STATEMENT OF MEDIA NOTIFICATION

"In accordance with South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, Section 30-4-80(d), as amended, all local media was duly notified of the time, date, place and agenda of this meeting."

REGULAR MEETING - Council Chambers, 2nd Floor - 7:00 PM

Please note, this meeting will be broadcasted via zoom and live streamed on Facebook. You can view the meeting at the City's page: City Beaufort SC

I. CALL TO ORDER
   A. Philip Cromer, Mayor

II. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
   A. Mayor Pro Tem, Michael McFee

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

IV. MINUTES
   A. Worksession and Regular Meeting - April 9, 2024

V. NEW BUSINESS
   A. The Tabernacle Baptist church is requesting to host the unveiling of the Harriet Tubman Memorial at 901 Craven St on Saturday, June 1, 2024. They are requesting a street closure on Craven Street from Charles to West Street from 7am to 7pm
   B. Request for street closures from Project Freedom 326 to host a parade on June 16, 2024, from 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm
   C. An ordinance to amend The City Code of Ordinances, to add a new Section 9-1018; Providing that a person who violates another with the intent to intimidate another person or persons in whole or in part because of the actual or perceived race, color, creed, religion, ancestry, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical or mental disability, or national origin of the other person or persons is guilty of the separate offense of Hate Intimidation - first reading

VI. REPORTS
   • City Manager's Report
   • Mayor Report
   • Reports by Council Members

VII. ADJOURN
City Council Worksession  
Meeting Minutes – Planning Conference Room – 1st Floor  
April 9, 2024

I. **Call to Order**  

Philip Cromer, Mayor  


II. **Discussion**

A. **Interviews of applicants for Boards, Commissions and Committees - Historic District Review Board.**  

City council held a question and answer session with all the applicants.

Maxine Lutz, Kim Petrella, Katherine Pringle, and Wayne Reynolds.

Some were not able to make this session and will be interviewing on May 14, 2024.

B. **Hospitality Tax Fund recommendations.**

Alan Eisenman, Finance Director, spoke about City Ordinance 7-13003(2) that speaks to how these funds are to be used for advertising to increase tourism and revitalization of the downtown economy. All those that apply must be non-profit organizations. The allocation this year is $28,600.00. 7 proposals were submitted totaling $89,649.00.

Mr. Eisenman, along with Linda Roper, Downtown Operations and Community Service Director, and JJ Sauve, Assistant City Manager, then went over the recommendations for disbursement of the funds, how they came to those figures, and answered questions from Council.

Councilman Mitchell would like to see some funds given to the Penn Center even if their event is not being held downtown.

Councilman Scallate, inquired about how the scoring between the Downtown Merchants Association and the Beaufort Area Hospitality Association materialized.

Consensus was to re-evaluate the figures before moving forward.

C. **Ordinance amending Part 8, Chapter 2, Section 2-2003, of the City Code of Ordinances concerning vehicle and property removal.**

Stephanie Price, Interim Police Chief, gave background information as to why the assessment and updating of this section of the ordinance involving the removal of vehicles and property was necessary to ensure uniformity. She stated that the proposed language and
fee schedule were taken from the South Carolina Highway Patrol’s towing standards. She then responded to questions from Council.

Representatives from various towing companies addressed Council with their concerns, and how the proposed changes would impact their businesses.

Greg Felver, Felver Transport.
Michael Louder, Interstate Towing.
Kenneth Cairnes, Hubba Bubba Towing.
Vince Samillano, V & E Towing.
Sonya Guinn, East Coast Collision and Recovery.

Staff will reach out to the towing companies and meet with them about their concerns before moving forward.

D. An ordinance to amend the City Code of Ordinances to add Section 9-1018, providing that a person who violates another with the intent to intimidate another person or persons in whole, or in part, because of the actual or perceived race, color, creed, religion, ancestry, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical or mental disability, or national origin of the other person or persons, is guilty of the separate offense of hate intimidation.

JJ Sauve, Assistant City Manager, started off by saying that the State of South Carolina is only one of two states that currently does not have a state statute or code addressing hate crimes. There are 9 cities/towns across the state that have adopted local hate crime ordinances. The proposed language used to make these recommended changes to Section 9, were taken from the Towns of Bluffton and Hardeeville.

Scott Marshall, City Manager, stated that the City passed a resolution last year in support of the Hate Crimes Bill, even though the bill did not pass. He indicated that many of the local municipalities have taken it upon themselves to pass their own versions of the hate crimes ordinance.

Council’s questions and concerns were addressed by Interim Police Chief Price and Mr. Sauve.

Council is comfortable with the language as written.

