

MINUTES

A Regular Meeting of Walterboro City Council was held at City Hall on Tuesday, December 14, 2010, at 6:15 P.M., with Mayor Bill Young presiding.

PRESENT WERE: Mayor Bill Young, Council Members: Dwayne Buckner, Randy Peters, Charles Lucas, Ted Parker, Franklin Smalls and Tom Lohr. City Manager Jeff Lord, and City Clerk Betty Hudson were present. Mr. Thomas Howard was in attendance on behalf of the City Attorney George Cone, who was absent. There were approximately 15 persons present in the audience.

There being a quorum present, Mayor Young called the meeting to order and stated that this would be the last Council Meeting for 2010. He then called on Council Member Smalls for the invocation, and Council Member Lucas to lead the pledge of allegiance to our flag.

There being no objection, the Mayor added an additional agenda item No. 2 under the Executive Session, entitled, "A Discussion of Matters Related to Proposed Location, Expansion or Provision of Services."

PUBLIC INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS: No comments were given on agenda items.

There were no Minutes before Council for approval.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Consideration of Bids Received for Three (3) Vehicles for Police Department

City Manager Lord pointed out that this agenda item had been submitted to Council previously, but there had been mistakes in the calculation of the taxes. At the last meeting, Council voted to reconsider the matter. He stated that the low bidder was O.C. Welch Ford for \$98,618.07, and the next low bidder was Walterboro Motor Sales at \$100,422.00. He recommended the acceptance of either one of the two lowest bids, because both of those figures fall below the budgeted amount. The bids received were as follows:

Walterboro Motor Sales	\$100,422.00
OC Welch Ford	\$ 98,618.07
Vic Bailey Ford	\$101,400.00
Summerville Ford	\$102,399.00

A motion was made by Council Member Peters to purchase the three police vehicles locally from Walterboro Motor Sales at \$100,422.00. Council Member Lucas seconded the motion that passed with all members voting in favor.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Ordinance # 2010-13, An Ordinance to Change the Zoning on a Parcel of Land on Memorial Avenue, Tax Map # 163-12-00-139 from Single Family Residential (SFR) to Neighborhood Commercial (NCD).

Planning Director David Dodd explained that Mr. Bert Duffie is looking at purchasing this property on the corner of Carn and Memorial to turn into his law office. The Planning Commission approved the request and is recommending it to Council for approval to rezone the property from Single Family Residential to Neighborhood Commercial. He is asking for a Neighborhood Commercial classification so he could have a professional office. The parking requirements for the building are not currently

MINUTES/Page II

met, but there is a possibility of using the known free-parking available in the adjacent church parking lot. Mr. Dodd further stated, if this request passes Council's First Reading Approval tonight, we will pursue a parking variance through the Board of Zoning Appeals.

A motion was then made by Council Member Parker, seconded by Council Member Lucas giving First Reading Approval to Ordinance # 2010-13. In discussing the motion, Council Member Buckner asked if Mr. Duffie saw any problems with the parking. Does he foresee any issues concerning whether or not he will have sufficient parking? Mr. Dodd responded, he has at least four if not six spaces on the property. His staff consists of a total of four people. There is on-street parking in front of the building, and he believed he could get permission from the church to park there as well. Council Member Smalls asked if the church were aware of what is about to take place? Mr. Dodd responded that Mr. Duffie plans to contact them to make arrangements before he pursues with a parking variance with the Board of Zoning Appeals. He affirmed this would be with the church officials.

The motion for First Reading Approval then passed with all members voting in favor.

2. Consideration to Have the City Manager to Draft an Ordinance to Implement a Curfew in the City of Walterboro

Mr. Lord explained that he was asked to place this matter on the agenda for Council's consideration. Previously the topic of a curfew ordinance had been discussed as it relates to the Youth Advisory Commission.

Mayor Young then stated, it is my understanding that at the workshop we had on the Youth Advisory Commission, and Mr. Peters brought up the matter, and we discussed it a little. The direction given you (the City Manager) was to gather more information and for the Police Chief also to gather information and that we would discuss it at our retreat. That was my recollection of the matter. Mayor Young then asked if there was a motion to consider having the City Manager to do this? Does Council want to change the direction that it has given to the City Manager?

A motion was then made by Council Member Buckner to have the City Manager draft an ordinance to implement a curfew in the City of Walterboro. The motion died for lack of a second.

3. Request for Financial Support to Cover the Cost of Insurance for the Colleton African-American Arts Project - Ms. Jackie Cord

Ms. Jackie Cord appeared before Council requesting monies to cover the cost of insurance for the Colleton African-American Arts Project. The insurance cost is about \$1,300. This insurance will cover an exhibit that will be coming to the Colleton Center in the amount of about \$400,000.

Ms. Cord stated that our request tonight before you is actually twofold. One is for insurance and the other is to help with the arts project with the local school district, Colleton County School District. We have 3,500 students who plan to visit this exhibit and we are just looking for help with the supplies for the workshop and the insurance for the exhibit. The total request is about \$1,700, which includes the insurance and the workshop supplies.

Mayor Young suggested looking at using funds that might be left over from the gun buyback program. He then made a motion that the city would give the remainder of the gun buyback money to fund this request. Council Member Lucas seconded the motion.

