



## County Council Meeting Beaufort County, SC

Council Chambers, Administration Building Beaufort County Government Robert Smalls  
Complex 100 Ribaut Road, Beaufort

Tuesday, May 28, 2024  
5:00 PM

### MINUTES

Watch the video stream available on the County's website to hear the Council's discussion of a specific topic or the complete meeting <https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/306413>

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chairman McElynn called the meeting to order at 5:12pm.

#### PRESENT

Vice-Chairman Lawrence McElynn  
Council Member David P. Bartholomew  
Council Member Paula Brown  
Council Member Logan Cunningham  
Council Member Gerald Dawson (Virtual)  
Council Member York Glover  
Council Member Alice Howard  
Council Member Mark Lawson  
Council Member Anna Maria Tabernik  
Council Member Thomas Reitz  
Chairman Joseph F. Passiment (Virtual)

#### 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION

Vice Chairman McElynn led the Pledge of Allegiance and Council Member Tabernik gave the Invocation.

#### 3. PUBLIC NOTIFICATION OF THIS MEETING HAS BEEN PUBLISHED, POSTED, AND DISTRIBUTED IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE SOUTH CAROLINA FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

Vice -Chair McElynn stated public notice of this meeting had been published, posted, and distributed in compliance with SC FOIA.

#### 4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**Motion to Amend:** It was moved by Council Member Cunningham, Seconded by Council Member Tabernik to amend the agenda to insert 5a to include Item #29.

**The Vote:** Motion was approved without objection.

**Main Motion:** It was moved by Council Member Cunningham, Seconded by Council Member Tabernik to approve the agenda as amended.

**The Vote:** Motion was approved without objection.

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Motion:** It was moved by Council Member Howard, Seconded by Council Member Bartholomew to approve the minutes from April 24, 2024.

**The Vote:** Motion was approved without objection.

**6. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Motion:** It was moved by Council Member Bartholomew, Seconded by Council Member Tabernik to go into executive session.

**The Vote:** Motion was approved without objection.

**MATTERS ARISING OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Motion:** It was moved by Council Member Tabernik, Seconded by Council Member Howard that council authorize Joe Passiment as Chairman of County Council to enter into a contract with Michael R. Moore to be Beaufort County's next County Administrator beginning July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024.

**The Vote:** Motion was approved without objection.

To see the full discussion please watch the video stream available on the County's Website.

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/306413>

**7. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Please watch the video stream available on the County's website to view the full Interim County Administrators report.

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/306413>

**8. YEAR TO DATE PRESENTATION OF FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR GENERAL FUND, CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND, AND ALL ENTERPRISE FUNDS**

Please watch the video stream available on the County's website to view the presentation.

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/306413>

**9. CITIZEN COMMENT PERIOD**

Citizen Comments were taken.

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**10. LIASION AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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**11. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

**Motion:** It was moved by Council Member Glover, Seconded by Council Member Lawson to approve the following consent agenda items: third reading of an ordinance amending the Beaufort County 2040 Comprehensive Plan to add the Beaufort County Long-Term Resilience Strategy as an appendix; third reading of an ordinance to accept and to appropriate funds from the South Carolina Opioid Settlement

Funds; approval of the appointment of Justin Cooke to the Seabrook Point Special Tax District for a partial term with the expiration date of February 2027; boards and commissions appointments & reappointments; and recommend approval to award a contract to Talbert, Bright, & Ellington for professional airport planning services.

**The Vote:** Motion was approved without objection.

**12. PUBLIC HEARING AND THIRD READING OF AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE INTERIM COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE THE NECESSARY DOCUMENTS TO PURCHASE AND TO FUND THE PURCHASE OF THE REAL PROPERTY KNOWN AS PROJECT BRAVO**

**Motion:** It was moved by Council Member Bartholomew, Seconded by Council Member Cunningham to approve public hearing and third reading of an ordinance authorizing the Interim County Administrator to execute the necessary documents to purchase and to fund the purchase of the real property known as Project Bravo.

**The Vote:** Voting Nay: Vice-Chairman McElynn, Council Member Bartholomew, Council Member Brown, Council Member Cunningham, Council Member Dawson, Council Member Glover, Council Member Howard, Council Member Lawson, Council Member Tabernik, and Council Member Reitz. **The motion failed 0:11.**

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**13. PUBLIC HEARING AND SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE INTERIM COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE THE NECESSARY DOCUMENTS AND PROVIDE FUNDING FOR THE PURCHASE OF A PORTION OF REAL PROPERTY ABUTTING THE HILTON HEAD ISLAND AIRPORT LOCATED ON SUMMIT DRIVE WITH TMS NO. R510 005 000 271A.**

**Motion:** It was moved by Council Member Reitz, Seconded by Council Member Cunningham public hearing and second reading of an ordinance authorizing the Interim County Administrator to execute the necessary documents and provide funding for the purchase of a portion of real property abutting the Hilton Head Island Airport located on Summit Drive with tms no. R510 005 000 271a.

The Vice-Chair opened the floor for public hearing.

no one came forward.

The Vice-Chair closed public hearing.

**The Vote:** Motion was approved without objection.

**14. PUBLIC HEARING AND SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CONVEYANCE OF MULTIPLE PARCELS OF REAL PROPERTY FROM BEAUFORT COUNTY TO SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION IN CONNECTION WITH SC 802 SAMS POINT ROAD RIGHT TURN LANE.**

**Motion:** It was moved by Council Member Tabernik, Seconded by Council Member Glover to approve public hearing and second reading of an ordinance authorizing the conveyance of multiple parcels of real property from Beaufort County to South Carolina Department of Transportation in connection with SC 802 Sams Point Road right turn lane.

The Vice-Chair opened the floor for public hearing.

no one came forward.

The Vice-Chair closed public hearing.

**The Vote:** Motion was approved without objection.

15. **PUBLIC HEARING AND APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE INTERIM COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE THE DOCUMENTS NECESSARY AND TO PROVIDE FUNDS TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE PROCUREMENT BY THE APPLICANT OF FEE SIMPLE REAL PROPERTY LOCATED ON HILTON HEAD ISLAND, KNOWN AS THE MITCHELVILLE TRACT (PIN# R510 005 000 0007 0000), NOT TO EXCEED THE FINAL VALUE AS DETERMINED BY A NEW APPRAISAL AFTER THE COMPLETION OF AN UPDATED PLAT, RESOLUTION OF ALL LEGAL ISSUES/CLAIMS, CONTINGENT UPON FULL LEGAL DESCRIPTION, AND SHALL REQUIRE THAT ANY FUNDS RECEIVED FROM GRANTS, PRIVATE, FEDERAL, OR STATE FUNDING BE USED SOLELY TO REIMBURSE THE EXPENDITURE OF THE GREEN SPACE PROGRAM**

**Motion:** It was moved by Council Member Reitz, Seconded by Council Member Howard to approve public hearing and approval of a resolution authorizing the Interim County Administrator to execute the documents necessary and to provide funds to contribute to the procurement by the applicant of fee simple real property located on Hilton Head Island, known as the Mitchelville Tract (pin# r510 005 000 0007 0000), not to exceed the final value as determined by a new appraisal after the completion of an updated plat, resolution of all legal issues/claims, contingent upon full legal description, and shall require that any funds received from grants, private, federal, or state funding be used solely to reimburse the expenditure of the green space program.

The Vice-Chair opened the floor for public hearing.

no one came forward.

The Vice-Chair closed public hearing.

**The Vote:** Motion was approved without objection.

16. **FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 38 ENVIRONMENT, ARTICLE VI SINGLE USE PLASTIC BAGS SECTION 38-161, PURPOSE; SECTION 38-162 DEFINITIONS; SECTION 38-163 REGULATIONS; AND SECTION 38-164 EXEMPTIONS OF THE BEAUFORT COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES**

**Motion:** It was moved by Council Member Howard, Seconded by Council Member Brown to approve first reading of an ordinance amending Chapter 38 Environment, Article VI Single Use Plastic Bags Section 38-161, purpose; Section 38-162 Definitions; Section 38-163 Regulations; And Section 38-164 Exemptions Of The Beaufort County Code Of Ordinances.

