



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

February 8, 2022

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

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**7:15 PM**

Mayor, Stephen D. Murray III

All of 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. Fire Department Award Recognition.

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

All were in favor.

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENT**

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No public comment.

**V. MINUTES**

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Worksession and Regular Meeting - January 25, 2022.

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

Minutes approved as presented.

**VI. 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 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading.

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

All were in favor.

## VII. NEW BUSINESS

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- A. Request from Beaufort History Museum for six free parking spaces for the Revolutionary War Reenactment on March 12, 2002, 7:00 am - 6:00 pm.

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

Approval was unanimous.

- B. Co-Sponsorship from First African Baptist Church and First Scots Presbyterian Church to host the Annual Community Easter Sunrise Service in the Henry C. Chambers Park on April 17, 2022, from 7:00 am - 8:30 am.

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

Approval was unanimous.

- C. Co-Sponsorship request by Tidal Creek Fellowship for use of Henry C. Chambers Park to host Easter Festival 2022, on Sunday, April 3, 2022, 12:30 pm - 4:00 pm.

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

Approval was unanimous.

- D. Request for waiver of Ordinances for Drinking in Public and Consumption of Alcohol in Henry C. Chambers Park for private wedding reception on Saturday, April 23, 2022, from 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm.

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

Approval was unanimous.

- E. Request permission for use of the Henry C. Chambers Park and five parking passes for Spring Concert on Saturday, March 5, 2022, from 10:00 am - 4:00 pm.

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

Approval was unanimous.

- F. Resolution for the Beaufort County Connects: Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan 2021 as a supplement to the City of Beaufort Comprehensive Plan.

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

Approval was unanimous.

- G. Authorize the City Manager to execute an agreement with CommunityWorks.

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

Bill Prokop, City Manager, stated that the Beaufort Memorial Hospital has adopted a program for affordable loans for employees to purchase housing through CommunityWorks. Since the funding is coming from the Federal Government, the municipality must be involved. Mr. Prokop said that this money does not belong to the city. We strictly hold the funds, when CommunityWorks requests the funds, we issue a check.

Katie Davenport, CommunityWorks, then went over the agreement for the Homebuyers Assistance Program.

Approval was unanimous.

H. Citizen appointment to the Beaufort County Transportation Advisory Committee.

Mayor Pro Tem, McFee recused himself from discussions and voting.

Motion to appoint Rob McFee to the Beaufort County Transportation Advisory Committee was made by Councilman Cromer and seconded by Councilman Mitchell.

Approval was unanimous.

I. Appointments/Reappointments to Boards and Commissions.

Motion to reappoint Gordon Fritz, Barbara Fariior, and appoint Victoria Bergesen, and Tamala Conner to the Parks and Tree Advisory Committee (PTAC), staggered terms was made by Mayor Pro Tem, McFee and seconded by Councilman Lipsitz.

Mayor Pro Tem, McFee withdrew his original motion and Councilman Lipsitz withdrew his second.

Mayor Pro Tem, McFee made a motion to reappoint Barb Fariior, Gordon Fritz, and appoint Brad Hill, Victoria Bergesen and Tamala Conner to the Parks and Tree Advisory Committee (PTAC), with staggered terms. Councilman Lipsitz seconded the motion.

Approval was unanimous.

## **VIII. REPORTS**

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

Thanked the Public Works Department for finishing two projects that have been ongoing the last couple of years. They installed a gate to hide the compactor location in the Henry C. Chambers Park and installed irrigation at the Evergreen Cemetery.

Reported that Dominion Energy will be cutting Palm Trees that are interfering with the electric wires on Boundary Street and Pigeon Point Road.

There will be a public meeting regarding the Point and Downtown stormwater project findings on Friday, February 18, 2022, beginning at 10:00 am in City Hall.

Reminded everybody that the South Coast Cyber Security Summit will be held at the Tabby Place, March 7 - March 8, 2022. Governor McMasters will be a keynote speaker.

### **Mayor's Report**

Please take a moment to remember the accomplishments of African Americans in the City of Beaufort and across our country as we are in Black History Month.

Announced that the City of Beaufort was one of the eleven municipalities to have 100 percent of their council completing the required training through the Municipal Elected Officials Institute and making the Honor Roll, out of 270 plus municipalities in the state.

### **Councilman Lipsitz**

Stated that he and Councilman Mitchell also attended the Municipal Advanced Institute Economic Development training while in Columbia.

### **Councilman Mitchell**

Reported that Beaufort County will soon be publishing their schedule for the Beaufort County Master Plan Needs Assessment Study.

**Mayor Pro Tem, McFee**

Reported that he attended the Lowcountry Area Transportation meeting last week.

**Councilman Cromer**

Reported that he attended the Beaufort History Museum annual meeting. He stated that they have elected new officers and board members.

Wished everyone a Happy Valentine's Day.

**IX. ADJOURN**

**7:57 PM**

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

All were 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).