

**MINUTES**

A Phone/Video Conference Virtual Meeting using Zoom was held by Walterboro City Council at City Hall on Tuesday, February 2, 2021 at 6:00 P.M., with Mayor Bill Young presiding.

**PRESENT WERE:** Joined in the meeting were: Mayor Bill Young, Councilmembers: Paul Siegel, Greg Pryor, Judy Bridge, James Broderick, Carl Brown, and Ladson Fishburne. City Manager Jeff Molinari, Assistant City Manager Hank Amundson, Finance Director Amy Risher, City Clerk Callie Seals, Attorney George Cone, Attorney Brown McLeod, Utilities Director Wayne Crosby and Revenue Bond Counsel Lawrence Flynn, III were also present.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

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

**PUBLIC INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS:**

The Mayor stated public input on agenda items had been distributed to Council by email.

**PRESENTATIONS:**

1. Carol Black expressed concerns again as to the City's lack of enforcement of the mask ordinance, stating her mother had recently contracted Covid-19 and was hospitalized. She reiterated her belief that more tickets should be issued, not warnings, and asking what more could be done to publicize the ordinance. She made mention of a Palmetto Priority program wherein restaurants can do more to comply with cleaning and safety measures, etc. She stated that twelve Walterboro restaurants were currently part of the program and that she would like the City to take a look at this program and help other businesses to more so comply with it.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **Ordinance # 2021-02, (renumber to Ordinance #2021-01) AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE TO PERMIT AND ALLOW FOR ELECTRONIC MEETINGS; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO (Introduction and Final Reading).**

Motion: Councilmember Pryor; Second: Councilmember Bridge

Discussion: None.

Carried: All ayes.

2. **Ordinance # 2021-01, (renumbered to Ordinance #2021-02) A SERIES ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF WATERWORKS AND SEWER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT REVENUE BONDS OF THE CITY OF WALTERBORO, SOUTH CAROLINA IN THE AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF NOT EXCEEDING SEVEN MILLION DOLLARS (\$7,000,000); AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO (Introduction and First Reading).**

Revenue Bond Attorney Flynn stated to City Manager Molinari that it would be best to renumber Ordinance 2021-01 to Ordinance 2021-02, and have Ordinance 2021-02 renumbered to Ordinance 2020-01. It was agreed that this would be best by all Councilmembers and City Manager. Attorney Flynn then gave a presentation on the proposed Revenue Bond and the basis of it stating that this was the City's funded portion of a larger grant that is being received. The City has engaged PFM Financial Advisors LLC out of Orlando, FL to serve as Financial Advisor and they have solicited bids from the local banking market. The plan is go up to 20 years for a term which basically the upper limits of what the banks will lend but knowing the size of this loan and the sufficiency of the credit we feel pretty comfortable that we're going to get sufficient bids. We should have the rate in place and a clearer understanding of where we stand by the time we come in for second reading. What you have in front of you is a series ordinance. It is simply authorizing that next series of bonds under your master bond to be issued on a parody basis with the outstanding three water and sewer bonds that you currently have outstanding and allows the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the bond upon approval which will likely happen in the late March 2021 timeframe.

Motion: Councilmember Broderick; Second: Councilmember Siegel

Discussion: None.

Carried: All ayes.

**CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:**

1. Request to authorize retaining Pope Flynn Group for their services as Bond Counsel in connection with the issuance of the Revenue Bond, Series 2021 in the amount of \$35,000, plus expenses (Engagement Letter attached).

Motion: Councilmember Siegel; Second: Councilmember Pryor  
Discussion: None.  
Carried: All ayes.

2. Consideration of bids for the construction of an Emergency Generator & Chlorination System for the Mable T. Willis Blvd. Well Project (Memorandum and materials attached).

City Manager Molinari stated the Utility Department accepted bids to install an emergency generator and chlorination system at the Mable T. Willis Blvd. well. On January 19<sup>th</sup> we received bids from four contractors. The low bid was Pinholster Construction out of Savannah, Georgia in the amount of \$223,400. I would like to commend utilities director, Wayne Crosby and our engineer for securing some additional funding for this project. As you are aware, we were also awarded a \$265,000 principal forgiveness loan from the states revolving fund which is essentially a grant that includes \$165,996 for construction as well as \$99,992 for engineering costs. The real impact we'll see is this year's Enterprise Fund Budget we allocated \$277,000 for the project which will reduce the amount that we have to come out of pocket to \$91,101. Staff recommends the selection of Pinholster as the low qualified bidder in the amount of \$223,400 and we have our utilities director Wayne here this evening who would be willing to answer any technical questions you might have.

Motion: Councilmember Bridge; Second: Mayor Young  
Discussion: None.  
Carried: All ayes.

3. Prioritization of 2021 CDBG Funding Requests (Memorandum attached).

As you are aware, Michelle Knight with Lowcountry Council of Government made a presentation last month and the needs are similar to what we had last year. I based it on our most recent retreat but there was an addition that I would like to mention that we have to make that was a requirement because of the pandemic. We had to include as one of our priorities projects that addressed preparing for, responding to and preventing coronavirus.

Pursuant to the goals and objectives adopted by City Council, I recommend the following CDBG priority needs for the next funding cycle:

1. Public Infrastructure and Facilities
  - Upgrades of water and sewer lines as needed
  - Other projects as identified
2. Community Enrichment
  - Demolition of properties that are attractive nuisances
  - Adaptive reuse of existing structures
  - Others as identified
3. Projects that address preparing for, responding to, and preventing coronavirus.
4. Special Projects as identified.
  - Trail connector for Wildlife Center and Wildlife Sanctuary
  - Other projects as identified
5. Multiple Activity Neighborhood Improvement Projects
  - Neighborhoods as identified
6. Economic Development projects as identified.

Motion: Councilmember Broderick; Second: Councilmember Pryor  
Discussion: None.  
Carried: All ayes.

4. Paperless agendas.

Councilmember Brown addressed going paperless with agenda meetings indicating that he thought

it would potentially save time, money, and would be more professional to do so. City Manager Molinari stated he will work on putting together a package to present to Council that consists of individual iPad/laptops for each Councilmember wherein the agendas could be uploaded monthly.

Motion: Councilmember Broderick; Second: Councilmember Pryor  
Discussion: None.  
Carried: All ayes.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Councilmember Brown then made a motion to enter Executive Session. Councilmember Bridge seconded the motion.

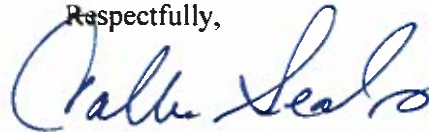
- a) Discussion of matters concerning the provision of services encouraging the location of industries or other businesses – Highway 64 Mega Site.

**OPEN SESSION:**

The meeting returned to Open Session by motion made by Councilmember Broderick, and Councilmember Fishburne. No action was taken.

There being no further business to consider a motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Pryor, seconded by Councilmember Brown and passed unanimously. The mayor adjourned the meeting at 6:55 P.M. Notice of this meeting, call-in phone number, webinar I.D. and link to view the video were distributed with the agenda packets, to all local media, posted on City Hall bulletin boards and on the City's website at least twenty-four hours prior to meeting time.

Respectfully,



Callie Seals  
City Clerk

APPROVED: March 2, 2021