



City Council Worksession

Meeting Minutes – Planning Conference Room – 1st Floor

February 24, 2026

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.

Scott Marshall, City Manager introduced Eric Claussen.

B. Fire Department.

Tim Ogden, Fire Chief introduced Dwight Isenhour and Collin McCurry.

C. Police Department.

Lt. Trish Mendicino introduced Dustin McNeil and Joel Quarti.

D. Public Works Department.

Nate Farrow, Public Works Director, introduced Bailey Jato-Dutton.

III. PRESENTATIONS

A. Strategic Partner Presentations.

The following shared their activities and requests for the upcoming Fiscal Year with Council and answered any questions they had.

South Carolina Nurse Retention Program, Prichards Island Research, South Coast Cybersecurity Center, Palmetto Breeze, Beaufort County Economic Development Corporation, CVB, Beaufort Area Hospitality Association, National Park Service, Historic Beaufort Foundation, Beaufort Digital Corridor, and the Beaufort Chamber of Commerce

B. Capital Waste Recycling Program overview and clarification of curbside guidelines.

Linda Roper, Downtown Operations Director, introduced CFO Brian Yourston, Jessica Beasley, Paige Barker and Rob Scott with Capital Waste. They provided information about the recycling program and how it works within the City of Beaufort. This included items that can and cannot be recycled.

A copy of Recycling 101 is attached.

C. Dominion Energy 2026 Right of Way activities.

Scott Marshall, City Manager, stated Dominion Energy will be conducting routine right-of-way tree trimming throughout the City of Beaufort beginning in the Spring 2026. The estimated start time is April. Dominion Energy will hold a public information session at City Hall, 1911 Boundary Street, on March 26, 2026, in the Planning Conference Room from 4:00 - 6:00 pm. Dominion Energy periodically performs vegetation management within utility rights-of-way to maintain electric system reliability and public safety. Dominion asserts activities will comply with ANSI-A300 standards and International Society of Arboriculture guidelines. To facilitate coordination and responsiveness, the City will designate a dedicated staff liaison to serve as the primary point of contact with Dominion Energy for the duration of the trimming program. The City will utilize its full range of public communication channels to keep residents informed about scheduling and what to expect during trimming operations.

IV. DISCUSSIONS

A. American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) spending deadline and financial update.

Alan Eisenman, Finance Director, started off by giving some background information on the program. He stated the City received \$6,689,031.00 in ARPA Funds from the Treasury in two payments in September 2021 and September 2022. The City also received \$1,000,000.00 in funds from Beaufort County between June 2022 and April 2023 for Cyber Security and Good Neighbor Programs. The City has earned \$720,760.00 in interest on investments of ARPA funds as of December 31, 2025, not subject to obligation deadlines. Funds must be expended by December 31, 2026, or the funds must be returned. He provided a financial update through December 31, 2025. He then went over a path moving forward which deals with the reallocation of \$342,986.00 in funds to other projects. Staff recommends these funds go to Duke Street or the Waterfront Park.

B. Amendments to Chapter 2 Weeds, Sec. 6-2003: and Chapter 3 Litter and Trash Sec. 6-3005.

Curt Freese, Community Development Director, and Ken Meola, Code Enforcement Officer, stated these amendments are being proposed to provide a more efficient and plausible means to resolve property maintenance issues within the city as they relate to overgrown lawns/weeds and trash/litter. Right now the city can abate the issues and bill the property owner for the costs of the services required to bring the property into compliance regarding the violations. Upon failure of payment being rendered for those services, the current ordinance(s) allow for the city to place the cost of those services as a lien on the property in favor of the city. The issue with regard to taking this action is the lien cannot be collected until the property is sold or if the accumulated costs are exorbitant enough, through a foreclosure process. Instead of placing a lien on property, they would place the costs associated with the cleanups that were provided on their property tax bills. This regulation already exists in the City Code of Ordinances for abatement of unfit houses in Chapter - 1, Article B, Section 5-1028. The City has successfully utilized this in the past to collect costs for services for actions taken in that capacity. They want these sections to have the same language. The City would still continue to work towards voluntary compliance from property owners.

Councilman Lipsitz inquired about liability issues regarding City employees going onto someone's private property.

Councilman Scallate inquired about possibly adding some language that the costs associated would be reasonable for the type of service provided.

C. Freedman Arts District proposal for Art in the Park.

Dick Stewart, spoke to Council about placing some artwork throughout the Henry C. Chambers Waterfront Park, along the new fencing that is set to be installed. This would be considered a Sculpture Trail. They would like to place 12 pieces of art that would include a small plaque providing the name of the piece, a short paragraph about the artist and the Freedman Arts District logo and QR Code.

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

Jared Madison, 2618 Holmes Drive
Joe Macdermant, 1809 Boundary Street

V. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. Pursuant to Title 30, Chapter 4, Section (70) (a) (2) of the South Carolina Code of Law: Receipt of legal advice regarding pending litigation.

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

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.

VI. ADJOURN

10:31 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.

