



**JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
358 THIRD AVE., RIDGELAND, SC 29936
TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2012, 4:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

OFFICIALS PRESENT: CHAIRMAN LEROY BLACKSHEAR, VICE CHAIRMAN SAMUEL GREGORY, COUNCILMAN HENRY ETHERIDGE, COUNCILMAN THEODUS L. DRAYTON, COUNCILMAN L. MARTIN SAULS IV.

STAFF PRESENT: ADMINISTRATOR ANDREW FULGHUM, DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR GEORGE HOOD, DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES RONNIE MALPHRUS, DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES WILBUR DALEY, DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING SERVICES DALE TERRY, ATTORNEY MARVIN JONES, CLERK TO COUNCIL JUDITH FRANK, CHIEF BUILDING INSPECTOR HERMAN SMITH, PLANNING AND ZONING COORDINATOR LISA LAMB

STAFF ABSENT: DIRECTOR DAVID JIROUSEK

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.

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE- CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR LED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

INVOCATION – COUNCILMAN SAULS GAVE THE INVOCATION.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA - COUNCILMAN SAULS MOTIONED AND VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR AMENDED THE AGENDA TO INCLUDE DISCUSSION REGARDING EMPLOYMENT, APPOINTMENT, COMPENSATION, PROMOTION, DEMOTION, DISCIPLINE, OR RELEASE OF AN EMPLOYEE, A STUDENT, OR A PERSON REGULATED BY A PUBLIC BODY OR THE APPOINTMENT OF A PERSON TO A PUBLIC BODY; HOWEVER, IF AN ADVERSARY HEARING INVOLVING AN EMPLOYEE OR CLIENT IS HELD, THE EMPLOYEE OR CLIENT

HAS THE RIGHT TO DEMAND THAT THE HEARING BE CONDUCTED PUBLICLY
NOTHING CONTAINED IN THIS ITEM SHALL PREVENT THE PUBLIC BODY, IN
ITS DISCRETION, FROM DELETING THE NAMES OF OTHER EMPLOYEES OR
CLIENTS WHOSE RECORDS ARE SUBMITTED FOR USE AT THE HEARING -
PLANNING AND ZONING DEPT. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS
PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES - COUNCILMAN SAULS MOTIONED AND VICE
CHAIRMAN GREGORY SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES
OF THE 12/05/11 COUNCIL MEETING, THE 11/30/2011 SPECIAL CALLED
MEETING, THE 12/14/11 SPECIAL CALLED MEETING, THE 11/28/2011
ENGINEERING SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING, AND THE 12/02/11
EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING . THE MOTION WAS CARRIED
WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

ANDREW FULGHUM – ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN – MR. FULGHUM ASKED
FOR NOMINATIONS FOR CHAIRMAN. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON NOMINATED
COUNCILMAN LEROY BLACKSHEAR; COUNCILMAN SAULS NOMINATED
COUNCILMAN GREGORY. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE MOTIONED AND
COUNCILMAN SAULS SECONDED THE MOTION TO CLOSE THE
NOMINATIONS. THE MOTION CARRIED BY ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING
IN FAVOR.

MR. FULGHUM CALLED FOR THE VOTE FOR COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR TO
BE CHAIRMAN. COUNCILMEN DRAYTON AND BLACKSHEAR VOTED FOR;
COUNCILMEN ETHERIDGE, GREGORY AND SAULS VOTED AGAINST.

MR. FULGHUM CALLED FOR THE VOTE FOR COUNCILMAN GREGORY TO BE
CHAIRMAN. COUNCILMEN DRAYTON AND BLACKSHEAR VOTED AGAINST;
COUNCILMEN ETHERIDGE, GREGORY AND SAULS VOTED FOR.
COUNCILMAN GREGORY WAS ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL.

COUNCIL CHAIRMAN- ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

CHAIRMAN GREGORY CALLED FOR NOMINATIONS FOR VICE CHAIRMAN.
COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE NOMINATED COUNCILMAN SAULS FOR VICE
CHAIRMAN. THERE WERE NO OTHER NOMINATIONS. CHAIRMAN GREGORY
CALLED FOR THE VOTE FOR COUNCILMAN SAULS TO BE VICE CHAIRMAN.
COUNCILMEN DRAYTON AND BLACKSHEAR VOTED AGAINST; CHAIRMAN
GREGORY AND COUNCILMEN ETHERIDGE AND SAULS VOTED FOR.
COUNCILMAN SAULS WAS ELECTED VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL.

THE COUNCIL TOOK A TWO MINUTE BREAK.

PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS -TED MOYD JASPER COUNTY

NEIGHBORS UNITED – MR. MOYD EXPLAINED THAT HE IS THE EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR OF JCNU AND THEY ARE THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING AGENCY IN
THE COUNTY. MR. MOYD SAID IN 2009 JCNU PURCHASED MERCY CIRCLE
CONSISTING OF 42 APARTMENTS FOR \$1,200,000. MR. MOYD TOLD THE

COUNCIL THAT PHASE I (EXTERIOR REPAIRS AND UPGRADES) IS COMPLETE AND THEY PLAN TO START PHASE II (INTERIOR REPAIRS AND UPGRADES) IN MARCH. MR. MOYD EXPLAINED THAT THEY RECEIVED A GRANT FOR \$265,000 AND IT WAS USED TO RENOVATE 13 HOMES AND EMERGENCY REPAIRS WERE DONE ON 8 HOMES. MR. MOYD SAID THEY WERE WORKING WITH BEAUFORT COUNTY ON OSPREY VILLAGE, A HOUSING DEVELOPMENT FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE MENTALLY AND PHYSICALLY DISABLED. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON ASKED IF JASPER COUNTY CITIZENS CAN LIVE IN OSPREY VILLAGE. MR. MOYD SAID THEY CAN AND HE WAS WORKING ON DEVELOPING THE SAME TYPE OF HOUSING IN JASPER COUNTY. MR. MOYD TOLD THE COUNCIL THAT HE IS WORKING WITH NPR AND THEY PLAN TO BUILD 25 TAX CREDIT FACILITIES (LIKE HERON'S CROSSING) OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS. CHAIRMAN GREGORY ASKED IF MR. MOYD WAS LOOKING FOR A SITE FOR A FACILITY LIKE OSPREY VILLAGE IN JASPER COUNTY. MR. MOYD SAID HE WAS CURRENTLY WORKING WITH BEAUFORT COUNTY AND LEARNING FROM THEM. MR. MOYD SAID THAT NO JASPER COUNTY FUNDS WOULD BE GOING INTO OSPREY VILLAGE. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED WHERE MR. MOYD RECEIVED FUNDING FOR HIS PROJECTS. MR. MOYD RESPONDED THAT HE GETS LOCAL, STATE AND FEDERAL FUNDS, PLUS DEVELOPMENT FEES. MR. MOYD SAID THAT JCNU WOULD LIKE TO OFFICIALLY BECOME THE HOUSING AUTHORITY FOR JASPER COUNTY. MR. MOYD SAID CURRENTLY JASPER COUNTY CITIZENS HAVE TO GO TO BARNWELL. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON SAID HE FELT HAVING A HOUSING AUTHORITY IN JASPER COUNTY WOULD BE A GOOD THING AND ASKED HOW TO SET ONE UP. MR. MOYD SAID THEY HAVE TO GO THROUGH THE LEGISLATURE AND CURRENTLY IT IS SET UP THAT 5-6 COUNTIES GET TOGETHER IN BARNWELL.

ORDINANCES

MARVIN JONES – 3RD READING OF THE ORDINANCE TO ORDERING A REFERENDUM REGARDING A CHANGE IN THE METHOD OF ELECTION OF COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBERS FROM THE EXISTING AT-LARGE METHOD TO SINGLE-MEMBER DISTRICTS METHOD; FORMULATING THE REFERENDUM QUESTIONS THAT ARE TO APPEAR ON THE BALLOT IN SUCH REFERENDUM; TO PROVIDE FOR OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO; AND TO REPEAL JASPER COUNTY ORDINANCES 09-18 AND 09-32 – MR. JONES SAID THAT THERE HAVE BEEN TWO HEARINGS AND A PUBLIC HEARING FOR THIS ORDINANCE AND HE REQUESTED THE THIRD READING APPROVING THE ORDINANCE. VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR SECONDED THE MOTION THAT THIS BE THE 3RD READING OF THE ORDINANCE TO ORDERING A REFERENDUM REGARDING A CHANGE IN THE METHOD OF ELECTION OF COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBERS FROM THE EXISTING AT-LARGE METHOD TO SINGLE-MEMBER DISTRICTS METHOD; FORMULATING THE REFERENDUM QUESTIONS THAT ARE TO APPEAR ON THE BALLOT IN SUCH REFERENDUM; TO PROVIDE FOR OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO; AND TO REPEAL JASPER COUNTY ORDINANCES 09-18 AND 09-32. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

MARVIN JONES – 3RD 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 048-00-01-033 AND GENERALLY LOCATED ON CYPRESS RIDGE DRIVE SOUTH FROM THE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ZONE TO THE MIXED BUSINESS ZONE ON THE JASPER COUNTY OFFICIAL ZONING MAP – MR. JONES EXPLAINED THAT THE OWNER OF THE PROPERTY, MR. ROBERTS, REQUESTED THE ZONING CHANGE SO THAT SMALL ENGINE REPAIR AND SALES BE ALLOWED. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE MOTIONED AND VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS SECONDED THE MOTION THAT THIS BE THE 3RD 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 048-00-01-033 AND GENERALLY LOCATED ON CYPRESS RIDGE DRIVE SOUTH FROM THE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ZONE TO THE MIXED BUSINESS ZONE ON THE JASPER COUNTY OFFICIAL ZONING MAP. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

MARVIN JONES - 1ST READING OF THE ORDINANCE REGARDING A ZONING TEXT AMENDMENT- EXAM PREPARATION AND TUTORING (BY TITLE ONLY) – MR. JONES SAID THIS REQUEST WAS MADE BECAUSE TUTORING IS CURRENTLY NOT ALLOWED IN THE RESIDENTIAL ZONE AND THE PLANNING COMMISSION FELT IT SHOULD BE ALLOWED. MR. JONES SAID AN ORDINANCE IS BEING PREPARED AND THE 1ST READING WOULD BE BY TITLE ONLY. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID THE GROUP MAKING THE REQUEST WOULD LIKE IT TO GO INTO EFFECT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON ASKED WHO WAS THE GROUP AND MR. JONES RESPONDED IT WAS A CHURCH. COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SECONDED THE MOTION THAT THIS BE THE 1ST READING OF THE ORDINANCE REGARDING A ZONING TEXT AMENDMENT- EXAM PREPARATION AND TUTORING (BY TITLE ONLY). THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

