



**JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL
VIRTUAL MEETING**

**Jasper County Clementa C. Pinckney Government Bldg
358 3rd Avenue Ridgeland, SC 29936**

**September 21, 2020
MINUTES**

Officials Present: Chairman Henry Etheridge, Vice Chairwoman Barbara B. Clark, Councilman Johnson, Councilman L. Martin Sauls, Councilman Dr. Curtis Brantley

Staff Present: County Administrator Andrew Fulghum, Clerk to Council Wanda H. Simmons, County Attorney David Tedder, Administrative Services Director Kimberly Burgess, Emergency Services Director Chief Russell Wells, Danny Lucas Economic Development Coordinator and Airport Manager, and Lisa Wagner Director of Planning and Building

Call to Order: Chairman Etheridge called the meeting to order at approximately 5:00 PM.

Motion was made to go into executive session to discuss matters as presented below: Councilman Sauls

Second: Vice Chairwoman Clark

Vote: Unanimous for all present. Councilman Johnson was not present for opening of the Executive Session but arrived during the session.

The motion passed.

Executive Session

SECTION 30-4-70. Meetings which may be closed; procedure; circumvention of chapter; disruption of meeting; executive sessions of General Assembly.

(a) A public body may hold a meeting closed to the public for one or more of the following reasons:

- (1) Discussion of employment, appointment, compensation, promotion, demotion, discipline, or release of an employee, a student, or a person regulated by a public body or the appointment of a person to a public body; however, if an adversary hearing involving the employee or client is held, the employee or client has the right to demand that a hearing be conducted publicly. Nothing contained in this item shall prevent the public body, in its discretion, from deleting the names of the other employees or clients whose records are submitted for use at the hearing – Constitutional Officers and Magistrates; Grievance Committee; Planning Commission; Board of Zoning Appeals; SOLOCO Affordable Housing Trust Fund Steering Committee**
- (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) – Southern Carolina Alliance Contract

- (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) – Jasper Ocean Terminal (JOT), Project Saltwater, Project Fraser**

ANY EXECUTIVE SESSION MATTER ON WHICH DISCUSSION HAS NOT BEEN COMPLETED MAY HAVE DISCUSSION SUSPENDED FOR PURPOSES OF BEGINNING THE OPEN SESSION AT ITS SCHEDULED TIME, AND COUNCIL MAY RETURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION DISCUSSION AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF THE OPEN SESSION AGENDA ITEMS

Return to Open Session:

Motion to return to Open Session in the Council Chambers at 6:42 PM: Councilman Johnson

Second: Councilman Sauls

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

Chairman Etheridge asked if there was any business coming out of executive session. Vice Chairwoman Clark stated there was.

Motion made to extend the contract with Southern Carolina Alliance and authorize the Administrator to sign the contract for membership: Vice Chairwoman Clark

Second: Councilman Sauls

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilman Brantley.

The Invocation was given by Vice Chairwoman Clark.

Approval of Agenda:

Motion to approve the agenda as presented: Vice Chairwoman Clark

Second: Councilman Sauls

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed

Approval of the Minutes of September 8, 2020

Motion to approve the minutes of September 8, 2020 with any corrections necessary: Vice Chairwoman Clark

Second: Councilman Sauls

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

Chairman Etheridge welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending.

Presentation:

Andrew Fulghum – Presentation to Kimberly Burgess of the GFOA Award of Financial Reporting Achievement

Andrew Fulghum, County Administrator said he had received word that Jasper County had achieved the GFOA Excellence in Financial Reporting Certificate of Achievement for the Comprehensive Annual Report for the year ending 2019.

He noted that Kimberly Burgess has received a personal Financial Reporting Achievement Award and for achieving the GFOA Excellence in Financial Reporting Certificate of Achievement for the County. Mr. Fulghum and Council thanked Mrs. Burgess for these accomplishments.

