



Public Facilities and Safety Committee Beaufort County, SC

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

Monday, September 25, 2023
3:00 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/272356>

1. CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chairman Cunningham called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

PRESENT

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

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Committee Chairman Cunningham led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. FOIA

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

The Vote - The motion was approved without objection.

5. CITIZEN COMMENT PERIOD

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

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/272356?ts=63>

1. Alana Jenkins

6. UPDATE FROM ASSISTANT COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

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

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/272356?ts=280>

Assistant County Administrator Fralix provided project updates on SC 170, Reimagine Ribaut Road, the Windmill Harbor signal, and the Alljoy Boat Landing repairs. ACA Fralix also highlighted an operations audit for Solid Waste and Recycling.

Chairman Cunningham asked if a warning system would alert drivers about the Windmill Harbor signal. ACA Fralix replied that a warning system is not part of the current plan, but County staff would adapt the plan if needed.

Council Member Brown and ACA Fralix discussed the adaptive system for the signal on Squire Pope Road.

Special Projects Director Amundson briefed the Committee on a series of projects, including, among others, improvements to the Charles Lind Brown Community Center, the pickleball courts at the Burton Wells Recreation Center, and the final permitting and construction bids on Helmsman Way for the Daufuskie Island Ferry.

Council Member Glover and Director Amundson discussed the plan for the new administrative building and planning for future office capacity.

7. PRESENTATION OF THE US 278 CORRIDOR PROJECT JOINT INDEPENDENT STUDY

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

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/272356?ts=1132>

ACA Fralix briefed the Committee on the Town of Hilton Head and Beaufort County's joint independent study on the US 278 corridor and bridge, which CBB carried out.

Shawn Leight of CBB briefed the Committee on the engineering and planning studies conducted on the US 278 corridor, which determined that widening US 278 to six lanes is necessary to accommodate existing and future traffic accessing Hilton Head Island. Mr. Leight explained that US 278 is already operating at capacity in the morning and evening peak periods, especially since 64% of the workers on Hilton Head Island commute from the mainland. Mr. Leight also discussed potential bottlenecks that should be addressed at Gumtree Road and Sea Pines Circle. Mr. Leight recommended that the intersection of Gumtree Road and US 278 be restriped with three eastbound through lanes in conjunction with the proposed US 278 widening. Mr. Leight suggested that the County look at the intersection with US 278 to add capacity while still keeping the gateway features of the intersection, which help with slowing traffic accessing the area. Additionally, Mr. Leight explained that the proposed six lanes will start to hit capacity again in 2045. He provided recommendations for travel demand management to extend the benefit of this project, including bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure like a multi-use path on the expanded bridge and recommendations to improve Palmetto Breeze ridership.

Council Member Howard asked if HOV lanes were considered. Mr. Leight explained that he did not think managed lanes were necessary because the bridge expansion to six lanes would be to address basic capacity needs.

Council Member McElynn commented on his appreciation of the suggestions for addressing downstream congestion and noted that the additional side projects like Sea Pines Circle are part of the challenge.

Council Member Brown and Mr. Leight commuter lots and Palmetto Breeze ridership for drivers from Hardeeville and Jasper County.

Council Member Globber asked how many commuter parking lots would be needed. Mr. Leight replied that there would need to be a subsequent study or larger transit plan to map that out.

Chairman Cunningham asked if the study considered the eventual plateau of growth, as eventually, there would be a cap on the population, the number of jobs that can be filled, and the number of houses that can be built. Mr. Leight replied that travel demand management provides options, but that land use planning and policy were outside the scope of CBB's study.

8. DISCUSSION REGARDING SALES TAX COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

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

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/272356?ts=3360>

ACA Fralix briefed the Committee on the Sales Tax Committee's membership, with the Town of Hilton Head being the only municipality able to meet the statute threshold for a municipal appointee. ACA Fralix noted that the Town of Hilton Head appointee then appointed a representative from the Town of Bluffton and the Town of Port Royal and the City of Beaufort combined. ACA Fralix added that the County appoints three representatives to finalize the six-member Sales Tax Committee.

