

Walterboro City Council Regular Meeting

City Hall

July 9, 2024

Minutes

A Rescheduled Regular Meeting of Walterboro City Council was held at City Hall on Tuesday, July 9, 2024, at 6:15 P.M., with Mayor Bill Young presiding.

Present: Joined in the meeting were: Mayor Bill Young, Councilmembers: Carl Brown, Judy Bridge, Paul Siegel, James Broderick, Greg Pryor, and Ladson Fishburne. City Manager Jeff Molinari, Assistant City Manager Ryan McLeod, City Attorney Brown McLeod, Finance Director Amy Risher, Police Chief Wade Marvin, Police Officers Jared Fletcher and Demetrius Gilyard, Sabrina Johnson, Stewart McAdoo, Sue Keith, Dana Cheney, and Shiela Keaise with Community Innovations.

Call to Order:

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

Public Input on Agenda Items:

There was no public input on agenda items.

Public Hearing:

1. **Ordinance # 2024-07**, AN ORDINANCE PURSUANT TO TITLE 5, CHAPTER 3, SECTION 5-3-150, SUBSECTION 3, OF THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, AS AMENDED, TO ANNEX AN AREA KNOWN AS TMS # 147-15-00-076 INTO THE CITY OF WALTERBORO, A SOUTH CAROLINA MUNICIPAL CORPORATION (Second and Final Reading).

City Manager Jeff Molinari stated Mr. Mayor and members of City Council, this is the JGBR formally Asten Johnson. On June 18, 2024, the Planning Commission reviewed the annexation. They are recommending a zoning classification of Industrial District (ID). The Chairman of the Planning Commission has signed off on the recommended zoning.

Presentation:

1. Shiela Keaise, Executive Director with Community Innovations stated thank you for having us tonight. For twenty-eight years I served as the Children's Librarian for the Colleton County Library. After retiring, I started a non-profit called Community Innovations. Our mission is to create a healthier community with our programs. Our programs are designed to promote self-confidence. Our motto is connecting businesses, resources, and families with innovative programs. We have several programs in place. We are doing all of this based off grants, local donations, and volunteers. Two of our singers who won the Colleton Voice Contest will perform tonight for you. This is one program that we do offer through Community Innovations.

Approval of Minutes:

Upon motion of Councilmember Broderick, Seconded by Councilmember Pryor, the following minutes were unanimously approved.

1. Regular Meeting – May 7, 2024
2. Regular Meeting – June 4, 2024

Old Business:

1. **Ordinance # 2024-07**, AN ORDINANCE PURSUANT TO TITLE 5, CHAPTER 3, SECTION 5-3-150, SUBSECTION 3, OF THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, AS AMENDED, TO ANNEX AN AREA KNOWN AS TMS # 147-15-00-076 INTO THE CITY OF WALTERBORO, A SOUTH CAROLINA MUNICIPAL CORPORATION (Second and Final Reading).

Mayor Young asked since this was not in the city and not zoned before, would something like that be allowed in Highway Commercial? Since everything surrounding it would be Highway Commercial.

Assistant City Manager Ryan McLeod stated I do not believe so.

Motion: Councilmember Broderick; Seconded by Councilmember Bridge

Discussion: None

Carried: All ayes

New Business:

1. **Ordinance # 2024-08**, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE # 2024-02, SO AS TO SET THE LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX CREDIT FACTOR IN THE FY 2024-2025 BUDGET (Introduction and First Reading).

City Manager Jeff Molinari stated Mr. Mayor and members of City Council we need to establish the Local Option Sales Tax Credit Factor for the 2024-2025 budget year. This number will be used for the property tax bills that will go out in October. The Local Option Sales Tax Credit Factor is determined by dividing our anticipated collections of \$1,272,358 by the total approved appraised value in the city which is \$592,496,923. This gives us a Local Option Sales Tax Credit Factor of .002147. We ask for Council's favorable consideration of the first reading.

