

**JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL
MARY GORDON ELIIS EXECUTIVE BUILDING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
MARCH 5, 2007
4:00 P.M.**

OFFICIALS PRESENT:

DR. GEORGE M. HOOD, CHAIRMAN
GLADYS JONES, VICE CHAIRMAN
LEROY BLACKSHEAR, COUNCILMAN
FRED TUTEN, COUNCILMAN
HUBERT TYLER, COUNCILMAN

STAFF PRESENT:

ANDREW FULGHUM, ADMINISTRATOR
RONNIE MALPHRUS, DEP. ADM. SER.
DALE TERRY, DEP. ADM. ENG. SER.
TOM WATSON, DEP. ADM. EMERG. SER.
STEVE SAGER, DEP. ADM. DEV. SER.
MARVIN JONES, ATTORNEY
JUDITH FRANK, CLERK TO COUNCIL

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT, THE ELECTRONIC AND PRINT MEDIA WERE NOTIFIED.

DURING PERIODS OF DISCUSSION AND/OR PRESENTATIONS MINUTES ARE TYPICALLY CONDENSED AND PARAPHRASED.

CALL TO ORDER:

CHAIRMAN HOOD CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 4:00 P.M.

INVOCATION:

COUNCILMAN TUTEN GAVE THE INVOCATION.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

COUNCILMAN TUTEN MOTIONED AND VICE CHAIRMAN JONES SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF FEB. 2, 5, AND 15, 2007 AND TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR INFORMATION. THE MOTION WAS CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

VICE CHAIRMAN JONES ASKED ABOUT THE ORDINANCE REGARDING ABANDONED MOBILE HOMES AND WERE THE COUNTY'S ORDINANCES CORRECT. SHE ASKED THAT ATTORNEY JONES CHECK INTO IT.

VICE CHAIRMAN JONES ASKED ABOUT THE TOTAL EXPENDITURES REGARDING THE PERRY HOUSE AND HOW MANY MORE THINGS NEEDED TO BE DONE. COUNCILMAN TUTEN SAID HE KNEW OF A RAMP THAT WOULD COST \$750.00, MR. SAGER SAID THE \$38,000.00 COVERS THE VAST MAJORITY OF THE EXPENSES. VICE CHAIRMAN JONES SAID THE COUNCIL NEVER APPROVED THE FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT AND HOW DID IT GET THIS FAR WITHOUT COUNCIL'S APPROVAL. COUNCILMAN TUTEN SAID THAT ABOUT \$20,000.00 WENT TOWARDS TECHNOLOGY. VICE CHAIRMAN JONES SAID THEY STILL MOVED FORWARD WITHOUT THE COUNCIL'S APPROVAL. VICE CHAIRMAN JONES SAID THE ADMINISTRATOR CAN APPROVE UP TO \$5,000.00. COUNCILMAN TUTEN SAID HE THOUGHT THE OTHER \$28,000.00 WAS PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED BY COUNCIL. MR. FULGHUM SAID HE WILL GO BACK AND CHECK IF THE COUNCIL HAD APPROVED THE FUNDS FOR THE PERRY HOUSE. COUNCILMAN TYLER ASKED IF THE COUNCIL APPROPRIATED THOSE FUNDS AND CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID THEY WERE NOT COVERED IN THE BUDGET. COUNCILMAN TYLER ASKED IF THE COUNCIL WAS AWARE OF THE AMOUNT THAT WAS BEING SPENT. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID SOME OF IT HAD BEEN DISCUSSED, BUT HE WAS NOT SURE IF THE ACTUAL COST WAS DISCUSSED OR APPROVED. COUNCILMAN TYLER SAID THAT THE ADMINISTRATION SHOULD HAVE GOTTEN APPROVAL BEFORE MOVING AHEAD. COUNCILMAN TUTEN SAID SOME OF THE TECHNOLOGY CAN BE MOVED TO THE NEW BUILDING. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID THAT A SUMMATION OF THE EXPENSES NEEDS TO COME BEFORE COUNCIL AND RECEIVE THE APPROVAL OF THE FULL COUNCIL. VICE CHAIRMAN JONES SAID THAT THE ADMINISTRATIVE MINUTES WERE CORRECTED TO SAY THAT THE PART TIME PERSON IN THE ASSESSOR'S OFFICE (THE LADY FROM COLLETON COUNTY) WOULD ONLY WORK ON SATURDAYS. CHAIRMAN HOOD COMMENTED ON THE ATTACHMENTS TO THE MINUTES OF THE FIRE COMMITTEE AND THAT HE COMMENDED THE COMMITTEE FOR MAKING THEM PART OF THEIR MINUTES. COUNCILMAN JONES ASKED WHEN THE COUNCIL WOULD GET THE PERSONNEL POLICY MANUAL BACK AND MR. MALPHRUS SAID HE WOULD CHECK INTO IT. COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR SUGGESTED THAT SINCE THE COMMITTEE MINUTES WERE NOT APPROVED AT THIS TIME, THAT THEY BE ADDRESSED UNDER COMMITTEE REPORTS.

IT WAS THE CONCENSUS OF THE COUNCIL TO DISCUSS THE COMMITTEE MINUTES DURING THE PART OF THE AGENDA THAT DEALT WITH COMMITTEE REPORTS.

THERE WERE NO PROCLAMATIONS, PRESENTATIONS, PUBLIC HEARING, OR ORDINANCES ON THE AGENDA.

OLD BUSINESS:

RONNIE MALPHRUS – REQUEST FOR TEMPORARY HELP IN THE ASSESSOR'S OFFICE:

MR. MALPHRUS EXPLAINED THAT DUE TO REASSESSMENT, APPEALS, AND ADDITIONAL GROWTH IN THE COUNTY, THE ASSESSOR'S OFFICE HAS GOTTEN BEHIND IN WORKING THE DEEDS AND ADDITIONAL PART-TIME TEMPORARY HELP IS NEEDED IN THE ASSESSOR'S OFFICE SO THAT THE TAX BILLS CAN GO OUT. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT HE WAS REQUESTING OVERTIME FOR SOME OF THE PEOPLE IN THE ASSESSOR'S OFFICE AND 1 PERSON TO WORK ON SATURDAYS AND 1 PERSON TO WORK 20-30 HOURS UNTIL THE END OF THIS BUDGET YEAR. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THIS WOULD COST ABOUT \$21,000.00. COUNCILMAN TYLER ASKED HOW THEY HAVE FALLEN BEHIND. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT THE REASSESSMENT CAUSED A LOT OF EXTRA WORK AND THE NUMBER OF DEEDS CURRENTLY COMING IN HAVE BACKED UP. COUNCILMAN TYLER QUESTIONED EMPLOYEES IN THAT DEPARTMENT TAKING LEAVE WHEN THEY WERE BEHIND. MR. MALPHRUS SAID HE HAD APPROVED THE LEAVE BECAUSE IT HAD BEEN SCHEDULED WELL IN ADVANCE, BUT HE HAS DISCUSSED IT WITH THE DEPARTMENT. COUNCILMAN TUTEN ASKED ABOUT THE APPEALS. MS. O'QUINN SAID THEY RECEIVED OVER 500 LETTERS, BUT THEY WERE NOT ALL APPEALS. MS. O'QUINN SAID THEY WERE CURRENTLY WORKING ON ABOUT 15 AND SHE IS NOT SURE IF THEY WILL END UP GOING TO THE APPEALS BOARD. MS. O'QUINN SAID THEY MUST KEEP A PAPER TRAIL ON ALL THE APPEALS. MS. O'QUINN SAID MOST OF THE APPEALS WERE HANDLED BY ALDA JONES AND HERSELF AND THEY OVERSAW ALL THE APPEALS HANDLED BY OTHER PEOPLE IN THE OFFICE. MS. O'QUINN SAID SHE DID HIRE A NEW PERSON IN THE SPRING TO WORK ON THE DEEDS. BUT SHE HAD TO BE TRAINED. MS. O'QUINN SAID THE LARGE NUMBER OF DEEDS, THE SPLITS, AND ROLLBACKS ALL CONTRIBUTED TO THE OFFICE FALLING BEHIND. MS. O'QUINN SAID 2007 DEEDS ARE COMING IN, BUT SHE CANNOT START ON THEM UNTIL THEY ARE DONE WITH THE WORK FOR 2006. MS. O'QUINN SAID SHE IS WORKING OVER 50 HOURS PER WEEK AND SHE DOES NOT GET OVERTIME. MS. O'QUINN SAID THAT THE GIRLS ARE ALSO WORKING OVERTIME AND SOME ARE NOT BECAUSE THEY DO NOT NEED TO. CHAIRMAN HOOD SUGGESTED THAT MS. O'QUINN BE INVITED TO ATTEND THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING. VICE CHAIRMAN JONES MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE HIRING ONE PERSON TO WORK ON SATURDAYS AND ONE PERSON TO WORK 20-30 HOURS PER WEEK UNTIL THE END OF THIS BUDGET YEAR. THE MOTION WAS CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