MARVIN JONES - 1ST READING OF THE ORDINANCE REGARDING A ZONING TEXT AMENDMENT- RECREATIONAL VEHICLES – MR. JONES SAID THIS ORDINANCE WOULD NOT TAKE AFFECT FOR ONE YEAR AND IT ALLOWS NO MORE THAN THREE RECREATIONAL VEHICLES BE STORED UNLESS THEY ARE IN AN APPROVED RECREATIONAL PARK. MR. SAULS ASKED FOR A DEFINITION OF RECREATIONAL VEHICLE. MR. JONES READ THE DEFINITION FROM THE ORDINANCE. VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SECONDED THE MOTION THAT THIS BE THE 1ST READING OF THE ORDINANCE REGARDING A ZONING TEXT AMENDMENT- RECREATIONAL VEHICLES. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

MARVIN JONES - 1ST READING OF THE ORDINANCE REGARDING A LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS TEXT AMENDMENT- MINOR SUBDIVISIONS AND ACCESS EASEMENTS- MR. JONES REQUESTED THAT

THIS ORDINANCE BE CARRIED OVER UNTIL THE NEXT MEETING. VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SECONDED THE MOTION THAT THIS ORDINANCE BE CARRIED OVER TO THE NEXT MEETING. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

RESOLUTIONS – NONE

OLD BUSINESS – NONE

NEW BUSINESS

WILBUR DALEY – REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE 2 FIRE TRUCKS – MR. DALEY SAID HE KNOWS THAT FUNDING IS AN ISSUE; HOWEVER, HE HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO PURCHASE TWO 1991 USED FIRE TRUCKS THAT MATCH WHAT THEY CURRENTLY HAVE. MR. DALEY SAID 1 TRUCK WOULD GO TO THE FIRE TOWER ROAD STATION AND ONE IN THE NORTH END OF THE COUNTY. MR. DALEY SAID THAT THEY HAVE A GRANT, BUT HE HAS NOT RECEIVED CONFIRMATION IN WRITING YET AND THE OTHER MONEY COULD COME FROM THE MONEY REMAINING IN THE BUDGET FOR A DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR POSITION TOWARD THE \$120,000. MR. DALEY SAID THE TRUCKS ARE IN PRISTINE CONDITION AND THEY ARE COMING FROM SUMTER COUNTY. MR. DALEY SAID THEY COULD PURCHASE THE FIRE TRUCKS WITH THE \$48,000 GRANT, \$50,000 FROM THE SALARY LINE FOR THE DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR AND \$22,000 COULD BE CARRIED OVER TO NEXT YEARS BUDGET. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON ASKED IF HE SAW THE TRUCKS AND ARE THEY IN PRISTINE CONDITION. MR. DALEY SAID THE SAME COMPANY THAT SERVICES THE COUNTY'S 14 TRUCKS SERVICES THESE TRUCKS AND THEY HAVE GONE OVER THE TRUCKS. MR. DALEY SAID THE TRUCKS COME WITH A 6 MONTH WARRANTY. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON ASKED ABOUT THE MAINTENANCE RECORDS. MR. DALEY SAID HE HAS NOT SEEN THE RECORDS, BUT HE WILL HAVE THEM PRIOR TO PURCHASING. MR. DALEY SAID ONE TRUCK HAS 40,000 MILES AND THE OTHER TRUCK HAS 48,000 MILES. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED WHY THE PRICE WAS DIFFERENT. MR. DALEY SAID THEY ARE BOTH \$60,000. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED ABOUT THE ORIGINAL TRUCK THAT WAS DISCUSSED. MR. DALEY SAID IT WAS A 1989 AND COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED DID THE COUNCIL APPROVE BUYING THE OTHER TRUCK WITH THE GRANT. MR. DALEY SAID THEY DID APPROVE IT. CHAIRMAN GREGORY ASKED WHAT HAPPEN TO THE OTHER TRUCK. MR. FULGHUM SAID THE GRANT WAS SUBMITTED FOR THAT TRUCK, BUT MOST LIKELY THE RDA WOULD ALLOW THE CHANGE. CHAIRMAN GREGORY ASKED ABOUT THE \$50,000 AND MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT SINCE THE DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR WAS NOT HIRED UNTIL DECEMBER AND \$108,000 WAS BUDGETED FOR SALARY AND FRINGES THAT MONEY WAS NOT USED FOR THE POSITION AND COULD BE SPENT. VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS SAID THEY DON'T HAVE THE GRANT YET AND HE IS NOT IN FAVOR OF SPENDING THE MONEY THAT WAS FOR THE DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR. VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO MAKE DUE UNTIL THE FUNDS ARE SECURED. VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS

ASKED THAT THEY LOOK AT A DIFFERENT GOAL AND THAT THEY FOCUS ON GETTING THE BUILDING STARTED ON FIRE TOWER ROAD. VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS SAID HE DID NOT WANT TO PUT MORE BURDENS ON THE CITIZENS AND THE COUNCIL NEEDED MORE INFORMATION ON THE FINANCING. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED IF ONE FIRE TRUCK COULD BE PURCHASED WITH THE GRANT. MR. DALEY SAID THEY WOULD STILL NEED \$22,000. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED IF THE TRUCK THAT COST \$48,000 DO THE SAME AS THE \$60,000 TRUCK AND MR. DALEY SAID IT WOULD. CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID HE WAS NOT IN FAVOR OF SPENDING THE MONEY THAT WAS FOR THE DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR'S POSITION. CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THERE MAY BE A MORE DIRE NEED AND THAT THE MONEY COULD BE USED FOR IT. VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SECONDED THE MOTION TO DEFER SPENDING THE MONEY ON THE FIRE TRUCKS. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH CHAIRMAN GREGORY, VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR AND COUNCILMEN ETHERIDGE AND DRAYTON VOTING FOR; COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR VOTED AGAINST.

RONNIE MALPHRUS - JASPER COUNTY HEALTH INSURANCE INCREASE - MR. MALPHRUS REQUESTED THAT THE COUNCIL APPROVE PAYING THE EMPLOYEES PORTION OF THE HEALTH INSURANCE INCREASE FOR THE BALANCE OF THIS FISCAL YEAR FROM THE REFUND FROM WORKERS COMPENSATION THAT THE COUNTY RECEIVED. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THE COUNCIL CAN DECIDE AT BUDGET TIME IF THEY WANT TO CONTINUE TO PAY FOR THE INCREASE. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE MOTIONED AND VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS SECONDED THE MOTION TO PAY THE EMPLOYEES PORTION OF THE INCREASE OF THE HEALTH INSURANCE DURING THIS FISCAL YEAR SINCE THE EMPLOYEES HAVE NOT HAD A RAISE IN FIVE YEARS. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

COMMITTEE REPORTS- VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS SAID THE EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE MET AND COVERED MANY ITEM. VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS THANK THE EMERGENCY SERVICES DEPARTMENT FOR PROVIDING THE BEST SERVICES POSSIBLE WITH LIMITED RESOURCES. VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS SAID THERE WOULD BE ANOTHER EMERGENCY SERVICES MEETING NEXT WEEK.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

ANDREW FULGHUM - CAPITAL PROJECT UPDATES ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT - MR. FULGHUM REPORTED ON THE STATUS OF THE CAPITAL PROJECTS:

KNOWLES ISLAND PARK ACCESS HAS BEEN PERMITTED AND IS UNDERWAY. ALPHA CONSTRUCTION HAS DRIVEN ALL 40 PILES TO HOLD THE RETAINING WALL FOR THE CUL-DE-SAC INSTALLATION.

EMERGENCY SERVICES PARKING LOT - RECEIVED FOUR BIDS THAT WERE ALL OVER BUDGET, PRIMARILY RESULTING FROM INCREASE IN

CONCRETE PRICES; WILL NEGOTIATE WITH LOW BIDDER OR RE-BID WITH REVISED SCOPE OF WORK.

OLD CHARLESTON HIGHWAY SEWER-CBDG - THE PUMP STATION SITE HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED AND DEED WORK FOR LAND SWAP TO JASPER COUNTY IS BEING PREPARED BY THE ATTORNEYS. THIS PROJECT SHOULD GO OUT TO BID IN JANUARY.

CYPRESS RIDGE INDUSTRIAL PARK ACCESS - THE CONTRACT WITH TERRY LEE CONTRACTING IS EXECUTED AND WORK IS SCHEDULED FOR LATE FEB. OR EARLY MAR. WHEN CONSISTENT WARMER TEMPERATURES ALLOW FOR ASPHALT INSTALLATION.

CYPRESS RIDGE INDUSTRIAL PARK WATER AND SEWER - THE GRAVITY SEWER LINES HAVE BEEN INSTALLED AND THE WATER LINE INSTALLATION REMAINS TO BE COMPLETED. NEGOTIATIONS WITH TERRY LEE WERE SUCCESSFUL AND ALLOW WATER LINE UPGRADES CONSTRUCTION TO REMAIN WITHIN THE BUDGET OF \$200,000.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT - THE DESIGN AND CONTRACT DOCUMENTS ARE PREPARED AND BASED ON SECONDARY ASBESTOS INSPECTION, STABILIZATION PROJECT MAY MOVE FORWARD WITHOUT ASBESTOS REMOVAL AND ABATEMENT. THE BIDDING PROCESS MAY OCCUR IN JANUARY IF APPROVED BY COUNCIL.

SGT. JASPER TRAIL - PER PROCUREMENT POLICY, FOUR WRITTEN QUOTES WERE RECEIVED FOR THE TRAIL DESIGN WORK. APPARENT LOW BIDDER IS UNDER BUDGET. DESIGN CONTRACTS TO BE PRESENTED TO COUNCIL ON JANUARY 17, 2012.

MR. FULGHUM REPORTED THAT THE PLANNING COMMISSION HAS STARTED WORK ON THE 5 YEAR REVIEW OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN.

