



JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL COUNCIL MEETING

City of Hardeeville City Hall
205 Main Street, Hardeeville, SC. 29927

Monday, November 17, 2025

Minutes

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

Staff Present: County Administrator Andrew Fulghum, Clerk to Council Wanda Giles, Kimberly Burgess, Lisa Wagner, James Iwanicki, Chief Russell Wells, and Videographer Jonathan Dunham.

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

Vice 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 of Allegiance and Invocation:

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

3. Approval of the Consent Agenda:

Approval of Consent Agenda passes all Consent Agenda Items. Consent Agenda Items are not considered separately unless any Councilmember so requests. In the event of such a request the item is placed at the end of the Public Hearings, Ordinances and Action Items.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

Approval of the Minutes of 07.10.2025 and 07.14.2025

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda: Councilman Ceccarelli

Second: Councilman VanGeison

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

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4. Approval of the Regular Agenda:

Motion to approve the Agenda with the deletion of Item # 16: Councilman Arzillo

Second: Councilman VanGeison

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

PRESENTATIONS:

5. Andrew Fulghum – Presentation of Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024.

Mr. Fulghum was present to give the presentation for the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024.

6. Cate Browne - NorthPoint Development Update and Infrastructure Needs.

Cate Browne was available to present and discuss the North Point Development Update and infrastructure needs. She provided an update on the regional water system project. She noted that although most of the project was funded, a shortfall remained, and that after securing a Department of Commerce grant, the shortfall still needed to be addressed to complete the system. Council discussed holding a workshop to further evaluate the budget impact of this request.

CHAIRMAN KEMP'S COMMENTS:

Jasper County Council Agency Request: On behalf of Chairman Kemp, Council expressed full support for a letter to the South Carolina Forestry Commission regarding the Buckfield project conservation effort across Hampton, Jasper, and Beaufort counties.

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

7. Open Floor to the Public per Ordinance Number #08-17 Any citizen of the County may sign to speak in person at the Council Meeting (before the Council Meeting's 6:00PM start time on the Sign-In Sheet on the Podium), to address Council on matters pertaining to County Services and Operations. Presentations will be limited to three (3) minutes per person and total public input will be limited to 30 minutes.

Frank Collins of Hardeeville expressed his disappointment with Jasper County's tax rates and the sales tax rate.

RESOLUTIONS

8. Andrew Fulghum – Consideration of Resolution #R-2025-62 A Resolution of Jasper County, South Carolina, approving a settlement agreement in Civil Action No. 2023-CP-27-00445.

Mr. Fulghum was present to review, address and discuss the request for the consideration of the Resolution #R-2025-62 a Resolution of Jasper County, South Carolina, approving a settlement agreement in Civil Action No. 2023-CP-27-00445. He noted that this was a settlement agreement between Jasper County and Cameron L. Heddings and Mr. Berry. He noted that he was requesting approval from the Council to make this settlement agreement.

Motion to approve: Councilman

Second: Councilman

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

9. Andrew Fulghum – Consideration of Resolution #R-2025-63 A Resolution of Jasper County, South Carolina, authorizing the County Administrator to enter into an agreement for legal services related to the Ridgeland Claude Dean Airport.

Mr. Fulghum was present to review, address and discuss the request noting it was for legal services for the consideration of the Resolution #R-2025-63 a Resolution of Jasper County, South Carolina, authorizing the County Administrator to enter into an agreement for legal services related to the Ridgeland Claude Dean Airport.

Motion to approve: Councilman Arzillo

Second: Councilman Ceccarelli

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

10. Andrew Fulghum – Consideration of Resolution #R-2025-64 A Resolution of Jasper County, South Carolina, authorizing the County to retain legal counsel and approving a Representation Agreement for litigation relating to ultra-processed foods, and authorizing the County Administrator to execute and deliver the Agreement on behalf of the County.

Mr. Fulghum was present to review, address and discuss the request for the consideration of the Resolution #R-2025-64 A Resolution of Jasper County, South Carolina, authorizing the County to retain legal counsel and approving a Representation Agreement for litigation relating to ultra-processed foods, and authorizing the County Administrator to execute and deliver the Agreement on behalf of the County.

Motion to approve: Councilman VanGeison

Second: Councilman Arzillo

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

11. Jim Iwanicki – Consideration of Resolution #R-2025-65 A Resolution of Jasper County, South Carolina, approving an Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Hardeeville for improvements to US 278 between Dolnick Road and John Smith Road, and authorizing the County Administrator to execute the Intergovernmental Agreement on behalf of the County.

Mr. Iwanicki was present to review, address and discuss the request for the consideration of the Resolution #R-2025-65 a Resolution of Jasper County, South Carolina, approving an Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Hardeeville for improvements to US 278 between Dolnick Road and John Smith Road, and authorizing the County Administrator to execute the Intergovernmental Agreement on behalf of the County.

