



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

May 24, 2022

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

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**7:14 PM**

Mayor, Stephen D, Murray III

All of Council members in attendance - Phil Cromer, Neil Lipsitz, and Mayor Murray.

Absent - Mike McFee, Mitch Mitchell

**II. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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Reverend Bryson Williams with Carteret Street United Methodist Church and Councilman Neil Lipsitz.

**III. PROCLAMATIONS/COMMENDATIONS/RECOGNITIONS**

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A. Character Education Proclamation - Caylon Thomas, Beaufort Middle School.

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

All were in favor, motion carried.

B. Proclamation proclaiming May 21 - 27, 2022, as National Safe Boating Week.

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

All were in favor, motion carried.

**IV. PRESENTATIONS**

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The McGuire family presented a check for \$600 to Mayor Murray to be donated through Pride of Place for the Ukraine relief effort. They made and sold earrings to raise money.

**V. PUBLIC COMMENT**

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No public comment.

**VI. MINUTES**

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A. Worksession and Regular Meeting - May 10, 2022.

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

Minutes approved as presented.

## VII. OLD BUSINESS

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- A. Ordinance amending Part 3, Chapter 2, Section 3-2002, of the City Code of Ordinances concerning fees for docking on the seawall at the Henry C. Chambers Waterfront Park - 2nd reading.

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

All were in favor, motion carried.

- B. Ordinance providing for the transfer of authority for conducting City of Beaufort Municipal elections to the Board of Elections and Voter Registration of Beaufort County - 2nd reading.

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

All were in favor, motion carried.

- C. Ordinance repealing Part 7, Chapter 1, Section 7-1010(5) of the Beaufort Code of Ordinances, and enacting in its stead, Part 8, Chapter 1, Section 8-1009, pertaining to passing of items to or from the occupant of a motor vehicle on the roadway - 2nd reading.

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

All were in favor, motion carried.

## VIII. NEW BUSINESS

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- A. Request from USCB to close a portion of Carteret Street on June 8, 2022, from 7:00 am till 11:00 am, for the delivery of a printing press at 602 Carteret Street.

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

Linda Roper, Downtown Operations and Community Services Director, stated that USCB is having a printing press delivered. This is a very heavy piece of equipment that will involve having to block off the south bound lane of Carteret Street to allow a forklift to offload the press from the trailer. It is anticipated that the lane will need to be blocked sometime between 7:00 am until 11:00 am. During this time, they expect to reroute the traffic around the block.

Councilman Lipsitz is concerned about the timing of the request since this is during peak morning traffic.

All were in favor, motion carried.

- B. Authorization to allow the City Manager to enter into a Lease Agreement with Beaufort-Jasper Higher Education Commission for the Bridges Building, 1100 Boundary Street.

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

Bill Prokop, City Manager, reported that the lease is between the City of Beaufort and Beaufort-Jasper Higher Education Commission for the Bridges Building located at 1100 Boundary Street. This lease will start on July 1, 2022, for 5 years, with an option to purchase.

All were in favor, motion carried.

- C. Ordinance approving and authorizing the negotiation and execution by the City Manager of Intergovernmental Agreements with Beaufort County for the imposition and collection of Impact Fees for Parks and Recreation, Transportation and Library Services - 1st reading.

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

Bill Prokop, City Manager, stated that discussions on Impact Fees have been taking place between Beaufort County and other local municipalities since July 2020. There have been several meetings to discuss concerns. Along with the Town of Port Royal's legal counsel, a draft Intergovernmental Agreement has been created. This agreement is for Parks and Recreation Fees. The same template will be used for the Transportation and Library Fees. We are already collecting a Fire Impact Fee. We will not be participating in an EMS Impact Fee.

Reece Bertholf, Deputy City Manager, then went over the Beaufort County Fee proposals. Regarding the Library Fees, they will range between \$225 to \$610. The size of the home determines the fee collected. Parks and Recreation Fees are between \$486 and \$1,319 depending on the size of the home. Mr. Bertholf stated that the Transportation Impact Fee Capital Improvement Plan is a Plan Based approach. Projects are determined by a priority level. This will determine the Impact Fees collected. He stated that the Library and Parks and Recreation Impact Fees will only be charged to residential development. Transportation and Fire Impact Fees will be charged to residential and commercial development.

Mr. Prokop stated that this is only being collected on new construction. This is not a tax collected on property tax bills.

All were in favor, motion carried.

## **IX. REPORTS**

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

Gullah Festival will start Friday, May 27, 2022, and run through Sunday, May 29, 2022, at the Henry C. Chambers Park.

We will have a high school intern this summer that will be working in the Public Works Department. He will be joining us from Battery Creek High School.

A quilt has been made using the Ukraine colors and they will be selling raffle tickets. The quilt will be displayed at City Hall and at the Beaufort Digital Corridor in the next few weeks. 100 percent of the funds will be donated to the Pride of Place for Ukraine.

There will be a Public Hearing on June 14, 2022, along with First Reading for the FY 2023 Budget. Second Reading will take place on June 21, 2022.

Sent well wishes to former Mayor Billy Keyserling who was in a boating accident over the weekend. He thanked Lexie Benton, Ashley Higgins, Mickey Covington, Chris Jarrell, and Tara and Philip Hodges for their assistance in the life saving efforts. Fire Department and EMS staff were also acknowledged.

### **Mayor's Report**

Sent well wishes to former Mayor Billy Keyserling for a speedy recovery. Appreciates all that the Good Samaritans did, along with Emergency Services and Beaufort Memorial Hospital.

Beaufort Children's Theater through the USCB Center for the Performing Arts put on a production of Annie. Appreciates the opportunity given to young minds to develop in the arts and theater.

Is looking forward to attending the Beaufort Regional Chamber of Commerce Legislative Reception.

Memorial Day Parade will take place on Monday, May 30, 2022. Parade begins at 10:00 am.

There will be a Primary held on June 14, 2022. Please remember to vote.

Congratulated Beaufort County on receiving a \$500,000 grant to offer Senior Activities throughout its centers. Was disappointed that the Charles Lind Brown Center was not on that list. The County is opening a day care at the center for the summer. He appreciates this benefit for the County employees but does not like that it is at the expense of the local senior citizens in the area.

**Councilman Lipsitz**

Nothing to report.

**Councilman Cromer**

Will be attending the Lowcountry Council of Government's meeting on Thursday, May 26, 2022.

Monday, June 6, 2022, they will be kicking off the search for Stuarts Town. This will take place at Morrall Park at the corner of Craven and Carteret Streets from 10:00 am - 12:00 pm.

**X. ADJOURN**

**8:30 PM**

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

All were in favor, motion carried.

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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). Any questions, please contact the City Clerk, Traci Guldner at 843-525-7024 or by email at [tguldner@cityofbeaufort.org](mailto:tguldner@cityofbeaufort.org).