



County Council Meeting Beaufort County, SC

This meeting was held both in person in Council Chambers at 100 Ribaut Road, Beaufort, and virtually through Zoom.

Monday, September 13, 2021
6:00 PM

MINUTES

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Passiment called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

PRESENT

Chairman Joseph F. Passiment
Vice Chairman D. Paul Sommerville
Council Member York Glover
Council Member Stu Rodman
Council Member Alice Howard
Council Member Mark Lawson
Council Member Lawrence McElynn
Council Member Gerald Dawson
Council Member Brian Flewelling
Council Member Logan Cunningham

ABSENT

Council Member Chris Hervochon

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION**

Council Member Gerald Dawson led the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the invocation.

3. **FOIA**

Chairman Passiment stated public notice of this meeting had been published, posted, and distributed in compliance with the SC FOIA Act.

4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Rodman, seconded by Council Member Flewelling to approve the agenda. The motion was approved without objection.

5. **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

To see County Administrator, Eric Greenway's report please click the link below.

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/139407>

6. **PROCLAMATION PRESENTED TO BEAUFORT COUNTY ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE DEPARTMENT-RECOVERY MONTH - Presented by Council Member Larry McElynn**

Council Member Larry McElynn presented a proclamation honoring the Beaufort County Alcohol and Drug Abuse Department.

Discussion: To see the full discussion click the link below.

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/139407>

7. **PROCLAMATION HONORING GRACE DENNIS FOR HER YEARS OF SERVICE ON THE BEAUFORT COUNTY DISABILITY AND SPECIAL NEEDS BOARD - Presented by Council Member York Glover**

Council Member Alice Howard presented a proclamation honoring Grace Dennis for her years of service on the Disabilities and Special Needs Board.

Discussion: To see the full discussion click the link below.

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/139407>

8. **CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Mary Ann Rolands, Friends of Fort Freemont, commented on Fort Freemont
Anthony Criscitiello commented on a botanical garden at Bindon Plantation.
Lisa Laking commented on social media outlets and COVID rules and regulations.
Scott Anderson commented on transparency and mask mandates.
Henry Mice commented on the mask ordinance.
Edwin Cagina commented on the mask ordinance.
Cheryl Norris commented on transparency.

9. **MATTERS ARISING OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION**

No matters arising out of executive session.

10. **LIASION AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Council Member McElynn reviewed consent agenda items in the Community Services and Public Safety Committee.

Vice-Chairman Sommerville reviewed consent agenda items in the Executive Committee.

Council Member Howard reviewed consent agenda items in the Natural Resources Committee.

Council Member Lawson reviewed consent agenda items in the Finance Committee.

Council Member Rodman reviewed consent agenda items in the Public Facilities.

11. **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Howard, seconded by Council Member Rodman to approve the consent agenda. The motion was approved without objection.

12. **ADOPTION OF RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COVID-19 AD HOC COMMITTEE**

Motion: It was moved by Council Member McElynn, seconded by Council Member Glover to recommend to County Administrator for his consideration and adoption and/or implementation as he believes appropriate and that the County Council Chairman instruct all Boards and Commissions and the County Council to adhere to those implemented measures for 90 days from the effective date of September 14th, 2021.

Discussion: To see the full discussion click the link below.

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/139407>

Motion to Amend: It was moved by Council Member Flewelling, seconded by Council Member Cunningham to remove " the use of masks from employees and visitors" from the recommendation.

The Vote - Voting Yea: Council Member Lawson, Council Member Flewelling, Council Member Cunningham. Voting Nay: Chairman Passiment, Vice Chairman Sommerville, Council Member Glover, Council Member Rodman, Council Member Howard, Council Member McElynn, Council Member Dawson. The motion failed 3:7.

Back to Main Motion - The Vote - Voting Yea: Chairman Passiment, Vice Chairman Sommerville, Council Member Glover, Council Member Rodman, Council Member Howard, Council Member McElynn, Council Member Dawson. Voting Nay: Council Member Lawson, Council Member Flewelling, Council Member Cunningham. The Motion passed 7:3.

13. **CONSIDERATION OF AN AUTHORIZATION TO ALLOW THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO SIGN A CDBG GRANT CERTIFICATION AND ENTER INTO AN IGA WITH TOWN OF RIDGELAND FOR A CDBG GRANT.**

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Flewelling, seconded by Council Member Howard to approve an authorization to allow the County Administrator to sign a CDBG Grant Certification and enter into an IGA with Town of Ridgeland for a CDBG Grant. The motion was approved without objection.

