

MINUTES

A Rescheduled Regular Meeting of Walterboro City Council was held at City Hall on Wednesday, May 25, 2005 at 6:15 P.M. with Mayor Harry Cone presiding.

PRESENT WERE: Mayor Cone, Council Members: Franklin Smalls, Bill Young, Johnnie Thompson, Charlie Sweat, Ted Parker and Mary Anne Cannady. City Manager Tuck McConnell, City Clerk Betty Hudson and City Attorney George Cone were also present.

There being a quorum present, Mayor Cone called the meeting to order and called on Council Member Smalls for the invocation and Council Member Young to lead the pledge of allegiance to our flag.

The Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting and announced a Public Hearing to receive comments on Ordinance # 2005-01, an ordinance to prohibit soliciting for money, goods or services upon public right-of-ways. The public hearing was duly advertised in a local newspaper. No public comments were received, the hearing was closed and the regular meeting began.

The Minutes of the May 10, 2005 Regular Meeting were approved as submitted on motion of Council Member Parker, seconded by Council Member Sweat, with all members voting in favor.

Under Old Business, a motion was made by Council Member Cannady giving Second Reading and Adoption to Ordinance # 2005-01, being: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 13, POSTINGS, SOLICITING. ADVERTISING. ARTICLE I. SOLICITING, SECTION 13,101, TYPES PROHIBITED. GENERALLY, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WALTERBORO, SOUTH CAROLINA. Council Member Sweat seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Next, Resolution # 2005-05, A Resolution to Establish a Policy Regarding the Approval of Street Closings, was before Council. A motion was made by Council Member Sweat, seconded by Council Member Young to adopt the resolution. In discussing the motion, Council Member Sweat summarized that Council is requiring a 45-day lead time for a street closing request and that Council or staff will notify the public 30 days prior to the street actually closing. Council Member Young asked that this information be put on the City's Government Channel to notify the public. Council Member Smalls asked if the notice would be placed in the newspaper and the merchants notified by letter. Council Member Cannady stated the key is that merchants must be informed. Council agreed that the resolution should be amended to allow notification to all affected persons.

The following suggestions were made to amend the last sentence of Item No. 3 of the proposed resolution. Council Member Young suggested adding "notifying those affected by the closing." City Attorney Cone suggested the following addition: "and require the party or entity requesting the closing to notify all affected residents or all individuals of businesses located." However, it was pointed out by various Council Members that the City should have the responsibility to notify the public. Council Member Sweat suggested the following amendment: "and notify all affected persons by written notice."

Concluding the discussion, Council agreed to refer this matter back to staff for reconsideration. Council Member Sweat then withdrew his motion with the approval of the second.

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Under New Business, a motion was made by Council Member Young giving First Reading Approval to Ordinance # 2005-02, being: AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE CITY BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2005-2006 AND MATTERS RELATING THERETO. Council Member Parker seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Under Committee Reports, Council Member Thompson invited everyone to attend the ribbon cutting ceremony at the newly renovated Walterboro Army Airfield Memorial Park on May 27th. Council Member Cannady reminded everyone that the After Hours event will be held at the airport terminal on June 23rd.

Mr. Joe Mire of the Municipal Election Commission announced that the Municipal Commission will meet tomorrow, May 26, at 11:00 A.M. in the Voters Registration Office, to certify the May 24th General Election. He told Council two provisional ballots had been processed, found eligible and would be counted tomorrow morning at the meeting. He said we had a good election. Mayor Cone thanked Mr. Mire and the Election Commission for the good job with the election. Attorney Cone asked if there would be a recount of the ballots tomorrow, since there was a margin of less than one percent. He also asked how many paper ballots were involved. Mr. Mire responded that he was sure there would be a recount tomorrow, but was unsure how many paper ballots were involved. He invited all interested persons to attend this meeting.

There being no further business to consider, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Council Member Sweat, seconded by Council Member Parker and passed unanimously. The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 6:33 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