

A special meeting of the Beaufort City Council was held on November 16, 2005 at 6:00 p.m. in the City Hall Conference Room, 302 Carteret Street with an executive session beginning at 5:30 p.m. In attendance were Mayor Bill Rauch, Mayor Pro Tem Frank Glover, Council members Donnie Ann Beer, Gary B. Fordham, George H. O'Kelley, Jr., 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.

CALL TO ORDER

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion by Council woman Beer, second by Councilman Glover, Council moved into executive session to interview three candidates for the Historic Review Board.

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Upon returning to open session, the meeting was opened at 6:10 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance led by the Mayor.

ORDINANCE SUSPENDING USE OF METERS FOR HOLIDAYS

The ordinance temporarily suspending the use of the parking meters in the downtown area and thereby temporarily suspending enforcement of Part 8, Chapter 2, Section 8-2001 of the City's Code of Ordinances was presented to Council for second reading and adoption.

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

The City Manager stated the issue of bagging the 8-hour meters was brought to his attention by the staff. There are approximately 68 permits belonging to people who have paid the \$30.00 monthly fee to park in those spaces; therefore, he is recommending waiving the fee for the month of December for those people. Additionally, the 2-hour limit will only pertain to the 2-hour parking spaces.

Councilwoman Beer amended her motion to include the City Manager's recommendations. Councilman Glover seconded the motion.

Council voted unanimously to adopt the ordinance on second reading. (Copy of ordinance at end of the November 8, 2005 minutes)

ORDINANCE REVISING UDO BY CHANGING THE DEFINITION OF "REDEVELOPMENT" & "REDEVELOPMENT CORRIDOR"

The ordinance amending Section 11.2 of the Unified Development Ordinance "Define Terms", by changing the definition of "Redevelopment" and "Redevelopment Corridor" was presented to Council for second reading.

Councilwoman Beer made a motion, seconded by Councilman Glover, to adopt the ordinance on second reading. The ordinance was adopted unanimously. (Copy of ordinance at end of the November 8, 2005 minutes)

ORDINANCE REVISING UDO TO ALLOW CARGO CONTAINERS TO BE USED AS TEMPORARY STORAGE FACILITIES

The ordinance revising the Unified Development Ordinance allowing cargo or freight storage containers to be used as temporary storage facilities under certain conditions was presented to Council for second reading and adoption.

Libby Anderson, City Planner, stated the changes approved at the last meeting have been made. She noted that a permit would be necessary and would be used to track the 3 month period.

Councilman Glover moved to adopt the ordinance on second reading. Councilwoman Beer seconded the motion.

Ms. Anderson pointed out currently there is no fee associated with the permit but suggested a \$25.00 fee for the temporary permit. Councilman Glover said they shouldn't be temporary as the key is that they not be visible from the street. Also, when the fee is addressed, the amount should be per unit, he said.

Councilman Glover made a motion to amend the ordinance by removing the word "temporary" from the ordinance. Councilman Fordham gave second.

After a brief discussion, Councilmen Glover and Fordham voted in favor of the motion to amend. Council members Beer, Rauch, and O'Kelley voted nay. The motion failed 3 to 2.

Council adopted the ordinance on second reading unanimously. (Copy of ordinance at end of the November 8, 2005 minutes)

The City Manager noted that this amendment was initiated by Walmart asking for a ninety day period.

ORDINANCE ANNEXING PROPERTY NORTH OF SC 170

The ordinance annexing a 10-acre parcel of property located off S.C. 170 near its intersection with Goethe Hill Road, identified as District 100, Tax Map 28, Parcel 123, was presented to Council for second reading and adoption.

A motion was made by Councilman Glover and seconded by Councilwoman Beer to adopt the ordinance on second reading. Council unanimously adopted the ordinance on second reading. (Copy of ordinance at end of November 8, 2005 minutes)

ORDINANCE ZONING PROPERTY LOCATED NORTH OF SC 170

The ordinance zoning a 10-acre parcel of property located off S.C. 170 near its intersection with

Goethe Hill Road, identified as District 100, Tax Map 28, Parcel 123 to General Residential District was presented to Council for second reading and adoption.

On motion by Councilman Glover, second by Councilwoman Beer, Council adopted the ordinance on second reading. (Copy of ordinance at end of November 8, 2005 minutes)

ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A QUIT CLAIM DEED REGARDING LOTS 80 & 81 OF 100 PINES S/D

The ordinance authorizing the City Manager to enter into a Quit Claim deed regarding the western halves of Lots 80 & 81 of the Hundred Pines Subdivision was presented to Council for second reading and adoption.

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

Councilman O'Kelley said after reviewing the changes, the deed appears to be in compliance and conveys the property back to the Trask heirs.

Council unanimously adopted the ordinance on second reading. (Copy of ordinance at end of November 8, 2005 minutes)

REQUEST FOR CITY TO CO-SPONSOR CHRISTMAS PARADE

A request by the Main Street Beaufort, USA Executive Director for the City to co-sponsor the Christmas parade on December 4, 2005 beginning at 3:00 p.m. was presented to Council for approval.

Councilwoman Beer moved to approve the request. Councilman Glover gave second.

Councilman Glover questioned whether the City should pay the \$5.00 application fee to participate in the parade. The Main Street Beaufort, USA Executive Director stated that since the City is the co-sponsor no fee would be required.

Council unanimously approved the request.

REQUEST TO CLOSE STREET FOR GROUND BREAKING CEREMONY

A letter from Patterson Construction, Inc. was presented to Council requesting the corner of Harrington and Calhoun Streets be closed on November 17th from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. for a ground breaking ceremony for the new Teen Center for the Boys and Girls Club of Beaufort was presented to Council.

On motion by Councilman Glover, second by Councilwoman Beer, Council unanimously approved the request.

RESOLUTION RENAMING PIGEON POINT BOAT LANDING PARK

A resolution renaming Pigeon Point Boat Landing Park to Roger Pinckney X Park was distributed to

Council for adoption.

On motion by Councilwoman Beer, second by Councilman Glover, Council adopted the resolution renaming Pigeon Point Boat Landing Park to Roger Pinckney, X Park. (Copy of resolution at end of these minutes)

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

The City Manager reported on the following items:

1. In reply to a question raised by the Mayor earlier in the day, the City Manager said the **percentage of the balance of assessed value between residential and commercial in the City** is 64% residential and 36% commercial. The Mayor stated during a planning session this morning, someone said a healthy community is 70% residential property tax based and 30% commercial property tax based.
2. Referring to a question raised at the last meeting about the **roundabout workshop trip**, the City Manager responded that the total cost of the traffic engineer's trip, including air fare, registration, and lodging was \$964.56. No consulting fee or per diem was charged. Had he charged the City to come to Beaufort to do this work, at his hourly rate, would have been \$1,600 with a total cost of \$2,100.
3. Lisa Hill, Parks Superintendent, briefed Council on the **status of the improvements of Pigeon Point Park** at the request of the City Manager. New sewers have been installed, new water lines, irrigation lines, and electric lines for a fountain in the future. Demolition of the old driveway and grading was performed by the Public Works Department. The information for bidding for the driveway, parking, and walkways will be completed Monday. The walkways are to be constructed of the brick salvaged from the Waterfront Park, she said. At this point \$20,000 has been expended. In unison with the neighborhood, several play structure companies were considered and the company Big Toys was selected for the playground equipment. The age groups will be divided into two categories; 5 to 12 year olds and 2 to 5 year old children. The equipment will be placed in four play areas as shown on the Master Plan and a playground safety inspector will review the plan. Councilwoman Beer said one question asked at the neighborhood association meeting was if the bricks could be sold with names engraved on them in order to purchase luxury items. The City's cost would be \$12.50 each and it was suggested to sell them at \$37.50 a piece according to Ms. Hill. She shared the City Manager's comments that if the citizen group wants to chair this fund raiser, the City would support it. Ms. Beer said they only need to know the process and how to develop the forms. Ms. Hill said they anticipate the project being completed by the end of March.
4. David McSweeney, Waterfront Park Construction Project Manager for the City, provided an update on the **progress of the Waterfront Park**, at the request of the City Manager. Via a power point presentation, Mr. McSweeney showed the many existing conditions requiring renovations. The Marina Sea Wall is well underway and the 106 steel piles have been hydro blasted and coated with epoxy and then back filled. Storm drainage is one of the major components of the project and is being upgraded in size with the intent of minimizing the number of sea wall penetrations. Also, grading of the park is necessary for drainage. He stated the storm drainage is approximately 20% completed and the Marina seawall is 50% completed.

MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor said he was questioned today about the condition of **trees in the Waterfront Park** and if

they are being watered. Ms. Hill replied the City's Tree Board has walked through the Park and checked on the trees. The period of drought was a concern; however, the recent rain did help. She said a percentage of the trees may be lost over time because it is a construction zone even though everything possible has been done to preserve and protect them.

The Mayor referred to another item related to Parks. Ms. Hill presented a sketch showing some possible changes to the **Park at King and East Streets**, referred to as Point Pond Park. Pointing out a retaining wall, she said she was asked to consider elevating the Park. She is suggesting raising it about two feet with steps at a corner entrance. Benches, trees, and a fountain will be included. He also reported that the Sea Island Presbyterian Church is leading the effort in the adoption of **Long Beach Mississippi** for Christmas. There are 1500 children in the schools there and two towns have adopted them giving 750 children for each town. A form is being distributed in Long Beach through the schools for the parents to write down three gifts for that child and return to the school. The church is looking for donor families through a "reverse angel tree" to buy the gifts. The donor family will be contacted with the list of items once the list is received from the school. They would like to place one of the trees in City Hall through December 9th. The Mayor asked if that could be done. Council approved the placement of the angel tree in City Hall.

REPORTS BY COUNCIL

GLOVER: Councilman Glover reported several of Council participated in the Veteran's Day parade on Friday, November 11th. He commended the Public Works staff for preparing the float Council used. Mr. Glover said he would like Council to make more use of the float..

BEER: Councilwoman Beer wished everyone a happy thanksgiving and a safe holiday. She said the float looked like it had been done professionally.

O'KELLEY: Councilman O'Kelley stated two Council members walked in the Veterans Day Parade.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion by Councilman Glover, second by Councilman O'Kelley, Council moved into executive session to discuss an appointment/reappointment to the Historic Review Board and a Land Acquisition Matter.

OPEN SESSION

Historic Review Board

Upon returning to Open Session, Councilman O'Kelley moved to appoint Mike Sutton to fill the unexpired term on the HRB expiring in term. Councilwoman Beer gave second. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

BILL RAUCH, MAYOR

COUNCILWOMAN DONNIE ANN BEER

COUNCILMAN FRANK GLOVER

COUNCILMAN GARY B. FORDHAM

COUNCILMAN GEORGE H. O'KELLEY, JR.

ATTEST:

BEVERLY W. GAY, CITY CLERK