

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE WALHALLA CITY COUNCIL  
October 19, 2021, 530 PM

**Present-** Mayor Danny Edwards, Mayor Pro-Tempore Danny Woodward, Councilman Josh Roberts, Councilman Keith Pace, and Councilwoman Sarai Melendez, Councilman David Underwood, Administrator Burton

**Absent:** none

**Guests:**

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

Mayor Edwards led the moment of silence.

Mr. Woodward led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Edwards opened the floor for the acknowledgement of Police Officers that Administered Narcan in the line of duty. Chief Brinson presented Officer Austin Barnum, Sergeant Jessica Sanders, and Officer Austin Watson with a coin and certificate from Governor McMaster. Next, Chief Brinson recognized Captain Tim Rice as Blue Ridge Electrics Officer of the Year. Tim has been instrumental in progressing the police department.

City Administrator presented Captain Will Bates with Firefighter of the Year award. Wills contributions to the Fire Department have been top notch especially with the absence of a fire chief.

Mayor Edwards thanked all that were recognized.

Public comment was called for public comment. Tony Honea of N Poplar about the need of repairs to the trash trucks that leak oil on their street. He has talked to Russ and just wanted to make council aware of it.

Mr. Pace made motion to approve the minutes of the Sept 21, 2021 meeting. Mr. Woodward made second. All voted in favor. None opposed. Minutes were approved.

Administrator Burton commented that DDC made some changes to the façade grant program. The grant program would return to its original intent. Facelifts would be the primary focus, code/structural issues would no longer be addressed. SCDOT was contacted regarding traffic study for the intersection at Earle and Blude Ridge Blvd. It would take a few months to complete. We are planning a workshop for both a Main Street presentation and an ACOG presentation. We have been in early planning stages for a Memorial Day Run for veterans. The event will start and stop at Memorial Field.

Mayor Edwards read a proclamation for October proclaiming Disability Employment Month. All council affirmed by show of hands.

Mayor Edwards called for the first reading of ordinances. Mr. Burton stated that Ordinance 2021-22 pertains to raising tap fees on new water taps both inside and outside the city. This will allow us to adjust the fees for any new taps.

Mr. Pace made motion for Ordinance 2021-22. Mr. Roberts made second. Mayor Edwards recapped the reason behind the tap increase. No discussion followed. All voted in favor.

Mr. Pace made motion for Ordinance 2021-23. Mr. Woodward provided a second. Mr. Burton explained the reasoning and mechanics behind the ordinance. It will allow our off-duty staff to perform services for these events, if the event organizer chooses to. It also provides some criteria for staffing. All voted in favor.

Mr. Pace made motion for Ordinance 2021-24. Mr. Woodward provided a second. Mr. Pace explained this set the fees for the previous ordinance. All voted in favor.

Mr. Burton discussed the need for moving a vacant position from Public Works to Recreation. Director Price was ok with the move. Mr. Pace made motion, Mr. Roberts seconded and all voted in favor. The position will be posted.

Mr. Burton presented the request from the Military Museum in the amount of \$7470. They are replacing windows. There is a line item in the budget for this. Mr. Pace made motion, Mr. Woodward second. All voted in favor.

Mr. Burton discussed that the planning commission has recommended a rezone request for the old school building next to the WPAC this will go to core commercial. Planning commission also recommended that the downtown overlay be extended to Johnson to Maple and N Broad to S Broad. PC also recommends changing the zoning regs to allow staff to approve up to 5 lots that are being subdivided. Anything more goes to the PC. Lastly, there are a few changes recommended to be made to the subdivision's regulations. There is a need to restrict utility lines from crossing property lines and to create a new section for the insertion of standard design details. This will be sent to committee and then on to full council.

There was general discussion about the Walhalla Greenway. The official name will be the "Walhalla Greenway". We held public comment. When the period is over, we will give those to the engineers. There was discussion about the proposed signs along the trail. Kaufman Square will be the official trailhead. There was discussion that we are still in the planning stages.

Mayor called for committee reports.

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

**Present:** Mayor Danny Edwards, Mayor Pro-Tempore Danny Woodward, Councilman Josh Roberts, Councilman Keith Pace, Councilwoman Melendez, Councilwoman Gwen Owens, Councilman David Underwood, Administrator Burton,

**Absent:** none

Mayor Edwards Opened the committee meeting at 5:30PM

A moment of silence was observed

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilman Underwood.

Public Comment was held. None present.

Mayor called for amending the agenda. Mr. Roberts motioned, Mr. Underwood seconded. All voted in favor to remove the PD recognition and add Oconee Military Museum funding request and changing the order of the committee reports. Community Development to go first.

Committee Reports were given by respective department heads.

**Parks and Recreation- Mr. Woodward, Chair**

Director Galbreath reported:

Last Soccer home games Oct 7

Basketball sign ups Oct 18-29

Discussion about playground equipment and finding grants for that.

**Public Works- Mr. Roberts, Chair**

Director Price reported:

County hasn't sent in data.

Roll Carts for Sept

Delivered 31

Picked up 10

Director Price gave a brief run down on the costs of maintaining 2 of the trash trucks. Stated that 2 were out of service for the moment and that they were using knuckle booms to get trash. Overtime was related to mechanic and trash pickup. Discussed ways to let public know if trash was going to be late.

**Police- Mr. Underwood, Chair**

Chief Brinson reported:

Events and completed training update:

1. D&I block party
2. Participated in 9/11 Climb

3. Participated in 9/11 Memorial
4. Performed traffic control for Homecoming

1566 Total Calls for service  
334 traffic stops  
11 traffic collisions  
62 reports filed  
309 citations/warnings issued  
34 arrests made  
843 extra patrols  
16 hours training

1 vacant position.

### **Utilities- Ms. Owens, Chair**

Director Parris reported:

SEPTEMBER 2021

New Water Taps - 15

New Sewer Taps - 0

New water contracts - 59

Emergency Locates – 7

Sanitation delivery work orders - 37

Sanitation pick up work orders - 13

Meter box changes - 28

Meter change outs – 71

Sewer Work Orders - 5

New development service inquiries – 4

Did work around Stumphouse Park  
Working on final easement docs for firelines  
Working on final design for Westminster Hwy bridge crossing

### **Community Development-Codes and Zoning**

Elijah Hayes gave report.

Attended MASC training for business license standardization

Will be attending Fall Planning Conference

Busy with new business requests

10 Zoning permits

1 sign permit

1 demo permit

4 façade grants approved

9 violations issued

**Community Development- Main Street**

Director Imbody gave report:  
Volunteers provided 135 hours of time in September  
Received \$4000 grant from ATAX  
MSW had mid-year review  
Several new business are opening  
Social Media is getting lots of hits  
Updates on all the events were given

**Fire - Ms. Melendez-Chair**

Captain Bates gave report:  
Fire responded to 120 calls for service 48 fire, 72 medical/rescue  
19 mutual aid calls  
43 calls inside city, 77 outside  
321 hours of training  
Fully staffed minus a fire chief  
Brush 5 is out of service all other apparatus is in service  
Participated with Homecoming  
30 fire inspections completed  
3 new business inspection

**General Government- Mr. Pace, Chair**

Administrator Burton gave the administrators report  
Submitted two grant applications, one for façades and one for parking lot at Ross mtn  
Scheduled Greenway viewing  
Uploading ordinances to website  
Construction costs are on the rise still  
Increased city liability insurance to \$4 million  
More work to take place at Stumphouse

This concluded committee reports.

Mayor Edwards adjourned the meeting.

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Timothy B. Burton