

## **MINUTES**

A Regular Meeting of Walterboro City Council was held at City Hall on Tuesday, March 26, 2013 at 6:15 P.M., 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, City Clerk Betty Hudson and City Attorney George Cone were also present. Council Member Randy Peters was absent. There were approximately 21 persons present in the audience.

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

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

No public comments were made on the agenda items.

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

There were no minutes before Council for approval.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- Ordinance # 2013-02**, An Ordinance to Annex Certain Property to the City of Walterboro, Tax Map # 147-09-00-084 (property located at 110 Grove Street), owned by First Federal of South Carolina, President Arnold Zipperer, III, **Second Reading and Adoption.**

A motion was made by Council Member Lucas, seconded by Council Member Bonds giving Second Reading and Adoption to Ordinance # 2013-02. In discussing the motion, Council Member Lucas asked if the neighbors to this property had been contacted. Economic Director Drew Page advised that staff put signs out announcing the annexation after the last Council Meeting. Staff has not been contacted by any of the neighbors.

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

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- Ordinance # 2013-03**, An Ordinance to Change the Zoning on Two Parcels of Land on Padgett Loop, Tax Map # 164-13-00-201 (629 Padgett Loop) and 164-13-00-202 (633 Padgett Loop) from High Density Residential (HDR) to Neighborhood Commercial District (NCD), **First Reading.**

Planning Director David Dodd advised Council that the owner of parcel # 164-13-00-201 applied for rezoning his property which is contiguous to Neighborhood Commercial property across Padgett Loop. The property is separated from the Tracy's Pharmacy property by one parcel. The Planning Commission met and approved this request for rezoning along with the recommendation to rezone the vacant parcel between it and the old Tracy's Pharmacy property and to make both properties Neighborhood Commercial District (NCD). Mr. Dodd further stated that one of the properties had an old house that was converted into a funeral home 30 or 40 years ago. It has basically been redesigned inside for more of a commercial structure than a residential structure. The owners desire to open up a beauty shop there. That would not be allowed in a High Density Residential area, so they requested the rezoning.

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A motion was made by Council Member Siegel, seconded by Council Member Lucas, giving First Reading Approval to Ordinance # 2013-03.

In discussing the motion Council Member Buckner asked for clarification on the location of the property. He said that there is already a beauty salon located there. There is Tracy's old drug store and there is a beauty salon that used to be a barber shop. Mr. Dodd clarified that there is a tiny barber shop that sits next to Tracy's Pharmacy and is actually on the same parcel with Tracy's Pharmacy. There is also a vacant parcel next to that which had a three-story block building, which was torn down a year or so ago. Then, there is the old Wiggins house structure. That's the building that originated the rezoning request, which used to be a funeral home. That two-story building will be torn down.

Mr. Buckner then clarified that the Neighborhood Zoning would start from the Tracy's Pharmacy property down and including the next two parcels. Mr. Dodd agreed that this was correct. Councilman Buckner further stated that the proposed change is to put a beauty salon on this property. So we will then have two beauty salons located in that area.

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

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Youth Committee Report:

Council Member Tom Lohr gave a brief report on youth activities. He gave the following highlights.

1. Noted that a newspaper article indicated that probably there have been 141 youths in Colleton County who has participated in the IAB, Illustrative Book Program at the library, conducted by Ms. Sheila Kearse, who is the Children's Librarian.
2. Youth Tennis Program. Mr. Lohr recognized Parks Director Ms. Carolyn Powell for helping paint the lines needed at the tennis courts. In some competitions, some of the children from Walterboro and St. George will be going to the Florence Tennis Center to continue at the state level competition.
3. Ms. J.D. Davis-Nash, who had requested use of the waterfall to invite all mentors assisting students in the county, as well as parents, to gain more information on mentoring on March 16 from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., had indicated a good turnout and expressed thanks to Council for use of the waterfall.
4. When Governor Sanford came down and gave us a grant in 2010, it included several things including equipment for our Public Safety people. The main thing was that they were going to have some classes set up. The participants would be training to try to enhance their skills for potential employment. Besides the job skills, they did work interviewing skills, resume writing, completing job applications, communication skills, resolving conflicts and proper dress and ethic in the workplace. He stated that 110 students have gone through this program. Ten percent (10%) of these participants have been offered permanent positions after they completed their internships. He noted that Mr. Wayne Bennett and Mr. Wiggins were instrumental in implementing that program.

Mr. Lohr then introduced Mr. Bennett, who then addressed Council.

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Mr. Wayne Bennett told Council that he had been working with the South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice TASC Job Readiness for Teens (JRT) Program for students in Walterboro. Part of the requirement of the program is that they are involved in a community service program. This teaches them to respect their community and also to give back to the community, because they are receiving good training - interviewing skills, resume writing, resolving conflicts, etc.

Mr. Bennett further stated that Ms. Middleton is the Employment Coordinator. She is here today. We discussed what we wanted to do for a community service project for the students and we came up with the idea of remembering the Burden Family who were victims of a drive-by shooting. Three individuals were killed, along with a 12-month-old baby. He asked Council for permission to investigate the name change proposed by the students to rename Doodle Hill Park to "**Shaniyah Burden Memorial Park.**" After meeting with the citizens, his group will come back to Council to propose a name change at that time. This will help change the image of the area and help people not to forget. Councilman Lohr also pointed out that the group would like Council to consider mounting a plaque at the entrance to the park giving the new name of the park. Mayor Young noted that this item will be taken under consideration by Council.

Council Member Buckner then moved that Council allow Mr. Bennett's group to be able to investigate and come back to Council with a name change for the Doodle Hill Park.

Mayor Young then said he felt this was a good idea. He then asked if this needed to be an agenda item as far as the FOIA Requirements. He further stated, we will do whatever Council wants to do, but I think it would be better to send it out ahead of time and notify people that we are going to consider it. Mr. Lohr noted that this item came up at the last minute, but he did not have a problem with waiting a few weeks to consider this on the agenda.

The Mayor then entertained a motion to enter an Executive Session. Council Member Lucas So Moved. Council Member Lohr seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The Mayor then announced that the meeting would convene into an Executive Session for a discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements and receipt of legal advice.

At this point, Councilman Buckner formally withdrew his previous motion.

The meeting then entered into Executive Session.

The Meeting returned to Open Session with no action taken as a result of the Executive Session.

There being no further business to consider, a motion to adjourn was made by Council Member Lohr, seconded by Council Member Lucas 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: June 11, 2013**