

A regular meeting of the Beaufort City Council was held on January 27, 2004 at 6:00 p.m. in County Council Chambers, 100 Ribaut Road. In attendance were Mayor Bill Rauch, Mayor Pro Tem Donnie Ann Beer, Councilmen Frank Glover, Billy Keyserling, and the Assistant City Manager Ross Jones. Councilman Gary B. Fordham was in the hospital. City Manager John F. McDonough was attending training with the Marine Corps Reserves. In accordance with South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, Section 30-4-80(d), as amended, all local media were duly notified of the time, date, place and agenda of this meeting.

### **INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Rauch with an invocation by Capt. Harvey Harwell, II, from the Salvation Army. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Mayor.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Libby Barnes**, Chamber of Commerce Executive Director, mentioned the Chamber will be co-hosting a reception in Greenville, Thursday evening, for the national media who will be covering the Presidential debate. She stated the Chamber's objective is to showcase unique features about the economy, history, art, tourism, etc. of the lowcountry. Councilman Keyserling added that Ms. Barnes introduced an economic initiative to the realtors this morning. He asked that she present it to Council at a future meeting and engage the City's support. Ms. Barnes briefly explained it is a health care work force development initiative that they will announce soon and she accepted the invitation to discuss it further.

**Bob Keller**, certified playground safety inspector, said he would like to establish a volunteer committee to produce recommendations for all playgrounds in the City. He listed the following committee volunteers: Martha Lyn Webb and Jim Neighbors, certified accountants; Julian Levin and Reeve Sams, attorneys; Charlie Webb, Robert DeLoach, and Owen Webb, civil engineers; Merit Patterson, contractor; Kinghorn Insurance executive; Edie Rodgers and Becky Trask, garden club representatives; and himself. Regarding the existing playground at the Waterfront Park, he said the playground design by Leathers was not in compliance with the Consumer Product Safety Commission's Guidelines because there were not clear sight lines for supervision. The committee wants to be sure that does not occur again nor do they want the playground removed if a standard can be provided to upgrade it. Also, concerned with the existing drainage problem, he asked if it existed before the playground was built. He asked, too, if the entire playground would have to be moved or could a portion be relocated. Additionally, the committee is concerned that the restaurant selling liquor is too close to the playground. The mayor advised Mr. Keller the appropriate time to raise these issues would be during the scheduled workshops for the Waterfront Park. He asked Mr. Keller to send a letter listing the committee members.

### **MINUTES: SPECIAL MEETING - JANUARY 7, 2004**

The minutes of the January 7, 2004 special meeting of City Council were reviewed and the following changes were made on page 1, 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph under Recommendations by Architect, "point" should be past tense; page 2, 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph, last line, replace the last nine words with "even though this will do away with the service access that is there now"; and on page 4, 4<sup>th</sup> line from the

bottom of the page, Mr. Glover's name was spelled incorrectly.

On motion by Councilman Keyserling, second by Councilman Glover, Council voted to adopt the minutes of the special City Council meeting of January 7, 2004 as amended.

### **WATERFRONT PARK - COMMUNITY FORUM SCHEDULE**

The Planning Director, Libby Anderson, stated Council asked staff to present a plan to obtain additional input for the Waterfront Park renovation project. In response, staff is proposing two community forums be held in March with preparations being made during February, she said. The agenda would begin with a history of the Park project, reviewing the master plan prepared by Sasaki and Associates and comparing that to the updated plan by ColeJenest and Stone noting the changes and reasons. Then hold a discussion of the four elements of the project that have received the most comments which are the architecture for the proposed buildings, the proposed materials for the site work, the furniture selection, and the Scott Street plan. The two forums would be the same but held two weeks apart to accommodate everyone. Staff is proposing the forums be videotaped and broadcast on WJWJ as an additional means of public education and input. The results of the forums would be presented to Council for a decision on those elements discussed. The results could then be presented to the Historic Review Board if Council so desires. Two dates in March are being considered beginning at 5:30 until 7:30 p.m. The mayor recommended holding the forums on a Tuesday and a Thursday. Different locations were suggested depending on availability. Councilman Keyserling also suggested discussing the fountain as a fifth element. The mayor also added the playground as a discussion item.

### **REQUEST TO CLOSE STREET**

A request from the Baptist Church of Beaufort to close a portion of Charles Street between Prince and King Streets on the evening of July 2, 2004 for a patriotic concert was presented to Council.

On motion by Councilwoman Beer, second by Councilman Keyserling, Council approved the request, subject to review and approval by the SC Department of Transportation with traffic control provided by the City's police department.

### **ORDINANCE REVISING SECTIONS OF THE UDO**

An ordinance amending The Unified Development Ordinance revising Sections 5.1 "Use Tables," 5.2 "Use Categories," 5.3 "Specific Use Standards," 5.4 "Accessory Uses," 6.5 "Measurement and Exceptions," 7.2 "Sign Regulations," 7.5 "Off-Street Parking and Loading Standards," and 9.2 "Nonconforming Structures." was presented to Council for first reading.

Ms. Libby Anderson, City Planner, reviewed the eleven revisions to the ordinance explained during the public hearing on January 13<sup>th</sup> stating no other changes have been made.

**Dave Radford** noting the various changes recently proposed to the UDO, said a lot of money was paid for a review of the zoning ordinance to be updated under the Unified Development Ordinance and the planning staff is continuously finding items left out. He asked if the document is defective, shouldn't the consultant be responsible. Ms. Anderson stated, in her opinion, the City received a great value for the number of visits the consultant made and still responds to their questions about interpretation. She added that she tries to clarify wording to eliminate confusion and until a Section

is used and applied, oversights are not discovered.

