



City Council Worksession

Meeting Minutes – Planning Conference Room – 1st Floor

March 28, 2023

I. CALL TO ORDER

5:00 PM

Mayor Stephen D. Murray III

Members of Council in attendance - Neil Lipsitz, Mike McFee, Mitch Mitchell, Josh Scallate and Mayor Murray.

II. PRESENTATIONS

A. City of Beaufort Website Redesign.

Kathleen Williams, Communications and Marketing Director, went over the look of the proposed new home page for the City's Website redesign. All of Council's comments were taken into consideration from the last worksession. The City Seal will be used as the logo and will be located in the footer section of every page.

Mayor Murray inquired about putting the full color seal at the top left-hand corner on the homepage. Ms. Williams replied by expressing that in her professional opinion, the full color seal would clash with the rest of the colors on the page.

It is anticipated that the new website will not be launched until sometime in May or June. There are things in the back ground that still need to be accomplished. These items were put on hold awaiting approval of the home page redesign.

All of Council were supportive of the new look.

III. DISCUSSIONS

A. Impact Fee Ordinance update and discussion of next steps.

Reece Bertholf, Deputy City Manager, informed Council that Beaufort County held its final reading on March 13, 2023, for the collection of Impact Fees. He reported that the list of projects in Parks and in Transportation do not match those that were listed previously when this came before Council on first reading in November 2022. Mr. Bertholf stated that the City has been given no indication that this was anything other than a mistake. The County will be working quickly to fix the discrepancies.

Councilman Scallate inquired if there was to be a refund of fees collected, would it be distributed back to the developer or the owner of record. He also asked if the collected fees were being put in any type of interest-bearing account. Mr. Bertholf responded by saying that public funds are very limited in the way they can be invested. On the fees that are to be collected under this Intergovernmental Agreement with Beaufort County, it will be the

responsibility of the County to put them in an interest-bearing account. Councilman Scallate stated that there is a reference to “the Town” in the IGA on page 6. Town has not been used anywhere else. City Manager stated that this is just a scrivener’s error. It will be addressed.

Mayor Murray inquired if we knew how quickly the County would address these issues. Mr. Bertholf replied that they are supposed to be speaking about this in their first committee meeting next month.

The consensus is to come back for second reading once the errors have been fixed.

IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilman Lipsitz made a motion to go into Executive Session and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem, McFee.

- A. Pursuant to Title 30, Chapter 4, Section (70) (a) (1) of the South Carolina Code of Law: Discussion regarding Personnel - Boards and Commissions.
- B. Pursuant to Title 30, Chapter 4, Section (70) (a) (2) of the South Carolina Code of Law: Receipt of Legal Advice regarding litigation.
- C. Pursuant to Title 30, Chapter 4, Section (70) (a) (2) of the South Carolina Code of Law: Discussion regarding the proposed sale or purchase of property.

Councilman Lipsitz made a motion to come out of Executive Session and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem, McFee.

No actions from Executive Session.

V. ADJOURN

7:00 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.