



**JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
MINUTES
October 1, 2018**

Officials Present: Chairman D. Thomas Johnson, Vice Chairwoman Barbara Clark, Councilman L. Martin Sauls, IV, Councilman Henry Etheridge and Councilman Greg Altizer

Staff Present: Administrator Andrew Fulghum, Acting Clerk to Council Bonnie Lawson, Attorney David Tedder, Director of Administrative Services Kimberly Burgess, Planning Director Lisa Wagner, Director of Engineering Services Dale Terry and EMS Director Frank Edwards

Call to Order – Chairman Johnson called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

Executive Session – Councilman Sauls moved and Councilman Etheridge seconded the motion to go into executive session for the discussion of matters relating to (2) Discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contract arrangements and proposed purchase or sale of property, the receipt of legal advice where the legal advice related to a pending, threatened, or potential claim or other matters covered by the attorney-client privilege, settlement of legal claims, or the position of the public agency in other adversary situations involving the assertion against the agency of a claim – Section 30-4-70(a)(2) – Fire Services, Fire Apparatus Lease Agreement, Solicitor’s Office, Jasper Ocean Terminal (JOT), Stiney Road Project (5) Discussion of matters relating to the proposed location, expansion, or the provision of services encouraging location or expansion of industries or other businesses in the area served by a public body -- Section 30-4-70(a)(5) – Economic Development Policy, Project Peach. The motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

Return to Open Session – Councilman Etheridge moved and Councilman Sauls seconded the motion to return to open session. The motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

Action from Executive Session: Councilman Sauls moved to authorize the County Chairman or the County Administrator to execute the retainer agreement with Stephen Spitz, of Stephens & Lee Law Firm, regarding advice and litigation assistance regarding the Jasper Ocean Terminal and to authorize the Law Firm to file suit against the appropriate defendants regarding the delays in permitting and constructing the Terminal. Councilman Etheridge seconded the motion. The motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

Pledge of Allegiance – Councilman Sauls led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Invocation – Councilman Altizer gave the invocation.

Approval of Agenda – Councilman Etheridge moved to approve the agenda and Councilman Sauls seconded the Motion. The motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

Approval of the Minutes – 07/02/2018 and 07/30/2018 – Vice Chairwoman Clark moved and Councilman Etheridge seconded the motion to approve the minutes of 07/02/2018 and 07/30/2018. The motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

Presentations and Proclamations – None.

Open Floor to the Public – Per ordinance 08-17 any citizen of the County may sign to speak before the Council on matters pertaining to County Services and Operations. Presentations will be limited to three (3) minutes and total public input will be limited to 30 minutes-

Chairman Johnson opened the floor to the public.

John Kemp of Hardeeville expressed his concern regarding 319 Sherwood Point Drive in Hardeeville asking why the Delegation has \$20,000 in an account just holding it when it could be used to add the much-needed bathroom facilities at the Park.

Mr. Kemp's second concern is regarding the Fire Department lease agreement and the Resolution, why is the Administrator handling it when it is the job of the County Council? Vice-Chairwoman Clark responded thanking him for questions. In response to the Delegation money, the Council will have Mr. Fulghum find out what can be done. In response to Mr. Fulghum handling the Fire Department lease and Resolution, she said you can be assured that the Council gives the directives to Administrator Fulghum saying what needs to be done to carry through and how we say it is to be done.

Mr. Kemp requests clarification in the Jasper Pellets LLC project is the \$12,500,000 on top of the eight million? Did they put twenty million, or eight million or twelve million? County Attorney Tedder responds the County is not responsible for paying JEDA Bonds. The developer is obligated to invest eight million under the FILOT MCIP. The money is from the State of South Carolina, and the resolution is only as an endorsement of an idea by Jasper County and the Jasper County people. Mr. Tedder said for the record this was published in the Newspaper and a copy posted according to Freedom of Information observing open public comments. The Bond amount did not represent the amount of the project; it represents the maximum lending amount.

Being no further comments Chairman Johnson closed the floor to the public.

Resolutions

Frank Edwards – Resolution of Support for Marsh Cove Fire Station and Authorization to Submit Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Application and Commit Funds. Councilman Sauls moved and Vice Chairman Clark seconded the motion to pass this Resolution as written. The motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

David Tedder – Public Hearing and Consideration of a Resolution of Support for Relating to The Issuance by The South Carolina Jobs-Economic Development Authority of Its Solid Waste Disposal Revenue Bonds (Jasper Pellets, LLC Project, In One Or More Series, Taxable or Tax-Exempt, In the Principal Amount of Not Exceeding \$12,500,000. Councilman Sauls moved and Councilman Altizer seconded the motion to pass this Resolution as written. The motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

Ordinances

Lisa Wagner – 2nd Reading of an Ordinance to adopt *Jasper’s Journey, a Comprehensive Master Plan for Jasper County*, dated 2018, along with the Future Land Use Map and all Appendices, as the required ten-year update of the County’s Comprehensive Plan, consistent with requirements of South Carolina Local Government Comprehensive Planning Enabling Act of 1994. Ms. Wagner said based on public comments a few revisions have been made to the Introduction, Community Facilities and Priority Investment Chapters. She said the Planning Commission recommended other revisions which include; removing the “Hamlet” from the Purrysburg area on the Future Land Use Map, add entrepreneurship/local business as a strategy in the economic development chapter and add language regarding the airport to the transportation chapter. Ms. Grabowski gave a brief overview of the revisions. Ms. Wagner said the Planning Commission passed a Resolution at their September 25, 2018 Meeting recommending that County Council adopt Jasper’s Journey along with the revisions presented tonight, as the updated guide for future growth in Jasper County. Councilman Etheridge moved and Vice Chairman Clark seconded the motion to approve of the 2nd Reading of an Ordinance to adopt as amended *Jasper’s Journey, a Comprehensive Master Plan for Jasper County*, dated 2018, along with the Future Land Use Map and all Appendices. The motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

David Tedder – Public Hearing and 3rd Reading of MCIP Ordinance – Project Peach - an Ordinance acknowledging the termination of an existing Multi-County Industrial/Business Park (Riverport) pursuant to Section 4-1-170 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina 1976, as Amended; and authorizing and approving (1) development of a new Joint County Industrial and Business Park pursuant to Section 4-1-170 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina 1976, as Amended, in conjunction with Beaufort County (the “Park”), such Park to be geographically located in Jasper County; (2) the execution and delivery of a written Park Agreement with Beaufort County as to the requirement of payments of fee in lieu of ad valorem taxes with respect to park property and the sharing of the revenues and expenses of the park; (3) the

distribution of revenues from the Park within Jasper County; and (4) other matters related thereto. Councilman Etheridge moved and Councilman Sauls seconded the motion to approve the 3rd Reading of MCIP Ordinance – Project Peach - an Ordinance acknowledging the termination of an existing Multi-County Industrial/Business Park (RiverPort) pursuant to Section 4-1-170 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina 1976, as Amended. The motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

New Business

Kendall Malphrus – Jasper County Chamber Request to Transfer Funds. Councilman Sauls recused himself. Vice Chairwoman Clark moved to approve the transfer of funds within the Jasper County Chamber accounts and Councilman Altizer seconded the Motion. The motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

Frank Edwards – Presentation of Apparatus Lease Agreement. Vice Chairwoman Clark moved to approve the PNC Lease Agreement for three pumpers with a seven-year payment out of the existing budget Councilman Sauls seconded the Motion. The motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

Frank Edwards – Consideration of an Amendment to the Professional Services Contract with Grady L. Woods – Marsh Cove \$5,900, includes graciously reduced adjustments. All Council Members express their appreciation and approval.

Old Business – None

Council Members’ Comments

Administrator’s Report – Mr. Fulghum said his report was provided for information.

Adjourn – Vice Chairwoman Clark moved and Councilman Altizer seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

The meeting ended at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Approved by:

Bonnie Lawson
Acting Clerk to Council

D. T. Johnson
Chairman