



**JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**COUNCIL MEETING**

**Jasper County Clementa C. Pinckney Government Bldg**  
**358 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue Ridgeland, SC 29936**  
**Tuesday, January 3, 2023**  
**AGENDA**

**Officials Present:** Chairwoman Barbara B. Clark, Vice Chairman Dr. Curtis Brantley  
Councilman L. Martin Sauls, Councilman Pastor Alvin Adkins and Councilman John Kemp.

**Staff Present:** County Administrator Andrew Fulghum, Clerk to Council Wanda H. Simmons,  
County Attorney David Tedder, Kimberly Burgess, Russell Wells, Lisa Wagner, and  
Videographer Jonathan Dunham.

**Also Present:**

Chairwoman Clark called the meeting to order at 6:02PM. Chairwoman Clark asked the Clerk to Council to read the Report of Compliance to the Freedom of Information Act. Ms. Simmons, Clerk to Council read the Clerk's Report of Compliance with the Freedom of Information Act as follows: *In compliance with the Freedom of Information Act, notice of meetings and agendas were posted and furnished to all news media and persons requesting notification.*

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice Chairman Dr. Brantley and the Invocation was given by Councilman Adkins.

**Presentation**

**Chairwoman Clark – Presentation of a Plaque to Dr. Curtis Brantley from Council**

Chairwoman Clark presented a plaque to Dr. Brantley and thanked him for his service and dedication to the Jasper County Council and to the citizens of Jasper County. Council members came forward for photos with Dr. Brantley and all wished him well and thanked him for his service.

**Introduction of New and Returning Council Members**

• **Swearing In Ceremony for Councilman L. Martin Sauls IV**

Hon. Judge Albert Kleckley Jr. of the Jasper County Probate Court was present to administer the Oath of Office to re-elected Councilman L. Martin Sauls IV.

• **Swearing In Ceremony for Councilman Herman Coy Garbade**

Hon. Judge Albert Kleckley Jr. of the Jasper County Probate Court was present to administer the Oath of Office to newly elected Councilman Herman Coy Garbade.

Dr. Brantley stepped down from his seat on Council and Newly Elected Councilmember Garbade took his seat on the County Council.

Officials Present after the swearing in ceremony were Chairman L. Martin Sauls IV, Vice Chairwoman Barbara B. Clark, Councilman Pastor Alvin Adkins, Councilman John Kemp and Councilman Coy Garbade.

## **Election of Officers**

### **A. Andrew Fulghum – Election of Chairman**

Mr. Fulghum asked for nominations from Council for the position of Chairman. Councilwoman Barbara B. Clark nominated Councilman Sauls. The nominations were closed as there were no other nominations and Council unanimously voted for Councilman Sauls to take the position of Chairperson. Chairman Sauls thanked Council for electing him as Chairman. He noted there were a lot of challenges to face and that the Council will try to meet them. He noted he was excited for 2023 and welcomed Councilman Garbade to the County Council. Chairman Sauls remarked that they would accomplish their goals on Council as a team.

### **B. Chairman – Election of Vice Chairman**

Chairman Sauls called for nominations for Vice Chairperson. Councilman Adkins nominated Councilwoman Clark. Councilman Garbade nominated Councilman Kemp. Councilwoman Clark made the motion to call the nominations to a close with the two names presented. Councilman Adkins seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

**Chairman Sauls took the vote for Councilman Kemp as Vice Chair first. The vote was as follows:**

Councilman Kemp: **Yes**  
Councilman Garbade: **Yes**  
Councilman Adkins: **No**  
Councilman Sauls: **No**  
Councilwoman Clark: **No**

**Chairman Sauls took the vote for Councilwoman Clark as Vice Chair first. The vote was as follows:**

Councilman Kemp: **No**  
Councilman Garbade: **No**  
Councilman Adkins: **Yes**  
Councilman Sauls: **Yes**  
Councilwoman Clark: **Yes**

Chairman Sauls announced Councilwoman Barbara Clark as Vice Chairperson and congratulated her.

**Open Floor to the Public per Ordinance 08-17– Any citizen of the County may sign to speak in person at the Council Meeting (before the Council Meeting’s 6PM 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.

There were 3 persons that had signed up to speak under public comments:  
Steven Schmidt, Richard Dean and Milton Woods.

Mr. Steven Schmidt spoke of his discontent with the airport leases, airport and his concerns of the Aeronautics Commission.

Mr. Richard Dean spoke regarding his concerns of the airport and that he believed that the turf operating area be opened up. He noted he had sent out emails to the FAA and County leadership in October 2022. He implored the Council to reopen the turf operating area.

Mr. Milton Woods thanked Council and congratulated Councilman Garbade. He then discussed over development in Jasper County and his concerns.

**Resolutions:**

**A. Kimberly Burgess - Resolution #R-2023-01 to set the fees for a Peddlers and Hawkers License Section 40-41-30 South Carolina Code.**

Mrs. Burgess was present to discuss and review this request for a resolution to set the fees for a Peddlers and Hawkers License Section 40-41-30 South Carolina Code. She noted that this was a yearly requirement and that the rates agreed with the business license requirement.

**Motion to approve:** Councilman Adkins

**Second:** Vice Chairwoman Clark

**Vote:**

Councilman Kemp - **No**

Councilman Garbade - **No**

Vice Chairwoman Clark - **Yes**

Chairman Sauls - **Yes**

Councilman Adkins - **Yes**

**Ordinances:** There were no ordinances for this meeting.

**New Business:**

**A: Wanda Simmons - Adoption of the 2023 County Council Meeting Schedule.**

Ms. Simmons was present to review and address the request for the adoption of the 2023 County Council Meeting Schedule with Council. She noted that the 2023 County Council Meeting Calendar was being submitted for Council's approval.

She noted that there had been a couple of changes such as the regular session start time has been changed from 6:30pm to 6:00pm for all meetings. That during the months of June, July and August

that the June 19<sup>th</sup> meeting was removed because that was the Juneteenth Holiday; in July Council usually only had one Council Meeting; and in August the August 7<sup>th</sup> meeting date was removed due to the scheduling of the SCAC Conference. She noted that the recommended approval of the 2023 County Council Meeting Calendar.

**Motion to approve:** Vice Chairwoman Clark

**Second:** Councilman Adkins

**Vote:** Unanimous

The motion passed.

**B: Kimberly Burgess – Presentation of proposals for the Replacement of Storage Array.**

Ms. Burgess and Mr. Bostick were available to present this request to Council. The County advertised for proposals for a storage array with a due date of November 17, 2022. The County received 11 proposals. The review committee which consisted of Earl Bostick, IT Director, Russell Wells, Director of Emergency Services Division and Kimberly Burgess, Director of Administrative Services Division met on December 15, 2022 to discuss the proposals. The review committee determined that 3 of the proposals met the requirements of the County and discussed the pros and cons of each of the 3 top proposals. The Staples Proposal was determined to be the best solution for the County because of the proximity of parts and service; previous experience with HPE emergency response and support, and HPE equipment is widely supported and used at the state level. Staff recommended that the Council accept the Staples Proposal for the HPE Storage Array System for \$583,540.12 plus sales tax. They also requested to authorize the County Administrator to negotiate and enter into all necessary purchase agreements for the project. Councilman Kemp asked if this was not in the budget. Ms. Burgess said no but that the storage system was failing so it must be replaced. She noted it would most likely be a lease purchase, and if it was a lease purchase the payment would come out next year. Councilman Kemp asked why a lease purchase was better than a purchase. Ms. Burgess said it was a sizeable amount of money to be spread over the years. Councilman Kemp asked if there was enough money in the General Fund and Ms. Burgess said yes in the Fund Balance. Chairman Sauls asked why we needed this. Director Bostick said that the 2 storage devices we have (1 for the 911 Center and 1 for the Admin Building) are 9 years old and that we simply needed new devices. He said if they were repaired again, it would be approximately 40K to 50K with no assurance and would continue to have problems. He noted that if we moved forward with the purchase, we may not be able to get it into the building till April or May, so there may still be some costs occurred on the old system till then. He noted that we are having time out on the servers; the backups are bad; and that we support all of 911 with this system. He said they have tried to stretch and get as much use as possible over these 9 years, and that the life expectancy was only 5 years on systems such as the current ones. Mr. Bostick discussed that this was designed for growth and cost efficiency.

**Motion to accept the proposal for the Replacement of Storage Array and allow the administrator to enter into purchase agreements as requested:** Vice Chairwoman Clark

**Second:** Councilman Adkins

**Vote:**

**Councilman Kemp – Yes**

**Councilman Garbade – No**

**Vice Chairwoman Clark – Yes**

**Chairman Sauls – Yes**

**Councilman Adkins – Yes**  
The motion passed.

**Old Business: None**

**Council Members Comments:**

**Councilman Kemp** said that he had attended the Swearing In of Bill Hager member of the South Carolina House of Representatives, representing District 122. He noted that on 02.22.2023 there would be a Town Hall Meeting at Wagon Branch concerning Drugs. He said that New Life, the Sheriff and Coroner would all be there. He then noted that in March there would be a Town Hall about security, and they would be going to different churches. He wished everyone a Happy New Year.

**Councilman Adkins** thanked God for another new year. He congratulated Chairman Sauls for being re-elected to Council. He noted that the new Recreation Director needs to come before Council and let them know what he has going on at Sgt. Jasper Park and said he looked forward to seeing him in 2023.

**Vice Chairwoman Clark** wished everyone a Happy New Year and said she looked forward to Council being governed by the rules that were set forth. She also congratulated Chairman Sauls on being re-elected to Council.

Councilman Garbade thanked all the people who were watching and that had voted for him and in the election. He noted that he had told everyone he was not there for political gain or to be a politician. He said he was here for the people. He thanked Judge Kleckley for swearing him in. He discussed ordinances in the County with discrepancies that needed to be fixed. He discussed the June Primary 2020 election for the Pocotaligo Township and the two candidates that had ran and said one was not eligible to run. He noted that in November 2020 election since he had run unopposed that individual took a seat on Council. He said he had a copy of the 2015 Ordinance and that under that ordinance he was ineligible to run for office until the new ordinance was passed in 2022. He noted that in December 2021 readings were held to change the districts, and that only one district had changed. He said it was voted and passed by a 3 to 2 vote. He asked some questions regarding this district change and election that had been held back then. Chairman Sauls said all of that information was a public record. He noted that Mr. Michael Burchstead (who was the election attorney) said he would have him there at the next meeting to go over this matter. Councilman Garbade asked Mr. Tedder about this situation, regarding the legalities and ethics. Mr. Tedder noted that when this came up, Council decided to move forward with hiring outside counsel and that he was not representing the Council on this item. Mr. Tedder also noted that Mr. Burchstead had made diligent strides in trying to get a judge to get a decision, noting that the Administrator had even reached out to him to find out where this process was at. He noted that they just had not been able to get a hearing. Chairman Sauls reiterated that Mr. Burchstead would be present at the next meeting and that Council had passed the motion with a 3 to 2 vote on the redistricting.

**Administrator's Report:**

Mr. Fulghum noted that Council had his report in the packet. He also noted that he would have Michael Burchstead hear for the next meeting.

Watch the video stream available on the County's website to hear the Council's discussion of a specific topic or the complete meeting at

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBmloqX05cKAsHm\\_ggXCjIA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBmloqX05cKAsHm_ggXCjIA).

**Adjourn:**

**Motion to adjourn:** Vice Chairwoman Clark

**Second:** Councilman Adkins

**Vote:** Unanimous

The motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 7:11PM.

**Respectfully submitted:**



Wanda H. Simmons  
Clerk to Council



L. Martin Sauls IV  
Chairman