

MINUTES

A Public Hearing and Regular Meeting of Walterboro City Council was held at City Hall on Tuesday, June 24, 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. There were approximately 42 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 Lohr led the pledge of allegiance to our flag.

PUBLIC INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS:

No public comments or questions were received on agenda items.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Mayor Young then opened a public hearing, duly advertised, to receive public comments/questions on the following proposed ordinances:

- 1) Ordinance # 2014-05, An Ordinance to Modify the Public Safety Department of the City of Walterboro, South Carolina to Provide for the Establishment of Two (2) Positions, a Police Chief and a Fire Chief.

The Mayor explained that the City is going away from Public Safety and separating those two departments. He asked if there were any comments or questions. None were received.

- 2) Ordinance # 2014-06, An Ordinance to Abolish the Equipment Replacement Fund of the City of Walterboro, South Carolina.

The Mayor explained that the City had a self-financing fund which was used to purchase equipment, and we are going to change the way that we do that. This would abolish the Equipment Replacement Fund. He then asked for any comments or questions. None were received and the public hearing was closed.

PROCLAMATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS:

- 1) Resolution # 2014-R-07, A Resolution to Honor Franklin R. Smalls for Exceptional Service and Recognition of his 80th Birthday.

A motion to adopt Resolution # 2014-R-07 as submitted was made by Council Member Bridge and seconded by Council Member Broderick. The Mayor announced that he would be attending Mr. Smalls' birthday party on Saturday, and would read and present this resolution to him at that time. The Mayor then read the resolution in its entirety into the records. He presented a copy of the resolution to Mr. David Smalls, son of Mr. Franklin Smalls, who was present at the meeting.

The motion then passed unanimously. A copy of the resolution is attached as part of these minutes.

- 2) Resolution # 2014-R-08, to recognize Science Achievement Award for Amber Avant, Bailey Crosby, Morgan Dandridge, Megan Dewitt and Casey Powell.

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A motion was made by Council Member Siegel to adopt Resolution # 2014-R-08 as submitted. Council Member Broderick seconded the motion that passed with all members voting in favor.

The Mayor then called the students, along with their science teacher Ms. Ann Henson, to the podium. The students recognized for this achievement were: Amber Avant, Bailey Crosby, Morgan Dandridge, Megan Dewitt and Casey Powell. The Mayor then read the resolution in its entirety into the record. A copy of the resolution is attached as part of these minutes.

PRESENTATION - Ms. Kim Bridge, Program Coordinator, Colleton County Arts Council:

Ms. Kim Bridge, present at the request of Council Member Lohr, reported on the current classes for adults and children at the Arts Council. She stated that the Arts Council is hoping to offer more classes for adults and children. She announced that the Children's Theater will be performing 101 Dalmatians. There were over 90 children who showed up for the audition. The performance will be held on Saturday and Sunday, September 6 and 7. The Arts Council is also offering a lot of art classes for kids and adults this summer. These classes are pottery, painting, basket weaving, children's theater, camp, drawings, creative writing, etc. She said, we ask that everyone preregister for the classes, so the artists will have time to gather the needed materials. The Arts Council will hold its membership drive in July. Ms. Bridge then passed out a brochure listing all the classes being held at the Arts Council.

Mr. Lohr reported on other activities being held for children in the summer time. This includes many activities being held through our Rec. Center. There are numerous summer camps sponsored by the Rec. Center, Colleton Co. High School, Colleton Prep and USC - Salkehatchie. From June 6 to August 1, our local library will hold activities for students 12-18, which includes such things as: gaming, crafts, scavenger hunts, crime scene investigations, movies, food and fun. There are also activities being held for the younger children at the library. Council Member Lohr also reported that the local city parks are being used a lot by our residents. He invited everyone to visit the parks and use them. He also stated that most all of our churches have Vacation Bible School. Some even have them jointly. Mr. Wayne Bennett of the Department of Juvenile Justice spoke at Mt. Olive Baptist Church as summer started, and there were 60 children per day at this one church for Vacation Bible School. There are also girl scouts and boy scout groups to join. The Sheriff's Department also has something planned this summer over a period of time for different age levels.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The Minutes of the May 27, 2014 Work Session on the Historic Preservation Overlay Ordinance was approved as submitted upon the motion of Council Member Broderick, seconded by Council Member Lohr with all members voting in favor.

