

Walterboro City Council  
Regular Meeting  
March 24, 2009

**MINUTES**

A Regular Meeting of Walterboro City Council was held at City Hall on Tuesday, March 24, 2009 at 6:15 P.M. with Mayor Charlie Sweat presiding.

**PRESENT WERE:** Mayor Charlie Sweat, Council Members: Randy Peters, Charles Lucas, Bill Young, Ted Parker, Franklin Smalls and Mary Anne Cannady. City Manager Jeff Lord, City Clerk Betty Hudson, City Attorney George Cone and Attorney Ashley Amundson were also present.

There being a quorum present, Mayor Sweat called the meeting to order and called on Council Member Smalls to give the invocation and Council Member Parker to lead the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag.

**PRESENTATION:**

Terry Seabrook - U.S. Census Bureau

Ms. Terry Seabrook, a partnership specialist with the U.S. Census Bureau, appeared before Council to discuss the federal agency and the city teaming up to improve the census count for 2010. She told Council, your census numbers determine how monies are divided among the states and how it comes back. Next March, all the census forms will go out in the mail to every resident in the United States, whether they are here legally or illegally. So, we have a monumental task in counting everyone who resides within the U.S. She stated my job as a partnership specialist with the Census Bureau, is to assist the City of Walterboro in increasing its numbers and to increasing its mail back response to the census. Unfortunately, in the 2000 census, South Carolina was way down the list in returning its census forms. My only job is to increase that mail back response. She stated that she had met with Mr. Lord, Mr. David Dodd and Ms. Bonnie Ross and we are all in accord to partner together to establish a complete count committee. That committee will assist the city in increasing its response. We have met this week, and we are working on getting the details of that together. We are asking for your blessings and your assistance in making this happen here in Walterboro. We want to increase the numbers, and get more money back into this community. We can only do that through your cooperation in getting all the citizens in the City to get their forms back. Next year when the census forms come out, there will only be 10 questions on the form. Those ten questions should take hopefully no more than 10 minutes to fill out. In conclusion, she stated, we are encouraging all citizens to complete the form and send it back in the mail as soon as possible. Ms. Seabrook also told Council she was looking for opportunities in this community to present census information to any group. She asked Council to please consider the possibility of inviting her to speak. I would love to come to any of your churches, and your social or fraternal organizations. She said, I would be in and out of your community for the next year to help you and assist you. She stated that I am looking forward to working with Mr. Lord, Mr. Dodd and Ms. Ross on the complete count committee.

The Mayor thanked Ms. Seabrook for coming. This item was accepted by Council as INFORMATION only. No formal action was taken.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

The Minutes of the February 4, 2009 Regular Meeting and the March 10, 2009 Public Hearing and Regular Meeting were approved as submitted on the motion of Council Member Lucas, seconded by Council Member Cannady and passed unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Agenda item, Consideration of Appointments to the City Boards and Commissions, was deferred by Council for reconsideration later in the meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

A proclamation designating April 2009 as Child Abuse Prevention Month, was adopted on the motion of Council Member Parker, seconded by Council Member Smalls and passed with all members voting in favor. A copy of said proclamation is attached as part of these minutes.

Resolution # 2009-R-05, A resolution recognizing April 2009 as Fair Housing Month, was adopted on the motion on Council Member Cannady, seconded by Council Member Young and passed unanimously. A copy of said resolution is attached as part of these minutes. Another motion was made by Council Member Parker, seconded by Council Member Smalls to adopt the City's Policy on Nondiscrimination. A copy of this policy is attached as part of these minutes.

