



## Public Facilities and Safety Committee Beaufort County, SC

Council Chambers, Administration Building Beaufort County Government Robert Smalls  
Complex 100 Ribaut Road, Beaufort

Monday, May 22, 2023  
3:00 PM

### MINUTES

Watch the video stream available on the County's website to hear the Council's discussion of a specific topic or the complete meeting. <https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/230728>

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

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

#### PRESENT

Chairman Logan Cunningham  
Vice-Chairman David P. Bartholomew (arrived at 3:22 PM)  
Council Member Paula Brown  
Council Member Anna Maria Tabernik  
Ex-Officio Joseph F. Passiment  
Council Member York Glover (arrived at 3:07 PM)  
Council Member Alice Howard  
Council Member Mark Lawson  
Council Member Lawrence McElynn  
Council Member Thomas Reitz

#### ABSENT

Council Member Gerald Dawson

#### 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Committee Chairman Cunningham led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### 3. FOIA

Committee Chairman Cunningham noted that 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 Passiment, seconded by Council Member McElynn, to approve the agenda.

**The Vote** - The motion was approved without objection.

#### 5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Motion:** It was moved by Council Member Tabernik, seconded by Council Member Brown, to approve the minutes from April 24, 2023.

**The Vote** - The motion was approved without objection.

**6. CITIZEN COMMENT PERIOD- 15 MINUTES TOTAL**

No Citizen Comments.

**7. DISCUSSION ON REIMAGINE RIBAUT ROAD**

Please watch the video stream available on the County's website to view the full discussion.

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/230728?ts=142>

**Motion:** It was moved by Council Member Howard, seconded by Council Member Passiment, to start the discussion on Reimagining Ribaut Road.

Director of Engineering Eric Claussen briefed the Committee on Reimagine Ribaut Road's [website](#), citizens survey, multimodal transport conditions, and road safety. Director Claussen also gave an overview of the project's 8-month timeline, actions taken so far, including a public symposium on April 20th, and planned next steps, including a multiday workshop in late June where citizens can provide design input.

Council Member Howard commented on how well the April 20th symposium went and the good amount of feedback received from the public.

**8. RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF AN ORDINANCE (by title only) AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE THE NECESSARY DOCUMENTS AND PROVIDE FUNDING FOR THE PURCHASE OF A PORTION OF REAL PROPERTY LOCATED ON HIGHWAY 170 WITH TMS NO. R600 008 000 0005 0000**

Please watch the video stream available on the County's website to view the full discussion.

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/230728?ts=675>

Assistant County Administrator Fralix discussed the plans to create an offsite law enforcement center or regional administration campus on the Cooler Tract, which is adjacent to the property being discussed.

County Attorney Ward gave a presentation with GIS mapping of the 20-acre property available for purchase and the Oldfield community's requests for road alignment to create a backdoor access road and for an equestrian trail over the Cooler Tract's wetlands.

Council Member Glover and County Attorney Ward discussed the access road and the property that the County is proposing to purchase.

Council Member Lawson asked about the acreage of wetlands on the property and the estimated costs for creating the access road. County Attorney Ward replied that visuals show 3 acres of wetlands, but that they would hire a wetland consultant to confirm. ACA Fralix commented that the relative cost to build the road is small compared to the Law Enforcement Center's \$90 million expense.

Council Member Howard asked if the equestrian trail would be open to other members of the public. County Attorney Ward replied that the intention is not to have the trail open to the public and that the easement would be held by Oldfield.

Committee Chairman Cunningham and County Attorney Ward discussed the placement of the access road.

County Attorney Ward also highlighted how the Planned Urban Development (PUB) Agreement requires Oldfield to donate 6 of the 20 acres to the County and the requirement for the County to build a government facility, like an EMS or fire station on the property within ten years.

The Committee and ACA Fralix discussed the need for an EMS and fire station in that area.

Council Member Glover and County Attorney Ward discussed the requirement to build a government facility on the six acres of donated land.

**Motion:** It was moved by Council Member Passiment, seconded by Council Member Tabernik, to recommend approval of an Ordinance (by title only) authorizing the County Administrator to execute the necessary documents and provide funding for the purchase of a portion of real property located on Highway 170 with TMS NO. R600 008 000 0005 0000.

**Discussion:** Council Member Tabernik asked about the approximate cost of the purchase. County Attorney Ward replied that the purchase is still under negotiations and that the ballpark amount would be \$60,000 per acre.

**The Vote** - The motion was approved without objection.

9. **RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION AND APPROVAL TO ENTER INTO AN IGA WITH THE TOWN OF HILTON HEAD FOR AN EXPENDITURE OF TRANSPORTATION IMPACT FEES ON THE ADAPTIVE TRAFFIC SIGNAL MANAGEMENT (ATSM) SYSTEM (FISCAL IMPACT: \$3,100,000 TO COME FROM ACCOUNT 23020011-51160 WITH A BALANCE OF \$3,298,434)**

**Motion:** It was moved by Council Member Passiment, seconded by Council Member Glover, to recommend approval of a Resolution to enter into an IGA with the Town of Hilton Head for an expenditure of Transportation Impact Fees on the Adaptive Traffic Signal Management (ATSM) System.

**The Vote** - The motion was approved without objection.

10. **RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A TAX ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO PLAN FOR A FUTURE SALES TAX PROGRAM**

Please watch the video stream available on the County's website to view the full discussion.

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/230728?ts=1810>

ACA Fralix briefed the Committee on the plan to hold a sales tax referendum in November 2024, discussions with municipalities about a 25-year plan to address roads, buildings, and schools, and the proposed six-member community as a next step.

**Motion:** It was moved by Council Member Howard, seconded by Council Member Passiment, to recommend approval of a Resolution establishing a Tax Advisory Committee to plan for a future sales tax program.

**Discussion:** Council Member Glover asked about planning for school infrastructure. ACA Fralix commented on ongoing discussions with the schools and the school district and education capital project taxes that allow for the development of schools.

Council Member Glover also raised concerns about representation.

The Committee, ACA Fralix, and County Administrator Greenway discussed the size and makeup of the Tax Advisory Committee.

**The Vote** - The motion was approved without objection.

11. **RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE THE NECESSARY DOCUMENTS FOR THE PURCHASE OF A PORTION OF THE REAL PROPERTY ABUTTING THE HILTON HEAD ISLAND AIRPORT LOCATED ON SUMMIT DRIVE WITH TMS NO. R510 005 000 271A 0000**

Please watch the video stream available on the County's website to view the full discussion.

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/230728?ts=2362>

Deputy Director Steve Perry provided background on Exec-Air, including their hanger building's proximity to Hilton Head Airport's taxiways and the appraisal and planned purchase of the property.

**Motion:** It was moved by Council Member Passiment, seconded by Council Member Bartholomew, to recommend approval of a Resolution authorizing the County Administrator to execute the necessary documents for the purchase of a portion of the real property abutting the Hilton Head Island Airport located on Summit Drive with TMS NO. R510 005 000 271A 0000.

**The Vote** - The motion was approved without objection.

Council Member Glover and Deputy Director Perry discussed the acreage of the property.

**12. HILTON HEAD ISLAND AIRPORT (HXD) AND BEAUFORT EXECUTIVE AIRPORT (ARW) HANGAR RENT INCREASE**

Please watch the video stream available on the County's website to view the full discussion.

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/230728?ts=2471>

Deputy Director Steve Perry discussed the increase of hanger fees for hangers at Beaufort Executive Airport and Hilton Head Airport to support maintenance and upgrades.

**Motion:** It was moved by Council Member Brown, seconded by Council Member Tabernik, to recommend approval of a hangar fee increase at the Hilton Head Island Airport (HXD) and Beaufort Executive Airport (ARW).

**The Vote** - The motion was approved without objection.

**13. RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF A CONTRACT AWARD TO WSP FOR THE JOE FRAZIER ROAD CORRIDOR STUDY (FISCAL IMPACT: \$213,890)**

Please watch the video stream available on the County's website to view the full discussion.

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/230728?ts=2561>

Director Claussen briefed the Committee on the study to be undertaken by WSP to look at the capacity, safety, and walkability of the corridor. Director Claussen also noted that the project will move toward the final design once adopted by the Planning Commission and County Council.

**Motion:** It was moved by Council Member Passiment, seconded by Council Member Brown, to recommend approval of a contract award to WSP for the Joe Frazier Road Corridor Study.

**Discussion:** Council Member Glover asked for a map to be included in the presentations.

**The Vote** - The motion was approved without objection.

**14. RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF A CONTRACT AWARD TO HDR ENGINEERING, INC FOR THE US 21 CORRIDOR ACCESS MANAGEMENT PLAN (FISCAL IMPACT: \$217,992.92)**

Please watch the video stream available on the County's website to view the full discussion.

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/230728?ts=2704>

Director Claussen briefed the Committee on the plan to get ahead of development along the US 21 corridor and to have HDR Engineering, Inc. look at access management, safety, and pedestrian accommodations. Director Claussen said they would also be looking at safety improvements at specific locations around US 21 and Laurel Bay, including for right turn lanes.

**Motion:** It was moved by Council Member Tabernik, seconded by Council Member Howard, to recommend approval of a contract award to HDR Engineering, Inc for the US 21 Corridor Access Management Plan.

**Discussion:** Council Member Howard asked if Laurel Bay is a hotspot for accidents. Director Claussen replied that they are seeing crashes with the right turn lanes.

