

Walterboro City Council

Regular Meeting

City Hall

April 7, 2026

Minutes

A Regular Meeting of Walterboro City Council was held at City Hall on Tuesday, April 7, 2026, at 6:15 P.M., with Mayor James Broderick presiding.

Present: Joined in the meeting were: Mayor James Broderick, Councilmembers: Jimmy Syfrett, Ladson Fishburne, Judy Bridge, Paul Siegel, and Carl Brown. City Manager Jeff Molinari, Assistant City Manager Ryan McLeod, City Clerk Adrienne Nettles, Main Street Manager/Tourism Director Patricia Fleming, Father Bruce Barnett, St. Anthony's Catholic Church. Libertas Academy students: Amelia Love, Noah Jackson, William Brown, Yophi Panza, Anthony Jerideau, Colby Shelly, Delyiah Pressley, Paisley Orsini, and Skylar Tuten. Utilities Director Wayne Crobsy, Parks Director Jonathan Burroughs, Dana Cheney, Sue Ketih, and Carol Black. Councilmember Spencer Witkin was not in attendance.

Call to Order:

With the above-mentioned Councilmembers present, Mayor Broderick called the meeting to order. Father Bruce Barnett, St. Anthony's Catholic Church gave the invocation. Libertas Academy students led the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag.

Public Input on Agenda Items:

Carol Black stated I am here tonight speaking on the Civility Resolution. I do think it is a good idea, but I am wondering what prompted it. Do you think you want to do it as a statement of position of the Council?

Mayor Broderick stated yes, this is what we expect.

Carol Black stated I think it's a great idea, I hope you will go further with some of the other ordinances. I am interested to see if you would ask for a code of ethics for all Boards and Commissions members for the city. I have had concerns over the last few years that there have been actions from some members on the boards and commissions where they are violating certain things. I hope this is something you will consider doing. I also hope you will consider amending the ordinance where the public can speak before council without having to be on the agenda or speaking about agenda items only.

Approval of Minutes:

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

1. Regular Meeting – March 3, 2026
2. Special Called Meeting – March 12, 2026

Old Business:

There was no old business to conduct.

New Business:

1. **Resolution # 2026-R-03**, A RESOLUTION TO DESIGNATE APRIL 2026 AS FAIR HOUSING MONTH AND APPROVAL OF ANNUAL NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY.

Motion: Councilmember Bridge; Seconded by Councilmember Brown

Discussion: None

Carried: All ayes

2. **Resolution # 2026-R-04**, A RESOLUTION PLEDGING TO PRACTICE AND PROMOTE CIVILITY IN THE CITY OF WALTERBORO.

Motion: Councilmember Siegel; Seconded by Councilmember Syfrett

Discussion: None

Carried: All ayes

3. A PROCLAMATION TO DESIGNATE APRIL 2026 AS CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH IN THE CITY OF WALTERBORO.

Motion: Councilmember Bridge; Seconded by Councilmember Brown

Discussion: None

Carried: All ayes

4. A PROCLAMATION TO DESIGNATE APRIL 2026 AS SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH IN THE CITY OF WALTERBORO.

Motion: Councilmember Bridge; Seconded by Councilmember Fishburne

Discussion: None

Carried: All ayes

5. Consideration of a request from the Colleton County Veterans Council for the Annual Memorial Day Ceremony on Monday, May 25, 2026, at 9:00 AM.

Nathaniel Cox with the Veterans Council stated thank you for having me today. It is a joy for us to do this each year and to represent the Veterans. Our theme is Land of the Free because of the Brave. We thank the city for their support.

Motion: Councilmember Brown; Seconded by Councilmember Bridge

Discussion: None

Carried: All ayes

6. Consideration of a request from David Smalls, South Carolina Artisans Center to close Lucas Street between East Washington and Hampton Street, from 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM on May 16, 2026, for a tractor parade.

David Smalls stated we partner with Clemson University with Ag and Art and this is the 6th year we will be doing this. We started a tractor parade, and we want to extend it and those tractors displayed so people can look at them.

Motion: Councilmember Syfrett; Seconded by Councilmember Bridge

Discussion: None

Carried: All ayes

Committee Reports:

1. City Improvement Committee, Chairman Ladson Fishburne.

Ladson stated there was not a ton of activity for February and March due to our Code Enforcement Officer being out with an injury. We are continuing to work on cases. With Corporal Hanley back at work, we expect to see more cases closed.

2. Walterboro – Colleton County Airport Commission, James Broderick/Jimmy Syfrett

Jimmy stated the airport conducted a live emergency exercise on March 27th which was very beneficial. The Fuel Farm site prep and utility work is complete. The tank is being made and will be here by late summer. Construction for the taxiway going back towards the Forestry Commission will begin next week. Runway 523, the Main Runway is waiting on a taxiway reconfigure component grant to be sent in, which should be late April or May. The contractor can state as soon as the grant is executed. The airport has leased a fuel truck for jet fuel, that lease has expired and we were able to purchase it.

3. Budget Committee, Chairperson Judy Bridge

Judy stated there has been a change in the Budget Committee Meeting from April 21st to April 28th. This is to give our City Manager and Amy a little more time to make sure we have accurate revenue sources. The budget will be presented for first reading in May.

4. Keep Walterboro Beautiful, Chairman Dana Cheney.

Dana stated we have finished our Main Street project for the 200 block of Main Street.

