

**JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL  
MARY GORDON ELLIS EXECUTIVE BUILDING  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
NOVEMBER 10, 2008**

**MR. WITTENBERG - AFFORDABLE HOUSING STUDY PRESENTATION  
AND DISCUSSION:**

**OFFICIALS PRESENT:**

DR. GEORGE M. HOOD, CHAIRMAN  
GLADYS JONES, COUNCILWOMAN  
LEROY BLACKSHEAR, COUNCILMAN  
HUBERT TYLER, COUNCILMAN

**OFFICIALS ABSENT:**

FRED TUTEN, VICE CHAIRMAN

**STAFF PRESENT:**

ANDREW FULGHUM, ADMINISTRATOR  
RONNIE MALPHRUS, DEP. ADM. ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES  
JUDITH FRANK, CLERK TO COUNCIL  
MARVIN JONES, ATTORNEY  
DAVID JIROUSEK, PLANNING DIRECTOR

**STAFF ABSENT:**

EVELYN LEE, DEPUTY CLERK TO COUNCIL  
DALE TERRY, DEP. ADM. ENGINEERING SERVICES  
LISA LAMB, PLANNING AND ZONING COORDINATOR  
WILBUR DALEY, DEP. ADMINISTRATOR EMERGENCY SERVICES

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.

**MR. WITTENBERG - AFFORDABLE HOUSING STUDY PRESENTATION  
AND DISCUSSION:**

CHAIRMAN HOOD CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 3:00 P.M. AND  
EXPLAINED THAT THE COUNCIL WOULD HAVE THE PLEDGE AND  
INVOCATION AT THE OPENING OF THE REGULAR MEETING.

MR. FULGHUM INTRODUCED BRENT WITTENBERG AND HE DISCUSSED THE  
KEY NUMBERS AND ISSUES OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND WAYS TO  
MITIGATE THE PROBLEMS. MR. WITTENBERG SAID THE STUDY  
PROJECTED THAT INDIVIDUALS REPRESENTING 60% OF THE GROWTH

ARE EXPECTED TO EARN MORE THAN CURRENT MEDIUM INCOME AND THAT THE INDIVIDUALS REPRESENTING 40% OF THE GROWTH WILL BE MAKING LESS THAN THE CURRENT MEDIUM INCOME AND THERE WILL BE MANY PROBLEMS DUE TO THE LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING. MR. WITTENBERG SAID THAT NOT ONLY AFFORDABLE HOME OWNERSHIP, BUT ALSO AFFORDABLE RENTAL PROPERTY IS NEEDED. MR WITTENBERG SAID THERE IS A SHORT SUPPLY OF QUALITY AFFORDABLE RENTALS IN JASPER COUNTY. MR. WITTENBERG STATED THAT SYSTEMATIC PASSIVE SUPPORT METHODS MUST BE PUT IN PLACE, NOT JUST SUBSIDIZING PROGRAMS. MR. WITTENBERG COMMENTED THAT THE MARKET WILL FIGURE OUT THE MIDDLE AND HIGH END INCOME HOUSING ON ITS OWN. MR. WITTENBERG EXPLAINED THAT THE DOCUMENTED BARRIERS OF DEVELOPMENT IN JASPER COUNTY ARE THAT THE COST OF HOUSING IS INCREASING AT A MUCH FASTER RATE THAN PEOPLE'S INCOME AND THAT WHILE THE COST OF NEW HOMES CONTINUE TO INCREASE, IT IS VERY NECESSARY TO PRESERVE THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING THAT IS CURRENTLY PRESENT IN THE COUNTY. THE NEED FOR BETTER EDUCATION, BETTER JOBS, AND BETTER FINANCING, ARE ALL NEEDED IN JASPER COUNTY AND BY INVESTING IN THESE ITEMS THE RESULT IN ALL GOODS AND SERVICES BECOMING AVAILABLE.

AN ANALYSIS ON APARTMENTS AVAILABLE IN THE COUNTY AND THE NEED FOR MORE QUALITY RENTALS WERE DISCUSSED SINCE THERE IS AND WILL BE A PERCENTAGE OF CITIZENS WHO WILL NOT BE ABLE TO AFFORD HOME OWNERSHIP. RENTAL HOUSING OPTIONS FOR SENIORS WAS ALSO INCLUDED IN THE STUDY AND THE STUDY SHOWED THAT A MARKED INCREASE IN THE DEMAND FOR RENTALS BOTH AT THE MARKET RATE AND SUBSIDIZED SENIOR RENTALS WILL BE IN GREAT DEMAND.

