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# City of Walterboro

242 Hampton Street

Walterboro, South Carolina 29488

Mailing Address:

Post Office Box 709

Walterboro, South Carolina 29488-0008

**Walterboro City Council  
Public Hearing and Regular Meeting  
January 27, 2015  
City Hall  
6:15 P.M.**

## **A G E N D A**

**I. Call to Order:**

1. Invocation.
2. Pledge of Allegiance.

**II. Public Input on Agenda Items:**

**III. Public Hearing:**

1. CDBG Needs Assessment Hearing - Michelle Knight, LCOG.

**IV. Approval of Minutes:**

1. Minutes of the January 13, 2015 Public Hearing and Regular Meeting (Minutes attached).

**V. Old Business:**

**VI. New Business:**

1. Consideration of 2015 Rice Festival Requests, Jimmy Trippe, President Colleton County Rice Festival.
  - a. Approval of Street Closing Request and Parade Permit Request (Copies attached).
2. Request to Close Street for Annual Cubmobile Race on **February 7, 2015 from 7:30 A.M. to 12:00 Noon**, by Ms. Sheila Morris, Dean Leader and Anthony Kubik, Cubmaster, (Letter attached).
3. Consideration of Cancelling or Rescheduling the March 10, 2015 Regular City Council Meeting.

**VII. Committee Reports:**

**VIII. Executive Session:**

**IX. ADJOURNMENT.**

**CDBG Notice of Public Hearing Concerning Needs Assessment****CITY OF WALTERBORO**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Tuesday, January 27, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. in City Council Chambers inside Walterboro City Hall, 242 Hampton Street, Walterboro, SC, City of Walterboro will hold a public hearing to solicit public input on community needs and priorities for housing, public facilities, and economic development in the City and areas adjacent to the City within a two (2) mile radius. At this public hearing City of Walterboro will provide the results of its needs assessment and the activities which might be undertaken to meet identified needs, including the estimated amount proposed to be used for activities that will benefit persons of low and moderate income.

This public hearing and the matters to be discussed are subject to the provisions of the City's Citizen Participation Plan, developed in anticipation of participation in the State of South Carolina's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, providing for the participation of the citizens of the City in the planning and implementation of community and economic development projects which will involve CDBG funds. The Citizen Participation Plan is available for review at Walterboro City Hall, Monday through Friday between the hours of 9:00a.m. and 5:00p.m. Persons with questions or comments concerning the public hearing or the Citizen Participation Plan may contact Michelle Knight, Lowcountry Council of Governments, PO Box 98, Yemassee, SC 29945, (843) 726-5536.

City of Walterboro does not discriminate on the basis of age, color, religion, sex, national origin, familial status or disability in the admission or access to, or treatment or employment in its federally assisted programs or activities. Jeffrey Molinari, City of Walterboro, 242 Hampton Street, Walterboro, SC 29488, (843) 782-1000, has been designated to coordinate compliance with the nondiscrimination requirements contained in the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's regulations.

*Note: Assistance will be provided to accommodate the special needs of disabled persons upon request.*

DRAFT

Walterboro City Council  
Public Hearing and Regular Meeting  
January 13, 2015

### **MINUTES**

A Public Hearing and Regular Meeting of Walterboro City Council was held at City Hall on Tuesday, January 13, 2015 at 6:15 P.M., with Mayor Bill Young presiding.

**PRESENT WERE:** Mayor Bill Young, Council Members: Jimmy Syfrett, Paul Siegel, Tom Lohr, Bobby Bonds, James Broderick and Judy Bridge. City Manager Jeff Molinari, City Clerk Betty Hudson and City Attorney George Cone were also present. There were approximately 23 persons present in the audience.

There being a quorum present, Mayor Young called the meeting to order and Council Member Syfrett gave the invocation. Council Member Broderick led the pledge of allegiance to our flag.

### **PUBLIC INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS:**

There were no public comments or questions on agenda items.

### **PUBLIC HEARING:**

The Mayor then opened a public hearing, duly advertised, to receive public comments and questions or proposed Ordinance # 2014-10, An Ordinance to Change Section 12-9 and Section 12-13 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Walterboro to Change the Date for Holding Municipal Elections.

Mayor Young then explained that this is an ordinance to move the City elections from May to November. First reading of this ordinance was passed at the last meeting in November. He then asked for comments on this proposed ordinance.

Marsha Johnson, a city resident, supporting the idea of changing the date for the municipal election, said, "well done."

The public hearing was closed and the regular meeting began.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Upon motion of Council Member Bridge, seconded by Council Member Broderick, the Minutes of the November 25, 2014 Regular Meeting and the Minutes of the December 9, 2014 Regular Meeting were approved as submitted. The motion passed with all members voting in favor.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Ordinance # 2014-10, An Ordinance to Change Section 12-9 and Section 12-13 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Walterboro to Change the Date for Holding Municipal Elections

A motion was made by Council Member Broderick, seconded by Council Member Syfrett giving Second Reading and Adoption to Ordinance # 2014-10 as submitted. In discussing the motion, Council Member Bonds stated that he would be voting against the motion for the same reasons that he enumerated at the November 25<sup>th</sup> meeting. He said, I am not comfortable voting myself a six-month extension in office. I think that this is something that ought to be put to a vote of our citizens, as to if and when they want to move the election date.

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Council Siegel stated that at the first reading of this ordinance, I voted against this ordinance, essentially, for the same reasons that Council Member Bonds has objected. However, since that time, I have talked with as many people as I could regarding this proposition and I think that the general consensus is that it would increase turnout and it would be better for the city. And I feel that our election in May really is not a practical time, due to vacations and it's really difficult due to the heat as well, and it is not considered a time of elections generally. I want as many voters as possible to come to the polls, so I have changed my mind, and I am going to vote in favor of this.

Mayor Young then said, there are a number of reasons that I brought this before Council for their consideration. The main reason being the same as what Council Member Siegel has said. About half the time, our City elections follow the day after Memorial Day. From 2001 to 2019, half the time we will have an election the day after Memorial Day, which is a terrible time to have an election. If we have a runoff, then the runoff is in the middle of June, which is even worse. I believe, even though this is a difficult thing for Council to do, none of us want to be interpreted as trying to lengthen our terms, but I think that this benefits the community and it is a change worth making. It also has some other practical benefits for the City. It allows the Council that implements the budget to also prepare their budget. It allows people who are elected in November to go to a retreat soon after they are elected and to set goals and plan for the coming year. There is also a move in the Legislature to go to uniform municipal elections. I have been told that in South Carolina right now, in 50 of the 52 weeks of the year, we have some kind of election in South Carolina. So, there is a move to try to have more uniform elections and to have uniform municipal elections. I think that this is as good of a time as any to go forward with this.

Council Member Bonds then asked the Mayor, in the event that this is approved, when would an individual take office, because as it is now, when we are elected in May, then you don't take office until July 1, which actually as I understand it, is a new calendar year to start fresh with the City. Does this ordinance address when someone is going to take office?

Mayor Young explained that the individual would take office at the first meeting in January. City Manager Molinari answered that under Section 12-13, it says that newly elected officers shall assume office at the first City Council Meeting in January, unless the office is contested.

The motion then passed with a vote of 6/1 with Mayor Young, Council Members Syfrett, Siegel, Lohr, Broderick and Bridge voting in favor and Council Member Bonds voting against the motion for adoption.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Resolution # 2015-R-01, A Resolution Approving the Municipal State Highway Project Agreement with SCDOT for the Mt. Carmel Intersection Improvement Project at Bells Highway

City Manager Molinari then gave a brief description of this project with the aid of an overhead projection. He told Council that this project has been in the works for sometime. At the beginning of 2011, the City had made an application through the Council of Governments to the State Transportation Improvement Program to improve the intersection of Mt. Carmel Road at Bells Highway and Dorsey Street. As you are aware, this is a very dangerous intersection and the City has secured the funds to do this. Basically, what it will entail will be a realigning of Mt. Carmel Road. So, Mt. Carmel Road and Dorsey Street will be aligned. One of the features that the City added - you will have decorative mast arms at this intersection which will match the

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installations that you will have throughout the City as part of the Loop Project. In talking with SCDOT, it looks like they will be ready to begin construction on this project sometime in the spring. Because the project is within the City limits, SCDOT requires that municipalities pass a resolution to allow them to do the project. Mr. Molinari also explained that the decorative mast arms are very similar to what the City of Charleston has, where there is a decorative base, a fluted pole and fluted arm. The signal head would be affixed to the arm, as well as the luminary on top of the pole. The signal heads will be black to match the mast arm and pole, which will be black as well.

Council Member Broderick pointed out that there are currently no traffic signals at that intersection. So, this will make the intersection safer.

Council Member Bridge then asked the City Manager about the median situation at that intersection. Mr. Molinari responded that when the plans were initially submitted to the City, there were some concerns about a raised median, which initially extended a lot further down Bells Highway. But as you can see, you now have a much smaller area that's a raised median. DOT had gotten some feedback from some business owners along that corridor who were concerned about access being restricted. DOT took that feedback and incorporated it into the design. As a result, you have a much shorter raised median.

Council Member Bridge then asked, what was the length of the median? City Manager Molinari said he could not recall the length.

A motion was made by Council Member Bonds, seconded by Council Member Siegel to approve Resolution # 2015-R-01, approving the project improvement at Mt. Carmel Road, as submitted. The motion passed unanimously.

2. **Request to Place Purple Ribbons Downtown April 13, 2015 to May 15, 2015 for Relay for Life 20<sup>th</sup> Year Celebration Event**

A motion was made by Council Member Bridge, seconded by Council Member Broderick, to approve the request by Relay for Life Leader, Marilyn Bazzle, to place purple ribbons downtown from April 13, 2015 to May 15, 2015 for the Relay for Life 20<sup>th</sup> Year Celebration Event. The motion passed with all members voting in favor.

3. **Notice of 2015 City Council Retreat, Location and Time**

Next, City Manager Jeff Molinari made the following announcement regarding Council's Annual Retreat:

"Walterboro City Council will conduct its annual 2015 City Council Planning Retreat beginning Friday, January 30, 2015 and running through Saturday, January 31, 2015 to be held at: Palmetto Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc., 2471 Jefferies Highway, Walterboro, SC. No formal action will be taken on any item at this retreat. Any action items will be brought back to a regular Council meeting for Council's consideration."

A motion was made by Council Member Bonds, seconded by Council Member Siegel to approve the planning retreat date, location and time. The motion passed unanimously.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

There were no Committee Reports given.

**CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:**

DRAFT

Walterboro City Council  
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1. **Introduction of Anthony Harrison as New Fire Captain**

Fire Chief Lake along with Anthony Harrison came to the podium. Chief Lake thank the City Manager and Council for the opportunity to present the next City of Walterboro Fire Captain - Anthony Zack Harrison. Mr. Harrison was born in Colleton County. He has been married to his wife, Saretta for 8 years; has one daughter, Samera and three sons. Harrison's wife, daughter and son, Davon, were present at the meeting. Chief Lake stated that Anthony was hired on September 1990 by Fire Chief Ashton Syfrett. He is a graduate of the South Carolina Fire Academy as an experienced structural firefighter and has acquired multiple additional certifications over the course of his career. This coming September, Zack will have served the City for 25 years. He then introduced new Fire Captain Anthony Zack Harrison.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

The Mayor then entertained a motion to enter into an Executive Session. Council Member Bonds So Moved and Council Member Broderick seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The Mayor announced that the meeting will convene into an Executive Session for:

- 1) Discussion of Proposed Purchase of Property.
- 2) Personnel Matter - Tourism Director Search Update.

The meeting then convened into Executive Session.

At approximately 7:00 p.m., a motion was made by Council Member Bridge to exit Executive Session and return to Open Session. Council Member Broderick seconded the motion. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

The meeting returned to Open Session, and there being no further business to consider, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Council Member Broderick, seconded by Council Member Bridge and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:02 P.M. Notice of this meeting was distributed to all local media and posted on the City's website and the City Hall bulletin board at least twenty-four hours prior to meeting time.

Respectfully,

Betty J. Hudson  
City Clerk

## Colleton County Rice Festival

403 E. Washington Street, Suite A

Walterboro, SC 29488

Website: [www.ricefestival.org](http://www.ricefestival.org) E-mail: [ricefestival@lowcountry.com](mailto:ricefestival@lowcountry.com)

(843)-549-1079 / (843)-549-5232 Fax

January 5, 2015

City of Walterboro  
Mayor and City Council  
P. O. Box 709  
Walterboro, S. C. 29488

Dear City Officials:

We are preparing for the 2015 Colleton County Rice Festival: This will be the 40<sup>th</sup> year of the festival. The Celebration of History and Art, and we request to be put on the **City Council agenda for Tuesday, January 26, 2015** We wish to inform you of the proposed activities for **April 24-25, 2015** and would also like to request endorsement of the 2015 Rice Festival; as well as approval of the following:

1. The waiving of business license requirements for all festival sanctioned activities.
2. The closing of **Hampton Street** from Jefferies Boulevard to Memorial Avenue intersection. Also, we request the closing of Walter Street from Washington Street to Hampton Street and Lucas Street from Washington Street to Carn Street. These streets should be closed on Thursday evening until 9:30 A.M. Sunday. We ask that you close Washington Street from Dowling Avenue, stopping at Ivanhoe Rd, close Ireland Hills Drive from the corner of Ireland Hills Dr. and Dowling Avenue to Washington St. from 2:00 p.m. Friday night until 10:00 p.m. Friday night for the fireworks. In addition, we ask that you close Washington Street from Jefferies Boulevard down Hargo Hill, stopping at Dowling Avenue, from Friday night after the fireworks until Saturday 10:00 a.m. for the Rice Run.
3. We request that you give the Rice Festival exclusive rights to control events related to all Festival activities.
4. We request the closing of **E. Washington Street at 7:45-8 A.M. Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>** from Memorial to Jefferies Blvd. **The Rice Run** will originate at the City Parking lot due to the location of the festival and vendors.
5. We ask that no dogs be allowed on the streets during the Festival. The only exception being the dogs that are participating in the Dog Show at the Museum.
6. We request the use of the lawn of the water department to display the winners of the art contest.