Kimberly Burgess stated that she was grateful for the opportunity to continue the long history of the Jasper County's Financial Reporting Awards.

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 Etheridge asked if there were any public comments.

David Tedder gave the following information regarding the public comments. Ms. Simmons noted she had received 4 public comments. Mr. Tedder said that he received 4 written comments from Clerk to Council. 3 public comments related to Item 11 – regarding Knowles Island which staff will answer at a later date relating to maintenance, responsibilities, etc. The other was the Coastal Conservation League relating to the 2nd reading of an Ordinance which he would read during that item.

Chairman Etheridge asked Ms. Simmons who the public comments were from. He also noted that responses to the comments would be sent from staff in response to the questions or statements. Ms. Simmons stated that comments had come in as follows: at 5:22 pm from Mary Hilderbran; at 1:37 pm a comment via phone text through an email with no name or contact information; 12:00 pm from Randy Carter; and the one from Coastal Conservation League relating to the agenda item.

Resolutions:

Andrew Fulghum – Resolution for Knowles Island Fishing Pier – Security, Access, Hours of Operation

Mr. Fulghum said he had brought this up several months ago concerning a potential reduction and access to fishing pier and trussell property. He noted that there had been episodes of vandalism and 2 subsequent recent events of vehicles going off the trussell. He noted he was just bringing it back for Council's consideration of what they would like to do regarding access and hours of operation for the

facility. He noted that he had prepared a resolution last time and that it is in this packet and he was seeking their direction on this matter.

Motion to table this request for extended study: Vice Chairwoman Clark

Second: Councilman Sauls

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

Ordinances:

- A. **David Tedder – 1st reading by TITLE ONLY of an Ordinance to Authorize and Approve a Multi-County Park Agreement by and between Beaufort County and Jasper County Relating to the Trask East Solar Farm, LLC, Project; To Require the Payment of a Fee In Lieu Of Ad Valorem Taxes by Businesses and Industries Located in the Park; To Apply Zoning and Other Laws in the Park; To Provide for Law Enforcement Jurisdiction in the Park; and to Provide for the Distribution of Park Revenues, and Matters Related Thereto.**

Mr. Tedder noted to the Chairman and members of Council that as they may recall, a couple of years ago Jasper County was asked by Beaufort County to be the participating County (which is the county that received 1% and partners with the other County) to provide multi county business park benefits. This is another Solar Farm that they are doing in Beaufort County and they have asked us to participate. The actual documents will be provided at second reading and there will be a public hearing on this which has been advertised. This is in fact just agreeing to act in conjunction with them just as we asked Hampton County and Beaufort County to do for us.

Motion to approve the 1st reading by TITLE ONLY of an Ordinance to Authorize and Approve a Multi-County Park Agreement by and between Beaufort County and Jasper County Relating to the Trask East Solar Farm, LLC, Project; To Require the Payment of a Fee In Lieu Of Ad Valorem Taxes by Businesses and Industries Located in the Park; To Apply Zoning and Other Laws in the Park; To Provide for Law Enforcement Jurisdiction in the Park; and to Provide for the Distribution of Park Revenues, and Matters Related Thereto: Councilman Sauls

Second: Vice Chairwoman Clark

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

- B. **David Tedder – 3rd reading of Ordinance No. 2020-19 of Jasper County Council to Authorize Jasper County to Enter into a Facilities Use Lease Agreement with the Beaufort-Jasper Economic Opportunity Commission for the Use of a Portion of the Robertville and Coosawhatchie Community Centers.**

Mr. Tedder noted at the last meeting that Mr. Williams from the Head Start Program had been present to assist in discussing this request. He noted they need a longer-term lease on these two properties to build some improvements and improve upon the properties. There was a potential change discussed in the term as well and it covers termination of the agreement in the event the building ages out. Mr. Tedder provided a lease agreement as an attachment to the Ordinance. He noted he had sent the agreement to the EOC for approval and has not received any objection to the wording that he sent out

at the beginning of last week. Mr. Tedder asked for the consideration that Council approve this third reading and the attached lease with Mr. Tedder allowable to make any minor typographical changes or to substitute changes that might come back from the Head Start Program.

