



Finance Committee Beaufort County, SC

This meeting was held at the County Council Chambers, 100 Ribaut Road, Beaufort, and virtually through Zoom.

**Monday, April 18, 2022
1:30 PM**

MINUTES

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Committee Chair Lawson called the meeting to order at 1:30 PM

PRESENT

Committee Chairman Mark Lawson
Council Member Joseph F. Passiment
Council Member D. Paul Sommerville
Council Member Gerald Dawson
Council Member Brian Flewelling
Council Member Stu Rodman
Council Member York Glover
Council Member Alice Howard
Council Member Lawrence McElynn
Committee Vice-Chair Chris Hervocho

ABSENT

Council Member Logan Cunningham

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Committee Chair 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 Chair Lawson stated this meeting has been published, posted, and distributed in compliance with SC FOIA.

4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

Discussion: No discussion

The Vote: approved without objection

5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES- March 21, 2022**

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Howard, Seconded by Council Member Dawson to approve the minutes.

Discussion: No discussion

The Vote: approved without objection

6. **CITIZEN COMMENTS - (ANYONE who wishes to speak during the Citizen Comment portion of the meeting will limit their comments to no longer than three (3) minutes (a total of 15 minutes) and will address Council in a respectful manner appropriate to the decorum of the meeting, refraining from the use of profane, abusive, or obscene language)**

There were no citizen comments.

7. **DIVISION UPDATE FROM ASSISTANT COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR, DALE BUTTS**

Dale Butts, Assistant County Administrator, presented a division update

- job fair events and locations
- open enrollment for employees
- executing payments to employees as presented in the amended budget ordinance
- renew business licenses by April 30th
- fraud protection on quick claim deeds
- procurement training for employees
- budget workshop Thursday at 10:00 am

AGENDA ITEMS

8. **DISCUSSION AND PRESENTATION OF YEAR-TO-DATE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR 2022, FINANCE DIRECTOR, DENISE CHRISTMAS**

Denise Christmas, Finance Director, presented the year-to-date financial statements for 2022

- 101% in the collection of Ad Valorem Taxes, refunds will be coming out of that, and it will decrease significantly
- projection of total collections this year, the expectation is an 18-million-dollar surplus
- refunds are various types, homestead, payment on sold properties, errors in escrow, etc.

To view the full presentation, click the link below:

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/167550>

9. **UPDATE FROM BEAUFORT COUNTY FINANCE DIRECTOR DENISE CHRISTMAS AND INTRODUCTION OF FIXED ASSETS ACCOUNTANT, VINCENT JONES**

Update from Beaufort County Finance Director Denise Christmas and introduce fixed assets accountant Vincent Jones

- utilizing Munis for fixed assets by flagging purchase orders of \$10,000 or more to be tagged as a capital asset
- I.T. will be the first department that will receive a forensic audit.
- assets \$10,000 or less will not be listed as capital assets; heavy-duty equipment will be included and possibly tracked
- barcode will be used for physical assets and scanned
- every department with capital assets will have a forensic audit
- the capital assets in the I.T. department seem low, but capital assets are any one item over \$10,000, not a cumulative amount
- forensic audit on every department completed by the end of the audit this year
- compare audit with risk management and insurance
- each department will keep up with noncapital assets less than \$10,000 as a physical asset
- the department head will be contacted for assets not accounted for but on the list

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10. **PRESENTATION FROM THE SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER DIRECTOR, MARTIN GOODMAN. (FISCAL IMPACT: REQUESTING FUNDING OF \$40,000 FOR THE 2023 BUDGET)**

Presentation from Martin Goodman, Director of the Small Business Development Center, and Pat Cameron, Consultant

- County Council has provided \$35,000 in the past to fund the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) SBDC presented the work and the number of businesses they have served over the past three years. They are currently requesting funding of \$40,000 for the 2023 budget
- Businesses startups have been individuals in their late 20s

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11. **PRESENTATION OF FY2022-2023 BUDGET REQUESTS BY DAUFUSKIE ISLAND, SHELDON, AND BLUFFTON TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICTS**

Presentation of FY2022-2023 Budget Requests by Daufuskie Island, Sheldon, and Bluffton Township Fire Districts.

- Chief Buddy Jones presented the Sheldon Township Fire District Budget
 - does the budget include an increase in mil value and impact the budget? Projections do reflect an increase in the mil value
- Deputy Chief Boulware presented the Bluffton Township Fire District Budget.

- 6 new employees due to growth
- reassessment goes into effect next year; an increase needs to get in now

- Chief Camparetto presented the Daufuskie Island Fire District Budget.
 - includes an increase in salary and a 5% COLA as recommended.
 - The decrease in fringe benefits went down, and state brand health care was used instead of a broker, which gave them better benefits
- As mil rates are being adjusted due to mil value, the numbers will be reassessed. Bluffton especially needs to be reassessed

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12. **DISCUSSION AND PRESENTATION OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2023 BUDGET REQUEST: BEAUFORT, JASPER, HAMPTON COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH**

Dr. Faith Polkey, CEO of Beaufort, Jasper, Hampton Comprehensive Health, presented the Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Request

- Sea Island mobile dental clinic has been difficult to staff.
- bringing vaccines into the rural communities was an asset.

To view the full presentation, click the link below:

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13. **ADJOURNMENT**

Adjourned at 2:45

Ratified by committee: May 16, 2022