

A regular meeting of the Beaufort City Council was held on June 8, 2004 at 6:00 p.m. in County Council Chambers, 100 Ribaut Road with a workshop at 5:00 p.m. In attendance were Mayor Bill Rauch, Mayor Pro Tem Donnie Ann Beer, Councilmen Frank Glover, Gary B. Fordham, Billy Keyserling, City Manager John F. McDonough. 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.

WORKSHOP

A workshop was held to review the recommendations prepared by the Waterway Commission. The Chairman, Marvin Dukes, began with a summary of the ***establishment of anchorage areas and mooring fields***. Three areas were defined for anchorages and mooring fields in order to organize and regulate vessels which might stay overnight. The number of mooring balls needed would depend on the types used and the size of boats allowed; the economy would determine how many were purchased. He suggested beginning with twenty-five but recommended the City work with the Harbor Master to decide on the exact number. The City Manager stated the staff would meet with the Harbor Master to determine the cost and consult the Coast Guard for their approval before installing them. Mr. Dukes suggested several methods of payment for use of the mooring balls. Rick Griffin, City's Downtown Marina Dock Master, has agreed to the position of ***Harbor Master***. He would have the ability to give warnings to violators and it is understood that position is unpaid. There was a recommendation that ***Live-aboards*** be defined to clarify the ordinance. A vessel would be determined a live-aboard if it is occupied within the City limits for more than 90 days a year. They would be permitted on mooring balls or in marinas but not on anchor in the harbor. This recommendation would require an ordinance change if approved. ***Transient vessels*** are those boats that have current registration or documentation and anchor in the anchorages for less than 90 days. Fifteen points were developed as regulations for review by the City Attorney, he said. ***Unattended vessels*** are those unoccupied vessels, with current registration that would be stored, other than live-aboard or transient vessels. This section was geared toward boats that would be towed and left unattended that could become a problem. Three regulations are recommended for incorporation into the current ordinance. ***Abandoned vessels*** have the potential to create environmental havoc as they often drift from their moorings causing substantial economic damage. The Commission recommends, because of search and seizure problems, the City Attorney contact the Coast Guard and OCRM when preparing regulations related to these vessels. The consensus of the Commission is that additional ***Daydock*** space is needed to accommodate local boaters and day trippers. Three restrictions are recommended by the Commission for the existing daydock. The first being a four hour use-limit for the outside portion which would prevent boaters from monopolizing the dock. Alternatives for additional daydocks were suggested with Alternative "A" being the Commission's choice. However, the concern seemed to be that the view at the seawall would be blocked. Henry Chambers attended the final meeting of the Commission and proposed Alternative "C" which would involve a general Westward expansion of the Beaufort Downtown Marina and possibly converting the innermost West section of the existing Marina to Daydock use only. By extending the current floating docks, the lost dockage would be replaced. It was noted there are grants available for marina expansion.

Council concurred with the recommendations presented and advised Mr. Dukes that he would be

notified when they are completed.

Councilman Glover arrived at 5:55 p.m.

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting was opened at 6:00 p.m. with an invocation by Mayor Pro Tem Donnie Beer. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Mayor.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Henry Robertson, chairman of the Marine Rescue Squadron, expressed the Squadron's concerns with drifting vessels. He stated they can no longer move abandoned boats because of the liability. Their primary obligation is to save people not boats even though they realize they can be a hazard to navigation. He said if there is a way to limit their liability they will retrieve the abandoned vessels. The mayor suggested this be presented to the Commission.

Julie Zachowski urged Council to consider the library impact fee when considering the traffic impact fee. The Beaufort County Library, even though it is a great facility, is twelve years old and in need of renovations.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

A public hearing was held to receive public comment on *the proposed Capital Improvements Plan for Transportation Projects* being considered for the Transportation Impact Fee Program. A Notice of Public Hearing was duly published in The Beaufort Gazette on May 8, 2004. The City of Beaufort-Town of Port Royal Joint Municipal Planning Commission recommended approval.