5. Main Street Steering Committee, Patricia Fleming.

Patricia stated I have nothing to report at this time. Our next Main Street Committee meeting will be April 13th.

City Manager's Report:

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

City Manager Jeff Molinari stated Mr. Mayor and members of Council you have in your agenda packet a memo and supporting documentation from the ATAX Committee. They met on March 17, 2026, and approved the following request:

1. SC Artisans Center – Ag + Art Tour

Requested: \$5,000.00 Approved: \$5,000.00

2. SC Artisans Center – Explore SC Art

Requested: \$11,500.00 Approved: \$ 11,500.00

3. Lowcountry & Resort Islands – Adv. & Promotion

Requested: \$20,500.00 Approved: \$20,500.00

Should these requests be approved as submitted, the projected remaining balance for the 2025-2026 fiscal year will be \$95,834. The remaining funds will be reviewed and considered at the next scheduled meeting in June 2026. The Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee respectfully requests City Council's approval of these funding recommendations.

Motion: Councilmember Syfrett; Seconded by Councilmember Brown

Discussion: None

Carried: All ayes

Councilmember Bridge asked whose request is Lowcountry & Resort Islands?

Assistant City Manager Ryan McLeod stated that is Peach Morrison. She handles everything from a regional standpoint.

Councilmember Bridge asked does she attend the meetings?

Assistant City Manager Ryan McLeod stated yes, she does attend the meetings.

Councilmember Brown asked Jeff, what does the Lowcountry & Resort Islands do for the City of Walterboro?

City Manager Jeff Molinari stated they market the entire Lowcountry. We have worked with them for many years, and they are part of the Walterboro Tourism Commission. They promote Walterboro and Colleton County.

Councilmember Brown asked, “do they ever ask for funding?”

City Manager Jeff Molinari stated yes, we give them money each year.

2. Consideration of Change Order #1 from Wildwood Contractors for Phase IIA of the Boardwalk Project to construct bridges 212 and 213.

City Manager Jeff Molinair stated Mr. Mayor and members of City Council you have in your agenda packet a memo and supporting documentation for a change order from Wildwood Contractors. On November 11, 2025, City Council awarded a contract to Wildwood Contractors, Inc. in the amount of \$1,896,900.00 for the reconstruction of Sections 201-205 of the city’s boardwalk system in the Walterboro Wildlife Sanctuary. The city has available funding to fund the reconstruction of two (2) additional bridges (212 and 213) through the following sources:

- American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) - \$106,768
- 2026 General Obligation Bond - \$405,582

Wildwood Contractors, Inc. (Walterboro, SC) has submitted Change Order #1 in the amount of \$512,350.00. City staff recommends approval of the change order to construct Sections 212 and 213. City staff asks for Council’s favorable consideration of this request.

Motions: Councilmember Brown; Seconded by Councilmember Bridge

Discussion: None

Carried: All ayes

3. Consideration of the purchase of a new dump truck for the Water Department.

City Manager Jeff Molinari stated Mr. Mayor and members of Council you have your agenda packet a memo and supporting documentation from our Utilities Director to purchase a Dump Truck. The FY 2025-2026 Water Department budget included the lease/purchase of a backhoe and dump truck. The Water Department solicited bids for the purchase of a dump truck and received three (3) bids:

Dealer	Bid
• Walterboro Ford (Walterboro, SC)	\$82,750.00
• Ford of Spartanburg (State Contract)	\$83,068.00
• Cooper Chevrolet (Walterboro, SC)	Incomplete

Staff recommends purchasing the backhoe loader from Walterboro Ford (Walterboro, SC) in the amount of \$82,750.00. The Fy 2025-2026 Water Department budget estimated the cost of the dump truck at \$85,000.00. City Staff asks for Council’s favorable consideration of this request.

4. 2026 CDBG Prioritization

City Manager Jeff Molinari stated Mr. Mayor and members of Council last month Kimberly Varn from LCOG conducted a public hearing on the CDBG program. Each year we submit to City Council a prioritized list of areas we are going to seek funding for. Pursuant to the goals and objectives outlined by City Council for 2026, 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. Special Projects as identified
 - Trail connector for Wildlife Center and Wildlife Sanctuary.
 - Other projects as identified.
4. Economic Development projects as identified.

Motion: Councilmember Brown; Seconded by Councilmember Fishburne

Discussion: None

Carried: All ayes

Carol Black stated I am pleased there is a list of demolitions that are attractive nuisances. At the end of Savage Street there is a bright blue bungalow, and the yard needs to be cleaned. I would feel terrible if the house was demolished because the yard is not kept up. Is there any type of movement to encourage people to sale the property or do something about it.

A motion was made to go into Executive Session by Councilmember Bridge, seconded by Councilmember Syfrett. Mayor Broderick explained that City Council would be going into Executive Session to discuss Receipt of Legal Advice – Dealing with matters covered by attorney-

client privilege, including potential or pending legal claims, Personnel Matter – Public Safety Committee, and Contractual Matter – Wastewater Treatment Expansion Project.

Executive Session:

1. Receipt of Legal Advice – Dealing with matters covered by attorney – client privilege, including potential or pending legal claims.
2. Personnel Matter – Public Safety Committee.
3. Contractual Matter – Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion Project.

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

Open Session:

There being no further business to consider, a motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Bridge, Seconded by Councilmember Syfrett, and passed unanimously. Mayor Broderick adjourned the meeting at 8:05 P.M. Notice of the meeting was distributed with the agenda packet, 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

APPROVED: May 5, 2026