

**JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL  
MARY GORDON ELLIS EXECUTIVE BUILDING  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
MARCH 16, 2009  
7:00 P.M.  
MINUTES**

**OFFICIALS PRESENT:**

GEORGE HOOD, CHAIRMAN  
LEROY BLACKSHEAR, VICE CHAIRMAN  
HENRY ETHERIDGE, COUNCILMAN  
REV. SAMUEL GREGORY, COUNCILMAN  
HUBERT TYLER, COUNCILMAN

**STAFF PRESENT:**

ANDREW FULGHUM, ADMINISTRATOR  
RONNIE MALPHRUS, DEP. ADM. ADM. SERVICES  
DALE TERRY, DEP. ADM. ENG. SERVICES  
WILBUR DALEY, DEP. ADM. EMG. SERVICES  
WENDY KELLY, DEP. ADM. DEV. SERVICES  
JUDITH FRANK, CLERK TO COUNCIL  
MARVIN JONES, ATTORNEY  
DAVID JIROUSEK, PLANNING DIRECTOR  
LISA LAMB, PLANNING AND ZONING COORDINATOR  
SUSAN WAITE, ASSESSOR  
HERMAN SMITH, BUILDING OFFICIAL  
JOHNNY DAVIS, PARKS, AND RECREATION DIRECTOR  
HONEY JOHNSON, ASSISTANT TO ADMINISTRATOR

**STAFF ABSENT:**

EVELYN LEE, DEP. 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 7:00 P.M.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

CHAIRMAN HOOD LED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

**INVOCATION:**

VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR OFFERED THE INVOCATION.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN TYLER SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM 2/5/2009-2/7/2009, 2 /17/ 2009 AND 2/27/2009. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

**PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS:**

**BUTCH WHIDDON AUDIT REPORT:**

MR. WHIDDON THANKED THE STAFF AND HE SAID THAT THE AUDIT WENT EXTREMELY WELL. MR WHIDDON EXPLAINED THAT MR. MELLON PREPARES THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND ALL INFORMATION WAS PROVIDED IN A TIMELY MANNER. MR. WHIDDON RECOGNIZED THE COUNTY AS RECIPIENTS OF THE GFOA AWARD FOR FINANCIAL REPORTING. MR. WHIDDON REPORTED THAT THE AUDIT RECEIVED AN UNQUALIFIED OPINION WHICH IS THE TYPE OF AUDIT THAT THE COUNCIL WANTS TO RECEIVE. MR. WHIDDON COMMENTED THAT WHILE THE COUNTY IS IN GOOD FINANCIAL CONDITION, THE COUNCIL MAY WANT TO CONSIDER PERMANENT FINANCING AS THE WAY THEY ARE DOING IT CURRENTLY IS AN EXPENSIVE WAY TO DO THE FINANCING FOR LONG TERM OBLIGATIONS. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED IF IT WAS NORMAL TO COMPLETE THE AUDIT SIX MONTHS AFTER THE YEAR ENDS AND MR. WHIDDON ANSWERED THAT THIS WAS NOT UNUSUAL. COUNCILMAN TYLER ASKED HOW LONG HAS MR. WHIDDON BEEN DOING THE COUNTY'S AUDIT AND MR. WHIDDON SAID HE HAS BEEN THE COUNTY'S AUDITOR FOR THREE YEARS. COUNCILMAN GREGORY ASKED HOW LONG HAS HE WORKED WITH MR. MELLON AND MR. WHIDDON EXPLAINED THAT HE IS SEPARATE FROM MR. MELLON AND HE AUDITS MR. MELLON'S FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE COUNTY. COUNCILMAN GREGORY ASKED WHY TWO AUDITORS WERE NEEDED AND MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT THE FEDERAL STANDARDS HAVE CHANGED AND MR. MELLON COULD NO LONGER AUDIT HIS OWN WORK. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT IT COSTS THE COUNTY ABOUT THE SAME AS 3 YEARS AGO TO HAVE THE AUDIT DONE. COUNCILMAN GREGORY ASKED MR. MALPHRUS TO PROVIDE HIM WITH THE ACTUAL COSTS FOR MR. MELLON AND MR. WHIDDON TO DO THE STATEMENTS AND AUDIT. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID THAT HE WOULD PUT THE APPROVAL OF THE AUDIT ON NEXT MONTH'S AGENDA. COUNCILMAN GREGORY MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN TYLER MOTIONED TO ACCEPT THE AUDIT FOR INFORMATION. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

**BETH MCNAIR – AHJ ANNUAL REPORT:**

MS. MCNAIR PRESENTED THE ANNUAL REPORT AND SAID THAT THE COUNTY'S APPROPRIATION WAS ENOUGH TO KEEP THE LIBRARY OPEN THROUGH JUNE, HOWEVER, THERE WAS NOT ENOUGH MONEY FROM THE

APPROPRIATION TO PURCHASE NEW BOOKS. MS. MCNAIR REPORTED THAT COMPUTER USE HAS INCREASED BY 45 % AND 24% MORE PEOPLE ARE USING THE LIBRARY AND OVER 1,000 CHILDREN ATTENDED STORY TELLING. MS. MCNAIR COMMENTED THAT THEY WERE VERY EXCITED ABOUT GETTING MORE ROOM AT THE PRATT LIBRARY WHEN THE MUSEUM AND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MOVE TO ANOTHER LOCATION. MS. MCNAIR DISCUSSED THE SPACE PROBLEM IN HARDEEVILLE LIBRARY AND SHE EXPRESSED THAT THEY ARE VERY HAPPY THAT PEOPLE ARE DISCUSSING DIFFERENT OPTIONS FOR THE HARDEEVILLE LIBRARY.

**DALE TERRY – AWARD PRESENTATION:**

MR. TERRY PRESENTED THE DHEC OUTSTANDING RECYCLING CENTER ATTENDANT AWARD TO MR. CLIFFORD BRANTLEY. MR. TERRY SAID THAT MR. BRANTLEY WAS ALSO HONORED IN COLUMBIA.

**LASHAWN MURRAY – REQUEST FOR LETTER OF SUPPORT:**

MS. MURRAY TOLD THE COUNCIL THAT THE NEW DESTINY CENTER WAS APPLYING FOR GRANTS AND FUNDING AND SHE REQUESTED A LETTER OF SUPPORT FROM THE COUNCIL. MS. MURRAY EXPLAINED THAT THE NEW DESTINY CENTER WOULD HOUSE 12 ADOLESCENT BOYS WHO HAVE EMOTIONAL AND BEHAVIORAL PROBLEMS. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED HOW LARGE AND HOW MANY BEDROOMS DID THE HOME HAVE AND MS. MURRAY SAID THE HOME WAS 5,000 SQ. FEET AND HAD 12 BEDROOMS AND IT WAS LOCATED IN TARBORO. COUNCILMAN GREGORY MOTIONED AND COUNCIL MAN TYLER SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE WRITING A LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE NEW DESTINY CENTER. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS AND ORDINANCES:**

**MARVIN JONES - 1<sup>ST</sup> READING OF THE ORDINANCE TO CORRECT SRIVENER'S ERRORS IN SECTION FOUR (4) OF ORDINANCE NUMBER 09-08:**

MR. JONES EXPLAINED THAT THIS ORDINANCE IS TO CORRECT AN ERROR IN ORDINANCE 09-08 RELATING TO THE FINE CHARGED. MR. JONES SAID THE FINE SHOULD BE \$500.00 AND THE ORDINANCE STATED THE FINE WAS \$50.00. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN TYLER SECONDED THE MOTION THAT THIS BE THE 1<sup>ST</sup> READING OF THE ORDINANCE TO CORRECT SRIVENER'S ERRORS IN SECTION FOUR (4) OF ORDINANCE NUMBER 09-08. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

**DAVID JIROUSEK – 1<sup>ST</sup> READING OF THE ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF JASPER COUNTY SO AS TO TRANSFER THAT PROPERTY CONSISTING OF APPROXIMATELY 1.94 ACRES BEARING**

**JASPER COUNTY TAX MAP NUMBER 080-00-03-159 AND GENERALLY LOCATED AT THE END OF PEARLSTINE ROAD FROM THE RURAL PRESERVATION ZONE TO THE GENERAL COMMERCIAL ZONE ON THE JASPER COUNTY OFFICIAL ZONING MAP:**

