

COUNTY COUNCIL OF BEAUFORT COUNTY

ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

100 RIBAUT ROAD

POST OFFICE DRAWER 1228

BEAUFORT, SOUTH CAROLINA 29901-1228

TELEPHONE: (843) 470-2800

FAX: (843) 470-2751

www.bcgov.net

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Council Action Summary

April 2004

April 12, 2004

Awarded a consulting contract to Clarion Associates, LLC of Denver, Colorado in the amount of \$220,845 for consulting services leading to the development of a Southern Regional Plan, contingent upon the Town of Hilton Head Island contributing an additional \$40,000 and Town of Bluffton \$30,000. Further, that the Steering Committee composition is expanded to include a representative from a large landowner as a voting member, a representative from Jasper County Council as an *ex-officio* member, and a representative from the Town of Hardeeville as an *ex-officio* member.

Adopted a resolution directing the Beaufort County Planning Commission to explore the question of a traffic impact fee in northern Beaufort County.

Approved on second reading a Ground Lease and Contract for Service with the Boys and Girls Club of the Lowcountry, Inc.

Adopted a resolution approving the Assignment of Lease from US Cable of Coastal-Texas, L.P. to Comcast of Georgia/South Carolina II, LLC.

Approved on first reading map amendments for 67 Lady's Island properties within the Hazel Farm and Dow Road Area--twelve (12) properties to the south of Hazel Farm Road; six (6) properties off Club Road; and 49 properties in the vicinity of Freemans Drive and Dow, Meadowbrook Farm, and Little Creek Roads - Beaufort County Future Land Use Map amendment from Rural Service Area to Community Preservation Area.

Approved on first reading map amendments for 67 Lady's Island properties within the Hazel Farm and Dow Road Area--twelve (12) properties to the south of Hazel Farm Road; six (6) properties off Club Road; and 49 properties in the vicinity of Freemans Drive and Dow, Meadowbrook Farm, and Little Creek Roads - Beaufort County Zoning Map amendment from Rural (R) and Rural-Residential (RR) to Lady's Island Community Preservation (LICP) Zoning.

Approved on first reading text amendments to the Beaufort County Zoning and Development Standards Ordinance/ZDSO, Appendix I – Lady's Island Community Preservation (CP) Area, Division 6, Redevelopment District (adds the Development Standards of a New Overlay District within the Lady's Island Community Preservation (CP) Area).



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Approved on first reading text amendments to the Beaufort County Comprehensive Plan, Appendix H. Old Sheldon Church Road Scenic Highway Corridor Management Plan (adds new Appendix) and, further, that the designation be changed to begin at the intersection of SC Highway 21 (Old Sheldon Church Road) and US 21/17, but ending at the intersection of Le Creuset Road and SC Highway 21.

Approved on first reading text amendments to the Beaufort County Zoning and Development Standards Ordinance/ZDSO, Article II, Section 106-231(2) (adds Old Sheldon Church Road to the Corridor Overlay District) and, further, that the designation be changed to begin at the intersection of SC Highway 21 (Old Sheldon Church Road) and US 21/17, but ending at the intersection of Le Creuset Road and SC Highway 21. This will reduce the length of the Scenic Byway by approximately 610 feet.

Adopted the Greenprint Map subject to change as the Trust for Public Land sees necessary and recommended to Council.

Approved a late filing for agricultural use valuation on property R610 030 000 0441 0000, a total of 9.18 acres, for tax years 2002 and 2003.

Approved a late filing for agricultural use valuation on property R100 028 000 0037 0000 (5 acres) and R100 028 000 0354 0000 (5 acres), a total of 10 acres, for tax year 2003.

Awarded a contract to Associated Receivable Consultants (ARC) of Augusta, Georgia to assist County departments with the collection of aged debts. This is a commissionable process they will earn based upon the amount of money that they raise—accounts aged 0 to 90 days the commission rate is 18% and accounts 91 days and older the rate is 28%. The contract is for a term of one year, with four annual renewals to be offered at the discretion of Beaufort County.

Supported the following bills: (i) S.1057 and H.4968 – Enacts the Motion Picture Incentive Act, providing for new tax incentives for motion picture production companies; (ii) S.1039 – Makes it public policy that state agencies do not provide goods and services in competition with private business, (iii) S.1041 – Repeals a provision that prohibits write-in votes in special elections a municipal general elections, (iv) S.892 – Accommodations Tax and Hospitality Tax Revenues: Allows up to 50% of local accommodations and hospitality tax revenue for the operation of facilities used by tourism, (v) H.4117 and H.4441 – Second Injury Fund: Bills would close the Second Injury Fund (SIF). SIF is a major cost component of SCAC worker's compensation premiums, (vi) H.4888 – Eliminates the Terri program for persons retiring after June 30, 2004, and (vii) H.4989 – Special Purpose District. Reduces from 2/3 to majority vote requirement to dissolve a special purpose district.

