

Walterboro City Council  
Regular Meeting  
March 25, 2008

## **MINUTES**

A Regular Meeting of Walterboro City Council was held at City Hall on Tuesday, March 25, 2008 at 5:30 P.M. with Mayor Pro-Tem Bill Young presiding.

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

The invocation was given by Council Member Smalls, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag led by Council Member Cannady.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Mayor Pro-Tem Young welcomed everyone to the meeting and then entertained a motion to enter an executive session. Council Member Lucas then moved to enter an executive session with a second by Council Member Cannady. The motion passed unanimously, except Mayor Sweat was absent and did not vote.

Mayor Pro-Tem Young then announced that the meeting would enter into an Executive Session for a discussion and negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements related to interoperable communications, legal counsel and for a discussion of provision of services.

The meeting returned to Open Session at approximately 6:15 P.M. with no formal action taken as a result of the Executive Session.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

The Minutes of the February 26, 2008 Regular Meeting were approved with a correction made by Mayor Pro-Tem Young, on Page VII, first line, to change the name "Mike Bennett" to "Mike Benton." The motion for approval was made by Council Member Cannady, seconded by Council Member Lucas, and passed with all members voting in favor. Mayor Sweat was absent and did not vote.

There was no Old Business Discussed.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

The Mayor Pro-Tem then announced two add-on agenda items under New Business: Consideration of Bids to Paint City Hall, and Approval to Purchase a Sidearm Tractor.

#### **1) CONSIDERATION OF BIDS FOR PAINTING OF CITY HALL (Add-on Item)**

Public Works Director Charlie Chewning reported that the City received bid proposals from the following contractors to paint the whole exterior of City Hall, plus the wooden section of the handicap ramp on the back of the Annex Building.

Hacquard Services Sumter, SC	\$17,680
Carolina Painting & Repair Walterboro, SC	\$18,500
Young's Painting Service Columbia, SC	\$19,000
Associated Contractors Columbia, SC	\$19,682
E & D Contracting Services Savannah, GA	\$61,300

Mr. Chewning reported that the low bidder was Hacquard Services of Sumter, SC at \$17,680. Mr. Chewning stated that this amount (\$17,680) was actually over what was estimated in the line item for maintenance on buildings. He recommended that Council accept the low bid of \$17,680 because four bids were all in the same range of each other. He added that we don't think we would get any better group of bids than what we got. I think that prices are just higher than what was estimated. City Manager Lord added that the painting cost was not budgeted under a separate line item, it was included in the building maintenance line item, and there is more money there than required for this. There was just not that much added on, in anticipation of these values. \$13,000 was added, so you will be exceeding by \$4,680 what was added to the line item, but the money is currently there.

Mr. Chewning stated, we still are not over what we have in that line item, but for the rest of the year, including all repairs on air conditioners, floor waxing, etc., we may overrun some.

On a question by Council Member Parker on the references for Hacquard Services, Mr. Chewning reported he called one of the contractor's references, who was the Director of Construction for the City of Sumter. He said that Hacquard is the only painting contractor he knows of that he would actually recommend to anybody. He has done a great job and he spoke very highly of Hacquard.

Council Member Lucas asked if any references were gotten on Carolina Painting and Repair, a local contractor. Mr. Chewning responded that he only received references from Hacquard. They list in their bid sheet, Summerville and Walterboro, and I am thinking that most of their business is probably in Summerville. Cyprus Road, of course, is not in the city. I don't think that would be a consideration, Mr. Chewning stated.

A motion was then made by Council Member Cannady to accept the low bid of \$17,680 for Hacquard Services. Council Member Parker seconded the motion that passed unanimously. Mayor Sweat was absent and did not vote.

**2) APPROVAL TO PURCHASE A SIDEARM TRACTOR FROM ALTMAN TRACTOR CO.  
(Add-on item)**

Mr. Chewning explained that this is a tractor with a sidearm boom mower and a bushhog on the back. This will be used to cut our road shoulders, and the boom will be used to cut the slopes on Ireland Creek and all interchanges. City Manager Lord reported that staff received the state contractor price for the tractor. Mr. Chewning added that the total price including the sales tax is \$98,334.00.

A motion was the made by Council Member Cannady to purchase the Sidearm Tractor for \$98,334.00. Council Member Smalls seconded the motion. In discussing the motion, Council Member Peters asked if staff could be sure the tractor would be able to cut the banks on Ireland Creek. Mr. Chewning responded that staff knows that the tractor would reach 21 feet out, so we are hoping it will get to most of the bottoms on those slopes. We have not actually measured the slopes. Council Member Peters questioned whether staff could get a tractor brought to the location. Mr. Chewning said, we probably could do that, but generally they have to order the tractors. The attachments come separate and they put them on. So, I think it would be kind of hard to do that.

City Manager Lord added that he believed that this is the longest reach we can get on the tractor. Mr. Chewning reported that there is expected to be a price increase on this tractor on April 1. So, we can save 3% if we act before April 1.

The motion then passed unanimously, with all members voting in favor. Mayor Sweat was absent and did not vote.

**3) APPROVAL OF FAIR HOUSING RESOLUTION # 2008-R-02**

Next, Resolution # 2008-02, designating April 2008 as Fair Housing Month was approved on the motion of Council Member Parker, seconded by Council Member Smalls and passed unanimously. Mayor Pro-Tem Young also emphasized the City's Nondiscrimination Policy. A copy of said Resolution and Policy Statement is attached as part of these minutes.

**4) STREET CLOSING REQUEST FOR ANNUAL DOWNTOWN WALTERBORO  
CRITERIUM CYCLING RACE**

Next, Council considered a written request from the Downtown Walterboro Criterium Committee asking that the following streets be closed to accommodate a one-mile lap race on April 30, 2008 for the sixth annual USA Crits Cycling Series Race:

*East Washington Street to Neyle Street to South Miller Street to Hampton Street to North Walter Street - Closed from 3:30 to 9:30 P.M.*

*The Committee also requested that East Washington Street be closed starting at 2:00 P.M. for parking and then closed to all traffic at 3:30 P.M.*

A motion to approve this request was made by Council Member Cannady, seconded by Council Member Parker, and passed unanimously, except Mayor Sweat was absent and did not vote. In discussing the motion, Council Member Lucas asked if the downtown

merchants had been notified regarding the street closing. Major Dasen responded, we do notify them once it's approved.

**5) REQUEST TO PLACE INFORMATION BANNER FOR VICTIMS RIGHTS WEEK**

Next, Council considered a request to place an informational banner across Jefferies Blvd. announcing Victims Rights Week on April 11-18, 2008. Victims Advocate Denise Pinckney was present and stated that the banner was basically to bring awareness of criminal domestic violence and for all victims of all crimes. SCE&G will put up the banner on April 11 and it would remain for one week.

A motion was made by Council Member Lucas, seconded by Council Member Smalls to approve the request to place the information banner across Jefferies Blvd. announcing Victims Rights Week on April 11-2008. The motion passed unanimously, except Mayor Sweat was absent and did not vote.

There were no Committee Reports given.

There being no further business to consider, a motion to adjourn was made by Council Member Cannady, seconded by Council Member Parker and passed unanimously. The Mayor Pro-Tem adjourned the meeting at 6:37 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 8, 2008**