

## **MINUTES**

A Regular Meeting of Walterboro City Council was held at City Hall on Tuesday, December 10, 2013 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. Interim City Manager Jim Duckett, City Clerk Betty Hudson, City Attorney George Cone along with Attorney Thomas Howard, Jr., were also present. There were 18 persons 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 Bridge to lead the pledge of allegiance to our flag.

The Mayor then thanked all the City employees and everybody who played a part in the Tree Lighting Ceremony and all the decorations downtown. Everything looks beautiful and we appreciate it.

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

No public comments were made on agenda items.

At this point, former Mayor Charlie Sweat then added his congratulations to City staff for the Christmas decorations downtown and in Council Chambers. He said you have done a great job. He also thanked City Council for its participation in the Christmas Parade again this year.

### **PRESENTATION:**

1. Colleton County Library, Illustrate-A-Book Program, by Shiela Keaise and Carl Coffin

Mr. Carl Coffin, assisted by Ms. Shiela Keaise, addressed City Council regarding the Illustrate-A-Book Program sponsored by the Colleton County Library. He told Council this program has been in operation for about 9 years. It has a great impact to Colleton County because every year, it showcases our youth. We are here to tell you where we are and where we would like to go with it, because we are seeking your endorsement of this program. We have a unique opportunity to carry this program beyond Walterboro. Mr. Coffin then gave the history of the program. This program was created by Ms. Shiela Keaise to encourage children in Colleton County and to give them an opportunity to be published illustrators. The goal of the program is to provide an exclusive art and literary program to involve the community. This is the 9<sup>th</sup> year for this program and we have published 8 books. This program is for children 7-18 to use their imagination to draw. We have helped about 120 children in this program to be successful illustrators. Now, we have the opportunity to go statewide and hopefully nationally. We would like to see our books in every school in South Carolina. That's a lot to go, but we feel with your endorsement and with the Governor's endorsement, it will help us get on the map and help us to promote and market this program. Currently, we are the only library with a program of this type. So, tonight I am asking for your endorsement, it will be a big help to us. We are hoping in the future to have our Governor to stop by Walterboro to meet some of our children. However, if you know ahead of time that she is coming, please let us know and we will arrange for her to come to the library and meet some of our children and show her our program.

Ms. Shiela Keaise thanked Council for the opportunity to come and present this program. She also thanked Mayor Young for taking the time to do the "Forward" in

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their upcoming book. She invited all Council Members to attend an awards program on January 9, 2014 at 5:00 P.M. at the library. Ms. Keaise also stated that this Council has always supported us through the years, especially Councilman Lohr who has always given us his presence at our programs. She further stated, if no other Councilman or County Councilman would be there, Councilman Lohr would be there to support the children, and we appreciate him for that.

Concluding the presentation, Mayor Young asked Ms. Keaise if they wanted the endorsement in writing or in the form of a proclamation or resolution? Mrs. Keaise responded, that would be wonderful.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. There was no Old Business before Council.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **Resolution # 2013-R-11**, A Resolution to Amend All Prior Resolutions of the City of Walterboro, Inconsistent with this Resolution to the Extent of the Inconsistency, Including, but Not Limited To, Resolution No. 2013-R-07, Declaring Slum and Blighted Area.

This resolution designates the following area as a "Slum and Blighted Area": South Jefferies Boulevard from Detreville Street to Sanders Street. A boundary map, location map of deteriorated buildings and public improvements, inventory and description of public improvements and an inventory and description of deteriorated buildings and properties were also attached to this resolution.

Mayor Young explained that in order for us to get the grant we applied for to do the South Jefferies Project, some of the language needed to be changed. This corrects this to meet the requirements.

A motion was then made by Council Member Lohr, seconded by Council Member Broderick, to approve Resolution # 2013-R-11 as submitted. The motion passed unanimously. A copy of said Resolution is attached as part of these minutes.

2. **Request to Use the Downtown Waterfall for Community Food Box Giveaway, December 21, 2013, from 12:00 Noon to 3:00 P.M. by More Than Conquerors International Ministries**

A motion to approve the request to use the Downtown Waterfall on December 21, 2013 from 12:00 Noon to 3:00 P.M. for a Community Food Box Giveaway by the More Than Conquerors Ministries as submitted was made by Council Member Bonds, seconded by Council Member Siegel and passed with all members voting in favor.

3. **Consideration of Cancelling the December 24, 2013 Regular City Council Meeting**

Since December 24, 2013 falls on the Christmas Eve Holiday, a motion to cancel the December 24 Regular City Council Meeting was made by Council Member Bonds, seconded by Council Member Broderick and passed unanimously.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

There were no Committee Reports given.

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**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

A motion to enter an Executive Session was then made by Council Member Bonds, seconded by Council Member Lohr and passed unanimously. The Mayor announced that the meeting will convene into an Executive Session for a personnel matter to discuss the City Manager applicants.

The meeting then entered into an 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 the meeting was made by Council Member Lohr, seconded by Council Member Bonds and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:30 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: January 14, 2014**