Motion to approve the 3rd reading of Ordinance No. 2020-19 of Jasper County Council to Authorize Jasper County to Enter into a Facilities Use Lease Agreement with the Beaufort-Jasper Economic Opportunity Commission for the Use of a Portion of the Robertville and Coosawhatchie Community Centers: Vice Chairwoman Clark

Second: Councilman Sauls

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

C. David Tedder – Public Hearing and consideration of the 3rd reading of Ordinance No. 2020-20 to establish, pursuant to section 4-1-170 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina 1976, as amended, a multi-county industrial/business park(Project Fraser) in conjunction with Hampton County, South Carolina; to provide for a written agreement with Hampton County as to the sharing of the revenues and expenses of the park; to provide for the distribution of revenues from the park among taxing entities having jurisdiction over the park; to provide for a fee in lieu of ad valorem taxation; and other matters related thereto.

At the last meeting Mr. Tedder noted he had explained the setup to promote economic development. He noted that this provides another tool to keep economic development moving, bringing in some properties, and provides incentives. He noted that the maps had been refined prior to this reading. He noted that the amendments between second and third reading were to be more consistent between the multi County park agreement which is an attachment to this. Mr. Tedder reviewed the attachments to the ordinance for council.

Public hearing was opened. There were no comments, so the public hearing was closed.

The motion was made to approve the 3rd reading of Ordinance No. 2020-20 to establish, pursuant to section 4-1-170 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina 1976, as amended, a multi-county industrial/business park(Project Fraser) in conjunction with Hampton County, South Carolina to include the written documents in the packet for 2020-20 that were amended from the 2nd reading of the ordinance: Vice Chairwoman Clark

Second: Councilman Sauls

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

D. David Tedder – 2nd reading of an Ordinance No. 2020-21 amending the Lowcountry Commerce Park Development Agreement by terminating the Agreement as to TMP Parcel 081-00-01-042, consisting of 39.96 acres and matters related thereto.

The owner of the portion of the park containing 39.96 acres has asked to terminate his development agreement. It does not change the zoning just simply terminates the agreement. He read the letter received from Jessie White of the Coastal Conservation League addressing this item as a public comment on this item. Letter has been attached to the minutes as Attachment A.

Motion to approve the 2nd reading of an Ordinance No. 2020-21 amending the Lowcountry Commerce Park Development Agreement by terminating the Agreement as to TMP Parcel 081-00-01-042, consisting of 39.96 acres and matters related thereto: Councilman Sauls

Second: Vice Chairwoman Clark

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

E. Lisa Wagner – Public hearing and 2nd reading of an Ordinance No. 2020-22 for a Zoning Text Amendment to Amend Article 6:1 – Table 1, *Permitted Uses and Conditional Uses*; and Article 11:7, *Industry Specific Conditional Use Regulations*; of the Jasper County Zoning Ordinance, to allow Animal Rescue Shelters in the Rural Preservation Zoning District as a conditional use.”

Ms. Wagner addressed this request with council noting the pertinent information relating to the request. She noted this had been presented at the last meeting and that at the last meeting the motion was made to allow this as a conditional use in any zone.

Ms. Wagner noted the intent of the proposed ordinance is to amend Article 6:1 – Table 1 of the Jasper County Zoning Ordinance to allow Animal Rescue Shelters to be established in the Rural Preservation Zoning District. The Planning Commission received a request for consideration of this text amendment because the requestor is interested in establishing a non-profit animal rescue mission that would be suitable to include large farm animals (livestock) for purposes of rehabilitation of neglected, abused, or ill animals so that the animals can be cared for until such time that they can be re-homed with healthy herds. Currently, the Jasper County Zoning Ordinance only allows Pet Care Services in Community Commercial and General Commercial Zoning Districts. Neither one of these Commercial Zoning Districts would be conducive for an Animal Shelter that would care for horses, cattle, and other livestock considering where these commercial nodes are located throughout the County.

She said the proposed Ordinance will amend the following sections of the Jasper County Zoning Ordinance to allow Animal Rescue Shelters as a conditional use in the Rural Preservation Zoning District and also to amend Article 11:7 29.A, Sector 812910; Animal Shelters:

1. Minimum lot size 5 acres.
2. No exotic animals as defined by Title 9 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.1 are allowed.
3. Structures that house animals must be at least 100’ away from adjacent property lines.
4. Where an existing residential use is adjacent to the subject property Bufferyard 4 shall be required (See Article 12:8.2, *Bufferyards*).
5. Where the Shelter is for non-household animals, i.e., horses, cattle, goats, sheep, etc., the minimum site area must accommodate one-half acre per horse or cow, and one-quarter acre for smaller animals such as sheep and goats.
6. A five-foot high fence shall be provided for all paddock and pasture areas.

She noted that in their packet was the staff report, and a Letter of Request provided by applicant along with the ordinance.

Motion to approve the 2nd reading of an Ordinance No. 2020-22 for a Zoning Text Amendment to Amend Article 6:1 – Table 1, *Permitted Uses and Conditional Uses*; and Article 11:7, *Industry Specific Conditional Use Regulations*; of the Jasper County Zoning Ordinance, thereby amending his prior motion and to ratify the recommendation of the Planning Commission in the act terms of the proposed ordinance: Councilman Johnson

Second: Councilman Brantley

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

New Business

A. Lisa Wagner – Appointments and reappointments for the Planning Commission, Board of Zoning Appeals, SOLOCO Affordable Housing Trust Fund Steering Committee

Ms. Wagner mentioned that Council had appointed one person to the SOLOCO Affordable Housing Trust Fund Steering Committee previously and that they still needed another person. She also reviewed the other appointments / reappointments that were needed on the Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals.

Chairman Etheridge stated that they hoped to act on other appointments at the next meeting.

Motion to approve to defer the rest of the appointments till the next meeting, with the exception of Mr. Alex Pinkney's appointment to the SOLOCO Affordable Housing Trust Fund Steering Committee:

Vice Chairwoman Clark

Second: Councilman Sauls

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

B. Andrew Fulghum – Appointment to Grievance Committee

Mr. Fulghum noted there was a memo in their packet. He said this committee was appointed to hear the formal complaints regarding appointments and county employment. He noted there were 5 members and 2 alternates. He said from the Planning and Building Department employee Sharon Durst would like to be appointed to the committee.

Motion to approve appointing Sharon Derst with Jeffrey Barber as an alternate: Vice Chairwoman Clark

Second: Councilman Sauls

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

C. Kimberly Burgess – Presentation of bids for Compact Tract Loader

Kimberly Burgess presented this item. She said the county advertised for bids to be turned in by 3PM on 9/2/20. She said 1 bid was received in a timely manner from Lowcountry in the amount of \$50,150.00 (which was \$13,000 over) and the other bid was incomplete.

She noted that according to the county procurement ordinance a bid can be rejected in whole or in part. She asked that council reject the bid since it was not in the best interest of the county due to the excessive cost. She also noted they would go out for state, federal and local government contract prices.

Motion to reject the bid: Councilman Johnson

Second: Councilman Sauls

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

D. Kimberly Burgess – Presentation of bids for 2 Digital Messaging Boards

Mrs. Burgess noted that the advertisements had been set for bids to be returned on 9/2/20. She said she had two timely bids. One bid from K&K Systems in the amount of \$28,976 and the other from BC Cannon in the amount of \$35,000. She said they also had one late bid that remains unopened as per the procurement ordinance.

She noted that staff requests the bid be awarded to K & K Systems in the amount of \$28,976.00 and allow the County Administrator to enter into an agreement to purchase.

Motion to approve K & K Systems in the amount of \$28,976 and all the County Administrator to enter into an agreement to purchase: Vice Chairwoman Clark

Second: Councilman Sauls

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

Old Business:

A: Russell Wells – Acceptance of a revised quotation for the purchase and installation of Stand-By Generator for the 911 Communication Center that was approved by Council on July 6, 2020.

Mr. Wells thanked the members of the council for allowing us to bring this back to your attention. He noted that they had went through and reviewed the contract wanting to make sure they had noted everything correct. He said it was brought to their attention that a performance and payment bond that needed to be secured, so this was also included in the update that was brought to council for this meeting. He noted the other inclusion was the solidification of the sales taxes that would be imposed upon that acquisition. He noted they had solidified all those figures and that if his numbers held true it is \$244,556.08.

Chairman Etheridge noted this was an increase of \$7,778.00. Mr. Wells noted that they would also like to ask that the County Administrator be allowed to enter into and sign that contract if possible.

Motion to approve Acceptance of a revised quotation for the purchase and installation of Stand-By Generator for the 911 Communication Center: Councilman Johnson

Second: Councilman Brantley

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

Council Members Comments:

Councilman Sauls:

Councilman Sauls told the Chairman that he was very proud of the job that he had done today representing the County at the Southern Carolina Alliance function with the Riverport and Gramling Brothers. He noted that they had a chance to incorporate a little bit of the Exit 3 information also. He said there will probably be a groundbreaking next year for Exit 3 and that today was a great event. He noted that Governor McMaster attended today's event and the stakeholders were also there.

He mentioned that this had been about 12 years in the making and it is just really excited about what's going on there. He said they have a 150,000 square foot building that they're fixing to a tenant in and another 300,000 square foot industrial warehouse under construction with many more planned. He said there are a lot of good things going on, with some big announcements coming out in the very near future, like the ones today. He also mentioned the announcement from two weeks ago with Hampton with the AG Tech Center. He said that 2020 has been a crazy year but we've managed to have some good news and hopefully that will continue down that same path for Jasper County and the Southern Carolina region.

Councilman Brantley:

Councilman Brantley noted that his prayers are that everyone will be safe from the COVID19 virus and God bless.

Councilman Johnson:

Councilman Johnson said it was gratifying to see that the Exit 3 project seems to be on track. He noted that he certainly hopes everybody stays safe and I want to thank everybody that has cooperated with the county for the way we had to operate during these trying times.

Vice Chairwoman Clark:

Vice Chairwoman Clark said she was mainly trying to stay put as much as she possibly to avoid COVID19. She noted that she had attended the first graduating class welding class through the Workforce Development Program at the Hardeeville Workcenter and that it was very good. She said she was proud of what she had witnessed. She also noted that she attended today's event and remarked about how wonderful it was to see the path of Exit 3 will travel and hear how many people were interested in this in Jasper County. She also noted that the Governor had mentioned Jasper County Court several times. She noted that God is still good, and that they are still fighting to get our Port. She mentioned that this is one thing she wants see for Councilman Tom Johnson because he has worked very hard on that Port. She said they were together when they started the Port project. She reminded people that COVID19 is real and noted her prayers for the people.

Chairman Etheridge:

Chairman Etheridge noted that he had also attended the Workforce Development Program at the Hardeeville Workcenter and that it was very good. He said they had graduated 9 welders and that he hoped they were all working by now. He noted the need to more and more people in Jasper County to be trained for jobs like these after attending this event today. He said he remembered riding over to Pooler looking at all those big warehouses and wondering why Jasper County couldn't have that. Now fast forward till today and it is happening at Riverport. He said before long there would be 4.5 million feet of those warehouses, with 10 of those big warehouses and vast amounts of square footage. He noted they are going to be building there in Riverport which is a prime location close to the ports, Interstate 95 and the railroads. He noted he is looking forward for Jasper Ocean Terminal to get off the ground and get started. He mentioned that after today's announcements and Exit 3 then he feels like we're getting closer to Jasper Ocean Terminal. He said he prays for everybody be safe out there because it seems like people are getting relaxed about COVID19. He thanked God for people going back to work and for their safety.

Administrator's Report:

Andrew Fulghum addressed the items on his administrator's report for information. He noted he had just a couple of items for Council's information.

He said they had talked months ago about the Clemson Study which was a refresh of the Fiscal Impact Study that Clemson did for the County, Town of Ridgeland and the City of Hardeeville 14 years ago. He noted that the council had commissioned a refresher to look at fiscal projections for each of the jurisdictions from now until 2025. Dr. Rob Carey with the university's Regional and Economic Analysis Laboratory has been doing that and he noted Dr. Carey was very close to finishing it. He said they may be able to have it completed so that it could be presented at the next council meeting. He noted that once it was presented it would be distributed to all the entities. He reminded Council that this time the school district was included so council could look at and project revenues between now and 2025. He said this would be helpful to see whether we will be on target or off target from the previous study. This he noted would give a little better understanding of the true cost of growth.

He noted that Council had held discussions relating to impact fees before as there are none currently in Jasper County. He noted that in lieu of impact fees Jasper County has voluntary fees that each jurisdiction charges developers to develop properties. He noted that developer fees have a lot more flexibility to them, but they're not quite as scientific as impact fees and or as onerous to administer.

He said they had solicited at staff level a proposal from Tischler Bise, who had recently completed the update of impact fees for Beaufort County to prepare a proposal for us for Council's consideration to consider developing impact fees. He noted that this would be a comprehensive process that would include the municipalities and the school district, which would really assess the true cost of growth going forward.

He said he felt that this effort could really increase communication and have everyone on the same page as to evaluating the cost growth. He mentioned that it seemed like an appropriate time with some of this development discussed earlier in tonight's meeting happening along 170 with Beaufort County. He noted that Beaufort County charges impact fees that are considerably higher than any voluntary fees being

charged in Jasper County. He noted this was in Council's packet for their perusal with no action of course for now.

Councilman Brantley asked about the approximate cost of the impact study. Mr. Fulghum said the amount of the county portion would be \$63,600 and for the school district portion \$38,400 for total of \$102,000.00.

Mr. Fulghum noted he had a couple other items that came up since the agenda was set and the administrators report went out to council that he wished to cover.

He said he had received a notice from the City of Hardeeville concerning a public hearing that they have scheduled at their City Hall at 5:00 PM on November the 5th. The purpose of that public hearing is to consider a redevelopment plan for the Exit 3 redevelopment project area. That is really the first step of creating the tax increment financing district that Council had been discussing for some time. He noted it had been received it last week and the city requested we acknowledge receipt of that public hearing notification. Mr. Fulghum said he was going to ask the Chairman sign this so that we are legally compliant and get that back to the city. He noted that he just wanted to let them know of this, and that he would send them a notice so that they could include this meeting on their calendars in case they would like to attend that meeting.

The other item he noted regarded Cherry Point Fire District. He said he was sure Council could recall the many discussions held about the Cherry Point Fire District, more specifically with regards to the city's annexation into that district. He noted that the council sort of concluded that with the knowledge that they had indebted the county through a federal loan for the construction of the Marsh Cove fire station that therefore the Cherry Point fire millage does not go away upon annexation of the City of Hardeeville. He noted there was a small piece of property that was discussed about 10 acres that was going to be developed abutting current Sun City which was annexed prior to the County assuming that debt. He noted as they recalled they had talked to the council about the belief that the County had the obligation to work on a plan for service with the city on that particular property. He mentioned that the County Council had approved a plan for service that simply required the city to pay the equivalent of the Cherry Point millage (which is 32 Mills on that property for a period of five years) at which time the millage would come off and the property would be removed from the Cherry Point fire district. He said that this plan had been submitted to city two months ago and he has received no response to the plan.

He noted then that he had recently received a response last week that they would like to move to the next step of that process, which was to create a committee assuming that the two entities cannot agree on a plan. He said that there were some different opinions from our attorney that is handling this for the County and stated that he does not believe that its appropriate for it to go to the committee. Mr. Fulghum noted that we haven't received any objections from the city about what they found objectionable to the plan that council presented to them. He said he would be working with Mr. Tedder and Mr. Kernodle (who is the county's special counsel) to try to clarify whether in fact council needs to go the committee route on this 10-acre parcel or not. In the meantime, he said he would try to ask the city what their objections might be to that paying the 32 Mills for the Cherry Point fire district on the property currently which totals \$585.66 year. He noted that council was asking them to pay five years of that and then it would drop off the books. He said if it did develop with possibly 30 homes (which would be about all that could go there) on that 10 acres that on a \$400,000 home the cost would be about \$266. He noted that

no one would expect it to develop out entirely within a year. Councilman Brantley asked who the property belongs to. Mr. Fulghum said it to an LLC currently called Triple J investments.

Mr. Fulghum stated that he was going to have Chief Wells give an update on the status of COVID19 in Jasper County.

Chief Wells noted that as of today South Carolina's rate of positivity averaged out at 9.5%. Taking look at Jasper county's positivity rate as of today and the past 14 days of testing that has been conducted in Jasper County it is at 17.2% (which is almost just under double what the states averages). He noted that the South Carolina Department environmental control is reporting out 5685 tests completed in Jasper County with a total cumulative case count of 779 cases. He said that 69 of those individuals were hospitalized and unfortunately, we've encountered 19 individuals that succumb to this disease (a copy of these statistics will be attached as Attachment B to the minutes).

Possible Return to Executive Session to Continue Discussion on Matters Regarding Agenda Item II.

No return to executive session necessary

Adjourn:

Motion to adjourn: Vice Chairwoman Clark

Second: Councilman Johnson

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted:



Wanda H. Simmons
Clerk to Council

Approved:



Henry Etheridge
Chairman

Attachment A



COASTAL
CONSERVATION
LEAGUE

September 21, 2020

Jasper County Council
Attn: Clerk to Council
P.O. Box 1149
Ridgeland, SC 29936

Re: Agenda Item XII.D Ordinances

Dear Council Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on behalf of the Coastal Conservation League regarding the proposed ordinance to amend the Lowcountry Commerce Park Development Agreement by terminating the Agreement as to TMP Parcel 081-00-01-042, consisting of 39.96 acres and matters thereto.

We tuned in to the last County Council meeting and appreciate the seriousness with which you all considered the proposal before you. To be clear, the property in question is being targeted for annexation by the City of Hardeeville. If the city annexes this property, the developers will achieve the contiguity necessary to also annex 90+ acres on the opposite side of Highway 170 in Beaufort County, where they plan to build nearly 200 homes. The Master Plan and Planned Development District for the collective 140+ acres was unanimously approved by Hardeeville's Planning Commission last week despite ongoing concerns regarding impacts to traffic, schools, regional planning, and environment.

The proposal would foist 200 homes on the Beaufort County side of Hwy 170 in an area that's currently appropriately zoned rural and only allows for 31 homes under Beaufort County's zoning. The plans for number of residential units for the Jasper County property before you has not been clarified, nor for any of the other Jasper County properties included in the pursued annexation.

As we stated on September 8th, this proposed annexation is unwise and we are raising it to this Council for awareness due to the potential losses that will be felt by Jasper County. If the proposed annexation goes forward, Jasper County will lose the revenue potential as well as control of a property located at an important intersection at SC 462 and SC 170, one that is highly-traveled, increasingly dangerous, and the focus of public funding to study by the multi-jurisdictional Lowcountry Council of Government's LATS Policy Committee. At the same time, 400+ vehicles will be imposed on the intersection.



