



## JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL

### VIRTUAL MEETING

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

April 5, 2021

### MINUTES

#### **FY 2021-2022 Budget Workshop:**

- 1. *Duchette Polite-Hylton – First Steps***
- 2. *Nancy Morgan – Helping Hands***
- 3. *Lyn Boyles – Jasper County Soil and Water Conservation District***

#### **Ms. Duchette Polite-Hylton of First Steps**

The budget workshop began with Ms. Duchette Polite-Hylton of First Steps. She discussed the different areas of work that First Steps entailed. She discussed First Steps and how the programs benefited the citizens of Jasper County.

She noted that their budget requests for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 were as follows:

Family Literacy - Dolly Parton Imagination Library budget request \$12,000

Family Strengthening / Parent Education – Parents as Teachers budget request \$5,000

School Transition – Countdown to Kindergarten budget request \$3,000

The 2021 Adopted Budget in this area was \$15,000 and this year's request was for \$20,000.

#### **Lyn Boyles – Jasper County Soil and Water Conservation District**

The next budget request was Ms. Lyn Boyles of Jasper County Soil and Water Conservation District. She discussed the different areas that the Soil and Water Conservation District and Blue Heron Nature Center were committed to helping. She provided information on the Blue Heron Nature Center. She noted that they operate through funding of \$15,000 from the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources and the Jasper County funding of \$7,000 per year. She noted that they were requesting \$10,000 to continue operating the Blue Heron Nature Center and continuing their programs for environmental science, litter, recycling and land management.

She noted that their budget requests for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 were as follows:

The 2021 Adopted Budget in this area was \$7,000 and this year's request was for \$10,000.

#### **Nancy Morgan – Helping Hands**

The next budget request was Ms. Nancy Morgan of Helping Hands. She discussed the services provided by Helping Hands and overviewed the way they assisted the community.

She noted that their budget requests for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 were as follows:

The 2021 Adopted Budget in this area was \$1,000 and this year's request was for \$3,000.

Chairwoman Clark called the meeting to order at 5:00PM.

Wanda Simmons, Clerk to Council read the report of Compliance with the Freedom of Information Act.

**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, Administrative Services Director Kimberly Burgess, Emergency Services Director Chief Russell Wells, Danny Lucas of Development Services for Jasper County and Acting Airport Manager, Lisa Wagner Director of Planning and Building, and Jonathan Dunham.

**Emergency Ordinance:**

**David Tedder – 1<sup>st</sup> and final reading to adopt** Emergency Ordinance No. [2021-10](#) to provide for the Extension and Incorporation by Reference of the Provisions of Prior Emergency Ordinances, Address the Phased-in-Opening of County Facilities and Modifications to the County Declaration of a Local Emergency, and Matters Related Thereto, Including A Resolution Affirming Resolutions Regarding Safety Practices.

**Motion to approve:** Councilman Sauls

**Second:** Councilman Adkins

**Vote:** Unanimous

The motion passed.

Chairwoman Clark read the information below for the executive session and asked for a motion to go into executive session.

**Motion to go into executive session:** Councilman Sauls

**Second:** Councilman Kemp

**Vote:** Unanimous

The motion passed.

**Executive Session**

**SECTION 30-4-70. Meetings which may be closed; procedure; circumvention of chapter; disruption of meeting; executive sessions of General Assembly.**

**(a) A public body may hold a meeting closed to the public for one or more of the following reasons:**

- (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 a 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 – Sections 30-4-70(a)(2) – [Sheriff's Dept. K-9 Matters; Exit 3; East Argent MID/Municipal Tax Collections; Potential Purchase of a Property Identified as Project Fence; Ridgeland – Claude Dean Airport](#)**

- (5) Discussion of matters relating to the proposed location, expansion, or the provision of services encouraging location or expansion of industries or other businesses in the area served by a public body -- Section 30-4-70(a)(5) – Jasper Ocean Terminal (JOT); Sherwood Tract; Project Cooler**

**ANY EXECUTIVE SESSION MATTER ON WHICH DISCUSSION HAS NOT BEEN COMPLETED MAY HAVE DISCUSSION SUSPENDED FOR PURPOSES 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**

**Return to Open Session:**

**Motion to return to open session:** Councilman Sauls

**Second:** Councilman Kemp

**Vote:** Unanimous

The motion passed.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilman Kemp and the Invocation was given by Councilman Dr. Brantley.

