



**County Council of  
Beaufort County  
Executive Committee  
Meeting**

**Chairman**

PAUL SOMMERVILLE

**Committee Members**

ALICE HOWARD  
LAWRENCE P. MCELYNN  
STU RODMAN  
MARK LAWSON

**Interim County Administrator**

ERIC GREENWAY

**Clerk to Council**

SARAH W. BROCK

**Staff Support**

ROBERT BECHTOLD

**Administration Building**

Beaufort County Government  
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## Executive Committee Minutes

**Monday, April 5, 2021, at 1:00 p.m.**

[This meeting is being held virtually in accordance with Beaufort County Resolution 2020-05]

**ALL OF OUR MEETINGS ARE AVAILABLE FOR VIEWING ONLINE AT [WWW.BEAUFORTCOUNTYSC.GOV](http://WWW.BEAUFORTCOUNTYSC.GOV) AND CAN ALSO BE VIEWED ON HARGRAY CHANNELS 9 AND 113, COMCAST CHANNEL 2, AND SPECTRUM CHANNEL 1304**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Committee Chairman Sommerville called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

### **PRESENT**

Committee Chairman Sommerville  
Council Member Howard  
Council Member Passiment  
Council Member Cunningham  
Council Member Lawson  
Council Member Rodman  
Council Member Hervochon  
Council Member Glover  
Council Member McElynn  
Council Member Dawson

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Committee Chairman Sommerville led the Pledge of Allegiance

### **FOIA**

Committee Chairman Sommerville noted that the Public Notification of this meeting has been published, posted, and distributed in compliance with the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

It was moved by Council Member Passiment, seconded by Council Member Dawson to "**approve the agenda.**" 9:0 Motion carried

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES: March 1, 2021**

It was moved by Council Member Howard, seconded by Council Member Passiment to "**approve the minutes from March 1, 2021.**" 9:0 Motion carried

## **AGENDA ITEMS**

### **A Discussion Regarding the Elements of The Rules and Procedures Handbook**

A brief update on how to address the nine elements in the handbook and possibly add article number 10; the Ordinance to make permanent the previously adopted emergency resolution allows for electronic or hybrid meetings and other related matters.

### **A Resolution to Set Forth A Uniform Policy for Processing, Responding To, And Tracking Requests for Public Records in Compliance with The Freedom of Information Act Sc Code of Laws 30-4-10 Et Seq**

It was moved by Council Member Passiment, seconded by Council Member Dawson to approve the "**Resolution to Set Forth a Uniform Policy for Processing, Responding To and Tracking Requests for Public Records in Compliance with the Freedom of Information Act SC Code of Laws 30-4-10 et seq.**" 9:0 Motion carried. Forward to Council.

### **A Resolution to Authorize the Interim County Administrator to Accept FAA Grants**

It was moved by Council Member Passiment, seconded by Council Member Howard to approve a "**Resolution to Authorize the Interim County Administrator to Accept FAA Grants**" 9:0 Motion carried. Forward to Council.

- It needs to move forward to Council on April 12, 2021.

### **A Resolution Authorizing the Settlement of Claims Related to The Care Environmental Waste Disposal Site**

- Term contribution protection provided by ADT is a provision in the law that the parties liable for the site's contamination cannot sue each other.

It was moved by Council Member Passiment, seconded by Council Member Howard to approve an "**A Resolution Authorizing the Settlement of Claims Related to The Care Environmental Waste Disposal Site**" 9:0 Motion carried. Forward to Council.

### **Approval of Intergovernmental Agreements Between Beaufort County, Port Royal, And the City of Beaufort-Project Burger, Glass, Garden, And Stone**

- It was implemented to bring down the tax rate for manufacturers.

It was moved by Council Member Passiment, seconded by Council Member Howard to approve an "**Approval of Intergovernmental Agreements Between Beaufort County, Port Royal, And the City of Beaufort- Project Burger, Glass, Garden and Stone**" 9:0 Motion carried. Forward to Council for second reading.