MR. FULGHUM TOLD THE COUNCIL THAT THE COUNTY RECEIVED AN ADDITIONAL \$37,375 FROM PALMETTO ELECTRIC RDA FUNDS. MR. FULGHUM SAID THOSE FUNDS ALONG WITH THE RDA FUNDS OF \$300,000 RECEIVED FROM PALMETTO ELECTRIC ARE IN A SEPARATE BANK ACCOUNT. MR. MALPHRUS REPORTED THAT THE ANNUAL REPORT IS 98% COMPLETE AND MR. FULGHUM WILL SET UP A SESSION TO GO OVER THAT REPORT AS WELL AS THE STATUS OF THE CURRENT BUDGET.

MR. FULGHUM PROVIDED THE LATEST UNEMPLOYMENT RATES AND THE NUMBER OF NEW JOBS CREATED.

MR. FULGHUM REPORTED THAT HE ATTENDED A MEETING WITH THE STATE INFRASTRUCTURE BOARD REGARDING A GRANT AND THE COUNTY AND HARDEEVILLE REQUESTED \$4,000,000 TO GET GOING ON EXIT 3. MR. FULGHUM SAID BEAUFORT COUNTY WAS ALSO PRESENT AND REQUESTED FUNDS FOR THE BLUFFTON PARKWAY. MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT COUNCILMAN DRAYTON ALSO WENT TO THE MEETING.

MR. FULGHUM INFORMED THE COUNCIL OF A JOINT RESOLUTION HE RECEIVED FROM THE LEGISLATURE REGARDING THE COUNTY BEING 100 YEAR OLD ON JAN. 30, 2012. MR. FULGHUM SAID HE SPOKE WITH THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND HOPED THEY WOULD HOST A FUNCTION.

OPEN THE FLOOR TO THE PUBLIC - CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THAT THE CLERK WILL NO LONGER ANNOUNCE THAT THE PUBLIC NEEDS TO SIGN UP

PRIOR TO THE MEETING. CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THAT ANYONE WHO WANTS TO SPEAK AT A FUTURE MEETING MUST SIGN UP PRIOR TO THE CLERK TAKING UP THE SIGN IN SHEET. CHAIRMAN GREGORY OPENED THE FLOOR TO THE PUBLIC.

LINDA DAVENPORT STATED THAT IT IS NO SECRET THAT SHE IS DISGUSTED WITH THE FAILURE OF THIS COUNCIL TO GOVERN IN A PRUDENT AND RESPONSIBLE MANNER. MS. DAVENPORT SAID THAT EACH DAY IT BECOMES CLEARER AND CLEARER THAT YOUR INTERESTS SUPERSEDE THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE THAT YOUR ARE ELECTED TO REPRESENT. MS. DAVENPORT TOLD THAT COUNCIL THAT LAST WEEK THE GALLUP AND RASMUSSEN POLLS INDICATED THAT 77% OF THE POPULATION OVERWHELMING SUPPORT GOVERNMENT SPENDING CUTS AND 59% WANT TAX CUTS. MS. DAVENPORT ASKED WHAT THE COUNCIL HAS DONE ABOUT THESE ISSUES IN AN ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT WHERE 95% OF REAL ESTATE SALES IN THIS COUNTY ARE FORECLOSURES AND PROPERTY VALUES ARE DOWN AN AVERAGE OF 10% AND EMPLOYMENT IS UP TO 10%. MS. DAVENPORT ASKED IF THE COUNCIL CUT SPENDING AND SHE SAID NO, THEY DID NOT. SHE ASKED IF THE COUNCIL PUT A FREEZE ON SPENDING TO LAST YEARS LEVEL AND SHE SAID NO, THEY DID NOT. MS. DAVENPORT ASKED DID THE COUNCIL RAISE TAXES BY APPROXIMATELY 20%-30% IN SUCH AN ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT AND SHE SAID YES, THEY DID AND SHE FELT IT WAS DISGRACEFUL AND OUTRAGEOUS. MS. DAVENPORT ASKED THE COUNCIL IF THEY KNEW THAT JASPER COUNTY'S PER CAPITA EXPENDITURES ARE THE HIGHEST IN THE STATE. MS. DAVENPORT SAID THAT MEANS THE POOREST COUNTY IN THE STATE IS BURDENED WITH THE HIGHEST DEBT PER PERSON BASED ON THE COUNCIL'S IRRESPONSIBLE SPENDING. MS. DAVENPORT SAID EVERY MAN, WOMAN, CHILD AND BABY OWED \$1,025 IN ORDER TO SUPPORT THEIR SPENDING. MS. DAVENPORT SAID THAT BY COMPARISON, RICHLAND COUNTY RESIDENTS OWE \$420 EACH AND BEAUFORT COUNTY RESIDENTS OWES \$852 EACH. MS. DAVENPORT SAID THAT JASPER COUNTY RESIDENTS OWE \$1,025 EACH AND FOR WHAT, SHE SAID THE PEOPLE HAVE VIRTUALLY NO FIRE COVERAGE, NO POLICE, NO GARBAGE SERVICE, NO SEWER SERVICE AND THE COUNCIL CREATED A NEW POSITION THAT ADDED 6% TO EACH PERSONS BILL AND THAT POSITION DOES NOT FILL ANY OF THE NEEDS LISTED. MS. DAVENPORT ADDRESSED COUNCILMAN DRAYTON AND SAID ON OCT. 17, HE STARTED TO PONTIFICATE ABOUT OVER SPENDING AND CUTTING COSTS SINCE THE SALARIES ARE EXCESSIVE AND THIS IS A BAD ECONOMIC TIME. MS. DAVENPORT TOLD COUNCILMAN DRAYTON HE HAD THE AUDACITY TO ASK WHY WE THE PEOPLE ARE NOT TALKING ABOUT SPENDING. MS. DAVENPORT SAID THEY ARE AND THEY HAVE BEEN TALKING ABOUT SPENDING. MS. DAVENPORT ASKED COUNCILMAN DRAYTON WHO HE THOUGHT HE WAS KIDDING WITH HIS GRANDSTANDING AND SHE TOLD HIM HE SIGNED AND APPROVED THE EXCESSIVE SPENDING CONTAINED IN THE BUDGET TWO MONTHS BEFORE YOUR FINANCIAL EPIPHANY. MS. DAVENPORT SAID COUNCILMAN DRAYTON APPROVED ALL THE NEW SPENDING. MS. DAVENPORT SAID TO COUNCILMAN DRAYTON THAT HE WAS RETIRED MILITARY AND FOR THAT

