

Walterboro City Council
Virtual Regular Meeting (Using Zoom)
April 6, 2021

MINUTES

A Phone/Video Conference Virtual Meeting using Zoom was held by Walterboro City Council at City Hall on Tuesday, April 6, 2021 at 6:00 P.M., with Mayor Bill Young presiding.

PRESENT WERE: Joined in the meeting were: Mayor Bill Young, Councilmembers: Judy Bridge, James Broderick, Carl Brown, and Ladson Fishburne. Councilmembers Paul Siegel joined in during Executive Session, and Greg Pryor was absent. City Manager Jeff Molinari, Assistant City Manager Hank Amundson, City Clerk Callie Seals, Parks Director Ryan McLeod, and City Attorney George Cone were present as well as Colleton County Rice Festival Chairmen, Josh Bell and Bubba Trippe, and Colleton County Veteran's Affairs Chairman Johnnie Holmes.

CALL TO ORDER:

With the above-mentioned Councilmembers present, the Mayor called the meeting to order, and invited everyone to join in as he gave the invocation. Councilmember Bridge led the pledge of allegiance to our flag.

PUBLIC INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS:

The Mayor stated public input on agenda items had been distributed to Council by email.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Upon motion of Councilmember Broderick, seconded by Councilmember Bridge, the following meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

1. Minutes of March 2, 2021.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Resolution # 2021-R-03**, A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING APRIL 2021 AS FAIR HOUSING MONTH AND APPROVAL OF ANNUAL NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY. (Resolution and Nondiscrimination Policy attached).

City Manager stated you have a Resolution in your packet designating April as Fair Housing Month and Approval of Annual Nondiscrimination Policy. These are requirements that we have to fulfill as part of the CDBG program.

Motion: Councilmember Broderick; Second: Mayor Young
Discussion: None.
Carried: All ayes

2. **Resolution # 2021-R-04**, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO SUBMIT A COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) JOINT APPLICATION WITH COLLETON COUNTY FOR INFLOW AND INFILTRATION SEWER

LINE IMPROVEMENTS IN THE GADSDEN LOOP/RIVERS STREET AREA (Resolution attached).

City Manager Molinari stated this Resolution is to authorize myself to submit a CDBG grant to upgrade sewer lines in Sub-System 1 East and Sub-System 3. These are areas that the Public Works and Utilities Directors have identified as most in need of rehabilitation. As part of the CDBG program, we have to commit at least 10% of the project cost as matched, so that total match will be \$222,311.00 and staff asks for Councils favorable consideration of the request.

Motion: Councilmember Bridge; Second: Councilmember Broderick
Discussion: None.
Carried: All ayes.

3. **Resolution # 2021-R-05**, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO COMMIT ADDITIONAL FUNDING IN THE ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF \$89,101.90 FOR A FEMA HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION FOR AN EMERGENCY ENGINE-DRIVE POWER SUPPLY SYSTEM AT THE WALTERBORO WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT (Resolution attached).

City Manager Molinari stated last month City Council adopted a resolution to make an application to FEMA as part of the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program to install an emergency generator at the wastewater treatment plant. At the time when we did the resolution, we were of the understanding that it would be a 75% to 25% breakdown, 75% funded by FEMA and 25% funded by the City. We have received word that the breakdown would be 30% by the City, therefore, we'll need to pass a resolution committing additional estimated funds in the amount of \$89,101.90, for a total of \$550,054.40 or 30.23% of the grant request to meet the matching commitment of the Hazard Mitigation Grant.

Motion: Councilmember Broderick; Second: Councilmember Fishburne
Discussion: None.
Carried: All ayes.

4. A PROCLAMATION TO DESIGNATE APRIL 2021 AS CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH IN THE CITY OF WALTERBORO

Motion: Councilmember Brown; Second: Councilmember Fishburne
Discussion: Councilmember Fishburne stated this is a great time because Hopeful Horizons just came to town and they assist with victims of child abuse, domestic violence and sexual assault and that's a big step for the community. Mayor Young added that on April 28th, we would celebrate "Denim Day" in support of these victims.
Carried: All ayes.

5. A PROCLAMATION TO DESIGNATE APRIL AND MAY 2021 AS KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL/GREAT AMERICAN CLEANUP MONTH.

Motion: Councilmember Fishburne; Second: Councilmember Bridge
Discussion: None.
Carried: All ayes.

City Manager Molinari said at the request of the Keep Walterboro Beautiful, formerly the City Appearance Board, they've asked about combining a couple of events to commemorate Keep America

Beautiful/Great American Cleanup Month. They ask that you pass this Proclamation designating April and May as cleanup months.

6. Consideration to authorize Mayor to execute forms pursuant to the Airport Coronavirus Response Grant Program (ACRGP) Grant Offer, Grant No. 3-45-0057-021-2021 for the Lowcountry Regional Airport.

Mayor Young then stated as we've done this once before, however, FAA has listed us as the sponsor on this grant and it's 100% money to the airport. It doesn't require any expenditures from the City, and it's a \$13,000 grant to the Airport. It can be used for anything that has to do with coronavirus, mitigation and cleaning up, etc. Part of the grant says that the governing body has to authorize the signing member to do that, so you are the governing body on this grant, therefore we need a motion to authorize me to sign the grant since the City is the host. As to number seven below, we've chosen attorney Bert Duffie to fulfill this role.

Motion: Councilmember Broderick; Second: Councilmember Brown
Discussion: None.
Carried: All ayes.

7. Consideration to authorize Airport Commission Attorney to act as Sponsor Attorney to execute 'Certificate of Sponsor's Attorney' document for the Airport Coronavirus Response Grant Program (ACRGP) Grant Offer, Grant No. 3-45-0057-021-2021 for the Lowcountry Regional Airport.

Motion: Councilmember Bridge; Second: Councilmember Broderick
Discussion: None.
Carried: All ayes.

8. Consideration of 2021 Rice Festival Requests for June 4-5, 2021, by Josh Bell, Chairman, Colleton County Rice Festival.

Motion: Councilmember Brown; Second: Councilmember Broderick
Discussion: None.
Carried: All ayes.

City Manager Molinari said the Request also includes the letter from Ashley Rohde regarding the rice run 5K that they are going to do on June 5th. Mayor Young then said Josh Bell and Bubba Trippe have been very patient in working through the pandemic and getting to this point where we can go forward with it as long as we are as careful as we can be, and I noticed that Spoleto is now going to go forward. We thank you Bubba and Josh for working so hard on this and starting over so many times.

9. Consideration of request from the Colleton County Veterans Council for the May 31, 2021, Memorial Day Ceremony (attached).

Motion: Councilmember Broderick; Second: Councilmember Bridge
Discussion: None.
Carried: All ayes.

Johnnie Holmes spoke and said he appreciated Council's consideration and as the letter states we are planning to hold our ceremony at 9:00 a.m. on the 31st and we've requested that the street be closed that morning at 8:00 a.m. as well as having the water turned off. We'll try our best to insure everyone has a mask on and maintains social distancing. We thank you for your consideration and for what you do for the veterans.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

1. Consideration of a Request to Purchase a Police Vehicle.

Motion: Councilmember Brown; Second: Councilmember Broderick
Discussion: None.
Carried: All ayes.

City Manager Molinari said you have a memo and supporting documents from the Police Chief requesting the purchase of one new police vehicle. The department received two bids and one no bid. Staff recommends purchasing a Dodge Durango pursuit vehicle from Performance Dodge in Clinton, NC in the amount of \$33,627. The police package is \$5,030.73 for a total cost of \$38,657.73. When applying the local preference option the bid submitted by Walterboro Ford doesn't qualify to match the bid from Performance Dodge. There is sufficient capacity in the 2021-2022 General Fund Budget to absorb this expenditure and staff asks for favorable consideration of this request.

2. Consideration of Task Order #14 from Hybrid Engineering to perform design, contract administration, and construction observation services of the Sub-Systems 3 and 1-East Sewer Cleaning and CCTV inspection.

Motion: Councilmember Bridge; Second: Councilmember Broderick
Discussion: None.
Carried: All ayes.

The City Manager stated you have a memo and supporting documentation from the Public Works Director, Michael Crosby, to use Hybrid Engineering to perform design, construction observation and contract administration to oversee the cleaning and televising of sewer lines in the Gadsden Loop Rivers Street area in the amount of \$34,625. As you are aware, the City will be submitting a CDBG grant application to rehabilitate sewer lines in this area. Staff asks Council for favorable consideration of this request. The engineering costs will come from the proceeds of the bond issue that we completed last month.

3. Consideration of bids for the Sub-Systems 3 and 1-East Sewer Cleaning & CCTV Inspection.

Motion: Councilmember Broderick; Second: Councilmember Bridge
Discussion: None.
Carried: All ayes.

City Manager said you have a memo and supporting documentation from the Public Works Director, Michael Crosby regarding bids for the cleaning and CCTV inspection for sub-systems 3 and 1-east sewer. A bid opening was conducted on March 29th and we received bids from four contractors. Pipeview Technologies, LLC out of Wilmington, NC submitted the low bid of \$63,789. Hybrid Engineering has reviewed their qualifications and recommends awarding the contract to Pipeview. The project is part of the City's 10% match for the Gadsden Loop River Street sewer line improvement and staff ask for Council's favorable consideration of the request.

4. Consideration of Downtown Mural Project.

Motion: Councilmember Fishburne; Second: Councilmember Broderick
Discussion: None.
Carried: All ayes.

Assistant City Manager Hank Amundson stated we've worked with multiple building owners and we've talked with Keep Walterboro Beautiful on how to start public art and how to use murals to dress up some of our more drab or rundown walls in town, so you see this proposal and we've gone through several renditions to combine the mural with a welcome as you enter downtown Walterboro. The Arts Commission has contributed, Keep America Beautiful through South Carolina has contributed and some other individuals have contributed as listed in the memo. It's an exciting project and we're looking forward to it as we've been speaking about it for several years now.

A motion was by made by Councilmember Bridge to enter into Executive Session, seconded by Councilmember Fishburne and passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

1. Contractual Matters:
 - a. Becoming a Tree City USA Community
 - b. Project Swan
2. Personnel Matter – Appointment to Capital Project Sales Tax Commission.

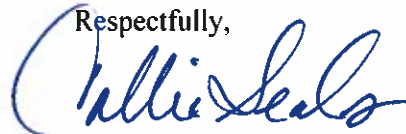
Councilmember Carl Brown made a motion to come out of Executive Session and enter into Open Session, seconded by Councilmember Broderick and passed unanimously.

OPEN SESSION:

The meeting returned to Open Session.

There being no further business to consider, a motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Broderick, seconded by Councilmember Brown and passed unanimously. The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 7:31 P.M. Notice of this meeting, call-in phone number, webinar I.D. and link to view the video were distributed with the agenda packets, to all local media, posted on City Hall bulletin boards and on the City's website at least twenty-four hours prior to meeting time.

Respectfully,



Callie Seals
City Clerk

APPROVED: May 4, 2021