MINUTES

A Public Hearing and Regular Meeting of Walterboro City Council was held at City Hall on Tuesday, November 1, 2016 at 6:15 P.M., with Mayor Bill Young presiding.

PRESENT WERE: Mayor Bill Young, Council Members: Jimmy Syfrett, Paul Siegel, Tom Lohr, Bobby Bonds, James Broderick and Judy Bridge. City Manager Jeff Molinari, City Clerk Betty Hudson and City Attorney George Cone were also present. There were approximately 20 persons present in the audience.

There being a quorum present, Mayor Young called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the meeting. He then invited everyone to stand and join us for the invocation and the pledge of allegiance. Council Member Syfrett gave the invocation and Council Member Bonds led the pledge of allegiance to our flag.

The Mayor announced that this is Council's first regular meeting since Hurricane Matthew came through here. He just wanted to take a minute to thank all of our City employees, especially our parks and public works employees for the great job that they all did in the City. He said, I know in Forest Hills, almost every street was blocked and they got in there and got the streets cleared quickly. We had so many trees down all over Walterboro and I have had nothing but compliments about what a good job that the City has done during that time. I also want to thank SCE&G and Coastal Electric for the great job that they did in getting our power back on as quickly as they did; some others sooner than others, but we realize how much we depend on that when we have an emergency.

PUBLIC INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS:

There were no public comments or questions on agenda items.

PUBLIC HEARING:

The Mayor then opened a public hearing, duly advertised, to receive public comments/questions on the following proposed ordinances:

1. <u>Ordinance # 2016-09</u>, An Ordinance Providing for the Issuance and Sale of Waterworks and Sewer System Revenue Bonds of the City of Walterboro, South Carolina, and Other Matters Relating Thereto.

City Manager Jeff Molinari briefed Council on this agenda item. He said, at the September meeting, we had Mr. Lawrence Flynn of Pope Flynn, LLC to come to our meeting. He gave a very detailed presentation outlining some proposed changes in the City's bond ordinance to reflect the changes in the market. The City's bond ordinance had not been updated since 1998. This evening, we have with us Ms. Margaret Pope, and she will entertain any questions that Council or the public may have.

Ms. Margaret Pope of Pope Flynn, LLC was present to brief Council on this ordinance. She said, I am in my 41st year of practicing law, so I have been in this room many, many times. I am here tonight to follow up on second reading. I am certainly happy to answer any questions. I am glad to hear that Lawrence followed my instructions. I have told all of my young people to go through the ordinances. Everybody has got to have an opportunity to read them and understand. There is not as much pressure placed on you now with respect to refunding your bonds and adding additional bonds. We also are allowing the custody of a reserve fund, if you have to create one for a bond issue, like a ready to go fund, in case you don't have

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enough money in your debt service fund. That is one change that we made not in this ordinance from last time to this time, but in your series ordinance, and that will be up at the next public hearing. And you have one reserve fund for your previously issued SRF fund, and it is held by the trustee. We were given instructions and gave you the opportunity to change that too. So, you have the option of putting it with the State Treasurer's Office. They do a good job and you will avoid a lot of things.

Ms. Pope further stated, you have two bond issues that are outstanding - one is held by BB&T for a refunding issue, and the other is a State Revolving Fund (SRF) loan with Trish Comp. The SRF loan requires a reserve fund unless you have an "A" credit rating. You have not sold bonds in the public market for a long time. It's kind of a burden. You have to provide a detailed description of management and the control of your utility system, numerous conference calls and could require travel to New York for the rating call. To obtain a rating from a rating agency, it costs \$15,000 due from the rating agency. The lawyer's fees increase and all of that, so, we have not bothered with obtaining a rating at this point. The SRF has been a great source of money for the City. When we get the refundings from the general obligation side and the revenue side years ago, I actually worked on those transactions, the banks didn't necessarily care if you had a rating or not, because they did their own credit analysis. So, Trish Comp with the SRF does require that the City have a reserve fund and we are going to move the one for the prior SRF and establish one for the current issue at the State Treasurer's Office.