III. ADJOURN 6:37 PM

Disclaimer: This document is a summary. All City Council Worksessions and Regular Meetings are recorded. Live stream can be found on the City’s website at 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.

In accordance with South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, Section 30-4-80 (a)(d)(e), as amended, notification of regular meetings was given at the beginning of the calendar year. A copy of the agenda was posted on the City’s bulletin board and website www.cityofbeaufort.org twenty-four hours prior to the meeting. A copy of the agenda was given to the local news media and requested public on file.
I. **CALL TO ORDER** 7:00 PM

Philip Cromer, Mayor


II. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Bishop Alden Hathaway, St. Helena’s Episcopal Church.

III. **PROCLAMATIONS/COMMENDATIONS/RECOGNITIONS**

A. **Character Education Proclamation** - Isaac Daugherty, Lady’s Island Middle Schoole.

   *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 2024 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 17, 2024 as Ray Stocks Day.***

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

   All were in favor, motion carried.*

IV. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment.

V. **MINUTES**

A. **Worksession - March 19, 2024.**

   *Motion to approve was made by Councilman Lipsitz and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem, McFee.*
Minutes approved as presented.

B. Worksession and Regular meeting - March 26, 2024.

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

Minutes approved as presented.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. Ordinance authorizing the execution and delivery of an easement for the placement of utility infrastructure for real property known as Calhoun Street by the City of Beaufort to Dominion Energy of South Carolina, Inc. - second reading.

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

First reading was held on March 26, 2024. There have been no changes made since first reading.

All were in favor, motion carried.

B. An ordinance to annex property on Harding Street, Parcel R100 029 00B 0057 0000 into the City of Beaufort pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. 5-3-150(3) - second reading.

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

First reading was held on March 12, 2024. There was a second reading on March 26, 2024, where a motion to postpone the vote was made and passed. No changes have been made since these readings.

The following address Council:

Josh Tiller, JK Tiller Associates - Land Planner.
Angela Lopatka, 18 Harding Street.

The motion passed by a vote of 4-1. Mayor Cromer was not in favor.

C. An ordinance amending the City of Beaufort Zoning District Map to include Parcel R100 029 00B 0057 0000, to be zoned T4-N, as noted herein - second reading.

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

First reading was held on March 12, 2024. No changes have been made since first reading.

John Torrens, 62 Harding Street, addressed Council.

The motion passed by a vote of 4-1. Mayor Cromer was not in favor.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Request from St. Peter’s Catholic Church to conduct a Eucharistic procession and co-sponsorship on Sunday, June 2, 2024, from the Catholic Church on Lady’s Island to the Henry C. Chambers Waterfront Park, and then proceed to the Catholic Church on Carteret Street.

Motion to approve was made by Councilman Mitchell and seconded by Councilman Scallate.
All were in favor, motion carried.

B. The Beaufort Jasper County Realtors request approval for a waiver of the food truck ordinance, a waiver of the noise ordinance, and a waiver for alcohol, and drinking in public, for a member only event at the Whitehall Park on Thursday, May 30, 2024, from 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm.

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

All were in favor, motion carried.

C. USCB requests a waiver of the food truck ordinance to host a food truck event for the students in the USCB lot at 1100 Boundary Street on Friday, April 29, 2024.

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

All were in favor, motion carried.

D. Resolution adopting Priority Community Development Needs.

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

JJ Sauve, Assistant City Manager, went over the order in which the City has prioritized the top 5 community development needs. This order is the same as last year. He stated that we have 3 block grants that are ongoing at this time and cannot apply for another until one comes off.

All were in favor, motion carried.

VIII. REPORTS

City Manager’s Report

Stated that the abandoned sail boat has been removed from the Waterfront Park Day Dock.

Thanked all that helped in making the First Friday event a success.

Said that the new Airport Road section at Lost Island Road is now operational.

Reminded citizens that Hurricane Season is approaching, and now is the time to start thinking about their plans.

The worksession on April 23, 2024, will be devoted to the Fiscal Year 2025 budget. First reading on the budget is scheduled for May 14, 2024.

The Taste of Beaufort will be taking place at the Waterfront Park, May 3 - 4, 2024.

Mayor’s Report

Congratulated Ray Stocks on his upcoming 100th birthday.

Updated Council on the various meetings he had attended.

Councilman Mitchell

Wednesday, April 10, 2024, at TCL, the second annual Let History Speak Celebration will take place starting at 6:30 pm.

Mayor Pro Tem, McFee
Nothing to report.

**Councilman Scallate**

Thanked citizens for attending tonight’s meetings.

Participated in cleaning up a property along with members of the Northwest Quadrant and Old Commons Neighborhood Association members.

**Councilman Lipsitz**

Went to the Ann Frank Museum in Columbia, SC. Would like to see the exhibit travel to Beaufort.

Members of Council attended the Robert Smalls Birthday Celebrations.
Members of Council attended the Ribbon Cutting for the Magnolia Cafe.
Members of Council attended Kid Fest.
Members of Council attended the First Friday event.

**IX. ADJOURN** 7:52 PM

Motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Lipsitz and seconded by Councilman Scallate.

All were in favor, motion carried.

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CITY OF BEAUFORT
DEPARTMENT REQUEST FOR CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM

TO: CITY COUNCIL  DATE: 4/16/2024
FROM: Ashley Brandon
AGENDA ITEM TITLE: The Tabernacle Baptist church is requesting to host the unveiling of the Harriet Tubman Memorial at 901 Craven St on Saturday, June 1, 2024. They are requesting a street closure on Craven Street from Charles to West Street from 7am to 7pm
MEETING DATE: 4/23/2024
DEPARTMENT: Downtown Operations

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:
The Tabernacle Baptist church is requesting to host the unveiling of the Harriet Tubman Memorial at 901 Craven St on Saturday June 1, 2024. They are requesting a street closure on Craven Street from Charles to West Street from 7am to 7pm for ample time for set-up and tear down,

PLACED ON AGENDA FOR: Action

REMARKS:
Staff recommends approval

ATTACHMENTS:
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<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Harriet Tubman unveiling</td>
<td>Cover Memo</td>
<td>4/16/2024</td>
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Ashley E. Brandon
Downtown Manager & Events Coordinator

Dear Ms. Brandon,

The Tabernacle Baptist Church is planning the unveiling of the Harriet Tubman Memorial at 901 Craven Street on Saturday, June 1, 2024. We would like to request the street closure between Charles and West Street from 7:00AM to 7:00PM for this event.

We look forward to the unveiling of the Harriet Tubman Memorial in Beaufort, South Carolina.

Thank you for assisting us with this historic event.

Should there be any questions, I can be reached at (843)441-1628 or lybensons@aol.com.

Again Thanks!

Sincerely,

Kenneth F. Hodges
5K RUN/WALK APPLICATION
City of Beaufort-Downtown Operations & Community Services
Attn: Andrea Hackenberger-Downtown Manager & Events Coordinator
500 Carteret Street, Suite B2 Beaufort, SC 29902
Phone: (843) 379-7063 / Email: events@cityofbeaufort.org | www.cityofbeaufort.org

To be filed NOT LESS than 150 days before event

- Fee: $25.00 non-refundable application fee is payable when the application is submitted
- Run/Walk Route: City of Beaufort has a standard route in place that everyone must follow

Name of Applicant: Tabernacle Baptist Church
Address: 901 Craven Street Phone #: (843) 441-1658
Email: Lybensons@AOL.com

Name of Sponsoring Organization: Tabernacle Baptist Church
Address: 901 Craven Street Beaufort, SC 29902

Date of 5K Run/Walk: June 1, 2024
Time of 5K Run/Walk will Begin: 7:00 AM Time of 5K Run/Walk will Terminate: 7:00 PM
Time 5K Run/Walk Line-Up Begins: 7:00 AM Location(s) of Line-Up Area(s):
Approximate Number of Persons, Animals in the 5K Run/Walk:

5K Run/Walk will occupy all the width of the streets to be traversed:
5K Run/Walk will occupy only a portion of the width of the streets to be traversed:

OFFICE USE ONLY: Application received by: Date Received:
Receipt #: Approved By:

NOTE: IF THE 5K RUN/WALK IS DESIGNED TO BE HELD BY AND ON BEHALF OF OR FOR ANY PERSON OTHER THAN THE APPLICANT, THE APPLICANT FOR SUCH PERMIT SHALL FILE A LETTER FROM THAT PERSON WITH THE CITY MANAGER AUTHORIZING THE APPLICANT TO APPLY FOR THE PERMIT ON HIS BEHALF.

Signature of Applicant: [Signature] Date: 4/15/24
CITY OF BEAUFORT
DEPARTMENT REQUEST FOR CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM

TO: CITY COUNCIL
FROM: Ashley Brandon
DATE: 4/16/2024

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Request for street closures from Project Freedom 326 to host a parade on June 16, 2024, from 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm
MEETING DATE: 4/23/2024
DEPARTMENT: Downtown Operations

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:
Request from Project Freedom 326 to host a parade on June 16th, 2024 from 2pm-4pm. The parade is a One Community: Different Neighborhoods parade. They have agreed to do the usual parade route for this event.

