



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

January 11, 2022

I. CALL TO ORDER

7:10 PM

Mayor, Stephen D, Murray III

All of Council members in attendance - Phil Cromer, Neil Lipsitz, Mike McFee, Mitch Mitchell, and Mayor Murray.

II. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Pro Tem, Mike McFee

III. PROCLAMATIONS/COMMENDATIONS/RECOGNITIONS

- A. Resolution recognizing the accomplishments of Beaufort High School's Emmett O'Brien on being selected to attend the United States Senate Youth Program.

Motion to postpone to next meeting was made by Mayor Pro Tem, McFee and seconded by Councilman Mitchell.

All were in favor.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

Karl Puckett, Beaufort Gazette, stated that the paper thinks that reasons for Executive Sessions should be more specific as to their nature instead of using broad terminology.

V. MINUTES

- A. Worksession and Regular Meeting - December 14, 2021.

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

Minutes approved as presented.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Request from Gullah Festival of South Carolina for use of the Henry C. Chambers Park and waiver of Noise Ordinance May 27 - 29, 2022.

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

Approval was unanimous.

- B. Request from Lowcountry Habitat for Humanity and Help of Beaufort to host July 4th 5k on Monday, July 4, 2022, 7:45 am - 9:30 am.

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

Approval was unanimous.

- C. Request from Lowcountry Habitat for Humanity to host Lowcountry Habitat Turkey Trot 5k on Thursday, November 24, 2022, 7:45 am - 9:30 am.

Motion to approve was made by Councilman Cromer and seconded by Councilman Lipsitz.

Approval was unanimous.

- D. Request from Beaufort Area Hospitality Association to host Oyster Festival 5k on Saturday, January 21, 2023, 7:45 am - 10:00 am.

Motion to approve was made by Councilman Cromer and seconded by Councilman Lipsitz.

Approval was unanimous.

- E. Request from Leond Celada for waiver of Noise Ordinance for a Quinceanera (Sweet 15) event on Saturday, June 4, 2022, 6:00 pm - 12:00 am in the Henry C. Chambers Park.

Motion to approve was made by Councilman Cromer and seconded by Councilman Lipsitz.

Approval was unanimous.

- F. Co-Sponsorship request by South Carolina Association of Registration and Election Officials, Inc., for use of the Henry C. Chambers Park to host Picnic in the Park event on Sunday, April 10, 2022, from 3:00 pm - 7:00 pm.

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

Approval was unanimous.

- G. Co-Sponsorship request for use of the Henry C. Chambers Park and Day Dock to host Dragonboat Raceday 2022, on June 24 - 25, 2022.

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

Approval was unanimous.

- H. Authorization to allow the City Manager to enter into a contract with Beaufort County Disabilities and Special Needs for Janitorial Services at 500 Carteret Street.

Motion to approve was made by Councilman Cromer and seconded by Councilman Lipsitz.

Linda Roper, Downtown Operations and Community Services Director, stated that this would fall under the Intergovernmental Agreement with the County. The cost for this service will be \$24,600 a year. 52 percent of the costs will be recouped through assessments charged to tenants.

Approval was unanimous.

- I. Revised Resolution for the Calhoun Stormwater and Streetscape Improvement Project.

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

Alan Eisenman with the Finance Department, stated that the original resolution signed on September 14, 2021, had an amount of \$2,017,931.00 and should have been \$1,942,931.00 which

is a deduction of \$75,000.00. The Department of Commerce is requiring a revised resolution with the correct amount.

Approval was unanimous.

VII. REPORTS

City Manager's Report

Reported that the City has completed the purchase of the Bridges School Facility on Boundary Street, and that we are working closely with USCB and The South Coast Cyber Center to establish a home for cyber security training.

Stated that we have been working closely with Beaufort County for shared services. Right now, we share services on Engineering, Bond Court Administration, Walkway Construction and Public Defender Services. Now, we can add Janitorial Services. He looks forward to expanding the use of our shared services agreement.

The First Friday event for the new year was a success and we are looking forward to the Oyster Festival that will take place January 13 - 22, 2022.

Reported that Workers Compensation claims are down, and that will lead to a reduced cost on our insurance.

Expressed condolences to Reece Bertholf, Deputy City Manager, whose mother passed away.

Mayor's Report

Nothing to report.

Councilman Mitchell

Wished all a happy, safe, and healthy 2022.

Stated that Martin Luther King's birthday is on January 15th, and the holiday is on January 17th. Asked all to dedicate ourselves to his dreams of what America could be.

Reported that the Green Street Gym/Charles Lind Brown Community Center, is open and ready to be utilized.

Mayor Pro Tem, McFee

The Lady's Island Business and Professionals Association met this morning. Jared Fralix from Beaufort County was the guest speaker and spoke about the road improvements on Lady's Island.

Councilman Lipsitz

Urged all citizens to get vaccinated.

He spoke to a number of downtown business owners, who said they had a fantastic holiday season. Asked citizens to continue to support the downtown merchants.

Councilman Cromer

Stated that this will be his last year on council and hopes that they can get a lot accomplished.

There will be a dedication of a prisoner of war camp historical marker on Thursday, January 20, 2022, at 11am at Pigeon Point Park.

VIII. ADJOURN

7:43 PM

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

All were in favor.

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). Audio recordings are available upon request by contacting the City Clerk, Traci Guldner at 843-525-7024 or by email at tguldner@cityofbeaufort.org.