



City of Walthourville
Mayor and Council Meeting Minutes
June 9, 2020 @ 6:00 PM

I. Called to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Mayor Larry D. Baker

II. Roll Call was taken by City Clerk, Shana T. Moss with the following members present:

Mayor Larry D. Baker	Mayor Pro-Tem Luciria L. Lovette
Councilman Charlie Anderson, Sr.	Councilwoman Sarah B. Hayes
Councilman James Hendry	Councilman Bridgette Kelly

The attendance of council constituted a quorum.

City Attorney Luke R. Moses was present.

III. The invocation was given by Councilman Charlie L. Anderson, Sr.

IV. Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

V. Presentations: 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 Hendry. Vote: 5-0: Motion Carried.

VII. Adoption of City Council Minutes: Due to COVID-19 the City of Walthourville had several called meetings as well as a regular meeting. The motion to approve the March 10, 2020 regular meeting minutes was made by Mayor Pro Tem Lovette and the second was provided by Councilman Hendry. Vote: 5-0: Motion Carried.

The motion to approve the special called meetings on March 26, 2020 and May 5th, 2020 was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Lovette and the second was provided by Councilman Anderson.

Vote: 5-0: Motion Carried.

VIII. Agenda Items

Old Business: None

New Business

1. Office of the Mayor

Mayor Larry D. Baker

Hazardous Pay for City Employees who have worked during the onset of the COVID-19 Pandemic. Mayor Baker stated the city employees have been working since March 23rd, when the pandemic was declared in the city. He stated other cities had implemented this pay and he felt it was a good incentive for the employees who were essential and risked their lives daily coming to work. Mayor Pro-Tem Lovette stated she felt it was a good idea; however, she felt the city hall employees should not be compensated because they were not at city hall full-time and they were

being paid for work they had not done. Mayor Baker stated the city hall team was at work and employees were on staggered shifts due to social distancing in City Hall. Councilwoman Kelly stated she thought the pay was a great morale booster because our neighbors in Savannah were doing the same things for their employees. Councilwoman Hayes asked Mayor Pro-Tem what was her issue with City Hall getting the pay? Councilwoman Hayes said the Mayor and Council technically had not been working and received their pay. City Clerk Moss stated the last council meeting was March 9th and council was paid for the month of March, there was no meeting in April and council received their compensation. The month of May there was one special called meeting and the elected officials were paid. Councilwoman Hayes said she felt it was the right thing to do for all employees. City Attorney Luke Moses stated this was a great gesture and showed the employees they were appreciated during this pandemic. Councilmen Anderson and Hendry were in agreement of the hazardous pay.

The Hazardous pay breakdown is as follows:

All essential workers employed form March 23-present:	\$500.00
All essential workers from March 23 with modified schedule (City Hall)	\$300.00
All essential workers hired within the past 30-45 days	\$150.00
All essential part-time employees	\$75.00

The motion to approve hazardous pay was made by Councilwoman Hayes and the second was provided by Councilwoman Kelly.

Vote 5-0: Motion Carried.

2. Census Information:

Councilmembers

For Mayor and Council to discuss measures to improve the Census Count in Walthourville. Councilman Hendry began the discussion stating he felt councilmembers nor employees should go door to door. He stated he has received two doorknockers at his home regarding the census and being counted. Councilwoman Hayes stated she has placed 30 signs around the city and when she does outreach she encourages citizens to complete the census. City Clerk Moss stated the employees in City Hall are encouraging citizens while they are working their modified schedules to complete the census while they assist citizens in the drive-thru. Councilwoman Hayes stated she would bring a laptop to City Hall and assist citizens in registering for the census. Mayor Pro-Tem Lovette stated she had nothing to do and could assist.

Informational Only: No Action.

3. City Hall Update

Shana T. Moss and Latonia C. Wright

Re-opening of City Hall to the public on June 15, 2020 due to COVID-19 with safety parameters. Ms. Moss stated city hall would resume normal hours of 9:00 am-5:00 pm with adherence to social distancing. Due to the size of city hall, only two employees will be allowed in city hall and everyone will have to wear a mask. There will be no public restroom. A discussion ensued about public works employees wearing mask and City Attorney Luke Moses stated due to the work the employees perform in high degree weather it could be chaotic to impose that public works employees wear a mask. Councilwoman Kelly stated she observed the public work employees not wearing a mask when they picked up her trash. Attorney Moses said we don't want to engage in such a rigid policy with public works. Attorney Moses drafted a resolution from GMA regarding face mask. The city waived the second reading and adopted the resolution. The motion to adopt was made by Councilwoman Hayes and the second was provided by Councilman Hendry.

Vote: 5-0: Motion Carried.

4. Fire Department

The city is awaiting more definitive information from the county; therefore, this item will be presented at the June 23rd meeting.

Mr. Luke Moses

No action taken.

IX. Council Updates

Mayor's Corner/Police Department

Mayor Larry D. Baker

Chief Blash presented the Police Department update. He stated there has been a string of auto break-in's on Dunlevie Road and Bobbie Street. Several officers have upcoming trainings. Chief Blash further stated the police department has had no issues like the rest of the country is experiencing because of the way they operate.

Parks and Recreation

Mayor Pro-Tem Lovette

Requested she give her report last.

Fire Department

Councilman Charlie L. Anderson, Sr.

Stated he had no report.

Economic Development

Councilwoman Sarah B. Hayes

Reported she participated in two food drives organized by Mrs. Sabrina Newby, CEO of the Coastal Georgia Minority Chamber. She attended the peaceful protest march for Ahmad Arbery. She participated in three voter registration drives and placed 30 signs for the census around the city. She is currently working on a farming and food initiative for Minority Women and more information will be forthcoming.

Public Works

Councilman James Hendry

Had no report. Councilwoman Kelly stated she had been in contact with the company for the new garbage truck and it would be in the city on July 24th. Due to the length of time it has taken the company to deliver the truck the city will be getting a discount and an extended warranty.

Water Department

Councilwoman Bridgette Kelly

Stated she rode with the water operator and visited the lift station on Vandiver Road, Paul Krebs did a good job on the lift stations.

Parks and Recreation

Mayor Pro-Tem Lovette

Stated she wanted to inquire about the opening of the parks in the City. Hillery Park on Carter Road is open because it is operated by the county. Councilwoman Hayes asked Mayor Pro-Tem Lovette if she could speak with Mr. Jimmie Martin of the Liberty County Recreation Department about updating the sign depicting the opening and closing times which should say from Dawn to Dusk. Also, Mayor Pro-Tem spoke about wanting to place sanitation stations at the park. Mayor Baker informed her to research the information as to what she wants and present it to City Hall.

X. Executive Session

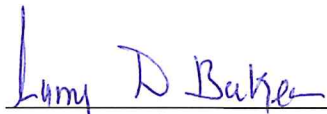
None

XI. Adjournment: The motion to adjourn was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Lovette at 7:07 pm with the second being provided by Councilwoman Kelly.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by:



Shana T. Moss, City Clerk



Larry D. Baker, Mayor