

Walterboro City Council
Public Hearing and Regular Meeting
August 26, 2014

MINUTES

A Public Hearing and Regular Meeting of Walterboro City Council was held at City Hall on Tuesday, August 26, 2014 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 19 persons present in the audience.

There being a quorum present, Mayor Young called the meeting to order and Council Member Syfrett gave the invocation. Council Member Bonds led the pledge of allegiance to our flag.

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 proposed Ordinance # 2014-09, being: An Ordinance to Amend Ordinance # 2014-04, So As to Set the Local Option Sales Tax Credit Factor in the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Budget.

City Manager Molinari briefed Council on this agenda item. He stated that the City is required by State Law to set the Local Option Sales Tax Credit Factor. This is a very simple calculation. You simply take your anticipated Local Option Sales collections and divide that by the total appraised value of all properties inside the City, and that would give the Local Option Sales Tax Credit Factor. He informed Council that this was not incorporated into the budget document, because we did not have the data from the County that we needed to complete this calculation. We now have that information and this will be incorporated into the fiscal year 2014-2015 budget. That factor is .001615, and we will supply that information to the County to be applied to the tax bills that go out in the fall.

The Mayor then opened the floor to receive any comments or questions from the public. None were received and the public hearing was closed. The regular meeting then began.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The Minutes of the August 12, 2014 Regular Meeting were approved as submitted upon motion of Council Member Bridge, seconded by Council Member Broderick with all members voting in favor.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Ordinance # 2014-09, An Ordinance to Amend Ordinance # 2014-04, So As to Set the Local Optional Sales Tax Credit Factor in the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Budget, Second Reading and Adoption.

Mayor Young read the Second Reading to the title of the proposed ordinance.

A motion was made by Council Member Siegel giving Second Reading and Adoption to Ordinance # 2014-09. Council Member Lohr seconded the motion that carried with all members voting in favor. None opposed.

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NEW BUSINESS:

1. Request to Place Ribbons on Street Posts on Washington Street (Main Street) September 1-30, in Recognition of Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month

City Manager Molinari informed Council that a request had been received to recognize Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month, which is the month of September. The request received from (Ms. Kendra Crosby) was to place approximately 40 teal ribbons on downtown posts to recognize Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month.

A motion was made by Council Member Bridge, seconded by Council Member Broderick to approve the request as submitted. All in favor, None opposed, Motion carried.

2. Request to Place Signs for 2nd Fiber Fair on October 10-11, 2014 and Allow Promotional Flags on Wichman Street from Lucas to E. Memorial

Ms. Gale Doggette was present on behalf of the Lowcountry Fiber Fair Committee. She told Council that last year, this event drew in over 800 visitors to Walterboro. She asked for Council's approval of the request.

A motion was made by Council Member Broderick, seconded by Council Member Syfrett, to approve the request as submitted. In discussing the motion, Council Member Siegel asked Ms. Doggette for more information on the Fiber Fair. Ms. Doggette explained that "fiber" was not food fiber. We will have everything from weavers. It is really educational for the kids to see where wool comes from. This year we will have potters, loomers, weavers, every kind of imaginary thing. In fact, this year we are getting a location for the weavers, so that people can actually weave different products into it. The motion then carried with all members voting in favor. None opposed.

3. Request for Street Closings and Use of Waterfall for Annual Christmas Parade on December 7, 2014 by Colleton County Rice Festival Board

Parade Chairman, Charlie Sweat, told Council the parade would be similar to what has been done in the past. We will appreciate City Council being a part of it again.

Council Member Lohr then made a motion to approve the request as submitted. Council Member Broderick seconded the motion that carried with all members voting in favor. None opposed.

At this point, Council Member Bridge suggested that Ms. Kendra Crosby be recognized, who was present in the audience. Ms. Crosby thanked Council for its approval and said that she was excited about hanging the ribbons.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

There was no Committee Reports given.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

1. Introduction of Wayne Lake as New Fire Chief

City Manager Molinari then stated, it is my pleasure to introduce Mr. Wayne Lake as the new Fire Chief. He stated that Mr. Lake has been with the Fire Department for 24 years, with 22 of those years he served as Captain. In addition to that, Wayne has

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been a leader in the community with his involvement with World Changers, formerly Mission Serve. He said that Wayne's official day as Fire Chief will be Monday, September 15, but he has already begun the transition, and I am very happy to have him as our Fire Chief.

Mayor Young then recognized former Fire Chief Ashton Syfrett, present at the meeting, who wanted to make a presentation to Mr. Lake. Chief Syfrett came to the podium along with Wayne Lake. Mr. Syfrett said that he has known Mr. Lake for many years. When I got the Fire Chief job in 1989, I needed some help, so I went to see Wayne, because I was looking for some names of people to hire. A couple of days later, Wayne came and said that he might be interested in the job. Wayne came on board July 16, 1990. Wayne has been really good and you have made a wise decision. Chief Syfrett then presented a fire chief badge to the new Fire Chief, Wayne Lake.

Fire Chief Wayne Lake then said Mr. Syfrett means the world to me. He taught me what I know about fire service. Organizational and preparation skills - that's where I learned them. He is a good friend of mine still today.

Mayor Young then congratulated Fire Chief Lake on his new position. He said, I have known Wayne since he was a young fellow and I am really happy that you are going to be here. Each Council Member then congratulated and welcomed our new Fire Chief Wayne Lake.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The Mayor then entertained a motion to enter into an Executive Session. Council Member Bonds So Moved and Council Member Lohr seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The Mayor announced that the meeting will convene into an Executive Session for:

- 1) Personnel matters:
 - a) Discussion of Boards and Commissions Appointments.
 - b) Police Chief Search Update and
- 2) Receipt of legal advice related to a construction project.

The meeting then convened into Executive Session.

At approximately 6:57 p.m., a motion was made by Council Member Lohr to exit Executive Session and return to Open Session. Council Member Broderick seconded the motion. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

The meeting returned to Open Session. No action was taken as a result of the Executive Session.

There being no further business to consider, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Council Member Broderick, seconded by Council Member Lohr and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:58 P.M. Notice of this meeting was distributed 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: September 9, 2014