I. **CALL TO ORDER**

Philip Cromer, Mayor


II. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Pro Tem, Michael McFee.

III. **PROCLAMATIONS/COMMENDATIONS/RECOGNITIONS**

A. **Character Education Proclamation - Maurice Lamb, Broad River Elementary School.**

   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 and Regular Meeting - February 13, 2024.**

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

   Minutes approved as presented.

VI. **OLD BUSINESS**

A. **An Ordinance authorizing acceptance of Limited Warranty Deed, authorizing approval of Easement Agreement; and other matters related thereto - second reading.**

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

   First reading was held on February 13, 2024. No changes made since first reading.

   Graham Trask addressed Council.
All were in favor, motion carried.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Request for co-sponsorship for use of the Whitehall Park by Cub Scouts Pack 001 from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm, on Saturday, May 18, 2024, for a graduation ceremony.

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

All were in favor, motion carried.

B. Request to host Madison’s Miracles 5K on Saturday, June 22, 2024, from 7:45 am - 11:00 am.

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

All were in favor, motion carried.

C. Request for co-sponsorship, a waiver of the noise ordinance, and permission to host the annual Community Easter Sunrise service by the First African Baptist Church, and the First Scots Presbyterian Church, on Sunday, March 31, 2024, from 7:00 am - 8:30 am in the Henry C. Chambers Waterfront Park.

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

All were in favor, motion carried.

D. Request permission to host the Beaufort River Swim and 5K by the Beaufort-Jasper YMCA of the Lowcountry on Saturday, June 8, 2024, from 5:00 am - 11:00 am.

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

All were in favor, motion carried.

E. Resolution authorizing the Beaufort History Museum to handle the auction of historical items in the possession of the City of Beaufort and for the proceeds of such auction to be paid to the Beaufort History Museum for its services in disposing of the surplus historical items and furthering historic preservation and education.

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

Mayor Cromer recused himself from the discussion and the vote. He passed the gavel to Mayor Pro Tem, McFee.

JJ Sauve, Assistant City Manager, stated that the resolution is to authorize the Beaufort History Museum to auction the requested items at a fundraising event and for the City to convey the funds raised to the Beaufort History Museum.

All were in favor, motion carried.

VIII. REPORTS

City Manager’s Report

Southside Park Phase I is now underway. A groundbreaking ceremony was held on Monday, February 26, 2024. He thanked everyone who took part in making this a reality.
Stated that Interim Police Chief Price, Lt. Dobbins, and Lindsey Edwards, were in Columbia presenting the City’s entry in the Municipal Association of South Carolina (MASC) Public Safety Awards category. This is based on the Safe Living Beaufort Initiative.

Reported that Dominion Energy will be performing work on Port Republic Street that will cause several businesses and homes to lose power. Customers in the area were previously notified.

Announced that the Fire Department received a grant from the Gary Sinise Foundation in the amount of $12,100.00. The funds are being used for a new forcible entry door training aid.

First Friday will be held downtown on March 1, 2024.

**Mayor’s Report**

Attended a meeting on how to capture Federal Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging funds. The City Manager attended as well.

Attended the Southern Lowcountry Regional Board (SOLOCO) meeting with Councilman Scallate and the City Manager.

Will be participating in an Economic Development Panel for the 2024 Clemson Leadership Program.

Will be participating in a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for The HUB Student Services Center at the Technical College of the Lowcountry.

He and Councilman Lipsitz will be attending the Southern Carolina Alliance Regional Celebration in Allendale.

**Councilman Mitchell**

Attended the Ground Breaking Ceremony for the Laurel Bay Pathway. This is a connector between Laurel Bay Housing and the Marine Corps Air Station.

He and Master Gunnery Sergeant, USMC Retired, Tyrone Jackson, will be speaking at the Black History Month Veterans Program, Preserving the Legacy and Keeping the Promise, at the Technical College of the Lowcountry.

Reported that the Open House for the Charles Lind Brown Center has been postponed and will be rescheduled.

**Mayor Pro Tem, McFee**

Will be attending the upcoming Lowcountry Area Transportation (LATS) meeting.

Stated that the 8th Annual Pat Conroy Literary Center’s March Forth event will be taking place on March 2 - 3, 2024, at the Penn Center and the Literary Center. There will also be an afternoon with award-winning novelist Jeffrey Dale Lofton at the Pat Conroy Literary Center on March 2, 2024, at 2:00 pm.

**Councilman Scallate**

Attended a Poverty Simulation event on February 24, 2024 in Hilton Head.

Thanked the City Manager, Scott Marshall, for all his assistance when needed.

**Councilman Lipsitz**

Attended the USCB Sand Sharks basketball games.

Attended the USCB Oyster Roast.
Attended the Old Commons Neighborhood Association Meeting.
Attended the Beaufort Chamber Economic Summit.
Attended Nancy Mace’s Town Hall meeting.
Mentioned the Beaufort Charities events that will be taking place on March 1 - 2, 2024.

All of Council attended the ground breaking for Southside Park.
Members of Council attended events during the Beaufort International Film Festival.
Members of Council attended the Lt. Dan Band Concert at the Marine Corps Air Station.

IX. ADJOURN

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

All were in favor, motion carried.

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 tgdmln@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.
RECUSAL STATEMENT

Member Name: Philip E. Craner

Meeting Date: February 27, 2024

Agenda Item: Section VII Number: E

Topic: Resolution authorizing the Beaufort History Museum to handle the auction of historical items in the possession of the City of Beaufort and for them to keep the proceeds in disposing of the surplus items.

The Ethics Act, SC Code §8-13-700, provides that no public official/board member may knowingly use his office to obtain an economic interest for himself, a family member of his immediate family, an individual with whom he is associated, or a business with which he is associated. No public official/board member may make, participate in making, or influence a governmental decision in which he or any such person or business has an economic interest. Failure to recuse oneself from an issue in which there is or may be conflict of interest is the sole responsibility of the council member/board member.


Justification to Recuse:

___ Professionally employed by or under contract with principal

___ Owns or has vested interest in principal or property

√ Other: Spouse is Vice President of the organization and the event is at my home.

Date: 2/27/24 Philip E. Craner

Member Signature