Buzz Boehm spoke to Council on the potential reinstatement of the Northern Beaufort County Transportation Impact Fee Ordinance. Giving a brief history, he said the Impact Fee Ordinance for roads was initially created by the County in 1999. It was repealed in August of 2000 for North Beaufort County only. This proposed plan and ordinance is an effort to reinstate the impact fees for roads in Northern Beaufort County. The Impact Fee Program has been developed through and in accordance with the enacting State Legislation known as the South Carolina Development Impact Fee Act or SC Code 6-1-910. It enables the County to enact and impose road facility development impact fees based on growth. It consists of three parts: the County Capital Improvements Plan for roads (CIP), an Impact Fee Ordinance implementing the Plan, and the Intergovernmental Agreement between the City, the Town of Port Royal, and the County, he said. The computer model, TransPlan, projected vehicular impact based on the anticipated growth. The data was found to be within standards and indicated 115,474 new traffic trips on the roadway network between 2004 and 2025. According to the law, future or anticipated deficiencies are eligible for road impact fees, not existing road deficiencies. The total cost of funding these projects is estimated at \$17,435,000. He outlined portions of the ordinance and the Intergovernmental Agreement and answered questions from Council.

There being no other comments, the public hearing was closed at 6:30 p.m.

A public hearing was held to receive public comment on the *City's FY05 Budget*. A Notice of Public Hearing was duly published in The Beaufort Gazette on June 8, 2004.

The City Manager presented his proposed budget for FY05 to Council noting there are no tax or fee increases, a 1.9% COLA for City employees, funding for 2.5 new positions for the recycling program that will begin in August, ½ position for the Stormwater Utility Program, a new position for the Information Technology, and funding for a part time employee in the Human Resources Department. The General Fund is balanced at \$10,291,505.

Henry C. Chambers asked how much money is budgeted for the Waterfront Park renovations. The City Manager noted that funding is included in the Parks and Tourism Fund as the project budget has not been finalized.

Paul Summerville, Pigeon Point Road, asked for a clarification on the Fire Department's request. The City Manager responded it refers to the purchase of a fire truck.

There being no other comments, the public hearing was closed at 6:50 p.m.

A public hearing was held to receive public comment on revising *Section 5.5 of the UDO specifying that carnivals and circuses are only permitted in the Limited Industrial District and revising Section 11.2 adding the definition of "Tattoo facility."* A Notice of Public Hearing was duly published in The Beaufort Gazette on May 24, 2004. The City of Beaufort-Town of Port Royal Joint Municipal Planning Commission recommended approval but asked that the City bring back a specific definition of a fair.

Libby Anderson, Planning Administrator, explained the first revision pertains to changing where a carnival, circus, or fair can be located. Staff will prepare and present the definition of a fair at a future meeting, she said. The definition of tattoo facility is being addressed in the amendment of Section 11.2 with the wording being taken from State law.

There being no other comments, the public hearing was closed at 6:52 p.m.

A public hearing was held to receive public comment on *parking recommendations* presented by Main Street Beaufort, USA. A Notice of Public Hearing was duly published in The Beaufort Gazette on June 6, 2004.

Ross Jones, Finance Director, stated two weeks ago, Martin Goodman presented Main Street Beaufort's parking recommendations to Council. Staff was asked to review those recommendations and bring a report back to Council. Staff recommends implementing the sixteen recommendations endorsed by Main Street. He added that some recommendations do require an ordinance change. There is a financial impact to the implementation; however. It would be necessary to purchase 225 meters @\$300 each and the parking cards, software, etc. would be \$8,100. Staff also recommends parking fines be reviewed. Any changes made would require an amendment to the ordinance.

Brantley Harvey, said it appears the three way stop on Scott Street along with the signal lights will slow traffic tremendously. He objects to adding a 3-way stop at that intersection.

Peter White said he supports the recommendations regarding the reserved spaces at the Waterfront Park because they are currently underutilized. This would relieve a lot of parking problems, in his

opinion.

There being no other comments, the public hearing was closed at 7:10 p.m.

A public hearing was held to receive public comment on the *Waterway Commission's recommendations*. A Notice of Public Hearing was duly published in The Beaufort Gazette on June 6, 2004.

Roger Alley, Commission member, stated of all the recommendations presented by the Commission, by being on the Waterway, the daydock expansion would benefit Beaufort the best and bring a lot more business downtown which is why they were formed. Of the three options proposed for the daydock, he is of the opinion that placing it on the sea wall, Option "A", would be more visible to passing boaters and bring the visitors to the center of the downtown area. He urged Council to consider the options along with the grants available for financing.

Don Hinton agreed that there is a need for a larger daydock but not in front of the seawall. People enjoy the view and the breeze and would not want it blocked.

Jill Bratland, Main Street Beaufort, USA, said they support the position of Harbor Master as well as the expansion of the day dock.

There being no other comments, the public hearing was closed at 7:23 p.m.

MOTION TO SUSPEND ORDER OF AGENDA

Councilman Keyserling moved to suspend the regular order of the agenda. Councilman Glover gave second. The motion passed unanimously.

TMAC RECOMMENDATIONS - TOURISM MANAGEMENT ORDINANCE

The revised Tourism Management Ordinance was presented at the last Council meeting for second reading and adoption but tabled in order for the major changes to be reviewed by the Tourism Management Advisory Commission.

Matt Horne, Assistant to the City Manager, and Millie Boyce, TMAC Chairman, addressed the ordinance and policy recommendations. TMAC met this morning and recommendations from that meeting apply to horse carriages, he said. The first change Section 7-11046, TMAC suggests defining "Special Events". Staff recommended increasing the number of carriage companies licensed to operate to six. TMAC requested there be no more than two. Under Section 7-11063, the title was reworded; and a Section entitled "Group Tours" was added. Ms. Boyce said they believe there should only be two carriage companies and the rotation should remain as they recommended.

Sharon Groves, Cuthbert House Inn, expressed her concerns with expanding the use of carriages downtown. Since Christmas, the problem of the horses relieving themselves on Church Street has increased and it is becoming very offensive. She has spoken to the TVC, consulted Vets, consoled tourists, spoken to the carriage companies all in an effort to solve the problem. She has been told the horses are not allowed to stop, but they do and that is when they relieve themselves, out of habit. She suggested retraining the drivers and locate a shady, quiet area away from the residential

neighborhood where the carriages can stop. She asked Council not to add any more carriages but to try to resolve the existing problem.

Paul Summerville, Pigeon Point, said on Sunday morning he notices the street by St. Helena's Episcopal Church reeks of that smell.

Brantley Harvey, Point resident, said he is opposed to expanding the number of companies to six because of the traffic congestion. He endorses the limitation to two.

The City Manager pointed out that the ordinance allows for four carriages to be in operation at any time and for an additional two to transport to and from the loading area.

Councilman Keyserling moved to adopt the ordinance on second reading. Councilwoman Beer gave second.

Councilman Keyserling stated carriages are limited to three departures an hour; however, companies were contracting with tour buses for extra tours so it circumvented the original intent of "special." He moved to accept the definition regarding Special Events as proposed by TMAC and insert "Prearranged tour to accommodate a one time non-recurring special occasion such as a wedding party, non profit organization, celebration, or convention. Large bus tours and boat tours shall not constitute a special event." Councilwoman Beer gave second. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Keyserling moved to amend Limitations on Business Licenses, Section 7-11047, to read "no more than two bona fide carriage companies shall be licensed to operate in the City". Councilman Fordham seconded the motion.

Steve Allen, Dixie Carriage Company, argued how would capacity be effected with the number of companies because there will still be the same number of rotation slots. Councilman Keyserling replied that more carriages would add to the management process and six companies are not necessary. Ms. Boyce noted that the Committee listened to what the people had to say about the number of carriages. If there are more carriages, each will have less riders. It is important to control tourism so the residents can have the quality of life they deserve; therefore, carriages, buses and walking tour companies have been limited.