Recommendation to Award Engineering Services Contract for Rivers Street Water System Improvements

Council reviewed a recommendation from Utilities Director Wayne Crosby to award an engineering services contract to B. P. Barber for the Rivers Street Water System Improvements. Mr. Crosby told Council that the Rivers Street water line extension would run from a dead-end line on Rivers Street to approximately 300 ft. down the new bypass. It is one of the projects that staff anticipates putting in the budget for the upcoming year. Mr. Crosby stated, it turns out we had an unrelated project in that same area that we have grant funding through LCOG. The City has some excess funding because of the low bid on that project. Staff went back to LCOG and asked if the city would be able to utilize those excess funds for a waterline extension, and they have agreed. Tonight, we are asking for your approval on the engineering services for this project. B. P. Barber has agreed to do the engineering services for \$11,500 and the construction observations not to exceed \$7,000 for a total of \$18,500. The available funds are \$107,000. The cost estimate on this project is \$117,000. I spoke with the engineer today and he expects the project to come in a lot less than that, so we may be able to pay for 100% of the construction. Mr. Crosby then recommended that Council accept the engineering cost proposal from B. P. Barber in the amount \$18,500.

A motion was made by Council Member Cannady to award an engineering contract to B. P. Barber & Associates in the amount of \$18,500 for the Rivers Street Water System Improvements. Council Member Smalls seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Consideration of Budget for 2009 General Election

City Manager Lord presented a proposed budget for the upcoming General Election, as a result of his conversations with Mr. David Alford, formerly of the Colleton County Elections and Voters Registration Board. The budget is as follows:

Item	Number	Each	Total
Poll Manager	(2)	\$180.00	\$ 360.00
Poll Workers	(6)	\$120.00	\$ 720.00
Absentee Ballots	100	\$ 3.00	\$ 300.00
Poll Worker Training		<u>\$120.00</u>	<u>\$ 120.00</u>
		Total	<u>\$1,500.00</u>

A motion was made by Council Member Lucas, seconded by Council Member Parker to approve the recommendation of \$1,500.00 to cover the costs for the upcoming General Election to be held in May 2009.

The Mayor then opened the floor to hear any comments from the public. No public comments were given.

Under Committee Reports, Council Member Cannady presented an award to Mr. Charles Lucas, who was unable to attend the NLC Meeting in Washington, D.C. a few days ago. This award is his bronze certificate for achievement in leadership excellence. This is a result of his participation in the Leadership Training Program sponsored by the National League of Cities.

A motion was then made by Council Member Lucas to enter an executive session to discuss a personnel matter related to appointments to City's boards and commissions. Council Member Smalls seconded the motion that passed unanimously. The meeting then entered an executive session.

The meeting returned to Open Session and the Mayor announced the following Boards and Commission Appointments.

**Building Board**

Herman Radcliff was newly appointed to replace Larry Berry for an unexpired term ending 1/2012.

**City Appearance Board**

Shawn Millen was newly appointed to replace Harvey Nichols for a 4-year term ending 1/2013.

**Economic Development Commission**

Marvin Jones, III was newly appointed to replace Bob Smith for an unexpired term ending 1/2011.

**Great Swamp Sanctuary Commission**

Chad Prosser, John Frampton, Dean Harrigal, Joe Hamilton, Badge Humphries and Bernard Warshaw were reappointed for another 4-year term.

**Historic Preservation Commission**

Mary Corbett, Fay Brooks and Linda Gottschalk were reappointed for another 2- year term.

**Recreation Commission**

Charles Rister and Rusty Adams were reappointed for another 4-year term.

**Municipal Planning Commission**

Sherman Jenkins Ford was reappointed for another 4-year term.

**Tree Protection Committee**

Shawn Jadrnicek and Michael Ferrari were reappointed for another 2-year term.

**North Lemacks Street Revitalization Committee**

Ethel Ford, Horace Garrett, Vera Cooper, John Brown, Sr., and Alease Samuels were newly appointed.

A motion was then made by Council Member Cannady, seconded by Council Member Lucas to approve said appointments to the Boards and Commissions as announced by the Mayor. The motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business to consider, a motion to adjourn was made by Council Member Parker, seconded by Council Member Lucas and passed unanimously. The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 7:15 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 28, 2009**