Next, the Minutes of the May 27, 2014 Public Hearing and Regular Meeting were approved as submitted on the motion of Council Member Broderick, seconded by Council Member Bonds and passed unanimously.

The Minutes of the June 10, 2014 Public Hearing and Regular Meeting were approved as submitted on the motion of Council Member Bonds, seconded by Council Member Syfrett, with all members voting in favor.

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OLD BUSINESS:

1. Ordinance # 2014-05, An Ordinance to Modify the Public Safety Department of the City of Walterboro, South Carolina to Provide for the Establishment of Two (2) Positions, a Police Chief and a Fire Chief, was before Council for **Second Reading and Adoption**.

A motion was made by Council Member Siegel giving Second Reading and Adoption to Ordinance # 2014-05. Council Member Syfrett seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

2. Ordinance # 2014-06, An Ordinance to Abolish the Equipment Replacement Fund of the City of Walterboro, South Carolina, was before Council for **Second Reading and Adoption**.

A motion was made by Council Member Bridge, seconded by Council Member Broderick, giving Second Reading and Adoption to Ordinance # 2014-06. The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Ordinance # 2014-07, An Ordinance to Amend the Unified Development Ordinance of the City of Walterboro, South Carolina to Establish the Boundaries of the Historic Preservation Overlay District, was before Council for **First Reading Approval**.

Planning Director David Dodd briefed Council on this agenda item. He stated that the Historic Preservation Overlay encompasses the two National Historic Districts and the Downtown Development District, which are already under the preservation protection and it fills in with the doughnut holes, which are identified in the current map on display in Council Chambers at this meeting. He said this gives us one consistent overlay so that we don't have pockets that are not covered. The whole purpose is to have a unified coverage to keep the character of the district and the character of the area preserved and protected.

A motion was made by Council Member Broderick, seconded by Council Member Lohr giving First Reading Approval to Ordinance # 2014-07. The motion passed with all members voting in favor.

The Mayor pointed out that City Council did have a work session on these ordinances, and it may appear that we are looking at them and voting quickly. However, this has been going on for a long time, so it's not really a quick decision on them.

2. Ordinance # 2014-08, An Ordinance to Amend the Unified Development Ordinance of the City of Walterboro, South Carolina to Establish the Historic Preservation Overlay (HP-O) to Include Commercial Design Guidelines, was before Council for **First Reading Approval**.

The Mayor recognized Planning Director David Dodd to brief Council on this item. Mr. Dodd stated that the overlay and the design guidelines all work hand-in-hand. For years, we have had residential design guidelines, but we have never had any commercial design guidelines. The Downtown Improvement District, which is primarily Washington Street, Lucas Street, Walter Street and Memorial Street, is primarily all commercial structures, and is covered under the Historic Preservation Overlay already, but had no guidelines for the preservation measures to be looked at for those buildings. So, the Comp. Plan which was adopted in 2010 and the Unified Development Ordinance which was adopted in 2012 both calls for the development of

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commercial design guidelines. The Historic Preservation Commission has worked on these guidelines for several years and presented all that information to the Planning Commission, which reviewed it for more than a year. It is now being recommended to City Council for adoption.

A motion was then made by Council Member Bridge giving First Reading Approval to Ordinance # 2014-08. Council Member Broderick seconded the motion that passed with all members voting in favor.

3. Consideration of Bids Received for the Lucas Street Storm Drainage Project

City Manager Jeff Molinari reported on the bids received by the City for the Lucas Street Storm Drainage Project. He stated that the City has an ongoing drainage problem at the intersection of East Washington Street and North Lucas Street. To that end, the City applied for Colleton County Transportation Committee (CTC) funds to address the problem, and in March we were awarded \$52,000. The City advertised the project for a hired contractor to go in and take out the cypress knees that had grown into the storm drain. The City received a total of 4 bids as follows:

Bio-Nomic Services, Inc., Charlotte, NC	\$36,819.00
Porter Scientific, Inc., Pembroke, NC	\$45,000.00
Eadie's Construction Co., Inc., Ridgeville, SC	\$46,005.00
United Sewer Services Inc., Patterson, GA	\$48,200.00

Mr. Molinari stated that staff recommends acceptance of the low qualified bidder, Bio-Nomic Services, Inc., in the amount of \$36,819.00. He said that the City would be reimbursed the full amount from the Colleton Co. Transportation Committee. City staff asks for Council's favorable consideration at this time.