Councilman Keyserling moved to approve the ordinance on first reading. Councilwoman Beer gave second. The motion passed unanimously. (Copy of ordinance at end of these minutes.)

### **MOTION TO ADD ITEM TO AGENDA**

Councilman Glover made a motion to amend the agenda to add an item.

### **SOUTHSIDE PARK COMMITTEE**

The mayor reminded Council that a couple of weeks ago, they were asked to consider applicants for the Southside Park Committee for tonight's meeting so the members could be notified and meet with the Water Authority at the wastewater sewage plant next Monday for a site visit.

Since the resolution to establish this ad hoc committee has not been prepared, the mayor suggested passing it by title only. Councilman Glover moved to consider the appointments tonight so the members can tour the area to be developed into Southside Park. Councilman Keyserling gave second.

The mayor said the committee should report to Council in six month with recommendations on which buildings the B-JWSA should demolish and which could remain as Park structures. The members are as follows: the mayor recommended Ron DeYoung, Ms. Beer's appointment is Lisa McFee, Councilman Glover asked Connie Hipp to serve, and Councilman Keyserling had three suggestions but had not had an opportunity to speak to any one of them. Councilman Fordham's recommendation will be named later.

Councilman Keyserling recommended Mr. DeYoung not be appointed until he resigns from the Parks Utilization Advisory Commission. The mayor pointed out that as a courtesy to Councilman Fordham, the ordinance dissolving the PUAC has been delayed since December 23rd. He added that the chairman of PUAC resigned and is now serving on another board. They are no longer holding meetings. Councilman Glover stated the committee reviewed and made recommendations specifically on the Waterfront Park. After talking with Councilman Fordham, he now thinks it would be wise to dissolve the Commission. Council concurred. Councilman Keyserling proposed an open space committee be created at a later date to assist Council in the acquisition of open space.

The mayor suggested tabling the motion on the floor creating the Southside Park Committee and dissolve the PUAC. Councilman Glover moved to table the discussion of the resolution establishing the Southside Park Committee. The vote was unanimous.

### **ORDINANCE DELETING SECTIONS REGARDING PUAC**

An ordinance amending Sections 3-3100 through 3-3204 dissolving the Parks Utilization Advisory Commission was presented to Council for first reading during the December 23, 2003 meeting but Council chose to delay a decision at Councilman Fordham's request.

Councilman Glover made a motion to approve the ordinance on first reading. Councilwoman Beer gave second.

Councilman Keyserling restated that he will encourage Council to select another group at a later date to continue the items under their purview.

Council unanimously approved the ordinance on first reading. (Copy of ordinance at end of these minutes)

### **RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE SOUTHSIDE PARK COMMITTEE**

On motion by Councilman Glover, second by Councilwoman Beer, Council adopted a resolution, by title only, establishing the Southside Park Commission.

Councilman Keyserling questioning whether it should be a commission or an advisory committee, moved to amend the motion to name the group the Southside Park Planning Advisory Committee. Councilwoman Beer gave second. The motion passed unanimously.

Council adopted the resolution, by title only, establishing the Southside Park Planning Advisory Committee for a period of six months with Ron DeYoung, Lisa Mcfee, and Connie Hipp as three of the five members.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

The Assistant City Manager reported the executive director of the Greater Beaufort Chamber of Commerce asked earlier this month for the City to serve as a sponsor for the reception in Greenville that she commented on at the beginning of the meeting. Today, she called his office and stated the brochure is going to the printer and they had not received a response from the City. Therefore, with that deadline, he authorized the expenditure of \$500.00 for the sponsor's fee which will be paid through the Contingency Fund.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

The mayor reported he received a copy of a letter from SCDOT to Representative Catherine Ceips stating the speed limit on Ribaut Road from the signal light at Allison Road to Verdier Road will be reduced from 45 mph to 35 mph.

### **REPORTS BY COUNCIL**

**KEYSERLING:** Councilman Keyserling reported he and the mayor met with the advisory committee on the design center. They are working toward establishing a 501 (C) (3) status and finding a fiscal agent. Their next meeting will be on January 5<sup>th</sup> at noon in the Planning Department. Ms. Anderson, Planning Director, added that Stroud Watson, founder and Director of the Chattanooga Planning and Design Studio will be making a presentation on February 4 at 10:00 a.m. at the Planning Department.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

On motion by Councilwoman Beer, second by Councilman Glover, Council voted to move into executive session for a briefing on a land acquisition matter and an appointment to the Beaufort Public Art Commission.

### **OPEN SESSION**

**Beaufort Public Art Commission**

Upon returning to Open Session, Councilman Keyserling moved to appoint Joan Templer as the Beaufort Art Association's representative on the Beaufort Public Art Commission for a term of one year. Councilman Glover gave second. The motion passed unanimously.

**Capital Projects Commission** On motion by Councilwoman Beer, second by Councilman Glover, Council appointed Mayor Bill Rauch to represent them on the Capital Projects One Cent Local Option Sales Tax Commission.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

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BILL RAUCH, MAYOR

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COUNCILWOMAN DONNIE ANN BEER

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COUNCILMAN FRANK GLOVER

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COUNCILMAN GARY B. FORDHAM

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COUNCILMAN BILLY KEYSERLING

ATTEST:

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BEVERLY W. GAY, CITY CLERK