**COASTAL
CONSERVATION
LEAGUE**

Until the full scope of consequences are known and considered, we urge the Council to avoid taking action that may facilitate the proposed annexation, including tabling this ordinance amending the Lowcountry Commerce Park Development Agreement.

Thank you for your consideration of these important issues.

Sincerely,

Jessie White

**Jessie White
South Coast Office Director
SC Coastal Conservation League**



Jasper County COVID Statistics

South Carolina Positivity Rate as of 20, September: **9.5%**

Jasper County Positivity Rate: **17.2%** (As of 9/20: 11:59 p.m. SCDHEC)



COVID-19 in South Carolina
As of 11:59 PM on 9/20/2020

Number of Tests Jasper	Cases Jasper	Hospitalizations Jasper	Deaths Jasper
5,685	779	69	19
Go to Testing	Go to Cases	Go to Hospitalizations	Go to Deaths

Two Week Cumulative Incidence Rate

The Two-Week Cumulative Incidence Rate includes new cases reported in the past two weeks September 7, 2020 - September 20, 2020 per 100,000 people. The rate describes recent incidence of COVID-19 infection to capture the potential burden of current, all people who may be infectious and/or accessing healthcare.

Select a **county** to display county-specific information
Click the county's **sgan** to return to the full state map

- Incidence Legend
- Low Incidence: 0-100
 - Moderate Incidence: 101-200
 - Moderately High Incidence: 20
 - High Incidence: > 300



OpenStreetMap

COVID-19 in Congregate Settings

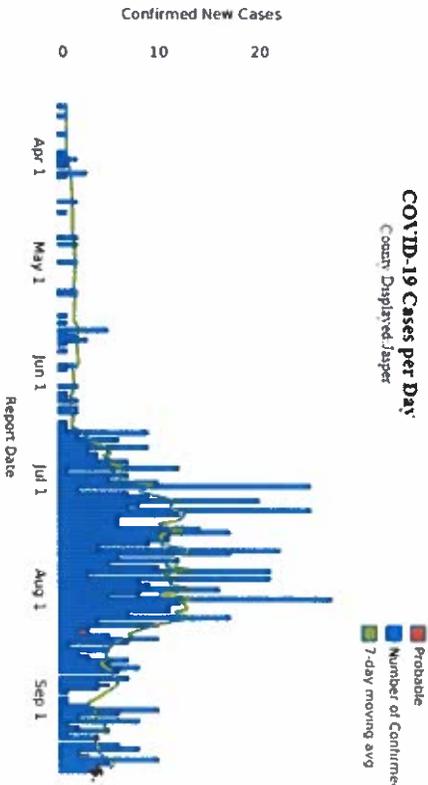
Note: Values Displayed are Total Values at the State Level (all counties)

14 - Day Confirmed Case Count:

09/07: 8	09/14: 6
09/08: 1	09/15: 8
09/09: 1	09/16: 2
09/10: 4	09/17: 2
09/11: 2	09/18: 6
09/12: 5	09/19: 4
09/13: 0	09/20: 4

COVID-19 Cases per Day

County Displayed: Jasper



7-Day Moving Average of COVID-19 Cases, by Public Health Region

Low Country

COVID-19 in South Carolina
As of 11:59 PM on 9/20/2020

Select Date Range
to Filter Page Values

9/20/2020

Percent Positive | Jasper
17.2%

Type of COVID-19 Tests Being Performed
County Displayed: Jasper Dates Displayed: 9/6/2020 to 9/20/2020

Type of COVID-19 Tests Being Performed	Positive	Negative	Grand Total
Viral (Molecular)	69	330	399
Antigen	1	6	7
Antibody (Serology)	1	3	4
Unknown	2	2	4
Grand Total	71	341	412