

City of Walthourville
Mayor and Council Meeting Minutes
July 9, 2024 @ 6:00 PM
Walthourville Police Department

I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Mayor Sarah B. Hayes.

II. The Roll was taken by the City Clerk with all members present:

Mayor Sarah B. Hayes
Councilman Mitchell Boston
Councilwoman Bridgette Kelly

Mayor Pro Tem Luciria L. Lovette
Councilman Patrick Underwood
Councilman Robert Dodd

The attendance of the council constituted a quorum.

Attorney Luke R. Moses was present,

III. The Invocation was given by Councilman Patrick Underwood.

IV. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

V. Approval of Agenda: The motion to approve the agenda was made by Mayor Pro Tem Lovette and the second was added by Councilwoman Kelly. Vote: 5-0: Motion Carried Unanimously.

VI. Approval of Minutes: The motion to approve the minutes from the June 25, 2024 meeting was made by Councilman Dodd and the second was added by Councilman Boston.

Vote: 4-1: Motion Carried.

Opposed: Mayor Pro Tem Lovette

VII. Presentation

None

VIII. Agenda Items

1. LCPC

Mr. Jeff Ricketson

Mr. Ricketson presented Rezoning Petition 2024-033-W. The rezoning was submitted by Kendra Martin on behalf of the owner, Lucia Martin to rezone .40 acres+/- from AR-1 (Agricultural Residential) to SFMH (Single-family Manufactured Home) for a mobile home. The Property is located at 2126 Shaw Road. Mrs. Kendra Martin is proposing the rezoning to place a mobile home her sister's property. Mr. Ricketson stated the mobile home conforms to the City's mobile home requirements and it also conforms to the Liberty County Comprehensive Plan.

The Motion to enter a Public Hearing at 6:06 PM was made by Mayor Pro Tem Lovette and the second was added by Councilwoman Kelly. Vote: 5-0: Motion Carried Unanimously.

There were no speakers in support nor any opposing speakers.

The Motion to exit the Public Hearing at 6:07 PM was made by Mayor Pro Tem Lovette and the second was added by Councilwoman Kelly. Vote: 5-0: Motion Carried Unanimously.

The motion to approve the Rezoning Petition 2024-033-W with Standard Conditions was made by Councilwoman Kelly and the second was added by Mayor Pro Lovette.

Vote: 5-0: Motion Carried Unanimously.

2. LCPC

Mr. Jeff Ricketson

Mr. Ricketson presented a Business License Request for STR 8 Drop Seafood Kitchen to be located at 4981 West Oglethorpe Highway. The business owner is Mr. Christopher Miller, and the property is Zoned C-3 (Highway Commercial). Mr. Miller is requesting the use of the space for a food truck. The Motion to approve was made by Councilwoman Kelly and the second was added by Councilman Boston.

Vote: 5-0: Motion Carried Unanimously.

3. LCPC

Mr. Jeff Ricketson

Mr. Ricketson presented a Business License for H & L Tobacco, Inc. The Business Owner is Maen Kassim and the business will be located at 245 Slaten Street (formerly No #1 China Restaurant). The property is zoned C-3 Highway Commercial. Mr. Kassim will need a Georgia Department of Revenue License from the State to sell tobacco. However, to apply for the License for the State, he must have the license from the city. Mr. Kassim has several smoke shops in Hinesville. He will only sell tobacco, this will not mimic a Hookah Lounge. The motion to approve was made by Councilman Dodd and the second was added by Councilman Boston.

Vote: 5-0: Motion Carried Unanimously.

4. City of Walthourville

Mayor Sarah B. Hayes

Mayor Hayes presented the T-SPLOST Intergovernmental Agreement. She stated the T-SPLOST IGA is Beneficial to the city because of the revenue that it will generate, and it will assist the city in repairing and maintaining roads. Mayor Pro Tem Lovette asked, "What does the T-SPLOST entail? Attorney Moses stated the breakdown of the city's Project is on Page 22 of the IGA. The city will receive \$3,090,223.00 over a five-year period. The project for Walthourville will include:

Constructing, improving, renovating repairing, re-surfacing, patching, milling, leveling, Widening, shoulder preparation, culvert repair, preservation, and extending roads, streets, Sidewalks, walking trails, bicycle paths, and bridge projects and improvements, stormwater Projects and projects to improve surface water drainage from or in connection with any of the Foregoing; acquisition of all necessary rights of way; re-location of necessary utilities for any of the foregoing purposes, including matching funds for grants awarded for the capital outlay projects specified in the above items and funds for purchase and payment and satisfaction of lease purchase agreements for capital assets including machinery and equipment necessary or desirable to accomplish the above projects, together with all infrastructure, activities or structures useful or incidents to providing access to the same.

Attorney Moses stated he reviewed the document and his office helped draft the document, and he had no concerns. The motion to approve was made by Councilman Dodd and the second was added by Councilman Underwood.

Vote: 4-1: Motion Carried.

Councilmembers voting favorably: Underwood, Boston, Kelly and Dodd.

Councilmember opposing: Lovette

5. City of Walthourville

Mayor Sarah B. Hayes

Stated the elected body had discussed the regulations for the park, including what was allowed and not allowed in the park. The rental fee for the park was discussed. City Hall generated a report which indicated the park was not receiving sufficient revenue to break even. The park's day to day maintenance

includes lawn service by Public Works, Cleaning, Security Cameras, Port-a-Potty, lawn service by Public Works, Cleaning, Security Cameras, Port-A-Potty's and opening and closing the park.

IX. Department Reports City of Walthourville

Water Department Mr. Patrick Golphin
Reported the bills had been posted for July and sent to QS1. The water team has been repairing some low Water pressures in the city and the water meters for the Townhomes on Shaw Road have been installed.

Fire Department Chief Nicolas Maxwell
Reported the Department has answered 30 calls, consisting of 24 medical calls. The Department has closed out the 2nd Quarter of this year. The city's Fire District has changed, the city is no longer responding to calls in the unincorporated area of Highway 119 in Liberty County. The County Commissioners did not renew this agreement and the current agreement expired on June 30th. The department has seen a 139% increase in call volume from 2023 to current 2024.

Police Department Chief Christopher Reed
Reported several officers are going to attend active shooting training in Rincon. The cost of the training will be free. Chief Reed and Corporal Adams completed a three-week intensive instructor training in Savannah. This will be beneficial to the department because both will be able to teach.

X. Council Comments Elected Officials
Councilman Boston reminded everyone of the LCPC Planning Commission Meeting that will be held on July 22, 2024 at 6:00 at the Liberty County Career Academy. Also on July 20, 2024 Liberty County Elected Officials will play a Basketball Game against the Boys and Girls Club. This is a fundraiser for the Boys and Girls Club.

Councilman Underwood reiterated that the LCPC Planning Commission Meeting was important. He encouraged the citizens to show up because the City's Comprehensive Plan would be discussed. He stated he would not be participating in the Basketball Game; he will be the Coach.

Councilwoman Kelly had no report.

Mayor Pro Tem Lovette had no report.

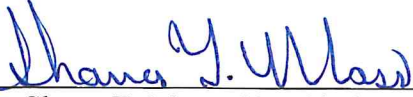
Councilman Dodd had no report.

XI. Citizens Comments None

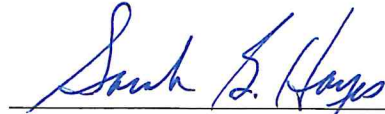
XII. Executive Session: At 6:31 PM a motion to enter into Executive Session for Real Estate and Personnel was made by Councilwoman Kelly and the second was added by Councilman Boston.
Vote: 5-0: Motion Carried.

XIII. Office of the Mayor: Mayor Hayes stated the city's Movie Night was a success, she Thanked Councilman Underwood for spearheading the event. She stated the LCPC Planning Commission Meeting was important and encouraged attendance.

XIV. Adjournment: At 7:34 a motion to adjourn was made by Councilwoman Kelly and the second was added
By Councilman Boston. Vote: 5-0: Motion Carried Unanimously.



Shana T. Moss, City Clerk



Sarah B. Hayes, Mayor