Motion to approve: Councilman Ceccarelli

Second: Councilman VanGeison

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

PUBLIC HEARINGS, ORDINANCES AND ACTION ITEMS

12. Taylor Boykin – PUBLIC HEARING ONLY of Ordinance #O-2025-32 authorizing the execution and delivery of a special source revenue credit agreement by and between Jasper County, South Carolina and Palmetto Plastics Innovations LLC, a company also known as Project Pilgrimage, with respect to certain economic development property in the county, whereby such property will receive certain special source credits; and other matters related thereto. (1st reading 10.20.2025) (Project Pilgrimage)

This item was for Public Hearing Only. The public hearing was opened but there were no comments so the Public Hearing was closed.

13. Lisa Wagner – Public Hearing and Consideration of 2nd Reading of Ordinance #O-2025-35 to amend Article 12:1 of the Jasper County Zoning Ordinance, Off-Street Parking, to add parking requirements for shell buildings and residential uses, update the Off-Street Parking Design Standards diagram; And Other Matters Relating Thereto. (1st Reading 11.03.2025)

Lisa Wagner was present to review, address and discuss the request for the consideration of the 2nd Reading of Ordinance #O-2025-35 to amend Article 12:1 of the Jasper County Zoning Ordinance, Off-Street Parking, to add parking requirements for shell buildings and residential uses, update the Off-Street Parking Design Standards diagram and other matters relating thereto. The public hearing was opened but there were no comments so the Public Hearing was closed.

Motion to approve: Councilman VanGeison Ceccarelli

Second: Councilman Ceccarelli

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

14. Kimberly Burgess – Consideration of the 1st Reading of an Ordinance to Provide for the Issuance and Sale of Not to Exceed \$150,000,000 General Obligation Bonds of Jasper County, South Carolina Pursuant to the Authority and Direction of the Favorable Results of the Referendum Conducted on November 5, 2024; to Prescribe the Purposes for which the Proceeds Shall Be Expended; to provide for the Payment Thereof; and Other Matters Relating Thereto.

Kim Burgess was present to review, address and discuss the request for the consideration of the 1st Reading of an Ordinance to Provide for the Issuance and Sale of Not to Exceed \$150,000,000 General Obligation Bonds of Jasper County, South Carolina Pursuant to the Authority and Direction of the Favorable Results of the Referendum Conducted on November 5, 2024; to Prescribe the Purposes for which the Proceeds Shall Be Expended; to provide for the Payment Thereof; and Other Matters Relating Thereto.

Motion to approve: Councilman Ceccarelli

Second: Councilman VanGeison

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

15. Jeanine Bostick – Consideration of a new position titled Voters Registration and Elections IT Systems Coordinator for the Voter Registration Department.

Jeanine Bostick was present to review, address, and discuss the request for the consideration of a new position titled Voters Registration and Elections IT Systems Coordinator for the Voter Registration Department.

Motion to approve: Councilman VanGeison

Second: Councilman Arzillo

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

16. Kimberly Burgess – Public Hearing for the Reconsidered Budget Ordinance (Cancelled)

This item was removed from the agenda during the Approval of the Agenda.

17. Kimberly Burgess – Consideration of the 1st Reading of an Ordinance of Jasper County Council to Authorize and Ratify the Imposition of New Fees, and Matters Related Thereto.

Motion to approve: Councilman Arzillo

Second: Councilman Ceccarelli

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

Administrator's Report: Mr. Fulghum reviewed the information from his report that was provided in the agenda e-packet. There were no Action Items requiring a vote from the Council in the Administrator's Report.

Councilmember Comments and Discussion: Councilmember Comments were given but there were no comments that required action.

18. 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) County Attorney Position; (2) Personnel Reviews

(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 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 – (1) Forensic Audit; (2) ADP Software Upgrade

Motion to go into Executive Session: Councilman VanGeison

Second: Councilman Arzillo

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

ANY EXECUTIVE SESSION MATTER ON WHICH DISCUSSION HAS NOT BEEN COMPLETED MAY HAVE DISCUSSION SUSPENDED FOR THE PURPOSE 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.

19. Return to Open Session:

Motion to return to Open Session: Councilman Ceccarelli

Second: Councilman Arzillo

Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed.

20. Council Action to be taken on items as discussed in Executive Session

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

Action coming out of Executive Session: There was no action that came out of the Executive Session.

For more information about this meeting, please visit 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.

21. Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn: Councilman Arzillo

Second: Councilman Ceccarelli

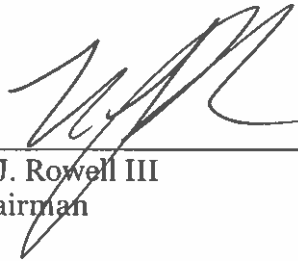
Vote: Unanimous

The motion passed, and the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted:



Wanda H. Giles
Clerk to Council



W.J. Rowell III
Chairman