

Walterboro City Council
Rescheduled Regular Meeting
February 11, 2013

MINUTES

A Rescheduled Regular Meeting of Walterboro City Council was held at City Hall on Monday, February 11, 2013 at 12:00 noon, with Mayor Bill Young presiding.

PRESENT WERE: Mayor Bill Young, Council Members: Paul Siegel, Dwayne Buckner, Charles Lucas, Tom Lohr and Bobby Bonds. City Manager Jeff Lord and City Attorney George Cone were also present. There were approximately 10 persons present in the audience. Council Member Randy Peters and City Clerk Betty Hudson were absent. Planning Director David Dodd acted as recording secretary.

The Mayor called the meeting to order and gave the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was then led by Council Member Buckner.

The Mayor announced that Council Member Peters had a fall at the retreat and is still recovering from that fall. We hoped he would be here today, but he may not be, and that would be the reason he is absent.

PUBLIC INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS:

No public comments were made on agenda items.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

The Minutes of the January 8, 2013 Public Hearing and Regular Meeting and the Minutes of the January 22, 2013 Regular Meeting were approved as submitted on the motion of Council Member Lucas, seconded by Council Member Buckner and passed with all members voting in favor, except Council Member Peters was absent and did not vote.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Request to Use the Waterfall March 16, 2013 from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. for Kids Fun Fair/Expo, Sponsored by Students at Springfield College School of Human Services, CARE (Changing Adolescent Resource Effectiveness).

The Mayor asked Council Member Lohr if he had any more information on this item. Mr. Lohr indicated that the group was going to try to have a DJ on hand, maybe a talent show including some of the students. The main emphasis would be on "mentoring." What Ms. Davis-Nash is trying to do is to see if they can get all the groups and individuals in the county that are mentoring, and that's the main thrust. He noted that Ms. Davis is also present in the audience. Ms. J. D. Davis-Nash, present on behalf of the group, then addressed Council. She told Council that there are many resources out there for the kids, but many of them do not know what and where. Our idea is to put all the mentoring agencies in one location for one day, in a fun safe environment, and then getting that information to them.

A motion was made by Council Member Lohr, seconded by Council Member Buckner to approve the use of the waterfall on March 16 for the Kids Fun Fair Expo by the students at Springfield College as requested. The motion passed with all members voting in favor, except Councilman Peters was absent and did not vote.

2. Consideration of Canceling or Rescheduling the March 12, 2013 Regular City Council Meeting.

The Mayor noted that the March 12 City Council Meeting will conflict with the National League of Cities Meeting to be held in Washington, D.C.

MINUTES/Page II

A motion was made by Council Member Buckner to reschedule the March 12, 2013 meeting. Council Member Bonds seconded the motion. In discussing the motion, it was suggested by City Manager Lord that he would check the calendar and set an available time for all Council Members to meet. The motion then passed with all members voting in favor, except Council Member Peters was absent and did not vote.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Consideration of a Name Change for the Great Swamp Sanctuary to The Walterboro Wildlife Sanctuary, by Moultrie Plowden, Friends of the Great Swamp Sanctuary

The Mayor then called on Mr. Moultrie Plowden, who was present on behalf of the Friends of the Great Swamp Sanctuary. Mr. Plowden informed Council that this name change was suggested to City Council because of three (3) main reasons: 1) There is nothing in Walterboro named "Walterboro," except Walterboro City Hall; 2) There is a Great Swamp in New Jersey and that causes some confusion from time to time; and 3) The name "swamp" has some ill connotations to some who don't think they would want to visit a swamp. He further said, if the change is made, we will need to have new maps and new brochures. Former Mayor Charlie Sweat, who is also a Member of the Friends of the Great Swamp Sanctuary (FROGS), then addressed Council. He said that the group is all behind this. We have discussed it for more than two years, and now is the right time to do this.

A motion was then made by Council Member Siegel, seconded by Council Member Lucas to approve the name change of the Great Swamp Sanctuary to "The Walterboro Wildlife Sanctuary." In discussing the motion, Council Member Buckner said he was trying to understand if there were any financial implications to the city in making this change.

City Manager Lord responded, we are at the point where we will need to be doing new brochures, anyway. So, that's going to be incorporated in it. We need to redo our signs at the Sanctuary, too. So, it's just a matter of incorporating that change as those updates are made.