If you'd like for me to give a little bit of detail about the bond issue, I can do it now or wait until we get to the discussion on the series ordinance. As you know the bond ordinance itself in front of us right now, does not authorize the issuance of any particular bond issue. If you are going to issue revenue bonds, it simply provides the requirements to do so. It is the next ordinance, the series ordinance, that is issued under the umbrella of the bond ordinance. It is shorter and it sets out how you are going to sell it, at what times, what for and what the proceeds can be used for - whether or not you have to establish a reserve fund, and that sort of thing. The bond ordinance, which is what is before you right now, simply provides the terms under which you issue your bonds. It tells you what terms you may have, lists the parity bonds, when you can do a refunding, how you have to run the utility system, etc. It's all the covenants that the people who buy your bonds, the lenders to you, want you to say affirmatively this is what the City will do. The City promises that it will keep its utility rates at a certain level. No one will want to buy your bonds if you were not mandated under your ordinance to keep your utility rates at a certain level. We give very distinct definitions to such things as net earnings and what that number is comprised of.

One different thing that I hope you picked up on is that you will have the opportunity to establish a rate stabilization fund. You don't have to, but if you have some money in one year that you want to set aside, you may do that. You have it all here, you can take that money out of the rate stabilization fund and use it in connection with the compensation of net earnings. There are a lot of things that bond holders want to be sure that Council understands.

The Mayor then opened the floor for comments or questions from the public.

A man in the audience asked if there was any indication of what the interest rate would be on these bonds? Ms. Pope responded that she would talk about that in the next public hearing, which is the one right after this one. We will talk about that particular issue. I will give you a little bit more information on it.

The next public hearing, dully advertised, was then announced by the Mayor. This public hearing was a follows:

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2. Ordinance # 2016-10, A Series Ordinance, Approving the Financing of a Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade Through the Borrowing of Not Exceeding One Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,500,000), Plus Capitalized Interest, If Any, from the State Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund, by Agreement with the South Carolina Water Quality Revolving Fund Authority, Pursuant to Title 48, Chapter 5, Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, as Amended; Providing for the Agreement to Make and to Accept a Loan, the Execution and Delivery of a Loan Agreement Between the City of Walterboro, South Carolina and the South Carolina Water Quality Revolving Fund Authority, the Execution and Delivery of a Promissory Note from the City of Walterboro, South Carolina to the South Carolina Water Quality Revolving Fund Authority; and Other Matters Relating Thereto.

City Manager Molinari briefed Council on this agenda item. He said, as you are aware, we were able to secure a grant from the EDA in the amount of \$2,040,000, as well as a \$500,000 grant from the Rural Infrastructure Authority. This final piece, the \$1.5 million will allow us to fund the improvements to the Wastewater Treatment Plant. He then turned the meeting over to Ms. Margaret Pope to talk about the details of the bond issue.

Ms. Pope told Council, this is the loan agreement with the SRF. We just got it a few days ago. I noticed a couple of typo's, which we will get them to fix and finish it up. But let me give you the details of this loan.

Ms. Pope then said, this is a loan that is provided by the State of South Carolina's Revolving Fund Authority. This is federal money that comes down to the state to be loaned out. You are borrowing, not exceeding, \$1.5 million. Until you let the bid and begin your construction and know exactly how much money you need, we put it in an "not exceeding" amount. It will actually only equal the amount of the disbursements plus if you wish, you can add capitalized interest to it. The way this happens is when you need a draw drown in a month to make your payments on the construction, Trish Comp, who runs the program, will make that disbursement, and she will charge you interest on each disbursement, from the date of disbursement until what she calls the "payment initiation date". The payment initiation date for you is December 1, 2017, which is more than a year from now. That's when she forecasts that you'll be through with construction. She will add up all those interest amounts. She will call Jeff and they will be talking, and she'll say, do you want to pay that to me now at your payment initiation date, or do you want me to add that to the principal amount of the disbursement, which will be the amount of the loan. Most people with interest rates we have today, add that to it, rather than taking cash out of their pockets, but you can do either one. You just have to let her know which one you want to do.

