



City Council Regular Meeting
Meeting Minutes – City Hall Council Chambers, 2nd Floor

January 24, 2023

I. CALL TO ORDER

7:01 PM

Mayor, Stephen D. Murray III

Members of Council in attendance - Mike McFee, Josh Scallate and Mayor Murray.

Attended Virtually - Neil Lipsitz, Mitch Mitchell.

II. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Pro Tem, Mike McFee

III. PRESENTATIONS

A. Character Education Proclamation - Alese Binyard, Broad River Elementary School.

The Proclamation for Alese Binyard was read. She was unable to attend the last Council Meeting when the proclamation was approved.

IV. PROCLAMATIONS/COMMENDATIONS/RECOGNITIONS

A. Character Education Proclamation - Gavin Smalls, Beaufort Elementary School.

Motion to approve was made by Mayor Pro Tem, McFee and seconded by Councilman Lipsitz.

All were in favor, motion carried.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

VI. PUBLIC HEARING

A. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) 2023 Needs Assessment.

Barbara Johnson, Community and Economic Development Specialist with the Lowcountry Council of Governments, gave an overview of the CDBG grant program. Notice of the hearing was published in the Beaufort Gazette on Tuesday, January 10, 2023. A copy of the presentation is attached to these minutes.

VII. MINUTES

Worksession and Regular Meeting - January 10, 2023.

Motion to approve was made by Councilman Lipsitz and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem, McFee.

Minutes approved as presented.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Ordinance amending Part 3, Chapter 2, Section 3-2002, of the City Code of Ordinances concerning fees for docking on the seawall at the Henry C. Chambers Waterfront Park - 2nd reading.

Motion to approve was made by Mayor Pro Tem, McFee and seconded by Councilman Mitchell.

A rate change is being requested from \$1.50 to \$2.00 per linear foot.

All were in favor, motion carried.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Request from Beaufort Water Festival for use of the Waterfront Park, street closures, sale of alcohol, use of seawall, day dock, waiver of noise ordinances and sponsorship for Opening Ceremony Fireworks for the 67th Annual Beaufort Water Festival, July 14 - 23, 2023.

Motion to approve was made by Mayor Pro Tem, McFee and seconded by Councilman Scallate.

All were in favor, motion carried.

X. REPORTS

City Manager's Report

Scott Marshall stated that he is happy to be here.

Mentioned that the Martin Luther King Day Parade was well supported by the Fire and Police Departments.

Reported that there was an Old Commons Neighborhood Meeting held on January 19, 2023. Police Chief Dale McDorman, and other members of the department were in attendance.

Thanked Ivette Burgess and the Human Resources staff for a great Kickoff the New Year Employee Appreciation Luncheon. Congratulated Kristy Kittle on being named the most Outstanding Employee for the second half of 2022.

Announced that the City closed on the sale of the property located at 1505 North Street to Beaufort County.

The City received a \$2,000 fire grant from the Municipal Association of South Carolina for the purchase of firefighter turnout gear.

A "Point in Time" Homeless Survey will be done by the Human Services Department with Beaufort County who will be assisted by the United Way. The data gathered is used to help establish eligibility for grants and other funding opportunities.

Mentioned that the City of Beaufort made the top 10 list of Friendliest Towns in America by TheTravel.com., a travel website. Beaufort ranked number one.

Mayor's Report

Attended the Beaufort County Economic Development Corporation Strategic Planning Retreat. He reported that the City had a little over 58 million dollars in Capital Investments, and 1,400 new jobs were created.

Reported that the South Coast Cyber Security Summit will be held on March 20 - 21, 2023. Registration is open.

The 2023 Techstars Startup Weekend will be held March 24 - 26, 2023.

Stated that the City of Beaufort and the Town of Port Royal have officially become members of Southern Lowcountry Regional Group and are now voting members.

Councilman Mitchell

Nothing to report.

Councilman Lipsitz

Stated that he and Councilman Scallate attended the Old Commons meeting.

Was happy to have been a judge in the Beaufort Oyster Festival and stated it was a great event.

Councilman Scallate

Stated that the "Point In Time" Homeless Survey that is taking place on Wednesday, January 25, 2023, is a nationwide event and has volunteered to help in this effort.

Mayor Pro Tem, McFee

Volunteered for the Beaufort Oyster Festival and was happy to see such an amazing crowd in attendance.

Stated that the "Point In Time" Survey sets a standard for grant funds and State Housing funds that can be received.

He will also be attending a Local Area Transportation meeting next Friday.

All of Council thanked Ivette Burgess and her staff for a great Kickoff the New Year Event and congratulated Kristy Kittle on her being named the Outstanding Employee for the second half of 2022.

XI. ADJOURN

7:41 PM

Motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Lipsitz and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem, McFee.

All were in favor, motion carried.

Disclaimer: This document is a summary. All City Council Worksession and Regular Meetings are recorded. Live stream can be found on the City's website at www.cityofbeaufort.org (Agenda section). Any questions, please contact the City Clerk, Traci Guldner at 843-525-7024 or by email at tguldner@cityofbeaufort.org.