



City Council Worksession
Meeting Minutes – Council Chambers – 2nd Floor

May 25, 2021

I. CALL TO ORDER

5:01PM

Mayor, Stephen D. Murray III

Members of Council in attendance (Phil Cromer, Neil Lipsitz, Mike McFee, Mitch Mitchell, and Mayor Murray)

II. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Interviews of applicants for Boards and Commissions

Council held a question-and-answer session for all applicants for Boards and Commissions.

Zoning Board of Appeals - Kenneth Hoffman.

Metropolitan Planning Commission - Sue Cosner, Mike Tomy.

Design Review Board - Cheryl D'Angelo, Eric Erickson, Kim McFann, Benjie Morillo.

Historic District Review Board - Adam Biery, Maxine Lutz, Michelle Prentice, Katherine Pringle, Jeremiah Smith, Mike Sutton, Beekman Webb.

B. Update on major projects by Dominion Energy

Blakely Williams, Dominion Energy Economic Development & Local Affairs, went over their companies' priorities which are Employee Safety, Public Safety and Customer Service. Their main goal is to deliver clean, reliable, and affordable energy.

Jake Baker, Natural Gas Division, stated that there are not many Natural Gas projects in the City at this time. They are working in the new Pulte development that is on Salem Farms Road. They will also be extending their gas main down Robert Smalls Parkway.

Councilman Lipsitz asked if there will be any interruptions while these projects are underway.

Mr. Baker, stated no.

Evan Wheeler, Southern District Manager, gave an overview how electricity is generated, and the process it takes to get that energy to the final destination which are residential homes and businesses.

Will Epting, Certified Arborist, went over the tree trimming processes and vegetation management procedures. He showed how trees are trimmed away from power lines, by using the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) Best Management Practices, and the American National Standard for Tree Care Operations (ANSI A300) manuals.

Matt Talley, Manager of Electric Transmission Engineering, spoke about the Burton to Frogmore Transmission Line replacement of aging power poles. These wooden poles are being

replaced with self-supporting galvanized steel structures. Line construction is expected to start in the 1st quarter of 2022 and be completed by the end of that year.

Mr. Wheeler went over the differences between underground and overhead electrical services, and their inspection and maintenance procedures. He also talked about a Beaufort Central New Feeder which is approximately 1.25 miles long that will accommodate growing electrical demands.

Local residents were able to speak about their specific concerns and ask questions of Dominion Energy. They asked for better communication in the future.

Mayor Murray gave appreciation to Dominion Energy for their time and agrees that communication could be better between all parties. He stated that the City wants to be a partner in helping with that communication.

III. PRESENTATIONS

A. Update on planned changes to Solid Waste Services

Councilman Cromer made a motion to amend the Worksession Agenda and table the presentation to the next Worksession on Tuesday, June 8, 2021 and move the Executive Session to the end of the regular meeting, May 25, 2021. Motion was seconded by Councilman Lipsitz.

All were in favor.

IV. ADJOURN

7:32 PM

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.