

Walterboro City Council  
Public Hearing and Regular Meeting  
March 8, 2011

### **MINUTES**

A Public Hearing and Regular Meeting of Walterboro City Council was held at City Hall on Tuesday, March 8, 2011 at 6:15 P.M. with Mayor Bill Young presiding.

**PRESENT WERE:** Mayor Bill Young, Council Members: Randy Peters, Charles Lucas, Ted Parker, Franklin Smalls and Tom Lohr. City Manager Jeff Lord, City Clerk Betty Hudson, and City Attorney George Cone were also present. Council Member Dwayne Buckner was absent. There were approximately 11 persons present in the audience at the meeting.

Mayor Young called the meeting to order. The invocation was led by Council Member Smalls, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Council Member Parker.

The Mayor announced the new birth of a babygirl, Isobel Charlotte, to Hank Amundson and Ashley Amundson. The mother and the baby are doing fine.

City Manager Jeff Lord then introduced our new Director of Finance and Administration, Mr. Dennis Averkin. Mr. Averkin spent a couple of years as Finance Director and most recently as an interim City Manager.

Council Member Buckner was out of town on personal business and unable to attend the meeting.

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

The Mayor asked for public comments on agenda items. No public comments were given on agenda items.

### **PUBLIC HEARING:**

1. **Ordinance # 2011-03**, An Ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinances of the City of Walterboro, So As to Clarify and Strengthen the Ordinance as Related to Nuisance and Procurement Appeal Procedures and to Encourage Women and Minority Owned Businesses to Submit Bids and Qualifications to City Request.

No public comments were given and the Public Hearing was closed and the regular meeting began.

There were no Minutes before Council for approval.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

1. **Ordinance # 2011-03 (Second Reading)**

Ordinance # 2011-03, An Ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinances of the City of Walterboro, So As to Clarify and Strengthen the Ordinance as Related to Nuisance and Procurement Appeal Procedures and to Encourage Women and Minority Owned Businesses to Submit Bids and Qualifications to City Request, was before Council for Second Reading and Adoption.

A motion was made by Council Member Parker, seconded by Council Member Lucas, giving Second Reading and Adoption to Ordinance # 2011-03. The motion passed unanimously, except Council Member Buckner was absent and did not vote.

2. **Discussion of Potential Uses of CDBG Funds**

**MINUTES/Page II**

City Manager Lord opened by stating that Ms. Michelle Knight was unable to attend the meeting tonight due to a meeting conflict. Mr. Lord announced that Council's previous list of CDBG priorities were as follows:

1. Public Safety.
2. Infrastructure.
3. Housing and Village Renaissance.
4. Downtown Revitalization.
5. Public Facilities.

Mr. Lord recommended that Council re-adopt the same list of priorities as stated.

A motion was made by Council Member Peters, seconded by Council Member Smalls to re-adopt the same list of the previous year's list of CDBG priorities. The motion passed with all members voting in favor, except Council Member Buckner was absent and did not vote.

**3. Consideration of Appointments to the City's Boards and Commissions**

The Mayor entertained a motion to reappoint those persons asking to be reappointed on the City's Boards and Commissions. Council Member Lucas so **MOVED** and Council Member Parker seconded the motion that passed unanimously, except Council Member Buckner was absent and did not vote. The reappointments approved were as follows:

**Accommodations Tax Board**

Leon Langley reappointed for another 3-year term.  
William Richardson reappointed for another 3-year term.

**Board of Zoning Appeals**

Thomas J. McDaniel reappointed for another 3-year term.

**Building Board**

Thomas Berry reappointed for another 4-year term.

**City Appearance Board**

Dave Harris reappointed for another 4-year term.  
Helen T. Bodison reappointed for another 4-year term.

**Economic Development Commission**

Peden McLeod reappointed for another 4-year term.  
Eduardo Dominguez reappointed for another 4-year term.  
Eugene Kaiser reappointed for another 4-year term.  
Marvin Jones, III reappointed for another 4-year term.