The other thing I wanted to point out to you - we are at an interest rate of 1.80% for 20 years, a fixed rate. I don't know that we could get that kind of rate in the open market. I just doubt it, and we would have to assume that an "A" credit rating for the City would get that kind of interest rate, but she follows the market pretty well and better than a lot of the other federal agencies that we deal with. So, she has locked in a 1.80% over a 20-year period. Your first payment is not going to be due until 3 months from your payment initiation date. Your payment initiation date, we believe, is going to be December 1 of next year. That means that is when they expect construction to be finished, so she can add up all the interest costs and you pay it. Then, that's December 1. So, then she forecasted 3 months later, which is March 1, will be your first principal and interest payment. You pay quarterly, and each of those payments according to our exhibit is a little bit more than \$22,000 a quarter. Also notice that in the two ordinances, we will correct the second reading date. We thought we were going to have it in October, and that was delayed a little

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bit. So, that will be changed. I will change that and send you down new copies. So, the quarterly payments are each \$22,368.77.

The only other thing I would point out is that Trish Comp does charge a closing fee, and it cannot be advanced from the loan, so you have to write a check and please write it in blue ink. She doesn't take anything but blue ink, and it is \$3,750.00. They are a self-sustaining institution.

Ms. Pope concluded by stating that the last bond ordinance lasted a long time. The prior bond ordinance lasted from 1998 to present. So, if the market changes, that's when we really start changing ordinances. You can't change an ordinance while you have bonds outstanding unless the bondholder's give approval, because that was their contract. That's the way you need to look at your bond ordinances. It's the contract with the bondholder. So, of course, what we have done is we have secured the consent of Andy Smith of BB&T and Trish at SRF, because they are the only bondholders you have outstanding currently. You had multiple bond holders, like people owning a \$5,000 piece of each bond issue, which happens when you are in the open market.

This was an ideal time to revise the bond ordinance and you only had two bondholders and we know them both really well, so they were very agreeable to the amendment and restatement. So, it's just a perfect time to make changes with only two bondholders.

Ms. Pope then asked if there were any questions about the bond series ordinance. This is the document that is the smaller of the two, and it just states what you are going to spend the money on and it attaches the SRF loan agreement to it as an exhibit, and establishes that we are going to set up the reserve fund with the State Treasurer's Office and move the prior bond issue's reserve fund to the State Treasurer office also.

Mayor Young then asked if there were any questions from the public. Mr. Carlton Burke then asked about the fixed quarterly payment. Ms. Pope responded that she does not think she has ever had a bond ordinance adopted where we had a "not to exceed", and it comes in exactly that amount, because we don't know what your capitalizations will be, and we don't know if the City will decide to pay the capitalized interest or add it to the not exceeding principal amount of the bond issue. You only owe what she adds up as the disbursements. But we think \$1.5M with the other funds that the City Manager spoke of is great. It will be close. I mean Trish Comp is one of the best people working in State government.

There were no further comments or questions and the public hearing was closed.

Before proceeding with the meeting, Mayor Young stated that he would like to include others to thank for their good work with Hurricane Matthew. He said he would like to include our Fire Department and Police Department, who were also out there doing a great job. I know I got a text at 8:00 A.M. that Saturday morning, that a tree had fallen over a lady's house, and I called in and by the time I got from my house to their house, we had the Police Chief there and the Fire Chief and people helping her to make plans to get the tree out of the way. That was repeated across Walterboro many times. So. thank you too, I hope you didn't think I was leaving you out, because I sure did appreciate everything you did.

PRESENTATIONS:

1. South Carolina Legislative Update - Senator Margie Bright-Matthews

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Senator Bright-Matthews was absent and this agenda item was omitted.

2. Jack Jackson, Southeastern Solar Development, LLC

The Mayor then recognized Mr. Jack Jackson for his presentation on Southeastern Solar Development, LLC.

Mr. Jackson then thanked City Council for the opportunity to present the first commercial solar energy project in the City of Walterboro. We have been working on and off with the City Staff for about 8 months discussing this project. So, we are here to propose today two items to the Council. The first one is to authorize the signing of an interconnection and billing arrangement with SCE&G. The second is to consider approving going forward with the solar power installation for the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Mr. Jackson then explained the interconnection and billing arrangements with SCE&G. He said, this is a program that SCE&G developed a year ago last summer. It's limited to a maximum number of type of watts in the program. There are only 4.5 megawatts left in this program. So, as I talked with the Mayor last week, it is imperative that we get Walterboro signed up under this program, because if you are not on the program, you have no chance of taking advantage of the benefits offered by this program. My signing the agreement you are under no obligation to go forward, but if you don't sign it, you could lose out and not be qualified for the program.

We will answer any questions you might have about this. There is a simple form and again, it's just merely to get you on the list and a slot reserved for you if you choose to go forward with the solar energy project.

Mr. Alex Baker, also present with Mr. Jack Jackson on the solar energy project then said, and you have up to a year from the point that it's accepted to make a decision to move forward or not. So, it's not a rush kind of decision.

Mr. Jackson then stated that the City of Hampton just signed their interconnection and billing agreement for their Wastewater Facility Plant.

Mr. Jackson then explained the second item. He explained that if the City approves his proposal for a solar power facility, the City would earn \$50,000 a year. These monies could be applied to the current Wastewater Treatment Plan electric bill. If that was the case, you could create a savings of some 21% over what you are paying currently. In addition to that, because this would be a new business coming in to Walterboro, you'll have new property taxes ranging in the area of \$30,000 to \$50,000. Those two numbers together account for a good source of new revenues coming to the City and to the County,

Mr. Jackson pointed out that all the electric power from this installation will be sold directly to SCE&G in accordance with South Carolina law and the regulations in existence today. The Wastewater Treatment Plant will continue to purchase its electric power directly from SCE&G. Solar installation will never disrupt the line coming in from SCE&G to supply the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Mr. Jackson then introduced Mr. Alex Baker of Southern Current, who is also a partner in this project. Mr. Jackson also told Council that this solar power facility could be increased to generate another megawatt, which will bring you up to 2 megawatts, when the Wastewater Treatment Plant additions are made, which we estimate would cover your additional power uses for that 2nd phase improvements. Again, we would do this on a meter rental basis, and there would be no cost to the City.

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The other thing I'd like to mention is that this project we estimate is going to cost approximately \$2 million. The City will not have to fund any of that. Our investors will pick up that tab and pay all the costs for the development of this power plant. So, you really have no risk. The only benefit you will get is \$50,000 a year for the one meter rental. If we go to the second meter rental, it will be \$100,000 a year plus your ad valorem taxes or property taxes which will be generated because it is a new business coming to town.

Mr. Alex Baker of Southern Current, then addressed Council. He said, he is the head of Southern Current's Industrial Development Division. He said, we have done 70 megawatts projects between North and South Carolina. We have another 100 megawatts going into South Carolina in the next two years on top of that. All ground based very similar systems as what would be in the Walterboro Wastewater Treatment Plant.

So, I wanted to give a little bit background and dive into the details of how this works. If you look at the bill credit agreement, it is offered by SCE&G as an incentive for municipalities who participate in the program. They are willing to pay \$.22 per kilowatt hour that's produced from the solar energy production. So, Walterboro does qualify on the current rate schedule for municipalities on rate 3. It is the right size and that is why we are able to offer this agreement. It's pretty rare for other facilities in South Carolina.

Basically how it works, by signing the interconnection and bill credit agreement, you will be assigning the benefits of the tower production coming straight to us. In exchange for that, we will pay for the entire system cost, pay for the land and everything on that side and we would pay the City \$50,000 a year for 10 years. The 10 years is because that's the term of the bill credit agreement with SCE&G. And then Colleton County as well will get an additional property tax base from the \$2 million or so that we would be bringing into the county. SCE&G would pay us directly for that power, and out of that we would pay the \$50,000 a year. This is just a revenue projection from the models we brought. Obviously the \$50,000 a year for 10 years is pretty advertising, alongside the property tax. Those are estimates, we would have to dive further in to see what the exact property taxes would be for the County with the County itself. But if you look at the total, that's \$720,000 in new tax revenue and it doesn't cost the County or the City a dime.