### **An Ordinance to Make Permanent the Previously Adopted Emergency Resolution Allowing for Electronic or Hybrid Meetings, And Other Matters Related Thereto**

It was moved by Council Member Passiment, seconded by Council Member Dawson to approve an "**Ordinance to Make Permanent the Previously Adopted Emergency Resolution Allowing for Electronic or Hybrid Meetings, And Other Matters Related Thereto.**" Roll Call Vote: Yes- Council Member Glover, Council Member Lawson, Council Member Passiment, Council Member McElynn, Council Member Howard, Council Member Dawson, Council Member Dawson, Council Member Sommerville. No- Council Member Hervochon, Council Member Rodman, Council Member Cunningham. 7:3 Motion carried. Forward to Council.

Discussion:

- The Ordinance currently pertains to all committees, Council and, boards, and commissions
- State of emergency is no longer needed to conduct hybrid meetings
- Believe that Council should not be included, and meeting be in person
- not having meaningful public comment virtually
- new age means the unique capability of having meetings while out of town or under certain circumstances

It was moved by Council Member Glover, seconded by Council Member Howard to amend **“the Ordinance to have 8 Council Members present during each Council meeting, in-person before proceeding with the meeting as a hybrid meeting.”** Amendment withdrawn by Council Member Glover, seconded by Council Member Howard. Back to main motion.

Discussion:

- All committees and Board and Commissions can be utterly virtual with the amendment
- The fourth person that joins the meeting virtually would not be able to participate
- Abuse the virtual privilege.

**An Ordinance to Levy and Impose A One Percent Local Option Sales and Use Tax Within Beaufort County, South Carolina, Pursuant to Section 4-10-10 Et Seq., Of The South Carolina Code Of Laws, 1976, As Amended; To Define The Specific Purpose Of The Tax; To Impose**

- Long standing discussion between the municipalities
- Funds split 70/30; 70% going to provide a credit against the property tax liability of taxpayers in the county and 30% will go into the general fund of the municipalities to use specifically for funding county and municipal operations

It was moved by Council Member Howard, seconded by Council Member Passiment to approve an **"Ordinance to Levy and Impose A Once Percent Local Option Sales and Use Tax Withing Beaufort County, South Carolina, Pursuant to Section 4-10-10 Et Seq., Of The South Carolina Code Of Laws, 1976, As Amended; to Define The Specific Purpose Of The Tax; To Impose"** Roll Call Vote: Yes- Council Member Passiment, Council Member Howard, Council Member Glover, Council Member Lawson, Council Member Sommerville. No- Council Member McElynn, Council Member Dawson, Council Member Cunningham, Council Member Hervochon, Council Member Rodman. 5:5 Motion Failed.

Discussion:

- Council Member Rodman provided a presentation/excel sheet: Click meeting to view discussion and presentation: [Meeting](#)

**An Ordinance to Call for A Referendum to Allow the Qualified Electors of Beaufort County, South Carolina To Vote to Retain the Council-Administration Form of Government or Change to The Council-Manager Form of Government**

It was moved by Council Member Passiment, seconded by Council Member Howard to approve an **"An Ordinance to Call for A Referendum to Allow the Qualified Electors of Beaufort County, South Carolina to Vote to Retain the Council-Administration Form of Government or Change to the Council-Manager Form of Government"** Yes- Council Member Glover, Council Member Lawson, Council Member Rodman, Council Member Howard, Council Member Dawson, Council Member Passiment, Council Member Sommerville. No- Council Member Hervochon, Council Member Cunningham, Council Member McElynn 7:3 Motion passed. Forward to Council

Discussion:

- Referendum was proposed before and did not pass in 2011
- Put on in 2018 but took off due to referendum fatigue
- Scheduled for 2021 ballot

**CITIZEN COMMENTS**

No citizen comments.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 2:31 p.m.

**Ratified by Committee:** May 3, 2021