

A regular session of Beaufort City Council was held on June 25, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Beaufort Municipal Complex, 1901 Boundary Street. In attendance were Mayor Billy Keyserling, Councilwoman Nan Sutton, Councilman Mike McFee, and Bill Prokop, city manager. Councilmen Phil Cromer and Stephen Murray were excused absences.

In accordance with the South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, Section 30-4-80(d) as amended, all local media were duly notified of the time, date, place, and agenda of this meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Keyserling called the regular council meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilman McFee led the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

CHARACTER EDUCATION PROCLAMATION

Councilman McFee made a motion, second by Councilwoman Sutton, to approve the proclamation of Martin Madrid as Beaufort Middle School's Student of the Month. The motion passed unanimously. Councilman McFee read the proclamation, and Mayor Keyserling presented it to Mr. Madrid. His teacher thanked council and said they are proud of Mr. Madrid, and everyone will be hearing his name because he is "quite a remarkable young man."

PROCLAMATION OF JUNE AS BORN IN BEAUFORT MONTH [1] [SEP]

Councilman McFee made a motion, second by Councilwoman Sutton, to approve the proclamation. The motion passed unanimously. Councilman McFee read the proclamation, and Mayor Keyserling presented it to **Patti Valentini** from Beaufort Memorial Hospital.

MINUTES

Councilman McFee made a motion, second by Councilwoman Sutton, to approve the minutes of the council work session on May 21, 2019. Councilman McFee said there was a typographical error on page 1; the number of police department service calls in 2018 should have been 90,131. **The motion to approve the minutes as amended passed unanimously.**

Councilman McFee made a motion, second by Councilwoman Sutton, to approve the minutes of the council work and regular sessions on May 28, 2019. Councilman McFee said on page 1, **Bo Hodges'** first name was misspelled as "Beau." **The motion to approve the minutes as amended passed unanimously.**

ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO PURCHASE PROPERTY (TAX MAP PARCEL # R120 029 00C 0171) FOR THE PURPOSES OF STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE REPAIR IN BATTERY SHORES

Councilman McFee made a motion, second by Councilwoman Sutton, to approve the ordinance on second reading. Mr. Prokop said this purchase on Otter Creek Circle is to run stormwater drains through the property. Once Public Works completes the work, the property will go back on the market, he said, and this is the least costly option to move the stormwater where they need to. **The motion passed unanimously.** [L] [SEP]

FY 2020 BUDGET ORDINANCE

Councilman McFee made a motion, second by Councilwoman Sutton, to approve the ordinance on second reading. Kathy Todd said adoption of the budget requires 2 readings and a public hearing, so this is the second reading. The budget includes a millage increase of about 1.18 mils, she said, and she reviewed the General Fund and other fund budgets for revenues and expenditures. No additional funding is necessary for capital projects, Ms. Todd said. **The motion passed unanimously.**

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REQUEST FROM BEAUFORT REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TO HOST ANNUAL SHRIMP FESTIVAL IN WATERFRONT PARK AND TO APPROVE THE SALE OF ALCOHOL, STREET CLOSURES FOR THE RUN FORREST RUN 5K BRIDGE RUN/WALK, AND STREET CLOSURE FOR CHARLES STREET EXTENSION

Councilman McFee made a motion, second by Councilwoman Sutton, to approve the requests for the October 4 and October 5, 2019 event. Rhonda Carey introduced Blakely Williams, who read the requests for Shrimp Festival. Ms. Carey said the event would follow the same pattern and details as usual. **The motion passed unanimously.**

REQUEST FOR CO-SPONSORSHIP FOR USE OF WATERFRONT PARK FROM THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST [L] [SEP] FELLOWSHIP OF BEAUFORT FOR THE “CELEBRATING CITIZENSHIP IN BEAUFORT” EVENT

Councilwoman Sutton made a motion, second by Councilman McFee, to approve the request for the October 26, 2019 event. Ms. Carey said this is a new event celebrating citizenship. David Bartholomew said it would be between 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. at Waterfront Park. It is a non-partisan and non-denominational event to celebrate naturalized citizens in the area. Ms. Carey said the event is free and open to the public, and staff is in support of it. **The motion passed unanimously.**

APPOINTMENT TO METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION (MPC)

Councilman McFee made a motion, second by Councilwoman Sutton, to appoint Bill Bardenwerper to the MPC. The motion passed unanimously.

CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

Mr. Prokop said the City of Beaufort has been selected as one of the top ten places in South Carolina to visit.

The DragonBoat Beaufort races were a “huge success” again, Mr. Prokop said, and there were entries from around South Carolina and other states.

July 5 will be First Friday, with the theme “Made in America,” and Water Festival starts July 12, Mr. Prokop said.

Mr. Prokop said he and Mayor Keyserling attended a meeting with county council and mayors from Beaufort and Jasper Counties, and one mayor complimented the maintenance of Waterfront Park. Mr. Prokop encouraged others to see how Waterfront Park looks.

City administration offices will be closed from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. on June 28 while the employee picnic is held at Waterfront Park, Mr. Prokop said.

A stormwater update will be presented on July 10 at 10 a.m. in council chambers, Mr. Prokop said. The public is invited to attend.

The city’s summer work program starts this week with a rising senior from Beaufort High School working in the Community and Economic Development department, Mr. Prokop said. This program will be expanded to other departments in the future.

MAYOR’S REPORT

Mayor Keyserling agreed with Mr. Prokop about how exciting the DragonBoat Beaufort races were.

Mayor Keyserling attended a ceremony at Grace AME Church that was “quite interesting,” and went to the celebration of the renovated Best Western Inn, which he said has had an inn of some kind on that property for 150 years.

Mayor Keyserling said that at the mayors’ meeting, they tried to come up with a list of discussion topics, and #1 was the local option sales tax (LOST). They have brought Hardeeville and Yemassee into their “informal circle,” so Hampton and Jasper Counties are represented, he said. He hopes the mayors from those communities will be able to help to explain to county council how the LOST benefits communities.

There being no further business to come before council, Councilwoman Sutton made a motion, second by Councilman McFee, to adjourn the regular council meeting. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.