Motion: Councilmember Bridge; Seconded by Councilmember Pryor

Discussion: None

Carried: All ayes

City Manager's Report:

1. Consideration of Funding Recommendations from the Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee.

City Manager Jeff Molinari stated Mr. Mayor and members of City Council you have in your agenda packet a memo and supporting documentation from the Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee. They meet on June 25, 2024, and considered 5 requests:

1. Walterboro Tourism Commission – Requested \$80,000 - Approved \$80,000

2. Colleton County Chamber of Commerce – Requested \$20,000 – Approved \$0

City Manager Jeff Molinari stated the Colleton County Chamber was not granted any funding at this time. They are going to come back in October with a more fully completed request. The ATAX Committee will consider it at that time.

3. SC Artisans Center- marketing partnership & promos – Requested \$ 29,000 – Approved \$29,000

4. Velos of SC dba Festivelo – Festivelo XXVI – Requested \$36,200 – Approved \$18,600

5. Walterboro Tourism Commission – Walterboro Rocks – Requested \$74,000 – Approved \$74,000

Should these request be approved as submitted, the projected remaining balance for 2024-2025 will be approximately \$334,139. The remaining funds will be for consideration at the next scheduled meeting in October 2024. Therefore, the Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee respectfully requests City Council approve these items.

Motion: Councilmember Pryor; Seconded by Councilmember Bridge

Discussion: None

Carried: All ayes

2. Recognition of Police Officers Jared Fletcher and Demetrius Gilyard for lifesaving measures on May 30, 2024.

City Manager Jeff Molinari stated Mr. Mayor and members of City Council it is my great pleasure to recognize two of our officers Lance Corporal Jared Fletcher and Lance Corporal Demetrius Gilyard. Chief Marvin is going to give a brief presentation on the heroic actions of these two officers.

Chief Marvin stated on May 30, 2024, Walterboro Police Department officers responded to assist a Colleton County deputy with the search of a car. During the search of the car, illegal drugs were found. A field test revealed that the drugs tested positive for methamphetamines and fentanyl. As a result of handling and testing the drugs, the deputy experienced an accidental exposure resulting in lightheadedness, involuntary shaking, and difficulty breathing. The deputy told the two officers what was going on and immediately requested Lance Corporal Gilyard since he is a licensed EMT. Lance Corporal Gilyard retrieved his department issued Narcan and administered two doses to the deputy. The deputy has since made a full recovery. A large part of the deputy's recovery is because of the quick actions of Lance Corporal Fletcher and Gilyard. Relying on their training and experience, our two employees exhibited calmness in a stressful situation that resulted in a favorable outcome.

3. Recognition of Finance Director, Amy Risher, and the Finance Department for receiving the GFOA Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for FY 2022-2023 (12th consecutive year).

City Manager Jeff Molinari stated Mr. Mayor and members of City Council it is a pleasure once again to recognize our Finance Director Amy Risher. This is our 12th consecutive year that we have been recognized by the Government Finance Office Association (GFOA) with their Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. This is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting. This is a testament to the outstanding work that Amy and her staff do each day.

A motion was made to go into Executive Session by Councilmember Pryor, seconded by Councilmember Bridge. Mayor Young explained that City Council would be going into Executive Session to discuss matters of Provision of water/sewer service to encourage the location or expansion of industries or other businesses

in the area: a. Sewer Pretreatment Program b. Northwest Waltherboro. Personnel Matter – Main Street Manager/Tourism Director search and receipt of Legal Advice dealing with the matters covered by attorney-client privilege, including potential or pending legal claims.

Executive Session:

1. Provision of water/sewer service to encourage the location or expansion of industries or other businesses in the area:

- a. Sewer Pretreatment Program
- b. Northwest Waltherboro

2. Personnel Matter – Main Street Manager/Tourism Director Search

3. Receipt of Legal Advice dealing with matters covered by attorney-client privilege, including potential or pending legal claims.

A motion to come out of Executive Session was made by Councilmember Pryor, seconded by Councilmember Brown, all in favor, motion carries.

There being no further business to consider, a motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Pryor, seconded by Councilmember Brown, and passed unanimously. Mayor Young adjourned the meeting at 7:33 PM. Notice of the meeting was distributed with the agenda packets, to all local media, posted on City Hall bulletin board and posted on the City's website at least twenty-four hours prior to meeting time.

Respectfully,

Adrienne Nettles
City Clerk