

City of Walthourville
Mayor and Council Meeting Minutes
October 27, 2020

- I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M. by Mayor Larry D. Baker
- II. Roll Call: The roll was taken by City Clerk, Shana T. Moss with the following members present:

Mayor Larry D. Baker	Mayor Pro Tem Luciria L. Lovette
Councilwoman Sarah B. Hayes	Councilman James Hendry
Councilwoman Bridgette Kelly	

Member Absent: Charlie L. Anderson, Sr.

The attendance of council constituted a quorum.

Other City Officials in Attendance:

Robert Lee Russell, IV (for Luke R. Moses)	City Attorney
LaTonia C. Wright	Executive Assistant to Mayor Larry D. Baker
Police Chief	Jerry J. Blash

- III. Invocation: The invocation was given by Mayor Larry D. Baker.
- IV. Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.
- V. Presentation(s): None
- VI. Adoption of the Council Agenda: The motion to approve the agenda was made by Councilwoman Hayes and the second was provided by Councilwoman Kelly. Vote: 4-0: Motion Carried.
- VII. Adoption of City Council Minutes: The motion to approve the minutes from the October 13th, 2020 meeting was made by Councilwoman Hayes and the second was provided by Councilman Hendry. Vote: 3-0: Motion Carried.
Opposed: (1) Mayor Pro-Tem Luciria L. Lovette.

VIII. Agenda Items

Old Business None

New Business

1. LCPC Mr. Nirav Gandhi
For Mayor and Council to approve or disapprove a Business License. Mr. Gandhi presented Blinks and Thingz, the owner is Ms. Sydney Adams. Blinks and Thingz is a home based online only store that will sell ladies clothes and cosmetics. The homebased business is zoned AR-1 which meets the zoning standards for Walthourville. There will be no traffic coming to the residence. The business is

located at 891 Dunlevie Road, Apartment 8. The motion to approve was made by Councilwoman Hayes and the second was provided by Mayor Pro Tem Lovette. Vote: 4-0: Motion Carried.

2. Mr. Richard Deal

Lanier, Deal & Proctor, CPA's

Mr. Richard Deal presented the city's 2019 audit and disseminated a copy to each elected official. Mr. Deal referenced pages 4 & 5 which listed the Government Wide Financial Statement, Depreciation assets and long term debt. There was 2.6% decrease in debt for 2019. Page 6 referenced the balance sheet that depicted government funds. Page 8, listed revenue and expenditures. He stated there was a \$43,000.00 increase in fines and forfeitures. Page 10 listed the fund balances, Page 12 listed the water and sewer fund and Page 13 shows the statement of cash flow. Page 19 gave a summary of significant accounting policies. The city's current capitalization threshold was one thousand dollars. City Clerk Moss was recognized to speak by Mayor Baker. Shana T. Moss asked Mr. Deal about increasing the threshold to five thousand dollars. Mr. Deal stated he thought it was a good ideal to raise the threshold because of depreciation values. City Clerk Moss, asked if Mayor and Council could vote on increasing the threshold from one thousand dollars to five thousand dollars. The motion to approve increasing the capitalization threshold to five thousand dollars was made by Councilwoman Hayes and the second was provided by Councilman Hendry.

Vote: 4-0

Motion Carried.

Page 24 & 25 showed the city's capital assets.

IX. Council Updates:

Elected Officials

Fire Department

Councilman Charlie L. Anderson. Sr.

Police Chief Blash gave the Fire Departments report from October 13th-26th, 2020. There were 11 medical calls, 3 motor vehicle accidents, 1 false alarm and 3 fire miscellaneous calls, resulting in a total of 18 calls.

Economic Development

Councilwoman Sarah B. Hayes

Reported she has been working with the Coastal Georgia Minority Chamber on voting initiatives. There were two parades for Presidential Candidates Trump and Biden. The Trump parade went smoothly and had no outside interference. For the Biden/Harris parade there was no issues with the participants; however, several Trump supporters interfered and started riding along with the Biden/Harris participants. The quick thinking of Walthourville Police Chief Blash and his barricade for the parade participants resulted in no problems for the parade entries. There were a total of 71 vehicles, 5 semi-trucks and 7 motorcycles for the Biden/Harris parade.

Public Works

Councilman James Hendry

Stated there are no trash cans. Public Works Administrator, Mr. Robert Pierce has ordered trash cans and the city is awaiting delivery. The city has hired a mechanic, Mr. Harley Passmore.

Water Department

Councilwoman Bridgette Kelly

Reported the smelly water calls have decreased. The city is on a continuous flushing schedule.

Parks and Recreation

Mayor Pro Tem Luciria L. Lovette

Reported that Johnnie Frasier Park is still closed. Hillery Park is governed by the county. She would like to see a canopy over the playground equipment and want sanitization stations at the park. City Clerk Moss, stated City Hall was awaiting the stations that she wanted, as soon as she submit the picture with the description they could be purchased. Mayor Pro Tem Lovette further stated she

participated in a virtual mid-year workshop and a topic of discussion was parades. The municipalities and the counties need to get together and communicate because there isn't any awareness between the entities.

Police Department

Mayor Larry D. Baker

Chief Blash gave department statistics which was 2 thefts, 3 auto accidents, 71 citations, 13 warnings, 4 domestic violence, 3 verbal disputes and 2 arrests. He further stated the City of Walthourville will be celebrating Halloween with the kids on Friday October 30th, from 4:00 P.M.-7:00 P.M at the Marathon Store on Dunlevie Road. Also, on October 31st from 5:00 P.M-8:30 P.M., the city is sponsoring a Spook-tacular at City Hall. Councilwoman Hayes asked Chief Blash if the city was prepared for possible Election Night (November 3rd) chaos. Chief Blash stated there will be additional officers on patrol and he would also be out.

Mayor's Corner

Mayor Larry D. Baker

Stated we are still in the midst of a pandemic. COVID is still running rampant. He urged citizens to please be careful, wear mask and adhere to social distancing. He stated the city was looking forward to the Halloween Celebrations and to please come out

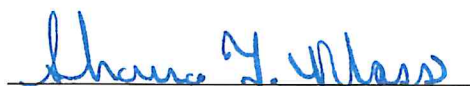
Special Presentation

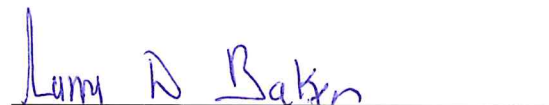
TBA

Mayor Baker asked Mrs. Sabrina Newby to come forth for a special presentation. Mrs. Newby is the CEO of the Coastal Georgia Minority Chamber. Mrs. Newby stated she was present to present the SWAG Award, sponsored by the CGMC. SWAG is Smart Women Achieving Greatness. The criteria to be selected is must be a woman in a leadership position, they must contribute to the community and it must be someone who helps those who cannot help themselves and lastly she must be a driving change that empowers women in every way. Mrs. Newby stated they had to suspend this award due to the pandemic. However, Councilwoman Sarah B. Hayes was nominated and voted upon and she is the recipient of the SWAG Award. Councilwoman Hayes she was surprised and grateful to receive this honor.

- X. Executive Session None
- XI. Adjournment: The motion to adjourn at 6:52 P.M. was made by Councilwoman Hayes and the second was provided by Councilman Hendry.

Respectfully Submitted:


Shana T. Moss, City Clerk


Larry D. Baker, Mayor