MR. JIROUSEK PROVIDED THE COUNCIL WITH A DESCRIPTION OF THE AREA AND AN AERIAL PHOTO SHOWING THE LOCATION OF THE PROPERTY. MR. JIROUSEK INFORMED THE COUNCIL THAT THE OWNER OF THE PROPERTY MADE THE REQUEST FOR THE ZONING CHANGE AND THE STAFF AND PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMEND APPROVAL. MR. JIROUSEK SAID NO RESIDENTIAL HOMES ARE ON THIS ROAD. VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SECONDED THE MOTION THAT THIS BE THE 1<sup>ST</sup> READING OF THE ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF JASPER COUNTY SO AS TO TRANSFER THAT PROPERTY CONSISTING OF APPROXIMATELY 1.94 ACRES BEARING JASPER COUNTY TAX MAP NUMBER 080-00-03-159 AND GENERALLY LOCATED AT THE END OF PEARLSTINE ROAD FROM THE RURAL PRESERVATION ZONE TO THE GENERAL COMMERCIAL ZONE ON THE JASPER COUNTY OFFICIAL ZONING MAP. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

**DAVID JIROUSEK – 1<sup>ST</sup> READING OF THE ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE JASPER COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCE, AS AMENDED, SO AS TO ESTABLISH CRITERIA FOR THE PERMITTING, CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF ALL EXCAVATION ACTIVITIES WITHIN JASPER COUNTY; TO AMEND ARTICLE 3 OF THE JASPER COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCE, AS AMENDED, SO AS TO ADD SECTION 3:6.1.2A TITLED “EXCAVATION PERMIT”; TO AMEND ARTICLE 4 OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF JASPER COUNTY AS AMENDED, TO ADD A DEFINITION FOR “EXCAVATION PLAN”; TO AMEND THE DEFINITION OF “EXCAVATION, EXCAVATION ACTIVITIES, AND EXCAVATION OPERATIONS” FOUND IN ARTICLE 4 OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF JASPER COUNTY, AS AMENDED; TO AMEND ARTICLE 5 OF THE JASPER COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCE, AS AMENDED, SO AS TO ADD “RE RESOURCE EXTRACTION” TO SECTION 5.1; TO AMEND ARTICLE 5 OF THE JASPER COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCE, AS AMENDED, SO AS TO ADD THE INTENT OF “RE RESOURCE EXTRACTION” TO SECTION 5.3; TO AMEND TABLE 1 OF SECTION 6:1 OF ZONING ORDINANCE OF JASPER COUNTY, AS AMENDED, TO REPLACE CERTAIN ENTRIES IN SECTOR 21 AND TO AMEND ZONE RC TO CHANGE “C” TO “N”, TO AMEND ZONE RP TO CHANGE “C TO N”; TO AMEND SECTION 6:2 OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF JASPER COUNTY, AS AMENDED, TO CHANGE THE TABLE ENTRY FOR “MINING” TO “MINING OR EXCAVATION”; TO AMEND THE JASPER COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCE, AS AMENDED, SO AS TO ESTABLISH THE RURAL RESOURCE DISTRICT (RE) AND TO ADD “RE” USE**

**REQUIREMENTS TO SECTION 6.1; TO MAKE CERTAIN AMENDMENTS TO SECTION 6:2.14 OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF JASPER COUNTY, AS AMENDED; TO AMEND ARTICLE 7 OF THE JASPER COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCE, AS AMENDED, SO AS TO ADD “RE” SETBACK AND AREA REQUIREMENTS TO SECTION 7.3, TABLE 1; TO AMEND ARTICLE 2 OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF JASPER COUNTY, AS AMENDED, SO AS TO ADD SECTION 11:7 TITLED “EXCAVATION, EXCAVATION ACTIVITIES AND EXCAVATION OPERATIONS” TO INCLUDE SECTION 11:7.1, 11:7.2, 11:7.3, 11:7.4, 11:7.5, 11:7.6 AND 11:7.7; TO AMEND ARTICLE 12 OF THE JASPER COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCE, AS AMENDED, SO AS TO ADD “RE” USE AND PARKING REQUIREMENTS TO SECTION 12:1, TABLE 12:1; TO AMEND TABLE 4 OF SECTION 12:8.2-3 OF THE JASPER COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCE, AS AMENDED, TO ADD “EXCAVATION ACTIVITIES” AS A PROPOSED USE AND ADD CERTAIN BUFFER REQUIREMENTS; TO AMEND SECTION 12:8.2-4 OF THE JASPER COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCE, AS AMENDED, TO ADD BUFFERYARD 7A AND 7B TO THE BUFFERYARD ILLUSTRATION TABLE; AND TO REPEAL ARTICLE 14 OF THE JASPER COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCE, AS AMENDED:**

MR JIROUSEK OUTLINED THE ORDINANCE AND THE REASON FOR THE CHANGES. COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID HE WOULD LIKE MORE TIME TO STUDY THE ORDINANCE. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID HE HAD A LOT OF QUESTIONS AND FELT A WORKSHOP WAS NEEDED. COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN TYLER SECONDED THE MOTION TO DELAY ACTION ON THIS ORDINANCE UNTIL THE COUNCIL HAD A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE ORDINANCE. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR AND COUNCILMEN ETHERIDGE, TYLER AND GREGORY VOTING FOR. CHAIRMAN HOOD VOTED AGAINST STATING HE UNDERSTOOD THE ORDINANCE.

