

Walterboro City Council  
Regular Meeting  
Tuesday, July 14, 2009

## **MINUTES**

A Regular City Council Meeting was held at Walterboro City Hall on Tuesday, July 14, 2009 at 6:15 P.M., with Outgoing Mayor Charlie Sweat presiding. The main purpose of this meeting was to hold a swearing-in ceremony for the Mayor Elect Bill Young, newly elected Council Members Dwayne Buckner, Tom Lohr and re-elected Council Member Charles Lucas. The ceremony was attended by approximately 100 persons from the public and was held at the front entrance of City Hall.

**PRESENT WERE:** Outgoing Mayor Charlie Sweat, Mayor Elect Bill Young, Council Members Franklin Smalls, Ted Parker, Randy Peters, Council Members Elect Dwayne Buckner and Tom Lohr and Re-elected Council Member Charles Lucas. Also, present and participating in the ceremony were: City Attorney George Cone, Pastor Tina Sweet, Ms. Lauren Bishop of CCHS Chorus and Senator Clementa Pinckney.

There being a quorum present, Mayor Sweat called the meeting to order and called on Rev. Tina Sweet for the invocation, followed by the singing of the National Anthem by Lauren Bishop of the Colleton County High School Chorus.

There was no Minutes or Old Business before Council.

Under New Business, Council Member Elect Dwayne T. Buckner was officially sworn into office by the City Attorney George Cone. His wife, Melissa Buckner, stood by holding the Bible during the swearing in.

Next, Council Member Elect W. Thomas Lohr was officially sworn into office by the City Attorney George Cone. His wife, Patti Lohr, stood by holding the Bible.

Next, Council Member Re-Elect Charles Lucas was officially sworn into office by the City Attorney George Cone. His wife, Cindy Lucas, stood by holding the Bible.

Next, the new Mayor Elect William T. Young, Jr. was officially sworn into office by the City Attorney George Cone. His wife, Janice Young, stood by holding the Bible during the swearing-in.

Mayor Young, Council Members Buckner, Lohr and Lucas were then officially seated on Council.

Outgoing Mayor Charlie Sweat then passed the official ceremonial gavel to Mayor Bill Young.

Remarks were then made by Mayor Young and Council Members Buckner Lohr and Lucas.

Mayor Young thanked his supporters, children and wife for their support. He also recognized other members of his family as well as other guests and dignitaries present at the meeting. Mayor Young stated, when I was elected Mayor of Walterboro on June 9, I was elected Mayor of all the people of Walterboro, not just those who supported me, and I will do my best to be Mayor of all the people. Mayor Young spoke briefly on specific areas he planned to address for progress for the City. These areas include: Economic Growth, Buy Local Campaign, Fire Protection, Crime, Communication and Parks Upgrade. Mayor Young also announced that he will hold the Mayor's Round Table meetings on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 5:15 P.M. He

stated, I am committed to moving the city forward and plan to keep an open door. I thank you for your support and prayers and thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Council Member Dwayne Buckner then gave remarks. He opened by stating, the question before us is: Which road should we take? To answer that question, he reminded us of a poem by Robert Frost entitled, "The Road Not Taken". Councilman Buckner emphasized his commitment to the task of addressing the plight of our youth in Walterboro. He proposed several new initiatives that focus on providing services to the youth in our community. They are:

- 1) The creation of a youth advisory commission to address youth related issues and seek grant funding for after school programs and recreational activities.
- 2) A city sponsored mentorship program to pair students with business, civic and governmental leaders.
- 3) Designated places where our youth can gather and socialize that are safe and free from drugs and negative influences.
- 4) Provide opportunities for youth to display their talents in the beautification and revitalization of the city.

Council Member Tom Lohr told the audience he came to Walterboro in 1969 about 40 years ago. He stated that Walterboro is a fine place to raise children. He pledged his support to Council to help with the progress of Walterboro.

Council Member Lucas thanked everyone for coming. He said, thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve 4 more years. I see great things in the future for Walterboro.

Council Members Parker, Smalls and Peters then gave words of congratulations and welcome.

Council Member Parker extended words of welcome and congratulations to the new Mayor and new Council Members.

Council Member Smalls congratulated the elected members of Council. He acknowledged, we have a group of hard working men to increase the quality of life in Walterboro. He said, it's not how long you work, but it's the type of work you do.

Councilman Randy Peters congratulated the new Mayor and elected Council Members. He recognized that Mayor Young will be a fine Mayor for the City of Walterboro.

Senator Clementa Pinckney of the Colleton County Legislative Delegation briefly addressed the audience and congratulated the Mayor and new Council Members. He also invited the Mayor to attend the Mayor's retreat, which is held 3 times a year.

Closing Remarks were given by Mayor Young, after which a motion to adjourn was made by Council Member Parker, seconded by Council Member Peters and passed unanimously.

There being no further business to consider, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 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: August 11, 2009**