

A regular meeting of the Beaufort City Council was held on April 24, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. in the Friend's Room at the Arsenal on Craven Street. In attendance were Mayor Bill Rauch, Mayor Pro Tem George H. O'Kelley, Council members Donnie Ann Beer, Gary B. Fordham, Mike Sutton, and City Manager Scott Dadson. 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 6:00 p.m.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The invocation was given by Councilwoman Donnie Ann Beer. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Mayor.

### **PROCLAMATION**

On motion by Councilwoman Beer, second by Councilman O'Kelley, Council unanimously adopted the proclamation designating April as Child Abuse Prevention Month in the City.

**Angel Flewelling** from the Child Abuse Prevention Association passed out blue ribbon pins to the Council members which represents that April is Child Abuse Month. She also gave a brief description of her association and why the Child Abuse Month is so important.

### **RESOLUTION**

On motion by Councilwoman Beer, second by Councilman O'Kelley, Council unanimously adopted the Resolution commending Roy Matthews for serving on the Zoning Board of Appeals. (Copy of resolution at end of these minutes)

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Tim Cieplowski of Maryland Fried Chicken** said he thought he was supposed to be here tonight about the sign ordinance. The Mayor said it's not on the agenda but he could speak to the Council about his sign. Mr. Cieplowski said he has estimates for the signs from two people. The City Manager asked the Mayor if Mr. Cieplowski should appear before the Design Review Board. Councilman O'Kelly said no because Council was waiting for him to come back with them. Mr. Sutton agreed with Mr. O'Kelley. The City Manager gave Mr. Cieplowski his card and asked him to call him to get on an agenda for City Council.

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

A public hearing was held to receive comments on the Proposed Municipal Budget for the 2008-2009 Fiscal year.

The Mayor opened the floor for public comment. There was no public comment.

## **MINUTES**

The minutes of the regular City Council meeting of April 8, 2008 were presented to Council for review. Councilman O'Kelley noted on page 4 in the second paragraph, that the last name of the gentleman (Mike) who spoke is "*Kling*". Councilman Sutton, noted on page 11 under his report in the third sentence that it needs to be reworded to say, *Mr. Sutton asked, does the City have any options to have the graffiti removed or repaired.*

On motion by Councilwoman Beer, second by Councilman Sutton, Council unanimously approved the minutes as amended.

## **ORDINANCE SETTING ELECTION & FILING FEES FOR MAYOR & COUNCIL**

An ordinance setting election, related dates, and filing fees for the Mayor and two members of City Council was presented for first reading.

The City Manager briefly spoke.

Councilwoman Beer made a motion, second by Councilman Sutton, to set a \$150 fee for Council members and \$250 for the Mayor and also that they include the filing dates as set by law. Council unanimously approved the ordinance. (Copy of Ordinance at end of these minutes)

## **ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF GO BONDS**

An ordinance providing for the issuance of General Obligation bonds in the amount of \$15,000,000 was presented for first reading.

On motion by Councilman Sutton, second by Councilwoman Beer, Council approved the ordinance on first reading. (Copy of ordinance at end of these minutes)

## **ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE CITY'S FY09 BUDGET**

An ordinance adopting the City's fiscal year 2009 budget was presented for first reading.

Councilwoman Beer moved to approve the ordinance on first reading. Councilman O'Kelley seconded the motion.

### **Further Discussion:**

Mr. Sutton said he would like to see the Parks and Tourism Fund fine tuned before the second reading. Shirley Hughes from the City Finance Department asked that Council let her know ahead of time.

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

## **ORDINANCE SETTING THE TAX LEVY**

An ordinance providing for the levy of taxes for FY09 in the amount of fifty-two and eight tenths (52.8) was presented for first reading.

On motion by Councilwoman Beer, second by Councilman Fordham, Council approved the ordinance on first reading. (Copy of ordinance at end of these minutes)

**RESOLUTION DECLARING THE CITY'S INTENT TO REIMBURSE**

A resolution was presented to Council declaring the City's intent to reimburse itself with the proceeds of the borrowing for any of the expenditures incurred by it prior to the issuance of the borrowing.

Councilwoman Beer moved to approve the resolution. Councilman Fordham seconded the motion.

Shirley Hughes from the City Finance Department spoke.

Council unanimously approved the resolution. (Copy of resolution at end of these minutes)

**RESOLUTION ADOPTING A 5-YEAR FINANCIAL PLAN**

A resolution adopting a 5-year financial plan and a Capital Improvement Plan was presented to Council.

Councilwoman Beer moved to approve the resolution. Councilman Fordham seconded the motion.

Shirley Hughes from the City Finance Department spoke.

Council unanimously approved the resolution. (Copy of resolution at end of these minutes)

**RESOLUTION PROVIDING AN APPROPRIATE ALLOCATION OF THE GENERAL FUND BALANCE**

A resolution changing the allocation for emergencies and Land Acquisition to include an amount for replacement reserves for vehicles and equipment and to create and maintain a Redevelopment Incentive Fund was presented to Council.

Councilwoman Beer made a motion, seconded by Councilman Fordham, to approve the resolution.

**Further Discussion:**

The Mayor asked about the threshold. Ms. Hughes said 4 months unreserved. The Mayor asked, for the General Fund only? Ms. Hughes said, yes. The Mayor referred to last year's budget and said he's afraid there will be no money for vehicles. Ms. Hughes said there will be money because we will be doing what we're doing now.

Council voted four to one with Mayor Rauch opposed. (Copy of resolution at end of these minutes)

### **RESOLUTION SETTING RATES FOR BILLING OUTSIDE AGENCIES**

A resolution setting rates for billing outside agencies was presented to Council.

Shirley Hughes from the City Finance Department said she is asking to allow an adjustment in the benefit rate. The Mayor said she was very thorough.

On motion by Councilwoman Beer, second by Councilman Fordham, Council moved to approve the resolution. (Copy of resolution at end of these minutes)

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

The City Manager, Scott Dadson, said he was put on notice by Open Land Trust not to hang banners on Bay Street & Ribaut Road since they control the conditions on this property. He said the City has ceased hanging banners and \$5,200 in fees has been returned. He said the one condition in the agreement between the City with the Open Land Trust is that the City maintained the lawn. The Mayor suggested hanging the banners on the fence of the municipal complex construction site. Mr. Dadson said he couldn't think of any other sites that the city maintains and controls that could be used. The City Manager stated anyone having problems with this, should contact the Open Land Trust.

**Carlotta Ungaro from the Chamber of Commerce** said they have space on their lot on Carteret that could be used. **Joy Locke from Main Street** said she can put some banners up too if people call her.

Council agreed that if they can put the banners on the fence, then it should be done.

Councilman O'Kelly said a letter should be written to the Open Land Trust to ask them to attend a Council meeting or workshop. The City Manager said he will take care of this.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

The Mayor spoke about inviting the clerk of court candidates to an interview at the next council meeting.

### **COUNCIL REPORTS**

**SUTTON:** Mr. Sutton asked for a status of the Waterfront Park. He said a repair and maintenance plan is needed.

**BEER:** Ms. Beer talked about the 4,000 Army Reservists. She said she was there on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday during the exercise and she kept hearing how well our governments work together. She said it was nice to hear.

**O'KELLEY:** Mr. O'Kelley commented about the political signs that are in the right-of-ways. He said they need to be removed because they are driving hazards.

**FORDHAM:** Mr. Fordham had nothing to report.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

On motion by Councilwoman Beer, second by Councilman O’Kelley, Council voted to move into executive session pursuant to Title 30, Chapter 4, Section 70(a)(2) of the South Carolina Code of Laws to discuss negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements, a personnel matter, a land acquisition or sale matter, and the appointment/reappointments to the Tourism Development Advisory Commission and the Design Review Board.

**OPEN SESSION**

**Tourism Development Advisory Commission**

Upon returning to Open Session, Councilwoman Beer moved to appoint Jack Reynolds to serve a 3-year term on the TDAC. Councilman Sutton seconded the motion. This term will expire April, 2011. The vote was unanimous.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

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BILL RAUCH, MAYOR

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COUNCILWOMAN DONNIE ANN BEER

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COUNCILMAN GARY B. FORDHAM

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COUNCILMAN GEORGE H. O’KELLEY, JR.

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COUNCILMAN MIKE SUTTON

ATTEST:

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BEVERLY W. GAY, CITY CLERK