Mr. Jackson then told Council that there has been some discussion about the subdivision, which is close to the Wastewater Facility Plant and how that might be affected by this new solar project. One of the things you'd have to do to qualify for this program is that you have to have the solar facility immediately adjacent to whatever facility that's going to be using the meter. So, we have to put it right next to the Wastewater Facility Plant. This gives you sort of an idea. There is a 14-acre piece of land with options. But to be sure and try to alleviate any concerns that the neighborhood might have, there is going to be a buffer zone of approximately 200 feet. Mr. Alex Baker added, we have to have a 200-foot buffer. It is required for us.

Mr. Jackson then said, with that 200 feet buffer, the subdivision would not be able to see this facility. As far as traffic coming into it, once the construction is done, the only traffic you are going to see would be once a quarter, when the guy comes in to mow the lawn. The meters are all monitored electronically, so they will be done right through their main office. Of course if something happens, we will have to send people out there. But there is practically no traffic involved.

Mr. Baker added that the best part is that there is no interruption of service at all. So, the power is going directly back onto the grid, not going into the Wastewater Treatment Plant at all. There is no interruption of service and no cost to the City.

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No comments or questions were raised. Mayor Young thanked Mr. Jackson and Baker and said, we will take it under consideration.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Upon the motion of Council Member Bonds, seconded by Council Member Broderick, the Minutes of the October 4, 2016 Regular Meeting were unanimously approved as submitted.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Ordinance # 2016-09, An Ordinance Providing for the Issuance and Sale of Waterworks and Sewer System Revenue Bonds of the City of Walterboro, South Carolina, and Other Matters Relating Thereto, (Amended and Restated Bond Ordinance), Second Reading and Adoption

City Manager Molinari did not have any further comments other than what was stated by Attorney Margaret Pope. He asked for Council's favorable consideration of this ordinance.

A motion was made by Council Member Bonds, seconded by Council Member Syfrett, giving Second Reading and Adoption to Ordinance # 2016-09; being, An Ordinance Providing for the Issuance and Sale of Waterworks and Sewer System Revenue Bonds of the City of Walterboro, South Carolina, and Other Matters Relating Thereto (Amended and Restated Bond Ordinance). The motion passed with all members voting in favor.

2. Next on the agenda was Ordinance # 2016-10, A Series Ordinance, Approving the Financing of a Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade Through the Borrowing of Not Exceeding One Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,500,000), Plus Capitalized Interest, If Any, from the State Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund, by Agreement with the South Carolina Water Quality Revolving Fund Authority, Pursuant to Title 48, Chapter 5, Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, as Amended; Providing for the Agreement to Make and to Accept a Loan, the Execution and Delivery of a Loan Agreement Between the City of Walterboro, South Carolina and the South Carolina Water Quality Revolving Fund Authority, the Execution and Delivery of a Promissory Note from the City of Walterboro, South Carolina to the South Carolina Water Quality Revolving Fund Authority; and Other Matters Relating Thereto, Second Reading and Adoption

A motion was made by Council Member Bridge giving Second Reading and Adoption to Ordinance # 2016-10, A Series Ordinance, Approving the Financing of a Wastewater Treat Plant Upgrade. Council Member Siegel seconded the motion that passed with all members voting in favor.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Ordinance # 2016-11, An Ordinance Authorizing the City of Walterboro to Join with Colleton County and the Walterboro-Colleton County Airport Commission to Convey by Quit Claim Deed Unto Sealcraft Corporation, as the Grantee, All of its Rights, Titles and Interests, Including but Not Limited to Any and All Reversionary Interest, in and to the 5.00 Acre, More or Less, Tract of Land, Situated in Colleton County, South Carolina, and Being Located in the Industrial Area at 418 Wellston Circle, Walterboro, SC 29488, and Being

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<u>Designated as Colleton County TMS Number 132-00-00-019, and Now Owned by Sealcraft Corporation, First Reading by Title Only</u>

City Manager Molinari asked Council to review a letter that was sent last week to the City Attorney George Cone, as well as a title for that property and a map for that property at 418 Wellston Circle. He informed Council that the Airport Commission is going to take this matter up at their meeting next Thursday, but we were asked along with the County to give First Reading to an ordinance that would authorize us to join with the County and the Airport Commission to convey property by Quit Claim Deed to Sealcraft Corporation. This is essentially the reason why you have the request in front of you. The title company is requiring before they will ensure title to the property that they obtain a quit claim deed from the Airport Commission, the City of Walterboro and the County conveying the property to Sealcraft Corporation and cancelling the reverter and restrictions.

