

CITY OF WALKER COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

December 12, 2024

6:00 PM

The regular meeting of the Walker Mayor and City Council was held at Walker City Hall—13600 Aydell Lane Monday, December 9, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jimmy Watson who commenced with prayer. The Municipal Clerk, Tammy Payton, conducted the roll call of the council members.

The following council members were present: Eric Cook, Gary Griffin, Scarlett Milton-Major and Richard Wales. Council member David Clark was absent.

Mayor Watson called for a motion to adopt/approve the minutes of the November 12, 2024 council meeting. There were no comments or objections.

A motion was made by Mr. Cook, seconded by Mr. Griffin, to approve said minutes.

YEAS: Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Clark

Finance director, Mike Cotton, reviewed the October 2024 finance report before the council. The net profit ending October 31, 2024 was \$2,290,864. It was reported that sales tax decreased by 1% and gas revenue decreased by 8%.

Mr. Wales made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cook, to enter into public hearing.

YEAS: Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Clark

Ms. Major brought before the council the proposed ordinance; 2024 Annual Budget Amendment No. 5. Mike Cotton expounded on some of the specific details of the amendment.

With no questions from the council or comments from the audience, a motion was made by Mr. Wales and seconded by Ms. Major, to approve *Ordinance 12-2024-01* as proposed.

YEAS: Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Clark

Ms. Major brought before the council the proposed ordinance; Adoption of the 2025 Annual Budget for the Operating of Revenues and Expenditures. Mike Cotton reviewed the budget outlay that detailed the estimated appropriation of the revenue by departments for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2025 and ending December 31, 2025.

With no questions from the council or comments from the audience, a motion was made by Mr. Griffin, seconded by Mr. Wales, to approve *Ordinance 12-2024-02* as proposed.

YEAS: Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Clark

Mr. Wales presented before the council the proposed ordinance; Updating Pay Schedule for City of Walker Employees. Chief of Operations, Jamie Etheridge, provided the council with additional details which specified the reasons for the changes.

The council had no questions nor were there any comments from the audience. A motion was then called by Mr. Wales, seconded by Mr. Cook, to approved *Ordinance 12-2024-03* as proposed.

A motion was made by Mr. Cook, seconded by Mr. Griffin, to close the public hearing.

YEAS: Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Clark

Mr. Cook introduced an ordinance to rezone the property at 11970 Burgess Avenue from R-70 to R-50 by H. Thomas Peak, Sr. A resolution of the Zoning Commission denied the rezone request on November 18, 2024. Any discussions concerning this matter will be during the public hearing at the January 2025 council meeting.

Mr. Etheridge presented for the council's consideration the resolution to *Adopt Changes to the City of Walker Employee Handbook Updating the Substance Abuse/Drug-Free Workplace Section*. After explaining the purpose for these updates, a motion was made by Mr. Cook, seconded by Ms. Major, to adopt the revisions as proposed.

YEAS: Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Clark

Mr. Etheridge presented before the council the *Resolution to Declare City of Walker Property as Surplus [1995 Atlas Copco Generator]*.

A motion was made by Mr. Wales, seconded by Mr. Griffin, to approve this resolution as requested.

YEAS: Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Clark

Additional Comments:

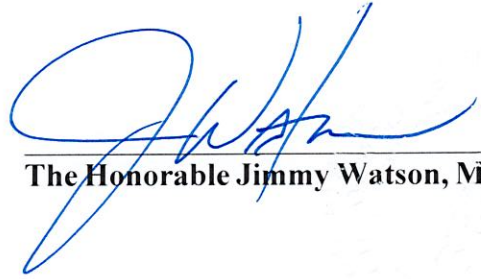
- ❖ Mayor Watson made comments on the Christmas events scheduled for this holiday season, which include the Annual Christmas Lights Contest headed by Ms. Major each year. Three recipients will be announced after judging the yard displays. Gift baskets will be awarded to the winners courtesy of the Walker City Council and several local businesses.
- ❖ Mayor Watson recognized Mr. Richard Wales with a plaque that acknowledged the four terms he has served on the Walker City Council. His fourth and final term will end December 31, 2024.

With no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Mr. Wales, seconded by Mr. Cook, to adjourn the December 9, 2024 council meeting.

YEAS: Cook, Griffin, Major, Wales

NAYS: None

YEAS: Clark



The Honorable Jimmy Watson, Mayor

Attest:


Tammy Payton, Municipal Clerk