

Walterboro City Council

City Hall

May 2, 2023

**Minutes**

A Regular Meeting of Walterboro City Council was held at City Hall on Tuesday May 2, 2023, at 6:15 P.M., with Mayor Bill Young presiding.

**Present:** Joined in the meeting were: Mayor Bill Young. Councilmembers: Carl Brown, Judy Bridge, Paul Siegel, James Broderick, and Greg Pryor. City Manager Jeff Molinari, Assistant City Manager Ryan McLeod, City Clerk Adrienne Nettles, Finance Director Amy Risher, and Wayne Crosby Utilities Director. Councilmember Ladson Fishburne was not in attendance.

**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 Pryor, Seconded by Councilmember Broderick, the following minutes were unanimously approved.

1. Regular Meeting – April 4, 2023.

**Public Hearing:**

1. **Ordinance # 2023-04**, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WALTERBORO, SOUTH CAROLINA, AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURE OF CORONAVIRUS STATE AND LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS (Second and Final Reading).

City Manager Jeff Molinari stated any funds that we spend from the Coronavirus Expenditure State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds must be formally approved by City Council by ordinance and we ask Council for its favorable consideration of the 2022 revenue loss which totals \$106,136.00.

2. **Ordinance # 2023-05**, AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY OF WALTERBORO TO ENTER INTO AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT RELATING TO SOUTH CAROLINA LOCAL REVENUE SERVICES; TO PARTICIPATE IN ONE OR MORE LOCAL REVENUE SERVICE PROGRAMS; TO EXECUTE AND DELIVER ONE OR MORE PARTICIPANT PROGRAM SUPPLEMENTS; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO (Second and Final reading).

City Manager Jeff Molinari stated Mr. Mayor and members of City Council you have in your agenda packet a memo from the Municipal Association regarding the city's continued participation in three (3) business

license collection programs - the Insurance Tax Program, Broker Tax Program, and Telecommunication Program. We are required to pass an ordinance to continue to participate in this program. The Municipal Association has requested that the Council pass an Ordinance before May 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Old Business:**

1. **Ordinance # 2023-04**, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WALTERBORO, SOUTH CAROLINA, AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURE OF CORONAVIRUS STATE AND LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS (Second and Final Reading).

Motion: Councilmember Brown; Seconded by: Councilmember Pryor

Discussion: None

Carries: All ayes

2. **Ordinance # 2023-05**, AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY OF WALTERBORO TO ENTER INTO AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT RELATING TO SOUTH CAROLINA LOCAL REVENUE SERVICES; TO PARTICIPATE IN ONE OR MORE LOCAL REVENUE SERVICE PROGRAMS; TO EXECUTE AND DELIVER ONE OR MORE PARTICIPANT PROGRAM SUPPLEMENTS; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO (Second and Final Reading).

Motion: Councilmember Broderick; Seconded by: Councilmember Siegel

Discussion: None

Carried: All ayes

**New Business:**

1. **Ordinance # 2023-06**, AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE CITY GENERAL FUND BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024 AND MATTERS RELATING THERETO (Introduction and 1<sup>st</sup> Reading).

Motion: Councilmember Bridge; Seconded by: Councilmember Pryor

Discussion: None

Carried: All ayes

2. **Ordinance # 2023-07**, AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE CITY ENTERPRISE FUND BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024 AND MATTERS RELATING THERETO (Introduction and 1<sup>st</sup> Reading).

Motion: Councilmember Siegel; Seconded by Councilmember Bridge

Discussion: None

Carried: All ayes

Councilmember Bridge stated we have gone through the budget process, and we have had our Budget Committee study the budget. I would like to thank our Finance Director Amy Risher and our City Manager Jeff Molinari for all the work that has been put into developing the budget and meeting with the department heads. I would also like to thank Council for looking over the budget and asking questions. Councilmember Bridge stated that she was going to give a summary of the budget:

### **Budget Summary:**

- \$13,462,578 total City Budget.
- \$8,470,954 General Fund Budget.
- \$5,026,624 Enterprise Fund Budget.
- No ad valorem property tax increase.
- No business license rate increase.
- Proposed increase in water bi-monthly minimum charges on large meters (AWWA standards).
- Proposed 5% increase in sewer volumetric rates.
- Proposed \$1.00 bi-monthly increase in facility charge for sewer – the current charge is \$5.00 for in-city customers.
- Proposed increase for in-city water taps to cover the cost of installation.
- Proposed \$3 bi-monthly increase in commercial sanitation charges- the current charge is \$37. Residential collection charges will remain at \$30 bi-monthly.
- 1% increase in the employer portion of state retirement (Per PEBA, SCRS increases to 18.56 % and PORS increases to 21.24%).
- Workers' Compensation (SCMIT) rates increased by 39%.
- Property and casualty insurance (SCMIRF) increased by 15%.
- Proposed 1.5% cost of living adjustment for city employees.
- Proposed \$50 Christmas bonus increase for full-time and part-time employees.
- Increased gas and oil line items throughout entire budget.

