

COUNTY COUNCIL OF BEAUFORT COUNTY

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Council Action Summary August 2005

August 8, 2005

Awarded a contract to Wilbur Smith and Associates, Columbia, SC, for architectural, engineering and planning services for both the Hilton Head Island Airport and the Beaufort County Airport on Lady's Island.

Awarded a contract to REA Contractors, LLC, in the amount of \$437,589.60 for the construction of the sidewalks and pathways on Sunset Boulevard, Buckwalter Parkway, and Keans Neck Road.

Approved FAA Grant #3-45-0008-08 in the amount of \$1,168,088 for (i) rehabilitation of the apron in the amount of \$206,260; (ii) construction of a partial parallel taxiway \$858,301; and (iii) engineering and inspection \$164,905.

Changed Council's regular meeting from its now established 5:00 p.m. start to a 4:00 p.m. start effective August 22, 2005.

Approved on second reading the Intergovernmental Agreement with the Town of Bluffton concerning the construction of Bluffton Parkway and widening of Buckwalter Parkway.

Adopted a resolution authorizing the use of County admission fee and contributions made to the Bluffton Parkway project by the Town of Bluffton.

Approved on second reading an ordinance authorizing the borrowing of an amount not to exceed \$30 million for construction of the Bluffton Parkway and widening of Buckwalter Parkway.

Held a public hearing and approved on third and final reading text amendments to Article II, Aviation Board, and Article III Beaufort County Airports.

Approved an expenditure of \$71,000 from Del Webb Development Agreement for Bluffton Library collection expansion.

Appointed Mrs. Sandra S. Stephan, representing Council District 7, to serve as a member of the Library Board.



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Established a 2005 local legislative agenda: (i) Support the enactment of legislation which would alter the State's method of calculating award of economic incentives to counties from income-based to average wage rate-based. (ii) Support the enactment of legislation which would include average wage rates in its formula for calculating tax-paying ability as used to determine the State's allocation of public education funding. (iii) Support the enactment of legislation which would permit local governments to assess a transfer fee on the sale of real estate provided the use of such fees is restricted to those uses currently allowed within the Town of Hilton Head Island. (iv) Support the enactment of legislation which would allow Counties to opt for more frequent reassessments than currently provided for by the SC Code. (v) Support the enactment of legislation that would authorize Counties to enact School Impact Fees. (vi) Support the enactment of legislation which would ensure that no County (School District) receive less than 50% of the per student base allocation from the State in each fiscal year. (vii) Support enactment of legislation that would require some measure of "Tourism" to be included in the formula for determining support of local road improvements and maintenance. (viii) Support enactment of Legislation (amending current State law) which would allow, as an authorized purpose, the consideration of a local sales tax funding for established Rural and Critical Lands Preservation Programs without predetermination of properties to be considered for acquisition. (ix) Encourage the South Carolina Association of Counties and the Legislature to explore all opportunities for property tax relief including, but not limited, to the ability to conduct annual reassessments, point of sale valuations, and the consideration of circuit breakers on property valuations. (x) Support the enactment of legislation to adequately fund the South Carolina Department of Transportation to allow maintenance and improvements of existing roads and the construction of new roads as needed to preserve and protect the well-being of South Carolina's citizens, visitors and commerce. (xi) Support the enactment of legislation to allow collection of property taxes beginning in the first full month after issuance of a certificate of occupancy of newly constructed or improved properties. (xii) Support the enactment of legislation that will allow the use of fair market value of property at the time it is sold for tax purposes.

Authorized the County Administrator to proceed with acquisition of the Keyserling property located at Ft. Frederick, adjacent to the US Naval Hospital, for the purchase price of \$325,000.

August 22, 2005

Awarded a contract to REA Contracting, LLC, in the amount of \$1,064,661 for airport taxiway expansion and general aviation parking ramp overlay at the Beaufort County Airport (Lady's Island). The funding source is FAA funds 95%, Airport Enterprise funds 2½%, and State Aeronautics funds 2½%.

Awarded a one-year contract with three annual renewal options (including an escalation of 3.5% in years two and three) to Southern Health Partners, Inc., Chattanooga, TN, in the amount of \$495,600 for inmate medical and dental services at the County Detention Center.



Awarded a change order to Thomas & Hutton Engineering, in the amount of \$300,000 for complete plans and specifications to design a four-lane roadway facility for the 1.2-mile section of the Buckwalter Parkway from US Highway 278 to SC Highway 46.

Approved a labor service contract increase to Woods Communication Wiring, LLC to provide wiring and telephony services for operations. Considering the past year contract value of \$155,000, this new labor rate should result in an annual contract value of \$177,000.

Approved on third and final reading an ordinance to amend the Stormwater Management Utility Ordinance to provide for an interim fee rate structure, for a projected one-year period, until the Stormwater Master Plan is completed, as follows: unincorporated Beaufort County \$44.43, Town of Hilton Head Island \$44.43, Town of Bluffton \$49.00, and to allow the opportunity for the City of Beaufort and Town of Port Royal to increase their fee rate not to exceed \$44.43 if they choose to do so. Further, to repeal Chapter 99, Stormwater Management Utility, Article III.

Approved on third and final reading the Intergovernmental Agreement with the Town of Bluffton concerning the construction of Bluffton Parkway and widening of Buckwalter Parkway.

Adopted a resolution approving the FY 2005-2006 millage rates. School Operations 77.5, School Debt Service 19.0, County Operations 34.2, Solid Waste Management 4.5, Purchase of Development Rights and Real Property Program 1.5, County Debt Service 5.4, Continuing Education 3.0, Indigent Health Care 1.5, Bluffton Fire District Operations 19.5, Bluffton Fire District Debt Service .7, Burton Fire District Operations 51.9, Burton Fire District Debt Service 6.0, Daufuskie Island Fire District Operations 29.7, Daufuskie Island Fire District Debt Service 2.6, Lady's Island/St. Helena Fire District Operations 28.9, Lady's Island/St. Helena Fire District Debt Service 1.4, Sheldon Fire District Operations 34.9, and Sheldon Fire District Debt Service 2.5.

Adopted a resolution to add the Mayor of the Town of Hardeeville, or his designee, to serve as a voting member of the Beaufort County Transportation Advisory Group.

Approved on first reading text amendments to the Building Codes Ordinance (to conform to state law and to amend the fee charged for building permits and plan checks).

Held a public hearing and approved on third and final reading an ordinance authorizing the borrowing of an amount not to exceed \$30 million for construction of the Bluffton Parkway and widening of Buckwalter Parkway.

Approved the following allocation from 3% local accommodations tax money for the joint marketing program for the County in the amount of \$350,000: \$160,000 to the Treasured Coast Campaign, \$45,000 to Beaufort Regional Chamber of Commerce, \$35,000 to the Black Chamber of Commerce, and \$110,000 to Hilton Head Island/Bluffton Chamber of Commerce.

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Appointed Ms. Eileen Fitzgerald, representing District 3, to serve as a member of Library Board.

Approved the Master Plan as submitted for the Bluffton Oyster Factory Park.