

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES **Tuesday, April 1, 2025, at 5:30 P.M.**

Council conducted a tour of the Colleton County Detention Center prior to the start of the meeting.

Chairman Scott Biering called the meeting to order with Council Members Steve Murdaugh, Phillip Taylor, Bubba Trippe, and Johnny Frank in attendance.

Others Included: Meagan Utsey, Sean Thornton, Jon Carpenter, Barry McRoy, Carla Harvey, Sandy Steel, Donna Lamb, Brantley Strickland, Jerome Kizer, Crawford Moore, Jr., Sharon Witkins, Jessica Williams, Martin Wright, Alana Lane, Shon Johnson, Jegadeesh Kumar, Angela Upchurch, Cythnia Williams, Queenie Crawford, Janis Blocker, Celia Price, Kimber Santorella, Tim Hamilton, Patricia Grant, Scott Lenger, Lynn Stroble, Jeffrey Jones, Johnny Bartley

Councilman Phillip Taylor gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

Regular Meeting, March 4, 2025

Councilman Taylor moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on March 4, 2025. The motion was seconded by Councilman Trippe and the motion carried unanimously.

Budget Work Session, March 6, 2025

Councilman Taylor moved to approve the minutes of the Budget Work Session held on March 6, 2025. The motion was seconded by Councilman Murdaugh and the motion carried unanimously.

Special Meeting, March 18, 2025

Councilman Trippe moved to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting held on March 18, 2025. The motion was seconded by Councilman Frank and the motion carried unanimously.

Awards and Recognitions

Proclamation- Colleton County Rice Festival Week

Chairman Biering read the Proclamation into the record; Councilman Taylor made a motion to approve the proclamation. The motion was seconded by Councilman Trippe and the motion carried unanimously.

Proclamation- Celia S. Price Day

Chairman Biering read the Proclamation into the record; Councilman Taylor made a motion to approve the proclamation. The motion was seconded by Councilman Trippe and motion carried unanimously.

Proclamation- Child Abuse Prevention and Sexual Assault Awareness Month

Chairman Biering read the Proclamation into the record; Councilman Taylor made a motion to approve the proclamation. The motion was seconded by Councilman Murdaugh and the motion carried unanimously.

Appearances & Public Presentations

Colleton County School District

Ms. Jessica Williams with the Colleton County School District opened the presentation by thanking Council for allowing the School District to come and speak. Ms. Williams advised that two groups would be presenting: the JAG group presented by Mr. Shon Johnson and Mr. Jegadeesh Kumar's Pre-Calculus Class. Mr. Shon Johnson presented the Colleton County JAG group. Mr. Johnson advised that JAG is a nationwide organization that started in 1978 in Delaware, and then became worldwide in the 1980's. In Colleton County the JAG program has been available for three years now. Mr. Johnson explained that the program helps students with basic soft skills, interview skills, how to present a resume, and how to walk into any room to talk to someone. This program also exposes the students to jobs while they're in high school. Over 45 years the JAG program has helped 17 million students, Mr. Johnson stated that he hopes one day Colleton County can reach 17 million students. Mr. Johnson went on to explain that the program has two big events; one is the CBC, which is the career development conference. The JAG group just went to Columbia a few weeks ago where they had a tour of the capital and they were able to meet with the governor of South Carolina, who is an advocate for the program. The governor wants to have 100 schools in the state of South Carolina with this program. Colleton County is privileged to have two separate programs for our schools one at the Colleton County High School and one at Thunderbolt Career and Technology Center. The other event is the national career development conference, this conference allows the students a chance to compete with students from all over the nation from as far as California to New York. Mr. Johnson explained that the students get to compete with other peers of their own and they compete with employability skills, resume writing, essay writing, and how to present themselves professionally. After speaking Mr. Johnson introduced some of the students that were present, and they spoke to Council on how the JAG program helped them homed in on their public speaking skills, they also shared their personal growth and future aspirations with Council.

Council commended all the students on doing an outstanding job, praising them that not many adult can get up and speak to group of people as well as they did and that should be something they pride themselves on.

For the second part of the presentation Ms. Williams introduced Mr. Kumar.

Mr. Jegadeesh Kumar teaches math at Colleton County High School as well as the Department Chair. Mr. Kumar brought two of his precalculus students to present to Council. Mr. Kumar explained that he created a project in which the students must play the role of construction

engineers, by doing this it allows the students to see the connection between the abstract math and the actual functioning of the construction. Mr. Kumar brought two students with him to explain and share their experience. The students explained that the project connected real-life mechanisms to trigonometric functions. Their explanation was the ferris wheel moves in a circle of path in the position of a rider at any given time could be described using trigonometric functions. If a ferris wheel rotation is modeled as a circle, the horizontal position corresponds to the cosine of the angle of rotation, and a vertical position corresponds to the sine of the angle. Trigonometric functions help calculate the rider's height above the ground. The trigonometric equations can model how long it takes for a rider to reach a specific height or when they have reached the maximum or minimum height. Mr. Kumar advised by doing this project, mathematical principles like amplitude, period, and sinusoidal function shifts to help students solve real-world problems.

