

**Walterboro City Council  
City Council  
November 1, 2022**

**Minutes**

A regular Meeting of Walterboro City Council was held at City Hall on Tuesday November 1, 2022, at 6:15 P.M., with Mayor Bill Young presiding.

**Present:** Mayor Bill Young, Councilmembers: Carl Brown, Judy Bridge, Paul Siegel, James Broderick, and Ladson Fishburne. City Manager Jeff Molinari, Assistant City Manager Ryan McLeod, City Attorney Brown McLeod, City Clerk Adrienne Nettles, Finance Director Amy Risher, Anthony Herndon with Brice Herndon Draft Horse and Carriage Company, The Colleton Preparatory Academy Lady Hawks Tennis Team, and Representatives from Merchants on Main Street. Councilmember Greg Pryor was absent.

**Call To Order:**

With the above-mentioned Councilmembers present, Mayor Young 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:**

There was no public input on agenda items.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Upon motion of Councilmember Brown, Seconded by Councilmember Bridge, the Following minutes were unanimously approved.

1. Regular Meeting September 6, 2022.
2. Special Called Meeting September 19, 2022.
3. Regular Meeting October 4, 2022.

**New Business:**

1. **Resolution # 2022-R-15**, A RESOLUTION APPROVING FINANCING TERMS WITH SOUTH STATE BANK FOR THE PURCHASE OF A 2022 E-ONE TOP MOUNT COMMERCIAL PUMPER FIRE TRUCK.

Mr. Mayor and members of City Council in your agenda packet you have a resolution to approve the financing terms for a new Pumper Truck for the Fire Department. We will be financing \$411,941 of a period of 5 years at a 3.35% interest rate with South State Bank. Staff ask Council for their favorable consideration.

Councilmember Bridge asked what is the delivery date for the truck?

City Manager Molinari stated our Fire Chief is going down to Florida this week to inspect the new truck, and we are hoping to have it delivered in a few weeks.

Motion: Councilmember Broderick; Seconded by Councilmember Fishburne.

Discussion: None.

Carried: All ayes.

2. A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE COLLETON PREPARATORY ACADEMY (CPA) LADY HAWKS TENNIS TEAM – 2022 SCISA 2A STATE TENNIS CHAMPIONS.

Motion: Councilmember Fishburne; Seconded by Councilmember Brown

Discussion: None.

Carried: All ayes.

3. Consideration of a request from Brice Herndon Draft Horse and Carriage Company to conduct horse-drawn holiday carriage rides on Hampton Street and East Washington Street on December 1-3, and December 10-13, 2022.

Anthony Herndon with the Brice Herndon Draft Horse and Carriage Company stated this if going to be something through Matt Mardell and myself. Our plan is to have something at the museum, like a holiday market and leave from that area and do the Hampton Street area as our route. Maybe we can encourage the residents to decorate and give out a prize for the winners who decorate. Ultimately, we would provide the horses and carriages. This will be a little bit grander than what we did in October.

City Manager Molinari stated, Mr. Mayor I have spoken with our Police Chief, and we have had positive feedback about the rides that were done last month. Staff is in support of this request.

Councilmember Bridge asked, what are the hours for the rides?

Anthony Herndon stated we will start at dark and end at 9:00 P.M.

Councilmember Broderick asked how is the reaction of the motorist, when you all are out doing the rides?

Anthony Herndon stated the motorist have been fine and we have not had any issues.

Motion: Councilmember Broderick; seconded by Councilmember Bridge

Discussion: None

Carried: All ayes.

4. Consideration of a request from In His Name Colleton to use the city parking lot on Saturday, December 17, 2022, from 7:00 AM until 3:00 PM for its Annual Free Christmas Dinner.

City Manager Jeff stated Mr. Mayor and members of City Council you have in your agenda packet a request from In His Name Colleton to conduct their annual Christmas Dinner on Saturday December 17, 2022, at the city parking lot. This is the parking lot off East Washington and Hampton Street. There are no events going on at the church that day, and staff recommends approval for this request.

Motion: Councilmember Bridge; Seconded by Councilmember Siegel

Discussion: None

Carried: All ayes

5. A consideration of request from Merchants on main to temporarily waive the city's peddler requirements and to allow food trucks for "First Thursday" events on Thursday, November 3, 2022, and Thursday, December 1, 2022.

City Manager Jeff stated Mr. Mayor and members of City Council you have in your agenda packet an email from Rilee Westbury, requesting for the First Thursday events to be held on Thursdays, November 3, 2022, and Thursday, December 1, 2022 and to waive the City's peddlers permit requirements, and to also approve the use of food trucks.

Councilmember Broderick asked, are we going to handle this like we handle the Rice Festival?

City Manager Jeff stated it will be handled under the umbrella of the First Thursday event.