PLACED ON AGENDA FOR: Action

REMARKS:
Staff recommends approval

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<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Project 326 parade</td>
<td>Cover Memo</td>
<td>4/16/2024</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project 326 letter</td>
<td>Cover Memo</td>
<td>4/16/2024</td>
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Please Check One: □ Public Assembly Request  □ Parade Request

Name of Applicant: Marlisha Robinson & Tiana Parker

Address: 60 Sheldon Dr Phone #: 843-271-7759 843-263-4040

Name of Sponsoring Organization: PROJECT FREEDOM 326

Address: PO BOX 326 SHELDON SC 29941

PUBLIC ASSEMBLY: $25.00 non-refundable application fee is applied when 50 or more in attendance

Date of Public Assembly: ___________ Time Assemble will begin: ________________

Location of Assembly Area: ____________________________

Type of Public Assembly (including description of activities): ____________________________________________________

Description of Recording Equipment, sound amplification equipment, banners, signs, or other devices to be used: ________________________________________________________________

PARADE: $25.00 non-refundable application fee is payable when the application is submitted

Date of Parade: 6/16/24

Time Parade Will Begin: 2pm Parade will Terminate: 4pm

Time Parade Line-Up Begins: 12pm Location(s) of Line-Up Area(s): 1801 Duke St/Harmar

Route Proposed (Giving Starting & Termination Points): United Church 1801 Duke St to Hamar St, to Boundary St, Carteret St, Bay St, Bladen St, Washington ending at 1801 Duke St.

Approximate Number of Persons, Animals & Vehicles Constituting Parade: 150 to 200 people 50 to 75 vehicles, 6 to 10 animals

Parade Will Occupy All of the Width of the Streets to be Traversed all of the width

Parade Will Occupy Only a Portion of the Width of the Streets to be Traversed ____________________________

Interval of Space between Units in Parade: 35ft to 45ft

NOTE: IF THE PARADE IS DESIGNED TO BE HELD BY AND ON BEHALF OF OR FOR ANY PERSON OTHER THAN THE APPLICANT, THE APPLICANT FOR SUCH PERMIT SHALL FILE A LETTER FROM THAT PERSON WITH THE CITY MANAGER AUTHORIZING THE APPLICANT TO APPLY FOR THE PERMIT ON HIS BEHALF.

Signature of Applicant: ___________________________ Date: 3/29/24

OFFICE USE ONLY: Application Received By: ______________ Date Received: _______ Receipt #: __________

Approved By: ______________
March 29, 2024

Subject: Request for Parade Permit - Project Freedom 326 One Community: Different Neighborhoods Parade

Dear Honorable Mayor and City Council Members,

We hope this letter finds you in good health and high spirits. On behalf of Project Freedom 326, a community-driven initiative dedicated to fostering unity and celebrating diversity, we humbly request permission to host the One Community: Different Neighborhoods Parade in Beaufort.

Event Details:

- **Name:** Project Freedom 326 One Community: Different Neighborhoods Parade
- **Date:** June 16, 2024
- **Time:** 2:00 PM (Eastern Standard Time)
- **Starting Lineup:** noon at United Church (1801 Duke St., Beaufort, SC)
- **Parade Route:** From 1801 Duke St., proceeding along Boundary St., Carteret St., and Bay St., and concluding back at the starting point.

Intent and Purpose: Our parade is more than a procession; it symbolizes our shared commitment to unity, understanding, and respect. We aim to:
- **Celebrate Diversity:** Showcasing the rich tapestry of cultures, backgrounds, and traditions within our community.
- **Stand United:** Shoulder to shoulder, we demonstrate that our collective strength lies in our togetherness.
- **Bridge Connections:** The parade serves as a bridge, connecting neighbors, businesses, and organizations across Beaufort.

Project Freedom 326 is unwavering in its dedication to creating an environment where everyone feels welcome, regardless of race, religion, or ethnicity. We believe that our differences enrich our community, and this parade is a testament to that belief. We kindly request your approval for this event, which promises to be a joyous celebration of our shared humanity. We assure you that all necessary safety measures will be implemented, and we will work closely with local law enforcement and emergency services.

Thank you for your consideration. We eagerly await your favorable response.

