

Walterboro City Council  
Public Hearing and Regular Meeting  
April 10, 2007

### **MINUTES**

A Public Hearing and Regular Meeting of Walterboro City Council was held at City Hall on Tuesday, April 10, 2007, with Mayor Charles H. Sweat, Jr. presiding.

**PRESENT WERE:** Mayor Charles H. Sweat, Jr., Council Members: Charles Lucas, Johnnie Thompson, Franklin Smalls and Mary Anne Cannady. City Manager Tuck McConnell, City Clerk Betty Hudson and City Attorney George Cone were also present. Council Members Bill Young and Ted Parker were absent.

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

The Mayor then announced a public hearing, duly advertised, to receive comments on a Community Development Grant Funding Request in the amount of \$233,000 for the Lincoln Water Looping Project. Mayor Sweat then introduced Mr. Chris Bickley of the Lowcountry Council of Governments, to conduct the hearing. A copy of the sign-in sheet for the hearing is attached as part of these minutes.

Mr. Bickley announced that the public hearing, is being held to solicit comments on an application that is being submitted to the State Community Development Block Grant Program, which will be submitted on Monday. It is in the amount of \$233,000 to install a 6" water line on Witsell Street that will connect to an existing line on Sweat Street and Springwood Drive. It is also for installation of two fire hydrants in that area. This project, in general, will improve water service in the area, improve pressure in the area, and specifically will improve fire flow in the neighborhood. This project directly affects 225 people, of which 91% are Low-to-moderate income persons, which is the focus of the CDBG program.

Mr. Bickley then stated he would be happy to answer any questions or hear any comments. He stated that the city conducts an annual CDBG needs' assessment hearing. The improvements to the water and sewer system in the City are, and have been, the City's top priority for quite some time. This project directly works with that priority.

The Mayor then asked for any comments or questions from the public. None being received, the hearing was closed. The regular meeting then began.

The Minutes of the March 6, 2007 Rescheduled Regular Meeting were approved as submitted on the motion of Council Member Lucas, seconded by Council Member Cannady, with all members voting in favor.

Under Old Business, Council again considered appointments to the open positions on the City's Boards and Commissions.

A motion was then made by Council Member Smalls, seconded by Council Member Thompson and passed unanimously to approve the following appointments:

**Mr. James Rabb, newly appointed to the Tree Protection Committee for a 2-year term, to replace Phyllis Green who had resigned.**

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**Mr. Phillip Taylor, reappointed for a 3-year term to the Accommodations Tax Board.**

**Mr. Bob Smith, reappointed for a 4-year term to the Economic Development Commission.**

Council Members Young and Parker were absent and did not vote on the motion.

Under New Business, Resolution # 2007-R-01, Authorizing Submission of CDBG Grant Application for \$233,000 for the Lincoln Water Project and Committing 10% in Match Funds, was adopted on the motion of Council Member Thompson, seconded by Council Member Smalls and passed unanimously. Council Members Young and Parker were absent and did not vote on the motion.

Resolution No. 2007-R-02, designating April as Fair Housing Month and recognizing the city's policy of Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability Status, was adopted on the motion of Council Member Cannady, seconded by Council Member Smalls and passed unanimously. Council Members Young and Parker were absent and did not vote on the motion. A copy of said resolution is attached as part of these minutes.

Council Member Thompson moved to give First Reading Approval to Ordinance # 2007-04, being: AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH THE EFFECTIVE DATE FOR THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS AS PART OF THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION ORDINANCE AND THE ISSUANCE OF BUILDING PERMITS. Council Member Lucas seconded the motion that passed with all members in favor, except that Council Members Young and Parker were absent and did not vote on the motion.

Ordinance # 2007-05 was adopted on First Reading Approval on the motion of Council Member Cannady, seconded by Council Member Smalls and passed unanimously, being: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A LEASE AGREEMENT FOR THE LITTLE LIBRARY WITH THE COLLETON COUNTY HISTORICAL AND PRESERVATION SOCIETY. Council Members Young and Parker were absent and did not vote.

Due to the upcoming General Election on May 22, a motion was made by Council Member Cannady to reschedule the May 22, 2007 meeting if needed. If not rescheduled, Council will resume its schedule for the next regular meeting. Council Member Lucas seconded the motion that passed unanimously. Council Members Young and Parker were absent and did not vote on the motion.

Next, Council reviewed a list of recommendations from the A-Tax Committee for funding requests from the City's A-tax funds. A summary of the requests was provided in a memorandum from Finance Director Jeff Lord and APPROVED by Council as follows:

<b>The Downtown Walterboro Criterium</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>
<b>The Colleton County Historical and Preservation Society</b>	<b>\$5,550</b>
<b>Lowcountry Resort Island Tourism Commission</b>	<b>\$5,800</b>
<b>SC Artisans Center</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$26,350</b>

The motion for approval was made by Council Member Cannady, seconded by Council Member Smalls and passed unanimously. Council Members Young and Parker were absent and did not vote.

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Next, Mr. Budd Price appeared before Council on behalf of the Colleton County Historical and Preservation Society with requests regarding the upcoming Walterboro Antiques, History and Arts Festival to be held May 4-6, 2007. Mr. Price requested the following:

1. Permission to hang 30 (3 ft. x 17") welcome banners. (A sample of the banner was shown to Council). He stated some banners would be hung on Jefferies Boulevard between Wichman and Hampton Street and the rest of the banners would be placed on Washington Street from the Post Office up to Walters Street.
2. Permission to place an art show and sales in front of the waterfall with screens featuring local artists on them, on Saturday and Sunday.
3. Permission to place one tent at the corner of Washington and Lucas Street in the parking lot for music by a bluegrass band on Saturday from 10:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.
4. Permission to place 5 tents in the city parking lot adjacent to 322 Washington Street (which is the old Novit Siegel men's department building) for an antique appraiser and 4 antique dealers from Friday noon until 6:00 P.M. on Sunday. In line with this request, Mr. Price stated they will be utilizing the rear grassy area behind that building between the Methodist Church carport and the Novit Siegel building for a reception on Friday night. He said it would be nice if the dumpster located by the grassy area could be moved down to Hampton Street.

Concluding, Mr. Price stated he believed this festival will go a long way in bringing in visitors to take advantage of the antiques. They are also doing a house tour on Saturday afternoon on Wichman Street featuring 5 historic houses, and a garden tour Sunday afternoon on Hampton Street featuring gardens designed by Robert Marvin. His organization has received a very generous requested grant from the accommodations tax fund to help publicize this event. We believe this will bring in a really good quality of visitors to Walterboro. Also, in connection with this event, we are promoting the Arts Council's plantation gallows at the White House Plantation on Saturday night.

Mayor Sweat asked if waving the business license was a part of this request. Mr. Price and Ms. Gale Doggette then requested wavering of the business license for their antique and arts' vendors.

Council Member Cannady questioned the placement of the tent on the corner of Lucas and Washington Streets. Mr. Price responded it would be placed on the grassy plot by the live oak tree right at the corner, or it will go in the parking lot. Council Member Cannady stated she wanted to make sure the tent would go in the parking lot.

A motion was then made by Council Member Lucas granting the requests by the Colleton County Historical and Preservation Society for the Antiques, History and Arts Festival on May 4-6, 2007. Council Member Thompson seconded the motion that passed

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unanimously. Council Members Young and Parker were absent and did not vote on the motion.

Approval of a proposal by the Leadership Colleton Class for Plantings at the Water Tower was deferred by Council to a later date.

Next, a request from Marilyn Peters of Clemson Extension for use of the City Parking Lot for the Farmer's Market was before Council. Mayor Sweat announced that changes on this request were being made and this item would be reconsidered by Council at its next meeting.

Next, a motion was made by Council Member Lucas, seconded by Council Member Cannady to enter an Executive Session to hear comments on a personnel matter. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting returned to Open Session, and Council briefly discussed its participation in the upcoming Rice Festival Parade. There being no further business to consider, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Council Member Smalls, seconded by Council Member Lucas and passed unanimously. The Mayor adjourned the meeting at approximately 6:58 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 May 8, 2007**