

MINUTES

A Regular Meeting of Walterboro City Council was held at City Hall on Tuesday, December 11, 2012 at 6:15 P.M., with Mayor Bill Young presiding.

PRESENT WERE: Mayor Bill Young, Council Members: Paul Siegel, Dwayne Buckner, Charles Lucas, Randy Peters, Tom Lohr and Bobby Bonds. City Manager Jeff Lord, City Clerk Betty Hudson and Attorney Thomas Howard, representing City Attorney George Cone, were also present. There were 20 persons present in the audience.

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

PUBLIC INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS:

No public comments were made on agenda items.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

The Minutes of the October 9, 2012 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.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no Old Business before Council.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Ordinance # 2013-01**, An Ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinance, Chapter 8, Article II. Business and Professional Licenses, So, As to Clarify and Strengthen Portions Thereof and to Provide for an Annual Classification Update, **First Reading.**

City Manager Lord briefly introduced this agenda item. He stated, from time to time, it is important for us to update our model ordinances, as produced by the Municipal Association of South Carolina. It is intended that all the municipalities that have this ordinance have the same ordinance. This creates a strong defense to it from unequal taxation and for economic development purposes. It makes sense to have something that is the same in each jurisdiction. This is just to update our ordinance to the model ordinance. Outlined in my memo are the nine basic changes that are in this ordinance. All of these are changes in the legal environment or with the updating of the classifications to make sure they are current with the current IRS data.

A motion was then made by Council Member Lucas, seconded by Council Member Bonds, giving First Reading Approval to Ordinance # 2013-01.

In discussing the motion, Council Member Buckner asked Mr. Lord if the new proposed ordinance would make it more difficult to do business in Walterboro or less difficult based on what we had prior to this? Mr. Lord responded that he felt that the ordinance would make it less difficult to do business because of a couple of things. One, it would again make us so that we are like the other jurisdictions. So, they would be under the same rules. There are some provisions which allow for partial payments for any fines, or a partial to be presented, so that you can make a partial payment to extend the fine for that amount. It just clarifies some things. It adds into the language requiring some franchise authority, so people would understand that.

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Because it makes it clearer, and because it allows a person to make partial payments and stay the penalties on the parts that they pay, it would make it easier for them.

The motion then passed unanimously.

2. **Request for Street Closing for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Parade, January 20, 2013**

A motion to approve the request for Street Closing for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Parade on January 20, 2013 as submitted was made by Council Member Buckner, seconded by Council Member Lucas and passed with all members voting in favor.

The Mayor acknowledged that several Boy Scouts were present at the meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

There were no Committee Reports given.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion to enter an Executive Session was then made by Council Member Lucas, seconded by Council Member Lohr and passed unanimously. The Mayor announced that the meeting will convene into an Executive Session for receipt of legal advice.

The Mayor also announced that this is Council's last meeting for 2012. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and we will look forward to seeing everybody in January.

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 Peters, seconded by Council Member Lohr and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:05 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 8, 2013