Council recognized Mr. Kumar and his students for the hard work and putting together an impressive showcase. They look forward to see what else they can bring to Colleton County.

Administrator's Briefing

Interim County Administrator Meagan Utsey started out by welcoming Brantley Strickland as the new Economic Alliance Director. Mrs. Utsey advised that the park grand opening will April 23rd. Mrs. Utsey also advised that the County Engineer Mrs. Carla Harvey would be available for questions in reference to Resolution 25-R-25.

Public Hearing

Councilman Taylor made a motion to open Public Hearing. Councilman Murdaugh second the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance 25-O-01, To Amend Title 2 - Administration and Personnel, Chapter 2.30 - County Council, Section 2.30.060 - Committees, Paragraph F of the Colleton County Code of Ordinances.

Councilman Biering opening the floor for the public to speak on; Ordinance 25-O-01, To Amend Title 2 - Administration and Personnel, Chapter 2.30 - County Council, Section 2.30.060 - Committees, Paragraph F of the Colleton County Code of Ordinances. No comments were made.

Ordinance 25-O-02, Authorizing a Lease-Purchase Financing Arrangement in the Amount of Not Exceeding \$1,500,000 for the Construction of a Fuel Farm at the Lowcountry Regional Airport; the Execution and Delivery of Certain Instruments, Including a Lease-Purchase Agreement by Colleton County; and Other Matters Relating Thereto.

Councilman Biering opening the floor for the public to speak on; Ordinance 25-O-02, Authorizing a Lease-Purchase Financing Arrangement in the Amount of Not Exceeding \$1,500,000 for the Construction of a Fuel Farm at the Lowcountry Regional Airport; the Execution and Delivery of

Certain Instruments, Including a Lease-Purchase Agreement by Colleton County; and Other Matters Relating Thereto. No Comments were made

Councilman Taylor made a motion to close Public Hearing. Councilman Murdaugh second the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

Old Business

3rd Reading Ordinance 25-O-01, To Amend Title 2 - Administration and Personnel, Chapter 2.30 - County Council, Section 2.30.060 - Committees, Paragraph F of the Colleton County Code of Ordinances.

Councilman Trippe moved to approve 3rd Reading Ordinance 25-O-01, To Amend Title 2 - Administration and Personnel, Chapter 2.30 - County Council, Section 2.30.060 - Committees, Paragraph F of the Colleton County Code of Ordinances. The motion was seconded by Councilman Murdaugh. The motion carried unanimously.

3rd Reading Ordinance 25-O-02, Authorizing a Lease-Purchase Financing Arrangement in the Amount of Not Exceeding \$1,500,000 for the Construction of a Fuel Farm at the Lowcountry Regional Airport; the Execution and Delivery of Certain Instruments, Including a Lease-Purchase Agreement by Colleton County; and Other Matters Relating Thereto.

Councilman Taylor moved to approve 3rd Reading Ordinance 25-O-02, Authorizing a Lease-Purchase Financing Arrangement in the Amount of Not Exceeding \$1,500,000 for the Construction of a Fuel Farm at the Lowcountry Regional Airport; the Execution and Delivery of Certain Instruments, Including a Lease-Purchase Agreement by Colleton County; and Other Matters Relating Thereto. The motion was seconded by Councilman Murdaugh. The motion carried unanimously.

New Business

1st Reading Ordinance 25-O-03, To Amend and Extend the Term of the Agreement for Development for Joint County Industrial Park (The "Park") Between Colleton County and Hampton County, South Carolina; to Further Amend the Agreement for Development Property in Colleton County as part of The Park; and other Matters Related Thereto.

Councilman Trippe moved to approve 1st Reading Ordinance 25-O-03, To Amend and Extend the Term of the Agreement for Development for Joint County Industrial Park (The "Park") Between Colleton County and Hampton County, South Carolina; to Further Amend the Agreement for Development Property in Colleton County as part of The Park; and other Matters Related Thereto. The motion was seconded by Councilman Taylor. The motion carried unanimously

1st Reading Ordinance 25-O-04, Approving an Application for Preliminary Certification for Historic Rehabilitation; and Other Matters Related Thereto.

Councilman Taylor moved to approve 1st Reading Ordinance 25-O-04, Approving an Application for Preliminary Certification for Historic Rehabilitation; and Other Matters Related Thereto. The motion was seconded by Councilman Murdaugh. The motion carried unanimously.

1st Reading Ordinance 25-O-05, By Title Only, To Provide for the Levy of Taxes in Colleton County, South Carolina, for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026 to Provide for All Other Appropriations Thereof; and to Provide for Other Matters Related Thereto.

