



County Council Meeting Beaufort County, SC

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

Monday, January 09, 2023
5:00 PM

MINUTES

Watch the video stream available on the County's Website to hear the whole discussion or presentation on a specific topic or the complete meeting. <https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/196328>

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Passiment called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

PRESENT

Chairman Joseph F. Passiment
Vice-Chairman Lawrence McElynn (arrived late)
Council Member David P. Bartholomew
Council Member Paula Brown
Council Member Logan Cunningham
Council Member Gerald Dawson
Council Member York Glover
Council Member Alice Howard
Council Member Mark Lawson
Council Member Thomas Reitz
Council Member Anna Maria Tabernik

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION

Chairman Passiment led the Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation.

3. FOIA

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

The Vote - The agenda was approved without objection.

5. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Please watch the video stream available on the County's website to view the entire report.

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/196328?ts=245>

County Administrator Greenway highlighted two County employees, Joshua Sudomerski and Stella Johnson-Lawyer.

6. CITIZEN COMMENTS

No citizen comments.

7. LIASION AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Please watch the video stream available on the County's website to view the entire report.

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/196328?ts=500>

Council Member Glover announced a community meeting at 5:30 PM on Wednesday, January 11, 2023, at the library on St. Helena. County Assessor Ebony Sanders will be present to discuss the reassessment and answer citizen questions.

Council Member Howard discussed the deliberations of the Community Services and Land Use Committee meeting, including Green Space Program recommendations and the postponement of a text amendment for the St. Helena Cultural Resource Overlay District.

Council Member Lawson announced the Finance Committee's meeting date of January 17, 2023, and the public meeting on January 10, 2023, to discuss the engineering design for the sidewalk along Alljoy Road.

8. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

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

The Vote - The motion was approved without objection.

9. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE HAWKERS AND PEDDLERS LICENSE FEES FOR 2023

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Glover, seconded by Council Member Brown, to approve the establishment of the Hawkers and Peddlers License Fees for 2023.

The Vote - The motion was approved without objection.

10. PRESENTATION AND PUBLIC HEARING OF THE 2023 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CBDG) - MICHELLE KNIGHT, LOWCOUNTRY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Please watch the video stream available on the County's website to view the entire presentation.

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/196328?ts=715>

Michelle Knight, Community and Economic Development Director for the Lowcountry Council of Governments, asked for the presentation to be moved down the agenda because the public hearing was advertised for 6 PM. The item was discussed after item 17.

Michelle Knight discussed the following topics:

- The County's Annual Needs Assessment public hearing
- The State of South Carolina's CDBG Program, including the categorization of grants into three areas, community development, business development, and regional planning
- The annual advertisement concerning fair housing, where residents can contact the Lowcountry Council of Governments if they feel like they have been discriminated against in the provision of housing, real estate, and brokerage services
- The 2023 Draft Action Plan and the need for comments to be submitted by February 7, 2023

Council Member Glover asked whether sea level rise would be included in resiliency considerations. Director Knight replied that she would have to check with South Carolina Department of Commerce staff.

Council Member Howard and Director Knight discussed opportunity zones.

Chairman Passiment opened the floor for public comment.

Joyce

Chairman Passiment closed the public comment.

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Lawson, seconded by Council Member Dawson, to approve the 2023 Community Development Block Grant.

The Vote - The motion was approved without objection.

11. FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CONVEYANCE OF COUNTY-OWNED REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 108 CLEAR WATER WAY TO SCDOT FOR A DEDICATED RIGHT TURN LANE ON GROBER HILL ROAD

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Howard, seconded by Council Member Glover, to approve the first reading of an ordinance authorizing the conveyance of county-owned real property located at 108 Clear Water Way to SCDOT for a dedicated right turn lane on Grober Hill Road.

The Vote - The motion was approved without objection.

12. FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE THE NECESSARY DOCUMENTS, TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR THE PURCHASE OF REAL PROPERTY IDENTIFIED AS 2 MULLET STREET, AND ENTER INTO A SIX MONTH LEASE AGREEMENT FOR A PORTION OF THE REAL PROPERTY (FISCAL IMPACT: *Purchase Price in the amount of \$1,930,000 and a six (6) month lease with the seller for a nominal amount.*)

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

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/196328?ts=819>

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Lawson, seconded by Council Member Cunningham, to approve the first reading of an ordinance authorizing the County Administrator to execute the necessary documents, to provide funding for the purchase of real property identified as 2 Mullet Street, and enter into a six-month lease agreement for a portion of the real property.

Discussion: Assistant County Administrator Jared Fralix provided an overview of the property, including the existing boat landing, the makeup of the two parcels, and the opportunity to improve parking and access to the deep-water portion of the dock area.

Council Member Lawson commented on the opportunity to expand the boat landing.

Council Member Glover asked for additional information about the parcels. ACA Fralix discussed the total acreage, the house on one of the parcels, and the plan for the house owners to leave the property once purchased.

The Vote - The motion was approved without objection.

13. APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT PLANNING AND ZONING FEE SCHEDULE CHANGES TO HELP OFFSET THE COST OF SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE DEPARTMENT AND TO ASSIST IN PROVIDING THE NECESSARY RESOURCES TO CONTINUE SERVING THE BEAUFORT COUNTY RESIDENT AND BUSINESS COMMUNITY

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

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/196328?ts=1213>

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Tabernik, seconded by Council Member Howard, to approve a resolution to adopt planning and zoning fee schedule changes to help offset the cost of services provided by the Department and to assist in providing the necessary resources to continue serving the Beaufort County resident and business community.