14. **A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE POLICY SUPPORTING FAIR HOUSING FOR ALL NOT ONLY DURING FAIR HOUSING MONTH, BUT THROUGHOUT THE YEAR**

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Howard, seconded by Council Member Dawson to approve a resolution recognizing the policy supporting Fair Housing for all not only during Fair Housing Month but throughout the year. The motion was approved without objection.

15. **FIRST READING OF A TEXT AMENDMENT TO BEAUFORT COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 42, ARTICLE II, DIVISION 3, SECTION 42.-81 TO UPDATE BOUNDARIES (SHELDON FIRE DISTRICT)**

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Dawson, seconded by Council Member Flewelling to approve a text amendment to Beaufort County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 42, Article II, Division 3, Section 42.-81 to update Boundaries (Sheldon Fire District). the motion was approved without objection.

Discussion: To see the full discussion click the link below.

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/139407>

16. **FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE REGARDING A TEXT AMENDMENT TO THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CODE (CDC): SECTION 3.1.60 (CONSOLIDATED USE TABLE) AND SECTION 4.1.190 (RECREATION FACILITY: CAMPGROUNDS) TO REVISE THE CAMPGROUND STANDARDS**

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Flewelling, seconded by Council Member Howard to approve an ordinance regarding a Text Amendment to the Community Development Code (CDC): Section 3.1.60 (Consolidated Use Table) and Section 4.1.190 (Recreation Facility: Campgrounds) to revise the Campground Standards. The motion was approved without objection.

Discussion: To see the full discussion click the link below.

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/139407>

17. **PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING APPLICATIONS TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Flewelling, seconded by Council Member Dawson to approve applications to be submitted to the South Carolina Department of Commerce.

The Chairman opened the floor for a public hearing.

No one came forward.

The Chairman closed the public hearing.

Discussion: To see the full discussion click the link below.

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/139407>

The Vote - The motion was approved without objection

18. **PUBLIC HEARING AND SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE FOR A TEXT AMENDMENT TO SECTION 3.4.90 OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CODE TO ADD A COASTAL RESILIENCE OVERLAY DISTRICT TO REQUIRE REAL ESTATE DISCLOSURE WHEN PROPERTY IS TRANSFERRED IN ZONE X (SHADED)**

Motion: It was moved by Vice-Chairman Sommerville, seconded by Council Member Howard to move back to Natural Resources to have staff review and revise.

Discussion: To see the full discussion click the link below.

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/139407>

The Vote - The motion was approved without objection.

19. **PUBLIC HEARING AND SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND BEAUFORT COUNTY ORDINANCE 2020/ 30 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021-22 BEAUFORT COUNTY BUDGET TO PROVIDE FOR THE CARRYOVER OF CERTAIN EXPENDITURES FROM FY 2020-21.**

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Rodman, seconded by Council Member Cunningham to approve second reading of an ordinance to amend Beaufort County Ordinance 2020/30 for the fiscal year 2021-22 Beaufort County Budget to provide for the carryover of certain expenditures from FY 2020-21.

The Chairman opened the floor for a public hearing.

No one came forward.

The Chairman closed the public hearing.

Discussion: To see the full discussion click the link below.

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/139407>

The Vote - The motion was approved without objection.

20. **PUBLIC HEARING AND SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE RE-DIRECTION AND EXPENDITURE OF A PORTION OF THE PROCEEDS OF THE BEAUFORT COUNTY, GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, SERIES 2020; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO**

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Lawson, seconded by Council Member Rodman to approve the second reading of an ordinance authorizing the re-direction and expenditure of a portion of the proceeds of the Beaufort County, General Obligation Bonds, Series 2020; and other matters relating thereto.

The Chairman opened the floor for a public hearing.

No one came forward.

The Chairman closed the public hearing.

Discussion: To see the full discussion click the link below.

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/139407>

The Vote - The motion was approved without objection.

21. **PUBLIC HEARING AND SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE FOR A TEXT AMENDMENT TO THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CODE (CDC): SECTION 5.5.30.B.1 (GENERAL PARKING STANDARDS, OFF-SITE/PREMISES PARKING) TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL FLEXIBILITY**

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Howard, seconded by Council Member Glover to approve second reading of an ordinance for a text amendment to the Community Development Code (CDC): Section 5.5.30.b.1 (general parking standards, off-site/premises parking) to provide additional flexibility.

