City Council Worksessions  
Meeting Minutes – Planning Conference Room – 1st Floor  
February 13, 2024

I. CALL TO ORDER  

Philip Cromer, Mayor  


II. EMPLOYEE NEW HIRE RECOGNITION  

A. Fire Department.  

Tim Ogden, Fire Chief, introduced Damian Henry.  

B. Public Works.  

Nate Farrow, Director, introduced William Spann.  

C. Police Department.  

Jason Day, Captain, introduced Alexander Arroyo, Dwayne Bullington, and Lane Thompson.  

D. Community and Economic Development Department.  

Curt Freese, Director, introduced Nicolas Navia.

III. DISCUSSION ITEMS  

A. Discussion with Capital Waste regarding an increase for Recycling Fees at Hilton Head MRF and update to the Garbage Waste and Disposal Ordinance.  

Linda Roper, Downtown Operations and Community Services Director, introduced Robert Scott, the local Branch Manager, and Brian Yorston, from Capital Waste. The Hilton Head MRF raised their rate from $160.52 to $221.87 per ton. This is a 38 percent increase. This recycling center is utilized by all of Beaufort County. Capital Waste has had to absorb this cost increase since August 2023.  

They are requesting a Recycling Fee increase of $1.49 per month per household to cover the increased costs. The rate would go from $22.50 to $23.99. This increase would be retroactive back to August 2023. The contract that we have with them will allow this to occur.

Scott Marshall, City Manager, stated that the city had anticipated these CPI rate increases and factored in those costs, so there is no adjustment needed in this Fiscal Budget year. He stated that currently the yearly cost is a separate line item on the property tax bills. He would like to see this be included in the millage rate instead.
Mr. Marshall stated that staff will coordinate with Capital Waste and modify the contract. It will be vetted by Legal Services and brought back to Council for approval.

The second part of the discussion dealt with some minor changes to the Ordinance for Garbage Waste and Disposal. Ms. Roper went over the proposed changes in the definitions, residential garbage and yard rubbish collection sections. Members of Council gave their feedback and suggestions.

There was extensive discussion on Section 6-1004(b) regarding bulky waste. There are times when homeowners/landlords are dumping the contents of an entire home by the side of the road that is not contained. Should there be a limit placed on the amount that will be picked up at one time which would be included in the monthly fee? Would the property owner be responsible for additional costs incurred? Should a fine be established for abusers? Should the language be written to give the Codes Enforcement Officer authority to be able to resolve these issues?

Grant McClure, Coastal Conservation League, addressed Council.

Staff will bring changes back for Council approval.

B. Discussion of gifting certain items in the Beaufort History Museum collection.

Scott Marshall, City Manager, stated that the Beaufort History Museum would like to offer certain items for auction at a fundraiser for the museum. Some of these items are the property of the City. Proceeds from the auction would go to the museum. He stated that in order for the proceeds from the auction to go to the museum, the City must gift these items to the museum by resolution. After some discussion, it was concluded that one of the pieces “The Lowcountry” that was donated by American Color and Chemical Corporation, will be removed and replaced with another item.

John Warley and Kathryn Lang, Beaufort History Museum, participated in the discussions.

Staff will prepare the resolution and bring it back before Council for approval.

Kay Merrill, Pigeon Point Community, addressed Council.

Mayor Cromer recused himself from the discussion.

IV. ADJOURN 6:20 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.