**Approval of Agenda:**

**Motion to approve the agenda:** Councilman Sauls

**Second:** Councilman Adkins

**Vote:** Unanimous

The motion passed.

**Approval of the Minutes March 1, 2021:**

**Motion to approve the minutes of March 1, 2021:** Councilman Kemp

**Second:** Councilman Sauls

**Vote:** Unanimous

The motion passed.

**Proclamations and Presentations:**

**Proclamation:** **Chairwoman Clark** – Proclamation to proclaim the month of April 2021 for Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

Chairwoman Clark asked Clerk to Council Wanda Simmons to read the proclamation proclaiming the month of April 2021 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

**Motion to approve the Proclamation proclaiming the month of April 2021 as Sexual Assault**

**Awareness Month:** Councilman Sauls

**Second:** Councilman Kemp

**Vote:** Unanimous  
The motion passed.

**Presentation:** **Johnny Davis** – Presentation on a Proposed BMX (Bicycle Motocross) Project for Sgt. Jasper Park.

Mr. Johnny Davis introduced Mr. Ryan Stefonick in order to review the video presentation on the proposed BMX (Bicycle Motocross) Project for Sgt. Jasper Park and explained his vision for Council. Mr. Stefonick discussed the masterplan of the park and the non-traditional ideas that had been considered for the park such as the BMX Park. Please see the attached link for Sgt. BMX Presentation, Hardeeville South Carolina on YouTube as proved by Mr. Stefonick. This link includes his voiceover as well as a personalized video from a professional BMX athlete. The link is provided here for public viewing, rather than as an attachment to the minutes: <https://youtu.be/5ofr8UDaUmM>. For further information regarding this item or any other area of the minutes please see the video located on the YouTube page for Jasper County at [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBmloqX05cKAsHm\\_ggXCJIA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBmloqX05cKAsHm_ggXCJIA).

**Open Floor to the Public per Ordinance 08-17 any citizen of the County may sign to speak before the Council on matters pertaining to County Services and Operations.** - There were no public comments.

**Resolutions:**

**A: David Tedder** – Resolution No. 2021-09 to approve April 2021 as Fair Housing Month for Jasper County.

Mr. Tedder reviewed this resolution for the Council.

**Motion to approve:** Councilman Kemp

**Second:** Councilman Sauls

**Vote:** Unanimous

The motion passed.

**B: Andrew Fulghum** – Resolution No. 2021-10 to approve the updated 2021 Equal Employment Opportunity Policy (EEO).

Mr. Tedder reviewed this resolution for the Council.

**Motion to approve:** Councilman Kemp

**Second:** Councilman Sauls

**Vote:** Unanimous

The motion passed.

**Ordinances:**

**A. Lisa Wagner** – **3<sup>rd</sup> reading** of Ordinance No. 2021-09 to amend the Official Zoning Map of Jasper County so as to transfer two properties bearing Jasper County Tax Map Numbers 063-32-05-028

**and 063-32-04-031 from the Residential Zone to the General Commercial Zone on the Jasper County Official Zoning Map.**

Ms. Wagner said the subject properties consist of 4.60 acres and 4.10 acres located at 1280 Grahamville Road and 8747 Grahamville Road. The Applicant has requested a Zoning Map Amendment to have both properties designated as General Commercial (GC). The property is currently zoned Residential. A commercial structure is located on 1280 Grahamville Road and a manufactured home and two stick-built houses are located on 8747 Grahamville Road.

She noted that according to the 2018 Jasper County Comprehensive Plan, the Future Land Use Map identifies this area as "Urban Transition," which are pockets of unincorporated Jasper County that are partially or entirely surrounded by the municipality. For these areas that experience new development or redevelopment, consideration should be given to working with the adjacent municipality for annexation. The adjacent parcels are zoned Residential and is adjacent to the Town of Ridgeland. She mentioned that the adjacent land uses are residential, and vacant property with commercial nearby in the Town of Ridgeland.

