

MINUTES

A Phone/Video Conference Virtual Meeting using Zoom was held by Walterboro City Council on Tuesday, May 5, 2020 at 6:00 P.M., with Mayor Bill Young presiding.

PRESENT WERE: Mayor Bill Young, presiding from Council Chambers at City Hall. Joined in the meeting were Council Members: Carl Brown, Judy Bridge, Paul Siegel, James Broderick, Greg Pryor, and Ladson Fishburne. City Manager Jeff Molinari was also joined in the meeting. Viewing the meeting online were: Assistant City Manager Hank Amundson, City Clerk Betty Hudson and approximately eight other persons.

CALL TO ORDER:

With all Council Members present, Mayor Young called the meeting to order, and invited everyone to join in as he gave the invocation and led the pledge of allegiance to our flag.

Opening Remarks by the Mayor

The Mayor welcomed everyone and then made the following remarks:

1. This is our first attempt at a Zoom meeting, so we're still learning but hopefully everything will run smoothly. While I am coming to you from empty Council Chambers at City Hall, we are practicing social distancing. The members of City Council are joining the meeting from different locations - their homes or offices.
2. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our healthcare providers and first responders for their dedication and efforts during this pandemic. As we begin to reopen and move to a new normal, we can best show our appreciation to these selfless, brave professionals by following the now familiar guidelines:

-Avoiding large public gatherings, maintaining social distancing, protecting each other by wearing masks when we are out in public, not touching our faces, sanitizing frequently touched surfaces, washing our hands often, and staying home and contacting our healthcare providers if we have any symptoms.

Our individual behavior will determine whether the reopening of businesses and facilities will be successful or will cause an uptick in virus cases. It is imperative that we follow the guidelines and cooperate with stores and restaurants as more openings are allowed.
3. Also, we want to thank the grocery stores, drug stores and their employees for going to work each day so that the rest of us can have access to food, medicine and supplies and we appreciate the senior shopping hours which have been instituted.
4. During this pandemic, the Colleton Emergency Management Division and all of its various city and county agencies and components, have done an outstanding job of sharing information and coordinating efforts. Because this is a public health crisis, the Department of Health and Environment Control has been the lead agency.
5. We commend our City staff, Public Works, Parks Department, and Fire and Police Departments for their quick response to the tornadoes that hit

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our City. Hundreds of tons of debris have been hauled away. We also want to thank Adam Bishop, the Department of Transportation and Colleton County for assisting us in the debris removal.

6. As a result of the severe storms and tornadoes on April 13, President Trump, at the request of Governor McMaster, declared that a disaster exists in seven (7) South Carolina counties. Residents who suffered storm damage in Colleton and the City of Walterboro may now register for disaster assistance through FEMA. This assistance is available to residents with storm related costs not covered by insurance. There are three ways to register: by downloading the FEMA app at fema.gov/mobile-app; or download the app from your phone's app store, or you can call (800) 621-3362. We will also make this information available on the City of Walterboro's website.

Now, we will move on with the agenda.

PUBLIC INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS:

The Mayor then read the following statement, as the record for this agenda item.

Comments on agenda items must be submitted via e-mail to bhudson@walterborosc.org or by mail to Betty Hudson, City Clerk, City of Walterboro, P.O. Box 709, Walterboro, SC 29488. Comments will be distributed to the Mayor and City Council.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Upon motion of Council Member Broderick, seconded by Council Member Bridge, the following meeting minutes were unanimously approved:

1. Minutes of the January 7, 2020 Regular Meeting.
2. Minutes of the February 26, 2020 Special Joint Meeting with County Council.
3. Minutes of the March 3, 2020 Regular Meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no Old Business before Council.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Resolution No. 2020-R-04, A Resolution to Annex Property of the City of Walterboro, South Carolina, Pursuant to Section 5-3-100 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina 1976 as Amended

The City Manager reminded Council that in their agenda packets is a resolution and a map depicting 8.1 acres. This property was purchased by the City of Walterboro in 2006, at the time as part of the Great Swamp Sanctuary. This property was never annexed into the City. Pursuant to state law, property that is owned by a municipality can be annexed by resolution. So, we are asking for Council's favorable consideration of the resolution. In the resolution, it was noted that this property is identified as Tax Map # 178-00-00-286, located on Beach Road, and is contiguous to the current City limits of the City of Walterboro.

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A motion was made by Council Member Siegel to adopt Resolution # 2020-R-04, a Resolution to Annex Property of the City of Walterboro, South Carolina, Pursuant to Section 5-5-100 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976 as Amended, and this is an 8.1 acre of parcel located on Beach Road. Council Member Broderick seconded the motion. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

2. Request to Close Streets for "Out of the Darkness Walk" to Raise Awareness of Suicide Prevention on October 17, 2020 at 9:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. by Kim Crouse

Next City Manager Molinari stated that a request had been received for a walk on October 17, 2020 from Ms. Kim Crouse. He said, I have already reviewed this request with the date and the route with Chief Marvin and he is good with everything, and we ask for Council's favorable consideration of the request.

Council Member Bridge made a motion to approve the request to close the streets for the "Out of the Darkness Walk" to raise awareness of Suicide Prevention on October 17, 2020 from 9:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. Council Member Fishburne seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

3. Request to Rename Mayfield Terrace Park to Jackson Hughes Park

As background information for this agenda item, Mayor Young made the following statement:

Mr. Jackson Hughes was an entrepreneur and a successful, self-made businessman. In the mid to late 1950's, he became associated with Dairyland which he eventually purchased and made into a highly popular local landmark. Also, during this time, he and Albert Lucas, Jr. started the Midget Football League and coached for three to four years. When I-95 was being built through Walterboro, Mr. Hughes and his business partners became very involved with convenience stores on the interstate. In the late 70s, Jackson became a board member of State Savings and Loan. He served as a board member of the Colleton County Resource and Development Board, and as a member of the Accommodations Tax Board. Jackson was a civic minded individual who donated generously to a variety of local causes including the donation of land for the Mayfield Park on Dowling Avenue in 1987.

Concluding, the Mayor said, it is with great pleasure that I ask for a motion to rename the Mayfield Terrace Park in his honor.

Council Member Pryor made a motion to honor the request to rename the Mayfield Terrace Park to the Jackson Hughes Park. Council Member Broderick seconded the motion that passed with all members voting in favor.

4. Request to Hang a Banner Recognizing the 2020 CCHS Chorus Graduates by Stephanie Drawdy

The Mayor stated that he had spoken with Ms. Stephanie Drawdy and he believes that the details to hang the banner had not been worked out as yet, but we needed to get this item on the agenda and get it approved, and then she can work the details out with the City Manager and City staff.

City Manager Molinari said, in my correspondence with her, it looks like what she wants to do is to affix some banners on our light poles on East Washington Street that would individually recognize about 20 CCHS Chorus seniors who will be graduating.

A motion was made by Council Member Brown to approve the request to hang banners to recognize the 2020 CCHS Chorus Graduates by Ms. Stephanie Drawdy.

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Council Member Bridge seconded the motion. All in favor. None apposed. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

There were no Committee Reports given.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

City Manager Molinari gave a brief update on the April 13, 2020 tornado cleanup and debris removal. He reported that staff has done a wonderful job cleaning up all of the debris. As of today, we have collected over 500 tons of debris, and as the Mayor has alluded to, we also received a Presidential Disaster Declaration on Friday. We are currently working through both FEMA and our insurance provider (SMIRF) to begin to recover from the storm. Our projected damage as a result of the storm is over one-half million dollars, so we will be working diligently to get those facilities repaired and to get reimbursed for our up-front expenditures to get us through the storm event.

There being no further business to consider, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Council Member Bridge, seconded by Council Member Pryor and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:16 P.M. The notice of this meeting, call-in phone number, webinar I.D. and link to view the video were distributed with the agenda packets, posted on the City Hall bulletin boards and on the City's website at least twenty-four hours prior to meeting time.

Respectfully,

Betty J. Hudson
City Clerk

APPROVED: June 2, 2020