THE PEOPLE OWE HIM THANKS, BUT AS A RETIRED COLONEL, HE SHOULD KNOW HOW TO LEAD. MS. DAVENPORT TOLD COUNCILMAN DRAYTON THAT IF HE WAS ENGAGING IN MORE THAN POLITICAL THEATER, HE SHOULD HAVE MADE A MOTION TO CUT SPENDING, AND HE SHOULD NOT HAVE APPROVED THE BUDGET AND HE CERTAINLY SHOULD NOT HAVE APPROVED THE SPENDING FOR AN UNNEEDED POSITION. MS. DAVENPORT ASKED COUNCILMAN DRAYTON WHERE HIS MOTION WAS TO ACTUALLY DO SOMETHING, OR HIS MOTION TO FREEZE SPENDING FOR FIVE YEARS, OR HIS MOTION TO CUT COSTS BY 10% THIS YEAR INSTEAD OF INCREASING TAXES BY 30%. MS. DAVENPORT ASKED COUNCILMAN DRAYTON WHERE IS THE LEADERSHIP THAT THE PEOPLE EXPECTED WHEN THEY ELECTED YOU. MS. DAVENPORT TOLD COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR THAT HIS COMMENTS TO THE MEDIA ABOUT CRONYISM AND EXCESSIVE SPENDING ARE SHAMEFUL. MS. DAVENPORT SAID THAT COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR'S EXACT WORDS WERE "THEY WILL GET OVER IT". MS. DAVENPORT TOLD COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR THAT SHE IS A TAXPAYER AND SHE IS NOT GOING TO GET OVER IT. MS. DAVENPORT SAID THE PEOPLE HAVE HAD ENOUGH IRRESPONSIBLE SPENDING AND THE RESULTING ECONOMIC TURMOIL ON THE LOCAL, STATE AND FEDERAL LEVEL. MS. DAVENPORT TOLD COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR THAT WHAT THE PEOPLE WILL REMEMBER IS YOUR COMPLETE LACK OF RESPECT FOR THE TAXPAYERS AND WE WILL WORK DILIGENTLY TO MAKE SURE THAT YOUR DAYS ON THIS COUNCIL ARE NUMBERED.

BARBARA BARTOLDUS CONGRATULATED CHAIRMAN GREGORY AND VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS. MS. BARTOLDUS ADDRESSED COUNCILMAN DRAYTON AND SAID THAT AT THE OCT. 17, 2011 MEETING OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL COUNCILMAN DRAYTON HAD A QUITE A LOT TO SAY ABOUT ANOTHER COUNCILMAN AND SHE QUOTED COUNCILMAN DRAYTON AS SAYING "HE WENT TO THE OTHER COUNCILMAN ABOUT CUTTING SALARIES AND ONE AGREED AND ONE SAID NOTHING BECAUSE HE HAD A RELATIVE MAKING A LARGE SALARY". MS. BARTOLDUS CONTINUED AND SAID THAT COUNCILMAN DRAYTON SAID THAT THE COUNCILMEN MAKE \$16,300 AND HE SAID THEY SHOULD TAKE A 10% CUT AND HE WAS TOLD NO, SO HE SUGGESTED CUTTING IT \$300 AN ONE COUNCILMAN SAID NO THAT HE NEEDED HIS MONEY. MS. BARTOLDUS SAID THAT COUNCILMAN DRAYTON THEN SAID HE ASKED THAT COUNCILMAN IF HIS CONSTITUENTS KNEW HE WAS GRABBING FOR MONEY LIKE THAT BECAUSE IF YOU ARE, THEN YOU CAN BE BOUGHT AND AT THE LAST MEETING THE PUBLIC SAW A COUNCILMEMBER BEING BOUGHT. MS. BARTOLDUS SAID THAT COUNCILMAN DRAYTON ALSO SAID HE KNEW THE FINANCE DIRECTOR SUPPORTED THE DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR POSITION BECAUSE HE WANTED THE JOB AND THAT TWO DAYS AFTER THE MEETING PEOPLE WERE AT THIS DOOR BEGGING HIM TO LEAVE THIS ALONE BECAUSE THEY NEEDED THE MONEY. MS. BARTOLDUS SAID THAT DURING THE WHOLE TIME COUNCILMAN DRAYTON WAS COMMENTING ABOUT THIS POSITION HE WAS QUOTING WRONG FIGURES LIKE \$40,000,000 VERSUS \$20,000,000 AND CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR ALLOWED COUNCILMAN DRAYTON TO CONTINUE HIS ACCUSATIONS WITHOUT ANY PROOF. MS. BARTOLDUS TOLD

