

City of Walthourville
Mayor and Council Meeting Minutes
June 23, 2020

6:00 pm @ the Walthourville Police Department

- I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by Mayor Larry D. Baker.
- II. Roll Call: The roll was called by City Clerk, Shana T. Moss with the following members present:

Mayor Larry D. Baker
Councilman Charlie L. Anderson, Sr.
Councilman James Hendry

Mayor Pro-Tem Luciria L. Lovette
Councilwoman Sarah B. Hayes
Councilwoman Bridgette Kelly

The attendance of council constituted a quorum.

City Attorney Mr. Luke L. Moses was also in attendance.

- III. Invocation: The invocation was given by Mayor Larry D. Baker
- IV. Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.
- V. Presentations: There were none.
- VI. Adoption of the Council Agenda: The motion to adopt the agenda was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Lovette and the second was provided by Councilman Anderson.
Vote: 5-0: Motion Carried.
- VII. Adoption of the Minutes: The motion to adopt the June 9th, 2020 minutes with a correction of changing Councilman to Councilwoman Bridgette Kelly. The motion was made by Councilman Anderson and the second was provided by Councilwoman Hayes.
Vote: 5-0: Motion Carried.
- VIII. Agenda Items:

Old Business: None

New Business

1. T.R. Long Engineering

Mr. Trent Long

Update on the adoption of the city's dirt roads. Mr. Long reviewed the condition of the roadways that were presented to Liberty County by the City of Walthourville for adoption. The adoption will add the roadways to the list of roadways maintained under the intergovernmental agreement between the Liberty county Board of Commissioners and the City of Walthourville. The lists of roads are:

Hillary Lane is located off Carter Road and will require roadway improvements and drainage.

Martin Court is located off Dorsey Road; this is a paved roadway with roadside ditches. This road will be added to the intergovernmental agreement roadway list. Mr. Long stated that the original roadway list incorrectly

identified Martin Court as Martin Lane. It is recommended that the City of Walthourville officially remove Martin Lane from the list.

Scott Road is located off U.S. Highway 84. There does not appear to be any rights of way or recorded easements. Easement documents have been provided for this roadway. Some drainage improvements may be required.

Denise Lane is a private drive and it is not recommended that this road be added to the list.

Phenla Lane is located off Thompson Lane. There are no rights of way or recorded easements. Easement documents have been provided for this roadway and some drainage improvements may be required.

Sagittarius Lane is located off Shaw Road and it is not recommended that this road be added to the list.

Doby Lane is located off Kent Road. Doby Lane is a dirt road with roadside ditches. The roadway should be re-graded and the roadside ditches should be re-installed. Mr. Long recommended adding this road to the intergovernmental agreement.

Slaten Street is located between Shaw Road and U.S. Highway 84 and is a dirt road with roadside ditches. This road is being maintained by Liberty County and is currently on the Intergovernmental roadway maintenance list.

Also, several streets are being maintained that are not on the intergovernmental agreement roadway list. The roads are Fabian Lane, Tempest Lane (inside the city limits) Gregory Court and Tibet Highway, it is recommended that these roads be added to the intergovernmental agreement.

There are several new streets in Hampton Ridge Subdivision that have not been added to the intergovernmental agreement. The bonds have been released for all the roads in Hampton Ridge. The road's names are Broad Leaf Road, Nashview Trail, Red Blossom Court and Harold's Nook. Mr. Long recommended that the City of Walthourville request that these roads be added to the intergovernmental agreement roadway list. This was not an action item.

2. LCPC

Ms. Chonte' Wright

This is an LCPC item from Mr. Nirav Gandhi and due to COVID-19 and social distancing Mr. Nirav was not present. Ms. Wright presented a mobile home permit for Mr. Virgil Pray to place a 1985 mobile home on Barnard Pray. The permit met the city's ordinance and zoning regulations. LCPC recommended approval. The motion to approve was made by Councilman Anderson and the second was provided by Councilman Hendry.

Vote: 5-0: Motion Carried.

3. City of Walthourville

Councilwoman Sarah B. Hayes

Presented digital teleconferencing options to the Mayor and Council. She stated with the unknown of COVID-19 she had been researching different digital options for the meeting. She stated more municipalities are moving toward Zoom and Web-X. With her extensive background in computer science and digital technology she stated she would spearhead the city's teleconferencing initiative.

4. Office of the City Clerk

Ms. Shana T. Moss

Mayor and Council Workshop Update. City Clerk Moss stated council members had emailed available dates. The date that was conducive for everyone was July 22nd and July 23rd, 2020 at the Walthourville Police Department. Ms. Moss stated with COVID-19 all other venues were closed and unavailable. She requested that all councilmember's email her with the topics they wanted to discuss at the workshop. She is requesting email to

ensure every member get the information they want to discuss. July 22nd the meeting time will be from 9:00 AM-4:00 PM and on July 23rd, from 9:00 AM-1:00 PM. This is a no action item.

5. Fire Department

Attorney Luke R. Moses

For Mayor and Council to approve the agreement with Liberty County for Fire Services in the unincorporated areas of Liberty County. Attorney Moses stated this is an annual agreement with Liberty County Fire Services. A minor change on page 4 of the agreement was made that the city will receive \$4,000 every 3 months. The call volume to the unincorporated areas has not increased. The contract increased from \$12,000 to \$16,000 annually for the calls we were making. Attorney Moses stated if our call volume went up the city could revisit the agreement with the county. Chief Burns was present and stated he supported the agreement he spoke with Attorney Moses and is in favor of the agreement.

IX. Council Updates

Fire Department

Councilman Charlie L. Anderson, Sr.

Chief Burns gave departmental statistics and stated the fire department is doing well. They are being vigilant and taking precautionary measures due to COVID-19.

Economic Development

Councilwoman Sarah B. Hayes

Reported that she is heavily involved in the 2020 Census. She has a laptop at City Hall that can be utilized for the Census when a citizen comes in that need to sign up. She has participated in voter registration drives and she always mentions the census and she keeps a laptop with her in the event a citizen needs to complete their count. She is continuing her work with the Coastal Georgia Minority Chamber and she would like for the city to recognize and participate in Small Business Week next year. She would like to see the city implement a Business Recognition program, where a Business in the city is highlighted.

Public Works

Councilman James Hendry

The roads and ground department are cutting grass and keeping the litter picked up in the city to keep it pristine. He stated Councilwoman Hayes has assisted him in researching a place to clean out the garbage truck. Councilwoman Hayes stated she met with the department at Fort Stewart and was informed they do not have a department that clean out the garbage truck for local government. She visited the landfill and the director told her the city could be accommodated beginning on Thursday July 9th, at either 7 AM or 3 PM. A discussion ensued about recycling. Attorney Moses stated recycling is not a money maker; there is no one making money on recycling it is solely for environmental purposes. Councilwoman Hayes asked, "How much money was being spent on recycling?" "How much is being lost on recycling?" Attorney Moses stated the mayor and council might want to consider, "is it worth the environmental benefit?" Mr. Robert Pierce, Public Works Administrator stated every week the city carries 4-5 tons to Pratt Recycling Services in Savannah.

Water Department

Councilwoman Bridgette Kelly

Reported the water department is flushing hydrants and are on a flushing schedule. Flushing hydrants keep the water from having a foul smell.

Parks and Recreation

Mayor Pro-Tem Luciria L. Lovette

Stated she spoke with Mr. Jimmy Martin with Liberty County Parks and Recreation Department, about changing the sign at Hillary Park. The Mayor and Council wanted the park to coincide with the opening and closing at Johnnie Frasier Park which is from sunrise to sunset. Mayor Pro-Tem Lovette stated Mr. Martin told her he could not change the hours for the park. She further stated she thinks stand up sanitation stations at Johnnie Frasier are more feasible and accessible. She inquired about when the fence at Johnnie Frasier would be repaired. Public

Works Administrator, Mr. Robert Pierce stated Dawson's Fence Company (located in Walthourville) would be repairing the fence, it was on their list to be repaired.

Police Department

Mayor Larry D. Baker

Police Chief Jerry J. Blash presented statistics to Mayor and Council. He stated the police department has several officers who will be attending schools and training in the month of July. He will be attending the Georgia Association of Chief of Police in Savannah in July. He further stated Municipal Court would restart on July 21st and due to COVID-19 they had safety measures in place to adhere to social distancing.

Mayor's Corner

Mayor Larry D. Baker

Stated with the numbers of COVID increasing he expects to have meetings in this type of setting for a while. The meeting would be closed to the public but would be live-streamed. He urged everyone to continue being safe. He said wearing mask and adhering to social distancing is encouraged and smart.

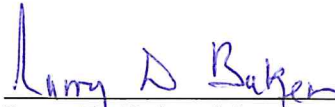
Executive Session: None

Adjournment: At 7:06 pm a motion to adjourn was made by Councilwoman Hayes with the second being provided by Councilman Anderson.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by:



Shana T. Moss, City Clerk



Larry D. Baker, Mayor