



County Council of Beaufort County

County Council Caucus Meeting

Chairman

Joseph F. Passiment, JR.

Vice Chairman

D. Paul Sommerville

Council Members

Michael E. Covert

Gerald Dawson

Brian E. Flewelling

York Glover, SR.

Chris Hervocho

Alice G. Howard

Mark Lawson

Lawrence P. McElynn

Stu Rodman

County Administrator

Ashley M. Jacobs

Clerk to Council

Sarah W. Brock

Administration Building

Robert Smalls Complex

100 Ribaut Road

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County Council Minutes

Monday, May 11, 2020 at 6:00 PM

VIRTUAL MEETING

PRESENT

Chairman Joseph F. Passiment
Vice Chairman D. Paul Sommerville
Council Member Michael Covert
Council Member York Glover
Council Member Chris Hervocho
Council Member Stu Rodman
Council Member Alice Howard
Council Member Lawrence McElynn
Council Member Gerald Dawson
Council Member Brian Flewelling
Council Member Mark Lawson

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Passiment called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION

Chairman Passiment led the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the Invocation.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Hervocho, seconded by Council Member Flewelling, to amend the agenda for executive session to read consent agenda. The vote: YEAS - Chairman Passiment, Vice Chairman Sommerville, Council Member Covert, Council Member Glover, Council Member Hervocho, Council Member Rodman, Council Member Howard, Council Member Lawson, Council Member Dawson and Council Member Flewelling. The motion passed 10:0.

CITIZEN COMMENT

Miriam Mitchell: The termination of retiree participation in the county's health care insurance benefits plan.

Louise Matthews: 10 Chesterfield Lake Drive.

Carol Corbin: Support of request to fund the marketing plan of Northern Beaufort County submitted to Hospitality Association.

Jack: The termination of retiree participation in the county's health care insurance benefits plan

Phyllis Coal: Concerned about hotels pools

Arthur Cummings: The termination of retiree participation in the county's health care insurance benefits plan.

Bernice Wright: The termination of retiree participation in the county's health insurance benefits plan.

PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Proclamation honoring the life of Mr. Allen Miller.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Council Member McElynn: From the Community Services Committee meetings

- Consideration of a contract change to Hilton Head Island Humane Association.
- Discussion of a needs assessment from the Lowcountry Council of Governments about potential Beaufort County Community Development Block Grant projects.
- Discussion about the COVID-19 small business relief program that was not forwarded from council with a 7:3 vote.
- Discussion about another voting precinct on Hilton Head.
- Alcohol and Drug Abuse Department will host a Narcan training for opioid overdose and dispense spray.

Council Member Howard: From Natural Resources Committee meetings:

- Would like to move forward with the plans for Beaufort County Passive Park properties.
- During this meeting there will be a discussion about the MOU for the Mossy Oaks Storm Drainage Project.
- From the Town of Port Royal's meeting, they are working on the budget.

Council Member Covert: During the Communications and Transparency Committee:

- The Committee will meet on May 18, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. Mr. Covert requested, via Administration, that the PIO join the meeting. Ms. Jacobs agreed.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Sommerville, seconded by Council Member Flewelling, to approve second reading of an ordinance authorizing the County Administrator to enter into lease agreements with the current tenants occupying property acquired due to the expansion project at the Hilton Head Island Airport. The vote: YEAS – Chairman Passiment, Vice Chairman Sommerville, Council Member Covert, Council Member Glover, Council Member Hervocho, Council Member Rodman, Council Member Howard, Council Member Lawson, Council Member McElynn, Council Member Dawson and Council Member Flewelling. The motion passed 11:0.

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Sommerville, seconded by Council Member Flewelling, to approve second reading of a Stormwater Ordinance that would include the exemption of private roadways that are not shown as a separate parcel of land but are used by more than one property owner to access their property and update the ordinance to provide clarification and reflect organizational changes. The vote: YEAS - Chairman Passiment, Vice Chairman Sommerville, Council Member Covert, Council Member Glover, Council Member Hervocho, Council Member Rodman, Council Member Howard, Council Member Lawson, Council Member McElynn, Council Member Dawson and Council Member Flewelling. The motion passed 11:0.