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Passiment, seconded by Council Member Glover, to recommend the appointment of UnTron Solomon from St Helena Island (District 3), Carol Ruff from Lady's Island (District 2), and Tom Lennox from Hilton Head Island (District 11) to the Tax Advisory Committee in accordance with South Carolina Code Section 4-10-320 and forward to County Council this evening for approval.

Discussion: Council Member Dawson asked for clarification about the two municipal appointees.

ACA Fralix commented that the two municipal appointees have already been chosen. ACA Fralix also said that the County reached out to the potential nominees and received confirmation that all would serve if approved.

The Vote – The motion was approved without objection.

9. RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION TO ENTER INTO AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL SUPPORT AGREEMENT (IGSA) WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TO SUPPORT OPERATIONS AT THE MARINE CORPS RECRUIT DEPOT PARRIS ISLAND (MCRD PARRIS ISLAND), THE MARINE CORPS AIR STATION (MCAS) AND THE NAVAL HOSPITAL BY PROVIDING GENERAL GOVERNMENTAL SERVICES (FISCAL IMPACT: In each and every task order, the County would quote a fee that covers all time and material costs to perform the identified work)

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

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/272356?ts=3668>

ACA Fralix explained how the Intergovernmental Support Agreement would allow Beaufort County to act like a contractor and provide general governmental services, such as custodial services and grounds maintenance operations, to military bases.

Council Member Howard noted that this would be beneficial to the military and save money using local assets.

Council Member Glover commented that the County is understaffed and asked if providing services to the military bases would place hardships on County staff. ACA Fralix clarified that if the County does not have the necessary workforce for a request, then the County would not assist.

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Howard, seconded by Committee Vice-Chairman Bartholomew, to recommend approval of a resolution to enter into an Intergovernmental Support Agreement (IGSA) with the Department of Defense to support operations at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island (MCRD Parris Island), the Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS), and the Naval Hospital by providing general governmental services.

The Vote – The motion was approved without objection.

10. **RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION FOR AN ADDENDUM TO A 2020 MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) WITH THE TOWN OF HILTON HEAD FOR THE ST. JAMES BAPTIST CHURCH RELOCATION PROJECT (FISCAL IMPACT: *As part of the original MOU, both the Town and County deposited \$150,000 each, totaling \$300,000, into an account to share in the costs to prepare all of the preliminary documentation and studies necessary to secure FAA grant funding for the relocation of the Church and School. To date, there are still sufficient funds in the account for the expected expenses, and no additional funding is required by this Addendum*)**

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<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/272356?ts=4008>

ACA Fralix commented on the reaffirmation of the 2020 Memorandum of Understanding and how the new addendum would bring St. James Baptist Church into the discussion. ACA Fralix highlighted that a consultant would be identified to assist the Church, the Town of Hilton Head, and the County with planning for a new church building. The consultant would also help create cost estimates for a formal request to the FAA since ACA Fralix received confirmation from the FAA that the project was eligible for reimbursement. ACA Fralix also noted that both the Town of Hilton Head and St. James Baptist Church have signed the addendum as drafted.

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Reitz, seconded by Council Member McElynn, to recommend approval of a resolution for an addendum to a 2020 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Town of Hilton Head for the St. James Baptist Church Relocation Project.

Discussion: Council Member Dawson asked for an update on the cost and construction of the new church.

ACA Fralix clarified that the existing church would become County property, and a new church would be built. ACA Fralix added that the FAA would only approve a similar structure and that the consultant would develop the cost estimate.

The Vote – The motion was approved without objection.

11. **RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO ACCEPT RIGHT OF WAY ON DIANAH'S DRIVE**

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Tabernik, seconded by Council Member Howard, to recommend approval of an ordinance authorizing the Interim County Administrator to execute any and all documents necessary to accept right of way on Dianah's Drive.

The Vote – The motion was approved without objection.

12. **RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF CONTRACT AWARD TO FIRST CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT FOR IFB #082423E SPANISH MOSS TRAIL PORT ROYAL EXTENSION (FISCAL IMPACT: *\$977,253.24 with funding for this project will be Rail Trail account # 48060011-54435 with a balance of \$\$670,437.00 and TAG account # 2342001T-54500 with a balance of \$5,643,326.00*)**

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

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/272356?ts=4505>

Engineering Director Claussen discussed the Spanish Moss Trail 1600 feet extension in the Town of Port Royal and the plan to implement a HAWK (High-Intensity Activated Crosswalk) signal for the pedestrian crossings. Director Claussen explained that there were three bids for the project and that First Construction Management was chosen since it had the lowest acceptable bid.

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Howard, seconded by Council Member Tabernik, to recommend approval of contract award to First Construction Management for IFB #082423E Spanish Moss Trail Port Royal Extension.

The Vote – The motion was approved without objection.

13. **RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE INTERIM ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER INTO A MOA BETWEEN BEAUFORT COUNTY AND THE CITY OF BEAUFORT TO EXPLORE THE FEASIBILITY OF CO-LOCATING MUNICIPAL FIRE SERVICE AND COUNTY EMS (FISCAL IMPACT: Funds in the amount of \$25,000+/- are allocated to the building of a new EMS station in the CIP budget Account #10401230-54420. The fund balance is \$1.5 Million)**

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

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/272356?ts=4663>

Director Amundson discussed the co-location of a new EMS center, including logistics and command. Director Amundson noted that \$1.5 million is budgeted and that the MOA acts as a first step to ensure the co-location is physically, financially, and operationally feasible. Director Amundson added that the City of Beaufort had already signed the MOA.

Motion: It was moved by Committee Vice-Chairman Bartholomew, seconded by Council Member Tabernik, to recommend approval of a resolution authorizing the Interim Administrator to enter into a MOA between Beaufort County and the City of Beaufort to explore the feasibility of co-locating municipal fire service and County EMS.

The Vote – The motion was approved without objection.

14. **RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF CONTRACT AWARD TO BEAUFORT CONSTRUCTION OF SC, LLC FOR IFB #052523 PORT ROYAL PUBLIC LIBRARY CONSTRUCTION SERVICES (FISCAL IMPACT: \$480,000.00 from funding source 26030011-54420 - Library Impact Fees. Current account balance is \$606,400)**

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

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/272356?ts=4771>

Capital Projects Director Larson discussed the award of a construction contract to Beaufort Construction of SC, LLC for interior renovations of a 3,200 square feet part of an existing building for the Port Royal Public Library. Director Larson noted that the \$480,000 in requested funds includes contingency because remodels usually have complications and would come from the library impact fees. Director Larson also assured the Committee that despite only one bid, it was thoroughly reviewed to ensure a reasonable price.

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Howard, seconded by Committee Vice-Chairman Bartholomew, to recommend approval of contract award to Beaufort Construction of SC, LLC for IFB #052523 Port Royal Library Construction Services.

Committee Chairman Cunningham confirmed the project's funds would come from the library impact fees.

Council Member Dawson asked for an update on the Burton Wells library. ACA Atkinson commented that the Federal Government donated the Burton Wells property and that deed restrictions say the property must be used for recreation only. ACA Atkinson explained that while libraries have recreational elements,

they do not count as recreation under the deed restrictions. Therefore, a physical library could not be built on the Burton Wells property. ACA Atkinson also explained that the \$690,000 in available funds was insufficient to purchase property and build the library. ACA Atkinson added that the County is still looking for additional funding opportunities and a library site in the Burton Wells area.

Council Member Tabernik asked why the County only received one bid for the project. Director Larson replied that the County broadly advertised the project, but there is a supply and demand issue for construction services.

