Walterboro City Council Public Hearing and Regular Meeting April 8, 2014

MINUTES

A Regular Meeting of Walterboro City Council was held at City Hall on Tuesday, April 8, 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, and City Attorney George Cone were also present. Fourteen (14) persons were present in the audience.

There being a quorum present, Mayor Young called the meeting to order, and called on Council Member Syfrett for the invocation and Council Member Siegel to lead the pledge of allegiance to our flag.

PUBLIC INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS:

There were no comments or questions on agenda items.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Next, the Mayor opened a public hearing, duly advertised, to receive public comments or questions on: A Joint CDBG Grant Application with Colleton County for a Water Line Loop Project in the City of Walterboro and Colleton County in the Amount of \$750,000 to Address Water Pressure Issues for the Areas Being Served by the City Water System. Mr. Chris Bickley was present on behalf of Lowcountry Council of Governments (LCOG) to conduct the hearing. A copy of the sign-in sheet for his public hearing is attached as part of these minutes.

Mr. Chris Bickley told Council that LCOG appreciates the opportunity to work with the City on this project. He stated that this is a Community Development Block Grant joint application between the City and the County. There will be a memorandum of understanding or agreement between the City and the County for this project. The grant is for a total of \$750,000, with a 10% local match. In addition to that, the City will be adding an additional \$38,500 to this project. Mr. Bickley then gave a brief description of the area to be served by using an overhead map projection.

Mr. Bickley pointed out that this water looping project would include the following streets and affected area: Robertson Boulevard, Hampton Street, Padgett Loop, Strickland, Howell, Francis, Chaplin and Grace Streets. A larger portion will be out on Hampton Drive beyond the City limits on Peurifoy Road, Hayden, 4th Street, 5th Street, Oak, 3rd Street, Mitchell, Hickory and Edgewood Streets. This water looping project will increase water pressure for the residents in this area and also improve fire flow. There are approximately 465 people in this area, and over 75% of those persons are low-to-moderate income, which is the target group to be dedicated under a Community Development Block Grant. Mr. Bickley then asked Utilities Director Wayne Crosby if he had any remarks to add. Mr. Crosby noted that along with helping with water pressure problems and increase fire protection, this project will add some nine (9) fire hydrants throughout this area.

No comments or questions were received. The public hearing was closed, and the regular meeting began.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

The Minutes of the March 25, 2014 Regular Meeting were approved as submitted upon the motion of Council Member Bonds, seconded by Council Member Bridge with all members voting in favor.

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OLD BUSINESS:

There was no Old Business before Council.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Ordinance # 2014-01, An Ordinance to Amend the FY2013-2014 City of Walterboro, South Carolina Ordinance # 2013-04, So As to Provide for Supplemental Appropriation from the City's General Fund Balance in the Amount of \$470,000, First Reading

City Manager Molinari informed Council that in this fiscal year, the City has had a couple of significant unbudgeted expenditures - a settlement with the County in the amount of \$420,000, as well as \$50,000 to hire an Interim City Manager. This is simply something we need for bookkeeping to satisfy the auditors. We want to make sure that when the audit is done for this fiscal year, that we get a clean opinion. This is a necessary step that we need to take for these unbudgeted expenditures.

A motion was made by Council Member Lohr, seconded by Council Member Broderick, to give First Reading Approval to Ordinance #2014-01, as submitted. The motion passed with all members voting in favor.

2. Resolution # 2014-R-03, A Resolution Authorizing Submission of Joint CDBG Grant Application with Colleton County for a Water Line Loop Project in the City of Walterboro and Colleton County in the Amount of \$750,000 and Committing a 10% (\$75,000) Match in Local Funds, and Authorization for the City Manager to Commit Additional Funding in the Amount of \$38,500

A motion was made by Council Member Bridge, seconded by Council Member Syfrett to adopt Resolution # 2014-R-03 as submitted. The motion passed unanimously. A copy of said resolution is attached as part of these minutes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

There were no Committee Reports given.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

No Manager's Report was presented.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The Mayor then entertained a motion to enter an Executive Session. Council Member Broderick So Moved and Council Member Lohr seconded the motion that passed unanimously. The Mayor announced that the meeting will convene into an Executive Session for a discussion of matters concerning the proposed location, expansion or provision of services encouraging location or expansion of industries or other businesses in the area served by the public body, and for receipt of legal advice.

The meeting then entered into an Executive Session.

At approximately 7:08 p.m., a motion was made by Council Member Syfrett, seconded by Council Member Lohr to exit Executive Session and re-enter Open Session. The motion passed unanimously.

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A motion was made by Council Member Syfrett to split the outstanding sewer cost with Colleton County for Project Dent, in that the City will pay \$17,000 of the remaining \$34,000 cost. Council Member Broderick seconded the motion that passed with all members in favor.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Council Member Bonds, seconded by Council Member Broderick and passed unanimously. The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 7:10 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: April 22, 2014