**WENDY KELLY – 1<sup>ST</sup> READING OF THE ORDINANCE REGARDING THE OKATIE CROSSINGS MULTI-COUNTY INDUSTRIAL PARK AGREEMENT:**

MS. KELLY REVIEWED THE ORDINANCE FOR THE COUNCIL AND SHE DESCRIBED THE REASONS FOR CREATING A MULTI-COUNTY INDUSTRIAL PARK. MS. KELLY SAID THAT HAMPTON COUNTY AND BEAUFORT COUNTY WOULD ALSO HAVE TO PASS AN ORDINANCE TO ENTER INTO THIS AGREEMENT. MS. KELLY EXPLAINED THE BENEFITS OF A MULTI-COUNTY PARK AND THE FILOT AGREEMENT AND HOW THE FUNDS FROM THE FILOT WOULD BE SPLIT. MS. KELLY TOLD THE COUNCIL THAT 98% OF THE FUNDS WOULD GO TO JASPER COUNTY, 1% OF THE FUNDS WOULD GO TO HAMPTON COUNTY, AND 1% WOULD GO TO BEAUFORT COUNTY. MS. KELLY CONTINUED THAT THE 98% THAT CAME TO JASPER COUNTY WOULD BE SPLIT WITH HARDEEVILLE. JASPER COUNTY WOULD RECEIVE 1/3 OF THE 98% OF THE FUNDS AND HARDEEVILLE WILL RECEIVE 2/3 OF THE 98% OF THE FUNDS, BUT 1/3 OF

HARDEEVILLE'S SHARE WOULD GO INTO INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT. MS. KELLY SAID THE 1/3 ALLOCATION OF THE 98% THAT JASPER COUNTY RECEIVES WOULD BE DISTRIBUTED WITH 42% GOING TO THE JASPER COUNTY'S GENERAL FUND, 42% GOING TO THE SCHOOL DISTRICT AND 16 % GOING TO THE LOW COUNTRY ECONOMIC ALLIANCE. OR ANY SUCCESSOR OF THAT ORGANIZATION. VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SECONDED THE MOTION THAT THIS BE THE 1<sup>ST</sup> READING OF THE ORDINANCE REGARDING THE OKATIE CROSSINGS MULTI-COUNTY INDUSTRIAL PARK AGREEMENT. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

#### **RESOLUTIONS:**

#### **RESOLUTION TO APPROVE HAMPTON COUNTY BECOMING A MEMBER OF THE LOWCOUNTRY ECONOMIC ALLIANCE AND RELATED CHANGES TO THE BYLAWS:**

MS. KELLY INFORMED THE COUNCIL THAT HAMPTON COUNTY OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN ATTENDING THE MEETINGS OF THE LOW COUNTRY ALLIANCE AND THEY HAVE EXPRESSED AN INTEREST IN JOINING. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED IF THERE WERE MEMBERSHIP FEES AND MR. FULGHUM RESPONDED THAT THERE ARE NO SET FEES, HOWEVER, JASPER COUNTY DID PAY \$20,000.00 AND BEAUFORT COUNTY FUNDS IT THROUGH THEIR NETWORK AND THEY CONTRIBUTE ABOUT \$250,000.00. MR. FULGHUM SAID THEY HAVE BEEN WORKING ON GETTING THE ALLIANCE TOGETHER FOR ABOUT A YEAR AND SOME COUNTIES CANNOT AFFORD TO FUND THE ALLIANCE. MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT HAMPTON COUNTY WOULD NOT BE REQUIRED TO PAY A CERTAIN AMOUNT TO JOIN. VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN TYLER SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION TO APPROVE HAMPTON COUNTY BECOMING A MEMBER OF THE LOWCOUNTRY ECONOMIC ALLIANCE AND RELATED CHANGES TO THE BYLAWS. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **WENDY KELLY - FARMERS' MARKET PROPERTY MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT WITH THE JASPER COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE:**