Councilmember Bridge asked, are they planning to put the food trucks down on Main Street?

City Manager Jeff stated it is my understanding they are looking to utilize the farther end of East Washington Street closest to Lucas Street. It is my understanding there is not a lot of activity on that end of the street. They are trying to bring more activity to that end.

Mayor Young stated I think we have a lot of people here tonight who are in support of these events, and it is great that we have Merchants downtown who are in driving the efforts.

Rilee Westbury stated, we have two different scenarios that we are working out. We were originally thinking we would like to use the parking spaces to put the vendors and possibly put the food trucks on Lucas Street, North Memorial, and the front part of East Washington Street. We have regrouped on that and think it would be best to use the city parking lot if we realized that we did not have enough room.

Heather Berry stated we would like permission to use the parking lot. The only reason we are coming up with that for this event on Thursday is, Jason Cook will also be there playing on Main Street. He could bring in a larger crowd than we would anticipate. We just want to make sure that we can disperse the crowd evenly, and it will move people further down the street. The merchants at the end of the street are not getting attention, so we want people to move down that way more.

Rilee Westbury stated we have approximately 4-5 food trucks, and 22 vendors. The food trucks are all DHEC approved. They may not have a city license to run the food truck, but they are DHEC approved by the list that Jeff provided me with.

Heather Berry stated all the merchants and restaurants are on board with this. We just need you all to support it and make sure we have the room we need.

Mayor Young stated normally on First Thursday, people park on the city parking lot. If you use it for the food trucks, where will the people park?

Heather Berry stated we will do something similar as to what we do for the Rice Festival, we will park on the opposite street. Some of the walking will be good for some merchants, as they may be going to another store when they walk by, they may go into that merchant's store that they did not plan on going in. So, some of that walking will do other merchants justice.

Rilee Westbury stated, this is all trial and error for us right now. Next month we may realize we cannot do certain things, or we may have to limit certain things. We do not know until we try, and we are willing to try.

Councilmember Brown asked, do we have to amend this to allow for the parking lot?

City Manager Jeff stated since there is a subsequent request I would.

Attorney McLeod stated I think you will want to wave any type of city license requirements versus peddlers permits. It does not sound like they are going to be peddling. The ordinance for a peddler is that they go door to door, and that is not the case with this event. I think I would just leave it vague.

Councilmember Broderick asked, Heather you were saying something about Hampton Street, are you wanting to block Hampton Street as well?

Heather Berry stated, no sir. The only concern for us is, if we seem we are getting crowded we would have that option.

Mayor Young Stated, if you close Lucas Street you could put the food trucks on that street.

Heather Berry stated, I am for putting the food trucks on Lucas Street.

Councilmember Broderick stated Lucas Street does have access to power poles.

Mayor Young stated maybe just close the streets from Washington Street to Hampton Street, if we want to try the food trucks in the parking lot for the first time.

Rilee Westbury stated we are going to go out there tomorrow and come up with all the rules.

Derek Rush stated having it at the crossroads of Lucas and East Washington Street would be a good idea. It would centralize it. As this continues to grow, we will have to look at other options when the time comes.

Heather Berry stated we had several people from out of town at the last First Thursday event. We had people from Summerville and Mt. Pleasant. It does draw a lot of attention and that is what our small-town needs. There are a lot of empty buildings, and downtown needs to start thriving again.

Councilmember Brown asked if I amend the motion what would I say?

Attorney McLeod stated typically I would say the City's permit and or license requirements for the First Thursday events for the months of November and December.

Councilmember Brown asked, Jeff what is the name of the parking lot?

City Manager Jeff stated we just refer to it as the city parking lot.

Councilmember Bridge asked, do you know what vendors are going to show up and will they have assigned spots?

Rilee Westbury stated I had a time frame on Facebook that people needed to respond to me by 12PM on Friday of last week. I told them I would give them a definite go ahead after tonight's meeting. Our goal is for them to meet Heather and I at 5:05 pm at the corner of Lucas Street and East Washington Street. Once I confirm who has signed up, we will tell them what they can and cannot do. We do not want tents and equipment everywhere. We are going to only allow tables for set up.

Rilee Westbury asked I wanted to make sure if we are approved that there are no limitations on what type of vendor sets up?

Mayor Young asked you are going to be permitted in the area that you are talking about, not outside that area?

Rilee Westbury stated that is correct.

Mayor Young stated if you do not go outside that area or break any laws you will be fine.

Attorney McLeod asked are you going to permit alcohol?

Heather Berry stated we are not permitting alcohol on the streets. We may have some in our stores, but we cannot sale alcohol. We will leave all the alcohol sales to the restaurants.

Mayor Young stated you may want to talk with someone with the city or maybe talk to Bubba. There are certain things that we ask vendors not to do during festivals.