A motion was made by Council Member Lohr, seconded by Council Member Siegel to accept the low bidder, Bio-Nomic Services, Inc. in the amount of \$36,819.00 for the Lucas Street Storm Drainage Project. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Next, City Manager Molinari reported that the following recommendations for funding were made by the Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee at its regularly scheduled meeting on June 19, 2014:

<u>Requests for 30% Tourism Fund</u>	<u>Requested</u>	<u>Approved</u>
Walterboro Tourism Commission	\$53,000	\$53,000

Mr. Molinari stated that this would continue to designate the Walterboro Tourism Commission as the designated marketing organization for the City of Walterboro.

<u>Requests for 65% Tourism Fund</u>	<u>Requested</u>	<u>Approved</u>
Colleton Museum & Farmers Market	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000
Walterboro Tourism Com. Wings & Wheels	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,500
Lowcountry & Resorts Island - guidebooks	\$13,550	\$ 7,000
SC Artisans Center-marketing & promotion	\$14,400	\$12,000
Colleton Co. Rice Festival	\$15,000	\$10,000
Downtown Walterboro Criterium	\$21,000	\$15,000
City of Walterboro - local billboard program	\$21,000	\$20,000
Walterboro Tourism Com-Walterboro Rocks	<u>\$46,000</u>	<u>\$40,000</u>
Total 65% Requests	\$141,564	\$114,500

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City Manager Molinari reported that a little over 30,000 in A-Tax funds would be left. It is anticipated that the Committee would be recommending funding for additional requests at their October meeting.

A motion was made by Council Member Bridge, seconded by Council Member Syfrett to approve the funding requests as submitted by the Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee. The motion passed with all members voting in favor.

5. Request for Street Closing for Alumni Community Walk, July 5, 2014, 7:30 A.M. to 8:30 A.M., by Colleton Training School/Colleton High School Alumni Association, Inc.

A motion was made by Council Member Lohr, seconded by Council Member Broderick to approve the street closing request and parade permit as submitted by the CTS/Colleton High School Alumni Association for a Community Walk on July 5, 2014. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Herman Bright present on behalf of the Alumni Association invited all Council Members to join his group on July 5. He stated, this is something we do every 2 years for our grand reunion. We appreciate the opportunity to be able to walk from the old football stadium to the center on Gruber Street. He anticipated that 125 people would be coming to Walterboro for this event.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

City Manager Molinari announced that the City received notice a few days ago that it had received a Community Development Block Grant award in the amount of \$750,000. This application was submitted back in April for some water line improvements to several of our streets: Peurifoy Road, Edgewood Street, Hampton Street, Francis Street, Hickory Street, Third Street and Cherry Street. He then recognized Utilities Director Wayne Crosby, as well as Michelle Knight with LCOG, for putting together that application.

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. The motion passed unanimously. The Mayor announced that the meeting will convene into an Executive Session for:

- 1) A personnel matter - Appointment of City Attorney and City Prosecutor.
- 2) Contractual Matter - Consideration of Joining a Lawsuit Against the Colleton County Legislative Delegation to Challenge School Board Reapportionment.
- 3) Receipt of Legal Advice.

At approximately 7:00 p.m., the meeting convened into an Executive Session.

At 7:30 P.M., a motion was made by Council Member Lohr, seconded by Council Member Broderick, to exit the Executive Session and return to Open Session. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting returned to Open Session.

The Mayor then made a motion to join the lawsuit against Colleton County Legislative Delegation to Challenge the School Board Reapportionment. Council Member Lohr seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

There being no further business to consider, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Council Member Lohr, seconded by Council Member Broderick and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:31 P.M. Notice of this meeting was

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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: July 22, 2014