She noted the subject property is accessed by Grahamville Road, which is a two-lane state maintained highway, classified as a collector road. Ms. Wagner said the Planning Commission recommends approval of the request to have the property designated as General Commercial.

**Motion to approve:** Councilman Sauls

**Second:** Councilman Kemp

**Vote:** Unanimous

The motion passed.

**B. Lisa Wagner – Consideration of a 1<sup>st</sup> reading of an ordinance to amend the Official Zoning Map of Jasper County so as to transfer a property bearing Jasper County Tax Map Number 062-00-06-019 from the Residential Zone to the Community Commercial Zone on the Jasper County Official Zoning Map.**

Ms. Wagner addressed this request. She said the subject property consists of 5 acres and is located at 2144 Grays Highway. The Applicant has requested a Zoning Map Amendment to have the property designated as Community Commercial (CC). The property is currently zoned Residential. A house and an accessory structure are located on the subject property. The applicant is interested in establishing an animal rescue mission.

She noted that according to the 2018 Jasper County Comprehensive Plan, the Future Land Use Map identifies this area as "Urban Transition," which are pockets of unincorporated Jasper County that are partially or entirely surrounded by the municipality. For these areas that experience new development or redevelopment, consideration should be given to working with the adjacent municipality for annexation. The adjacent parcels are zoned Rural Preservation and is adjacent to the Town of Ridgeland with Residential Zoning nearby. She said the adjacent land uses are institutional, commercial, and vacant property.

Ms. Wagner noted that the subject property is accessed by Grays Highway, which is a two-lane state maintained highway, classified as a minor arterial road. She noted that the Planning Commission recommends approval of the request to have the property designated as Community Commercial.

**Motion to approve:** Councilman Sauls

**Second:** Councilman Dr. Brantley

**Vote:** Unanimous

The motion passed.

- C. **David Tedder** – Public hearing and consideration of a **2<sup>nd</sup> reading** of Ordinance No. **2021-08** to approve the transfer to the Town of Ridgeland by deed a road right of way generally described as a portion of the road known as Volunteer Park Road lying within the Town of Ridgeland, and to authorize the Jasper County Administrator to execute such deed and other documents as may be necessary and appropriate to effect the transfer.

Mr. Tedder noted there were no public comments received on this item and presented this item for consideration.

**Motion to approve:** Councilman Sauls

**Second:** Councilman Adkins

**Discussion:** This item was opened for discussion. Councilman Kemp discussed the fact that he did not feel this was a county road and asked why this was only considered for a portion of the road. Mr. Tedder noted a formal survey was being performed, but it had not been received back yet. Mr. Tedder noted that he could not answer specifics about the road without the survey. Mr. Fulghum noted that if Council wished to postpone this item since they did not have the survey at this time then this could be done.

**Motion to postpone:** Councilman Dr. Brantley

**Second:** Councilman Sauls

**Vote:** Unanimous

The motion passed.

- D. **David Tedder** – Public hearing and **2<sup>nd</sup> reading** of Ordinance No. **2021-07** required for the reassessment to delay the countywide reassessment for one year. (1<sup>st</sup> reading was 02.16.21)

Mr. Tedder noted that the first reading had been held on February 16, 2021 and had been approved. He said no comments had been received for the public hearing. Mr. Tedder provided an overview of the ordinance for the Council noting that this request had been made by the Assessors Office.

**Motion to approve:** Councilman Sauls

**Second:** Chairwoman Clark

**Vote:** Unanimous

The motion passed.

**E. Andrew Fulghum – Consideration of a 1<sup>st</sup> reading of an Ordinance of Jasper County Council to authorize a License Agreement with Jasper County Radio Control, Chapter No. 5096 of the Academy of Model Aeronautics Inc.**

Mr. Fulghum reviewed this ordinance and discussed the license agreement with the Jasper County Radio Control, Chapter No. 5096 of the Academy of Model Aeronautics with Council. He further overviewed this ordinance and its information.

**Motion to approve:** Councilman Dr. Brantley

**Second:** Councilman Sauls

**Vote:** Unanimous

The motion passed.

**New Business:**

**A. Kimberly Burgess – Request to upgrade current payroll processing software with ADP.**

Ms. Burgess was present to address this request. She explained the reasoning behind the request from Human Resources / Payroll Department for the upgrade necessary to the current ADP Payroll Processing Software. She discussed how the different shifts in the Sheriff's Department and in Emergency Services did not work with the current program.

**Motion to approve the request to upgrade of the current system and allow the administrator to execute all required documents to implement the upgrade:** Councilman Dr. Brantley

**Second:** Councilman Kemp

**Vote:** Unanimous

The motion passed.

**Old Business:** There was no old business for this agenda.

**Council Members Comments:**

**Councilman Kemp:**

Councilman Kemp said he had done a tour of Jasper County Fire and Rescue and met with Chief Wells and Mr. Lucas today. He said he learned a lot and thought we needed to be more informative to the people. He discussed that he would like to have a time limit on when the e-packets were received. He said he felt Council needed more time with their packets. Chairwoman Clark discussed the fact that all information was provided to the Clerk to Council and she had to wait on that information. After some discussion, it was decided that agenda e-packets would be received by Council no later than on Thursday at 12pm prior to the meeting.

**Councilman Dr. Brantley:** Passed on his comments this week.

**Councilman Adkins:**

Councilman Adkins stated that he was praying for everyone and thanked all of the employees for all that they do.

**Councilman Sauls:**

Councilman Sauls said he would like to keep the Mixson family in their prayers and that Mr. Brian Mixson he had been a member of the Jasper County Fire and Rescue for a number of years. He said also that on Wednesday they had the State of the County at the new Ridgeland Community Center. He noted that registration was at 11AM and that it begins at 12PM. He said they would be having both Mayors and Chairwoman Clark as the speakers with the Lt. Governor as the guest speaker. He noted that on Thursday, May 13<sup>th</sup> is the Jasper on the Move Event with a couple of award, so asked everyone to mark their calendars. He noted there was a litter pickup this Friday at Cartersville Rd. that Ms. Boyles was in charge of. He said there were some updates on the prospects of Economic Development in the County and thanked SouthernCarolina Alliance for all they have done.

**Chairwoman Clark:**

Chairwoman Clark noted that there was a lot going on in the county. She encouraged everyone to be safe when going out and about. She encouraged people to pray for one another and live life to the fullest but safely.

**Administrator's Report:**

Mr. Fulghum said he had provided his Administrators Report to Council. He noted that Chief Wells would be giving the update on COVID19. In regard to COVID19 regulations, the County had adopted another Emergency Ordinance tonight. He noted that due to the Governor's update that County Buildings that serviced State Functions and State Employees, such as Social Services and the Health Departments had to be reopened and we are complying with that. He noted that the County Buildings had been reopened with limited public contact as much as possible. He noted that the Clerk to Court was resumed conducting Jury Trials and had put their own protocols into place. The Detention Center was functioning normally with its own protocols. Recycling centers are open regular hours. He noted staff had been discussing the public use and customer service of the building and the safety of employees and customers. He noted staff available to assist customers and a receptionist was in place to make this easier for customers. He said the COVID19 numbers were being watched and considered in the relation to safety for citizens and employees. Councilman Dr. Brantley asked about the plan for the Platt Library. Mr. Fulghum said it was being reviewed for renovation.

Chief Wells was present and provided the COVID19 statistics report. He overviewed the report and reviewed the positivity rate of the State of South Carolina had a positivity rate of 4.3% and of Jasper County had a positivity rate of 3.3%. He said they had transitioned to Phase 2 in the State of South Carolina. He said we were seeing a downward trend, and he continued to urge the citizens to protect themselves. He also noted that testing sites and locations. This report is attached as Attachment A.



**Possible Return to Executive Session to Continue Discussion on Matters Regarding Agenda Item II:**  
There was no reason to return to executive session for this meeting.