ACTION ITEMS

First reading of an ordinance to amend Beaufort County Ordinance 2019/32, FY 2019-2020 Beaufort County Budget, to appropriate \$695,000.00 from the general fund to provide funds to settle litigation captioned 2019-cp-07-01642

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Glover, seconded by Council Member Howard, to approve first reading of an ordinance to amend Beaufort County Ordinance 2019/32, FY 2019-2020 Beaufort County Budget, to appropriate \$695,000.00 from the general fund to provide funds to settle litigation captioned 2019-cp-07-01642. The vote: YEAS - Chairman Passiment, Vice Chairman Sommerville, Council Member Covert, Council Member Glover, Council Member Hervocho, Council Member Rodman, Council Member Howard, Council Member Lawson, Council Member McElynn, Council Member Dawson and Council Member Flewelling. The motion passed 11:0.

First reading of an ordinance to establish an enterprise fund for Solid Waste and Recycling for the purpose of planning, designing, constructing, funding and maintaining Solid Waste and Recycling programs, projects, facilities and other matters related to Solid Waste Management

Motion: It was moved by Council Member McElynn, seconded by Council Member Rodman, to approve first reading of an ordinance to establish an enterprise fund for Solid Waste and Recycling for the purpose of planning, designing, constructing, funding and maintaining solid waste and recycling programs, projects, facilities and other matters related to Solid Waste Management . The vote: YEAS - Chairman Passiment, Vice Chairman Sommerville, Council Member Covert, Council Member Glover, Council Member Hervochon, Council Member Rodman, Council Member Howard, Council Member Lawson, Council Member McElynn, Council Member Dawson and Council Member Flewelling. The motion passed 11:0.

Consideration of a resolution authorizing the execution and delivery of a new Stormwater Management and Utility Intergovernmental Agreement; and other matters relating thereto

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Howard, seconded by Council Member Flewelling, to approve consideration of a resolution authorizing the execution and delivery of a new Stormwater Management and Utility Intergovernmental Agreement; and other matters relating hereto. The vote: YEAS - Chairman Passiment, Vice Chairman Sommerville, Council Member Covert, Council Member Glover, Council Member Hervochon, Council Member Rodman, Council Member Howard, Council Member Lawson, Council Member McElynn, Council Member Dawson and Council Member Flewelling. The motion passed 11:0.

Consideration of a resolution authorizing the County Administrator to perfect right of way on Stroup Road

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Flewelling, seconded by Council Member Howard, to approve consideration of a resolution authorizing the County Administrator to perfect right of way on Stroup Road. The vote: YEAS - Chairman Passiment, Vice Chairman Sommerville, Council Member Covert, Council Member Glover, Council Member Hervochon, Council Member Rodman, Council Member Howard, Council Member Lawson, Council Member McElynn, Council Member Dawson and Council Member Flewelling. Council Member Dawson recused himself from voting. The motion passed 10:0 with one recusal.

Consideration of a resolution authorizing the County Administrator to pursue condemnation of a portion of land associated with paving of David Green Road located on St. Helena Island

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Glover seconded by Council Member Flewelling, to approve consideration of a resolution authorizing the County Administrator to pursue condemnation of a portion of land associated with paving of David Green Road located on St. Helena Island. The vote: YEAS - Chairman Passiment, Vice Chairman Sommerville, Council Member Covert, Council Member Glover, Council Member Hervochon, Council Member Rodman, Council Member Howard, Council Member Lawson, Council Member McElynn, Council Member Dawson and Council Member Flewelling. The motion passed 11:0.

Consideration of a resolution authorizing the County Administrator to pursue condemnation of a portion of land to complete right of way ownership associated with the dirt road paving of Twickenham Road located in Sheldon Township

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Dawson, seconded by Council Member Flewelling, to approve consideration of a resolution authorizing the County Administrator to pursue condemnation of a portion of land to complete right of way ownership associated with the dirt road paving of Twickenham Road located in Sheldon Township. The vote: YEAS - Chairman Passiment, Vice Chairman Sommerville, Council Member Covert, Council Member Glover, Council Member Hervochon, Council Member Rodman, Council Member Howard, Council Member Lawson, Council Member McElynn, Council Member Dawson and Council Member Flewelling. The motion passed 11:0.

Consideration of a resolution repealing Resolution 2019/10 authorizing execution of documents for 88 Hampton Parkside Road donation

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Covert, seconded by Council Member Flewelling, to approve consideration of a resolution repealing Resolution 2019/10 authorizing execution of documents for 88 Hampton Parkside Road donation. The vote: YEAS - Chairman Passiment, Vice Chairman Sommerville, Council Member Covert, Council Member Glover, Council Member Hervochoon, Council Member Rodman, Council Member Howard, Council Member Lawson, Council Member McElynn, Council Member Dawson and Council Member Flewelling. The motion passed 11:0.

Recommendation of award for design/build construction for dirt road paving contract to J.H. Hiers' fee proposal for a total project cost of \$2,305,778. The funding for the project is TAG Funds with an available balance of \$5,107,619.62

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Flewelling seconded by Council Member Dawson, to approve the recommendation of award for design/build construction for dirt road paving contract to J.H. Hiers' fee proposal for a total project cost of \$2,305,778. The funding for the project is TAG Funds with an available balance of \$5,107,619.62. The vote: YEAS - Chairman Passiment, Vice Chairman Sommerville, Council Member Covert, Council Member Glover, Council Member Hervochoon, Council Member Rodman, Council Member Howard, Council Member Lawson, Council Member McElynn, Council Member Dawson and Council Member Flewelling. The motion passed 11:0.

Request contract change order approval with Hilton Head Humane Association for veterinary services for Beaufort County's Animal Shelter

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Hervochoon, seconded by Council Member Howard, to approve the request for a contract change order with Hilton Head Humane Association for veterinary services for Beaufort County's Animal Shelter. The change order is for \$220,000 with total contract \$320,000. The vote: YEAS - Chairman Passiment, Vice Chairman Sommerville, Council Member Covert, Council Member Glover, Council Member Hervochoon, Council Member Rodman, Council Member Howard, Council Member Lawson, Council Member McElynn, Council Member Dawson and Council Member Flewelling. The motion passed 11:0.

Designated DMO for Northern Beaufort County's request for tourism recovery funding

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Flewelling, seconded by Council Member Sommerville, to designate DMO for Northern Beaufort County's request for tourism recovery funding. Motion removed.

Chairman Passiment: There is a request in the amount of \$760,000, with the immediate need of \$250,000 for the tourism recovery due to COVID-19. The funding will come from A-Tax reserve funds.

Council Member McElynn: Who would be receiving these funds?

Rob Wells: These would be for direct ad placement such as trip advisor, Facebook, Coastal Living, YouTube, and etc. This is just for advertising not for tourism for the county.

Council Member Glover: Does not want the county to open too soon. Do you think now is the best time to do this?

Rob Wells: We do think that now is the time to reopen and some businesses are opening slowly. We plan on taking a slow approach to this and believe that people are looking for small coastal areas to visit. We still need to place the advertisement, so when individuals are looking to travel they are aware of the county being open.

Council Member Covert: I believe that the county is going too fast. Are the other chambers doing anything? We are just opening some businesses. This may be too fast in thinking that individuals are ready for a vacation.

Council Member Sommerville: Has looked over the Hospitality and 3% tax fund which needs to have an ordinance for the appropriation of funds recommended by the Finance Committee.

Council Member Flewelling: The offer for the ordinance presented will go in front of the Finance Committee. This is a first reading only that will go to the Finance Committee and then to council if approved. This money is to go to the sites that are applicable to Beaufort County.

Council Member Rodman: We are talking about the Visitors Bureau and believes that the \$750,000 should not be given since this is funds that take care of unincorporated and other areas of Beaufort County. We have to be careful with outflow of money since the inflow of money is slow in coming.

Council Member Hervocho: What business will that be? What time frame will the advertisement be for?

Rob Wells: This is designated that make up of stakeholders in tourism. This is outbound partnership within for advertisement. An example would be trip advisor we put businesses on the top when they look for a certain campaign of a vacation destination by using brand specific advertisement. We are looking to do a phase 1 which is a 3 month window then based on the targets coming in we can the trends so that we can have ongoing funds so that we can jump start the economy. We look for behavior travel for vacationers to review in advertisements.

Council Member Hervocho: Are these for local businesses or Beaufort County as a whole?

Rob Wells: The advertisement is very broad.

Chairman Passiment: We have to send this to a committee to make a recommendation to County Council, this cannot be a first reading

Council Member Sommerville: This should go to the committee and can be considered a first reading as long as no dollar amount is mentioned.

Council Member McElynn: I believe the timing is wrong on marketing for advertisement.

Council Member Lawson: How do we split up the amount spent so we can make sure it goes back to the area?

Chairman Passiment: We need to amend the motion

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Flewelling McElynn, seconded by Council Member Sommerville, for a title only referral to the Finance Committee for clarity and resolving the outstanding issues to First Reading, the designated DMO for Northern Beaufort County's request for tourism recovery funding. Motion removed.

Chris Inglese: We have no ordinance that states the use of title only.

Kurt Taylor: Would agree with the usage of title only.

Council Member Howard: Will recommend to send this back to the Finance Committee meeting.

Council Member Flewelling: Remove the amendment I presented.

Council Member Passiment: I withdraw my amendment.

Council Member Rodman: Can we use this under Emergency Ordinance?

Council Member Flewelling: If it comes from the Finance Committee, we can.

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Flewelling, seconded by Council Member Howard, to forward this matter to the Finance Committee. The vote: YEAS - Chairman Passiment, Vice Chairman Sommerville, Council Member Glover, Council Member Hervocho, Council Member Rodman, Council Member Howard, Council Member Lawson, , and Council Member Flewelling. The vote: NAY- Council Member Dawson Council Member Covert, Council Member McElynn. The motion passed 8:3.

Status: Moved to Finance Committee

Emergency Ordinance no. 2020 / 02 extending the State of Emergency in Beaufort County

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Dawson, seconded by Council Member Sommerville, to Emergency Ordinance no. 2020 / 02 extending the State of Emergency in Beaufort County. The vote: YEAS - Chairman Passiment, Vice Chairman Sommerville, Council Member Covert, Council Member Glover, Council Member Hervocho, Council Member Rodman, Council Member Howard, Council Member Lawson, Council Member McElynn, Council Member Dawson and Council Member Flewelling. The motion passed 11:0.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Reappointment of Louis Poindexter to Bluffton Township Fire District Board

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Hervochoon, seconded by Council Member Flewelling, to approve the agenda. The vote: YEAS - Chairman Passiment, Vice Chairman Sommerville, Council Member Covert, Council Member Glover, Council Member Hervochoon, Council Member Rodman, Council Member Howard, Council Member Lawson, Council Member McElynn, Council Member Dawson and Council Member Flewelling. The motion passed 11:0.

Appointment of John Maffei (District 7) to the Rural and Critical Lands Board

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Hervochoon, seconded by Council Member Flewelling, to approve the agenda. The vote: YEAS - Chairman Passiment, Vice Chairman Sommerville, Council Member Covert, Council Member Glover, Council Member Hervochoon, Council Member Rodman, Council Member Howard, Council Member Lawson, Council Member McElynn, Council Member Dawson and Council Member Flewelling. The motion passed 11:0.

Appointment of Kamal Wigfall to Keep Beaufort County Beautiful Board

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Hervochoon, seconded by Council Member Flewelling, to approve the agenda. The vote: YEAS - Chairman Passiment, Vice Chairman Sommerville, Council Member Covert, Council Member Glover, Council Member Hervochoon, Council Member Rodman, Council Member Howard, Council Member Lawson, Council Member McElynn, Council Member Dawson and Council Member Flewelling. The motion passed 11:0.

Reappointment of Phil Kiser and appointment James K. Mack to the Beaufort County Parks and Recreation Board

Motion: It was moved by Council Member Hervochoon, seconded by Council Member Flewelling, to approve the agenda. The vote: YEAS - Chairman Passiment, Vice Chairman Sommerville, Council Member Covert, Council Member Glover, Council Member Hervochoon, Council Member Rodman, Council Member Howard, Council Member Lawson, Council Member McElynn, Council Member Dawson and Council Member Flewelling. The motion passed 11:0.

CITIZEN COMMENT

Council Member Covert: Read emails submitted.

Gail Martin: Wants the emergency order to be lifted.

Morris Campbell: The elimination of former employees to participate in the county's health insurance program.

Council Member Covert then read comments from Facebook.

Cason Bailiff: From Island Packet when is the School Council and County Council meeting?

Beaufort Area Hospitality Association: Support the CBV marketing plan.

Council Member Flewelling: Our administration does not have anything to do with stay at home orders, etc. This came from the Governor.

Mary Daily: Do not extend the stay at home order.

ADJOURNMENT:

Ratified on: