



## Special Called Meeting of County Council Beaufort County, SC

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

Monday, September 11, 2023  
11:00 AM

### 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/271187>

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Passiment called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

#### 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 (arrived late)  
Council Member Mark Lawson  
Council Member Anna Maria Tabernik  
Council Member Thomas Reitz

#### 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Passiment led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### 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 Bartholomew, to approve the agenda.

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

**5. PUBLIC HEARING RELATED TO AN EMPLOYEE REGULATED BY COUNTY COUNCIL (ERIC GREENWAY) PURSUANT TO SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS SECTION 4-9-620**

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

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/271187?ts=118>

Chairman Passiment explained that Section 4-9-620 provides that if the Council determines to remove the County Administrator, he shall be given a written statement of the reasons alleged for the proposed removal and the right to a hearing at a public meeting of the Council.

Chairman Passiment noted that the following documents were placed into the record for the purposes of the public hearing:

1. Council's notice of removal (dated July 28, 2023)
2. Mr. Greenway's request for a public hearing (dated August 3, 2023)
3. Council's notice of specific reasons for termination and offer to propose the public hearing (dated August 14, 2023)
4. Proof of delivery for Council's notice (dated August 14, 2023)
5. Mr. Greenway's request to postpone the public hearing (document dated August 19, 2023; email received by County Attorney Keaveny on August 21, 2023)
6. Mr. Greenway's email requesting postponement (August 21, 2023)
7. Mr. Greenway's signed declaration (dated September 6, 2023)

Chairman Passiment explained that the public hearing is not a forum to review the Council's decision to terminate Mr. Greenway's employment, as the Council does not have a burden of proof at this hearing and is not under an obligation to review the termination decision. Chairman Passiment added that Mr. Greenway has a right to present witnesses and evidence to show the public his version. Chairman Passiment also noted that the Council's August 14 notice provided specific reasons for termination so that Mr. Greenway could fashion a response.

Chairman Passiment listed the reasons for termination provided in the August 14 notice, including the Elementzal LLC Contract and Lisa Lynch's employment. The August 14 notice can be found in the September 11<sup>th</sup> Special Called Meeting of County Council's agenda packet: <https://www.beaufortcountysc.gov/council/council-committee-meetings/index.html>

Paul Porter provided a presentation on behalf of Mr. Greenway, explaining his September 6<sup>th</sup> declaration, the procedural timeline, and issues cited for termination. Mr. Porter addressed the hiring of Elementzal LCC, noting that Mr. Greenway relied on experts within County staff for decisions on procurement and hiring and that he did not have a financial interest in the opioid education contract. Mr. Porter also shared praise received by Mr. Greenway during his tenure as County Administrator. The full presentation can be found in the September 11<sup>th</sup> Special Called Meeting of County Council's agenda packet: <https://www.beaufortcountysc.gov/council/council-committee-meetings/index.html>

**Motion:** It was moved by Council Member Tabernik, seconded by Council Member Bartholomew to affirm Council's decision of July 28, 2023, to terminate Mr. Greenway with cause for the reasons set forth in Council's letter of August 14, 2023.

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

**6. ADJOURNMENT**

Adjourned: 11:33 a.m.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF BEAUFORT COUNTY

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Joseph F. Passiment, Jr., Chairman

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sarah W. Brock, Clerk to Council  
Ratified: