



County Council Meeting Beaufort County, SC

This meeting was held both in person at Hilton Head Island High School's Auditorium, 44 School Road, Hilton Head Island, and also virtually through Zoom.

Monday, February 28, 2022
6:00 PM

MINUTES

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Passiment Called the meeting to order at 6:13PM.

PRESENT

Chairman Joseph F. Passiment
Vice Chairman D. Paul Sommerville
Council Member York Glover
Council Member Chris Hervocho
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 Mark Lawson

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION**

Council Member Cunningham led the pledge of allegiance and gave the invocation.

3. **FOIA**

Chairman Passiment noted that the Public Notification of this meeting had been published, posted, and distributed in compliance with the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.

4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion: It was moved by Council Member McElynn, Seconded by Council Member Dawson to approve the agenda.

The Vote - The motion was approved without objection.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: It was moved by, Council Member McElynn, Seconded by Council Member Cunningham to approve the minutes from February 7, 2022.

The Vote - The motion was approved without objection.

6. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

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

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/155320>

7. CHECK PRESENTATION FOR THE BEAUFORT BROADBAND EVERYWHERE PROJECT

Richard Knoll with Hargray Communications presented Beaufort County's IT Department with a check for \$20,000 to aid in the County's Broadband efforts.

8. CITIZEN COMMENTS

There were no citizen comments.

9. PRESENTATION OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2021 ANNUAL COMPREHENSIVE FINANCIAL REPORT.

David Irwin, of Mauldin Jenkins, reviewed the Independent Auditor's Report. To see the full presentation please click the link below.

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/155320>

10. LIASION AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Council Member Sommerville briefed Council on his recent trip to DC to attend the National Association of County's Conference.

Council Member Howard stated TCL is expanding their dual enrollment program to Hampton County and overall program enrollment is up.

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

Council Member Hervochon gave an update from his recent attendance at the Beaufort County Transportation Committee retreat and applauded the committee Chair, Kraig Gordon, for all of his efforts.

Chairman Passiment announced that he and Vice-Chair Sommerville along with various staff recently attended the SCAC Mid-Year Conference.

11. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Motion: It was moved by Council Member McElynn Seconded by Vice-Chairman Sommerville to approve the consent agenda.

The Vote - The motion was approved without objection.

12. MATTERS ARISING OUT OF THE CAUCUS EXECUTIVE SESSION

Item #1

Motion: It was moved by made by Vice-Chairman Sommerville, Seconded by Council Member Rodman the county administrator be directed to request line-item budgets with supporting details for revenues and expenditures for all elected and appointed officials.

The Vote - Voting Yea: Chairman Passiment, Vice Chairman Sommerville, Council Member Glover, Council Member Hervochon, Council Member Rodman, Council Member Howard, Council Member McElynn, Council Member Dawson, Council Member Cunningham. Voting Nay: Council Member Flewelling. The motion passed 9:1.

Item #2

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Glover, Seconded by Council Member Howard to sell real property identified as 16 Paige Point Road for \$80,000 and a permanent conservation easement on the 10 acre tract.

Discussion: to see full discussion please click the link below.

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/155320>

The Vote - Voting Yea: Chairman Passiment, Council Member Glover, Council Member Hervochon, Council Member Howard, Council Member McElynn. Voting Nay: Vice-Chair Sommerville, Council Member Rodman, Council Member Dawson, Council Member Flewelling, Council Member Cunningham. The motion failed 5:5

13. **PUBLIC HEARING AND THIRD READING OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FY2022 BUDGET ORDINANCE FOR RECEIPT OF ARPA FUNDS**

Motion: It was moved by Council Member McElynn, Seconded by Council Member Cunningham to approve Third Reading of an Ordinance Amending the FY2022 Budget Ordinance for Receipt of ARPA Funds.

The Chairman opened the floor for public comment.

No one came forward.

The Chairman closed public comment.

The Vote - The motion was approved without objection.

14. **PUBLIC HEARING AND THIRD READING OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING BEAUFORT COUNTY ORDINANCE 2008/17 AND ADOPTING THE BUCKWALTER ACCESS MANAGEMENT PLAN**

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Flewelling, Seconded by Council Member Rodman to approve Third Reading of an Ordinance amending Beaufort County Ordinance 2008/17 and adopting the Buckwalter Access Management Plan.

The Chairman opened the floor for public comment.

No one came forward.

The Chairman closed public comment.

The Vote - The motion was approved without objection

15. **PUBLIC HEARING AND THIRD READING OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FY 2022 GENERAL FUND BUDGET (GRAVES ROAD)**

Motion: It was moved by Council Member McElynn, Seconded by Council Member Flewelling to approve Third Reading of an Ordinance Amending the FY 2022 General Fund Budget (Graves Road).

The Chairman opened the floor for public comment.

No one came forward.

The Chairman closed public comment.

The Vote - Voting Yea: Chairman Passiment, Council Member Hervochoon, Council Member Rodman, Council Member McElynn, Council Member Cunningham, Council Member Flewelling. Voting Nay: Vice Chair Sommerville, Council Member Glover, Council Member Howard, Council Member Dawson. The motion passed 6:4

16. PUBLIC HEARING AND THIRD READING OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FY 2022 GENERAL FUND BUDGET TO PURCHASE THE BCSO DOWLING LOTS

Motion: It was moved by Vice-Chairman Sommerville, Seconded by Council Member Howard to approve Third Reading of an Ordinance amending the FY 22 General Fund Budget to purchase the BCSO Dowling lots.

The Chairman opened the floor for public comment.

No one came forward.

The Chairman closed public comment.

The Vote - Voting Yea: Chairman Passiment, Vice Chairman Sommerville, Council Member Glover, Council Member Rodman, Council Member Howard, Council Member McElynn, Council Member Dawson, Council Member Flewelling. Voting Nay: Council Member Hervochoon, Council Member Cunningham. The Motion passed 8:2

17. PUBLIC HEARING AND THIRD READING OF AN ORDINANCE REGARDING A TEXT AMENDMENT TO BEAUFORT COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES: ARTICLE VII, DIVISION 4, SECTION 2-508; SECTION 2-509; SECTION 2-513; SECTION 2-517; AND SECTION 2-541 TO UPDATE ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES, TO PROVIDE NECESSARY CONTRACT DOLLAR THRESHOLD CHANGES AND TO UPDATE EXEMPTION PROVISIONS AND PROCEDURES

Motion: It was moved by Council Member McElynn, Seconded by Council Member Cunningham to approve Third Reading of an Ordinance regarding a text amendment to Beaufort County code of ordinances: Article VII, division 4, section 2-508; section 2-509; section 2-513; section 2-517; and section 2-541 to update administrative changes, to provide necessary contract dollar threshold changes and to update exemption provisions and procedures.

The Chairman opened the floor for public comment.

No one came forward.

The Chairman closed public comment.

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

Council Member Hervochon. The motion passed 9:1

18. **PUBLIC HEARING AND SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ARTICLE IX: GOVERNMENT-OWNED PROPERTY AND FACILITIES, DIVISION 2 OF BEAUFORT COUNTY'S CODE OF ORDINANCES TO INCLUDE A NEW SECTION: SECTION 2-675. CAMPING PROHIBITED**

Motion: It was moved by Council Member McElynn, Seconded by Council Member Howard to approve Second Reading of an ordinance to amend article ix: government-owned property and facilities, division 2 of Beaufort County's code of ordinances to include a new section: section 2-675. Camping prohibited.

The Chairman opened the floor for public comment.

No one came forward.

The Chairman closed public comment.

The Vote - the motion was approved without objection.

19. **PUBLIC HEARING AND SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE III, SECTION 2 OF THE 2020 BUSINESS LICENSE TAX ORDINANCE, SO THAT THE DEFINITION OF "BUSINESS" MEANS "ANY BUSINESS, CALLING, OCCUPATION, PROFESSION, OR ACTIVITY ENGAGED IN WITH THE OBJECT OF GAIN, BENEFIT, OR ADVANTAGE, EITHER DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY. IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE-DESCRIBED ACTIVITIES CONSTITUTING DOING BUSINESS IN THE COUNTY, AN INDIVIDUAL OWNS AND RENTS TWO OR MORE RESIDENTIAL UNITS (OR HOLDS A PARTIAL INTEREST THEREIN) WITHIN THE COUNTY, EXCLUDING THE MUNICIPALITIES THEREIN. THIS APPLIES TO (30 DAYS OR MORE) ONLY**

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Flewelling, Seconded by Council Member McElynn to approve Second Reading of an ordinance amending article iii, section 2 of the 2020 Business License Tax Ordinance, so that the definition of "business" means "any business, calling, occupation, profession, or activity engaged in with the object of gain, benefit, or advantage, either directly or indirectly. In addition to the above-described activities constituting doing business in the county, an individual owns and rents two or more residential units (or holds a partial interest therein) within the County, excluding the municipalities therein. This applies to (30 days or more) only.

The Chairman opened the floor for public comment.

No one came forward.

The Chairman closed public comment.

The Vote - The motion was approved without objection.

20. **PUBLIC HEARING AND SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE CONVEYANCE OF PORTIONS OF THE RIGHT OF WAY KNOWN AS BOSTICK ROAD AND AUTHORIZES THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE THE NECESSARY DOCUMENTS**

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Flewelling, Seconded by Council Member Glover to approve Second Reading of an ordinance approving the conveyance of portions of the right of way known as bostick road and authorizes the county administrator to execute the necessary documents.

The Chairman opened the floor for public comment.

No one came forward.

The Chairman closed public comment.

The Vote - The motion was approved without objection.

21. PUBLIC HEARING AND SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS FROM ACCOMMODATIONS TAX FUND BASED ON RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE ACCOMMODATIONS TAX(STATE 2%) BOARD TO TOURISM-RELATED ORGANIZATIONS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$800,000.

Motion: It was moved by Council Member McElynn, Seconded by Council Member Cunningham to approve Second Reading of an ordinance appropriating funds from accommodations tax fund based on recommendations from the accommodations tax(state 2%) board to tourism-related organizations in the amount of \$800,000.

The Chairman opened the floor for public comment.

No one came forward.

The Chairman closed public comment.

The Vote - the motion was approved without objection.

22. PUBLIC HEARING AND SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2021-2022 BUDGET ORDINANCE TO APPROVE THE FUNDING OF THE BOUNDARY STREET TENNIS COURTS PROJECT, APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATION TO AWARD IFB# 112221E CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT, AND TO MAKE APPROPRIATIONS THEREFORE

Motion: It was moved by Council Member McElynn, Seconded by Council Member Glover to approve Second Reading of an ordinance amending the 2021-2022 budget ordinance to approve the funding of the boundary street tennis courts project, approve the recommendation to award ifb# 112221e construction contract, and to make appropriations, therefore.

The Chairman opened the floor for public comment.

No one came forward.

The Chairman closed public comment.

The Vote - the motion was approved without objection.

23. FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE FOR APPROVAL OF A ZONING MAP AMENDMENT/REZONING REQUEST FOR NINETEEN (19) RURAL AND CRITICAL LANDS PRESERVATION PROGRAM PROPERTIES FROM VARIOUS ZONING DISTRICTS TO T1 NATURAL PRESERVE (T1NP)

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Howard, Seconded by Council Member Flewelling to approve First Reading of an ordinance for approval of a zoning map amendment/rezoning request for nineteen (19) rural and critical lands preservation program properties from various zoning districts to t1 natural preserve (t1np).

The Vote - the motion was approved without objection.

24. **FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE FOR APPROVAL OF A ZONING MAP AMENDMENT REQUEST FOR 6.26 ACRES (R100 027 000 0387 0000) 186 CHEROKEE FARMS ROAD FROM T2 RURAL TO T4 HAMLET CENTER OPEN**

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Flewelling, Seconded by Vice Chairman Sommerville to approve First Reading of an ordinance for approval of a zoning map amendment request for 6.26 acres – 186 Cherokee Farms Road from T2 Rural to T4 Hamlet Center.

The Vote - the motion was approved without objection.

25. **FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE FOR APPROVAL OF A TEXT AMENDMENT TO THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CODE (CDC): SECTIONS A.2.40 (PERMITTED ACTIVITIES), A.4.40 (PERMITTED ACTIVITIES), AND A.5.40 (PERMITTED ACTIVITIES) TO REVISE THE LADY’S ISLAND COMMUNITY PRESERVATION, LADY’S ISLAND NEIGHBORHOOD ACTIVITY CENTER, AND LADY’S ISLAND PROFESSIONAL OFFICE DISTRICTS TO INCLUDE SHORT-TERM RENTALS AS A SPECIAL USE.**

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Howard, Seconded by Council Member Dawson to approve first reading of an ordinance for approval of a text amendment to the community development code sections a.2.40 (permitted activities), a.4.40 (permitted activities), and a.5.40 (permitted activities) to revise the Lady’s Island Community Preservation, Lady’s Island Neighborhood Activity Center, and Lady’s Island Professional Office districts to include short-term rentals as a special use.

The Vote - The motion was approved without objection.

26. **FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE FOR APPROVAL OF A ZONING MAP AMENDMENT/REZONING REQUEST FOR 6.55 ACRES (R600 041 000 0172 0000) AT 28 BUCKINGHAM PLANTATION DRIVE FROM T4 HAMLET CENTER OPEN TO T4 NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER**

Motion: It was moved by Council Member McElynn, Seconded by Council Member Howard to approve first reading of an ordinance for approval of a zoning map amendment request for 6.55 acres at 28 Buckingham Plantation Drive from T4 Hamlet Center Open to T4 Neighborhood Center.

Discussion: Council Member Hervochon stated this is in his district and he requested some numbers regarding the amount of volume the County will be putting into that area.

To see the full discussion please click the link below.

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/155320>

The Vote - Voting Yea: Chairman Passiment, Council Member Glover, Council Member Rodman, Council Member Howard, Council Member Dawson, Council Member Flewelling. Voting Nay: Vice Chairman Sommerville, Council Member Hervochon, Council Member McElynn, Council Member Cunningham. The motion passed 6:4

27. **FIRST READING FOR AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE THE NECESSARY DOCUMENTS TO CONVEY A PORTION OF PROPERTY OWNED BY BEAUFORT COUNTY WITH TMS NO. R200 010 000 0170 0000**

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Howard, Seconded by Council Member Glover to approve First Reading of an ordinance authorizing the County Administrator to execute the

necessary documents to convey a portion of property owned by Beaufort County with TMS No.R200 010 000 0170 0000.

The Vote - the motion was approved without objection.

28. FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE 2021-22 BUDGET TO RECOGNIZE ARPA FUND EXPENDITURES

Motion: It was moved by Council Member McElynn, Seconded by Council Member Dawson to approve First Reading of an ordinance to amend the 21-22 Budget to recognize ARPA fund expenditures.

The Vote - the motion was approved without objection.

29. FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE FOR APPROVAL OF FY 2022 LOCAL ACCOMMODATIONS & LOCAL HOSPITALITY TAX GRANT AWARDS- FISCAL IMPACT: RECOMMENDATIONS OF \$2,149,808 TO BE PROVIDED OUT OF THE LOCAL ACCOMMODATIONS TAX FUND AND THE LOCAL HOSPITALITY TAX FUND

Motion: It was moved by made by Vice Chairman Sommerville, Seconded by Council Member McElynn to approve First Reading of an ordinance for approval of FY 2022 Local Accommodations and Local Hospitality Tax Grand Awards.

Motion to Amend: it was moved by Vice-Chair Sommerville, Seconded by Council Member Glover to change the amount from \$2,149,808 to \$2,399,808.00 which is an increase of \$250,000.

The Vote - the motion was approved without objection.

Main Motion: It was moved by made by Vice Chairman Sommerville, Seconded by Council Member McElynn to approve First Reading of an ordinance for approval of FY 2022 Local Accommodations and Local Hospitality Tax Grand Awards recommendations of \$2,399,808.00 to be provided out of the local accommodations tax fund and the local hospitality tax fund.

The Vote - The motion was approved without objection.

30. FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF BEAUFORT COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA ("COUNCIL") ESTABLISHING AND ADOPTING AN EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ("EMS") DEVELOPMENT IMPACT FEE ("IMPACT FEE") TO BE IMPOSED ON ALL NEW DEVELOPMENT IN THE COUNTY EXCEPT FOR NEW DEVELOPMENT IN THE TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND; TO ENSURE THAT EMS FACILITIES (EMS STATIONS AND EMERGENCY VEHICLES) WILL BE AVAILABLE AND ADEQUATE TO ACCOMMODATE THE NEED EXPECTED TO BE GENERATED FROM NEW DEVELOPMENT IN THE COUNTY (EXCEPT WITHIN HILTON HEAD ISLAND) BASED ON THE COUNTY'S LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARDS FOR EMS FACILITIES AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN (CIP), AND TO ASSIGN THE COSTS OF SUCH EMS FACILITIES ON A PROPORTIONATE SHARE BASIS TO NEW DEVELOPMENT

Motion: It was moved by Council Member McElynn, Seconded by Council Member Rodman to approve First Reading of an establishing and adopting an EMS development impact fee to be imposed on all new development in the County except for new development in the Town of Hilton Head Island; to ensure that EMS facilities will be available and adequate to accommodate the need expected to be generated from new development in the County based on the County's level of service standards for EMS facilities and capital improvements plan (cip), and to assign the costs of such EMS facilities on a proportionate share basis to new development.

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

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/155320>

The Vote - the motion was approved without objection.

31. **FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE FOR APPROVAL OF A TEXT AMENDMENT TO THE BEAUFORT COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 82: IMPACT FEES, ARTICLE I, IN GENERAL; ARTICLE II, DEVELOPMENT IMPACT FEE PROCEDURES; ARTICLE, III, PARKS, AND RECREATION FACILITIES; ARTICLE V, LIBRARY FACILITIES; ARTICLE VI, FIRE FACILITIES; AND EFFECTIVE DATES**

Motion: It was moved by Vice-Chairman Sommerville, Seconded by Council Member Dawson to approve First Reading of an ordinance for approval of a text amendment to the Beaufort County code of ordinances, chapter 82: impact fees, article i, in general; article ii, development impact fee procedures; article, iii, parks, and recreation facilities; article v, library facilities; article vi, fire facilities; and effective dates.

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

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/155320>

The Vote - the motion was approved without objection.

32. **FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE FOR APPROVAL OF A TEXT AMENDMENT TO THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CODE (CDC): SECTION 4.1.70 (DRIVE-THOROUGH FACILITIES) TO CLARIFY THE STANDARDS FOR DRIVE-THROUGHS IN TRANSECT ZONES AND TO ADD/AMEND STANDARDS TO MANAGE THE DEVELOPMENT OF DRIVE-THROUGHS IN BOTH THE TRANSECT AND CONVENTIONAL ZONES**

Motion: it was moved by Council Member Howard, Seconded by Vice-Chairman Sommerville to approve First Reading of an ordinance for approval of a text amendment to the community development code (cdc): section 4.1.70 (drive-through facilities) to clarify the standards for drive-throughs in transect zones and to add/amend standards to manage the development of drive-throughs in both the transect and conventional zones.

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

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/155320>

The Vote - the motion was approved without objection.

- 33 - 39. **RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO ACCEPT AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT 2021 (ARPA) GRANT FUNDS FOR HILTON HEAD ISLAND AIRPORT - FISCAL IMPACT: INCOMING GRANT FUNDS - \$1,995,069; RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO ACCEPT AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT 2021 (ARPA) GRANT FUNDS FOR BEAUFORT EXECUTIVE AIRPORT (ARW) - FISCAL IMPACT: INCOMING GRANT FUNDS - \$32,000; RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO PROVIDE FUNDING NOT TO EXCEED \$25,000 FOR A DESIGN PLANNING CHARRETTE TO DEVELOP DESIGN CRITERIA AND DRAWINGS TO ENHANCE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LADY'S ISLAND PLAN; RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT 2022 PALMETTO PRIDE LITTER PREVENTION GRANT AWARD; RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT 2022 PALMETTO PRIDE KEEP SC BEAUTIFUL AFFILIATE SUPPORT GRANT AWARD; RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION FOR EMINENT DOMAIN FOR A PORTION OF PARCELS R600 039 000 130A AND R600 039 000 1704 TO INSTALL THE 2018 ONE-CENT SALES TAX PROJECT BLUFFTON PARKWAY PATHWAY EXTENSION; RECOMMEND**

APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION FOR THE ACCEPTANCE OF A GRANT AWARD FROM THE SC DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE DAUFUSKIE ISLAND FERRY

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Rodman, Seconded by Council Member Glover to approve items 33 through 39 at one time.

The Vote – The motion was approved without objection.

40. **CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Council Member Howard read the following email from Southern Beaufort Corridor Committee Chair Dennis Neilsen.

To members of the Beaufort County Council: As the newly elected Chair of the Southern Beaufort County Corridor Beautification Board it is my understanding that all County financial support for the SBCCBB will soon be discontinued. I wish to express my disappointment. From all the positive statements concerning the improvements of the views along 278 I and other Board members have heard from members of the community and visitors, I believe there is a high Return on Investment factor for businesses, pride in the community, and support for the tourist industry. I do remember, not that long ago, when the grass wasn't mowed very often, and other not so welcoming trash was present. I do realize the increased cost for maintenance and DOT changes in plant selections - and certainly these changes must be considered - however, how much is too much for showing a pleasant welcome to all who visit us? Lastly, when has County Council surveyed the community to get their evidence that the beautification of the Southern Corridor is not worth support by the community? If you have that data, please share it so this choice is more than a small number of community leaders. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak my views. Dr. Dennis Nielsen - a community member for 40 years.

41. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:50PM

COUNTY COUNCIL OF BEAUFORT COUNTY

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

ATTEST:

Sarah W. Brock, Clerk to Council
Ratified: April 11, 2022