



City of Walthourville

Mayor and Council Meeting Minutes

December 8th, 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
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.

Additional City Officials in Attendance:

Luke R. Moses
LaTonia C. Wright
Police Chief
Fire Chief

City Attorney
Executive Assistant to Mayor Larry D. Baker
Jerry J. Blash
Anthony Burns

- III. Invocation: The invocation was rendered by Mrs. Edna Walthour.
- IV. Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

V. Presentation(s): Mrs. Deborah Walker-Reed
Ms. Deborah Walker-Reed, GMA's 12th District City Clerks Director presented the 12th District Spotlight Award to City Clerk, Shana T. Moss. Ms. Moss is a Georgia Certified City Clerk and she is certified through the International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC) located in California. She stated there are 537 city clerks in the State of Georgia and only 69 have this certification. To obtain IIMC Certification a clerk must complete rigorous clerk education classes and be tested on every class they take. Ms. Moss was chosen by the District Director for her certification and work as a city clerk. The 12th District encompasses from the Florida line to the South Carolina line and includes Statesboro. Ms. Walker stated this is not an easy award to obtain, the clerks do not apply for this award and they cannot be nominated. The district director consider and look and credentials of all clerks in the district. She further stated Ms. Moss can go to any state or internationally and work as a city clerk, because she is certified through IIMC without having to go through another state or country's certification process. Ms. Moss was given a Certificate from the Georgia Clerks Association and the IIMC for this distinction.

VI. Adoption of the Council Agenda:
The motion to approve the agenda was made by Councilwoman Hayes and the second was provided by Councilman Anderson.
Vote: 4-0: Motion Carried.

VII. Adoption of City Council Minutes:
The motion to approve the *regular meeting minutes* from November 10th, 2020 was made by Councilwoman Hayes and the second was provided by Councilman Anderson.
Vote: 4-1: Motion Carried.
Opposed: Mayor Pro Tem Lovette

The motion to approve the *executive session minutes* from November 10th, 2020 was made by Councilwoman Hayes and the second was provided by Councilman Hendry.

Vote: 4-1: Motion Carried.

Opposed: Mayor Pro Tem Lovette.

VIII. Agenda Items

1. LCPC

Mr. Jeff Ricketson

LCPC Executive Director, Mr. Jeff Ricketson presented a home based business license for Mr. Terry Parker at 1987 Talmadge Road. Mr. Parker will have a handyman business, he will travel to work sites to do painting and handiwork. There will be no signage in the yard and no work will be performed that will require additional certifications or licenses. The property is zoned R2A (Single and Two Family Residential and Mobile Home. The motion to approve was made by Councilman Anderson and the second was provided by Councilman Hendry.

Vote: 5-0: Motion Carried.

2. LCPC

Mr. Jeff Ricketson

LCPC Executive Director, Mr. Jeff Ricketson presented a request from Daniel Dasher, the original developer for Mehalko Road Subdivision. Mr. Dasher was requesting a waiver for required improvements. As with all final plats, the regulations require irrevocable letters of credit (ILOC) to be submitted to guarantee the installation of specific improvements required by the regulations, including sidewalks, street trees and signage/stripping, which are typically not constructed until the houses are built. Before the property was sold, only some of the improvements were completed that were included in these ILOCs.

LCPC received notice from Ludowici Bank, the bank holding the ILOCs that it was not going to renew them. As such, upon a recommendation from LCPC, the City called the ILOC's with the intent to use the money to complete the improvements. The original owner of the property is requesting a waiver of the required improvements for which the City is currently holding the ILOC as surety. Sidewalks, street trees, signage and signage/stripping guaranteed by the ILOCs are required for all subdivisions in Walthourville. The Ludowici Bank is ready to pay the city the \$23,169.90 (\$16,320 for sidewalks, \$4,320 for street trees, and \$2,529.60 for signage/stripping) needed for the City to complete the required improvements on behalf of the developer. Waiver of any or all of these required improvements would permanently forfeit the payment of the ILOC funds from Ludowici Bank to the City. LCPC does not recommend granting the waiver. The city will hire a company to install sidewalks with the monies received from the ILOCs from the Ludowici Bank. A lengthy discussion ensued between councilmembers about the funds and the installation of the sidewalk. Mr. Ricketson advised Mayor and Council now to renew the ILOCs and proceed privately with a company for sidewalk installation. The motion to deny this request from Mr. Dasher was made by Mayor Pro Tem Lovette and the second was provided by Councilman Anderson.

Vote: 5-0:

Motion Carried.

3. City of Walthourville

Ms. Shana T. Moss

City Clerk, Shana T. Moss asked for Mayor and Council to approve the Special Called Meeting for the 2021 Budget Adoption. The meeting will be held at 6:00 P.M. at the Walthourville Police Department in the Council Chamber on December 17, 2020. The motion to approve was made by Councilwoman Hayes and the second was provided by Councilwoman Kelly.

Vote: 5-0: Motion Carried.

4. Liberty County Boys and Girls Club

Mrs. Edna Walthour

Mrs. Walthour asked Mayor and Council to approve bringing a 24 x 70 feet modular building into the City of Walthourville. This structure will temporarily house the Boys and Girls Club until the main facility is constructed in the near future. She further stated the Boys and Girls Club will bring positive activities for the youth of the city. The youth will be provided homework assistance, performing arts, robotics and STEM

activities. The motion to approve was made by Councilwoman Kelly and the second was provided by Councilman Anderson.
Vote: 5-0: Motion Carrie

IX. Council Updates

Councilmembers

Fire Department

Councilman Anderson

Chief Burns gave departmental statistics from November 10th-December 7th, 2020. The department had 30 medical calls, 1 structure fire, 1 brush/wildland fire, 1 illegal burn, 5 cancelled enroute calls, 1 motor vehicle accident, 4 false alarms, 2, hazmats, 4 fire miscellaneous and 1 no incident found upon arrival. The department had a total of 50 calls. Citizens need to obtain a burn permit before burning by visiting the Georgia Forestry website.

Public Works

Councilman Hendry

Reported the Police Department's Ford Taurus was serviced. The Grapple Truck is getting repaired at the shop. The street department is picking up litter and cutting grass. They are also patching potholes and picking up trash.

Economic Development

Councilwoman Hayes

Reported she has been participating in KLB events. The cigarette butt containers have arrived and she will be placing those around the city, especially around the Marathon Convenience Store on Dunlevie. The Senior Citizens of Walthourville have adopted this project from Dunlevie to Talmadge Roads. She has participated in two additional get out the vote rallies. She further reported December 7th was the last day to register to vote and early voting for the Senate Runoff elections begins on December 14th-31st, 2020.

Water Department

Councilwoman Kelly

Reported smelly water calls were diminishing. Letters were sent out to citizens informing them about the flushing activities in the city.

Parks and Recreation

Mayor Pro Tem Lovette

Reported the light at Johnnie Frasier (inside the park) Park is out and needs to be repaired. She is glad that Walthourville is getting activities for the children and that teens and pre-teens will also be included.

Police Department

Mayor Larry D. Baker

Chief Blash gave departmental statistics from November 10th-December 8th, 2020. The department reported 1 burglary, 1 entering auto, 6 thefts, 5 auto accidents, wrote 74 citations, issued 17 warnings, 3 domestic violence calls, 4 verbal disputes, 2 juveniles and a total of 3 arrests. Chief Blash stated, "It is the holiday season watch your surroundings." He further stated citizens should be mindful what they leave for garbage pickup because this lets a criminal know what is in your home.

Mayors Corner

Mayor Larry D. Baker

Reminded citizens we are in a holiday season, but we are still in the midst of the COVID Pandemic. He urged citizens to take precautions with large gatherings. He reminded everyone to get out and vote in the Senate Runoff Election.

X. Executive Session

None

XI. Adjournment

Councilmembers

At 7:24 P.M. the motion to adjourn was made by Councilwoman Hayes and the second was provided by Mayor Pro Tem Lovette.

Respectfully Submitted:



Shana T. Moss, City Clerk

Larry D. Baker, Mayor