COUNCILMAN DRAYTON THAT IF HE WAS SO UPSET BY WHAT HE CALLED MONEY GRABBING, WHY DID YOU VOTE FOR THE BUDGET IN THE FIRST PLACE AND IF HE CALLED THIS REPRESENTING THE CONSTITUENTS HE IS SADLY MISTAKEN.

DENISE DAVIDSON – COMMENTED THAT SHE ATTENDED AN EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING AND A NEW VEHICLE WAS REQUESTED. MS. DAVIDSON SAID THERE IS A SUBURBAN THAT MEETS MR. DALEY'S NEED AND THE COUNTY HAS SPENT ENOUGH MONEY AND THEY NEED TO FIND OUT WHAT THEY HAVE BEFORE THEY BUY SOMETHING NEW. MS. DAVIDSON SAID THAT COUNCILMAN DRAYTON SAID THE SALARIES WERE 20% OF THE BUDGET, BUT ACTUALLY THE SALARIES AND FRINGE BENEFITS ARE 50% OF THE BUDGET. MS. DAVIDSON ASKED COUNCILMAN DRAYTON WHAT MOTION DID HE MAKE TO REDUCE THE SALARIES AND GET THEM OFF THE BACKS OF THE CITIZENS. MS. DAVIDSON SAID THERE IS A WEBSITE CALL NEIGHBORHOOD SCOUT THAT LIST 73 WORST SCHOOLS AND JASPER COUNTY IS ON THAT LIST. CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THAT SCHOOL MATTERS NEED TO BE DISCUSSED AT THE SCHOOL BOARD MEETING. MS. DAVIDSON SAID THAT 2 JASPER COUNTY SCHOOLS WERE IN THE 40% LIST OF THE WORST PERFORMING SCHOOLS.

DOUG GRAHAM –REQUESTED THAT THE COUNCIL APPROVE FOR THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT TO START PAYING THE UTILITIES AT THE BELLINGER HILL FIRE STATION.

GARY HODGES – REPORTED THAT THE FIRST PHASE OF THE PAVERS IS COMPLETE AND THAT THE 2ND PHASE OF PAVERS WERE NOW AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE. MR. HODGES SAID THERE WERE 200 LEFT AND HE HAD THE PAPERWORK FOR ANYONE WHO WOULD LIKE TO PURCHASE ONE.

MILTON WOODS – CONGRATULATED CHAIRMAN GREGORY AND VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS AND HE THANKED COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR FOR THE GOOD THINGS HE DID WHILE HE WAS CHAIRMAN. MR. WOODS SAID HE WAS CONCERNED ABOUT SOME OF THE REMARKS MADE BY COUNCILMAN DRAYTON AND MR. WOODS SAID HE HAS NOT SEEN ANY POSITIVE ACTION COMING FROM COUNCILMAN DRAYTON AND HE CHALLENGED COUNCILMAN DRAYTON TO WALK THE TALK. MR. WOODS SAID THAT COUNCILMAN DRAYTON TOOK THE OATH OF OFFICE FOR THE LEADERSHIP OF THIS COUNTY AND WHY HE DID NOT START TALKING ABOUT SALARIES TODAY. MR. WOODS SAID THAT COUNCILMAN DRAYTON VOTE MADE THE DIFFERENCE REGARDING HIRING THE DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR. MR. WOODS SAID THAT HE PRESENTED THE COUNCIL WITH 1,000 SIGNATURES AND COUNCILMAN DRAYTON IGNORED THE WISHES OF THESE VOTING CITIZENS BECAUSE HE HAS HIS OWN AGENDA AND IN 2012 THE CITIZENS WILL BE LOOKING AT EVERY DOLLAR PUT IN THE BUDGET. MR. WOODS TOLD COUNCILMAN DRAYTON THAT THE CITIZENS WILL SEE IF HE IS SERIOUS OR IF HE IS JUST GOING TO DANCE AROUND OR IF HE IS GOING TO WALK THE TALK. MR. WOODS SAID THE CITIZENS CANNOT AFFORD WHAT IS HAPPENING IN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE SCHOOLS. MR. WOODS SAID ONLY 40% OF THE STUDENTS ARE GRADUATING AND IT IS TIME TO BITE THE BULLET AND DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT BECAUSE TOMORROW WILL BE TOO LATE. MR. WOODS SAID HE WANTS TO GET

ALONG MORE THAN ANYONE, BUT WHEN YOU ARE BACKED US INTO A CORNER, AND THE CITIZENS HAVE ALLOWED YOU TO DO THIS, BUT THOSE DAYS ARE OVER AND THE COUNCIL NEEDS TO THINK LIKE BUSINESS PEOPLE. MR. WOODS SAID THE PEOPLE DID NOT SIGN THE PETITIONS BECAUSE THEY THOUGHT THE COUNCIL WAS CONDUCTING GOOD BUSINESS. MR. WOOD SAID THERE IS AN 86%-99% FORECLOSURE RATE IN JASPER COUNTY AND HE ASKED THE COUNCIL TO HELP THE PEOPLE FROM LOSING THEIR HOMES.

CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID HE CANNOT TAKE THE BLAME FOR WHAT HAPPENED IN THE PAST. CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID HE VOTED FOR THE POSITION, BUT NOT THE INDIVIDUAL; THE ADMINISTRATOR CHOSE WHO WENT INTO THE POSITION, AND SOME PEOPLE DID NOT LIKE THE DECISION OF THE ADMINISTRATOR. CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THAT HE HAS NEVER SEEN SOME OF THE PEOPLE AT THE SCHOOLS AND THEY DO NOT SEE HOW MUCH MONEY COMES TO THE COUNTY SCHOOL STUDENTS TO GO TO COLLEGE. CHAIRMAN GREGORY ASKED THAT BEFORE PEOPLE PUT THE STUDENTS DOWN, THEY NEED TO WORK TOGETHER TO IMPROVE THE SCHOOL SYSTEM, BEFORE THEY PUT THE STUDENTS DOWN THEY SHOULD PUT A HAND OUT AND HELP.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

DISCUSSION OF NEGOTIATIONS INCIDENT TO PROPOSED CONTRACT ARRANGEMENTS AND PROPOSED PURCHASE OR SALE OF PROPERTY, RECEIPT OF LEGAL ADVICE WHERE THE LEGAL ADVICE RELATES 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 -SCHOOL CONTRACTS -AUDITING SERVICES CONTRACT; AND DISCUSSION REGARDING EMPLOYMENT, APPOINTMENT, COMPENSATION, PROMOTION, DEMOTION, DISCIPLINE, OR RELEASE OF AN EMPLOYEE, A STUDENT, OR A PERSON REGULATED BY A PUBLIC BODY OR THE APPOINTMENT OF A PERSON TO A PUBLIC BODY; HOWEVER, IF AN ADVERSARY HEARING INVOLVING AN EMPLOYEE OR CLIENT IS HELD, THE EMPLOYEE OR CLIENT HAS THE RIGHT TO DEMAND THAT THE HEARING BE CONDUCTED PUBLICLY NOTHING CONTAINED IN THIS ITEM SHALL PREVENT THE PUBLIC BODY, IN ITS DISCRETION, FROM DELETING THE NAMES OF OTHER EMPLOYEES OR CLIENTS WHOSE RECORDS ARE SUBMITTED FOR USE AT THE HEARING - **PLANNING AND ZONING DEPT. - VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SECONDED THE MOTION TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE DISCUSSION OF NEGOTIATIONS INCIDENT TO PROPOSED CONTRACT ARRANGEMENTS AND PROPOSED PURCHASE OR SALE OF PROPERTY, RECEIPT OF LEGAL ADVICE WHERE THE LEGAL ADVICE RELATES 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 -SCHOOL CONTRACTS -AUDITING SERVICES CONTRACT; AND DISCUSSION REGARDING EMPLOYMENT, APPOINTMENT, COMPENSATION, PROMOTION, DEMOTION, DISCIPLINE, OR RELEASE OF AN EMPLOYEE, A STUDENT, OR A PERSON REGULATED BY A PUBLIC BODY OR THE APPOINTMENT OF A PERSON TO A PUBLIC BODY; HOWEVER, IF AN ADVERSARY HEARING INVOLVING AN EMPLOYEE OR CLIENT IS HELD, THE EMPLOYEE OR CLIENT HAS THE RIGHT TO DEMAND THAT THE HEARING BE CONDUCTED PUBLICLY NOTHING CONTAINED IN THIS ITEM SHALL PREVENT THE PUBLIC BODY, IN ITS DISCRETION, FROM DELETING THE NAMES OF OTHER EMPLOYEES OR CLIENTS WHOSE RECORDS ARE SUBMITTED FOR USE AT THE HEARING - **PLANNING AND ZONING DEPT.** THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

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

CHAIRMAN GREGORY ANNOUNCED THAT THE COUNCIL RECEIVED INFORMATION REGARDING NEGOTIATIONS INCIDENT TO PROPOSED CONTRACT ARRANGEMENTS WITH THE SCHOOL CONTRACTS AND THE AUDITING SERVICES CONTRACT; AND DISCUSSION REGARDING EMPLOYMENT MATTERS CONCERNING THE PLANNING AND ZONING DEPT. AND NO ACTION WAS NEEDED.

ADJOURN - VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SECONDED THE MOTION TO ADJOURN. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

THE MEETING ENDED AT 7:10 P.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY:

APPROVED BY:

JUDITH M. FRANK, ccc
CLERK TO COUNCIL

REV. SAMUEL GREGORY
CHAIRMAN