The motion to limit the companies to two passed unanimously.

Councilman Keyserling proposed an amendment to Section 7-11067. Rotation Slots, defining rotation slots as a three year commitment with the Council setting the fees, carriages exempt from the queuing system, the allocation of the rotation slots, the administration of rotation slots, limitations on business licenses and a definition to determine what is bona fide. In October of the 3rd year, the City would advertise for people who are interested in purchasing a rotation slot through a sealed bid process with a minimum price based on what would be determined to monitor the industry. Bona fide operators are to be defined to indicate that no one person owns all the companies. The fees will be set by Council and begin on January 1st. Point to point carriages would not be part of the queuing system. A discussion regarding the sale of a company included transferring the license with the sale because it would be an asset of the company since they paid

for it. Councilwoman Beer seconded the motion.

Peter White said he agrees with the TMAC recommendations. He anticipated running his business as long as possible and does not understand how someone can out bid them in three years. This would create a financial burden. Councilman Keyserling said there will only be two licenses issued and the process being discussed is the eligibility for that license. Council thought the best way for the business to survive would be to impose a limit of two companies. Now, it seems people think this is an entitlement for life but others should be given an opportunity to compete, he said.

Rose White stated TMAC recommended that the 36 month rotation slot would not go to sealed bid but based on the company's performance they would be allowed to renew that license. If the license was revoked because of demerits, the next person in line would be given the opportunity to purchase a slot. Regarding Point to Point tours, she said in the previous ordinance it was not referred to as tours but transportation. Council agreed and stated it would be changed.

Paul Summerville strongly disagreed that a person could have a monopoly in perpetuity and supported what Council stated.

Sharon Stewart asked how a person could borrow money to run a business if at the end of three years they could not continue. The mayor said the opinion of the people who attended the TMAC meeting was that they could make their money back in three years.

Peter White said he did not recall that discussion.

Councilman Glover expressed his concern with regulating this industry differently. People who enter a business expect a long term investment not just to recover their initial investment. Councilman Keyserling said if there are six companies it would make it more difficult to succeed. This ordinance was created twelve years ago because of problems with public safety and integrity of the neighborhood. It is being revised to ensure it meets the original intent. Councilman Fordham agreed with having only two companies but disagreed with the three year limit. Councilman Keyserling stated an annual review was discussed stating too many violations would cause their license to be revoked. Additionally, Council is awarding the opportunity to operate a carriage company as long as they perform their function.

Councilman Keyserling moved to amend **Embarkation/Rotation Slots** by changing tours to transportation in Section D and in Section J, prohibiting the transfer. Councilman Glover gave second.

Councilwoman Beer moved to assess the maximum fine allowable under state law if there is a collusion. Councilman Keyserling gave second. The motion passed unanimously.

Council members Keyserling, Fordham, Beer, and Rauch voted in favor of the amendments as set out by Councilman Keyserling. Councilman Glover voted nay. The motion passed 4 to 1.

Marti Calder, Carolina Buggy Tours, asked how group tours pertaining to bus and boat tours were to be handled. The mayor stated they were not addressed. Ms. Calder asked how they were to fulfill

their contracts that have been executed through 2006. The mayor suggested explaining the ordinance has been changed.

Henry Chambers it seems this would come under public safety and should be handled the same as any other business. He observed that a regulation could simply be placed on the carriages that spills must be cleaned before the close of the business day or the City Manager will issue demerits. The trolley does not cause those problems, he said.

Walter Gay, Sandlapper Tours, said the ordinance still prohibits his type of bus, one part in particular states that the height of the vehicle that can conduct tours in the Point is limited to under ten feet. The City's fire and garbage trucks, as well as delivery trucks, exceed the 10 foot requirement. He asked Council to revisit that requirement for the Historic District since the limits are set by the State.

Steve Greenberger said he is impressed that the public is allowed to participate in the discussions. He complimented TMAC for developing good recommendations and stated he endorses their recommendations. The welfare of the city and the people should be considered along with the business people.

Councilman Glover noted the letter from TMAC dated March of 2003 recommending the word trolley be removed from the ordinance still has not been addressed. Ms. Boyce replied a vote was taken at a meeting when all the members were not present to remove the word trolley from the original ordinance. When it was brought up another meeting for discussion, the members voted to leave the wording as it is. Mr. Glover moved to amend the ordinance to remove trolley from theme vehicle in the ordinance. Councilman Fordham gave second.

Mr. Glover said this is a good means of transportation through the Historic District and is used in many other areas. People have told him they would like the trolley and carriages to remain in Beaufort. Councilwoman Beer said most of the people she spoke to in the Point did not want the trolley because of the diesel fuel smells and because it and the carriages stop in front of their houses. Councilman Fordham said it seems to him that the trolley would be a better mode of touring than the carriages.

Sharon Groves pointed out a lot of older people who visit Beaufort do not want to ride the carriage or have to step up to get in a carriage. The green and red bus is not restricted to the same route and provides a different tour with air conditioning. She recommends it be kept as an alternative method of touring because it is very effective and popular with her guests.

Paul Summerville said it sounds as though the Point residents had negative comments about the horses as well as the bus. He beseeched the three Council members who voted against the bus to reconsider their position and be more open minded.

Marti Calder reminded Council there is one legitimate bus company in the City who provides a legitimate tour authorized through the City. They also accommodate the older guests.

Walter Gay said he has been hired by nine residents of the Point to transport them to different

events. He said he runs a legitimate, regulated tour and urged Council to change their opinion and remove trolley from the ordinance.

Councilman Keyserling said this is about the integrity of the ordinance. His concern is that if an exception is made for one theme vehicle, there will be others who will approach Council.

Councilmen Glover and Fordham voted in favor of removing trolley from the description of theme vehicles. Council members Beer, Rauch, and Keyserling voted nay. The motion failed 3 to 2.

Council members Beer, Rauch, Keyserling, and Fordham voted in favor of adopting the ordinance on second reading as amended. Councilman Glover voted nay. The ordinance was adopted 4 to 1. (Copy of ordinance at end of April 20, 2004 minutes.)

BREAK

Council took a ten minute break.

TDAC FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS - FY 2004 GRANT MONIES

Thirteen agencies submitted applications to the Tourism Development Advisory Commission on May 20, 2004 for the funding period July 1, 2003 - June 30, 2004 resulting in a recommendation by the Committee for: (1)City of Beaufort, repayment of Performing Arts Center Loan-\$8,000; (2)Guild of Beaufort Galleries, Spring & Fall Gallery Art Walk-\$2,500; (3)Historic Beaufort Foundation, Joint Brochures Promotion-\$8,000; (4)USCB, Promotion for Festival Series-\$10,000; (5)Exchange Club, Ghost Tours/CAPA donation-\$1,500; (6)Beaufort Art Association, Gallery Season 03-04-\$2,500; (7)Lowcountry Tourism Commission, Promotion Beaufort & Low Country-\$7,000; (8)Arts Council of Beaufort County, Promotional Materials-\$15,000; (9)Main Street Beaufort, USA, Marketing Advertising Campaign-\$6,700 and Downtown Special Events-\$13,300; (10) Greater Beaufort Chamber of Commerce, Tourism Advertising Promotion- \$15,000 and Visitors Center Operations-\$10,000; (11)Penn Center, Marketing/Video & Brochures-\$7,000; (12)Gullah Festival, Gullah Festival-\$5,000; (13)Lowcountry Shakespear, Production of Comedy of Errors-\$2,400. These recommendations were presented to Council for approval and funding.

On motion by Councilman Keyserling, second by Councilwoman Beer, Council unanimously approved the TDAC's recommendations totaling \$113,900.

