

MINUTES

A Regular Meeting of Walterboro City Council was held at City Hall on Tuesday, January 10, 2012 at 6:15 P.M., with Mayor Bill Young presiding.

PRESENT WERE: Mayor Bill Young, Council Members: Paul Siegel, Dwayne Buckner, Charles Lucas, Randy Peters, Tom Lohr and Bobby Bonds. City Manager Jeff Lord and City Attorney George Cone were also present. City Clerk Betty Hudson was absent. There were approximately 17 persons present in the audience.

There being a quorum present, Mayor Young called the meeting to order and called on Mr. Horace Simmons, a citizen, for the invocation and Council Member Bobby Bonds to led the pledge of allegiance to our flag.

PUBLIC INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS:

No public comments were received.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

The Minutes of the November 22, 2011 were approved as submitted on the motion of Council Member Buckner, seconded by Council Member Lucas, and passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no Old Business before Council.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Ordinance # 2012-01**, An Ordinance Authorizing the City of Walterboro to Convey a Forty Foot by Forty Foot Parcel of Land to RRW Construction, Inc., in Exchange for a Similar Sized Parcel of Land - **First Reading**

City Manager Lord explained that in 1977, the City acquired a 40 ft. x 40 ft. plot of land on Jackson Street, and this was to be used to install a pump station. That's been over 34 years, and we have a grant to upgrade that pump station. When our engineers started doing the survey work, they realized that the pump station was not on our plot of land. So, we just worked it out with the property owner to exchange the 40 ft. x 40 ft. plot with his plot that our pump station was installed on.

A motion was then made by Council Member Charles Lucas, seconded by Council Member Siegel, giving First Reading Approval to Ordinance # 2012-01, being an Ordinance Authorizing the City of Walterboro to Convey a Forty Foot by Forty Foot Parcel of Land to RRW Construction, Inc., in Exchange for a Similar Sized Parcel of Land.

In discussing the motion, Council Member Buckner asked for further clarification of this item. He asked if the pump station was built on the right piece of land? Mr. Lord responded that the pump station exists on land that we do not own. Council Member Buckner asked who owned the land that the pump station was built on. Mr. Lord responded that RRW Construction owns this land. We are just correcting that error.

The motion then passed unanimously.

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2. **Resolution # 2012-R-01, A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor of the City of Walterboro, or his Designee, to Sign an Agreement with Coastal Electric Cooperative, Inc., for the Purpose of Construction of Infrastructure and/or Other Qualifying Projects within the I-95 (Exit 57) and S.C. Highway 64 Water Project and Other Qualifying Projects Owned by the City**

A motion was made by Council Member Peters, seconded by Council Member Siegel to adopt Resolution # 2012-R-12 as submitted. In discussing the motion, Council Member Buckner asked, what exactly did we do with the money last year that came from this same resolution that we approved last year for Coastal Electric? City Manager Lord explained that the resolution last year was for a water line looping project on Exit 53, which ran from Acorn Drive through to Sniders Highway. This resolution tonight is on Exit 57, and this is a similar type looping project, so we can better serve that area for development.

Council Member Bonds then asked the City Manager for further clarification on this resolution. Mr. Lord explained that:

1) Coastal Electric Cooperative, under the state codes, has to give money for infrastructure projects that benefit commercial or industrial development. If they don't give the money, it means they may have to pay taxes on it. So, they give the money. So, we just apply every year to be able to do infrastructure projects. It's got to be used for water/sewer type projects to further commercial and industrial development. For the past several years, we have applied and gotten the grant.

Council Member Bonds asked how much money will the City get? Mr. Lord stated, this amount is \$142,375, and there is no match. Mr. Bonds then asked how this money would be applied? Mr. Lord responded that this is for a water line from a water tower which is on Hiers Corner Road. That water tower serves that entire area. The water line will come from that water tower, down Hiers Corner Road, toward Bells Highway, under the under pass and it will go to in front of what used to be Coastal Lumber. By doing that, it will provide a loop, so that we can provide better water flow in that area. It will also provide better water on that side of the road for future development.

The motion then passed unanimously, with all members voting in favor. A copy of said resolution is attached as part of these minutes.

3. **Recommendation to Purchase Yard Trash Collection Dump Truck for Public Works Department**

Council reviewed the following bids to purchase a new yard trash collection dump truck for Public Works Department.

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| Nu-Life Environmental | \$76,535.00 (20' Dump body mounted on 2012 Ford F-750 |
| Dick Smith Ford | \$73,484.00 (18' Dump body mounted on 2012 Ford F-750 |
| Amick Equipment Co. | \$70,457.00 (18' Dump body mounted on 2012 Ford F-750 |

In discussing this item, Public Works Director Charlie Chewning pointed out that the budget amount for this truck was \$69,043. He recommended the acceptance of the low bid of Amick Equipment Co. at \$70,457.00 for an 18' dump body mounted on 2012 Ford F-750.

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A motion was made by Council Member Lucas, seconded by Council Member Peters to approve the recommendation to award the bid to the low bidder, Amick Equipment Company at \$70,457.00. In discussing the motion, Mr. Buckner said he wanted to make sure that he was clear on the type of trash truck that is being purchased. He asked if this was the type truck used to pick up leaves with the tink claw. Mr. Chewning responded that this was correct. This is a yard trash collection type truck. It also has a dump body on it. Council Member Peters asked if any of the companies that placed a bid were a local company? Mr. Chewning responded that we do not have any local companies that build that size truck.

The motion then passed with all members voting in favor.

4. **Request to Use City Parking Lot for Barbeque Cook Off, March 17, 2012, by North Walterboro Baptist Church**

A motion to approve this request as submitted was made by Council Member Peters, seconded by Council Member Buckner, and passed with all members voting in favor.

5. **Request for Street Closing for Martin Luther King Jr. Day Parade on January 15, 2012**

A motion was made by Council Member Lucas to approve the street closing parade permit request as submitted for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Parade on January 15, 2012. Council Member Buckner seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

6. **Consideration of Cancelling or Rescheduling the February 14, 2012 and the March 13, 2012 City Council Meetings**

Mayor Young announced that the February 14 meeting coincides with the Municipal Association's Winter Meeting and some training available to Council. The March 13 meeting coincides with the National Congress of Cities Meeting in Washington, D.C. and also this is the day that we normally visit Capitol Hill. The Mayor also pointed out that we might have some new Council Members who might be completing training. When asked by Council Member Peters, how many Council Members would be attending the NLC Meeting in Washington, D.C., it was noted that Mayor Young and Council Member Siegel planned to attend.

A motion was then made by Council Member Peters to cancel the February 14 and March 13, 2012 Regular City Council Meeting, but if Council has a need to reschedule, then a meeting would be called. Council Member Lucas seconded the motion. In discussing the motion, Council Member Buckner felt that Council should not cancel the meetings, but reschedule them. He said, I think we have some things facing the City that we might need to have our regular meetings, so he suggested that Council reschedule those meetings instead of cancelling.

The motion passed with a vote of 6/1 with Mayor Young, Siegel, Lucas, Peters, Lohr and Bonds voting in favor. Council Member Buckner opposed the motion.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. **Update on the Youth Advisory Commission - Council Member Tom Lohr**

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Council Member Lohr gave a brief report on the Youth Advisory Commission. He stated that the library, recreation commission and a lot of other folks are doing the best they can to offer a lot of things in Walterboro for our children and adults. Details on these events were distributed in materials provided by Mr. Lohr.

Mr. Lohr told Council that County Council did a good job in taking over the recreation center as a department. What they are hoping for is to host some tournaments at the rec. center. Of course, that has some economic effects of trying to get people into our motels and also eating at our restaurants. Most of these events are two and three day events on the weekends.

Mr. Lohr also made complimentary comments about the work at the library. He said, if you haven't been there lately, it just absolutely amazes me what they have done there. They have Mr. Elliott Williams, who is the youth/adult librarian and they have Ms. Sheila Pierce who is the children's department librarian. I was very impressed when I got an update on the things they do. Mr. Lohr then brought attention to the list of events that are coming up at the library. There is something going on at the library each day of the week all the way through January for young adult programs.

He also commented about the library children's department on illustrated books. They have been doing this program now for about 7 years. Library personnel is also inviting City Council Members to their planned event on January 26th.

Mr. Lohr also commented on the events being planned at the new museum, which is now under the direction of Ms. Gary Brightwell, the events to be held by the Walterboro Tennis Association, and events planned by the Walterboro Soccer Association. He also mentioned the Red Cross Youth Services that was started at Colleton County High School.

In his report, Mr. Lohr also stated, we had some long term things such as hoping we could get a YMCA and a Boys Club. Of course, that's a big expense and that's fine for a long term thing. But what we decided was to do basically what I am doing now and that is to publicize and let people know that, in deed, there are lots of things going on for the youth in Walterboro and Colleton County.

Next, the Mayor announced that City Clerk Betty Hudson was absent due to illness.

A motion was the made by Council Member Lucas to enter an Executive Session. Council Member Peters seconded the motion that passed unanimously. The Mayor announced that the meeting will enter an Executive Session for a discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements.

The meeting returned to Open Session and there being no further business to consider, a motion to adjourn was made by Council Member Peters, seconded by Council Member Lohr and passed unanimously. The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 7:58 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: February 28, 2012