

Walterboro City Council
Rescheduled Regular Meeting
July 12, 2016

MINUTES

A Rescheduled Regular Meeting of Walterboro City Council was held at City Hall on Tuesday, July 12, 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, and City Attorney George Cone were present. City Clerk Betty Hudson was absent and Bonnie Ross, Administrative Assistant, acted as recording secretary. 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. Council Member Syfrett gave the invocation and Council Member Bonds led the pledge of allegiance to our flag.

The Mayor announced that the City has a couple of staff members who are reaching landmarks in their service to the City. He stated that on July 11, City Clerk Betty Hudson reached 22 years with the City and Fire Chief Wayne Lake will have 26 years on July 16th. He said congratulations and hope you will be with us for many more years.

PUBLIC INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS:

There were no public comments or questions on agenda items.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Upon motion of Council Member Bridge, seconded by Council Member Broderick, the following minutes were unanimously approved by Council as submitted:

1. Minutes of the April 26, 2016 Special Called City Council Meeting.
2. Minutes of the May 3, 2016 Regular City Council Meeting.
3. Minutes of the May 17, 2016 Special Called City Council Meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no Old Business before Council.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Ordinance # 2016-06 An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 6, Buildings and Building Regulations, Article I, Section 6-1 Building Codes - Adopted, So As to Update References to the Building Code Editions, First Reading**

City Manager Jeff Molinari then recognized the City Building Official Angelo Pacilio to give City Council a brief overview of the proposed ordinance.

Building Official Pacilio told Council that due to global warming and situations with violent storms, the structural integrity criteria has changed. It's a normal procedure and if something happens, they enforce different codes, usually every three years. The last time was the 2012 code, it's a three-year code. Prior to that in 2006, and that was in effect for 6 years. We did not adopt it in 2009. In any event, what we need to do so that I can enforce it is a vote on it and adopt the codes as written with the South Carolina amendments. I have all that in my office now if anybody wants to see it, they are welcome to it, but in order for me to be legal, I need to have it adopted. That's basically it.

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Mayor Young then asked, are we required to do this by the state? Mr. Pacilio responded affirmatively.

A motion was then made by Council Member Bonds giving First Reading Approval to Ordinance # 2016-06, being: An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 6, Buildings and Building Regulations, Article I, Section 6-1 Building Codes - Adopted, So As to Update References to the Building Code Editions. Council Member Lohr seconded the motion that passed with all members voting in favor.

2. **Consideration of Funding Recommendations from the Accommodations Tax Advisory Board**

Next, City Manager Molinari advised Council that the Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee met on Thursday, June 16, 2016, and considered the applications for A-Tax funding. They are making the following recommendations for A-Tax funds:

<u>Requests for 30% Tourism Fund</u>	<u>Requested</u>	<u>Approved</u>
Walterboro Tourism Commission	\$ 53,000	\$53,000

City Manager Molinari stated that should this recommendation be approved by Council, the Tourism Commission will remain the designated marketing organization for the City of Walterboro for the next fiscal year.

City Manager Molinari stated that several requests were received for the 65% Tourism money, as follows:

<u>Requests for 65% Tourism Fund</u>	<u>Requested</u>	<u>Approved</u>
Coll. Cty Historical & Preservation Society- Holiday Tour	\$ 2,649	\$ 2,000
Coll. Cty Museum & Farmers Market- Festival of Trees	\$ 4,000	\$ 3,000
Coll. Cty Historical & Preservation Society- Front Porch Phantoms	\$ 4,348	\$ 2,000
SC Artisans Center - marketing promotions	\$13,600	\$13,600
Colleton County Rice Festival w/Tour de Lowcountry	\$20,000	\$16,500
Downtown Walterboro Criterium	\$21,000	\$18,000
City of Walterboro-local billboard program	\$21,000	\$21,000
Walterboro Tourism Comm - Walterboro Rocks Campaign	\$50,000	\$45,000

City Manager Molinari stated that should these requests be approved as submitted, the projected remaining balance for 2016-2017 will be approximately \$32,065. The remaining funds will be for consideration at the next scheduled A-Tax Board meeting in October.

A motion was made by Council Member Siegel to approve the recommendations as submitted by the Accommodations Tax Advisory Board as set forth in their report to Council and reported by the City Manager. Council Member Broderick seconded the motion that passed with all members voting in favor.

3. **Consideration of Recommendation to Purchase Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) Units for the Fire Department**

City Manager Molinari stated, as you are aware the Fire Department applied for and received a grant from FEMA in the amount of \$91,446.00 for new Self-Contained

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Breathing Apparatus Units. Fire Chief Wayne Lake has some of his staff here, who are going to give us a brief demonstration of the new units. He then turned the floor over to Fire Chief Wayne Lake.

Fire Chief Lake then addressed Council. He stated that on June 18, 2007 nine Charleston career firefighters died when they became disoriented, ran out of air, in a rapidly deteriorating condition inside a burning commercial furniture store in a warehouse facility in Charleston. After this event, our firefighters began rethinking our approach towards safety. We began focusing more of our training on safety. We also started looking at our equipment, mainly our self-contained breathing apparatus. We also became involved in applying for grants, because we realized that the City does not have the funding for these high priced items that we needed to upgrade to due to safety. We also approached Michelle Knight of the Lowcountry Council of Governments. We would like to thank her, as well as Amy Risher, in the Finance Department, for helping us secure this grant. This grant will help us replace 16 self-contained breathing apparatus units. He then said, we will have one of our fire fighters step in to show you the self-contained breathing apparatus. Then Firefighter Marshall Moorehead entered the room dressed in the self-contained breathing apparatus equipment as a demonstration to the audience and City Council.

During this demonstration, Fire Chief Lake said, this is what we have to wear whenever we go in and fight fires. As you can see, the firefighter is protected with his helmet, his coat, boots and his pants. The SCBA on his back is the device we are talking about upgrading. This is a self-contained breathing apparatus. He then asked the firefighter to turn around and face Council. Chief Lake said, this cylinder is designed in such a way that it allows us to put more air inside - 45 minutes of air as opposed to 30 minutes of air. Fifteen (15) extra minutes inside of a burning building possibly trying to save someone's life, trying to save ourselves, or attempting to locate the fire, fifteen (15) extra minutes is a lot of time for us in one of these situations. It also has some safety features built in. This device is called an integrated Personal Alert Safety System (PASS). If a firefighter becomes demobilized, trapped or can't move or knocked unconscious, the PASS device will sound or alarm. It will alert personnel outside the structure that a firefighter has a problem and we need to go in and get him. It also has a "heads up display", which will allow them to monitor the amount of air pressure inside this unit, and his LED lights up, and whenever it gets to the amber lights, it's time for him for exit the building. (You can hear him breathing right now).

Chief Lake further pointed out that the breathing apparatus also has a safety strap on the back. If he was to go down, I couldn't carry him, but I can grab this pull strap and then I stand a chance of pulling him out of the building. This unit also has a tracking device to assist us in finding a lost firefighter.

It also has one other feature that is really nice. If the firefighter runs out of air and I get to him in time, he can detach this hose, and I can plug it in my SCBA, and we can breathe air from the same cylinder.

Chief Lake pointed out that all of our current SCBA's do not have all these safety features included. We have similar SCBA packs that the Charleston 9 were using when they met their demise. All of these safety features are expensive, but I hope everyone can understand why they are so important to us.

Chief Lake reported that the Fire Department received bids from three different vendors for the self-contained breathing apparatus equipment as follows:

Anderson Fire & Safety	\$101,692.80
Rhinehart Fire Service	\$104,284.80
MES Carolinas	\$109,693.44

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Fire Chief Lake said that his department had dealt with two of these vendors - Anderson Fire & Safety in South Carolina, as well as the Rhinehart Fire Station. We have a good working relationship with them.

Fire Chief Lake stated that staff recommends purchasing the sixteen (16) units from Anderson Fire & Safety in the amount of \$101,692.80. We received a FEMA grant in the amount of \$91,446.00 for the SCBA Units. The balance of \$10,246.80 will be paid from the Fire Department's FY 2016-2017 operations budget.

A motion was made by Council Member Syfrett to approve the purchase of the sixteen (16) self-contained breathing apparatus units as recommended by Chief Wayne Lake. Council Member Siegel seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

3. **Consideration of Recommendation to Purchase a New Pumper Truck for the Fire Department**

City Manager Molinari told Council that in the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Fire Department Budget, \$380,000.00 was allocated for the purchase of a new pumper truck for the Fire Department. I have asked Fire Chief, Wayne Lake, to give a brief overview to City Council.

Fire Chief Wayne Lake then told Council that on June 1, 2016, bid requests for proposals were mailed out to three (3) vendors. On June 10, 2016, Williams Fire Apparatus submitted a no bid letter. Spartan Fire and Emergency Apparatus submitted a bid intent letter and Fireline, Inc. also submitted a bid intent letter. The bids received were as follows:

Fireline, Inc. - E-One (Winder, GA)	\$372,759.89
Spartan Fire and Emergency Apparatus - Pierce (Summerville, SC)	\$403,860.89
Williams Fire Apparatus - Sutphen (Ashland, AL)	No bid

Fire Chief Lake directed Council's attention to a overhead slide of the proposed fire pumper truck. He said, our pumpers are built on a commercial chassis, and this photo is a freightliner commercial chassis. Whether it's an E-One or a Pierce, this is the platform that it will be built on. So, what E-One or Pierce would do is provide everything from the cab back, all the compartments is what they would build - everything that holds tools and equipment. They will also install a water tank, as well as the water pump. In our specifications, we told the companies exactly how we wanted everything built. The Freightliner has a Cummings 350 hp engine. Cummings has done a lot of research on the current EPA rules and regulations. They have gotten all the bugs worked out of this engine. Freightliner also has a service center in Summerville. In the event we have a warranty or service issue and we can't get it fixed locally, Summerville will be where we would take the truck for repair.

Fire Chief Lake stated that currently our newest pumper is a 2004 E-One, and that is basically what we based our specifications on. The design we have now works really well.

Fire Chief Lake said, we do have two changes that we have incorporated in the new design. The location of the speed lays will be moved to a lower location for easier access, so that we don't have to reach up so high to place the hose in service. Also, an attached hose will be located at the front of the pumper. When we position our fire trucks at an accident scene, the truck actually protects the fire fighters. The hose located in the front pumper will allow for quicker hose deployment.

Fire Chief Lake also brought Council's attention and reviewed with them handout materials that he had passed out. He then briefed Council on how the specifications

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were developed, written up and submitted to the proposed bidders. He also reviewed the bid proposals received from the bidders.

Concluding, Fire Chief Lake recommended the acceptance of the low bid from Fireline, Inc. for the E-One Pumper Truck in the amount of \$372,759.89.

A motion was made by Council Member Broderick to approve the purchase of the Fireline, Inc. E-One Pumper Truck in the amount of \$372,759.89 for the Fire Department. In discussing the motion, Council Member Siegel asked if the cost of the truck was already in the budget? City Manager Molinari responded that we have \$380,000.00 already allocated for the purchase of the vehicle, and this came in a little under \$7,000 under budget.

The motion passed with all members voting in favor.

Mayor Young thanked Chief Lake for being so thorough with his presentation on this item. He said, it keeps us from asking a lot of questions. You have already answered them.

4. **Consideration of Parade Permit for the Youth Fair Walk on Saturday, August 6, 2016 at 10:00 A.M. by Miracle Deliverance Center, Yolanda Scriven**

Ms. Yolanda Scriven was present and told Council, we are just asking for your consideration of the parade permit on August 6. We will be doing a Youth Fair Walk with our children. We are holding a Youth Fair and Back to School Bash for our children. We give out free book bags and school supplies for our children and have things for the children to ride. So, its like a festival. We are also asking for law enforcement and the Fire Department (Chief Lake) to help us out with the fair to have some apparatus there to demonstrate to the kids, as well as the fire truck. If you have some fire safety books or crayons for the children, they will be good too.

Mayor Young asked if this event would be any problem for the Fire Department or the City. Chief Lake said that his department will be there.

A motion to approve the request as submitted by Ms. Yolanda Scriven was made by Council Member Bonds, seconded by Council Member Broderick and passed unanimously.

Mayor Young asked Ms. Scriven to get in touch with the Chief of Police and Fire Chief prior to the event being held.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

There were no Committee Reports given.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

City Manager Molinari then recognized our Finance Director, Amy Risher, for attaining the designation of Certified Government Finance Officer. She began her service work back in the fall and made many trips to Columbia. She just found out that she was going to be given that designation and will be getting her official certificate in October of this year, but I just wanted to recognize her for her hard work.

Mayor Young congratulated Finance Director Amy Risher on attaining this designation. He said, we are proud of you.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The Mayor then entertained a motion to enter into an Executive Session. Council Member Bridge 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. Discussion of Negotiations Incident to Proposed Contractual Arrangements:
 - a. Wastewater Treatment Plant.
 - b. I-95 Business Loop Project, Phase 1B.
2. Personnel Matters:
 - a. Boards and Commissions Appointment.
 - b. Appointment of Municipal Judges.
3. Receipt of Legal Advice - I-95 Business Loop Project, Phase 1C and 1D.

The meeting then convened into Executive Session.

At approximately 8:02 p.m., a motion was made by Council Member Lohr to exit Executive Session and return to Open Session. Council Member Bridge seconded the motion. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

The meeting returned to Open Session and a motion was made by Council Member Bonds to appoint Joe Webster to the Building Board. Council Member Broderick seconded the motion. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

A second motion was made by Council Member Syfrett to re-appoint Morrison Payne as City Judge and Deborah Kane-O'Quinn as Associate Judge. Council Member Lohr seconded the motion that passed with a vote of 5/0 with Mayor Young and Council Members Syfrett, Lohr, Broderick and Bridge voting in favor. Council Members Bonds and Siegel recused themselves from voting since they will practice law before municipal court from time to time.

There being no further business to consider, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Council Member Bridge, seconded by Council Member Syfrett and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:04 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: September 6, 2016