



JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL SPECIAL CALLED MEETING

Jasper County Clementa C. Pinckney Government Bldg
358 3rd Avenue, Ridgeland, SC 29936
Thursday, February 5, 2026
MINUTES

Officials Present: Chairman Joey Rowell, Vice Chairman Joseph Arzillo, Councilman John Kemp, Councilman Chris VanGeison and Councilman Gene Ceccarelli

Staff Present: County Administrator Andrew Fulghum, Interim County Attorney Lawrence Flynn, Clerk to Council Wanda Giles, Kimberly Burgess, Eric Larson, Jim Iwanicki, Chief Russell Wells, Susan Waite, and Videographer Jonathan Dunham.

1. Call to Order of the Jasper County Council Meeting by Chairman Rowell

Chairman Rowell called the meeting to order. The Report of Compliance with the Freedom of Information Act was read for the records as follows: *In accordance with South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, Section 30-4-80(d), as amended, notification of the meeting and the meeting agenda were posted at least 24 hours prior to the meeting on the County Council Building at a publicly accessible place, on the county website, and a copy of the agenda was provided to the local news media and all person's or organizations requesting notification.*

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act the electronic and print media were notified. During periods of review, discussion and/or presentations minutes are typically condensed and paraphrased. The recorded version is available online at: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBmloqX05cKAsHm_ggXCJIA. Closed captions are also available for all of our County Council videos.

2. Pledge to the Flag and Invocation

The Pledge to the Flag was led by the Chairman and the Invocation was given by Chairman Rowell.

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda: Councilman Kemp

Second: Councilman VanGeison

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

4. Executive Session SECTION 30-4-70.

(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 – (1) Engagement and Terms of Service for New County Attorney; (2) Personnel Matters relating to the County Administrator

(4) Investigative proceedings regarding allegations of criminal misconduct – Discussion of Investigative Proceedings – (1) Scope of Services for Forensic AUP

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. PLEASE BE ADVISED THERE MAY BE VOTES BASED ON ITEMS FROM THE EXECUTIVE SESSION.

Motion to go into executive session: Councilman Ceccarelli

Second: Councilman Kemp

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

Motion to come out of Exec Session: Councilman Kemp

Second: Councilman Ceccarelli

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

Return to Open Session:

Motion return to open session: Councilman Ceccarelli

Second: Councilman Kemp

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

5. Action coming out of Executive Session: There was no action coming out of Executive Session.

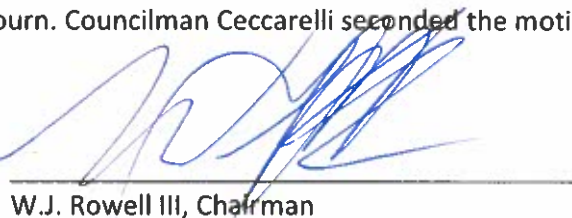
****Council may act on any item appearing on the agenda, including items discussed in executive session.***

For more information on this meeting please go to our YouTube Channel for the video. During meetings and / or workshops periods of review, discussion, presentation, comments, and other sections the minutes are typically condensed and paraphrased. The recorded version is available online at our YouTube Channel video at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBmloqX05cKAsHm_ggXCJIA. Closed captions are also available for all of our County Council videos. Just click the "CC" button to follow along.

6. Adjournment:

The motion was made by Councilman Kemp to adjourn. Councilman Ceccarelli seconded the motion. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned.


Wanda Giles, Clerk to Council


W.J. Rowell III, Chairman

Minutes – 02.05.2026