

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE WALHALLA CITY COUNCIL
AUGUST 17, 2021 530 PM

Present- Mayor Danny Edwards, Councilman David Underwood, Mayor Pro-Tempore Danny Woodward, Councilman Josh Roberts, Councilman Keith Pace, and Mr. Timothy Burton, City Administrator.

Absent: Councilwoman Sarai Melendez

Guests: Media and members of the public.

Mayor Edwards called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

Mayor Edwards led the moment of silence.

Mr. Underwood led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Edwards called for public comment. Mayor Edwards went over rules of meeting as it pertains to public comment.

Mrs. Lynn McClain spoke to the council asking for approval to keep the existing street sign in front of her new location on 331-A East Main. The sign is out of compliance with the current sign regulations. The colors she proposed is within the approved color palette and the sign is historical in nature and will paint the pole black. The size would also comply with the sign regulations, by being smaller. Mr. Roberts asked if the owner Mr. Neville was ok with the sign only advertising one. She replied he is. Mr. Pace asked that the sign would be smaller, and the illumination of the sign would soft. Councilman Roberts made the motion to approve her request and Councilman Underwood second. All present voted in favor (6-0).

Ms. Shirley Seiter spoke about the food truck ordinance. She asked that existing business (her) be allowed to put front the truck out front. She would have permission from the adjacent business. Mr. Pace stated that if it is a city event she can. Ms. Seiter countered that she couldn't on any day she chooses. Mayor Edwards stated that if everyone wanted a food truck out front, where would people park. Ms. Seiter stated that there is the city lot and parking behind her business. Mr. Woodward asked if they would be in parking spaces or elsewhere. Mr. Underwood asked where, she stated it would be in front of the old rainbow cleaners (113 East Main).

Mayor Edwards stated there is a need to amend the agenda to discuss the Chicopee Ballfield under the Discussion and Action Items section. Councilman Roberts made motion, Councilman Woodward provided a second. All present voted in favor to amend the agenda.

Mayor Edwards called for the approval of the last council meeting minutes. Councilman Pace made the motion and Councilman Woodward seconded. There were no changes or discussion. All present voted in favor.

Administrator Burton confirmed the council work session August 21, 2021 at 9am in council chambers. Stated that prices for construction materials have steadily increased. May have to make a budget adjustment. There are illness going around with the city workforce. Jobs are now all posted to the

website. Drug testing will re-start with a local business. Created a community development team. The intent is help foster communication between new business and the city.

Councilman Pace gave first and final reading of Resolution 2021-9 A resolution approving the Main Street Walhalla budget. Mr. Pace made the motion, Mrs. Owens seconded. There was no discussion. All present voted in favor.

Councilman Roberts gave second reading of Ordinance 2021-16 regarding food trucks. Made that in form of a motion and Councilman Underwood seconded. Mayor called for discussion, Councilman Roberts wished there was some gray area and he understood what Ms. Seiter was saying. Mr. Pace didn't know how you would make exceptions. Mayor Edwards stated that Administrator Burton suggested to place them in one location and Mr. Pace said she could put it behind their business as most other owners could. Councilman Underwood stated she wouldn't be blocking anything, he understood she is in a different situation. Councilman Pace said it would snowball. Councilman Roberts stated it was tied to a brick business. Mayor said this eliminated parking wherever. Mr. Roberts said there should be some gray area. Mayor asked if you could amend. Administrator Burton said you could allow special exceptions. You would have to define the exception, length of time. Mr. Pace countered that the administrator could issue the exception. Mrs. Owens clarified this was to be for non-city sanctioned events. Mr. Woodward asked how far ahead of time would it take. Mr. Burton stated you can pass it and change it later. The exception would probably go thru Elijah Hayes office. Mr. Burton stated we just needed to know the parameters of the exceptions, as it would be easier to say no and to follow the ordinance. Mr. Underwood didn't want it to block entrances or sidewalks. Mayor suggest that council pass it and gives us time to come up with exception. At the next meeting the amendment could be taken up. Discussion continued about events versus nonevent parking. Mayor asked Elijah what the penalty was for someone that didn't have the proper permit. Elijah responded, it would be up to the city judge. Mayor asked for public comment. None. Mayor called for vote, all present voted to approve (6-0).

Mayor read Ordinance 2021-18 an ordinance to amend 2021-1. It would remove the moratorium from city wide to an area from Maple to John and N Broad to S Broad. Mr. Pace made motion to table this. Councilman Underwood second. All present voted to table.

Mayor read title of Ordinance 2021-17 to amend Ordinance 1994-8/2004-11/2017-11/2018-15/2021-5 to establish definitions and requirements in all districts. Mr. Burton noted that this was tabled last meeting and would have to be brought back. Mr. Pace made motion to place it back on table. Mr. Woodward seconded. Motion approved to bring back to table. Mr. Pace explained what this did. Mayor explained what districts this pertained to. Currently design guidelines only applies to CC. Mr. Pace discussed OC district major retailer must adhere to off-street parking and comply with design guidelines. Mayor clarified you can't have parking in front. Mr. Pace added no drive thrus be added. Mr. Pace read through HC district. Same as OC. Variances can be granted in HC to not follow design guidelines. CC district will not allow major retailers. LI major retailers will have to have off street parking and follow design guidelines. Mr. Pace made motion to amend all highlighted along with no drive thru in OC, Mr. Woodward seconded. All present voted to accept amendments. Mr. Pace made motion to accept first reading Mr. Underwood seconded. All voted in favor. Mr. Pace stated that he intends on the moratorium to expire in September.

Mrs. Owens gave first reading of Ordinance 2021-19 an ordinance to regulate, restrict, and limit in the interest of the public health and safety the discharge or deposit of certain substances into any sanitary sewer now maintained and/or owned by or which may become property of the City of Walhalla and providing penalties for violation thereof. This ordinance rescinds all previous ordinances and ordinance or parts thereof in conflict with are hereby repealed. Mr. Owens made in form of a motion and Mr. Roberts seconded. Mr. Underwood asked for discussion, Mr. Burton stated this strikes the old fee structure and makes it congruent with the current fees as reflected in the current budget document. It does not raise fees. All present voted in favor.

Mrs. Owens gave first reading of Ordinance 2021-20 an ordinance to regulate, restrict and limit, in the interest of the public health and safety, the use and operation of the water works system maintained and owned by or which may become the property of the City of Walhalla and providing penalties for violation thereof. Mrs. Owens made in form of a motion and Mr. Roberts seconded. Mr. Burton explained that this ties the fees to the budget documents and gives an avenue to make a payment plan for inactive account with outstanding balance. Mr. Roberts stated this was a way to get the city's money back and give someone water. Mayor called for vote, all present voted in favor.

Mr. Pace gave first reading of Ordinance 2021-21 an ordinance to provide for the creation of the community development department for the City of Walhalla, South Carolina and to assign duties and other matters of the department thereto. Mr. Pace made this in form of a motion, Mr. Underwood seconded. Mr. Burton stated this didn't create another dept head but cleared up confusion. It brings codes under administration. There are no new positions presently, it sets framework for the future. Mayor called for vote, all present voted in favor.

Chief Brinson discussed the changes to the States Open Carry Law. All existing concealed carry persons can open carry. Businesses can post no concealed carry, therefore no open carry. Business can tell you to leave if posted and it's a misdemeanor. The same applies to events.

Councilman Woodward asked that Council approve that The Friends of Chicopee Ballfield be allowed to fund raise. Funds will be sent to Walhalla Partners for Progress (501c3 non-profit). Funds will be used to repair and upgrade the Chicopee Ballfield. Mr. Woodward made a motion that council endorse the project. Mr. Roberts seconded. Mrs. Owens asked if there would be letterhead and flyers, the answer is yes. Mr. Burton suggested an agreement between the friends and the city. All present voted in favor.

Mayor called for committee reports.

**MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING
OF THE WALHALLA CITY COUNCIL
AUGUST 3, 2021, 5:30 PM**

Present: Mayor Danny Edwards, Councilwoman Sarai Melendez, Mayor Pro-Tempore Danny Woodward, Councilman Josh Roberts, Councilman Keith Pace, and Mr. Timothy Burton, City Administrator.

Absent: Councilman David Underwood

Mayor Edwards Opened the committee meeting at 5:30PM

A moment of silence was observed

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Edwards
Public Comment was held. None present
Committee Reports were given by respective department heads.

Parks and Recreation- Mr. Woodward, Chair

Director Galbreath reported:

381 participants for fall sports.

Total of 28 teams

Needed the public's help on Sertoma. Adults are playing soccer and hurting grass. Please use the field on N. Church.

Public Works- Mr. Roberts, Chair

Director Price reported:

June 1 thru 30, 2021 the City of Walhalla picked up:

258 -ton of residential garbage

101 -ton of commercial garbage

85 -ton of recyclable brush

2 -Ton Mattresses

July 1 thru 31, 2021 the City of Walhalla picked up:

243 -ton of residential garbage

117 -ton of commercial garbage

3 -ton cross ties(Memorial Stadium)

1 -Ton Mattresses

87 -ton of recyclable brush

Roll Carts for July

Delivered 44

Picked up 7

During the month of July our department continued picking up leaves, brush, trash, cleaning storm drains, trimming trees, cutting grass and other routine maintenance tasks. Set up and break down for Independence Eve Celebration. I would like to thank Stacy Jackson for helping with the power.