Councilman Taylor moved to approve, 1st Reading Ordinance 25-O-05, By Title Only, To Provide for the Levy of Taxes in Colleton County, South Carolina, for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026 to Provide for All Other Appropriations Thereof; and to Provide for Other Matters Related Thereto. The motion was seconded by Councilman Murdaugh. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 25-R-18, To Approve Amendment of the Agreement for Development for Joint County Industrial Park, by and between Charleston County, South Carolina and Colleton County, South Carolina, Providing for the Development of a Jointly Owned and Operated Industrial/Business Park, so as to include additional property in Charleston County as part of the Joint County Industrial Park.

Councilman Frank moved to approve, Resolution 25-R-18, To Approve Amendment of the Agreement for Development for Joint County Industrial Park, by and between Charleston County, South Carolina and Colleton County, South Carolina, Providing for the Development of a Jointly Owned and Operated Industrial/Business Park, so as to include additional property in Charleston County as part of the Joint County Industrial Park. The motion was seconded by Councilman Taylor. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 25-R-19, To Declare April as Fair Housing Month

Councilman Murdaugh moved to approve, Resolution 25-R-19, To Declare April as Fair Housing Month. The motion was seconded by Councilman Taylor. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 25-R-20, To Approve a Policy of Non-Discrimination on the Basis of Disability Status and to Designate an ADA Coordinator

Councilman Trippe moved to approve, Resolution 25-R-20, To Approve a Policy of Non-Discrimination on the Basis of Disability Status and to Designate an ADA Coordinator. The motion was seconded by Councilman Taylor; advising that ADA Coordinator would be Colleton County Human Resource Director Deadgrea Sadler. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 25-R-21, To Recognize and Honor the late Willie L. Brown, Jr. by Naming a Portion of Highway 61 in Colleton County, South Carolina, "Willie L. Brown, Jr. Highway" and Having Erected Appropriate Markers or Signage at the Section of the Highway Containing the Designation

Councilman Taylor moved to approve, Resolution 25-R-21, To Recognize and Honor the late Willie L. Brown, Jr. by Naming a Portion of Highway 61 in Colleton County, South Carolina, "Willie L. Brown, Jr. Highway" and Having Erected Appropriate Markers or Signage at the Section of the Highway Containing the Designation. The motion was seconded by Councilman Trippe. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 25-R-22, To Declare Surplus Equipment and to Authorize the Sale in Accordance with County Policy

Councilman Murdaugh moved to approve, Resolution 25-R-22, To Declare Surplus Equipment and to Authorize the Sale in Accordance with County Policy. The motion was seconded by Councilman Taylor. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 25-R-23, To Authorize the Council Clerk to Advertise for Board Vacancies

Councilman Taylor moved to approve, Resolution 25-R-23, To Authorize the Council Clerk to Advertise for Board Vacancies. The motion was seconded by Councilman Murdaugh. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 25-R-24, To Appoint Members to Board Vacancies

Councilman Murdaugh made a motion to approve the following by acclimation, the motion was seconded by Councilman Taylor; Colleton County Board of Disabilities and Special Needs; Brenda Hughes. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 25-R-25, To Award the Contract for the Northwest Walterboro Sewer Improvements

Councilman Frank moved to approve, Resolution 25-R-25, To Award the Contract for the Northwest Walterboro Sewer Improvement. The motion was seconded by Councilman Taylor. The motion carried unanimously.

Items for Information and Public Record

Councilman Biering advised there were no items for information and public record on the agenda.

Public Comments (3 minutes per person/max time 20 min.)

Jeff Jones thanked Council and all involved in getting the Veterans Park moving to the next step, and that he received all the answers to the questions he had at the last meeting.

Edisto Beach Mayor Crawford Moore addressed Council on an update on Edisto Beach's new Emergency Operations Center.

Council Time

Councilman Trippe advised that Rice Festival this year will be celebrating their 50th year.

Councilman Biering welcomed the new Economic Development Director to the Colleton County team and thanked him for coming to the meeting.

Executive Session

Councilman Trippe made a motion to move into Executive Session to discuss the following: Economic Development, Personnel-Contractual and Legal-Contractual. Councilman Frank seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Taylor made a motion to exit Executive Session. Councilman Trippe seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Biering advised that no action was taken during Executive Session.

Adjournment

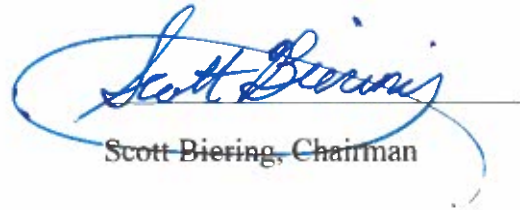
Councilman Taylor moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Murdaugh seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

The full County Council meeting is available at the link below:

<https://www.youtube.com/live/L20lsFIJ5g?si=aIYm9fXDGsdUoFhp>

[Signature Page to Follow]

This 1st day of April 2025.



Scott Biering, Chairman

ATTEST:



Danielle Murdaugh, Clerk to Council