MS. KELLY DISCUSSED THE CURRENT AGREEMENT, THE FEES, AND THE PROPOSED CHANGES. MS. KELLY SAID THE JASPER COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WOULD MANAGE THE FARMERS' MARKET WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE FARMERS' ACTIVITIES AT THE MARKET WHICH IS MANAGED BY CLEMSON EXTENSION. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED HOW THE FEES WERE ESTABLISHED AND MS. MALPHRUS EXPLAINED THAT THE COUNCIL HAD SET THE FEES, BUT THE CHAMBER WAS SUGGESTING A FLAT FEE OF \$250.00 TO RENT THE ENTIRE FARMERS' MARKET AREA AND THEY WOULD ALSO COLLECT A \$100.00 DAMAGE DEPOSIT. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED WHO WOULD MAINTAIN THE



MARKET AND MS. MALPHRUS SAID THE CHAMBER WOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE HOUSEKEEPING, BUT IF THERE WAS ANY DAMAGE, THE SECURITY DEPOSIT WOULD BE GIVEN TO THE COUNTY FOR THE REPAIRS. MS. MALPHRUS SAID THE COUNTY WOULD PAY FOR THE REPAIRS. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE COMMENTED THAT THE COUNTY WAS GOING TO PAY THE CHAMBER \$70,000.00 TO MANAGE AND PROMOTE THE MARKET AND HE ASKED WHO WOULD GET THE RENTAL FEES. MS. MALPHRUS SAID THAT THE CHAMBER WOULD GET THE RENTAL FEES. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED WHO WOULD PAY THE UTILITIES. MS. MALPHRUS SAID THE COUNTY WOULD PAY THE UTILITIES. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID HE FELT THE RENTAL FEES SHOULD GO TO THE COUNTY TO HELP PAY FOR THE UTILITIES. MS. MALPHRUS SAID THE \$70,000.00 WAS FOR THE CHAMBER HOSTING FOR EVENTS AND TO PROMOTE THE FARMERS' MARKET REGIONALLY. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED ABOUT INSURANCE. MS. MALPHRUS SAID EACH EVENT WOULD BE REQUIRED TO HAVE EVENT INSURANCE. MS. MALPHRUS SAID THE CHAMBER WAS PLANNING ON A FREEDOM FEST IN JUNE, BLUEGRASS AND BARBEQUE IN SEPTEMBER, JOURNEY TO THE MANGER IN DECEMBER, AND POSSIBLY A PASSION PLAY IN MARCH. MS. MALPHRUS SAID THEY WERE CONSIDERING HAVING SOME OF THE EVENTS LAST 3 DAYS. COUNCILMAN GREGORY QUESTIONED THE SECTION DEALING WITH NON-FIT ORGANIZATIONS AND MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT PREVIOUSLY ONLY CHURCHES AND YOUTH GROUPS DID NOT HAVE TO PAY A RENTAL FEE, BUT IN THE NEW FEE SCHEDULE, ANY NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION WOULD NOT HAVE TO PAY A RENTAL FEE. VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR MOTIONED AND CHAIRMAN HOOD SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE FARMERS' MARKET MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT. THE MOTION FAILED. COUNCILMEN TYLER, ETHERIDGE, AND GREGORY VOTED AGAINST. CHAIRMAN HOOD AND VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR VOTED IN FAVOR. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID THE COUNCIL WILL REVISIT THIS AGREEMENT AT A FUTURE MEETING.

**CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDATION FROM THE ROOM NAMING COMMITTEE:**

MS. J. WINIFRED BADGER PRESENTED THE RECOMMENDATION TO THE COUNCIL. MS. BADGER SAID THE COMMITTEE MET WITH 5 OF THE 7 MEMBERS PRESENT AND THEY ALL VOTED IN FAVOR TO NAME THE HR SUITE OF OFFICES IN MEMORY OF EDITH ELONIA DRAYTON. MS. BADGER TOLD THE COUNCIL THAT ONE OF THE MEMBERS WHO COULD NOT ATTEND CALLED AND SHE ALSO VOTED IN FAVOR OF NAMING THE HR SUITE OF OFFICES THE EDITH ELONIA DRAYTON HR DEPARTMENT. MS. BADGER REQUESTED THAT THE SIGNAGE BE INSTALLED AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE HR DEPARTMENT IN THE MAIN HALLWAY AND THAT THE SIGN AT THE ENTRANCE OF THE BUILDING BE CHANGED FROM HUMAN RESOURCES TO THE EDITH ELONIA DRAYTON HUMAN RESOURCE DEPARTMENT. COUNCILMAN GREGORY MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN

TYLER SECONDED THE MOTION TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ROOM NAMING COMMITTEE AND TO NAME THE HR SUITE OF OFFICES THE EDITH ELONIA DRAYTON HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT AND SIGNAGE BE INSTALLED AS REQUESTED. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**WENDY KELLY – UNITED WAY LEASE – CONSIDERATION OF ADDITIONAL USE OF THE SPACE BY THE TECHNICAL COLLEGE OF THE LOWCOUNTRY SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE:**

MS. KELLY EXPLAINED THAT THERE WAS EXTRA SPACE IN THE BUILDING THAT THE UNITED WAY HAS LEASED FROM THE COUNTY AND IN ORDER FOR THE UNITED WAY TO PERMIT TCL TO USE THE SPACE FOR A SMALL BUSINESS INITIATIVE, THEY NEEDED TO HAVE APPROVAL FROM COUNTY COUNCIL. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN GREGORY SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE CHANGES TO THE UNITED WAY LEASE TO ALLOW THE TECHNICAL COLLEGE OF THE LOWCOUNTRY SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE TO USE THE ADDITIONAL SPACE. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

**RONNIE MALPHRUS – APPROVAL OF BIDS FOR THE SIDEWALK AT ROBERTVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER:**

MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT HE RECEIVED 14 BIDS FOR THE SIDEWALK PROJECT AT THE ROBERTVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER. MR. MALPHRUS ASKED THE COUNCIL TO APPROVE THE BID OF C.E. LOWTHER, A LOCAL VENDOR. MR. MALPHRUS EXPLAINED THAT THE COUNTY'S PROCUREMENT POLICY ALLOWS FOR A LOCAL VENDOR TO BE APPROVED IF THEY FALL WITHIN A CERTAIN RANGE AND SINCE THE BIDS WERE ONLY ABOUT \$300.00 APART, THE CRITERIA WAS MET. VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR ASKED IF THE LOCAL VENDOR WAS ASKED TO MEET THE LOW BID AND MR. MALPHRUS SAID HE DID NOT MAKE THE REQUEST. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THE COUNCIL DISCUSSED CHANGING THE PROCUREMENT POLICY AND HE WOULD CHECK WITH THE ATTORNEY TO SEE IF HE COULD DO THIS. COUNCILMAN GREGORY AGREED WITH VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR THAT THE LOCAL BIDDER SHOULD BE ASKED TO MEET THE LOW BID. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID THE COUNCIL NEEDED TO REVISIT AND MAKE CHANGES TO THE PROCUREMENT POLICY. VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE BID OF \$14,780.00 FROM C. E. LOWTHER FOR THE SIDEWALK AT THE ROBERTVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER, BUT IN THE PROCUREMENT POLICY IS TO BE CHANGED TO STATE THE LOCAL VENDOR WITH THE LOWEST BID WILL BE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET THE OVERALL LOWEST BID. THE COST OF THE SIDEWALK IS TO BE PAID FOR WITH GRANT MONEY. THE MOTION



CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR. THE MOTION WAS CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

**ANDREW FULGHUM – APPROVAL OF CONTRACT WITH WATSON TATE SAVORY FOR A NEW DESIGN OF THE PERRY HOUSE PARKING LOT:**

MR. FULGHUM PRESENTED A CONTRACT FROM WATSON TATE SAVORY FOR A NEW DESIGN FOR THE PERRY HOUSE PARKING LOT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$16,252.00 PLUS ANY REIMBURSABLE CHARGES AND THE CONTRACT WOULD BE PAID FOR WITH TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE FUNDS. COUNCILMAN GREGORY MOTIONED AND VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONTRACT WITH WATSON TATE SAVORY FOR A NEW DESIGN OF THE PERRY HOUSE PARKING LOT WITH PAYMENT COMING FROM THE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE FUNDING. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

**WENDY KELLY – INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF HARDEEVILLE AND THE TOWN OF RIDGELAND FOR PERMITTING AND INSPECTIONS:**

MS. KELLY UPDATED THE COUNCIL ON NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE TWO MUNICIPALITIES REGARDING THE COUNTY PROVIDING PERMITTING AND INSPECTION SERVICES FOR A FEE. MS. KELLY SAID THAT HARDEEVILLE IS CLOSER TO MAKING A DECISION AND A SPECIAL MEETING MAY NEED TO BE CALLED PRIOR TO APRIL 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2009. MS. KELLY SAID IF THE NUMBERS REMAIN THE SAME AS 2008, NO ADDITIONAL STAFF WOULD BE NEEDED. MS. KELLY ALSO INFORMED THE COUNCIL THAT SHE WAS WORKING ON A FEE SCHEDULE.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

COUNCILMAN GREGORY COMMENTED THAT AT THE COUNCIL RETREAT, THE COUNCIL DISCUSSED SINGLE MEMBER DISTRICTS AND HE WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE COUNCIL TAKE ACTION TO MOVE THIS FORWARD. CHAIRMAN HOOD ASKED THE ATTORNEY TO INVESTIGATE THIS TOPIC AND REPORT BACK TO COUNCIL. COUNCILMAN GREGORY SAID THAT THE COUNTY COUNCIL NEEDS TO TAKE THE FIRST MOVE AND IT CANNOT MOVE FORWARD WITHOUT THE COUNCIL VOTING ON IT. CHAIRMAN HOOD ASKED THE ATTORNEY TO PREPARE A RESOLUTION OR ORDINANCE FOR THIS MATTER.

VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID HE HAS RECEIVED SEVERAL CALLS REGARDING NOISE IN LEVY AND CHURCH ROAD IN HARDEEVILLE. VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR REFERRED THE INDIVIDUALS TO THE SHERIFF AND EXPLAINED TO THE CITIZENS THAT THE COUNCIL DOES NOT CONTROL THE SHERIFF. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID HE ALSO RECEIVED THE PHONE CALLS AND HE SPOKE TO SHERIFF JENKINS. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE REPORTED THAT SHERIFF JENKINS SAID HE WOULD HAVE SOMEONE THERE ON SATURDAY WITH A NOISE METER.

COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID THAT HE WANTED THE PLANNING COMMISSION TO KNOW HE WAS NOT WORKING AGAINST THEM AND HE KNEW HOW HARD THEY WORKED FOR THE COUNTY.

CHAIRMAN HOOD ANNOUNCED THE DATES AND TIMES OF THE BUDGET WORKSHOPS.

COUNCILMAN GREGORY ASKED THE ATTORNEY IF AN ITEM CAN BE ADDED TO THE AGENDA IF THREE MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL VOTE TO HAVE THE ITEM ON THE AGENDA, AFTER THE AGENDA HAS BEEN SENT OUT. MR. JONES SAID THAT WAS CORRECT SO LONG AS THE COUNCIL DID NOT HAVE TO VOTE ON THE ITEM.

**ADMINISTRATORS' REPORTS:**

MR. FULGHUM THANKED THE COUNCIL MEMBERS FOR AGREEING TO ACCOMPANY HIM TO COLUMBIA ON TUESDAY TO FIGHT FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUNDS.

MR FULGHUM REPORTED THAT HE AND MR. GRANT HELD A MEETING WITH THE LOCAL ENTITIES REGARDING THE STIMULUS MONEY.

MR. FULGHUM INFORMED THE COUNCIL OF TWO GRANTS THE COUNTY RECEIVED. THE COUNTY RECEIVED A GRANT OF \$70,981.00 FROM THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT AND A \$2,000.00 GRANT FROM WARD EDWARDS. THE WARD EDWARDS GRANT WOULD BE USED FOR ITEMS FOR THE KITCHEN AT THE FARMERS' MARKET.

MR. FULGHUM TOLD THE COUNCIL THAT THE NIMMER FAMILY WAS DONATING SOD THAT WOULD BE PLACED IN FRONT OF THE FARMERS' MARKET. MR. FULGHUM ASKED FOR PERMISSION TO ACCEPT THE SOD AND TO PROPERLY THANK THE NIMMER FAMILY.

**OPEN FLOOR TO THE PUBLIC (THREE MINUTE TIME LIMIT PER INDIVIDUAL):**

CHAIRMAN HOOD OPENED THE FLOOR TO THE PUBLIC.

GLADYS WILLIAMS REPRESENTING THE RIVERSHILL COMMUNITY EXPRESSED THE CONCERNS OF THE COMMUNITY. MS. WILLIAMS DISCUSSED A NUMBER OF BURGLARIES AND THAT WHEN THE SHERIFF ATTENDED THEIR COMMUNITY MEETING, HE TOLD THE PEOPLE HE WAS DOING THE BEST HE CAN, BUT THAT HE NEEDED MORE STAFF TO PATROL ALL THE AREAS. MS. WILLIAMS SAID THAT IT HAS TAKEN EMS UP TO ONE HOUR AND 15 MINUTES TO RESPOND TO A CALL IN THEIR AREA. MS. WILLIAMS DISCUSSED THE NEED FOR THE DITCHES TO BE CLEANED AND THE LACK OF LIGHTING IN THE RIVERSHILL COMMUNITY. MS. WILLIAMS TOLD THE COUNCIL THAT MONEY IS BEING SPENT IN THE COUNTY AND MONEY NEEDS TO BE SPENT IN THE RURAL AREAS, TOO. MS. WILLIAMS ASKED THE COUNCIL TO HELP GET THEIR COMMUNITY BACK IN GOOD ORDER.

