



City Council Special Meeting  
Meeting Minutes – City Hall Council Chambers, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

February 22, 2022

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

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**5:00 PM**

Stephen D. Murray III, Mayor

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

**II. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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Mayor Pro Tem, Mike McFee

**III. PROCLAMATIONS/COMMENDATIONS/RECOGNITIONS**

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A. Character Education Proclamation - Heymy Cruz Hernandez, Battery Creek High School.

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

Approval was unanimous.

**IV. PRESENTATIONS**

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A. BJWSA update on current projects.

Andy Kinghorn, City's representative on the BJWSA Board of Directors, gave a report on some of the current projects that are taking place in the city. This included the replacement of galvanized pipes in Pigeon Point, the Northwest Quadrant, as well as Mossy Oaks to PVC pipe.

Mr. Kinghorn stated that the water main replacement on Ribaut Road has yet to begin. This is contingent on the impending Ribaut Road Rehabilitation Project that involves the city, Port Royal and Beaufort County.

BJWSA is working on updating its Master Plan. The plan will show all capital projects that are anticipated between now until 2040.

**V. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

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No public comment.

**VI. MINUTES**

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B. Worksession and Regular Meeting - February 8, 2022.

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

Approval was unanimous.

## **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

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A. Resolution authorizing signatories on all Financial Institution accounts.

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

Approval was unanimous.

B. FY 2022 ARPA Fund Budget Amendment - 1<sup>st</sup> Reading.

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

Alan Eisenman, Senior Accountant, went over the recommendations for some of the purchases using the American Rescue Plan Funds. Included in this was \$145,518.44 for Cybersecurity enhancements, \$165,000.00 for a new bucket truck for Public Works, and \$91,024.00 for Police body cameras. The total that is being recommended to be released is \$1,471,433.80.

Approval was unanimous.

C. Ordinance amending Part 1, Chapter 4, Article A, Section 1-4004 of the City Code of Ordinances - Powers and duties of the City Manager - 1<sup>st</sup> Reading.

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

Bill Prokop, City Manager, stated that the only changes that are being proposed are the amounts for procurement under each threshold, and not the processes. As an example, right now, if purchases are over \$25,000.00, a minimum of 3 sealed bids and a public bid opening are required. Under the proposed change, this amount would go up to \$100,000.00. He also gave the thresholds for purchasing that are followed by Beaufort County, Hilton Head, and Bluffton.

Approval was unanimous.

## **VIII. REPORTS**

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### **City Manager's Report**

Welcomed two new businesses to the city. T-Mobile and Springhill Suites by Marriott.

### **Mayor's Report**

Congratulated the Beaufort County School District, Technical College of the Lowcountry, along with others for hosting the first Beaufort County African American History Education Conference.

Thanked Beaufort County for including the Charles Lind Brown Community Center in their Parks and Recreation Survey. He is excited to see the center open again. He appreciates Councilman Mitchell's leadership with the task force.

Stated that the spec building in the Beaufort Commerce Park is nearing completion.

Had a conference call with Beaufort County leadership last week and was informed that the amount in the Good Neighbor Fund might be reduced. The amount in the reduction is unclear at this time.

Reported that tonight is the opening of the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Beaufort Film Festival.

**Councilman Mitchell**

Reported that Beaufort County will be holding a meeting at the Charles Lind Brown Community Center on Thursday, March 10, 2022, beginning at 6pm. This is a chance for local residents in the area to tell the county what kind of activities they would like to see at the recreation center. Encouraged citizens to stop by and take a tour.

**Mayor Pro Tem, McFee**

Nothing to report.

**Councilman Lipsitz**

Nothing to report.

**Councilman Cromer**

Nothing to report.

**IX. ADJOURN**

**5:40 PM**

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

All in favor.

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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](http://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](mailto:tguldner@cityofbeaufort.org).