Council Member Buckner then said, I think this is the beginning of more identification for the City of Walterboro. As Mr. Plowden has mentioned, there are not a whole lot of things named Walterboro, outside of the City itself, and a few other things. We need to have more things identified with the City, and I think this is a step in the right direction. Hopefully, with passage of this request for the Great Swamp Sanctuary being changed to the "The Walterboro Wildlife Sanctuary," there will be other organizations or other institutions or buildings that can also adopt the name Walterboro.

The Mayor then asked whether or not the name change would impact the group's 501(C)3 status? City Manager Lord responded, I don't believe so. Mayor Young added, because we don't want to have to go through that process again. Attorney Cone added, only thing if you wanted to change the name of the 501(C)3, you could. Otherwise, it will have no effect.

Mayor Young then stated, going along with what Councilman Buckner has said, I think the group felt like we would get more bang for our advertising dollars when using the name "Walterboro" as part of that. When we advertise the Great Swamp Sanctuary, we also have to tell them where it is. When we say "Walterboro Wildlife Sanctuary," we are marketing Walterboro at the same time. The more we get the name "Walterboro" out there, the better it is for our businesses and the better it is for the Sanctuary, so I think that's positive.

MINUTES/Page III

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

2. Consideration of Request by SC Artisans Center for the 2013 Walterboro Antiques, History and Arts Festival, May 17-18, 2013

A motion was made by Council Member Lucas, seconded by Council Member Bonds to approve the requests as submitted by the SC Artisans Center for the 2013 Walterboro Antiques, History and Arts Festival.

In discussing the motion, Council Member Buckner asked if there's anything new added to the festival this year, exhibits or anything in the works that's different from last year? Mr. David Evans appearing on behalf of Ms. Gale Doggette, stated that the festival is moving the antique show component onto East Washington Street, with Council's approval. We are looking to close off some parking on the south side of East Washington Street and get the merchants a little more engaged in what's going on as far as the antique component is concerned, since we don't have the old Maxway building this year. We are getting the museum more engaged in the history component of the festival. We are working right now on doing an art-in-the garden tour in the Historic District. We haven't gotten everybody's garden situated just yet, but that's one of the components we are looking to put in this year that will be coordinated through the museum this year. So, the tractor parade is back, which is always a big hit. Part of the request is to have a police escort with the tractor parade on Saturday. We have the antiques coming back in this year with a new capacity. What we are trying to do is keep it downtown and show off downtown, and the merchants this year have asked to be a little more integral part of the festival. So, we are going to try and engage them more.

The Mayor told Mr. Evans that his group does a good job with the festival. It gets better every year, and it's a lot of fun. For anybody who hasn't been to it, I would encourage you to go. It's really a great day downtown.

The motion passed unanimously, except Council Member Peters was absent and did not vote.

3. Request to Use the City Parking Lot for a Barbecue Cook-Off on April 20, 2013 by Rusty Sullivan, North Walterboro Baptist Church

A motion was made by Council Member Buckner, seconded by Council Member Lucas to approve the request to use the City Parking lot for a barbecue cook-off on April 20, 2013 by Rusty Sullivan of North Walterboro Baptist Church as submitted. The motion passed with all members voting in favor. Council Member Peters was absent and did not vote.

4. Request to Close the Street for Annual Cubmobile Race on March 16, 2013 by Connie Carlin & Anthony Kubik, Cubmasters

A motion was made by Council Member Lohr to approve the street closing request as submitted for the Annual Cubmobile Race on March 16, 2013. Council Member Bonds seconded the motion that passed unanimously, except Council Member Peters was absent and did not vote.

5. Request to Hang Banner Announcing National Crime Victim's Rights Week on April 1-6, 2013 by Chief Otis Rhodes, Walterboro Public Safety

A motion was made by Council Member Lucas, seconded by Council Member Lohr, to approve the request to hang the National Crime Victim's Rights Week Banner across Jefferies Boulevard on April 1-6, 2013 as requested. The motion passed with

MINUTES/Page IV

all members voting in favor, except Council Member Peters was absent and did not vote.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion to enter an Executive Session was then made by Council Member Lucas, seconded by Council Member Lohr. The motion passed unanimously. The Mayor announced that the meeting will convene into an Executive Session for a discussion of a personnel matter.

The meeting then entered into an Executive Session.

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 Lucas, seconded by Council Member Lohr and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 12:50 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: February 26, 2013