

1-10-11  
L. Lamar Ac  
email w/ info  
of 5/12/19 #  
6/18/19

# NORTH AUGUSTA

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## SOUTH CAROLINA'S RIVERFRONT

FOIA 2019-45

**Date:** July 8, 2019

**T0:** [REDACTED]

Copy to:  
Kelly Zier - City Attorney  
Robert A. Pettit - Mayor  
Todd Glover - City Administrator  
James Sutton - Director of Public Services

**RE:** FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

PLEASE BE ADVISED that the City of North Augusta has received your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request the 8th day of July 2019. Such request has been forwarded to the appropriate department for response. In addition, a copy of said request has been forwarded to the office of the City Attorney for his review.

The City Attorney will make a determination as to whether the request is a proper request under the FOIA act. The appropriate department will advise as to what materials, documents, etc. may be available. That department will also provide information indicating the approximate time involved related to the retrieval of the documentation, and also the amount of material that would need to be copied in order to comply with the request. At such time as a response is received from the City Attorney and the appropriate department, we will then notify you of the response of the City to your FOIA request. In the event that the request is deemed appropriate and permissible under the FOIA act, we will advise you of same and also provide an estimate of the costs that would be related to responding to said request. In the event that it is determined that the FOIA request is not proper and not permitted by the act, you'll also be advised of that decision.

A response to your request will be made within the time limits as established by section 20-4-30(c) of the FOIA act. Specifically, this requires that said response be provided within 10 business days for any record requested that is less than 24 months old. A request for a record that is more than 24 months old, is to be responded to within 20 business days from the date of the receipt of your request. The City would not normally require the full period in order to respond, but reserves its right under the act to do so.

In the event that the response to your request is positive and the costs associated with retrieving and providing the data is minimal, in most cases, the City would forward the documentation to you with a statement for the costs. An example of charges would be 15¢ per page for black and white copies, 20¢ per page for color copies. The City does not charge for search and retrieval for fifteen minutes or less. For any time required to research and retrieve the requested information more than 15 minutes, the City charges, a minimum of \$8.00 per 30 minutes. Pursuant to the act, the charge for searching, retrieving, and redacting records is not to exceed the hourly wage of the lowest paid employee on the public body staff, who has the skill and training

to fulfill the request. Therefore, the charge could be in excess of the \$8.00 per 30 minutes, if a

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Date: 7-8-19  
By: shl  
Repository: Admin Gen  
FOIA 2019

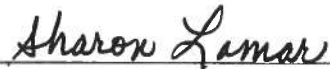
# NORTH AUGUSTA

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## SOUTH CAROLINA'S RIVERFRONT

regular clerical person is unable to perform the services. The specific FOIA Fee schedule, as adopted by the City is available for review online. In the event that the costs are considered to be of more than a nominal amount, the City would reserve the right to require a deposit of 25% of anticipated costs to be made before assembling, copying and delivering the materials. This would also provide to you the opportunity to determine if you desired to proceed with the request in light of the costs.

**NOTICE:** SOUTH CAROLINA LAW PROVIDES THAT "IT IS A CRIME TO KNOWINGLY OBTAIN OR USE PERSONAL INFORMATION FROM A PUBLIC BODY FOR COMMERCIAL SOLICITATION."



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Sharon Lamar, City Clerk

City of North Augusta, South Carolina

## Lamar, Sharon

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, July 08, 2019 2:10 PM  
**To:** Lamar, Sharon  
**Cc:** Pettit, Robert; Glover, Todd; Kelly Zier; dione@carroll-law-firm.com  
**Subject:** Omissions on New northaugusta.net - A SC FOIA Request

Hey Sharon,

I need to call your attention to noticeable omissions under "All Past" under "Meeting Dates and Agendas" under "Council Meetings and Agendas" under "Government" on the city's new website.

Not only are meetings on many dates missing, but most of those posted do not have links to the agenda and minutes of those meetings.

The link for a particular meeting, especially older ones, only gives time and date. For those containing it, like the one for 04-15-19 as an example, the .pdf link for the meeting's agenda brings up this:

### "Page Not Found..."

The page you are looking for,  
<https://www.northaugusta.net/home/showdocument?id=16340>,  
may have been removed, renamed, entered wrong, or is temporarily unavailable.

You can go to the [home page](#) but why not send us information that may help resolve this issue?"

So, that's what I'm doing!

I've been an involved user of northaugusta.net for several years.

I submit the city should NOT have changed to the new format prior to all the bugs being worked out. The city should have ensured that all public information had been properly transferred to the new format BEFORE the old one was trashed.

We citizens are becoming less informed by administrative decisions, so any information we can get is very important. I find the new site lacking in that single, important aspect.

I will also submit this - the new format is worse at fulfilling the tenets of SC FOIA than the old format was.

Re the agenda for the 01-07-2019 meeting of council under your folder on the new site - it does not have the "agenda complete" the old site had. The removal of the "agenda complete" from public view on the city's website did not begin until after Mr. Glover's email to me of 02-01-19. All "agenda complete" published on the old site should be included on the new one. They must remain so as part of the city's official record.

Also, I suggest the Event Calendar be made part of the home page - right up front and readily visible.

I did not know the JCCP Committee had already met twice. I asked Richard Fletcher if he were aware of those public meetings. He wasn't.

I am very concerned if the committee is using the report from the mayor's ad hoc committee, which was written by a clandestine committee and did not have one iota of public input. Likely, that document is illicit. If so, any recommendations from the JCCP Committee would be worthless.

Therefore, I submit the JCCP Committee has met twice without proper public notice and is using a document to form city policy that neither the public nor six of its elected representatives to city council had any input to its formation nor were they allowed to comment on a draft copy before its publication.

**I ask, as a SC FOIA request, how many members of the public were present at those meetings? That should be part of the city's records for the past two public meetings of that very important committee.**

As always, thanks for your help.

Best regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

North Augusta, SC 29841-2173

[REDACTED]