Approved: March 10, 2024
Traci Guldner





CAPITAL WASTE SERVICES

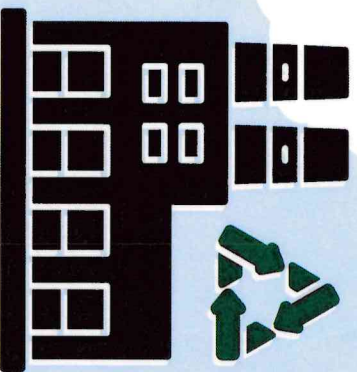
RECYCLING JOY

City of Beaufort Recycles



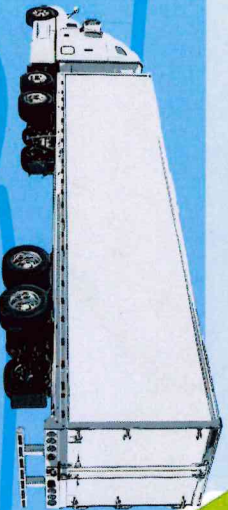
OUR RECYCLING CYCLE

1. Customer places recycling in bin and leaves at the curb



4. After the recycling arrives at MRF, the bales are broken apart and the material is put in the machine to separate by commodity type for end market sale

3. WM places load of recycling in trailer, and hauls to the MRF



2. Take material to WM's recycling processing facility



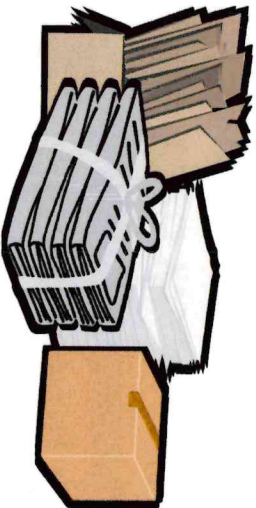
MRF
A Materials Recovery Facility is a specialized, permitted plant that receives, separates, and prepares recyclable materials (paper, plastic, metal, glass).

2617 Low Country Dr.
Ridgeland, SC 29936



WHAT CAN BE RECYCLED

PAPER & CARDBOARD



- CORRUGATED CARDBOARD
- PAPERBOARD
- CEREAL TISSUE BOXES
- BROWN PAPER
- BAGS
- BOOKS
- NEWSPAPER
- MAGAZINES
- OFFICE PAPER (STAPLES OK)

**DRY, FLATTENED, WITH NO FOOD CONTACT
**RINSED AND CLEAN OF ALL RESIDUE

PLASTIC CONTAINERS



- ♻️ **#1 PLASTIC**
- PET & PETE FOOD & BEVERAGE CONTAINERS ONLY**
- ♻️ **#2 PLASTIC**
- HDPE FOOD & BEVERAGE CONTAINERS ONLY**

**RINSED AND CLEAN OF ALL RESIDUE
**CRUSHED ITEMS ARE ACCEPTABLE

METAL CANS & GLASS



- METAL CANS**
- ONLY ALUMINUM, STEEL, & TIN**
- NO LIGHTBULBS, COOKWARE, CERAMICS, OR CRYSTAL**
- GLASS**
- FOOD & BEVERAGE CONTAINERS ONLY**

**RINSED AND CLEAN OF ALL RESIDUE
**CRUSHED ITEMS ARE ACCEPTABLE



WM does not require plastic bottle caps to be removed, and aluminum cans may be crushed. The 12 facility in Beaufort has additional preparation requirements. This difference is due to WM's use of an automated MRF, while 12 relies on manual sorting.

COMMON MISUNDERSTANDINGS

- 1 Who Makes Rules For Recycling
- 2 All Recycling is Not Recyclable
- 3 Yard Waste Mixed with Bulk Pickups
- 4 The Impact of Contaminated Items



CWSS
CAPITAL WASTE SERVICES



WHAT WE TAKE VS. CONVENIENCE SITES



Convenience Site Rules - 12 Recycling

- **No Caps or Lids:** Remove all caps and lids from both plastic and glass bottles when recycling.
- **Size Restrictions:** Plastic and glass items should be larger than a cup, but smaller than a gallon.
- **No Bagging:** Do not place recyclables in paper or plastic bags. Place items loosely in bins.
- **Paper Size Requirement:** Recyclable paper must be larger than a standard envelope.

No Crushing: Bottles and cans should remain uncrushed.

Why?

12 uses laborers to hand sort which is why they have stricter guidelines.

WM Rules

- **Caps or Lids:** Accepted
- **Size Restrictions:** None
- **No Bagging:** Do not place recyclables in paper or plastic bags. Place items loosely in bins.
- **Paper Size Requirement:** None
- **Crushed Items :** Accepted

Why?

Waste Management processing facility takes our recycling to their MRF. WM uses a highly technical sorting MRF which allows more leniency in what is accepted.



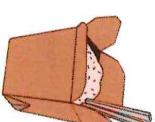
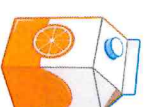
SAFETY NO TO MISRECYCLING

DEFINITION:

Wishcycling is the well-intentioned but misguided practice of placing non-recyclable items into recycling bins, hoping they will be recycled.

CAN NOT BE RECYCLED

- Coffee Cups
- Pizza Boxes
- Toothpaste Tubes
- Juice Cartons
- Chip Bags
- Take Out Containers
- Used Paper Towels
- Shredded Paper



WHAT ABOUT YARD WASTE?

Where Goes

Yardwaste can sometimes be mixed in with Bulk pickups depending on where the load has to be dumped. In Beaufort, We mix Yard Waste and Bulk and take it to Oakwood Landfill.

751 Strohart Rd, Ridgeland,
SC 29936

Why?

- Bagged yard waste cannot be taken to the mulching facility.
- Bulk waste is already delivered to Oakwood, so collecting both together is most efficient.
- Separating them would require adding another truck and two additional team members.



CONTAMINATION

The Risk

Non-recyclable items getting mixed into the truck can contaminate the entire load of what would have been recycled.

How to Avoid It:

- Know your recycling rules
- Rinse Recycling
- Tear off contaminated parts

What Happens with Contaminated Loads?

Contaminated loads of recycling are no longer able to be recycled and have to go to the landfill with other MSW. This is why recycling correctly is so important.



THANK YOU