Discussion: Council Member Tabernik thanked County staff for including comparisons with other counties, which helped put the fee schedule changes into perspective.

Council Member Bartholomew asked if there were alternative fee schedule options to vote on and stated his opposition to the motion because he views the fees as high compared to other counties.

The Vote - Voting Yea: Chairman Passiment, Vice-Chairman McElynn, Council Member Brown, Council Member Cunningham, Council Member Dawson, Council Member Glover, Council Member Howard, Council Member Lawson, Council Member Reitz, and Council Member Tabernik. Voting Nay: Council Member Bartholomew. The motion passed 10:1.

14. APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION UPDATING BEAUFORT COUNTY'S PRIORITIZED 5-YEAR DIRT ROAD PAVING PROGRAM

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Cunningham, seconded by Council Member Dawson, to approve a resolution updating Beaufort County's prioritized 5-year Dirt Road Paving Program.

The Vote - The motion was approved without objection.

15. APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT SC AERONAUTICS COMMISSION (SCAC) GRANT FOR THE DESIGN AND BIDDING OF A PROJECT TO REHABILITATE THE BEAUFORT EXECUTIVE AIRPORT (ARW) RUNWAY

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

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/196328?ts=1423>

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Bartholomew, seconded by Council Member Glover, to approve a resolution to accept SC Aeronautics Commission (SCAC) Grant for the design and bidding of a project to rehabilitate the Beaufort Executive Airport (ARW) runway.

Jon Rembold, Airports Director, discussed the grant's purpose to assist with the rehabilitation of the runway to keep up with FAA grant obligations and quality maintenance and provided an overview of the construction timeline.

Council Member Glover asked whether the grant covers the hangers. Director Rembold said the grant focused on the runway and described the hanger development project through ARPA funds.

Chairman Passiment asked for details about the rehabilitation, and Director Rembold replied that it would include a full mill and replacement of the runway.

Council Member Cunningham asked about the timeline for completion, and Director Rembold replied that there is a delay between design and bidding, so the plan is to start construction in the calendar year 2025 to account for the 9 to 12-month break between design and the start of construction.

Council Member Glover asked about runway closures, and Mr. Rembold commented on the safety and phasing plan for construction.

The Vote - The motion was approved without objection.

16. APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION TO AMEND RESOLUTION 2022/50 AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH COMMUNITY WORKS TO PROVIDE ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT SUPPORT FOR A DESIGNATED REGIONAL HOUSING TRUST FUND (FISCAL IMPACT: *Each participating entity will contribute 3% of their allocation from their ARPA*)

appropriations in year 1; Beaufort County year 1 contribution will be \$1,119,523. ARPA Funds previously allocated.)

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Howard, seconded by Council Member Tabernik, to approve a resolution to amend resolution 2022/50 authorizing the County Administrator to enter into an agreement with Community Works to provide administration and management support for a Designated Regional Housing Trust Fund.

Discussion: Council Member Tabernik commented that she liked that an annual evaluation is required to assist with accountability.

The Vote - The motion was approved without objection.

17. TIME-SENSITIVE ITEM ORIGINATING FROM THE JANUARY 9TH COMMUNITY SERVICES AND LAND USE COMMITTEE - APPROVAL OF THE BEAUFORT COUNTY GREEN SPACE PROGRAM APPLICATION PROCESS, GEOGRAPHIC DESIGNATIONS, AND TIMELINE FOR APPOINTING THE GREEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND ESTABLISHING THE GREEN SPACE PROGRAM

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

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/196328?ts=1774>

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Howard, seconded by Council Member Reitz, to approve the Beaufort County Green Space Program application process, geographic designations, and timeline for appointing the Green Space Advisory Committee and establishing the Green Space Program.

Discussion: Council Member Howard provided an overview of the deliberation on this item during the Community Services and Land Use Committee meeting, including the recommendation to add more detailed criteria to the application, to choose map option B, and to establish a timeline of April 10, 2023, for an ordinance about the process and April 24, 2023, for an ordinance about the program.

Council Member Glover discussed the areas covered by the two ordinances and recommended a change to map option B to balance the northern and western quadrants.

Council Member Tabernik highlighted the application changes that were approved in the motion.

Chairman Passiment commented on the online application process and that Beaufort County board and commission representatives can apply.

Council Member Glover commented that residents of other counties could apply for the at-large positions.

Council Member Dawson asked when the applications would be online, and Chairman Passiment replied that the target date is January 17, 2023.

Council Member Bartholomew asked about map option B and if a yes vote would allow for the change to the northern and western quadrants.

Council Member Cunningham announced his support for the changes to balance the population in the quadrant and highlighted the possible impacts on representation. Council Member Glover commented that Council Members could assist with the application and selection process to ensure geographical representation. Chairman Passiment added that the entire Council appoints the committee.

The Vote - The motion was approved without objection.

18. CITIZEN COMMENTS

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

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/196328?ts=3431>

Joyce

19. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned: 6:03 PM

COUNTY COUNCIL OF BEAUFORT COUNTY

BY: 

Joseph F. Passiment, Jr., Chairman

ATTEST:



Sarah W. Brock, Clerk to Council

Ratified: February 13, 2023