

Walterboro City Council
Special Called Meeting
June 14, 2013

MINUTES

A Special Called Meeting of Walterboro City Council was held at City Hall on Friday, June 14, 2013 at 10:00 A.M., with Mayor Bill Young presiding.

PRESENT WERE: Mayor Bill Young, Council Members: Paul Siegel, Charles Lucas, Tom Lohr and Bobby Bonds. City Manager Jeff Lord, City Attorney George Cone and staff member Bonnie Ross were also present. Ms. Ross acted as recording secretary in place of City Clerk Betty Hudson, who was absent. Council Members Dwayne Buckner and Randy Peters were absent.

The Mayor called the meeting to order and gave the invocation. Council Member Siegel led the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag.

INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS:

No public comments or questions on agenda items were received.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no Old Business before Council.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Ordinance # 2013-04 (First Reading)

A motion was made by Council Member Lucas, seconded by Council Member Lohr, giving First Reading Approval to Ordinance # 2013-04, being:

An Ordinance Adopting the City Budget for Fiscal Year 2013-2014 and Matters Relating Thereto.

In discussing the motion, Council Member Bonds asked the City Manager if the information in front of him represented the consensus that was reached at the meeting yesterday as far as the percentages and projected savings that we talked about? Is that accurate? City Manager Lord responded that everything is reflected in the new ordinance.

Council Member Lucas reported that the general fund budget for 2013-2014 will be \$7,324,272. This includes a 2% tax increase which is about 1 ½ mills, a 4 mill debt reduction tax and an unmandated upgrade for our radios, so we will be able to communicate with the County, EMS, & Fire, of 2.86 mills which will be a 5-year loan payback. So, that millage should go away in 5 years.

Mayor Young said, overall we made an additional \$189,000 in cuts to the budget at the budget meeting on yesterday. This was a good work session.

The motion then passed with all members voting in favor, except Council Member Buckner and Peters were absent and did not vote.

2. Ordinance # 2013-05 (First Reading)

A motion was made by Council Member Lucas, seconded by Council Member Lohr, giving First Reading Approval to Ordinance # 2013-05, being:

An Ordinance Adopting the City Enterprise Budget for Fiscal Year 2013-2014 and Matters Relating Thereto.

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Council Member Lucas reported that the Enterprise Fund Budget will be \$3,401,950. This includes a 5% water rate increase. He stated that all the increases from the General Fund and Enterprise Fund for a homeowner with a \$100,000 home, the increase would be approximately \$44.00 per year, in water and taxes. If you have a \$200,000 house, it's going to be more, but not doubled.

Council Member Lucas then thanked the budget committee members for their work on the budget. He stated, we worked very hard, and all those Council Members who attended who were not actually members, were of good benefit. To the public, keep in mind that our budget today is less than it was in 2008, and all expenses have gone up - insurance, taxes and gas, etc.

The motion giving First Reading Approval to Ordinance # 2013-05 then passed unanimously, except Council Members Buckner and Peters were absent and did not vote.

3. Ordinance # 2013-06 (First Reading)

A motion was made by Council Member Lucas, seconded by Council Member Lohr giving First Reading BY TITLE ONLY to Ordinance # 2013-06, being:

An Ordinance of the City of Walterboro, South Carolina, Amending the Comprehensive Fee Schedule for the Utility Support Department.

The motion passed unanimously, except Council Members Buckner and Peters were absent and did not vote.

There being no further business to consider, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Council Member Siegel, seconded by Council Member Lucas and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 10:15 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: July 23, 2013