STEVE SAGER – PRESENTATION OF PLANS FOR ANNEX BUILDING:

MR. SAGER EXPLAINED THAT THE PROPOSED LAYOUT IS AN ATTEMPT TO PROVIDE SUFFICIENT SPACE FOR FIVE YEARS FOR THE OCCUPANTS SCHEDULED TO MOVE INTO THE ANNEX BUILDING. MR. SAGER SAID HE MET WITH EACH OF THE DEPARTMENT HEADS MOVING TO THE BUILDING AND DISCUSSED THE SPACE NEEDED. HOWEVER, AFTER THOSE MEETINGS HE DETERMINED THAT ONE DEPARTMENT TOO MANY WAS TO GO TO THE ANNEX BUILDING. HE SAID AT THAT POINT HE WENT TO THE ADMINISTRATOR AND INFORMED HIM OF THE SITUATION AND THE ADMINISTRATOR INSTRUCTED HIM TO TRY AND MAKE EVERYONE FIT INTO THE BUILDING. MR. SAGER SAID NOT EVERYONE WAS CONTACTED WHEN THE CHANGES WERE MADE. COUNCILMAN TYLER ASKED IF THEY WERE CONSULTED ABOUT WHAT THEY NEEDED. MR. SAGER SAID THEY WERE CONTACTED INITIALLY; HOWEVER, THEY ALL COULD NOT FIT IN THE BUILDING BASED ON THEIR REQUESTS. CHAIRMAN HOOD ASKED TO SET A SPECIAL TIME TO HOLD A WORKSHOP TO REVIEW THE PLANS. VICE CHAIRMAN JONES SAID THAT THE PLANS BEING PRESENTED DO NOT LOOK LIKE THEY DID WHEN THE COUNCIL APPROVED THEM. MR. SAGER SAID THAT WHEN HE DISCUSSED THE SPACE NEEDED BY THE VARIOUS DEPARTMENT, THINGS CHANGED AND IT BECAME APPARENT THAT THERE WAS ONE DEPARTMENT TOO MANY. VICE CHAIRMAN JONES SAID ONE DEPARTMENT'S OFFICE SPACE ON THE FIRST FLOOR WAS CUT IN HALF. MR. SAGER SAID TWO DEPARTMENT'S SPACE ON THE FIRST FLOOR WERE CUT IN AN ATTEMPT TO PUT ALL THE DEPARTMENTS ORIGINALLY SPECIFIED AND THAT THEY WOULD HAVE ENOUGH SPACE FOR FIVE YEARS. COUNCILMAN TUTEN ASKED IF THE DEPARTMENTS WERE NOTIFIED ABOUT THE CHANGES AND MR. SAGER LISTED THE CHANGES TO THE AUDITOR, TREASURER AND FINANCE DEPARTMENT WERE DONE SO EVERYONE COULD FIT IN THE BUILDING. COUNCILMAN

BLACKSHEAR SAID THAT THE MEETING NEEDED TO MOVE ON AND HE FELT THERE WAS A LOT OF QUESTIONS REGARDING THE MODIFICATIONS AND SUGGESTED CALLING A SPECIAL MEETING TO HANDLE THIS. IT WAS THE CONCENSUS OF THE COUNCIL TO HOLD A SPECIAL WORKSHOP MEETING ON MARCH 12, 2007 AT 10:00 A.M. TO DISCUSS THE PLANS FOR THE ANNEX BUILDING.

DALE TERRY – REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF BIDS FOR ROCKS FOR ROCKING THE ROADS:

MR. TERRY SAID HE ADVERTISED FOR BIDS AND HE RECEIVED TWO BIDS, THE LOWEST BEING FROM ABLE CONSTRUCTION FOR \$21.20 PER TON. COUNCILMAN TUTEN MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN TYLER SECONDED THE MOTION TO ACCEPT THE LOW BID FROM ABLE CONSTRUCTION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$21.20 PER TON. THE MOTION WAS CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

KNOWLES ISLAND TRESTLE:

COUNCILMAN TUTEN SAID THAT HE PREVIOUSLY MOTIONED TO PUT THE GATE UP AT THE KNOWLES ISLAND TRESTLE, HOWEVER, HE FELT THE TRESTLE SHOULD BE LEFT OPEN. COUNCILMAN TUTEN SAID HE VISITED THE TRESTLE AND IT WAS CLEAN AND NO TRASH WAS PRESENT AND HE DID NOT THINK THE GATE SHOULD GO UP. COUNCILMAN TUTEN MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN TYLER SECONDED THE MOTION THAT THE GATE AT THE KNOWLES ISLAND NOT BE PUT UP. THE MOTION WAS CARRIED WITH CHAIRMAN HOOD AND COUNCILMEN TYLER, TUTEN AND BLACKSHEAR FOR; VICE CHAIRMAN JONES VOTED AGAINST.

MR. FULGHUM ASKED ABOUT THE SITUATION REGARDING TAKING OVER THE ROAD AND THEN THAT THE RESIDENTS OF KNOWLES ISLAND WOULD PAY FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF THAT ROAD. CHAIRMAN HOOD ASKED THAT THE MATTER BE DISCUSSED AT COMMITTEE LEVEL AND THEY COULD BRING A RECOMMENDATION TO THE COUNCIL.

RONNIE MALPHRUS – REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF STURGIS CONTRACT:

MR. MALPHRUS ASKED THE COUNCIL FOR APPROVAL OF THE STURGIS CONTRACT WHICH WILL SET UP A NEW IMPROVED WEBSITE FOR THE COUNTY THAT WILL ALLOW THE TREASURER, AUDITOR, AND EMS BILLING TO ACCEPT CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THE COST WOULD BE \$21,750.00 AND 50% WOULD BE DUE AND PAYABLE UPFRONT AND THE BALANCE UPON COMPLETION. COUNCILMAN TYLER ASKED IF IT WOULD AFFECT HOW BILLS ARE CURRENTLY BEING PAID AND MR. MALPHRUS RESPONDED THAT IT WOULD PROVIDE THEM WITH AN ADDITIONAL WAY TO PAY THEIR BILLS. COUNCILMAN TYLER ASKED IF THIS WOULD CAUSE A DECREASE IN PERSONNEL AND MR. MALPHRUS SAID IT WOULD NOT. COUNCILMAN TUTEN QUESTIONED WHERE ALL THE MONEY WAS COMING FROM TO PAY FOR ALL THE REQUESTS. VICE CHAIRMAN JONES AGREED AND SAID SHE FELT THAT THE COUNTY NEEDS TO HAVE A BUDGET AND THAT IT NEEDS TO BE FOLLOWED. COUNCILMAN TUTEN SAID WHY SET A BUDGET IF YOU DON'T ABIDE BY IT. MR. MALPHRUS SAID HE WAS BRINGING IT TO COUNCIL BECAUSE HE KNEW WHERE FUNDS TO PAY FOR IT COULD BE SHIFTED FROM. COUNCILMAN TUTEN SAID HE FELT THIS SHOULD WAIT UNTIL BUDGET TIME. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THIS IS BEING DONE AS A CONVENIENCE FOR THE TAXPAYERS AND THE TAXPAYERS HAVE ASKED FOR THIS SERVICE. TOM WATSON SAID HE FELT IT WOULD INCREASE THE COLLECTIONS AT EMS OF OUT OF TOWN PEOPLE WHO OWE THE COUNTY TRANSPORT BILLS. COUNCILMAN TUTEN ASKED IF MR. WATSON THOUGHT IT WOULD ENABLE HIM TO COLLECT \$11,000.00 BY THE END OF THIS BUDGET YEAR AND MR. WATSON SAID HE FELT IT WOULD BE CLOSE TO THE \$11,000.00. COUNCILMAN TUTEN ASKED MR. WATSON WHY THIS WAS NOT DISCUSSED AT THE FIRE COMMITTEE MEETING. MR. WATSON SAID HE WAS NOT FULLY AWARE OF IT. COUNCILMAN TUTEN SAID THAT IF EMS COULD COLLECT THE \$11,000.00 BY JULY THEN HE WAS FOR IT. MR. FULGHUM SAID THIS COULD BE PAID FOR FROM FUNDS THAT WERE BUDGETED AND IT WILL PAY FOR A PROFESSIONAL WEBSITE AND HE RECOMMENDED APPROVING THE CONTRACT. COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN TUTEN SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE STURGIS CONTRACT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$21,750.00 AND THAT THE \$11,000.00 COME FROM THE EMERGENCY FUND AND THE BALANCE WILL BE HANDLED IN NEXT YEAR'S BUDGET. THE MOTION WAS CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

RONNIE MALPHRUS – REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF BUDGET TRANSFERS:

MR. MALPHRUS MADE THE FOLLOWING BUDGET TRANSFER REQUESTS:

- \$22,500 FROM COUNCIL'S SALARY LINE TO THE COUNCIL STIPEND LINE
- \$4000 FROM THE EMERGENCY FUND TO THE ADM. VEHICLE MAINTENANCE LINE
- 3,400 FROM THE EMERGENCY FUND TO DATA NEW WORLD LINE
- \$11,000 FROM THE DEV. SERVICE CONTRACT LINE TO THE EMERGENCY FUND

- \$5,000 FROM THE INTERDEPARTMENTAL SALARY ADJUSTMENT LINE TO THE EMERGENCY SERVICES MAINTENANCE CONTRACT LINE
- \$9,400 FROM THE INTERDEPARTMENTAL SALARY ADJUSTMENT LINE TO EMERGENCY SERVICES LOAN PAYMENT LINE
- \$3,000 FROM THE EMERGENCY FUND TO FINANCE TRAVEL LINE
- \$4,000 FROM THE EMERGENCY FUND TO THE RECREATION OVERTIME LINE
- \$12,000 FROM THE TAX COLLECTOR NEW PERSONNEL LINE TO THE FINANCE SALARY LINE
- \$20,000 FROM THE BLDG DEPT. CONTRACTUAL LINE TO THE REG/DEEDS MAINTENANCE CONTRACT LINE
- \$20,000 FROM THE INTERDEPARTMENTAL SALARY ADJ. LINE TO THE ASSESSOR SALARY LINE

THE TOTAL FOR THE BUDGET TRANSFERS IS \$114,300.00.

