

**OFFICIAL MINUTES
BRUNSWICK CITY COMMISSION
REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5, 2023
AT 5:00 P.M.**

1229 NEWCASTLE STREET, 2nd FLOOR

&

STREAMED LIVE AT THE BELOW WEB ADDRESS:

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

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

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Johnson ~ *meeting went into remission at 5:01 p.m. and resumed at 5:11 p.m.*

INVOCATION: Commissioner Felicia Harris

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Recited in unison by all in attendance.

ADDENDUM(S) TO AGENDA:

**

Mayor Pro Tem Martin made a motion to re-arrange addressing agenda items as follows: Move Recognitions, Presentation(s) & Award(s) after Approval of Agenda, Add to agenda “Announcement ~ New Hires” as item number three~a (3a), followed by Public Comment and Discussion, Testimony Regarding Nuisance Properties, Move Discussion ~ Proposed Homeless Ordinance, after Discussion, Testimony Regarding Nuisance Properties and Remove item number four (4) “Public Hearing~ New Alcohol Beverage License(s)” from agenda until the April 19, 2023 commission meeting; seconded Commissioner Rolle. Motion passed unanimously.

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APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. Adoption of April 5, 2023, Regular Meeting Agenda.

Mayor Pro Tem Martin made a motion to adopt the above-referenced agenda with the aforementioned addendums; seconded by Commissioner Rolle. Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

2. The following individuals addressed the commission:

- Tyler Jones – 718 Carpenter St., Provided Historic Brunswick Neighborhood & Planning update and concerns and Homelessness and Nuisance Properties.
- Deborah Brown – Addressed Homelessness and Nuisance Properties.
- Jennifer Stockert – Addressed Homelessness and Nuisance Properties.
- Alan Younger – Addressed Homelessness and Nuisance Properties.
- Alan Akridge, Sr. Pastor – Addressed Homelessness and Nuisance Properties.
- Katherine Kinstle – Addressed Homelessness and Nuisance Properties.
- Lucy Brous – Addressed Homelessness and Nuisance Properties.
- Julia Martin – Addressed Homelessness and Nuisance Properties.
- Gayle Clements – Addressed Homelessness and Nuisance Properties.
- Reverend Jenna Kennedy – Addressed Homelessness and Nuisance Properties.
- Douglas Alexander – Addressed Homelessness and Nuisance Properties.
- Ike Hallman – Addressed Homelessness and Nuisance Properties.
- Wright Culpepper – Addressed Homelessness and Nuisance Properties.

DISCUSSION

2. Testimony Regarding Nuisance Properties.

Mayor Johnson discussed the process and importance of the above-referenced discussion with help from

the panelist listed below; expert panelist included:

- **Catina Tindall**, First Coast Benefits, Ms. Tindall discussed homelessness and how homelessness has changed from ten years ago. She addressed security issues and asked commission to provide tools Brunswick Police need to assist with the issues downtown Brunswick is presently facing.
- **Sean Stewart**, Turner and Association, Mr. Stewart discussed issues his business experiences daily. He briefly discussed business premise liability. He also stated he would be happy to assist with any solution the City comes up with regarding homelessness downtown.
- **Ralph Staffins**, Brunswick Golden Isles Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Staffins stated that the City is at risk of losing businesses if something isn't done regarding the homelessness situation downtown.

Following questions by Commission and responses by panelist; the Commission thanked the panelist for their input and attendance.

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

3. Proclamation Presentation to Landy Rose Proclaiming Wednesday, April 5, 2023 George Lee Rose, Jr. Day. *(Mayor Johnson)*

Ms. Rose accepted proclamation with gratitude.

ANNOUNCEMENT ~ NEW HIRE(S)

3a City Manager McDuffie introduced newly hired Fire Chief, Timothy White and newly hired Recreation Director Vanessa Booker.

PUBLIC HEARING – NEW ALCOHOL BEVERAGE LICENSE(S) *(A. Brown)*

4.

New Alcohol License(s)			
Name of Business	Business Owner/Manager	Business Address	Permit Type
J E and N Inc. DBA Five Points	Owner: Rajendraprasad Patel Manager: Sheritta Jackson	2806 Altama Avenue	Retail sales of beer and wine

The above-referenced item was removed from agenda until April 19, 2023 commission meeting as owner was not in attendance.

APPOINTMENT

5. Committee

1) Audit Committee – One Appointment

Commissioner Harris made a motion to appoint Charlene Thompkins to the above-referenced Committee, filling the expired term of William Kitts; seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Martin. Motion passed unanimously by a vote of 5 to 0.

ITEM(S) TO CONSIDER FOR APPROVAL

6. Consider Approval of March 15, 2023 Regular Scheduled Meeting Minutes. *(subject to any necessary changes.) (N. Atkinson)*

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

7. Consider Approval of Financial Reports as of February 28, 2023. *(K. Mills)*

Commissioner Harris made a motion to approve the above-referenced financial reports as submitted; seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Martin. Motion passed unanimously.

8. Consider Approval of Resolution No. 2023-10 ~ Extending a Moratorium on the Establishment, Expansion and/or Development of a Homeless Shelter at a Site on Which a Shelter does not Presently Exist. *(B. Corry)*

Mayor Pro Tem Martin made a motion to approve the above-referenced resolution; seconded by Commissioner Rolle. Motion passed unanimously.

CITY ATTORNEY’S ITEM(S)

- 9. Discussion ~ Proposed Homeless Ordinance. ~ *(First Reading)*
 City Attorney Corry gave an overview of the above-referenced proposed ordinance.
 Following questions/comments:
 City Clerk Atkinson was directed to advertised ordinance for consideration for adoption at the April 19, 2023 commission meeting.
- 10. Discussion ~ Proposed Alcohol Ordinance. ~ *(First Reading)*
 City Attorney Corry gave an overview of the above-referenced proposed ordinance.
 Following questions/comments:
 City Clerk Atkinson was directed to advertised ordinance for consideration for adoption at the April 19, 2023 commission meeting.
- 11. Consider Approval of Payment of the Excess Tax Proceeds from the Tax Sale of Parcel No. 01-03029 in the Amount of Six Hundred Twenty-Two and 56/100 Dollars (\$622.56).
 Commissioner Cason made a motion to approve the above-referenced payment of tax sale proceeds to Glynn County Tax Commissioner in the amount of Six Hundred Twenty-Two and 56/100 Dollars (\$622.56); seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Harris. Motion passed unanimously.
- 12. Consider Approval of Payment of the Excess Tax Proceeds from the Tax Sale of Parcel No. 01- 03030 in the Amount of One Thousand Two Hundred Eight and 43/100 Dollars (\$1,208.43).
 Mayor Pro Tem Martin made a motion to a approve the above-referenced payment of tax sale proceeds to Glynn County Tax Commissioner in the amount of One Thousand Two Hundred Eight and 43/100 Dollars (\$1,208.43); seconded by Commissioner Rolle. Motion passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Pro Tem Martin made a motion to hold an executive session to discuss litigation; seconded by Commissioner Harris.

RECOVENE FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

Following executive session Mayor Johnson open floor for a motion.

Mayor Pro Tem Martin made a motion to approve the recommendation of City Attorney Corry regarding potential litigation; seconded by Commissioner Rolle. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Pro Tem Martin made motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Rolle. Motion passed unanimously.

MEETING AJOURNED – *meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.*

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

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