MR. WITTENBERG DISCUSSED THE NUMBER OF HOMES THAT ARE STRUCTUALLY SUBSTANDARD AND IN NEED OF REPAIR AND THEY HAVE A VERY LOW MARKET VALUE.

MR. WITTENBERG DISCUSSED THE NEED FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING OPTIONS TO BE ADDED TO DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENTS AND SOME DEVELOPMENTS MAY NEED TO BE REPLATTED TO INCLUDE AFFORDABLE HOUSING. MR. WITTENBERG EMPHASIZED THAT THE COUNTY MUST FOCUS ON WHAT WORKS IN JASPER COUNTY, AND THAT THE COUNTY NEEDS TO PRIORITIZE, AND TO DEDICATE THE PERSONNEL AND THE FINANCIAL ASSETS THAT ARE NEEDED TO BRING AFFORDABLE HOUSING TO JASPER COUNTY.

MR. WITTENBERG SUGGESTED ESTABLISHING A STEERING COMMITTEE TO WORK ON THIS PROBLEM AND THAT THE COUNTY SHOULD THINK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING AS A REGIONAL ISSUE AND THE COUNTY SHOULD INVOLVE THE SURROUNDING COUNTIES AND MUNICIPALITIES TO ADDRESS THE ISSUES.

CHAIRMAN HOOD ASKED FOR QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC.

COUNCILMAN TYLER ASKED WHAT WOULD BE THE MOST ATTRACTIVE ITEM NEEDED TO ATTRACT PEOPLE TO THE AREA. MR. WITTENBERG RESPONDED THAT MOSTLY EMPTY NESTERS AND COMMERCIAL GROWTH WILL BE MOVING SOUTH. COUNCILMAN TYLER ASKED ABOUT EDUCATION AND MR. WITTENBERG RESPONDED THAT IN THE PAST IT HAS NOT BEEN AN ISSUE, BUT AS LARGER AND BETTER EMPLOYERS LOCATE IN JASPER COUNTY EDUCATION WOULD BECOME MORE IMPORTANT.

MR. FULGHUM ASKED ABOUT THE AMOUNT OF RENTAL VALUES CURRENTLY AND WHAT WOULD THE COUNTY BE LOOKING FOR. MR. WITTENBERG EXPLAINED THAT THERE WAS NOT A LARGE SUPPLY OF RENTAL UNITS AND THE ONES THAT ARE HERE HAVE A LONG WAITING LIST. MR. WITTENBERG REFERENCED THAT 1,000 UNITS ARE CURRENTLY UNDER DEVELOPMENT IN HARDEEVILLE. MR. WITTENBERG SAID THAT THERE COULD BE TAX CREDITS PROVIDED TO SOME DEVELOPERS OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING. MR. WITTENBERG SAID THAT MOST OF THE NEW DEVELOPMENT IS NOT ATTRACTING ANYONE WITH LESS THAN \$100,000.00 PER YEAR INCOME.

CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID THAT DUE TO THE HOUSING COSTS RISING FASTER THAN PEOPLE'S INCOME, MANY CANNOT AFFORD TO PURCHASE HOMES AND ARE BUYING MORE HOME THAN THEY CAN AFFORD BY ADDING A LOT OF EXTRAS. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID THAT PEOPLE SHOULD ONLY BUY WHAT THEY CAN AFFORD. CHAIRMAN HOOD ASKED IF THE STUDY SHOWED THAT THERE WAS MORE CRIME IN AREAS OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND MR. WITTENBERG RESPONDED THAT DENSITY DOES NOT TRANSLATE INTO PROBLEMS, AND THAT MANY AREA RESIDENTS ARE ALREADY LIVING IN OVER OCCUPIED MOBILE HOMES AND THAT IT IS IMPORTANT TO PREPARE DEVELOPMENTS WITH A STRONG SUPPORT SYSTEM. CHAIRMAN HOOD SUGGESTED THAT THE COUNCIL VISIT OTHER AREAS TO SEE HOW THEY HAVE HANDLED THE PROBLEM AND HE ALSO COMMENTED ON THE NEED FOR AN ACTION PLAN TO BE PUT IN PLACE.