ORDINANCE REVISING HISTORIC DISTRICT REVIEW BOARD, MEMBERSHIP, TERMS AND COMPENSATION

The ordinance revising the membership requirements for the Historic District Review Board and amending Section 2.7 of the UDO was presented to Council for second reading and adoption.

Councilman Keyserling made a motion to adopt the ordinance on second reading. Councilwoman Beer gave second.

Henry Chambers urged Council not to change the ordinance pertaining to the composition of the Historic Beaufort Foundation's member on the HRB as they are the only organization in this community that is interested in the historic preservation of Beaufort .

Helen Harvey asked Council to consider retaining a member of the Foundation on HRB.

Alice Seeburg, former member of the Historic District Review Board, agreed with both of the previous speakers. She added that the HBF appointees were always the most informed and asked Council not to remove the Foundation's appointment from the HRB.

Bill Cobb said he served on the HRB twelve years and requested Council consider keeping one appointed member from the HBF. He said if recommendations are accepted and approved from Main Street Beaufort two times, Historic Beaufort Foundation members will be eliminated from the Board.

Councilwoman Beer stated the proposed change gives HBF and Main Street the opportunity to submit names for more than one member. Council realizes the importance of the people who serve on this Board being qualified. Councilman Keyserling added that Council actually makes the appointments to boards and commissions; however, HBF prefers to make one recommendation as opposed to submitting five.

Mr. Keyserling moved to change the proposed revision to reflect that one member of HBF's Board of Directors shall be recommended for appointment to the Beaufort Historic District Review Board. Councilwoman Beer gave second.

MOTION TO EXTEND MEETING

Councilman Glover made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Beer, to extend the meeting beyond 10:00 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

CONTINUATION OF DISCUSSION REGARDING MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

Council voted unanimously to adopt the amended ordinance revising the membership requirements on the Historic District Review Board on second reading. (Copy of ordinance at end of the May 25, 2004 minutes)

ORDINANCE ADOPTING FY2005 BUDGET

An ordinance adopting a budget for the City of Beaufort for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2004 and ending June 30, 2005 was presented to Council for first reading.

Councilman Keyserling moved to approve the ordinance on first reading. Councilwoman Beer gave second.

Councilman Fordham, referring to the health premiums, stated the City pays 100% of the employees health insurance premiums and moved to reduce the COLA from 1.9% to 1.5% and apply that amount toward the Contingency Fund to offset health benefit increases. The City Manager replied that the employees should not be penalized because of rising health care costs. When Mr. Fordham asked why the COLA is not the same percentage as the amount used by the Social Security Administration, the Finance Director explained Social Security is set by Congress separately and the CPI used by the City and the Wall Street Journal is provided by the Department of Labor. The motion died for lack of a second.

Councilman Glover questioned the new FTD's in the budget especially the hiring of a full time second person for the Information Technology. The City Manager explained the workload has expanded so that the system cannot work efficiently with only one person.

Council unanimously approved the ordinance adopting the FY2005 budget. (Copy of ordinance at end of these minutes)

PROCLAMATION - HARRIET TUBMAN

On motion by Councilwoman Beer, second by Councilman Glover, Council unanimously adopted the proclamation recognizing Harriet Tubman for her service during the Civil War in the Beaufort area.

WATERWAY COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS

Councilwoman Beer moved to implement the recommendations presented by the Waterway Commission which includes instructing the City Manager to work with the Harbor Master and the Coast Guard on appropriate numbers and locations of permanent moorings; request the City Attorney to develop a "live aboard" ordinance; work with the City Attorney on the 15 points related to transient boaters; work with the City Attorney to develop wording for "unattended vessels" and "abandoned vessels" in the ordinance; and ask the staff to meet with the Downtown Marina's Dock Master regarding the daydock recommendations. Councilman Glover gave second.

Councilman Keyserling noted that Council does support the concept of the daydock recommendations.

The motion passed unanimously.

ORDINANCE AMENDING UDO REGARDING CARNIVALS, CIRCUSES, AND TATTOO PARLORS

An ordinance amending Sections 5.1, 5.3, and 11.2 of the UDO to permit tattoo facilities was presented to Council for first reading.

