

## **MINUTES**

A Regular Meeting of Walterboro City Council was held at City Hall on Tuesday, September 28, 2010, at 6:15 P.M., with Mayor Bill Young presiding.

**PRESENT WERE:** Mayor Bill Young, Council Members: Dwayne Buckner, Randy Peters, Charles Lucas, Ted Parker, Franklin Smalls and Tom Lohr. City Manager Jeff Lord, City Attorney George Cone and Attorney Ashley Amundson were also present. City Clerk Betty Hudson was absent. There were approximately 18 persons present in the audience.

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

With no objection, the Mayor added the following item to the agenda, under Committee Reports - **Number 1)** Report on the Youth Advisory Committee by Councilman Lohr.

The Mayor announced that he, along with Council Members Lucas and Lohr, attended the Regional Advocacy meeting of the Municipal Association on Thursday last week. He thanked Council Members Lohr and Lucas for representing the city at that meeting. He also thanked Council Member Lucas for representing the city on Sunday at New Life United Methodist Church in presenting proclamations.

## **PUBLIC INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS:**

No public comments were given.

## **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:**

A correction to the Minutes was made by Council Member Buckner, on page 8, first paragraph, 4<sup>th</sup> line, - change "objections" to "objectives." Another correction to the minutes was made by Mayor Young, on page 8, fourth paragraph, last sentence - change "some" to "something."

A **MOTION** to approve the Minutes of the September 14, 2010 Public Hearing and Regular Meeting with corrections as noted was made by Council Member Parker, seconded by Council Member Lucas and passed unanimously.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

There was no old Business before Council.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

- 1. Acceptance of SC Dept. of Public Safety Justice Assistance Grant Award in the Amount of \$174,777 (95%) and Committing \$9,199 (5%) in Local Match Funds for a Total of \$183,976**

A **MOTION** was made by Council Member Parker to accept the SC Department of Public Safety Justice Assistance Grant Award of \$174,777 and to provide the local match funds of \$9,199. Council Member Peters seconded the motion. In discussing the motion, Council Member Buckner asked the City Manager to explain how these funds would be spent. City Manager Lord stated that the grant application identified the hiring of two public safety officers, two vehicles, equipment, and training and travel associated with the drug team. On further questioning by Council Member Buckner,

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Mr. Lord explained that this would be for two new police officers for one year, but the city can reapply. The Mayor stated, this was done in hopes of funding our drug team.

**The motion then passed unanimously.**

**2. Request to Use the City Parking Lot for the Fall Business and Community Expo on Thursday, October 28, 2010**

The Mayor noted that this item would include permission for the Walterboro-Colleton Chamber of Commerce to erect a banner across Jefferies Boulevard announcing the Fall Business and Community Expo.

Mr. David Smalls, present on behalf of the Walterboro-Colleton Chamber of Commerce, asked that the parking lot be closed on October 28 from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. instead of 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., so that no cars would be able to park in that section of the parking lot.

A **MOTION** was made by Council Member Lucas granting permission for use of the City Parking Lot as requested for the Fall Business Expo and to hang an announcement banner across Jefferies Boulevard on October 21 through October 28. Council Member Peters seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

**3. Request to Place Temporary Signs for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Palmetto Classic Stride 5K Run and Walk on November 13, 2010 by Band of Blue Booster Club**

The request was to put up four temporary signs for the event: two at each entrance of the Great Swamp Sanctuary and the other two in the downtown area. Permission was requested to put up the signs three weeks before the event. The signs would be small and neat.

A **MOTION** was made by Council Member Buckner, seconded by Council Member Smalls, to approve the request. The motion passed with all members voting in favor.

**4. Request for Street Closing for the Annual Christmas Parade December 5, 2010 by the Rice Festival Board**

A **MOTION** was made by Council Member Peters, seconded by Council Member Lohr to approve the request for street closing for the Annual Christmas Parade as submitted. The motion passed unanimously.