**The Vote:** Voting Yea: Chairman Passiment, Vice-Chairman McElynn, Council Member Glover, and Council Member Howard. Voting Nay: Council Member Bartholomew, Council Member Brown, Council Member Cunningham, Council Member Dawson, Council Member Lawson, Council Member Tabernik, Council Member Reitz. **The motion failed 4:7.**

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17. **FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE APPROPRIATIONS FOR COUNTY GOVERNMENT AND SPECIAL PURPOSE DISTRICTS FOR BEAUFORT COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2024, AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2025; TO LEVY TAXES FOR THE PAYMENT THEREOF; TO ADOPT SERVICE AND USER FEES; TO PROVIDE FOR THE EXPENDITURE OF SAID TAXES AND OTHER REVENUES COMING INTO THE COUNTY; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO**

**Motion:** It was moved by Council Member Tabernik, Seconded by Council Member Bartholomew to approve first reading of an ordinance to make appropriations for County Government and Special Purpose Districts For Beaufort County for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025; to levy taxes for the payment thereof; to adopt service and user fees; to provide for the expenditure of said taxes and other revenues coming into the county; and other matters related thereto.

**Motion to amend:** It was moved by Council Member Bartholomew, seconded by Council Member Reitz to amend the current budget to add \$2,678,062 to 2411 Department Of Special Needs from the general fund, as well as transfer \$42,500 to Island Rec and to appropriate \$85,500 to the Solicitor's from the general fund.

**The Vote:** Voting Yea: Council Member Bartholomew, Council Member Brown, Council Member Lawson, Council Member Tabernik, and Council Member Reitz. Voting Nay: Chairman Passiment, Vice-Chairman McElynn, Council Member Cunningham, Council Member Dawson, Council Member Glover, and Council Member Howard. **The motion failed 5:6.**

**Main Motion:** It was moved by Council Member Tabernik, Seconded by Council Member Bartholomew to approve first reading of an ordinance to make appropriations for County Government and Special Purpose Districts For Beaufort County for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025; to levy taxes for the payment thereof; to adopt service and user fees; to provide for the expenditure of said taxes and other revenues coming into the county; and other matters related thereto.

**The Vote -** Voting Yea: Chairman Passiment. Vice-Chairman McElynn, Council Member Cunningham, Council Member Dawson, Council Member Glover, Council Member Howard, Council Member Lawson, Council Member Tabernik, and Council Member Reitz. Voting Nay: Council Member Bartholomew, and Council Member Brown. **The motion passed 8:2.**

**18. FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE LEVY OF TAX FOR SCHOOL PURPOSES FOR BEAUFORT COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2024 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2025, AND TO MAKE APPROPRIATIONS FOR SAID PURPOSES.**

**Motion:** It was moved by Council Member Cunningham, Seconded by Council Member Tabernik to approve first reading of an ordinance to provide for the levy of tax for school purposes for Beaufort County for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025, and to make appropriations for said purposes.

**The Vote:** Motion was approved without objection.

**19. APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PRODUCT FUNDING REQUEST**

**Motion:** It was moved by Council Member Tabernik, Seconded by Council Member Glover to approve a resolution to approve the economic development product funding request.

**The Vote:** Motion was approved without objection.

**20. APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION TO COMMIT FUNDS TO BE PROVIDED FROM BEAUFORT COUNTY TO THE TECHNICAL COLLEGE OF THE LOWCOUNTRY FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE ARTHUR E. BROWN REGIONAL WORKFORCE TRAINING CENTER**

**Motion:** It was moved by Council Member Reitz, Seconded by Council Member Howard to approve a resolution to commit funds to be provided from Beaufort County to the Technical College of The Lowcountry for the construction of the Arthur E. Brown Regional Workforce Training Center.

