



# Special Council Meeting Meeting Minutes – Electronic Meeting

April 6, 2020

## **I. CALL TO ORDER**

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**12:00PM**

Mayor, Billy Keyserling - All members of Council in attendance (Mike McFee, Nan Sutton, Phil Cromer, Stephen Murray and Mayor Keyserling).

## **II. INVOCATION**

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A. Mike McFee, Mayor Pro Tem

## **III. NEW BUSINESS**

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- A. Emergency Ordinance of the City of Beaufort, South Carolina - Ordinance directing Citizens and Residents within the City of Beaufort to Shelter in Place during the COVID-19 Emergency Declaration: and matters related thereto; and severability.

Motion to approve made by Sutton and seconded by Murray.

City Manager, Bill Prokop, gave an overview of the proposed ordinance for approval, stating that the ordinance is asking our citizens to stay at home.

Councilman Murray stated that over the last 48 hours he has talked to a lot of residents and business owners about Shelter in Place and what Shelter in Place really means. South Carolina for all intents and purposes, is in a shelter in place environment currently, to include some restrictions that other states do not have in place. He continued to encourage citizens to stay home and read the details of the ordinance being proposed. This ordinance is not to supersede what the Governor has already put in place, but it will go hand in hand with his orders and any other orders the Governor may bring forward.

Mayor Pro Tem, Mike McFee, read the proposed Ordinance.

Councilman Cromer echoed Councilman Murray's sentiments. He stated that this is a unique situation we find ourselves in and I am very pleased so far with the vast majority of our citizens trying to shelter in place. This ordinance will help halt the spread of COVID-19.

Councilwoman Sutton stated that she is ready to vote on it and stop talking about it. We just need to do this, its unprecedented and it is about saving lives.

Mayor Pro Tem, Mike McFee said that the elements of this ordinance are encouraging all of us to use common sense and recognize that the CDC (Center for Disease Control) and SCDHEC (South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control) are giving us the best information available out there.

Mayor Keyserling stated that the City's will have a frequently asked questions document published on the City's website regarding COVID-19. He thanked the many in Beaufort that have been doing a good job and reiterated the purpose of the ordinance being proposed, which is to continue to stay home. The Mayor wanted to let citizens know that the goal is not to be heavy handed, but rather hold hands and tighten the circle where we all work together to do our best to flatten this thing out.

Motion to approve was unanimous.

#### **IV. ADJOURN**

**12:34PM**

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