VICE CHAIRMAN JONES MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN TUTEN SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE BUDGET TRANSFERS. THE MOTION WAS CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

JOHNNY DAVIS – PRESENTATION AND REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RECREATION PLAN:

MR. DAVIS SAID THAT HE HAD BUDGETED \$25,000.00 FOR A STUDY TO BE DONE SO THAT THE RECREATION DEPARTMENT WOULD BE READY TO HANDLE THE GROWTH IN THE COUNTY. MR. DAVIS SAID THE STUDY WOULD BE FOR WHAT IS NEEDED NOW AND WHAT WILL BE NEEDED IN 10 YEARS. MR. DAVIS PRESENTED A CONTRACT FROM CLEMSON IN THE AMOUNT OF \$16,200.00. COUNCILMAN TYLER ASKED IF THE CITIZENS WILL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR INPUT AND MR. DAVIS SAID THAT PART OF THE CONTRACT INCLUDES MEETING IN THE COMMUNITIES FOR INPUT. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID HE WANTED THE AGREEMENT IN CONTRACT FORM AND FOR IT TO BE REVIEWED BY THE COUNTY ATTORNEY. COUNCILMAN TUTEN ASKED IF HE WAS \$4,000.00 OVER BUDGET IN OVERTIME, WHY NOT TAKE THE FUNDS FROM WHAT IS LEFT OVER IN HIS BUDGET. MR. MALPHRUS SAID HE DID NOT DO THAT BECAUSE HE WAS NOT SURE WHAT OTHER THINGS MAY BE ENCOUNTERED AND MR. FULGHUM SAID MORE COMMUNITY MEETINGS WILL COST MORE. COUNCILMAN TYLER MOTIONED AND VICE CHAIRMAN JONES SECONDED THE MOTION THAT A FORMAL CONTRACT IS PREPARED BY CLEMSON TO COVER THIS AGREEMENT AND THAT IT IS APPROVED BY THE COUNTY ATTORNEY. THE MOTION WAS CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

VICE CHAIRMAN JONES UPDATED THE COUNCIL ON HER TRIP TO WASHINGTON, D.C. WITH THE SILVER HAired LEGISLATURE AND THE ITEMS THAT ARE BEING CONSIDERED. VICE CHAIRMAN JONES SAID THAT THE TRIP COST \$1,471 AND SHE PERSONALLY RAISED \$1300 TO COVER THE TRIP.

VICE CHAIRMAN JONES ASKED THAT THE ATTORNEY MOVE FORWARD ON THE ORDINANCE REGARDING MOBILE HOMES. ATTORNEY JONES SAID HE WILL WORK WITH THE ADMINISTRATION ON THIS ISSUE.

VICE CHAIRMAN JONES ASKED ABOUT THE TOTAL COST ON DIFFERENT PROJECT AND WHERE THE FUNDS WERE COMING FROM SINCE THE COUNCIL NEVER APPROVED THE EXPENDITURES. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID THAT ANYTHING OVER \$5,000 MUST COME TO COUNCIL FOR APPROVAL AND IT WAS NOT PRESENTED. CHAIRMAN HOOD ASKED THE ADMINISTRATOR TO BRING THE TOTAL COST TO THE COUNCIL. MR. FULGHUM SAID HE WOULD BRING TO COUNCIL A NOT TO EXCEED FIGURE. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID IT WAS ALREADY IN THE BUDGET ORDINANCE THAT ANYTHING OVER \$5,000 MUST BE APPROVED BY COUNCIL.

COUNCILMAN TUTEN SAID HE WAS WORKING ON SOMETHING AND HE HOPED TO HAVE A GOOD REPORT FOR THE COUNCIL AT THEIR NEXT MEETING.

CHAIRMAN HOOD DISCUSSED THE BUDGET WORKSHOP SCHEDULES.

OPEN FLOOR TO THE PUBLIC:

CHAIRMAN HOOD OPENED THE FLOOR TO THE PUBLIC.

JOEY MALPHRUS VOICED HIS CONCERN OVER THE AMOUNT OF SPACE FOR THE PROBATE JUDGE'S OFFICES AND HE SAID HE WAS NOT GAINING ANY SPACE AND HE NEEDED MORE SPACE, JOEY MALPHRUS ASKED THE COUNCIL TO CONSIDER ADDING THE PROBATE JUDGES OFFICES TO THE ANNEX BUILDING OR GIVING HIM MORE SPACE IN THE COURT HOUSE.

FREDDY BRANTLEY THANKED THE COUNCIL FOR REVERSING THEIR DECISION ON THE KNOWLES ISLAND TRESTLE.

HEATHER DAVIS SAID THAT SHE REPRESENTED 90 PEOPLE FROM KNOWLES ISLAND AND THAT THEY WERE VERY DISAPPOINTED WITH THE COUNCIL REVERSING THEIR DECISION. MS. DAVIS ASKED ABOUT AMENDING THE DECISION AND A TRY TO COMPROMISE TO KEEP EVERYONE HAPPY. MS. DAVIS SUGGESTED THAT THE COUNCIL GET IN TOUCH WITH DNR REGARDING THE CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES HAPPENING AT THE TRESTLE. BEING NO FURTHER COMMENTS, CHAIRMAN HOOD CLOSED THE FLOOR TO THE PUBLIC.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR MOTIONED AND VICE CHAIRMAN JONES SECONDED THE MOTION TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS CONTRACTUAL 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 AND EMPLOYEMENT MATTERS. THE MOTION WAS CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION:

VICE CHAIRMAN JONES MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN TYLER SECONDED THE MOTION TO RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION.

CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID THE COUNCIL DISCUSSED THE SALE OF THE LOW COUNTY GENERAL HOSPITAL PROPERTY AND TWO EMPLOYMENT ISSUES. CHAIRMAN HOOD ASKED FOR ANY MOTIONS OR ACTIONS REGARDING THESE TWO ISSUES.

VICE CHAIRMAN JONES MOTIONED THAT THIS BE THE 1ST READING OF AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE THE SALE OF THE PROPERTY FORMERLY KNOWN AS THE LOW COUNTRY GENERAL HOSPITAL. COUNCILMAN TUTEN SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION WAS CARRIED WITH CHAIRMAN HOOD, VICE CHAIRMAN JONES, COUNCILMAN TUTEN, AND COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR VOTING FOR. COUNCILMAN TYLER VOTED AGAINST.

MR. MALPHRUS EXPLAINED THAT THE EMPLOYMENT MATTERS THAT WERE DISCUSSED INVOLVED HIRING A NEW ASSESSOR AND CREATING A NEW POSITION IN THE HR DEPARTMENT, A HR GENERALIST. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THE COST FOR THESE TWO POSITIONS THROUGH THE END OF THIS YEAR WOULD BE \$23,900.00 COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR ASKED HOW LONG MS. O'QUINN WOULD BE NEEDED, AND MR. FULGHUM RESPONDED THAT IT DEPENDED HOW LONG IT WOULD TAKE FOR THE NEW ASSESSOR TO BE INITIATED. VICE CHAIRMAN JONES ASKED HOW LONG WOULD THE POSITIONS BE ADVERTISED, AND MR. MALPHRUS SAID HE WOULD DISCUSS THIS WITH MS. LUCAS. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID THAT HE DID NOT THINK AN ENDING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE LISTED SO THAT THE POSITIONS CAN BE ADVERTISED UNTIL A GOOD QUALIFIED PERSON CAN BE FOUND. COUNCILMAN TYLER MOTIONED AND VICE CHAIRMAN JONES SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE HIRING A NEW ASSESSOR AND TO CREATE THE POSITION OF HUMAN RESOURCE GENERALIST. THE MOTION WAS CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID AT THE COUNCIL'S RETREAT THE COUNCIL NEEDED TO REVISIT MUTUAL AID AGREEMENTS AND THE AUTHORITY OF THE COUNCIL.

ADJOURN:

COUNCILMAN TUTEN MOTIONED AND VICE CHAIRMAN JONES SECONDED THE MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

THE MEETING ENDED AT 7:05 P.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY:

APPROVED BY:

JUDITH M. FRANK, CCC
CLERK TO COUNCIL

DR. GEORGE M. HOOD
CHAIRMAN