**COMMITTEE REPORT:**

**1. Report on the Youth Advisory Committee - Council Member Tom Lohr**

A list of recommendations from each Youth Advisory Commission Member had been given to each Council Member. In reviewing the packet of recommendations submitted by the Committee, Council Member Lohr pointed out that some Committee Members submitted the same recommendation.

Council Member Lohr spoke briefly on the recommendation to develop and distribute a questionnaire to seek input on interests from the parents on behalf of the youth. He explained that this topic came up as the result of someone indicating that there was not enough or not anything for the youth to do in Walterboro. One of the students on the Advisory Committee, Trey Black, indicated that he would like to see more activities or a decrease in the cost of some activities, because he felt that some of his peers did not participate in activities at school or at the Rec. Center due to cost.

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Council Member Lohr asked the Mayor to schedule a separate meeting for City Council to discuss and review the recommendations submitted by the Youth Advisory Commission and to decide what Council would like to do. He reminded Council that this is an advisory committee. This does not preclude each of you from coming up with something new you already have on your mind.

Council Member Lohr mentioned that he reminded the committee several times that the city does not have any type of funding per se set aside for recreational activities, however, that does not mean that we could not do that in the future. He stated, I believe there are some things we could partner with people on to make these costs minimal or no cost.

Council Member Lohr stated, I have talked to Mr. Horace Simmons about some of the things he is doing in this community. I think that scholarships, individual private donations to people who can't afford an activity at the Rec. Commission, the high school or an activity that Mr. Simmons might be planning, would not be out of the realm for us to do. In that financial reference, I don't think that would be beyond us to be supportive of as City Council, speaking only for myself.

Council Member Buckner then commended Council Member Lohr for his work with the Youth Advisory Commission. He said, these recommendations, I think, are excellent. They speak volumes of the interest in this particular topic in the community. One in particular is to have a questionnaire put out in the water bill to seek input on the interests of the parents and youth. I think that is a great idea. That way, we can actually poll the citizens to see exactly what they want to see happen.

Council Member Buckner then **MOVED** that a questionnaire is completed and put out with the next water bill. Mayor Young felt that more time was needed to develop a questionnaire and since Council will be scheduling a work session, he asked Councilman Buckner if he did not mind withdrawing that motion until after Council has had the work session.

Council Member Lohr then stated, I think that's a good idea for this reason. Ms. Cathy Turner came up with the idea. There is something called a "Computer Monkey," where you can go on the internet and develop a questionnaire about activities. I think we would be wise to look at that before we develop a questionnaire.

Council Member Lucas stated, I think we should have a request from the Committee saying they would like a questionnaire before we approve it. I think we are getting ahead of ourselves. When the committee makes a request to put this in the water bills that is when we need to approve it.

Council Member Lohr suggested that he would like to get back with Ms. Turner for assistance in getting started with a questionnaire.

On a question regarding the Work Session by the Mayor, Council Member Lohr explained that he basically wanted to see what Council wants to do. If we pick enough things that are manageable, we could probably do several things. The scholarship thing would just be a matter of agreeing that's something we like to do, and to structure it, as Trey Black mentioned.

At this point, Council Member Buckner agreed that in light of the information given, his motion was a little premature since a work session will be scheduled. Councilman Buckner then withdrew his motion to send out the questionnaire in the water bill until Council comes out of its work session.

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Mayor Young stated that he felt that Mr. Lohr had presented a concise group of recommendations to Council and we appreciate it.

Upon the Mayor's request, Donna Laird, Tourism Director, reminded the public of the 140-year celebration for the Walterboro Fire Department on Saturday, October 2, from 11:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. in the City Parking Lot. At 11:30 the Mayor will present awards to past firefighters and our current firefighters.

There being no further business to consider, a **MOTION** to adjourn was made by Council Member Parker, seconded by Council Member Lucas and passed unanimously. The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 6:43 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: October 12, 2010**