**The Vote:** Motion was approved without objection.

**21. APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE INTERIM COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE FRIENDS OF FORT FREMONT TO ALLOW THEM TO PROVIDE VOLUNTEER SERVICES TO BE PERFORMED AT THE FORT FREMONT PRESERVE AND HISTORY CENTER FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE COUNTY**

**Motion:** It was moved by Council Member Glover, Seconded by Council Member Howard to approve a resolution authorizing the Interim County Administrator to execute an agreement with the Friends Of Fort

Fremont to allow them to provide volunteer services to be performed at the Fort Fremont Preserve and History Center for the benefit of the county.

**The Vote:** Motion was approved without objection.

**22. APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE RECOMMENDATION TO THE GOVERNOR OF SOUTH CAROLINA FOR THE NOMINATION OF THE BEAUFORT COUNTY “CAROLINA BRIGHT” ESTUARY SYSTEM INTO THE NATIONAL ESTUARY SYSTEM**

**Motion:** It was moved by Council Member Howard, Seconded by Council Member Bartholomew to approve a resolution to support the recommendation to the Governor Of South Carolina for the nomination of the Beaufort County “Carolina Bright” Estuary System into the National Estuary System.

**The Vote:** Motion was approved without objection.

**23. APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH BEAUFORT COUNTY’S COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PRIORITY LIST**

**Motion:** It was moved by Council Member Tabernik, Seconded by Council Member Brown to approve a resolution to establish Beaufort County’s Community Development Priority List.

**The Vote:** Motion was approved without objection.

**24. APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT GRANT FUNDS IN SUPPORT OF PROJECT RT6**

**Motion:** It was moved by Council Member Brown, Seconded by Council Member Reitz a resolution to accept grant funds in support of project rt6.

**The Vote:** Motion was approved without objection.

**25. APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ALLOCATION OF AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) FUNDS TO HARGRAY AND ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT FOR USE OF FUNDS WITH HARGRAY FOR BROADBAND SERVICE EXPANSION ON ST. HELENA ISLAND**

**Motion:** It was moved by Council Member Glover, Seconded by Council Member Brown.

**The Vote** - Voting Yea: Chairman Passiment, Vice-Chairman McElynn, Council Member Brown, Council Member Dawson, Council Member Glover, Council Member Howard, Council Member Lawson, Council Member Tabernik, and Council Member Reitz. Voting Nay: Council Member Bartholomew. Voting Abstaining: Council Member Cunningham. **The motion passed 9:1 with 1 abstention.**

**26. CITIZEN COMMENT PERIOD**

Citizen Comments were taken.

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**27. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Motion:** It was moved by Council Member Brown, Seconded by Council Member Bartholomew into executive session to discuss the items below.

*Pursuant To S.C. Code Section 30-04-70(A)(2) discussions of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements (Law Enforcement Center Conceptual Plan)*

*Pursuant To S.C. Code Section 30-4-70(A)(2) to receive legal advice on matters covered by the attorney-client privilege (Daufuskie Island Ferry Service).*

*Pursuant To S.C. Code Section 30-4-70(A)(1) discussion of employment, appointment, compensation, promotion, demotion, discipline, or release of an employee, a student, or a person regulated by a public body or the appointment of a person to a public body.*

*Pursuant To S.C. Code Section 30-4-70(A)(1): to engage in discussions incident to the employment, appointment, or compensation of a person regulated by a public body.*

**The Vote:** Motion was approved without objection.

- 28. Motion:** It was moved by Council Member Howard, seconded by Council Member Bartholomew to extend the meeting past 8:00PM.

**The Vote:** Motion was approved without objection.

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

There were no matters arising out of executive session.

**30. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned shortly after 8:00PM.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF BEAUFORT COUNTY



BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Joseph F. Passiment, Jr., Chairman

ATTEST:



\_\_\_\_\_  
Sarah W. Brock, Clerk to Council  
Ratified: August 26, 2024