



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

May 9, 2023

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**7:16 PM**

Mayor, Stephen D. Murray III

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

Mayor Pro Tem, McFee, made a motion to amend the agenda by adding an Executive Session after Reports. Pursuant to Title 30, Chapter 4, Section (70) (a) (1) of the South Carolina Code of Law: Discussion regarding personnel appointed by City Council.

The motion was seconded by Councilman Lipsitz.

All were in favor, motion carried.

**II. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Pro Tem, Mike McFee

**III. PROCLAMATIONS/COMMENDATIONS/RECOGNITIONS**

A. Proclamation proclaiming May 2023, as National Preservation Month.

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

All were in favor, motion carried.

B. Resolution in honor of William B. Harvey III, Esquire.

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

All were in favor, motion carried.

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment

**V. MINUTES**

A. Worksession- April 18, 2023.

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

Minutes approved as presented.

B. Worksession and Regular Meeting - April 25, 2023.

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

Minutes approved as presented.

## **VI. NEW BUSINESS**

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- A. Request from St. Peter's Catholic Church to conduct a Eucharistic procession and Co-Sponsorship on Sunday, June 11, 2023, from the Catholic Church on Lady's Island to the Henry C. Chambers Park and proceed to the Catholic Church on Carteret Street.

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

All were in favor, motion carried.

- B. A resolution authorizing the Mayor and City Council to execute a South Carolina Infrastructure Investment Program Agreement between the City of Beaufort and the South Carolina Rural Infrastructure Authority to fund a Stormwater Infrastructure Improvement Project.

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

Carrie Gorsuch, Infrastructure Project Support Coordinator, gave background information on the reasoning for the adoption of the resolution. This will be for the City Manager to execute an agreement with the South Carolina Rural Infrastructure Authority for an awarded grant in the amount of \$9,460,299.00 for drainage improvements along King Street. Local fund match will be \$1,669,464.00.

All were in favor, motion carried.

- C. Ordinance to amend Fiscal Year 2023 Budget for utilization of Fire Impact Fee Revenues as a down payment for a new fire truck - 1<sup>st</sup> reading.

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

Alan Eisenman, Finance Director, gave background information on the reasoning for the adoption of the ordinance. This budget amendment is for a \$500,000.00 down payment through Fire Impact Fee Funds to secure the purchase of the fire truck within a 28-month delivery timeframe. The Town of Port Royal's portion of this down payment will be \$185,000.00.

All were in favor, motion carried.

## **VII. REPORTS**

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

A new fire truck was placed into service on May 3, 2023, in a traditional wetting down ceremony.

Recognized Linda Roper and Jessica Hughes with Downtown Operations for all their hard work on the Taste of Beaufort. He thanked all the other volunteers including Council and Staff for participating.

There will be a Walk and Talk event with the Chief of Police on the Spanish Moss Trail. The event will take place on Saturday, May 13, 2023, starting at 8:00 am. All those that wish to attend should meet at the Depot Road Trailhead.

There will be a Special Worksession on Tuesday, May 16, 2023.

The next Concert in the Park will be held on Wednesday, May 17, 2023, beginning at 6:30 pm. The Beaufort High School Concert Band will be performing.

Announced that Deputy City Manager, Reece Bertholf, will be leaving the City to take the position of City Manager with the City of New Hope, Minnesota.

#### **Mayor's Report**

Stated that the City will be releasing a Request for Proposals as we search for a new City Attorney.

#### **Councilman Mitchell**

Is appreciative of Beaufort County for starting the renovations at the Charles Lind Brown Center.

Reported that Eric Larson, the Capital Improvement Project Coordinator for Beaufort County will be meeting with the Old Commons Neighborhood Association on May 18, 2023, at 6:00 pm at the Wesley United Methodist Church.

#### **Mayor Pro Tem, McFee**

Reported that through the Residential Empowerment Coalition, they are pursuing landlord engagement to see how the Coalition can help them better housing insecurity issues.

#### **Councilman Scallate**

Nothing to report.

#### **Councilman Lipsitz**

Nothing to report.

Council expressed their appreciation for a job well done to Linda Roper, the Downtown Operations team, and all others who had a part in the Taste of Beaufort this past weekend.

Council wished Bill Harvey the best as he ends his tenure as City Attorney after 36 years of service.

Council wished Deputy Chief, Reece Bertholf, all the best as he will be leaving the City to assume the City Manager position in New Hope, Minnesota next month.

**Councilman Lipsitz made a motion to adjourn.**

**Councilman Lipsitz withdrew his motion.**

## **VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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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 appointed by City Council.

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

No actions from Executive Session

**IX. ADJOURN**

**8:32 PM**

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Motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Scallate and seconded by Councilman Lipsitz.

All were in favor, motion carried.

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