Heather Berry stated the vendors we are using for this Thursday have worked with the city and know what to do. They should be able to comply with the rules.

Councilmember Brown asked, Jeff if I amend this on two items, are you ok with that?

City Manager Molinari stated, Yes, I am fine with that.

Councilmember Brown asked, do I have to make a motion to amend it?

City Manager Molinari stated, yes you do.

Councilmember Brown stated, Mr. Mayor I would like to amend my original motion to replace peddler with permit or license requirements. I would also like to add we will allow the use of the city parking lot on Washington Street. Councilmember Broderick seconded the motion.

Councilmember Broderick asked are you going to have potter potties?

Heather Berry stated, no we are not. Our restaurant and shops are open, and the restrooms will be open to the public.

#### 6. Election of voting delegate for National League of Cities.

Mayor Young nominated Councilmember James Broderick as the delegate for National League of Cities.

Motion: Mayor Young; seconded by Councilmember Broderick

Discussion: None

Carried: All ayes

### **City Manager's Report:**

#### 1. Consideration of funding recommendations from the Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee.

City Manager Molinari stated Mr. Mayor and members of City Council you have your agenda packet a memo and supporting documentation from the Finance Director. On October 20, 2022, the Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee meet and approved the following. Out of 65% Tourism fund, the Colleton County Veterans Council requested benches for the Veterans Park in the amount of \$8,575, that request has been deferred until the next meeting. The Colleton County Rice Festival requested \$12,000 for fireworks we are recommending the approval of \$4,000. The SC Artisans Center marketing "Shop Hand Crafted" request \$15,000 it was approved for \$15,000 by the ATAX committee. The Walterboro Criterium request \$19,000 and they were approved for \$19,000. The Walterboro Colleton Chamber of Commerce requested \$25,000 for marketing/promotion and that request was denied. Staff ask Council for favorable consideration for the recommendation. If approved as submitted, the projected remaining balance for 2022-2023 will be approximately \$209,595.

Councilmember Bridge asked the Colleton County Rice Festival fireworks, they requested \$12,000 and it was approved for \$4,000. Is it possible if they do not secure enough money they could come back and ask the ATAX for more?

City Manager Molinari stated it is my understanding that the \$4,000 is strictly for marketing and promotion of the fireworks event, not for the actual fireworks.

Councilmember Bridge asked, so the \$12,000 is the marketing cost as well?

Finance Director Amy Risher stated the \$12,000 includes the fireworks. This is not going to prevent them from proceeding ahead, this is their second request this year.

Motion: Councilmember Broderick; seconded by Councilmember Brown

Discussion: None

Carried: All ayes

2. Consideration of change order #12 for the I-95 Business Loop Project Phase 2 for additional concrete and drainage work requested by SCDOT- fully funded by the Colleton County Transportation Committee.

City Manager Molinari stated Mr. Mayor and members of City Council you have in your agenda packet a memo and supporting documentation for change order #12 for the I-95 Business Loop Project Phase 2. SCDOT has requested that the city perform additional concrete and drainage work as part of Phase 2 of the I-95 Business Loop project. In speaking with the Colleton County engineer Carla Harvey, the original intent was for DOT to perform this work after the city portion of the street scape was complete. According to Carla DOT did not have the time to do this work and has request that Wildwood Contractors do the project. Carla has secured \$140,000 from the Colleton County Transportation Committee to cover the costs of this additional work. This cost will have no impact on our bottom and fits into the C-funds. At least 25% of the C-Funds must be used on State Highway facilities. This has no impact on our finances from the project. Staff recommends Council approve change order #12 in the amount of \$136,315.

Motion: Councilmember Brown; Seconded by Councilmember Bridge

Discussion: None

Carried: All ayes

A motion was made to go into Executive Session by Councilmember Brown, seconded by Councilmember Fishburne. Mayor Young explained that City Council would be going into Executive Session to discuss a Contractual Matter-overhead Street light conversion. They would also be discussing Personnel Matters: MASC Build a Bench Initiative and Appointment to Keep Walterboro Beautiful Board.

### **Executive Session:**

1. Contractual Matter- Overhead Street light conversion.

A motion to approve Dominion agreement was made by Councilmember Broderick, seconded by Mayor Young.

2. Personnel Matters:

a. MASC Build a Bench Initiative.

b. Appointment to Keep Walterboro Beautiful Board.

A motion to appoint Heather Whitten to the Keep Walterboro Beautiful Board was made by Councilmember Fishburne, seconded by Councilmember Bridge.

A motion to come out of Executive Session was made by Councilmember Bridge, seconded by Councilmember Fishburne.

There being no further business to consider, a motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Broderick, seconded by Councilmember Fishburne, and passed unanimously. Mayor Young adjourned the meeting at 7:13 P.M. Notice of this meeting were distributed with 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,

Adrienne Nettles  
City Clerk