



## Finance Committee Beaufort County, SC

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

**Monday, August 22, 2022  
2:00 PM**

### MINUTES

*Watch the video stream available on the County's website to hear the full discussion or presentation on a specific topic or the complete meeting. <https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/179245>*

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Council Member Passiment called the meeting to order at 2:02 PM.

#### PRESENT

Committee Chairman Mark Lawson (arrived at 2:08 PM)  
Committee Vice-Chair Chris Hervochon (arrived at 2:10 PM)  
Council Member Joseph F. Passiment  
Council Member D. Paul Sommerville (arrived at 3:14 PM)  
Council Member Stu Rodman  
Council Member York Glover (arrived at 2:21 PM)  
Council Member Alice Howard  
Council Member Lawrence McElynn

#### ABSENT

Council Member Gerald Dawson  
Council Member Brian Flewelling  
Council Member Logan Cunningham

#### 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council Member Passiment led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council Member Passiment addressed the lack of quorum of committee members and moved forward with non-action agenda items three, six, and seven.

#### 3. FOIA

Council Member Passiment noted that the 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 to Amend:** It was moved by Council Member Passiment, Seconded by Council Member Howard, to remove item number 16 from this agenda to be placed on next month's Finance Committee agenda.

**The Vote** – The motion to amend was approved without objection.

**Main Motion:** It was moved by Council Member Passiment, Seconded by Council Member Howard, to approve the agenda as amended.

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

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Motion:** It was moved by Council Member Passiment, Seconded by Council Member McElynn, to approve the minutes from June 20, 2022.

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

**6. CITIZEN COMMENTS**

No citizen comments.

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

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

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/179245?ts=104>

Dale Butts, Assistant County Administrator, updated the Committee on changes to the Finance Department's organizational structure, the release of the FY 2023 annual budget document, revisions to the personnel handbook, and progress made on annual assessment notices.

Council and Mr. Butts discussed the assessment notices.

**8. DISCUSSION AND PRESENTATION OF YEAR-TO-DATE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR FY 2023, HAYES WILLIAMS, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER**

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

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/179245?ts=537>

Hayes Williams updated the Committee on the preparation of financial statements for the audit, the Rural and Critical Lands Program's balance of debt and available funds, year-end financial highlights, carryover items, interest payments, and outstanding debt.

Committee Vice-Chair Hervochon requested an update on the FY 2022 internal audit and fixed asset fees.

**9. RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF AN AWARD TO FIRST TRYON ADVISORS FOR FINANCIAL ADVISORY CONSULTING SERVICES FOR BEAUFORT COUNTY DEBT ISSUES**

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

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/179245?ts=932>

Hayes Williams, Chief Financial Officer, discussed the RFP for financial advisory services and the proposed contract with First Tryon Advisors.

Council Member Rodman and Mr. Williams discussed the development of bonds.

**Motion:** It was moved by Council Member Rodman, Seconded by Council Member McElynn, to recommend approval of the award to First Tyron Advisors for financial advisory consulting services for Beaufort County debt issues.

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

**Status:** The item was moved forward to the full Council for approval.

**10. RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF AN AWARD TO JOHNSON CONSULTING FOR THE SAINT HELENA ISLAND PERFORMING ARTS CENTER FEASIBILITY STUDY AND MARKET ANALYSIS SERVICES FOR BEAUFORT COUNTY (FISCAL IMPACT \$66,000)**

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

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/179245?ts=1093>

Hayes Williams discussed the RFP for a feasibility study and a market analysis for the Saint Helena Island Performing Arts Center and the costs of the study.

Council Member Glover discussed the center's economic development benefits, the consultant's role in determining size and location, the ten-year economic impact study, and the project's projected cost.

Committee Vice-Chair Hervochon and Mr. Williams discussed the source of funds.

**Motion to Amend:** It was moved by Council Member Hervochon, Seconded by Council Member Glover to approve the use of ARPA funding as the source of funds for the award to Johnson Consulting for the Saint Helena Island Performing Arts Center feasibility study and market analysis services for Beaufort County.

**The Vote** – The motion to amend was approved without objection.

**Main Motion:** It is moved by Council Member McElynn, Seconded by Council Member Glover, to recommend approval of the award to Johnson Consulting for the Saint Helena Island Performing Arts Center feasibility study and market analysis services for Beaufort County using ARPA funds as the source of revenue.

**Discussion:** Council Member Passiment and County Administrator Greenway discussed the need for the item to be forwarded to Council because it involves a contract.

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

**Status:** The item was moved forward to the full Council for approval.

**11. RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF AN AWARD TO HGAC BUY COOPERATIVE FOR THE PURCHASE OF REPLACEMENT AMBULANCES (FISCAL IMPACT: \$817,220 FOR FOUR AMBULANCES)**

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

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/179245?ts=1637>

Phil Foot, Assistant County Administrator, discussed the request for four ambulances and the management of the ambulance fleet.