The Vote – The motion was approved without objection.

15. **RECOMMEND APPROVAL FOR THE INTERIM ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT CHANGE ORDER FOR RENOVATION AND EXPANSION OF THE BLUFFTON TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT EMS/FIRE STATION #34 ON WILLIAM POPE AVE WHICH SERVES SUN CITY (FISCAL IMPACT: \$101,793.00 CIP FUND)**

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

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/272356?ts=5190>

Capital Projects Director Larson discussed the three previous change orders associated with this project, which equaled \$20,000 in total. Director Larson noted that this change order includes a series of items, including higher ceilings, replacement of the existing roof, exterior painting, additional site improvements such as extra sidewalks, and more. Director Larson also highlighted that the planned completion date for this project is January 18, 2024.

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Passiment, seconded by Council Member Tabernik, to recommend approval for the Interim County Administrator to execute a contract change order for renovation and expansion of the Bluffton Township Fire District EMS/Fire Station #34 on William Pope Ave which serves Sun City.

The Vote – The motion was approved without objection.

16. **RECOMMEND APPROVAL TO PURCHASE A 2023 PETERBILT 547 VACUUM TRUCK (FISCAL IMPACT: a quote was provided from AQUP from Sourcewell in the amount of \$570,000 to come from the Stormwater account with a balance of \$644,000)**

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Howard, seconded by Council Member Passiment, to recommend approval to purchase a 2023 Peterbilt 547 Vacuum Truck.

The Vote – The motion was approved without objection.

17. **RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE INTERIM COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER INTO A LEASE AGREEMENT FOR REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 30 HUNTER ROAD WITH EDISON FOARD, INC. (FISCAL IMPACT: Hilton Head Island Airport will receive income generated through lease revenue --Tenant shall pay \$1,390.00 for office space (814 square feet x \$20.50/12) and \$1,698 for warehouse space (1,406 square feet x \$14.50/12) in monthly base rental payments for premises located at 30 Hunter Rd. These lease rates are in accordance with current Beaufort County lease policies)**

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<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/272356?ts=5577>

Airports Director Rembold noted that Edison Foard was awarded the contract for the first phase of terminal improvements at the Hilton Head Island Airport. Director Rembold also explained that the building on Hunter Road was purchased a few years ago and would be the perfect place to house the contractor since it has administrative space and a secure warehouse.

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Reitz, seconded by Council Member McElynn, to recommend approval of an ordinance authorizing the Interim County Administrator to enter into a lease agreement for real property located at 30 Hunter Road with Edison Foard, Inc.

The Vote – The motion was approved without objection.

18. **RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE INTERIM COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER INTO A LEASE AGREEMENT FOR REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 39 AIRPORT CIRCLE WITH HIGH TIDE AVIATION SCENIC TOURS** (*FISCAL IMPACT: Beaufort Executive Airport will receive income generated through fuel sales, the airport's standard 3% operating agreement, and lease revenue -- Tenant shall pay \$231.00 (140 square feet x \$19.80/12) in monthly base rental payments for premises located at the Beaufort Executive Airport terminal. These lease rates are in accordance with current Beaufort County lease policies*)

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

<https://beaufortcountysc.new.swagit.com/videos/272356?ts=5639>

Airports Director Rembold explained High Tide Aviation Scenic Tour's interest in conducting aerial tours out of the Beaufort Executive Airport. Director Rembold noted that there is renovated space inside the airport, allowing for a small office for the company. Director Rembold also noted that this would serve as a revenue generator for the airport.

Motion: It was moved by Committee Vice-Chairman Bartholomew, seconded by Council Member Howard, to recommend approval of an ordinance authorizing the Interim County Administrator to enter into a lease agreement for real property located at 39 Airport Circle with High Tide Aviation Scenic Tours.

The Vote – The motion was approved without objection.

19. **ADJOURNMENT**

Adjourned: 4:35 p.m.

Ratified: November 27, 2023