



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

April 12, 2022

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**7:16 PM**

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Mayor, Stephen D, Murray III

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

Councilman Cromer was excused after the start of the meeting.

**II. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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Mayor Pro Tem, Mike McFee

**III. PRESENTATIONS**

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Ashley Kellahan, Municipal Association of South Carolina Field Services Manager, presented council with a plaque recognizing all members of council on being graduates of the Municipals Elected Officials Institute of Government.

**IV. PROCLAMATIONS/COMMENDATIONS/RECOGNITIONS**

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A. Proclamation proclaiming April 2022 as Donate for Life Month.

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

All were in favor, motion carried.

B. Proclamation proclaiming April 2022 as Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness Month.

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

All were in favor, motion carried.

C. Proclamation proclaiming April 2022 as Fair Housing Month.

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

All were in favor, motion carried.

**V. PUBLIC COMMENT**

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Councilman Kevin Phillips, with the Town of Port Royal, mentioned that the Soft-Shell Crab Festival will take place this Saturday, April 16, 2022, in Port Royal.

David Bartholomew introduced himself and stated that he would be running for Beaufort County Council, District 2.

## **VI. MINUTES**

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### A. Worksession and Regular Meeting - March 22, 2022.

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

Minutes approved as presented.

## **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

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### A. Request from Second Helpings to serve beer and wine at a private Volunteer Appreciation Event at the Washinton Street Park on Wednesday, May 11, 2022, from 5:00 to 7:00 pm.

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

All were in favor, motion carried.

### B. Request from the Memorial Day Committee to host a Memorial Day Parade on May 30, 2022, from 10:00 - 11:30 am.

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

All were in favor, motion carried.

### C. Request for Co-Sponsorship from Friends of Caroline Hospice to host Release and Remember event in the Henry C. Chambers Park on April 30, 2022, at 11:00 am.

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

All were in favor, motion carried.

### D. Authorize City Manager to enter into a contract for Auditing Services.

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

Alan Eisenman, Finance Director, gave an overview of RFQ 2022-114 for Finance Audit Services, with Mauldin & Jenkins Certified Public Accountants being selected as the most qualified. He stated that they have provided this service to the city for the past 5 years with positive results.

All were in favor, motion carried.

### E. FY-2022 Budget Amendment - 1<sup>st</sup> reading.

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

Alan Eisenman, Finance Director, went over the amendments as they were not included in the original budget for the fiscal year.

All were in favor, motion carried.

## VIII. REPORTS

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

The city has issued 21 new commercial building permits, and 21 new residential home permits since the first of the year. He also stated that 28 new business licenses were issued as well.

Stated that Public Works will be out cleaning storm drains and planting flowers at the intersections throughout the city. Asked for the public's help in identifying those that are doing damage to our parks and other public areas.

Council retreat will be held April 27 - 28, 2022, at the St. Helena Library. The agenda will be posted soon.

The city will be hosting a Public Safety Jobs Fair from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm on May 11<sup>th</sup> and May 14<sup>th</sup> at City Hall, 1911 Boundary Street. All are welcome to attend.

Reported that regardless of what is being said in the media, the city is interested in a solid program for Impact Fees. He stated that we are working with county staff to address our concerns.

Stated that to date, \$52,800 has been raised in the Pride of Place donations for the Ukraine. Thanked Greg Rawls, and Mary and Eric Thibault for their efforts to make and sell Ukraine flag pins. They have raised over \$22,000.00 that is included in the overall total.

### **Mayor's Report**

He is grateful to see the generosity of the community on the donations that have been made for the City of Ostroh. Appreciates all the work done by those that have helped with this endeavor. He also thanked Mary and Eric Thibault, and Greg Rawls, who have made over 700 flag pins from blue and yellow glass that was donated by the Bullseye Glass Company in Oregon.

Recognized Principal Michelle Sackman with Beaufort Elementary School for a very successful Career Day.

There will be a Beaufort Techstars Startup weekend from April 29, 2022 - May 1, 2022, at the new location for the South Coast Cyber Center at 1100 Boundary Street. The Beaufort Digital Corridor is organizing this event.

Hopes to see everyone at the Soft-Shell Crab Festival in Port Royal this Saturday, April 16, 2022.

Congratulated Councilman Lipsitz and Councilman Mitchell on completing their final class of Leadership Beaufort. Applications are being accepted for next year's class. You can contact the Beaufort Chamber of Commerce for more information.

April 27 - 28, 2022, will be the council retreat. It will be held at the St. Helena Library. Victor Dover and Eric Pate with Dover, Kohl & Associates will be facilitating.

Was disappointed to see an opinion editorial in The Beaufort Gazette by the Beaufort County Chairman regarding Impact Fees. From the Mayor's perspective, the municipalities have been engaging in the process. The city is a willing partner because Impact Fees are an important tool.

Wished all a Happy Easter.

### **Councilman Mitchell**

Thanked the Mayor for moderating the talks about Ukraine that were held at USCB.

Stated that Leadership Beaufort is an outstanding program. Encouraged those that have not gone through the program to do so.

**Mayor Pro Tem, McFee**

Reported that the First Friday event was well organized and thanked those that put the event together.

Stated that he attended the Navy Medical Services Met Health Agencies presentation regarding the proposed ambulatory care center at the Marine Corps Air Station.

**Councilman Lipsitz**

Thanked the Police Department for their transparency on their Facebook page by posting a daily activity report.

Stated that he thought he knew everything there was to know about Beaufort having lived here all his life but found out that was not the case. He said if you have not gone through the Leadership Beaufort Program, you should.

**IX. ADJOURN**

**7:51 PM**

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

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).