**Great Swamp Sanctuary Commission**

Joseph Hamilton reappointed for another 4-year term.  
David Soliday reappointed for another 4-year term.  
Tony Bebber reappointed for another 4-year term.  
Robert Abernethy reappointed for another 4-year term.  
W. Harry Cone, Jr. reappointed for another 4-year term.  
Jim Wescott reappointed for another 4-year term.

**Historical Preservation Commission**

Linda Godley reappointed for another 2-year term.

**Tree Protection Committee**

Carol Marshall reappointed for another 2-year term.  
Michael Ferrari reappointed for another 2-year term.

**MINUTES/Page III**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **Resolution No. 2011-R-06, Fair Housing Month, April 2011, and Nondiscrimination Policy**

The Mayor entertained a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2011-R-06 as submitted. Council Member Lucas Moved to adopt Resolution No. 2011-R-06 as submitted. Council Member Peters seconded the motion. The motion passed with all members voting in favor, except Council Member Buckner was absent and did not vote. A copy of said resolution is attached and made a part of these minutes.

2. **Approval of Subrecipient Agreement Between Beaufort County/Lowcountry Regional Home Consortium and the City of Walterboro and Acceptance of Home Consortium Award in the amount of \$168,750**

Mayor Young explained that the city was able to use some of it's Public Safety Initiative Money and combine it with the Home Consortium Money to do even more rehab work. City Manager Lord stated that the public safety initiative used the CDBG Funding which would be used for things like demolition and building rehab, but the building rehab is restrictive to only exterior work. The Home Consortium has offered to provide \$150,000 and the local match (\$18,750) for those same structures to get interior renovations. So, while we are there, we can help them inside the house, as well as outside the house.

A motion was made by Council Member Smalls to approve the Subrecipient Agreement between Beaufort County/Lowcountry Regional Home Consortium and the City of Walterboro as submitted and to accept the Home Consortium Award in the amount of \$168,750. Council Member Lucas seconded the motion. In discussing the motion, Council Member Smalls asked if the houses to be rehabed had been identified and named already? City Manager Lord responded that the city had identified structures that "can be". We have been in contact with the homeowners trying to identify those who might be interested. There has not been a final list made, because we have to go through a qualifications stage, and CDBG will handle that part. Part of the \$18,750 is for a certified building appraiser, who will look at the structures to see what qualifies and how much it will cost. So, we are working on the list, but there has not been a hard list made yet.

Mayor Young added, "We are the only county (Colleton County) in the past in the Lowcountry Council of Governments that has not been able to make use of Home Consortium money". Beaufort, Jasper and Hampton have all been able to make use of those monies. We were able to find a way by partnering the money from the Public Safety Initiative to make use of the funds, and now we are getting an extra (almost) \$170,000. I want to thank staff for making that happen.

On a question raised by Council Member Peters, City Manager Lord responded that the Home Consortium is providing the 'match and the grant'.

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

3. **Funding Recommendations form the Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee**

Mr. Lord announced that the Accommodations Tax Advisory Board met on March 3, 2011 and there was only one request before them, and it was from the City of Walterboro for \$12,000 to help promote events this spring. There are

**MINUTES/Page IV**

several events going on - the Criterium, the Rice Festival, the Rudy Manke Event, etc. While some of those events have gotten funding on their own, the City is experiencing a lot of requests for information. So, this is to help us respond to those requests. The funding recommendation submitted was as follows:

<u>Requests for funding from the 65% Tourism Fund:</u>	<u>Requests</u>	<u>Approved</u>
1. City of Walterboro Events Promotion	<u>\$12,000</u>	<u>\$12,000</u>
Total	\$12,000	\$12,000

The A-Tax Advisory Board recommended that City Council approve this request.