Council Member Glover commented that US 21 is a major thoroughfare and asked whether that would be taken into account in the study. Director Claussen replied that the plan is to get ahead of development and determine the best locations for traffic signals and improve access management.

**The Vote** - The motion was approved without objection.

**15. RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION TO USE IMPACT FEES TO RETAIN HDR ENGINEERING, INC TO STUDY, RECOMMEND, AND DESIGN ENHANCEMENTS TO BLUFFTON PARKWAY PEDESTRIAN ACCOMMODATIONS AND AESTHETICS AKA BLUFFTON PARKWAY ENHANCEMENT PROJECT (FISCAL IMPACT: \$259,954.84)**

Please watch the video stream available on the County's website to view the full discussion.

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/230728?ts=2889>

Director Claussen discussed the plan to showcase what a corridor could look like in terms of enhanced walkability, lighting, traffic signals, landscaping, pedestrian crossings, and wider concrete trails on a half-mile section between River Ridge and the Hampton Lake signal. Director Claussen added that the final design is expected to be completed by the end of 2023 and that construction would be completed prior to October 2024 so that the showcase can be ready before the 2024 Sales Tax.

**Motion:** It was moved by Council Member Passiment, seconded by Council Member McElynn, to recommend approval of a Resolution to use Impact Fees to retain HDR Engineering, Inc to study, recommend, and design enhancements to Bluffton Parkway Pedestrian Accommodations and Aesthetics AKA Bluffton Parkway Enhancement Project.

**Discussion:** Council Member Tabernik noted that it was south of the Broad River impact fees.

**The Vote** - The motion was approved without objection.

**16. RECOMMENDATION OF AWARD TO KIMLEY HORN FOR THE INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS (ITS) MASTER PLAN (FISCAL IMPACT: \$275,000.00 TO BE PAID FROM ACCOUNT 10401243-54500 WITH A BALANCE OF \$4,353,958.64)**

Please watch the video stream available on the County's website to view the full discussion.

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/230728?ts=3034>

Director Claussen commented on the use of intelligent transportation systems, like smart signals, dynamic message signs, and travel time, to address capacity and safety throughout the County and in surrounding counties. Director Claussen noted that the Lowcountry Area Transportation Study (LATS) is funding 80% of the project.

**Motion:** It was moved by Council Member Passiment, seconded by Council Member Howard, to recommend approval of an award to Kimley Horn for the Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Master Plan.

**Discussion:** Committee Chairman Cunningham that the County is only responsible for \$55,000 and that LATS is covering the rest.

Director Claussen explained the role of Metropolitan Planning Organizations in looking at transportation needs across communities.

**The Vote** - The motion was approved without objection.

**17. RECOMMENDATION OF CONTRACT AWARD TO TRINITY ELECTRICAL FOR THE HHI AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL TOWER TECHNOLOGY IMPROVEMENTS. (FISCAL IMPACT: \$268,695.00)**

Please watch the video stream available on the County's website to view the full discussion.

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/230728?ts=3206>

Deputy Director Perry commented on the importance of air traffic control towers, the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law grant award for improvements and upgrades to aging equipment, and the proposed contract with Trinity Electrical.

**Motion:** It was moved by Council Member Tabernik, seconded by Council Member Reitz, to recommend approval of a contract award to Trinity Electrical for the HHI Air Traffic Control Tower Technology Improvements.

**The Vote** - The motion was approved without objection.

**18. RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF A CONTRACT AWARD TO LSP3 FOR THE DESIGN OF THE PUBLIC WORKS BUILDING (FISCAL IMPACT: \$1,467,636)**

Please watch the video stream available on the County's website to view the full discussion.

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/230728?ts=3352>

Director Neil Desai provided background on the needs assessment that an opportunity for the public works facility to gain additional space, the selection of LSP3, and funding for the contract.

**Motion:** It was moved by Council Member Howard, seconded by Council Member Passiment, to recommend approval of a contract award to LSP3 for the design of the Public Works Building.

**Discussion:** Council Member Howard asked if the design project would include looking at different sites or if it would focus on the existing campus. Director Desai confirmed that the plans would be for the existing campus.

**The Vote** - The motion was approved without objection.

**19. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Motion:** It was moved by Council Member Passiment, seconded by Council Member Brown, to enter into an executive session pursuant to S.C. Code Sec. 30-4-70 (A) (1) discussion of appointments of persons to a public body (Green Space Advisory Committee).

**The Vote** - The motion was approved without objection.

The Committee was in executive session from 3:58 PM to 4:13 PM.

**20. MATTERS ARISING OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Motion:** It was moved by Council Member Tabernik, seconded by Council Member Howard, to forward to the Council, for its consideration and approval, the recommendation of the Green Space Task Force as presented in the executive session.

**The Vote** - The motion was approved without objection.

**21. ADJOURNMENT**

Adjourned at or around 4:15 PM.

Ratified: August 28, 2023