

# NORTH AUGUSTA

## SOUTH CAROLINA'S RIVERFRONT

FOIA 2019-55

Date: August 7, 2019

T0:

**CONFIDENTIAL**

Copy to:  
Kelly Zier - City Attorney  
Robert A. Pettit - Mayor  
Todd Glover - City Administrator  
Rick Meyer - Director of Parks, Recreation,  
& Tourism

RE: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

PLEASE BE ADVISED that the City of North Augusta has received your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request the 7th day of August 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

Scanned Into Laserfiche

Date: 8-7-19

By: HL

Repository: Admin Gen

FOIA 2019

# NORTH AUGUSTA

---

## 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."



---

Sharon Lamar, City Clerk  
City of North Augusta, South Carolina

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
North Augusta, SC 29841

August 7, 2019

Sharon Lamar  
City Clerk of North Augusta  
Post Office Box 6400  
North Augusta, SC 29861

Dear Ms. Lamar:

Under the **South Carolina Freedom of Information Act, §30-4-10 et seq.**, I am requesting an opportunity to inspect or obtain copies of public records that relate to any and all correspondence, notes, memorandums, emails, meeting minutes, or any other document or recording in any nature, to and from any individual, or City official, Council and/or Director, pertaining to the Hammond Hill Suburban Club pool, the City of North Augusta's interest in purchasing the Hammond Hill Suburban Club pool or any and all inquiries made by the City of North Augusta to the Hammond Hill Suburban Club pool.

If there are any fees for searching or copying these records, please inform me if the cost will exceed \$25.00. However, I would also like to request a waiver of all fees in that the disclosure of the requested information is in the public interest and will contribute significantly to the public's understanding of the City's interest in the Hammond Hill Suburban Club pool. This information is not being sought for commercial purposes.

The **South Carolina Freedom of Information Act** requires a response time within 15 business days. If access to the records I am requesting will take longer than this amount of time, please contact me with information about when I might expect copies or the ability to inspect the requested records. Also, to expedite the matter, you are welcome to email the requested documents to me at [pswann@bfbtlaw.com](mailto:pswann@bfbtlaw.com).

If you deny any or all of this request, please cite each specific exemption you feel justifies the refusal to release the information and notify me of the appeal procedures available to me under the law.

Thank you for considering my request.

Sincerely,  
[REDACTED]  
Hammond Hill Hammerheads Swim Team  
[REDACTED]