City Manager Jeff Molinari stated the incremental increases in water and sewer that Councilmember Bridge mentioned is part of the rate study that the city undertook in April of 2019. We are in the process of implementing these increases to be able to meet our capital needs of our water, sewer, and sanitation system and to cover the cost of providing those services. City Manager Molinari stated that he would give a summary of the remaining budget:

### **Mayor and City Council**

- November 2023 City Election.
- \$35,000 appropriation to Lowcountry Regional Airport.

### **City Manager**

- Status quo.

### **Finance**

- Vehicle allowance for Finance Director.

### **Public Works**

- Purchase of yard debris truck (USDA grant) – will take delivery in 2024-2025.
- Purchase of LED reader board sign (Palmetto Pride/SCMIT/SCMIRF grants).

### **Planning and Development**

- \$25,000 allocated for demolition of substandard properties.

### **Police**

- Two (2) new patrol vehicle (USDA grant).

### **Judicial**

- Status quo.

### **Fire**

- Reclassified three (3) Fire Fighter/Driver Operator positions to three (3) Fire Lieutenant positions.
- Debt Service on 2023 Pumper truck with equipment.

### **Parks**

- Converted two (2) part-time positions into one (1) full-time position.
- Contracting out maintenance of landscaping at exits 53/57 loop project.
- Ventrac ballfield renovator and groomer plus 3 pt hitch conversion for tractor (USDA grant).
- Purchase two pickup trucks (USDA grant).

### **Tourism**

- Main Street South Carolina expenses.

### **Walterboro Wildlife Center**

- Status quo.

### **Water**

- Increase for chemicals due to rising material costs.
- Continue to purchase new radio read meter.
- Asphalt roller and trailer (USDA grant).
- Service truck (USDA grant).

### **Utility Support**

- Status quo.

### **Sanitation**

- Residential garbage truck – will take delivery in 2024-2025 (USDA grant).

### **Sewer**

- Status quo.

### **Sewer Support**

- Status quo

**Ordinance # 2023-08**, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WALTERBORO, SOUTH CAROLINA, AMENDING THE COMPREHENSIVE FEE SCHEDULE FOR THE UTILITY SUPPORT DEPARTMENT (Introduction and 1<sup>st</sup> Reading).

City Manager Jeff Molinari stated Mr. Mayor and members of City Council once this is approved, we will update the city's Comprehensive Fee Schedule.

Motion: Councilmember Broderick; Seconded by: Councilmember Bridge

Discussion: None

Carried: All ayes

**Resolution # 2023-R-02**, A RESOLUTION TO DECLARE APRIL 30-MAY 6, 2023, AS MUNICIPAL CLERKS WEEK IN WALTERBORO TO RECONGNIZE AND HONOR THE VALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS THAT MUNICIPAL CLERKS MAKE TO CITIES AND TOWN IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

Motion: Councilmember Broderick; Seconded by: Councilmember Bridge

Discussion: None

Carried: All ayes

A motion was made to go into Executive Session by Councilmember Brown, seconded by Councilmember Bridge. Mayor Young explained that City Council would be going into Executive Session to discuss Contractual Matter: Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion Project, and Personnel Matter: City Manager Contract.

**Executive Session:**

1. Contractual Matter - Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion Project.
2. Personnel Matter - City Manager Contract.

A motion to come out of Executive Session was made by Councilmember Bridge, seconded by Councilmember Pryor, all in favor motion carries.

There being no further business to consider, a motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Bridge, seconded by Councilmember Brown, and passed unanimously. Mayor Young adjourned the meeting at 8:08 P.M. Notice of the meeting was distributed with the agenda packets, to all local media posted on City Hall bulletin board and posted on the City's website at least twenty-four hours prior to meeting time.

Respectfully,

Adrienne Nettles  
City Clerk