



County Council Meeting

Chairman

JOSEPH F. PASSIMENT, JR.

Vice Chairman

D. PAUL SOMMERVILLE

Committee Members

LOGAN CUNNINGHAM
GERALD DAWSON
BRIAN E. FLEWELLING
YORK GLOVER, SR.
CHRIS HERVOCHON
ALICE G. HOWARD
MARK LAWSON
LAWRENCE P. MCELYNN
STU RODMAN

Interim County Administrator

ERIC GREENWAY

Clerk to Council

SARAH W. BROCK

Administration Building

Beaufort County Government
Robert Smalls Complex
100 Ribaut Road

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County Council Meeting

Monday, March 22, 2021 at 6:00 PM

This meeting will be held both in person at County Council Chambers, 100 Ribaut Road, Beaufort, and also virtually through Zoom. Please be aware that there is limited seating available for the in-person meeting and attendees must wear a face covering and practice social distancing per Beaufort County Emergency Ordinance 2021-01

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

PRESENT

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

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION

Council Member Gerald Dawson 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

Chairman Passiment 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

It was moved by Council Member Glover, seconded by Council Member Flewelling **"approve the agenda"**.

-add to action items today; to move forward with Facebook Live with videos

It was moved by Council Member Cunningham, seconded by Council Member Flewelling to amend the agenda, and add to the discussion items **"to move forward with Facebook Live for videos"** 9/2. Motion carried

It was moved by Council Member Hervocho, seconded by Council Member Cunningham to amend the agenda by adding an action item **"to repeal the Emergency Mask Ordinance"** 5/6. Motion defeated

It was moved by Council Member Flewelling, seconded by Council Member Glover to “**approve the amended agenda by adding a discussion item regarding moving forward with Facebook Live**” 10/1. Motion carried.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Council Member Lawson, seconded by Council Member Howard to “**approve the minutes from December 14, 2020**” 11/0. Motion carried.

It was moved by Council Member Flewelling, seconded by Council Member Howard to “**approve the minutes from January 11, 2021**” 11/0. Motion carried.

6. ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

[Click here to watch County Administrator’s Report](#)

7. CITIZEN COMMENTS

No Citizen Comments

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Facebook Live Streaming

- Great tool for streaming and transparency
- Follow Citizen Comments decorum
- Fake Facebook accounts will not allow to them to publicly identify themselves
- Youtube Live suggestion
- handle public comments
- Facebook was discontinued due to derogatory comments
- Use as a streaming service not as a citizen comment platform

COMMITTEE REPORTS

8. Liaison and Committee Reports

- Public Facilities:
 - o 4 consent agenda items to be approved
 - o Tithanie Vaughn’s recognition for completing Masters
 - o 278 Corridor- Independent Review: Issues Resolved/Identified/open Issues
- Finance:
 - o Budget workshop calendar changes.
 - o ATAX/HTAX Awards
 - o Recommendation for Surplus Fund Balance Use
- Stormwater meeting in person
- Library board meeting
- BJ Higher Education Commission: Refinancing of the Debt, favorable motion to refinance to save a considerable amount of money and consolidate the debt
- Vaccines for Covid-19; Beaufort County facilities being used as sites for vaccination

9. CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by Council Member Rodman, seconded by Council Member Howard to “**approve the consent agenda items**” 11/0 Motion carried.

1. Recommendation of award for RFQ #02520E: A&E Services; Buckwalter Recreation Athletic Complex Expansion (BRACE) Phase 1 (\$655,930)

It was moved by Council Member Rodman, seconded by Council Member Howard to “**approve the recommendation of award for RFQ #02520E: A&E Services; Buckwalter Recreation Athletic Complex Expansion (BRACE) Phase 1**” 11/0 Motion carried.

2. Recommendation of Award for IFB 021621E Dirt Road Paving Contract #52 (Year 2)

It was moved by Council Member Rodman, seconded by Council Member Howard to “**approve the recommendation of award for IFB 012621E Dirt Road Paving Contract #52 (Year 2)**” 11/0 Motion carried.

3. Memorandum of Agreement between Beaufort County and The Bluffton Township Fire District (BFTD) For the Sun City EMS/Fire Station 34 Renovation Project

It was moved by Council Member Rodman, seconded by Council Member Howard to “**approve the Memorandum of Agreement between Beaufort County and the Bluffton Township Fire District (BFTD) for the Sun City EMS/Fire Station 34 Renovation Project**”. 11/0 Motion carried.

4. Purchase of Additional Nutanix HCI Server System Nodes- \$132,940.18

It was moved by Council Member Rodman, seconded by Council Member Howard to “**approve the purchase of additional Nutanix HCI Server System Nodes**”. 11/0 Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND ACTION ITEMS

10. Public Hearing and Second Reading of an Ordinance Regarding a Zoning Map Amendment/Rezoning Request for 1.96 Acres (R600 036 000 015E 0000) at the Intersection May River Road and Benton Lane from T3 Edge to T2 Rural Center

It was moved by Council Member Cunningham, seconded by Council Member Lawson to approve the “**Ordinance Regarding a Zoning Map Amendment/Rezoning Request for 1.96 Acres (R600 036 000 015E 0000) at the Intersection May River Road and Benton Lane from T3 Edge to T2 Rural Center**” 6/5. Motion carried.

Discussion:

- Letters that were written are now being rescinded against the rezoning
- Spot zoning is not applicable
- Commercial left and right of property would be considered as commercial, surrounded by Bluffton Town property
- Concerned with the property not having BJWSA access
- Would like to hear more from staff
- Concerned with changing the zoning and then reselling
- Spot zoning explained by Planning and Zoning Director [Click here](#) to listen
- No Public Comment

11. Public Hearing and Second Reading of an Ordinance Approving the 2021 Awards of Local Accommodations and Hospitality Tax.

It was moved by Council Member Dawson, seconded by Council Member Glover, to approve the **“Ordinance Approving the 2021 Awards of Local Accommodations and Hospitality Tax”** 11/0. Motion carried

Discussion:

- No Public Comment
- Council thanked staff for hard work

12. First Reading of an Ordinance to Establish the Initial Residential Solid Waste Fee as a Uniform Service Charge for the Solid Waste and Recycling Enterprise System for Beaufort County to Fund the Planning, Designing, Constructing, and Maintaining Solid Waste and Recycling Management Programs, Projects, and Facilities; and other matters related thereto

It was moved by Council Member Glover, seconded by Council Member Sommerville, to approve **“the Ordinance to Establish the Initial Residential Solid Waste Fee as a Uniform Service Charge for the Solid Waste and Recycling Enterprise System for Beaufort County to Fund the Planning, Designing, Constructing, and Maintaining Solid Waste and Recycling Management Programs, Projects, and Facilities; and other matters related thereto”** 10/1 Motion carried

Discussion:

- Concerned with an unfair burden on property that assessed at a lower value; regressive tax; need to find a different way to fund the program
- More information is needed for the public regarding what this is and what it means to implement the Enterprise fund; what tax are the citizens going to be relieved from
- Enterprise fund explained [Link here](#) to listen
- People that pay less than \$169 in taxes will see an increase on their bill
- Encouraging to move this forward for second reading with the promise that staff will have more information available regarding financial impact to citizens on the tax bill based on assessed property
- No Public Comment

13. First Reading of an Ordinance to Use \$5 Million in Fund Balance to Defeas Bonds

It was moved by Council Member Flewelling, seconded by Council Member Lawson to approve an **“Ordinance to Use \$5 Million in Fund Balance to Defeas Bonds”**. 11/0 motion carried

14. A Resolution Authorizing the Interim County Administrator to Enter into an Agreement to Grant Exclusive and Nonexclusive Parking Rights Over the County Parcel for the Benefit of the Myrtle Parcel and the County Parcel, all as more particularly set forth in the document entitled: “Access and Parking Agreement”

It was moved by Council Member Glover, seconded by Council Member Howard to approve a **“Resolution Authorizing the Interim County Administrator to Enter into an Agreement to Grant Exclusive and Nonexclusive Parking Rights Over the County Parcel for the Benefit of the Myrtle Parcel and the County Parcel, all as more particularly set forth in the document entitled: Access and Parking Agreement”**.

Discussion:

- Should not limit Beaufort county owned property for a developer to use
- this will allow the County Zoning department to allow the developer to use 47 parking spaces to account for his development and grants the developer the rights to those spaces
- If the County doesn't do this this it will limit the amount of development for the space because of parking access and may result in a building that doesn't have full occupancy because of not enough parking space
- That part of the parking lot is only at full occupancy during Jury selection per the magistrate, otherwise it is vacant

- Why isn't the count being compensated for the use?
- Bring back to council later when parking area is assessed and how the county is compensated

It was moved by Council Member Flewelling, seconded by Council Member Glover to amend the item to read “ **first reading by title only of an Ordinance Authorizing the Interim County Administrator to Enter into an Agreement to Grant Exclusive and Nonexclusive Parking Rights Over the County Parcel for the Benefit of the Myrtle Parcel and the County Parcel, all as more particularly set forth in the document entitled: Access and Parking Agreement**” 11/0. Motion carried.

It was moved by Council Member Dawson, seconded by Council Member Howard to “**approve the item as amended**” 8/3. Motion carried.

15. Summary and Revised Recommendation from Pathways Public Meeting Number 1

It was moved by Council Member Rodman, seconded by Council Member Glover to approve “**Summary and Revised Recommendation from Pathways Public Meeting Number 1**”. 11/0. Motion carried.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

16. An Appointment for Andrew Disalvo to the Board of Assessment Appeals

It was moved by Council Member Flewelling, seconded by Council Member Glover to approve the “**Reappointment for Andrew Disalvo to the Board of Assessment Appeals**” 11/0. Motion carried.

17. A Reappointment for James Buckley to the Airports Board

It was moved by Council Member Flewelling, seconded by Council Member Glover to approve the “**Reappointment for James Buckley to the Airports Board**”. 11/0. Motion Carried.

18. CITIZEN COMMENTS

No Citizen Comments.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM

Ratified by Committee: