



County Council Meeting Beaufort County, SC

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

Monday, May 08, 2023
5:00 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/226602>

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

PRESENT

Chairman Joseph F. Passiment
Vice-Chairman Lawrence McElynn
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 Council Member Brown led the Invocation.

3. FOIA

Chairman Passiment 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 Cunningham, seconded by Council Member Tabernik, to approve the agenda.

The Vote - The motion was approved without objection.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Glover, seconded by Council Member Bartholomew, to approve the minutes of March 27, 2023.

The Vote - The motion was approved without objection.

6. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

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

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/226602?ts=165>

County Administrator Greenway highlighted two employees, Stefanie Nagid with the Planning and Zoning Department and Robert Smalls with the Detention Center.

7. PRESENTATION OF A PROCLAMATION BY COUNCIL MEMBER YORK GLOVER TO THE BEAUFORT COUNTY DETENTION CENTER RECOGNIZING MAY 7TH - MAY 13TH AS CORRECTIONAL OFFICER'S WEEK

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

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/226602?ts=504>

Council Member Glover presented a proclamation to the Beaufort County Detention Center, recognizing May 7th - May 13th as Correctional Officer's Week.

8. CITIZEN COMMENTS PERIOD

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

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/226602?ts=777>

1. Christina Gwozdz

2. Skip Hoagland

3. Queen Quet

4. Arnold Brown

5. Faith Rivers James

6. Elvio Tropeano

7. Jack Smith

9. LIASION AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/226602?ts=2134>

Council Member Brown commented on her attendance at a Southern Carolina Regional Development Alliance meeting and how she took over former Council Member Paul Sommerville's unexpired term.

Council Member Howard commented on the number of visitors to the Cyprus Wetlands and its status as a tourist attraction.

Council Member Cunningham commented on the agenda item that dealt with the contract for dirt road rocking of county-owned roads on Daufuskie Island.

Council Member Tabernik commented on the Citizen Led Oversight Committee's monitoring of the 2019 referendum project funding and the proposed budget presentation at the School Board meeting.

Council Member Dawson commented on the April 27 Lowcountry Council of Governments Board of Directors meeting, including presentations on funding to address broadband and brownfield issues, and asked the County administration to follow up on these presentations.

10. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

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

The Vote - The motion was approved without objection.

11. TIME-SENSITIVE ITEM ORIGINATING FROM THE MAY 8TH FINANCE, ADMINISTRATION, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE- FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE (BY TITLE ONLY) TO MAKE APPROPRIATIONS FOR COUNTY GOVERNMENT AND SPECIAL PURPOSE DISTRICTS FOR BEAUFORT COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2023 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2024; TO LEVY TAXES FOR THE PAYMENT THEREOF; TO ADOPT LAW ENFORCEMENT UNIFORM SERVICE CHARGES/ USER FEE; TO PROVIDE FOR THE EXPENDITURE OF SAID TAXES AND OTHER REVENUES COMING INTO THE COUNTY; TO PROVIDE FOR THE EXPENDITURE OF SAID LAW ENFORCEMENT UNIFORM SERVICE CHARGES/ USER FEE; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO

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

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/226602?ts=2496>

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Lawson, seconded by Council Member Brown, to approve the first reading of an ordinance (by title only) to make appropriations for county government and special purpose districts for Beaufort County for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2024; to levy taxes for the payment thereof; to adopt law enforcement uniform service charges/ user fee; to provide for the expenditure of said taxes and other revenues coming into the county; to provide for the expenditure of said law enforcement uniform service charges/ user fee; and other matters related thereto.

The Vote - The motion was approved without objection.

12. TIME-SENSITIVE ITEM ORIGINATING FROM THE MAY 8TH FINANCE, ADMINISTRATION, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE- APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION TO EXPRESS BEAUFORT COUNTY COUNCIL'S SUPPORT FOR THE SOUTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO TAKE THE NECESSARY STEPS TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS TO VEST BUDGET AUTHORITY AND MILLAGE RATE SETTING AUTHORITY FOR THE OPERATION OF THE SCHOOLS IN BEAUFORT COUNTY WITH THE BEAUFORT COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

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

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/226602?ts=2557>

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Howard, seconded by Council Member Tabernik, to approve a resolution to express Beaufort County Council's support for the South Carolina General Assembly to take the necessary steps to amend the South Carolina Code of Laws to vest budget authority and millage rate-setting authority for the operation of the schools in Beaufort County with the Beaufort County Board of Education.

Discussion: Council Member Cunningham commented on the need to assemble a team that supports teachers and staff and to continue growing the relationship between Beaufort County and the School District.

Council Member Glover voiced his support for the motion, saying it will serve as a check and balance for voter-elected School Board members.

Council Member Tabernik discussed the School Board authority in other counties and advocated for County Council to approve the item to allow the School Board to act independently to approve its budget and set the millage rate.

Council Member Lawson commented that the School Board should control its budget.

The Vote - The motion was approved without objection.

13. PUBLIC HEARING AND SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE REDEMPTION OF THE OUTSTANDING BEAUFORT COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, SERIES 2013A, AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO

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

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/226602?ts=2791>

Chairman Passiment opened the floor for public comment.

No one came forward.

The Chairman closed the public comment.

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Cunningham, seconded by Council Member Glover, to approve the public hearing and second reading of an ordinance authorizing the redemption of the outstanding Beaufort County, South Carolina General Obligation Bonds, Series 2013A, and other matters related thereto.

The Vote - The motion was approved without objection.

14. PUBLIC HEARING AND THIRD READING OF AN ORDINANCE FOR A ZONING MAP AMENDMENT/REZONING REQUEST FOR 1 ACRE (R600 036 000 0369 0000) AT 3 BENTON LANE FROM T3 EDGE TO T2 RURAL CENTER

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

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/226602?ts=2847>

Chairman Passiment opened the floor for public comment.

1. Felicia Roth

The Chairman closed the public comment.

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Tabernik, seconded by Council Member Dawson, to approve the public hearing and third reading of an ordinance for a zoning map amendment/rezoning request for 1 acre (R600 036 000 0369 0000) at 3 Benton Lane from T3 Edge to T2 Rural Center.

Discussion: Council Members Tabernik and Reitz commented on a community meeting about the rezoning and the community feedback that they do not want the area rezoned, and the character changed.

Council Member Brown commented on expressions of support and opposition to this item and asked if those attending the community meeting had to have their addresses verified.

The Vote – Voting Nay: Council Member Tabernik, Council Member Dawson, Council Member Reitz, Council Member Lawson, Council Member Howard, Council Member Glover, Council Member Cunningham, Council Member Brown, Council Member Bartholomew, Vice-Chairman McElynn, Chairman Passiment. The motion failed by 0:11.

15. THIRD READING OF AN ORDINANCE FOR TEXT AMENDMENTS TO THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CODE (CDC): ARTICLE 3, DIVISION 3.4, SECTION 3.4.50- CULTURAL PROTECTION OVERLAY (CPO); SECTION 3.4.10- PURPOSE; AND DIVISION 3.1, SECTION 3.1.70- LAND USE DEFINITIONS, RECREATION FACILITY: GOLF COURSE, TO UPDATE DEFINITIONS, REGULATIONS, AND STANDARDS IN THE CULTURAL PROTECTION OVERLAY ZONE

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

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/226602?ts=3486>

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Glover, seconded by Council Member Dawson, to approve the third reading of an ordinance for text amendments to the Community Development Code (CDC): Article 3, Division 3.4, Section 3.4.50- Cultural Protection Overlay (CPO); Section 3.4.10- Purpose; and Division 3.1, Section 3.1.70- Land Use Definitions, Recreation Facility: Golf Course, to Update Definitions, Regulations, and Standards in the Cultural Protection Overlay Zone.

Discussion: Council Member Glover said that the community has made its wishes clear about development on the island.

Council Member Reitz highlighted that the Council represents the people, and he advocated for the community to meet with Mr. Tropeano to discuss development.

Council Member Cunningham and County Administrator Greenway discussed how gates on properties would be grandfathered in and how Saint Helena has gated driveways, not gated communities. Council Member Cunningham also commented on his hope for a dialogue between the property owner and the community because there will be development.

Council Members Brown and Glover discussed a meeting in April 2022 where Mr. Glover introduced Mr. Tropeano to Saint Helena community leaders and ministers to discuss the project.

Council Member Lawson said the vote is about strengthening the CPO and would impact all property development in Saint Helena.

The Vote – Voting Yea: Council Member Glover, Council Member Dawson, Council Member Tabernik, Council Member Reitz, Council Member Lawson, Council Member Howard, Council Member Bartholomew, Vice-Chairman McElynn, and Chairman Passiment. **Voting Nay:** Council Member Cunningham and Council Member Brown. The motion was approved by 9:2.

16. CITIZEN COMMENT PERIOD

Please watch the video stream available on the County’s website to view the comments.

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/226602?ts=4518>

1. Robert New
2. Elvio Tropeano
3. Skip Hoagland
4. Lynn Greeley (Skip Hoagland delivered her remarks)

Council Member Glover raised concerns about how Skip Hoagland spoke twice for a total of 6 minutes.

17. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned: 6:25 PM

COUNTY COUNCIL OF BEAUFORT COUNTY



BY: _____
Joseph F. Passiment, Jr., Chairman

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sarah W. Brock" followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

Sarah W. Brock, Clerk to Council
Ratified: June 26, 2023