The 40<sup>th</sup> annual Colleton County Rice Festival features all proposed activities in the Rice Festival with our web site. Poster of event schedule will be distributed throughout the state to promote our City, County, and Festival.

As always, the Rice Festival involves many Walterboro City residents in the planning of events in order to make the celebration safe and fun filled for the entire family. With this in mind, we would like to present this letter to Council in order to obtain the necessary waivers, permits, street closures, etc., needed to make a successful weekend for the community.

As in the past, we look forward to the city's gracious and generous cooperation.

Sincerely,

Colleton County Rice Festival

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bubba Trippe". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Bubba Trippe, Chairmen

cc:

Mayor Bill Young

Bobby Bonds

Judy Bridge

Jimmy Syfrett

James Broderick

Tom Lohr

Paul Seigel



## Colleton County Rice Festival

403 E. Washington Street, Suite A

Walterboro, SC 29488

Website: [www.ricefestival.org](http://www.ricefestival.org) E-mail: [ricefestival@lowcountry.com](mailto:ricefestival@lowcountry.com)

(843)-549-1079 / (843)-549-5232 Fax

January 6, 2015

City of Walterboro  
Mayor & City Council  
P. O. Box 709  
Walterboro, SC 29488

Re: Street Closing for Rice Festival Parade  
Saturday, April 25, 2015

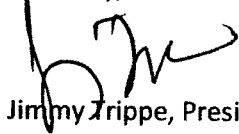
Dear City Officials:

The Colleton County Rice Festival Board wishes to request that the city close certain streets for the 2015 Rice Festival Parade.

The parade is being held Saturday, April 25, 2015 at 11:00 am. We ask that the streets be closed at 10:00 am. The parade route will start on Jefferies Blvd. at Live Oak Cemetery, proceed north on Jefferies Blvd., and turn left onto Forest Hills Road, then disburse at Ireland Creek. The parade route is approximately 2 miles long.

Thank you very much for your generous cooperation.

Sincerely,



Jimmy Trippe, President

JT/cfb

**CITY OF WALTERBORO**  
**PARADE/PROCESSION PERMIT REQUEST**

(PLEASE PRINT INFORMATION REQUESTED)

Application Date: 1-6-2015

1. Person submitting application: Jimmy Trippe  
Address: 445 Chamblee Rd  
Telephone: Walterboro SC 29488
  
2. Name of Organization: Colleton County Rice Festival  
  
Chairperson/President: Jimmy Trippe  
Address: 403 E. Washington St, Suite A, Walterboro, SC 29488  
Telephone: 843-893-7058
  
3. Parade Chairman: Charlie Sweat  
Address: 213 N. Lemacks St, Walterboro, SC 29488  
Telephone: 843-695-5200
  
4. Date/Time of Parade: April 25, 2015 11:00 AM
  
5. Parade Route requested (Attach Sketch) The parade will begin at Live Oak Cemetery on Jefferies Blvd... travel North on Jefferies Blvd... left at Forest Hills Rd and disperse at Ireland Creek
  
6. Number of Vehicles/Floats: 80 Approx. Number of Animals: 10 Approx.
  
7. Portion (width) of street parade will occupy: entire street
  
8. Additional Information (Upon Request): Line up will begin at 10 AM at Live Oak Cemetery

Signature/Parade Chairman

Charlie Sweat

Approval

Signature/Organization Chairperson

Jimmy Trippe

Disapproval

\_\_\_\_\_  
Police Chief

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Manager

**NOTE: >>> Call Police Dept. (549-1811) to confirm Parade/Procession Route three days prior to parade.**

January 12, 2015

Dear Council,

I would like to ask the City of Walterboro Council if we could have permission to close Forest Hills Road between South Jefferies Boulevard and Ivanhoe Creek Drive on Saturday, February 7, 2015 from 7:30 until 12 noon for our Annual Cubmobile Race. This has been a very successful event for Scouting. We anticipate over 15 cars and 60 scouts and parents. I would like to thank you in advance for the City of Walterboro supporting the Boy Scouts of America.

Sincerely,  


Sheila Morris  
Den Leader, Pack 686  
Phone: 843-893-8021  
Anthony Kubik  
Cubmaster, Pack 686  
Phone: 843-908-3466