RAYMOND MORAN DISCUSSED THE CRIME IN THE RIVERSHILL AREA AND ALSO THE NEED FOR A COMMUNITY CENTER WITH ACTIVITIES FOR THE YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE AREA. MR. MORAN SAID THAT IN ONE DAY 3 OR 4

HOUSES WERE ROBBED. MS. WILLIAMS ASKED IF THE GRAYS FIRE DEPARTMENT HAD 24/7 COVERAGE. CHAIRMAN HOOD ASKED MS. WILLIAMS IF THEY HAVE CONTACTED THE ADMINISTRATOR AND THE DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR OF ENGINEERING SERVICES. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID THE COUNCIL COULD ALSO HOLD A COMMUNITY MEETING TO ADDRESS THE ISSUES MS. WILLIAMS PRESENTED. MS. WILLIAMS INVITED THE COUNCIL MEMBERS TO ATTEND THEIR COMMUNITY MEETING ON MARCH 19, 2009 AT 7:00 P.M. AT THE RIVERSHILL COMMUNITY CENTER. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED IF THEY SPOKE WITH THE SHERIFF AND MS. WILLIAMS SAID SHERIFF JENKINS ATTENDED A MEETING AND HE SAID HIS STAFF CAN ONLY DO SO MUCH.

CARRIE FAIR SAID THAT PINELAND AND ROBERTVILLE HAVE THE SAME ISSUES AS RIVERSHILL. MS. FAIR SAID THAT THE ISSUE IS THAT THE SHERIFF DOES NOT HAVE ENOUGH STAFF AND THIS COUNTY NEEDS OFFICERS TO PATROL THE RURAL AREAS AND MAYBE SOME OF THE STIMULUS MONEY CAN BE FUNNELED INTO MORE EMPLOYEES TO PATROL THE RURAL AREAS OF THE COUNTY. MS. FAIR SAID THE SHERIFF KEEPS TELLING THE CITIZENS THAT HE NEEDS MORE PEOPLE.

BEING NO FURTHER COMMENTS, CHAIRMAN HOOD CLOSED THE FLOOR TO THE PUBLIC.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

**EMPLOYMENT MATTERS:**

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

**RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION:**

VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN TYLER SECONDED THE MOTION TO RETURN TO OPEN SESSION. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN TYLER SECONDED THE MOTION TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE ADMINISTRATOR TO USE THE EXISTING FUNDING THAT WAS BUDGETED TO HIRE AN *IT* DIRECTOR TO HIRE CONTRACTED *IT* SERVICES AND TO RE-EVALUATE THE SALARY OF THE CURRENT *IT* PERSON. THE MOTION WAS CARRIED WITH CHAIRMAN HOOD, VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR, COUNCILMAN TYLER AND COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE VOTING IN FAVOR. COUNCILMAN GREGORY VOTED AGAINST.

COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID THE COUNCIL NEEDED TO HAVE A SPECIAL MEETING TO DISCUSS THE EXCAVATION AND RESOURCE EXTRACTION ORDINANCE. VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID THAT A MEMBER OF THE PREVAILING SIDE WOULD HAVE TO BRING IT BACK UP

AT THE NEXT MEETING. MR. JONES SAID THAT IF ONE THING IS CHANGED IN THE ORDINANCE IT WOULD BE LIKE A NEW MOTION.

THE COUNCIL AGREED TO HOLD A COUNCIL WORKSHOP TO DISCUSS THE EXCAVATION AND RESOURCE EXTRACTION ORDINANCE ON MARCH 26, 2009 AT 2:30 P.M.

**ADJOURN:**

COUNCILMAN GREGORY MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN TYLER SECONDED THE MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. THE MOTION WAS CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

THE MEETING ENDED AT 9:30 P.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY:

APPROVED BY:

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JUDITH M. FRANK, CCC  
CLERK TO COUNCIL

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DR. GEORGE M. HOOD  
CHAIRMAN