# STER COUNTY CAROLING

## **JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL**

# **HYBRID SPECIAL CALLED MEETING**

Jasper County Clementa C. Pinckney Government Bldg 358 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue Ridgeland, SC 29936 Friday, June 14, 2024 Minutes

**Officials Present:** Chairman L. Martin Sauls IV, Vice Chairwoman Barbara B. Clark, Councilman John Kemp, and Councilman Joey Rowell Absent: Councilman Coy Garbade.

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

Chairman Sauls called the 9AM Council Meeting to order. The Report of Compliance with the Freedom of Information Act was read for the records 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 to the Flag was given and the Invocation was given by Councilman Rowell.

### **Approval of Agenda**

Motion to approve the agenda: Councilman Second: Councilman Vote: Unanimous The motion passed.

### **Executive Session SECTION 30-4-70.**

- (a) A public body may hold a meeting closed to the public for one or more of the following reasons:
- 1. Executive Session SECTION 30-4-70.
- (b) 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 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 Treasurer SC App Case No. 2024-000941

Motion to return to go into Executive Session: Vice Chairwoman Clark

Second: Councilman Kemp

Vote: Unanimous The motion passed.

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.

PLEASE BE ADVISED THERE MAY BE VOTES BASED ON ITEMS FROM THE EXECUTIVE SESSION.

### 2: Return to Open Session at 6:30PM

Motion to return to regular session: Councilman Kemp

Second: Vice Chairwoman Clark

**Vote:** Unanimous The motion passed.

### 2.1 Action coming out of Executive Session

Motion to move to diet the County Attorney to contact appropriate authorities, officials and agencies, provide information and documentation regarding certain disbursements and actions in the Treasurer's Office for a determination whether laws or regulations were violated all as discussed in executive session: Councilman Kemp

Second: Vice Chairwoman Clark

Vote:

Chairman Sauls – Yes Vice Chairwoman Clark – Yes Councilman Kemp – Yes

Councilman Rowell – Yes

The vote was unanimous, and the motion passed.

Motion regarding the pending Appellate Case No. 2024-000941, I move to authorize the retention of outside legal counsel to represent the interests of other elected and appointed officials of Jasper County to include but not be limited to the Sheriff, Clerk of Court, Probate Judge and Magistrate as they have requested, with compensation to be substantially the same as being paid under the present retainer agreement between the Parker Poe Law Firm and the County, and to allow Parker Poe on behalf of Jasper County to enter into such joint defense or other similar arrangements as they

deed advisable: Councilman Rowell Second: Vice Chairwoman Clark

Vote:

Chairman Sauls – Yes Vice Chairwoman Clark – Yes Councilman Kemp – Yes Councilman Rowell – Yes

The vote was unanimous, and the motion passed.

Motion to move to authorize the Administrator to finalize the retention of the Parker-Poe Law Firm to represent the interests of Jasper County, Mr. Fulghum and Ms. Burgess in their official capacities as Administrator and Director of Administrative services, in the pending Appellate Case No. 2024-00091, with compensation to be substantially the same as being paid under the present retainer agreement between Parker Poe and the County: Vice Chairwoman Clark

Vote:

Chairman Sauls – Yes
Vice Chairwoman Clark – Yes
Councilman Kemp – Yes
Councilman Rowell – Yes
The vote was unanimous, and the motion passed.

Adjourn:

Motion to adjourn: Vice Chairwoman Clark

Second: Councilman Rowell

**Vote:** Unanimous The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted:

Wanda H. Giles Clerk to Council

L. Martin Sauls IV, Chairman