Mr. Molinari told Council that the client is going to be using the property for manufacturing operations, but the previous owner has ceased manufacturing operations in the last year and the title company is of the opinion that it could have triggered the reverter clause in the deed.

A motion was then made by Council Member Broderick, seconded by Council Member Syfrett, giving First Reading by Title Only to Ordinance # 2016-11, An Ordinance Authorizing the City of Walterboro to Join with Colleton County and the Walterboro-Colleton County Airport Commission to Convey by Quit Claim Deed Unto Sealcraft Corporation, as the Grantee, All of its Rights, Titles and Interests, Including but Not Limited to Any and All Reversionary Interest, in and to the 5.00 Acre, More or Less, Tract of Land, Situated in Colleton County, South Carolina, and Being Located in the Industrial Area at 418 Wellston Circle, Walterboro, SC 29488, and Being Designated as Colleton County TMS Number 132-00-00-019, and Now Owned by Sealcraft Corporation.

In discussing the motion, Council Member Bonds asked the City Manager if this property was conveyed in 1972 for \$3,000? Attorney Cone responded affirmatively. He said there are two ways they can convey the property. This was conveyed when the Development makes a recommendation that a desirable industry wants to locate here. Then, they don't have to have it appraised and can sell it at any price they want. I have looked through what you've gotten, but when I talked to Eddie Bennett and Tom Howard they had a copy of the resolutions and all that. So, the Development asked to sell it to them. The present owner and the desirable industry, no appraisal had to be done, and in order to attract that industry, we sold it for \$3,000.

Council Member Bonds then said, there was a reverter clause put in, correct. Attorney Cone responded right, Mr. Bonds then asked, and the reverter clause provided what? Attorney Cone responded that if it ceased to be used for basically industrial or manufacturing purposes, it would revert to the City and the County. Council Member Bonds then asked, so has it ceased to operate in that capacity? Attorney Cone said, I haven't been out there. Eddie Bennett and Tom Howard told me that the old owners had ceased using it for some period of time. So, the new owner wants to get rid of the provision to buy it from the present owner. Mr. Bonds then said, I guess what we I am asking is - are we giving up a valuable right. In fact, does it automatically revert to us, I mean it's ours now, correct? Attorney Cone then said, but you would have to pay for the cost of the improvement, and I don't know what they would be.

Council Member Bonds then stated, I am just concerned that it is possible that we are giving up a valuable right. So, what I want to do, I want to be certain that we know what we are giving up. And maybe there is no value right there at all, but

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if it is, I think we owe it to the citizens to at least look at and decide if that's something we want to do. Attorney Cone stated that Eddie Bennett and Tom Howard were acting on behalf of the County, but I will find out. If you want me to, I can look at what the assessor says what the value of the building is, and I can double check the language if you wish me to.

Mayor Young then stated that this is First Reading and it has to go through the Airport Commission and their attorney. All of those questions, we will have a chance to hopefully get those answers. Those are all good points.

Council Member Bonds then asked if Council would need to do second reading on this ordinance. Attorney Cone replied that under state law, you can only convey an interest in real estate by ordinance. Mayor Young noted that the Airport Commission has not met since this came about, so we don't have any more information, but we will have some after next Thursday.

No further discussion was held and the motion giving First Reading by Title Only to Ordinance # 2016-11 passed with a vote of 6/1 with Mayor Young, Council Members Syfrett, Lohr, Broderick, Siegel and Bridge voting in favor. Council Member Bonds opposed the motion for adoption.

Attorney Cone then asked Council if they would like for him to look into this matter on behalf of the City as to what you are giving up. Mayor Young and Council agreed to this request.