Council Member McElynn and Mr. Foot discussed the process for ambulance dispatch to Daufuskie Island and amount of county ambulances in service.

Committee Chair Lawson and Mr. Foot discussed the value of an ambulance taken out of service and the service lifespan of the four ambulances.

**Motion:** It was moved by Council Member Rodman, Seconded by Council Member McElynn, to recommend approval of an award to HGAC Buy Cooperative for the purchase of replacement ambulances.

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

**Status:** The item was moved forward to the full Council for approval.

**12. RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE ARPA GOOD NEIGHBOR PROGRAM, MUNICIPALITY FUNDING REQUESTS (FISCAL IMPACT TOTAL \$950,000: CITY OF BEAUFORT \$250,000; TOWN OF PORT ROYAL \$500,000; TOWN OF YEMASSEE \$200,000)**

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

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/179245?ts=2056>

Hank Amundson, Director of Special Projects, discussed the Good Neighbor Program ARPA funding requests by the City of Beaufort, the Town of Port Royal, and the Town of Yemassee.

**Motion:** It was moved by Council Member Howard, Seconded by Council Member McElynn, to recommend approval of the ARPA Good Neighbor Program municipality funding requests.

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

**Status:** The item was moved forward to the full Council for approval.

**13. RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE HILTON HEAD PUBLIC SERVICE DISTRICT ARPA PROJECTS REQUEST (FISCAL IMPACT: \$1,000,000.00 FROM THE ARPA ALLOCATION)**

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

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/179245?ts=2270>

County Administrator Greenway discussed the request by the Hilton Head Public Service District, emphasizing that the County had not allocated ARPA funds toward Public Service District projects.

Committee Vice-Chair Hervochon recused himself from participating in discussions of this item, and from participating in the motion and vote on this item.

Pete Nardi, General Manager of Hilton Head Public Service District, outlined the request to use ARPA funding for a booster station and an emergency generator to strengthen the resiliency of the water distribution system and disaster recovery.

Frank Turano, Hilton Head Public Service District Board of Commissioners, described the challenge of improving water sources on Hilton Head Island.

Council discussed the proposal and concerns about the ARPA funding requests by public service districts that were not previously included in allocation plans.

**Motion to Postpone:** It was moved by Council Member Rodman, Seconded by Council Member Howard, to postpone the recommendation to approve the Hilton Head Public Service District ARPA projects request to the next Finance Committee meeting.

**Discussion:** Council Member Rodman commented on his support for the postponement as it will allow for other project proposals to be brought forward.

**The Vote** - The motion was approved without objection. Committee Vice-Chair Hervochon abstained.

**14. RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE HIRING OF AN ADDITIONAL FULL-TIME EMPLOYEE IN THE PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE TO SERVE COLLETON COUNTY**

County Administrator Greenway outlined the request for an additional public defender for Colleton County and recommended the request include a condition that Colleton County will fund the position for as long as it exists, and that Beaufort County is not obligated to fund the position if Colleton County fails to do so.

Committee Chairman Lawson commented that the position will be a temporary position and will require funding to be determined every year.

**Motion:** It was moved by Council Member Rodman, Seconded by Council Member Passiment, to recommend approval of the Resolution of hiring an additional full-time attorney in the public defender's office to serve Colleton County.

**Discussion:** Council Member Passiment and County Administrator Greenway discussed the language to be included in the resolution to ensure Colleton County fully funds the position for as long as it exists.

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

**Status:** The item was moved forward to the full Council for approval.

**15. DISCUSSION OF AN ORDINANCE TO ALLOCATE THE PROCEEDS FROM THE SALE OF THE MYRTLE BUSINESS PARK TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SITE AND JOB FUND**

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

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/179245?ts=4217>

County Administrator Greenway outlined the Economic Development Corporation (EDC)'s request that the proceeds of Myrtle Business Park's sale be allocated to EDC's site development and job fund account.

John O'Toole, Executive Director of the Beaufort County Economic Development Corporation, provided background on the request.

Committee Chair Lawson and Mr. O'Toole discussed how the proceeds would be spent and County funds allocated to the EDC by the yearly budget.

Council Member Rodman asked about how to approach economic development to avoid a siloed allocation, and Mr. O'Toole discussed product development efforts.

Council Member Passiment and Mr. O'Toole clarified the financial request to be included in the ordinance.

**Motion:** It was moved by Council Member Glover, Seconded by Council Member Sommerville, to recommend approval of an ordinance to allocate the proceeds from the sale of the Myrtle Business Park to the Economic Development site and job fund.

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

**Status:** The item was moved forward to the full Council for approval.

**16. DISCUSSION REGARDING OFFER OF PAYMENT TO FOURTH AND FINAL GROUP OF RETIREES FOR LOSS OF POST-RETIREMENT HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFITS**

This item was postponed to the next Finance Committee meeting.

**17. ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 3:24 PM.

Ratified: September 19, 2022