



Public Safety Committee Meeting

March 31, 2026

Permanent Easement – Jefferson Energy Cooperative – Proposed Fire Station (Gordon Hwy & Powell Rd)

- Department:** Fire
- Presenter:** Antonio Burden, Fire Chief
- Caption:** Motion to approve the granting of a Permanent Utility Easement to Jefferson Energy Cooperative for the installation and maintenance of electric utility infrastructure to serve the proposed new Fire Station located at Gordon Highway and Powell Road.
- Background:** Augusta Fire Department is in the process of constructing a new Fire Station at the intersection of Gordon Highway and Powell Road. To provide permanent electrical service to the facility, Jefferson Energy Cooperative requires the execution of a Right-of-Way Easement and associated property release documentation.
- The Permanent Easement will grant Jefferson Energy Cooperative the right to enter upon the property for the purpose of constructing, reconstructing, maintaining, and operating overhead or underground electric and communication lines, transformers, related equipment, and associated utility infrastructure necessary to serve the facility. The easement also provides for future inspection, maintenance, and necessary system improvements.
- Execution of the easement is required to ensure reliable and continuous electric service to the proposed Fire Station.
- Analysis:** Approval of this Permanent Easement allows Jefferson Energy Cooperative to install and maintain the electrical infrastructure necessary to support operations of the new Fire Station. The easement is a standard utility requirement and does not convey ownership of the property but grants specific rights for utility access and service provision.
- The Right-of-Way Easement outlines provisions related to construction, maintenance, right-of-way clearing, and ongoing access for inspection and repairs. The associated property release documentation acknowledges potential impacts during construction activities and releases Jefferson Energy Cooperative from liability for incidental damages related to installation.
- Failure to approve the easement would delay electrical service installation and could impact project timelines for completion and operational readiness of the Fire Station.

Financial Impact: There is no direct financial impact associated with granting Permanent Easement. The easement is required for utility service connection and supports the capital project for construction of the new Fire Station.

Alternatives: Approve the Permanent Easement as presented.
Request revisions to the easement terms and defer approval.
Decline to approve the easement, which would delay utility installation and project completion.

Recommendation: To approve the Motion to grant a Permanent Utility Easement to Jefferson Energy Cooperative for the proposed Fire Station located at Gordon Highway and Powell Road.

Funds are available in the following accounts: N/A

REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY: Antonio Burden, Fire Chief