



**County Council of
Beaufort County
Natural Resources
Committee Meeting**

Chairman
ALICE HOWARD

Vice Chairman
GERLAD DAWSON

Council Members
MICHAEL E. COVERT
YORK GLOVER, SR.
CHRIS HERVOCHON

County Administrator
ASHLEY M. JACOBS

Clerk to Council
SARAH W. BROCK

Staff Support
ERIC GREENWAY
EBONY SANDERS
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Natural Resources Committee Minutes

Monday, May 04, 2020 at 3:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

[Public notification of this meeting has been published, posted, and distributed in compliance with the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act]

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: Made by Vice Chairman Dawson, seconded by Council Member Passiment approval of agenda
Voting Yea: Council Member Passiment, Council Member Sommerville, Council Member Covert, Vice Chairman Dawson, Council Member Flewelling, Council Member Rodman, Council Member Glover, Council Member Hervochon, Chairman Howard, Council Member McElynn. Motion Passed 10:0

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Howard: The only correction is the name of Mr. Rosenal on page 6.

Motion: Made by Council Member Hervochon, Seconded by Council Member Passiment to approve the minutes from March 2, 2020 with the exception of spelling on page 6 Mr. Rosenal name needs correcting. Voting Yea: Council Member Passiment, Council Member Sommerville, Council Member Covert, Vice Chairman Dawson, Council Member Flewelling, Council Member Rodman, Council Member Glover, Council Member Hervochon, Chairman Howard, Council Member McElynn. Motion Passed 10:0

ACTION ITEMS

CONSIDERATION OF AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE A FOUR-YEAR CONTRACT EXTENSION WITH MORRISON FORESTRY FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN AND ACTIVITY SCHEDULE ON SELECTED PASSIVE PARK PROPERTIES

Stephanie Nagid: Numerous passive park properties have been unmanaged for years to decades. Many of these properties have timber resources that need to be managed to promote a healthy forest for wildlife, reduce wildfire risk and provide a more pleasing aesthetic. Additionally, these timber resources can provide revenue to continue necessary land management activities. South Carolina state law requires a certified forester to plan and implement silviculture activities. In December 2018, Beaufort County solicited proposals from certified foresters for planning and implementation services. In March 2019, Beaufort County contracted with the low bidder,

Morrison Forestry, for planning services. That contract has a 4-year extension clause for implementation services. The Forest Management Plan provides a summary of timber resources for timber management on selected passive park properties. The Activity Schedule provides detailed revenue and expense estimates based on current market values (as of March 1, 2020).

Kurt Taylor: Needs to be an ordinance because this can result gross timber revenues could exceed \$650,000 and site preparation/reforestation/oversight expenses could exceed \$150,000. The net timber revenue will be retained in the passive park program

Council Member Flewelling: Concerned that we won't get any negative feedback for clear cutting from taxpayers.

Stephanie Nagid: Does not believe that any of the taxpayers will be happy with the cutting of any trees however there has been a forest inventory and none of the wetlands or forest is going to be cut, just the pinelands. The proposal is only for old pine that needs to be thinned.

Motion: Made by Council Member Flewelling, seconded by Council Member Glover approval of forest plan submitted by administration Voting Yea: Council Member Passiment, Council Member Sommerville, Council Member Covert, Vice Chairman Dawson, Council Member Flewelling, Council Member Rodman, Council Member Glover, Council Member Hervochon, Chairman Howard, Council Member McElynn: Motion passed 10:0

CONSIDERATION OF AN ORDINANCE REGARDING A TEXT AMENDMENT TO THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CODE (CDC): ARTICLE 1, SECTION 1.3.50 APPLICABILITY AND JURISDICTION – EXEMPTIONS TO ADDRESS COUNTY PUBLIC SERVICE USES

Eric Greenway: The aim of this amendment is allow the County to provide necessary services in any zoning district with the requirement that County Council provide notification and hold a public hearing and approve such a use. The purpose of this amendment is to provide greater flexibility for the county government to respond to public safety and service needs throughout the county where these needs warranted. This amendment failed to be approved for 2nd reading on a 5-5 vote during the March, 23rd, 2020 County Council meeting due to concerns that the amendment treats the county projects different than private sector projects and that some uses be allowed to be approved without consideration of the Comprehensive Plan.

Council Member Sommerville: Is the necessity for this is for the use of private property for the ferry ?

Eric Greenway: That is correct.

Council Member Sommerville: Does this offer service to Bay Point?

Eric Greenway: The county has to own or lease the property for service Bay Point. It has to be within the zoning district.

Motion: Made by Council Member Passiment, Seconded by Council Member McElynn. Voting Yea: Council Member Passiment, Council Member Sommerville, Council Member Covert, Vice Chairman Dawson, Council Member Flewelling, Council Member Rodman, Council Member Glover, Chairman Howard, Council Member McElynn Voting Nay: Council Member Hervochon. The motion passed 9:1

CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE CITY OF BEAUFORT RELATING TO THE MOSSY OAKS DRAINAGE PROJECT.

Neil Desai: Beaufort County has committed to financially contributing to the City of Beaufort's Mossy Oaks Drainage Project starting in FY19 for a \$5,000 contribution and again in FY20 for \$15,404 both towards the engineering study/analysis for this project. An additional \$205,000 was committed and approved by the Stormwater Utility Board and Beaufort County Council for FY20. A formal agreement instrument was never

executed and the proposed MOU will establish this formal instrument. The project is multi-jurisdictional with portions of unincorporated Beaufort County within the project boundary. Staff recommends to enter into the proposed MOU to proceed with disbursement of the committed funds to the project.

Motion: Made by Council Member Rodman, Seconded by Council Member Flewelling to go forward with the MOU. Voting Yea: Council Member Passiment, Council Member Sommerville, Council Member Covert, Vice Chairman Dawson, Council Member Flewelling, Council Member Rodman, Council Member Glover, Council Member Hervochon, Chairman Howard, Council Member McElynn: The motion Passed 10:0

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion: Made by Council Member Flewelling, Seconded by Council Member Rodman to go into executive session. Voting Yea: Council Member Passiment, Council Member Sommerville, Council Member Covert, Vice Chairman Dawson, Council Member Flewelling, Council Member Rodman, Council Member Glover, Council Member Hervochon, Chairman Howard, Council Member McElynn. The motion passed 10:0

MATTERS ARISING OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion: Made Vice Chairman Dawson, seconded Council Member Sommerville by Due diligence with estimated at \$19,000 with greenprint update and application by the owner with rural and critical lands program project. Voting Yea: Council Member Passiment, Council Member Sommerville, Vice Chairman Member Dawson, Council Member Flewelling, Council Member Rodman, Council Member Glover, Chairman Howard, Council Member McElynn. Voting Nay: Council Member Covert, Council Member Hervochon. The motion passed 8:2.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

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Southern Beaufort County Corridor Beautification Board - Vacancy District 5

Rural And Critical Lands Preservation Board – Vacancy District 10

none approved at this time

CITIZEN COMMENTS

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Wendy Woods: Commented about Shellpoint Park

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:08 PM