Opposed the following bills: (i) H.4910 – Deletes the requirement that the excess portion of the \$5 million of local option sales tax revenue collected in a county be distributed to other counties not meeting the minimum collection; (ii) S.832 and H.4556 – If passed would require cash

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compensation from counties and municipalities if an agreement cannot be reached to provide for relocation or removal of billboards and would eliminate amortization as a means of compensation; (iii) S.781 – Repeals “Right to Work” provisions; (iv) S.180 – State Department of Crime Victim Services. Would take between \$600,000 and \$1.3 million from money currently retained by cities and counties to fund a new state department of crime victim services; (v) S.917 – Golf Course Property Tax Value: Would value golf courses solely on the income they generate multiplied by some factor. Does not require verification by income tax statements. Does not recognize that oceanfront courses may have a different value than rural courses; (vi) H.4221 – Nonpartisan School Board Electors: Would require that all school board elections should be nonpartisan; (vii) H.4767 – Voter Registration at High Schools: Would require all high schools make voter registration applications available to students; and (viii) H.4899 and S.1036 – Enacts to SC Rural Infrastructure Bank.

Authorized litigation on Civil Action Number 04-CP-07-624, Civil Action Number 04-CP-07-650, Civil Action Number 04-CP-07-651, Civil Action Number 04-CP-07-652, Civil Action Number 04-CP-07-653, Civil Action Number 04-CP-07-654.

April 26, 2004

Adopted a resolution addressed to SCDOT, the Federal Highway Administration, and any other activities, organizations or authorities which may have control, as far as decision making is concerned, as to the improvements and the making safe of US Highway 17 between Gardens Corner and Jacksonboro.

Forwarded correspondence, dated April 26, 2004, to the Chairman of the Beaufort County School Board and added to the letter, “Test Scores: Please provide a written summary explaining how the School District has improved test scores and reduced the achievement gap over the last three years.”

Awarded a contract to REA Contractors, LLC, in the amount of \$484,557.45 for the construction and paving of Salt Creek Drive East, Trask Farm Road, Shell Park Circle, Providence Road, Jay Street, Hale Street, and Grant Street.

Awarded a contract to Sandcastle Constructors, Inc./Terry R. Lee Contracting Co. Inc., in the amount of \$346,181 to design and build the Huspah Creek Fishing Pier.

Adopted a resolution designating April 2004 as Fair Housing Month.

Approved on second reading map amendments for 67 Lady’s Island properties within the Hazel Farm and Dow Road Area--twelve (12) properties to the south of Hazel Farm Road; six (6) properties off Club Road; and 49 properties in the vicinity of Freemans Drive and Dow, Meadowbrook Farm, and Little Creek Roads - Beaufort County Future Land Use Map amendment from Rural Service Area to Community Preservation Area.

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Approved on second reading text amendments to the Beaufort County Zoning and Development Standards Ordinance/ZDSO, Appendix I – Lady's Island Community Preservation (LICP) Area, Division 6, Redevelopment District (adds the Development Standards of a New Overlay District within the Lady's Island Community Preservation (LICP) Area).

Held a public hearing and approved on third and final reading a Ground Lease and Contract for Service with the Boys and Girls Club of the Lowcountry, Inc.

Held a public hearing and adopted a resolution committing to fund a local match for up to \$2,000 for its Local Planning Assistance Program grant application.

Adopted a resolution amending a resolution adopted by Council on December 8, 2003, pertaining to healthcare benefits which may be made available to specified persons under specified conditions so as to define the qualifications for participation and health care benefits which may be made available.

Extended the COBRA premiums for health benefits for the widows of Cpl. Dyke "AJ" Coursen and L/Cpl. Dana Tate one year from February 1, 2004 to February 1, 2005. The monthly cost totals \$480.00.

Approved the right-of-way variances from 50' to the listed rights-of-way as follows: Carolyn Lane – 30 feet, Garnett Street – 30 feet, Luray Street – 30 feet, Brunson Street – 30 feet, Castle Point Road – 30 feet, Croaker Street – 25 feet, Flounder Street – 25 feet, Mullet Street – 25 feet, Sailors Choice – 25 feet, and Trout Street – 25 feet and the proposed one-way road configurations would allow for the paving of these roads and necessary drainage improvements.

Approved the removal of Whiting Street from the Dirt Road Paving Contract #22 (Bluffton).

Approved the acceptance of Ramsey Loop Road (Burton) into the County's Dirt Road Inventory.

Offered the old jail property at King and North Streets to the School Board, without conditions, for the construction of new School District administration offices.