ORDINANCE 7386

An Ordinance to amend the Augusta Georgia Code for the purpose of providing a uniform policy for the naming and renaming of building and properties owned by Augusta, Georgia:

THE AUGUSTA, GEORGIA COMMISSION HEREBY ORDAINS:

Section I: The Augusta Commission hereby ordains that the Code be amended to include the following policies:

CHAPTER 10 BUILDING AND PROPERTY NAMING/RENAMING POLICY

8-10-1 PURPOSE

The purpose of this article is to provide a uniform policy for the naming and renaming of buildings and properties owned by Augusta, Georgia. After the effective date of this article, no building or property whether owned at that time by Augusta, Georgia, or subsequently constructed, developed, or acquired by Augusta, Georgia, shall be assigned a name or renamed unless it is done pursuant to this article. This article shall apply to buildings, parts of buildings, bridges, parks, and any other property owned by Augusta, Georgia except for streets, roads, alleys or similar thoroughfares.

8-10-2 GUIDELINES

These guidelines shall be followed when the naming or renaming of buildings or properties is to be considered:

- (a) Names of such buildings or properties shall be based upon geographical, historical, ecological, or functional factors. Buildings and properties may also be named or renamed for persons who have made significant monetary or land contributions or other significant contributions to the well-being and betterment of Augusta, Georgia.
- (b) Buildings or properties shall not be named or renamed for living persons with the exception of living persons who have made a significant monetary contribution to the development of a public building or contributed land with the intent and agreement of the Augusta Commission that said building or property will be named for the contributor, or except for other extraordinary circumstances.
- (c) Renaming of buildings or properties should not be considered unless overwhelming evidence is provided by a proponent that the existing name lacks significance and that the proposed name bears significant importance to the well-being and betterment of Augusta, Georgia as determined by the Augusta Commission.

- (d) Renaming of buildings or properties shall not be considered for at least 50 years after naming unless there are extraordinary circumstances warranting such consideration.
- (e) As provided for or referenced within these guidelines "significant importance or significant contribution to the well-being and betterment of Augusta, Georgia" shall include, but not be limited to, the following, as it relates to Augusta, Georgia, State of Georgia and/or the Unites States of America:
 - 1) Acts of heroism, valor or self-sacrifice;
 - 2) Outstanding military accomplishment;
 - 3) Acts of national or local humanitarianism;
 - 4) Outstanding record of civil service with historic or critical significance; and/or
 - 5) Professional accomplishment which greatly impacted the public good/welfare.

8-10-3 PROCEDURES

- (a) The naming or renaming of a public building or property may be proposed in the following manner:
 - (1) Members of the Augusta Commission may recommend a name.
 - (2) Staff of the Augusta Commission may recommend a name.
 - (3) The Commission may set in place a public process for soliciting input in the naming; or
 - (4) Any person, firm, or associates may propose a name.
- (b) The naming or renaming of a public building or property shall be submitted to the City Administrator on forms provided by that office and accompanied by the necessary documentation. The purpose of the documentation is to provide a full background on the proposed names. The City Administrator shall consult with the City Engineer, Planning and Development Director, and the Facilities Director regarding the proposed name after the information has been received.
- (c) The City Administrator shall cause a public hearing to be held regarding the proposed name after giving at least 15 days' notice consisting of an advertisement in the legal organ and a sign placed upon the property. Such public hearings may be held as an item on the agenda of the Augusta Planning Commission.
- (d) After the public hearing, the City Administrator shall with the City Engineer, Planning and Development Director, and the Facilities Director and cause a report to be prepared which shall include a recommendation for the naming or renaming of a public building or property.
- (e) The report of the City Administrator shall be distributed to the proposer of the name as well as to all members of the Augusta Commission. It shall be placed on the next possible agenda of the Administrative Services Committee. Administrative Services will make a recommendation to the full Augusta Commission, which will make the final decision.

Section II. All Ordinance or parts of Ordinance in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

Done in Open Meeting under the Common Seal thereof this 5 day of Month 2013.

APPROVED THIS March 5, 2013.

Mayor

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