The Mayor then entertained a motion to approve the funding recommendation from the Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee as submitted. Council Member Parker made a motion for approval, and Council Member Smalls seconded the motion. In discussing the motion, Council Member Peters asked how much money would be left in this fund? City Manager Lord responded, we are showing after this award, if it is approved, another \$51,218 projected would be available as a carryover for next year.

Council Members Peters asked if the Committee would meet again in July? Mr. Lord responded that the Committee would meet in June for next year. This was the last funding round for this year.

Mr. Peters then said, so we still have that much money left to spend in 2011? Mr. Lord affirmed, yes, but it rolled over to the next year if it is not used. Mr. Peters then asked the City Manager, do you know why nobody requested any money? Mr. Lord responded, no, sometimes we get a bunch of people to ask and sometimes we don't.

**The motion to approve the funding recommendation from the Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee as submitted then passed with all members present voting in favor. Council Member Buckner was absent and did not vote.**

4. **Request to Use the City Parking Lot May 21, 2011 for Walterboro Police Week Event and Hang Informational Banner May 15-21, 2011.**

Ms. Donna Laird, Tourism Director, announced that the Walterboro "Police Week" event will be held on Saturday, May 21, 2011 in the City Parking Lot from 11:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. This is a free event, assisted by Ms. Jackie Dasen, and is an opportunity for the officers to relate to the community. There will be K-9 demos, safe kids demos, finger printing, games, raffle prizes and more. We will recognize our Department's dedication to the community's public safety as we welcome and include various area officers to join us.

The request was as follows:

- 1) Use of the City Parking Lot from 9:00 am. to 3:00 P.M. Set up would start at 9:00 and the event would be held from 11:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. Take down time would be 1:00-3:00 p.m.
- 2) Permission to hang announcement banner across Jefferies Boulevard May 15-21.

A motion was made by Council Member Smalls, seconded by Council Member Lucas, to use the City Parking Lot as requested and to hang the informational banner for Police Week as requested. The motion passed unanimously, except Council Member Buckner was absent and did not vote.

**MINUTES/Page V**

5. **Requests by the Friends of the Great Swamp Sanctuary for Special Guest Visit by Mr. Rudy Mancke on March 12, 2011**

A written request was reviewed by Council from Ms. Becky Broderick on behalf of the Friends of the Great Swamp Sanctuary. She announced that a Special Guest Visit by Mr. Rudy Mancke will be made on March 12, 2011 to conduct several scheduled events. She requested the following:

- 1) Use of directional signs to direct event participants to be placed as follows:
  - a) One at Detreville and Jefferies from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
  - b) One at Washington and Jefferies from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
  - c) One at Wichman Street from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- 2) Use the waterfall plaza from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- 3) To have the downtown waterfall turned off on Saturday from 1-4 P.M.
- 4) Assistance from the City for setup and removal of equipment.

A motion was made by Council Member Lucas to grant the requests as submitted by the Friends of the Great Swamp Sanctuary for the Rudy Mancke Visit on March 12<sup>th</sup>. Council Member Smalls seconded the motion that passed with all members voting in favor, except Council Member Buckner was absent and did not vote.

The Mayor then entertained a motion to enter into an Executive Session. A motion was made by Council Member Parker to enter an Executive Session, and Council Member Lucas seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, except Council Member Buckner was absent and did not vote.

The Mayor announced that the meeting would enter an Executive Session for a discussion incident to proposed contractual arrangements. The meeting then convened into Executive Session.

The meeting returned to Open Session and the Mayor announced that in order to clarify a previous action taken by Council tonight, the chair will now entertain a motion to adopt the Nondiscrimination Policy that may not have been stated in a previous motion. Council Member Lucas So Moved and Council Member Smalls seconded the motion. The motion to adopt the Nondiscrimination Policy as submitted, then passed with all members voting in favor. Council Member Buckner was absent and did not vote.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Council Member Parker, seconded by Council Member Lucas and passed unanimously. The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 7:20 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: April 12, 2011**