ITEM(S) TO BE CONSIDERED FOR APPROVAL

2. Consider Approval of Resolution No. 2022-07 – Setting of 2022 Millage Rate. *(R. McDuffie)*

Mayor Pro Tem Harris made a motion to approve the above-referenced resolution establishing 2022 millage rate at 13.219; seconded by Commissioner Martin. Motion passed unanimously by a vote of 5 to 0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Martin made a motion adjourn into executive session to discuss litigation; seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Harris. Motion pass unanimously.

RECONVENE FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Johnson announced no action was taken.

Commissioner Cason made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Commissioner Martin. Motion passed unanimously.

MEETING ADJOURNED – *meeting adjourned at 6:44 p.m.*

/s/Cornell L. Harvey
Cosby H. Johnson, Mayor

Attest: /s/ Naomi D. Atkinson
Naomi D. Atkinson, City Clerk