

City of Walthourville
Mayor and Council Meeting Minutes
March 12, 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 the following members present:

Mayor Sarah B. Hayes	Mayor Pro Tem Luciria L. Lovette
Councilman Mitchell Boston	Councilman Patrick Underwood
Councilwoman Bridgette Kelly	Councilman Robert Dodd

The attendance of the council constituted a quorum.

City Attorney Luke R. Moses was present.

III. Invocation: The invocation was given by Councilwoman Bridgette Kelly

IV. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

V. Adoption of City Council Agenda: The motion to approve the agenda was made by Councilman Boston and the second was added by Councilman Underwood.
Vote: 5-0: Motion Carried Unanimously.

VI. Adoption of City Council Minutes:

- February 26, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes: The motion to approve was made by Councilman Dodd and the second was added by Councilman Boston.
Vote: 4-1: Motion Carried.

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

Member opposed: Mayor Pro Tem Lovette.

- March 4, 2024 Called Meeting Minutes: The motion to approve was made by Councilman Dodd and the second was added by Councilwoman Kelly.
Vote: 4-1: Motion Carried.

Members voting favorable were Councilmembers: Boston, Underwood, Kelly and Dodd.

Member opposed: Mayor Pro Tem Lovette.

VII. Presentation(s) None

VIII. Agenda Items None

IX. Department Reports

City of Walthourville Departments

- Water Department

Mr. Patrick Golphin

Reported the Water Department has received no complaints.

- Fire Department

Chief Nicolas Maxwell

Reported the Fire Department has responded to 25 calls, 18 were medical. 13 were within the City Limits and 8 were in Allenhurst. The City of Walthourville is now a part of GMAG (Georgia Mutual Aid Group). The fire trucks were in the process of undergoing their annual pump testing. He stated the Ladder Truck was tested (today March 12, 2024) and passed. He further reported that the department had received 30 doses of Narcan from the State and the personnel is trained on administering the medication.

- Police Department

Chief Christopher Reed

Reported the Department will have firearms qualifying training in April. He stated the department will have EEOC Training on Thursday March 14th at the Police Department and the Mayor and Council were invited to participate. He reiterated that dumping tires in the city was illegal and if caught citizens would be prosecuted. He stated that city street signs were going missing, he urged citizens not to remove or destroy signs.

X. Governing Body Comments

Councilman Mitchell Boston

Post 1

Reported on Public Works and stated recycle polycarts are being collected. He is still researching and speaking with companies to outsource the Sanitation component of Public Works. He reiterated the reasoning for collecting the recycle polycarts were to defray the cost of the landfill. He stated the city is losing roughly \$4,000 monthly going to the landfill. In January 241 tons were taken to the landfill. The bill was \$ 11,700.50 and the city collects \$7,500, this figure does not include the fuel going to and from the landfill and the vehicle maintenance expenses. The Mayor Pro Tem asked if there was a parameter on bulk collection, Councilman Boston stated no. He stated the solution would be a request for proposal to his colleagues on the amount(s) that would be collected.

Councilman Patrick Underwood

Post 2

Reported the Easter Celebration is on March 30, 2024 at Johnnie Frasier Park from 12:00-2:00 PM. This event is at zero cost to the city, donations have been given.

Councilwoman Bridgette Kelly

Post 3

Reported she is working on two grants on behalf of the City; LMIG and a T-Mobile Communications Grant. She stated the city's 2021 and 2022 Audits are behind and to qualify for grants these audits must be current. She stated she will make contact with CPA, Matthew Caines.

Mayor Pro Tem Luciria L. Lovette

Post 4

Reported she is still trying to obtain estimates for the fence at Johnnie Frasier. She and a company have been missing one another via telephone. One of the companies inquired about the style of fence for the park? They asked, "would the city be interested in a commercial grade fence or what is currently in use?" She has requested quotes on both.

Councilman Robert Dodd

Post 5

Stated he had no report.

Mayor Sarah B. Hayes

Office of the Mayor

Thanked the citizens for coming out and the city is progressing. She and the council are working to bring revenue in for the city.

XI. Citizens Comments: (Comments are limited to 3 minutes).

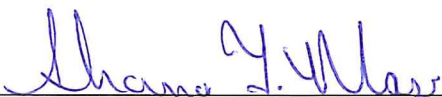
1. Ronald Johnson spoke about the bulk trash and having to place the leaves in trash bags. He stated some residents could not bag their leaves. He also inquired about the \$31.60 Fire Fee that the Mayor and Council approved at the February 13, 2024 meeting. He was informed the \$31.60 has been placed on the March utility bill.
2. Franklin Vonita spoke about the Fire Fee. He said he had been to City Hall and the Fire Fee was already on his bill. He wanted to know if the Mayor and Council had finalized the process and if not, he was requesting his money back. Mayor Hayes stated she was awaiting an answer regarding the Fire Fee legalities and if it was determined the Fire Fee could not be charged, he would be issued a \$31.60 refund.


XII. Executive Session

None

XIII. Adjournment: At 6:57 PM, the motion to adjourn was made by Councilwoman Kelly and the second was added by Councilman Underwood.

Vote: 5-0: Motion Carried Unanimously.


Shana T. Moss, City Clerk


Sarah B. Hayes, Mayor