**Adjourn:**

**Motion to adjourn:** Councilman Adkins

**Second:** Councilman Sauls

**Vote:** Unanimous

The motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 7:46PM.

**Respectfully submitted:**

**Approved:**



Wanda H. Simmons  
Clerk to Council



Barbara B. Clark  
Chairwoman



# Jasper County COVID Statistics



South Carolina Positivity Rate as of 2, April 2021: 4.3%

Jasper County Positivity Rate as of 2, April 2021: 3.3%

Date range is 03/20/2021 through 04/02 /2021

Attachment "A"

COVID-19 in South Carolina  
As of 11:59 PM on 4/2/2021

Number of Tests: 1,487

Select Date Range to Filter Page Values: 4/2/2021

Percent Positive: 3.3%

Rate of COVID-19 Tests Performed per 10,000 population, by County

Type of COVID-19 Tests Being Performed	Negative	Positive	Grand Total
Antibody (Serology)	14	4	18
Antigen	671	15	686
Viral (Molecular)	757	26	783
Grand Total	1,442	45	1,487



11.9% of all COVID-19 diagnostic testing has occurred at the Public Health Laboratory  
 Note: This table represents volume of tests received and not distinct individuals tested; individuals may have multiple tests.  
 Unknown Test Types refer to tests with an unrecognized test type. As we continue to investigate unknown test types they will be reclassified as more information becomes available.

39.5 193.9

Moving 7 Day Average Percent Positive of COVID-19 Tests

Note: Shaded Display Percent Positive for the current day and moving 7 day average. Percent Positive is calculated using the 2nd Day method.

Total Viral (Molecular) Tests  
 Count of Positive Viral Tests  
 7d Moving Average Percent Positive

## Daily Reported Case Count:

Date	Cases	Date	Cases
03/20	1	03/27	6
03/21	3	03/28	5
03/22	0	03/29	2
03/23	1	03/30	2
03/24	1	03/31	0
03/25	5	04/01	3
03/26	0	04/02	2

## Community Testing information

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### County Deaths to date

No Change since last meeting 43 (64.8% with comorbidity conditions)

### Vaccine update

Vaccination plan is in 2 (16 years of age or wiser are eligible)

Page 3 or go to <https://vaxlocator.dhec.sc.gov/>

Agape Life Center Vaccine Clinic April 8, 2021

**\*\*Free\*\***

## **DHEC - Jasper County Health Department (Closed Today)**

📍 0.75 miles away

### **Dates and Times**

4/6 Monday: Closed  
4/6 Tuesday: Closed  
4/7 Wednesday: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM  
4/8 Thursday: Closed  
4/9 Friday: Closed  
4/10 Saturday: Closed  
4/11 Sunday: Closed

### **Further Information**

Free COVID testing every Wednesday from 9:00am-4:00pm at the Jasper County Health Department. No appointment is needed, however, attendees can pre-register at <https://covidtest.dhec.sc.gov>

Appointment Needed: No

Referral Needed: No

Pediatric Testing Available: Yes - All Ages

### **Address**

📍 [651 Grays Hwy, Ridgetown, SC, 29936](#)

### **Customer Service Number**

📞 [855-472-3432](tel:855-472-3432)

### **More Information or Pre-Registration (if applicable)**

📄 [Pre-register at https://covidtest.dhec.sc.gov](https://covidtest.dhec.sc.gov)



**\*\*Free\*\***

## **Coastal Carolina Hospital - Coastal Carolina Hospital (Open Today)**

📍 13.35 miles away

### **Dates and Times**

4/6 Monday: 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM  
4/6 Tuesday: 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM  
4/7 Wednesday: 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM  
4/8 Thursday: 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM  
4/9 Friday: 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM  
4/10 Saturday: Closed  
4/11 Sunday: Closed

### **Further Information**

Open weekdays from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Appointment Needed: No

Referral Needed: No

Pediatric Testing Available: Yes - All Ages

### **Address**

📍 [1000 Medical Center Dr, Hardeeville, SC, 29927](#)