The Chairman opened the floor for a public hearing.

No one came forward.

The Chairman closed the public hearing.

The Vote - The motion was approved without objection.

22. **PUBLIC HEARING AND SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE FOR A ZONING MAP AMENDMENT/REZONING REQUEST FOR 3.09 ACRES OF PROPERTY IDENTIFIED AS R100 024 000 0423 0000 LOCATED AT 24 ZEHM LANE, FROM S1 INDUSTRIAL TO C3 NEIGHBORHOOD MIXED USE DISTRICT**

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Howard, seconded by Council Member Dawson to approve second reading of an ordinance for a zoning map amendment/rezoning request for 3.09 acres of property identified as R100 024 000 0423 0000 located at 24 Zehm Lane, from S1 Industrial to C3 neighborhood mixed use district.

The Chairman opened the floor for a public hearing.

No one came forward.

The Chairman closed the public hearing.

The Vote - The motion was approved without objection.

23. **PUBLIC HEARING AND SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ABANDONMENT OF AN EASEMENT ENCUMBERING PROPERTY IDENTIFIED AS TMS NO. R100 016 000 0199 0000**

Motion: It was moved by Council Member McElynn, seconded by Council Member Lawson to approve second reading of an ordinance authorizing the abandonment of an easement encumbering property identified as TMS no. R100 016 000 0199 0000.

The Chairman opened the floor for a public hearing.

No one came forward.

The Chairman closed the public hearing.

The Vote - The motion was approved without objection.

24. **PUBLIC HEARING AND SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE FOR A TEXT AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 5 ADDING A NEW DIVISION 5.13 TITLED "FILL STANDARDS" TO LIMIT THE AMOUNT OF FILL ON LOW-LYING AREAS**

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Howard, seconded by Council Member Glover to approve public hearing and second reading of an ordinance for a text amendment to Article 5 adding a new division 5.13 titled "Fill Standards" to limit the amount of fill on low-lying areas.

Public Comment:

Chuck Newton commented on fill standards

Discussion: To see the full discussion click the link below.

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/139407>

The Vote - The motion was approved without objection.

25. **TEXT AMENDMENT TO THE BEAUFORT COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN TO AMEND CHAPTER 12 (PRIORITY INVESTMENT) TO INCLUDE AN ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTER AT BINDON PLANTATION IN THE 10-YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN (CIP)**

Robert Merchant stated Bindon Plantation is a 1,317-acre parcel located on US 17 in northern Beaufort County approximately 2 miles from Points South. The property is preserved by a conservation easement purchased by the Rural and Critical Lands Preservation Program (RCLPP) in 2012. The proposal calls for the RCLPP to purchase 50 acres to develop a passive park. This park was originally intended to be a future phase of the preservation of Bindon Plantation. The park is also referenced in the Bindon Plantation Conservation Easement addendum that outlined the Beaufort County Open Land Trust's plans for the property. The County does not own the property or have an identified funding source to cover land acquisition or park improvements. The proposal is to amend the 10-year Capital Improvements Plan in the Priority Investment Chapter to include an Environmental Education Center at Bindon Plantation. This item went before the Beaufort County Planning Commission at their June 7 meeting where they voted to support the amendment. The Natural Resources Committee unanimously rejected the proposed amendment at their September 7 meeting.

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Flewelling, seconded by Council Member Rodman to approve Text amendment to the Beaufort County Comprehensive Plan to Amend Chapter 12 (Priority Investment) to include an Environmental Education Center at Bindon Plantation in the 10-year Capital Improvements Plan (CIP).

Discussion: To see the full discussion click the link below.

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/139407>

The Vote - Voting Nae: Chairman Passiment, Vice Chairman Sommerville, Council Member Glover, Council

Member Rodman, Council Member Howard, Council Member Lawson, Council Member McElynn, Council Member Dawson, Council Member Flewelling, Council Member Cunningham. The motion failed 0:10

Motion to Extend:

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Rodman, seconded by Council Member Flewelling to extend past 8 pm. The motion was approved without objection.

26. **CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Steven Shultz commented on the covid ad-hoc committee.
Debbie Barton spoke against Mask and for Logan Cunningham.
Ms. Gilbert spoke against Mask.
Erik Lawson spoke against vaccines.

27. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM

COUNTY COUNCIL OF BEAUFORT COUNTY

BY: _____
Joseph F. Passiment, Jr., Chairman

ATTEST:

Sarah W. Brock, Clerk to Council
Ratified: