



# City Council Worksession

## Meeting Minutes – Planning Conference Room – 1<sup>st</sup> Floor

December 9, 2025

### I. CALL TO ORDER

5:00 PM

Philip Cromer, Mayor

Members of Council in attendance - Philip Cromer, Neil Lipsitz, Michael McFee, Mitch Mitchell, Josh Scallate.

### II. EMPLOYEE NEW HIRE RECOGNITION

#### A. City Manager's Office.

**Brian Ranger, Interim Capital Improvement Project Director** , introduced David Gregory.

#### B. Community Development.

**Curt Freese, Community Development Director**, introduced Yvette Fleming.

#### C. Fire Department.

**Tim Odgen, Fire Chief**, introduced Justin Daugherty, and Harry Gonzalez.

#### D. Police Department.

**Stephenie Price, Police Chief**, introduced Dylan Everett.

#### E. Public Works Department.

**Nate Farrow, Public Works Director**, introduced Isaias Hidalgo.

### III. DISCUSSIONS

#### A. Consideration for procurement of Noise Ordinance signs.

**Stephenie Price, Police Chief**, stated these signs are intended to increase public awareness of the City's established noise regulations, promote voluntary compliance, and support ongoing community quality-of-life initiatives. She mentioned that over the past several months, the City has received an increase in noise-related complaints in both residential and commercial areas. Clear signage serves as a proactive tool to educate residents, visitors, and businesses about permissible noise levels and enforcement provisions under the City's Noise Ordinance. By improving visibility and communication of these standards, the City can enhance public cooperation, reduce the need for enforcement actions, and strengthen its commitment to maintaining a peaceful environment for all community members. The City's existing Noise Control Ordinance provides a substantive basis for enforcement, while the signage serves as an administrative and educational extension of that ordinance. The purchase and placement of these signs fall within the City's lawful authority to promote compliance with municipal regulations and enhance public awareness of community standards. Noise ordinance violation

is \$465.00, or as set by the Municipal Judge. Staff recommends the purchase of four mobile noise ordinance signs, modeled after those used successfully in the City of Greenville, South Carolina. The signs would be strategically placed at key locations including Bay and Carteret Street, Bay and Craven Street, Bay and Charles Street, and Boundary and Charles Street. Further, due to the mobility of the signs they may be placed anywhere within the Bay Street business district to increase visibility and public awareness. Each sign costs approximately \$279.00, for a total estimated expense of \$1,116.00.

There was a discussion about making the language in the ordinance clearer for better enforcement. The City Attorney will be asked to view the current language and make recommendations to clean up the language.

Council is supportive of moving forward with the purchasing of these signs.

B. Duke Street Project.

**Scott Marshall, City Manager**, started off by stating he has been in contact with Representative Shannon Erickson. A meeting with the Department of Transportation has been scheduled for this coming Thursday, December 11, 2025, to discuss this matter.

**Bryan Webb, Senior Project Manager with Davis and Floyd**, provided an update on the status of the project and gave the reasons why the project has not been able to be started. This stems from the number of parking spaces being included in the Streetscape Design. SCDOT is concerned about the sight triangles which are safety concerns. He then went over four options for Council to consider if needed.

**Alan Eisenman, Finance Director**, went over the financial aspect which included the budgeted amount of the project, and by when the funds must be spent. He also spoke about potential additional funding sources if warranted.

One question posed by the **City Manager**, is if Council is willing to take ownership of the entire road.

More information will be gained after the meeting on Thursday, December 11, 2025.

The following addressed Council with their comments and concerns on topics discussed:

Wallace Scarborough, 1207 Bay Street  
Wayne Reynolds, 2212 Bay Street  
Edward Dukes, 821 Ribaut Road  
Darolyn Augusta, 1606 Duke Street  
Christopher Augusta, 1606 Duke Street  
Mike Eggers, 1610 Duke Street

#### IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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- A. Pursuant to Title 30, Chapter 4, Section (70) (a) (2) of the South Carolina Code of Law: Discussion regarding the purchase or sale of property.
- B. Pursuant to Title 30, Chapter 4, Section (70) (a) (2) of the South Carolina Code of Law: Receipt of legal advice on current and pending litigation.

Councilman Lipsitz made a motion to go into Executive Session and seconded by Councilman Mitchell.

All were in favor, motion carried.

Councilman Lipsitz made a motion to come out of Executive Session and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem, McFee.

All were in favor, motion carried.

No actions from Executive Session.

**V. ADJOURN**

**7:21 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](http://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](mailto: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](http://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.

Approved: January 13, 2026  
Traci Guldner