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.)

ORDINANCE SETTING ELECTION DATES AND FILING FEE

An ordinance was presented to Council for first reading establishing the dates and filing fees for the 2004 City General election for two members of City Council and the mayor's seat pursuant to Sections 1-8002 through 1-8006 of the City's Code of Ordinances.

On motion by Councilman Keyserling, second by Councilman Glover, Council voted to approve the ordinance on first reading setting a filing fee of \$150.00 for candidates for the two council seats and \$250.00 for the mayor's position and related dates for the municipal election of November 2, 2004, as follows:

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|----|--|----------------|
| 1. | Publish Notice of Election | July 26, 2004 |
| 2. | Publish 2 nd Notice of Election | August 3, 2004 |

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|----|---|---------------------------------|
| 3. | Filing Deadline for Statement of Candidacy
and Statement of Economic Interest | September 3, 2004
12:00 NOON |
| 4. | Election Date | November 2, 2004 |
| 5. | Challenge Ballot Hearing | November 5, 2004
11:00 a.m. |
| 6. | Newly Election Officers Take Office
(Copy of ordinance at end of these minutes.) | December 14, 2004 |

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY TASK FORCE

The resolution establishing a Medical Technology Task Force was deferred to the next Council meeting. Council members are to submit names of candidates for discussion at that meeting.

JOYNER STREET

During the last Council meeting, Council approved, by unanimous vote, the sale of the 8.08 acre tract of land known as the Joyner Street property (a/k/a Elliott Street, Hermitage Road, Hundred Pines). Libby Anderson, Planning Director, addressed the length of the deed restriction to be attached to the property and suggested that it be limited to ten years. Outlining the reasons, she said the entire neighborhood could change during the next decade as the railroad is no longer being used and could be changed to a road or trail. Additionally, there is an abandoned building in the area that could become an art center which would affect the character of how the property is developed and the new residents may welcome higher density.

Councilman Fordham agreed there are no restrictions on the rest of the neighborhood at this time because they have expired but the neighborhood has not changed. Ms. Anderson pointed out that future owners of the property should be entitled to the same property rights as other owners in the area. She suggested allowing a provision that if the zoning requirements for the entire area change that would supercede the deed restrictions. Councilman Keyserling, stating the residents were promised this tract of land would remain consistent with the neighborhood, asked how that can be accomplished and that it remain residential with no more than 15 houses being built on the property.

Councilman Glover moved to set a twelve year restriction of no institutional use with 15 residential lots. Councilwoman Beer gave second. Council members Beer, Glover, and Rauch voted in favor of the motion. Councilmen Fordham and Keyserling voted nay. The motion passed 3 to 2.

MINUTES: REGULAR MEETING - MAY 11, 2004

The minutes of the regular City Council meeting of May 11, 2004 were deferred to the next Council meeting.

MINUTES: REGULAR MEETING - MAY 25, 2004

The minutes of the regular City Council meeting of May 25, 2004 were deferred to the next Council meeting.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

The City Manager reported he was notified today by DHEC that they have approved the work plan for environmental assessment at the City's Boundary Street property. The assessment is scheduled

for the week of June 21, 2004.

SCDOT approved the request submitted by numerous residents in the Point for a speed reduction and will post 25 MPH signs on the residential streets.

With the Hurricane Season beginning, William Winn from the County will give an update on the evacuation plan at the June 22nd Council meeting. On that same day, Beaufort County Emergency Management along with the local law enforcement will perform a dry run for the Highway 21 lane reversal.

The Legislature approved a 20% cap on reassessment. This will delay the mailing of the tax notice for three months.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 10:50 p.m.

BILL RAUCH, MAYOR

COUNCILWOMAN DONNIE ANN BEER

COUNCILMAN FRANK GLOVER

COUNCILMAN GARY B. FORDHAM

COUNCILMAN BILLY KEYSERLING

ATTEST:

BEVERLY W. GAY, CITY CLERK