MINUTES/Page III

In discussing the motion, Council Member Parker asked if the County had participated in anyway in this? Ms. Cord responded that the County has participated in the fact that they have given us free space in the museum and waive a total of over several hundred dollars in rental fees.

Mr. Lohr asked if the School District had made any type of in-kind contribution? Ms. Cord responded that the School District, under the leadership of Ms. Williams, had agreed to transport the children and to work with the kitchen staff to provide food for the children.

Council Member Peters suggested that Council should go ahead and commit to the up-front money as far as the insurance is concerned so they can get along with the project. I don't see how we can commit funds that we are sharing with the county on the gun buyback program. City Manager Lord added that he had spoken with Pastor Maxwell regarding the funds and he thought it was a good way to use the money. Chief Rhodes stated, once the project is done this Saturday, what is not used will be returned back to the city in the form of a check or cash.

Council Member Buckner then congratulated Project Read for their work in trying to get this project together. Trying to get organizations to work together on a project take a lot of effort and planning. I think this is a great opportunity to bring people together and also to educate the children. I am in full support of it. My hope would be that we would do the entire \$1,785.00 as requested. In addition to what we get from the gun buyback program, my hope would be that we make up the difference so they will have the full amount of \$1,785.00. **(Note: It was stated the full amount was \$1785.00, but should have been \$1685.00 per the request).**

The motion to give the balance of the City's gun buyback money to the Read Project then passed with all members voting in favor.

Another motion was then made by Council Member Buckner that the City fund the entire amount of \$1,785.00 (**corrected to \$1,685.00 per the request**), and if the gun buyback monies do not meet this amount, then the City would come up with the rest from the City's budget. He asked Mr. Lord if there were an emergency fund? Mr. Lord responded, you have the General Fund and the Enterprise Fund. Councilman Buckner then said, my motion would be that the city would fund the **\$1685.00**. Council Member Smalls seconded the motion.

In discussing the motion, Council Member Lohr said, I'd like to know how much money I am voting on. I generally agree with what Mr. Buckner has said, but I'd rather know what I am voting on. That would be my only objection, and we won't know what that amount is until the gun buyback money is returned. City Manager Lord added, I know the county also gave money to the gun buyback, we can certainly approach them and see if they want to do the same thing.

The discussion concluded and the Mayor announced that the motion is to "fund the balance of what the gun buyback program does not fund up to a total of **\$1,685.00**". He explained that this will equal the entire amount of **\$1,685.00** when you add the two amounts together. The motion then passed with a vote of 4/2 with Council Members Buckner, Smalls, Lucas and Peters voting in favor and Mayor Young and Council Member Parker opposing the motion. Council Member Lohr was marked present. The Mayor announced, I opposed it just because we don't have it in the budget, but you will get some help from the city.

MINUTES/Page IV

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Council Member Franklin Smalls then gave a brief report on the NLC meeting attended by some Council Members in Denver Colorado on November 30 - December 4, 2010. The conference was the 87th session and was made up of 49 states, including Washington, D.C. and currently has 19,000 members. The theme was "Helping City Leaders Build Better Communities." At the first conference session, the main speaker was Mayor Ronald Loveridge of Riverside, California. Some of his main points were:

- 1) Leaders are divided. If you are divided, come together. Councilman Smalls suggested that if the persons in D.C. could forget about the party, and get together and concentrate on what is needed for the people, that would solve that problem.
- 2) The economy will level off in about two years.
- 3) We have to accept the fact that things in life will not ever be exactly as it has been, and we have to accept that. It's going to get better, but it not going to be the same.
- 4) States need to stop using taxpayers' money to balance the budget.
- 5) Young people have lost trust in society and older people.
- 6) Cities need to find what in their city is short and in need, and start working on a way to solve it.

From breakout sessions attended by Councilman Smalls, some of the highlights were:

- 1) Policemen cannot solve all the problems by themselves. You cannot hire enough policemen to put one at everyone's door. The point is - until we can get churches, other organizations and each community to come together and feel that they need to help the policemen, if you are having problems, it may or may not get any better.
- 2) Youth obesity and overweight are a problem and it is getting higher. There are many youth who fail to be entered in the armed forces because they are overweight.
- 3) If immigration is a problem in your city, solve it. Do what it takes to fix it. Remember people come to America for a better quality of life.

In conclusion, Councilman Smalls gave some specific information on how the National League of Cities (NLC) is suppose to work:

- 1) They are to take whatever cities say to Washington, D.C. and make a hard effort to get it done.
- 2) Right now, one of the main things they are looking at is the division in Washington. I believe that if they put prayer back into their meetings, then some of their minds would change.

The Mayor then entertained a motion to enter an Executive Session for a personnel matter on Boards and Commission Appointments and a discussion of matters related to proposed location, expansion or provision of services. Council Member Buckner moved to approve said motion. Council Member Lucas seconded the motion that passed unanimously. The meeting then convened into an Executive Session.

The Meeting returned to Open Session and a motion was made by Council Member Peters, seconded by Council Member Lucas, to appoint the following persons to the nonprofit Walterboro Development Corporation: Kevin Griffin, Denise Mitchell and Mitch Mongel. The motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business to consider, a motion to adjourn was made by Council Member Lucas, seconded by Council Member Peters and passed unanimously. The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 7:10 P.M. Notice of this meeting was distributed

Walterboro City Council
Regular Meeting
December 14, 2010

MINUTES/Page V

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: January 11, 2011