2. <u>Consideration of Funding Recommendations from the Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee</u>

City Manager Molinari informed Council that the Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee met on October 20, 2016 and recommended approval of the following requests for A-tax funding:

Requests for 65% Tourism Fund	Requested	Approved
Colleton Center -SCBA Barbeque Cookoff	\$10,000	\$8,000
Lowcountry & Resort Island-guidebook promotion	\$14,900	\$7,000
Walterboro Tourism Comm-digital advertising	\$30,000	<u>\$15,000</u>
Total		\$30,000

City Manager Molinari stated that this would leave a projected balance of approximately \$7,583 and the remaining funds will be up for consideration at the next scheduled meeting in February, 2017.

A motion to approve the funding recommendations of the A-Tax Advisory Committee was made by Council Member Bridge, seconded by Council Member Syfrett. The motion passed with all members voting in favor.

3. Request to Use the Downtown Waterfall Plaza on November 8-9, 2016 for a Bike Display by Charles Fox, Event Coordinator, Festivelo

City Manager Molinari recommended approval of this request. A motion was then made by Council Member Siegel to approve the request to use the Downtown Plaza by Charles Fox of Festivelo on November 8-9 for a Bike Display. Council Member Broderick seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

4. Request to Close Streets for the Turkey Trot 5K Run/Walk, November 24, 2016, from 8:00 A.M. to 9:30 A.M. by Walterboro-Colleton Chamber of Commerce

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A motion to approve this request as submitted to close the streets for the Turkey Trot 5K Run/Walk on November 24 was made by Council Member Bonds, seconded by Council Member Siegel and passed unanimously.

5. Request to Close Streets for the Annual Santa Spring Run on December 3, 2016 from 8:00 A.M. to 10:00 A.M. by the Colleton County Arts Council

A motion to approve this request as submitted was made by Council Member Broderick, seconded by Council Member Bridge. In discussing the motion, Council Member Bridge stated that this event will also be held in the Walterboro Wildlife Sanctuary. She asked what areas would be utilized? City Manager Molinari felt that the only areas they would be utilizing in the Sanctuary are the paved trails and those are all clear. The motion then passed with all members voting in favor.

6. Request to Use the City Parking Lot for the 1st Annual Rock-in the Holidays Festival on December 4, 2016 from 3:00 P.M. until the End of the Parade by Michelle Strickland, Tourism Director

A motion was then made by Council Member Lohr to approve this request as submitted. Council Member Syfrett seconded the motion that passed with all members voting in favor.

7. Request to Close Streets for Sarah Cole's Cancer 5K Run on March 25, 2017 from 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. (Proceeds to go to MUSC Hospital)

The Mayor announced that Sarah Cole's mother and aunt were present in the audience. A motion to approve this request as submitted was made by Council Member Broderick, seconded by Council Member Siegel and passed unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

There were no Committee Reports given.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

There was no City Manager's Report given.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The Mayor then entertained a motion to enter into an Executive Session. Council Member Bonds So Moved and Council Member Broderick seconded the motion. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried. The Mayor announced that the meeting will convene into an Executive Session for:

- 1) A discussion of negotiations Incident to Proposed contractual arrangements Architectural Services for the Walterboro Wildlife Sanctuary Discovery Center.
- 2) A personnel matter.

The meeting then convened into Executive Session.

At approximately 7:53 p.m., a motion was made by Council Member Lohr to exit Executive Session and return to Open Session. Council Member Siegel seconded the motion. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

The meeting returned to Open Session and a motion was made by Council Member Broderick to authorize the City Manager to negotiate a contract for design

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and engineering services for the Walterboro Wildlife Sanctuary Discovery Center with McMillan Pazdan Smith. Council Member Lohr seconded the motion. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

There being no further business to consider, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Council Member Bonds, seconded by Council Member Lohr and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:54 P.M. Notice of this meeting was distributed to all local media and posted on the City's website and the City Hall bulletin board at least twenty-four hours prior to meeting time.

Respectfully,

Betty J. Hudson City Clerk

APPROVED: February 21, 2017