



Finance, Administration, and Economic Development Committee

Beaufort County, SC

This meeting will be held both in person at the County Council Chambers, 100 Ribaut Road, Beaufort, and virtually through Zoom.

Monday, August 26, 2024

3:00 PM

MINUTES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

MARK LAWSON, CHAIRMAN
DAVID P. BARTHOLOMEW
YORK GLOVER

ANNA MARIA TABERNIK, VICE-CHAIR
GERALD DAWSON
JOSEPH F. PASSIMENT, EX-OFFICIO

1. CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chairman Lawson called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm

PRESENT

Committee Chairman Mark Lawson
Committee Vice-Anna Maria Tabernik
Council Member Gerald Dawson
Council Member Alice Howard
Council Member Paula Brown
Council Member York Glover 3:39 p.m.
Council Member Thomas Reitz
Council Member David Bartholomew
Chairman Joseph Passiment
Vice-Chairman Lawrence McElynn

ABSENT

Council Member Logan Cunningham

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Committee Chairman Lawson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Committee Chairman Lawson noted that the public notification of this meeting has been published, posted, and distributed in compliance with the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: It was moved by Committee Vice Chair Tabernik, seconded by Council Member Dawson, to approve the agenda.

The Vote: The motion was approved without objection.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - June 17, 2024

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Dawson, Seconded by Council Member Brown, to approve the minutes from June 17, 2024.

The Vote: The motion was approved without objection.

6. CITIZEN COMMENT PERIOD- 15 MINUTES TOTAL

Anyone who wishes to speak during the Citizen Comment portion of the meeting will limit their comments and speak no longer than three (3) minutes. Speakers will address Council in a respectful manner appropriate to the decorum of the meeting, refraining from the use of profane, abusive, or obscene language. In accordance with Beaufort County's Rules and Procedures, giving of a speaker's time to another is not allowed.

There were no citizen comments.

7. ASSISTANT COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Acting CFO John Robinson introduced the Finance Team: Christine Webb, Valarie Althoff, and Brycen Campbell. Christine discussed the YTD general fund balances, and Valarie discussed budget transfers within departments and a calendar for next year's budget.

To see the full discussion, click the link below:

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/313354?ts=100>

AGENDA ITEMS

8. DISCUSSION: VIRTUAL ATTENDANCE AT COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS (RESOLUTION 2023/71, RULES AND PROCEDURES OF BEAUFORT COUNTY COUNCIL, CHAPTER 2, SECTION A)

Council Member Brown discussed virtual attendance at Council and Committee meetings and would like to do away with Zoom meetings.

To see the full discussion, click the link below:

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/313354?ts=921>

9. RECOMMEND APPROVAL TO COUNCIL OF AN ORDINANCE TO REPEAL AND REPLACE BEAUFORT COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE VII, DIVISION 4 (BEAUFORT COUNTY PURCHASING ORDINANCE); TO ESTABLISH NEW POLICIES OF CENTRALIZED PURCHASING AND COMPETITIVE BIDDING FOR COUNTY DEPARTMENTS AND ELECTED OFFICIALS (A NEW PURCHASING ORDINANCE); DELEGATING PURCHASING AUTHORITY TO THE COUNTY PURCHASING DIRECTOR; ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES FOR THE PURCHASING OF GOODS AND SERVICES AS REQUIRED BY COUNTY DEPARTMENTS AND ELECTED OFFICIALS; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO - *John Robinson, Acting CFO*

State law (S.C Code Sec. 11-35-5320) requires Counties to adopt ordinances or procedures embodying sound principles of appropriately competitive procurement. Pursuant to state law, Beaufort County adopted its present purchasing ordinance in 1982. The County has amended the ordinances several times in the intervening years. In 2023, the Council retained the services of Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd to, among other things, draft a new and updated purchasing ordinance. Staff worked with Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd

to draft a new purchasing ordinance that embraces good procurement principles of integrity, transparency, uniformity, and accountability. If adopted, this ordinance will repeal and replace the existing purchasing ordinance.

Motion: It was moved by Vice Chairman McElynn, seconded by Council Member Brown, to recommend to Council as a Time Sensitive Item on August 26, 2024, for the approval of an Ordinance to repeal and replace Beaufort County Code of Ordinances Chapter 2, Article VII, Division 4 (Beaufort County Purchasing Ordinance); to Establish New Policies of Centralized Purchasing and Competitive Bidding for County Departments and Elected Officials (A New Purchasing Ordinance); Delegating Purchasing Authority to the County Purchasing Director; Establishing Procedures for the Purchasing of Goods and Services as Required by County Departments and Elected Officials; and Other Matters Related Thereto

The Vote: The motion was approved without objection

Item is being heard as a First Reading on August 26, 2024, at the County Council Meeting.

To view the full discussion, click the link below:

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/313354?ts=1541>

10. RECOMMEND APPROVAL TO COUNCIL OF AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING BEAUFORT COUNTY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL TO PLEDGE REVENUES IN CONNECTION WITH THE ISSUANCE BY THE SOUTH CAROLINA JOBS-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF ITS HEALTHCARE REVENUE BONDS (SOUTH OF BROAD HEALTHCARE PROJECT) SERIES 2024 IN THE AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT EXCEEDING \$120,000,000; AUTHORIZING PROPER OFFICERS TO DO ALL THINGS NECESSARY OR ADVISABLE; AND OTHER MATTERS INCIDENTAL THERETO - *Brittany Ward County Attorney*

Beaufort County Memorial Hospital ("BMH") enabling legislative requires "bonds of the hospital for whatever purpose, shall be issued only by (County) Council and only with (County) Council's authorization."

Beaufort County Memorial Hospital ("BMH") is a public agency and deemed it necessary to establish South of Broad Healthcare ("Borrower"), a nonprofit corporation, to finance the construction of a new health care center in southern Beaufort County. The healthcare facility will be equipped with emergency rooms, ambulatory surgery, medical offices, and a hospital with approximately 20 beds to provide outpatient and acute care healthcare services. The Borrower is seeking financing through the issuance of a series of Healthcare Revenue Bonds in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$120,000,000. The funds will be used to defray the cost of the construction of the healthcare facility.

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Howard, seconded by Council Member Bartholomew to Recommend Approval to Council Meeting as a Time Sensitive Item on August 26, 2024 for an of an Ordinance Authorizing Beaufort County Memorial Hospital to Pledge Revenues in Connection with the Issuance by the South Carolina Job Economic Development Authority of its Healthcare Revenue Bonds (South of the Broad Healthcare Project) Series 2024 in the Aggregate Principal Amount Not Exceeding \$120,000,000; Authorizing Proper Officers to do all things Necessary or Advisable; and other matters related thereto.

The Vote: The motion was approved without objection.

Item is being heard as a First Reading on August 26, 2024, at the County Council Meeting.

To view the full discussion, click the link below:

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/313354?ts=3541>

11. RECOMMEND APPROVAL TO COUNCIL OF AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE TRANSFER OF AUTHORITY FOR CONDUCTING MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS FROM THE TOWN OF PORT ROYAL TO THE BEAUFORT COUNTY BOARD OF VOTER REGISTRATION AND ELECTIONS

State law (S.C. Code Sec. 5-15-145) allows municipalities to transfer authority for conducting municipal elections to County elections commissions and authorizes Counties to conduct municipal elections. As a condition of the transfer of authority to conduct elections, the governing bodies of the municipality and the County must agree to the terms of the transfer and enact ordinances embodying those terms.

The Town of Port Royal has worked with the Beaufort County Board of Voter Registration and Elections to agree on the terms of transfer. Chief among the terms is that the Town of Port Royal shall reimburse Beaufort County for all costs incurred in conducting the municipal elections and protests. The Town Council for the Town of Port Royal has adopted an ordinance embodying the terms of this agreement (Ordinance no. 2024/13). The Board of Voter Registration and Elections presents the Town's ordinance and an ordinance accepting an ordinance embodying the same terms, all as permitted by state law.

Motion: It was moved by Committee Vice-Chair Tabernik, Seconded by Council Member Brown to Recommend Approval to Council of an Ordinance Accepting the Transfer of Authority for Conducting Municipal Elections from the Town of Port Royal to the Beaufort County Board of Voter Registration and Elections.

The Vote: The motion was approved without objection.

To view the full discussion, click the link below:

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/313354?ts=3618>

12. RECOMMEND APPROVAL TO COUNCIL OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO ACCEPT BLOCK GRANT AWARDS OFFERED BY THE SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUG ABUSE SERVICES(FISCAL IMPACT: *The Beaufort County Alcohol and Drug Abuse Department will receive \$149,691.07 (Federal \$147,858.07 and State \$1,833.00) to fund the provision of primary prevention services for alcohol and other drugs and \$354,542.18 (Federal \$318,311.18 and State \$36,231.00) to provide intervention, treatment and recovery services for the citizens of Beaufort County. There is no requirement for matching funds) - Rebecca Whitt Burgess, Director of the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Department*

Under the S.C. Code of Laws, Title 61, Chapter 12, the Fiscal Year 2025 County Plan submitted by the Beaufort County Alcohol and Drug Abuse Department was reviewed and accepted by the S.C. Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services (DAODAS) per the terms that govern the release of local excise alcohol taxes.

The prevention block grant partially funds three personnel to work on the reduction of underage alcohol use, tobacco use, and vaping, reducing alcohol-related car crashes, and preventing substance misuse and substance use disorders to improve the well-being of youth and families in Beaufort County. The treatment block grant is applied to funding outpatient treatment and recovery services in Beaufort County. Priority populations include adolescents, pregnant and parenting women, people who use IV drugs, people at risk for infectious diseases, and people involved in the criminal justice system. Treatment block grant funding ensures that citizens in need of service who are uninsured, underinsured, and indigent have access to care.

The Beaufort County Alcohol and Drug Abuse Department will receive \$149,691.07 (Federal \$147,858.07 and State \$1,833.00) to fund the provision of primary provisions of primary prevention services for alcohol and other drugs and \$354,542.18 (Federal \$318,311.18 and State \$36,231.00) to provide intervention, treatment and recovery services for the citizens of Beaufort County. There is no requirement for matching funds.

Motion: It was moved by Committee Vice Chair Tabernik, seconded by Vice Chair McElynn, to Recommend to Council of a Resolution Authorizing the County Administrator to Accept Block Grant Awards Offered by the South Carolina Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services

The Vote: The motion was approved without objection.

To view the full discussion, click the link below:

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/313354?ts=3667>

13. RECOMMEND APPROVAL TO COUNCIL OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GRANT APPLICATION REGARDING PROJECT MICRO AND TO SUBMIT IT TO THE SOUTH CAROLINA COORDINATING COUNCIL FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - Hank Amundson, Special Assistant to the County Administrator

Project Micro is locating its operations in Beaufort County in an existing facility at Garden's Corner. The company is expected to invest at least \$7.1 million in the project and create at least 35 new jobs over the next five years. This grant application is the first step in assisting the company in its location, expansion, and success.

Motion: It was moved by Committee Vice Chair Tabernik, Seconded by Council Member Paula Brown, to go into Executive Session to discuss item 13.

The Vote: The motion was approved without objection.

Motion: It was moved by Vice Chairman McElynn, Seconded by Council Member Dawson, to Recommend Approval to Council as a Time Sensitive Item at the County Council Meeting on August 26, 2024, of a Resolution Authorizing the County Administrator to Execute the Economic Development Grant Application Regarding Project Micro and to Submit it to the South Carolina Coordinating Council for Economic Development.

The Vote: The motion was approved without objection.

Item is being heard as a Resolution on August 26, 2024, at the County Council Meeting.

To view the full discussion, click the link below:

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/313354?ts=3998>

14. RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF A CONTRACT TO PAVE AROUND BLUFFTON TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT'S TRAINING BUILDING (FISCAL IMPACT: This project is funded by Fire Impact Fees. This proposal is under budget. The current proposal is \$440,000. Budgeted amount was \$500,000. Funds to be from ACCOUNT# 10001410-57810 7308-050000-57810) - Paul Boulware, Fire Chief Bluffton Township Fire District

In May 2015, the Bluffton Township Fire District completed RFQ# 05050214 for its maintenance/training facility and completed the project in February of 2017. The district had a budget for the project; however, it was not enough to complete the project 100%. Work was done with the contractor to do some value engineering to make sure all the building components were completed but we were not able to complete all the exterior infrastructure for the project. The outside grounds were originally to be reinforced concrete to support the weight of our fire apparatus for maintenance access, along with access for training ground operations. In the interim, crushed concrete aggregate. The hope was to be able to re-visit the project when funds were available to procure the reinforced concrete to finish the overall project 100%.

The Bluffton Township Fire District has been mindful of its funding resources and are utilizing impact fee funds to support this project. We were in the process of a Sun City Fire Station remodel project that was using these funds as well. We were waiting to finish that project first and securing funds in that account to finish the concrete project. At this time, funds are available to complete this project.

Motion: It was moved by Committee Chair Tabernik, Seconded by Council Member Brown to Recommend Approval of a Contract to Pave Around Bluffton Township Fire District's Training Building.

The Vote: The motion was approved without objection.

15. RECOMMEND APPROVAL FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE BEAUFORT COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE FOR A FOUR-YEAR TERM WITH THE EXPIRATION DATE OF AUGUST 2028.

TERM TO BE SERVED: 1ST - VOTE NEEDED: 6/11 (District 11)

1. Diederik Advocaat

2. David Johnson

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Reitz, seconded by Council Member Brown to recommend approval for Diederik Advocaat for Appointment to the Beaufort County Transportation Committee for a Four-Year Term with the Expiration Date of August 2028.

The Vote: The motion was denied 3/7

Motion: It was moved by Vice Chairman McElynn, seconded by Committee Vice Chair Tabernik to recommend approval for David Johnson for Appointment to the Beaufort County Transportation Committee for a Four-Year Term with the Expiration Date of August 2028.

The Vote: The motion was approved 9/1

To view the full discussion, click the link below:

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/313354?ts=4326>

16. BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS APPOINTMENTS & REAPPOINTMENTS

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Dawson, Seconded by Council Member Howard, to approve the following Board and Commissions Appointments and Reappointments: Recommend Approval of the Appointment of Michael Murphy to the Bluffton Township District Board for a Four-Year Term with the Expiration Date of August 2028; Recommend Approval of the Appointment of Mark Feinberg to the Solid Waste and Recycling Board for a Four-Year Term with the Expiration Date of August 2028; Recommend Approval of the Reappointment of William Cecil Mitchell III to the Beaufort County Board Zoning Board of Appeals for a Three-Year Term with the Expiration Date of August 2027; Recommend Approval of the Appointment Adrian Scott to the Sheldon Fire District Board for a Four-Year Term with the Expiration Date of August 2028.

The Vote: The motion was approved without objection.

To view the full discussion, click the link below:

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/313354?ts=5108>

17. ADJOURNMENT

4:38 pm

TO WATCH COMMITTEE OR COUNTY COUNCIL MEETINGS OR FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF AGENDAS AND BACKUP PACKAGES, PLEASE VISIT:

<https://beaufortcountysc.gov/council/council-committee-meetings/index.html>

Ratified: September 23, 2024