Police- Mr. Underwood, Chair

Chief Brinson reported:

Events and completed training update:

Independence Fest – 7/1 – 7/4

Race to Valhalla: Southeast Gravel – 7/ 10

D&I Block Party – 7/23

Graduation from SCCJA – 7/30

Ofc. M. Boatman

Ofc. D. Matthews

New Hire

Ofc. H. McCall

962 Total Calls for service
252 traffic stops
10 traffic collisions
53 reports filed
467 citations/warnings issued
42 arrests made
288 extra patrols

Utilities- Ms. Owens, Chair

Director Parris reported:

JUNE 2021

New Water Taps - 7
New Sewer Taps - 0
New water contracts - 67
Emergency Locates – 4
Sanitation delivery work orders - 36
Sanitation pick up work orders - 12
Meter box changes - 3
Meter change outs – 23
Work Orders – 82
Sewer Work Orders - 3
New development service inquiries – 3

JULY 2021

New Water Taps - 16
New Sewer Taps - 1
New water contracts - 75
Emergency Locates - 3
Sanitation delivery work orders - 43
Sanitation pick up work orders - 12
Meter box changeouts - 10
Meter change outs – 10
Work orders- 89
Sewer work orders - 3
New development service inquiries - 2

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1. FUNDS AVAILABLE IN THE CURRENT CONTRACT WILL BE USED FOR VIDEO INSPECTION OF FLAT ROCK LINE, BEGINNING ON OR AROUND AUGUST 9
2. EASEMENTS PLATS FOR FIRELINES ARE NEARLY COMPLETE
3. ADDITIONAL REQUESTS FOR FIRELINES ON MAIN ST. ARE COMING IN

Main Street (General Gov't)- Mr. Pace-Chair

Director Imbody gave report:

Volunteers provided 168 hours of time in July
Received \$2500 grant for shade structures
Applying for more grants in the coming months
Attended multiple training sessions
Increasing number of social media hits
Studying ways of managed growth in historic areas
Updated on several new businesses
Gave overview of upcoming events and meetings
Presented MSW committee priorities and budget

Fire and Codes- Ms. Melendez-Chair

Lieutenant Bates gave July report:

Fire responded to 122 calls for service 52 fire, 70 medical/rescue
22 mutual aid calls
54 calls inside city, 68 outside
337 hours of training
Fully staffed minus a fire chief
Brush 5 is out of service all other apparatus is in service
Assisted with numerous city events
23 fire inspections completed
20 permits/licenses issued
9 code enforcement contacts made

General Government- Mr. Pace, Chair

Administrator Burton gave the administrators report

Met with SC State Parks Grants Director and Sen. Alexander regarding funding avenues for various tourism related projects.

Met with Gravel Race planners to begin prep for next year's race in Walhalla.

Met with Issaqueena's Last Ride board president. They are interested in partnering with Walhalla.

Met with several IT vendors to look at potential security gaps and measures to increase Walhalla's IT system. Working on a RFP.

Met with several potential developers for projects inside the city and within our water system.

Website has been updated will continue to be made more informative and user friendly.

S. Catherine Street one lane has been approved by SCDOT. Walhalla is in process of preparing construction documents for the striping and sidewalk work.

Fire Chief position is being advertised.

YouTube Channel is up and running; 11 subscribers and 116 views

On boarded several new hires across the city.

Audit documents are being sent to the auditor for FY 21.

Stumphouse Collections are back up to normal.

This concluded committee reports.

Councilwoman Melendez discussed the possibility of expanding the Planning Commission from 5 to 7 members. She decided she was not going to peruse this at this time.

Councilwoman Owens discussed the need to amend the water ordinance to allow for inactive accounts to have a payment plan. Committee agreed to move to full council.

Mr. Burton discussed the need to amend the sewer ordinance to reflect the current charges listed in the current budget document. Committee agreed to move to full council.

Mr. Hayes presented an in-depth view of the BZA and planning commission duties.

Mr. Hayes discussed the zoning amendments more in depth that have been proposed for restricting major retailers. Design guidelines were also discussed for both the CC and other districts. The discussion also talked about the merits of extending the moratorium.

Mr. Hayes then discussed the food truck ordinance in detail. He reviewed the DHEC requirements for food trucks and festivals. He entertained questions from the committees.

Councilman Woodward made motion for executive session, seconded by Councilman Roberts.

Executive Session exited and returned to regular session.

Committee voted to move Codes/Zoning from Fire Chief to City Administrator. Council voted to same. All in favor with Councilwoman Melendez voting nay.

Mayor Edwards adjourned the meeting.

Timothy B. Burton