Sincerely,

Marlisha Robinson
Project Freedom 326, Executive Director

Tiana Parker
Project Freedom 326, Mental Health Events Coordinator
TO: CITY COUNCIL  DATE: 4/10/2024
FROM: JJ Sauve and Stephenie Price

AGENDA ITEM TITLE:
An ordinance to amend The City Code of Ordinances, to add a new Section 9-1018; Providing that a person who violates another with the intent to intimidate another person or persons in whole or in part because of the actual or perceived race, color, creed, religion, ancestry, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical or mental disability, or national origin of the other person or persons is guilty of the separate offense of Hate Intimidation - first reading

MEETING DATE: 4/23/2024
DEPARTMENT: City Managers Office

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

South Carolina is one of only two states, the other being Wyoming, that does not have a state statute or code addressing hate crimes. Several cities and towns across the state have taken it upon themselves to enact local ordinances addressing this issue. Staff recommends that Council, join these other communities in adopting the proposed ordinance adding a hate crime offense to Section 9 of the City Ordinances.

PLACED ON AGENDA FOR: Action

REMARKS:

Staff recommends adoption of this ordinance.

This was discussed in worksession on April 9, 2024.

ATTACHMENTS:
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<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Proposed Hate Crime Ordinance</td>
<td>Backup Material</td>
<td>4/15/2024</td>
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ORDINANCE NO. 2024 – ___

CITY OF BEAUFORT, SOUTH CAROLINA

TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE CITY OF BEAUFORT, SOUTH CAROLINA, TO ADD A NEW SECTION 9-1018 PROVIDING THAT A PERSON WHO VIOLATES PART 9 OF THE CITY OF BEAUFORT CODE OF ORDINANCES WITH THE INTENT TO INTIMIDATE ANOTHER PERSON OR PERSONS IN WHOLE OR IN PART BECAUSE OF THE ACTUAL OR PERCEIVED RACE, COLOR, CREED, RELIGION, ANCESTRY, GENDER, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER IDENTITY, PHYSICAL OR MENTAL DISABILITY, OR NATIONAL ORIGIN OF THE OTHER PERSON OR PERSONS IS GUILTY OF THE SEPARATE OFFENSE OF HATE INTIMIDATION.

WHEREAS, The State of South Carolina has yet to adopt a statewide Hate Crime Legislation, being only one of two states nationwide who have yet to adopt such protections for its citizens; and

WHEREAS, The Beaufort City Council desires to take action to protect its residents from intimidation based on a bias or hate towards a person or persons in whole or in part because of the actual or perceived race, color, creed, religion, ancestry, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical or mental disability, or national origin of any person; and

WHEREAS, The Beaufort City Council desires to adopt an Ordinance that will create a new offense entitled “Hate Intimidation,” violation of which will be punishable as outlined in Section 9-1018 of the City of Beaufort’s Code of Ordinances.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED AND ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BEAUFORT, SOUTH CAROLINA, in accordance with the foregoing, that the Code of Ordinances, City of Beaufort, South Carolina, is hereby amended by adding a section to be numbered 9-1018, which section reads as follows:

Sec. 9-1018. - Hate Intimidation.

(a) A person who violates Part 9 of the City of Beaufort Code of Ordinances with the intent to intimidate a person or persons in whole or in part because of the actual or perceived race, color, creed, religion, ancestry, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical or mental disability, or national origin of any person is guilty of the separate offense of hate intimidation and shall be punished as provided in item (b) of this section.

(b) A violation of this section shall be a misdemeanor and punishable by a fine of not more than $500.00, by imprisonment for not more than 30 days, and/or community service or participation in an educational program.

(1) Sentences imposed for contemporaneous or concurrent violations of this section shall run consecutive to one another unless the court specifies on the record good cause why they should run concurrently. The sentence imposed must be consecutive to the sentence for the underlying criminal offense unless the court
articulates on the record the reasons why the sentences should run concurrently.

(2) Fines imposed under this section for contemporaneous or concurrent violations of this section shall be assessed for each violation. The court may designate all or part of the imposed fine be directed to the support of programs designed to combat bias based on ethnicity, national origin, color, religion, sexual orientation, gender and gender identity or physical or mental disability

(3) The court, in its discretion, may suspend a sentence imposed for violation of this section upon completion by the defendant of appropriate education, counseling or community service employment as ordered by the court.

(c) Restitution authorized. In addition to the penalties provided for above, the court may order restitution up to the limits of the court’s jurisdiction for damages sustained by the victim of this offense directly related to the commission of the crime which may include compensation for medical bills, counseling or therapy or damage to property sustained by the victim as a result of the underlying criminal offense.

DONE, RATIFIED AND ENACTED this ___ day of ____________, 2024.

_____________________________________

Philip E. Cromer, Mayor

Attest:

_____________________________________

Traci Guldner, City Clerk

First Reading: _____________________________

Second Reading and Adoption: _____________________________

Approved in form: Benjamin T. Coppage, City Attorney