

## **MINUTES**

A Regular Meeting of Walterboro City Council was held at City Hall on Tuesday, February 25, 2014, 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, City Attorney George Cone along with Attorney Clenton Campbell, were also present. Fourteen (14) persons were present in the audience.

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

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

At this point, former Mayor Charlie Sweat offered his congratulations and thanks to the City and staff for the marvelous work done during the past week's ice storm to put things back together. He stated, I know the debris collection is going well. It still takes the manpower, city employees and the people of this community to recover from an effort like that. We've still got another week to go to really push things back together. Mayor Young agreed that Mr. Sweat's comments were well said. He added, I would like to say how much we appreciate the work of the Coop and SCE&G and what a great job they did in getting our power back on, getting it back on so quickly with the devastation we had during the ice storm. They are really to be congratulated for their hard work.

Ms. Marsha Johnson also commented how well everyone worked together during the ice storm.

### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:**

The Minutes of the February 11, 2014 Public Hearing and Regular Meeting were approved as submitted upon the motion of Council Member Bonds, seconded by Council Member Broderick, with all members voting in favor.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

#### 1. Discussion of Potential Uses of CDBG Funds

Mayor Young then introduced Mr. Jeff Molinari, stating that this is Mr. Molinari's first official meeting and we are glad to have him here with us.

City Manager Molinari then stated that on February 11, Ms. Michelle Knight of Lowcountry Council of Governments made a presentation to City Council for the City's annual needs assessment public hearing for CDBG funds. At that meeting, Council requested that he put together a prioritized list. Mr. Molinari pointed out that he had submitted a memo in Council's packet outlining the city's priority needs. He stated, this is essentially the same priority list as last year's although the terminology has changed a little. The CDBG priority list is as follows:

1. Infrastructure.
2. Neighborhood Revitalization.
3. Downtown Revitalization and Economic Development
4. Public Safety.
5. Public Facilities.

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City Manager Molinari reminded Council that the top three items on the priority list are eligible for funding. He then asked for Council's favorable consideration of the recommended list of priority needs.

A motion was then made by Council Member Syfrett to approve the list of CDBG priority needs as recommended by the City Manager. Council Member Broderick seconded the motion that passed unanimously. The approved CDBG priority list is as follows:

1. Infrastructure.
2. Neighborhood Revitalization.
3. Downtown Revitalization and Economic Development
4. Public Safety.
5. Public Facilities.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Consideration of Funding Recommendations from the Accommodations Tax Advisory Board

Next, City Manager Molinari advised Council that on February 20, 2014, the Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee approved a request from the 65% Tourism Fund that would go toward the Walterboro Tourism Commission Walterboro Rocks in the amount of \$10,000. He then presented the approved funding request from the A-Tax Board to Council for its consideration and approval.

Requests for 65% Tourism Fund	Requested	Approved
Walterboro Tourism Commission		
Walterboro Rocks	<u>\$10,000</u>	<u>\$10,000</u>
Total 65% Requests	\$10,000	\$10,000

It was noted during the discussion of this item that the funds would be used to advertise the name change of the "Great Swamp Sanctuary" to the "Walterboro Wildlife Sanctuary". City Manager Molinari also pointed out that the breakdown for the \$10,000 would be used as follows:

\$7,400	Billboards "Walterboro Rocks" Walterboro Wildlife Sanctuary
\$1,400	Print Media (such as Skirt Columbia/Aiken, Drive I-95
\$1,200	Marketing and Promotion: Flyers, brochures, signs
Total	\$10,000

A motion was made by Council Member Lohr, seconded by Council Member Bridge, to approve the Walterboro Tourism Funding request as submitted by the A-Tax Committee. The motion passed with all members voting in favor.

2. Notice of 2014 City Council Retreat, Location and Time

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

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"Walterboro City Council will conduct its annual 2014 City Council Planning Retreat beginning Friday, April 4, 2014 and running through Saturday, April 5, 2014 to be tentatively 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 Bridge, seconded by Council Member Broderick to approve the planning retreat date, location and time. The motion passed unanimously. On a question raised by Council Member Broderick regarding the starting time for the retreat, City Manager Molinari responded that the agenda for the retreat was still being worked on. However, he did anticipate it would start some time Friday afternoon and then go into Saturday, probably starting at 9:00 a.m. and then finishing up around 1:00 p.m. We are still fine tuning the agenda. Mayor Young noted that the retreat would probably go on longer than 1:00 p.m. on Saturday.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

There were no Committee Reports given.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

The Mayor then entertained a motion to enter an Executive Session. Council Member Lohr So Moved and Council Member Bonds seconded the motion that passed unanimously. The Mayor announced that the meeting will convene into an Executive Session for a personnel matter, boards and commissions appointments, receipt of legal advise and a discussion of matters relating to the proposed location of services (water system upgrade).

The meeting then entered into an Executive Session.

The meeting returned to Open Session and a motion was made by Council Member Bonds to approve the following re-appointments to the City's Boards and Commissions. Council Member Broderick seconded the motion that passed with all members voting in favor. The reappointments were as follows:

**Board of Zoning Appeals**

Thomas McDaniel and Y.S. "Bud" Linder were reappointed for another 3-year term.

**Historic Preservation Commission**

Sherry Cawley, Lucille Powers and Leonard Hultquist were reappointed for another 2-year term.

**Planning Commission**

Glen Nixon and Chris Bickley were reappointed for another 4-year term.

**Tree Protection Committee**

Robert Wilkinson and Dr. Martha McKevlin were reappointed for another 2-year term.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Council Member Bridge, seconded by Council Member Broderick and passed

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unanimously. The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 7:05 P.M. Notice of this meeting was distributed to all local media and posted on the City Hall bulletin board at least twenty-four hours prior to meeting time.

Respectfully,

Betty J. Hudson  
City Clerk

**APPROVED: March 25, 2014**