



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

February 11, 2025

I. CALL TO ORDER

5:00 PM

Philip Cromer, Mayor

Members of Council in attendance - Philip Cromer, Neil Lipsitz, Michael McFee, Mitch Mitchell, Josh Scallate.

II. EMPLOYEE NEW HIRE RECOGNITION

A. Police Department.

Captain Joseph Dobbins introduced Yousef Smith.

III. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Interviews of applicants for Boards, Commissions and Committees - Waterfront Advisory Committee.

The below applied for the Waterfront Advisory Committee. They addressed Council and provided background information and gave explanations as to why they would be best suited for the committee. All applicants were given 5 minutes.

Howell Beach, Patrick Canning, Gregory DiGiovanni, Perry Dukes, Holly Forester-Bennett, Willard Fosberry, Robert Green, David Loring, Andrew Newell, Joseph Oliver, Stephen Perkins, Gregorie Rawls, David Russell, Josh Schott, Kim Shoemaker, Donald Starkey, Patra Watson, Christopher Youmans.

B. Development Code discussion regarding electric fences.

Curt Freese, Community Development Director, started off by stating there was a recent complaint about an electric fence being installed in a neighborhood. This subject is very hard to enforce with our existing code. There is no reference to electric fences. Staff was struggling how to use section 2.5.6H to address not allowing electric fences for the safety of residents. Staff is proposing a new section Chapter 5.8. This section would prohibit electric fences in residential districts, while also providing clearer and stronger regulations on fencing within the city, as they feel electric fences might be a public health concern, especially for small children. This ordinance has already been sent to the Planning Commission.

Councilman Mitchell personally feels that it makes no sense to have an electrical fence in a residential neighborhood. He feels it might open up the city to litigation if this ordinance is not passed.

If signs are permitted outside of residential areas, the Mayor would like to see very large signage speaking to their dangers.

Council is supportive of moving forward with these ordinance changes.

IV. ADJOURN

6:08 PM

Disclaimer: This document is a summary. All City Council Worksessions 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.

In accordance with South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, Section 30-4-80 (a)(d)(e), as amended, notification of regular meetings was given at the beginning of the calendar year. A copy of the agenda was posted on the City's bulletin board and website www.cityofbeaufort.org twenty-four hours prior to the meeting. A copy of the agenda was given to the local news media and requested public on file.

Approved: March 11, 2025
Traci Guldner