MR. WITTENBERG REFERENCED THE PEOPLE WHO ARE HERE LOCALLY THAT KNOW WHAT WORKS IN JASPER COUNTY AND THEY UNDERSTAND WHAT AFFORDABLE HOUSING LOOKS LIKE AND WHO LIVES IN AFFORDABLE HOUSING.

TONY GRANT DISCUSSED TAX INCREMENT FINANCING AND MR. WITTENBERG AGREED THAT IT WAS A TOOL THAT HAS BEEN USED ELSEWHERE SUCCESSFULLY.

COUNCILWOMAN JONES INTERJECTED THAT AFFORDABLE HOUSING IS NOT ONLY FOR LOW INCOME PEOPLE, BUT IT IS ALSO FOR MIDDLE CLASS PEOPLE AND THAT HOUSING IS NEEDED THAT IS AFFORDABLE TO ALL LEVELS OF INCOME. CHAIRMAN HOOD STATED THAT ONE OF THE KEY ISSUES FOR JASPER COUNTY IS THE NUMBER OF HOMES OVER \$500,000.00 AND THAT THE DEVELOPERS HAVE PRICED THE HOMES VERY HIGH AND SOME OF THE HOMES ARE NOT EVEN 2,000 SQ. FEET.

COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR LISTED INCOME, INDUSTRY, AND KNOWLEDGEABLE PEOPLE AS THREE ISSUES OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING

AND HE ASKED HOW AFFORDABLE HOUSING WAS DETERMINED AND HOW DO YOU COMPENSATE FOR DEVELOPERS BUILDING HOUSES COSTING \$250,000.00 OR MORE AND THE PEOPLE LIVING AND WORKING IN JASPER COUNTY ARE NOT IN THAT INCOME BRACKET. MR. WITTENBERG SAID THAT PEOPLE WHO CANNOT AFFORD THOSE TYPES OF HOMES SHOULD NOT BE BUYING THOSE HOMES.

SISTER LUPE SAID THAT PURCHASING AFFORDABLE HOUSING ALSO HAS TO DO WITH AFFORDABLE FINANCING AND THAT A HOME COSTING \$125,000.00 - \$200,000.00 COULD BE AFFORDABLE WITH THE RIGHT FINANCING. SISTER LUPE ALSO EMPHASIZED THAT ABOUT 30 % OF THE CITIZENS WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO AFFORD TO PURCHASE A HOME AND THAT AFFORDABLE RENTALS ARE GREATLY NEEDED. MARY MOYD SAID THAT PEOPLE MAKING \$8.00- \$9.00 PER HOUR MAY NOT BE ABLE TO BUY A HOME OR THEY MAY NOT BE ABLE TO MAKE THE REPAIRS NEEDED TO A HOME THEY ARE LIVING IN. MRS. MOYD SAID THAT JASPER COUNTY NEIGHBORS UNITED IS LOOKING AT WHAT IS ALREADY HERE IN JASPER COUNTY AND THEY ARE USING REHAB MONEY TO MAKE IT AFFORDABLE AND LIVEABLE.

COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID THAT THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO CANNOT EVEN AFFORD RENT. MR. WITTENBERG AGREED THAT WHAT COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID WAS CORRECT AND THAT A LOT OF PEOPLE MOVE IN TOGETHER SO THAT THEY CAN AFFORD A PLACE TO LIVE AND SOME PEOPLE ARE PAYING HIGH RENTS ON PLACES THAT DON'T WARRANT IT.

COUNCILWOMAN JONES ASKED HOW YOU GET PROPERTY VALUES DOWN TO REALISTIC VALUES. SHE ALSO COMMENTED THAT CURRENTLY THERE ARE A LOT OF VACANCIES BECAUSE THE WORKFORCE IS GONE. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID THAT A LOT OF THE QUESTIONS WOULD BE ANSWERED AS AFFORDABLE HOUSING IS WORKED ON.

COUNCILWOMAN JONES COMMENTED THAT JASPER COUNTY IS GOING THROUGH ANOTHER REASSESSMENT THAT NEEDS TO BE COMPLETE BY 2010 AND SHE ASKED IF THE PROPERTY VALUES WILL BE ADJUSTED DUE TO THE RECESSION.

CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID SHE WOULD NEED TO TALK TO THE ASSESSORS. MR. WITTENBURG COMMENTED THAT LAND IS PARAMOUNT TO THE SITUATION AND THE LAND HAS TO BE VALUED DOWN TO \$0.00 FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING.

COUNCILMAN TYLER SAID THAT PEOPLE CAN ALWAYS FIND SOMETHING THEY CAN AFFORD AND THAT IS WHERE THEY CAN START, AND IF THEY DO NOT TRY THEY WILL NEVER HAVE ANYTHING.

COUNCILWOMAN JONES COMMENTED THAT THE AMERICAN IDEAL WAS TO OWN YOUR OWN HOME AND THE YOUNGER GENERATION HAS TO CHANGE THEIR MINDSET AND START OUT SMALL AND GROW.

CHAIRMAN HOOD THANKED THE PEOPLE FOR COMING AND SAID HOW TO ATTACK THIS ISSUE WOULD BE ON THE NEXT COUNCIL AGENDA AND HE LIKED THE THOUGHT OF DOING THIS REGIONALLY.

THE DISCUSSION ENDED AT 3:55 P.M.

**COUNCIL MEETING  
4:00 P.M.**

**OFFICIALS PRESENT:**

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

**STAFF PRESENT:**

ANDREW FULGHUM, ADMINISTRATOR  
RONNIE MALPHRUS, DEP. ADM. ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES  
WILBUR DALEY, DEP. ADM. EMERGENCY SERVICES  
JUDITH M. FRANK, CLERK TO COUNCIL  
MARVIN JONES, COUNTY ATTORNEY  
DAVID JIROUSEK, PLANNING DIRECTOR

**STAFF ABSENT:**

EVELYN LEE, DEPUTY CLERK TO COUNCIL  
DALE TERRY, DEP. ADM. ENGINEERING SERVICES  
LISA LAMB, PLANNING AND ZONING COORDINATOR

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.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

CHAIRMAN HOOD LED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

**INVOCATION:**

VICE CHAIRMAN TUTEN GAVE THE INVOCATION.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:**

COUNCILWOMAN JONES MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN TYLER SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 13, 2008

MEETING. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR. MINUTES FROM THE DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING ON 11/7/2008, MINUTES FROM THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS, AND MINUTES FROM THE CYPRESS RIDGE BUSINESS REVIEW BOARD WERE RECEIVED FOR INFORMATION.

**PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS:**

**ANN CULLEN – KNOWLES ISLAND TRESTLE:**

MS. CULLEN SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF THE RESIDENTS OF KNOWLES ISLAND PLANTATION PRESENTED THE COUNCIL WITH AN ALTERNATIVE PLAN FOR THE OLD TRESTLE. MS. CULLEN PRESENTED A PLAN THAT HER GROUP FELT WOULD SHOWCASE THE TRESTLE AND PROVIDE FOR RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE ENTIRE COUNTY, AS WELL AS, EDUCATE THE CITIZENS, AND PROTECT THE HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE PROPERTY. MS. CULLEN COMMENTED THAT, PERHAPS, NATIONAL HISTORIC REGISTRY RECOGNITION COULD BE ACHIEVED FOR THE SITE AND FUNDING COULD BE OBTAINED TO ENHANCE THE AREA. MS. CULLEN ASKED THE COUNCIL TO CONSIDER THEIR PRESENTATION BEFORE ANY DECISIONS REGARDING THE FISHING PIER AT THE OLD TRESTLE ARE MADE. MS. CULLEN SUGGESTED USING A WALKWAY AND BICYCLE TRAILS. MS. CULLEN CONTINUED THAT A PARKING SITUATION LIKE THE ONE BUILT IN MT. PLEASANT AT THE BEGINNING OF THE AREA AND SMALL FISHING PIERS, AND STEPS TO THE BEACH AREA COULD BE BUILT AND THIS WOULD BE MORE RESPECTFUL OF THE AREA. MS. CULLEN COMMENTED THAT BY STOPPING VEHICULAR TRAFFIC FROM THE TRESTLE WOULD ALSO ALLOW THE CITIZENS TO ENJOY THE AREA AND IT WOULD HELP SOLVE THE CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES. COUNCILWOMAN JONES SAID THAT SHE LIKED THE LOOKS OF THE PLAN AND THAT THE PLAN COULD ALSO PROVIDE A WAY TO GET FUNDING FOR THE PROJECT. COUNCILWOMAN JONES SAID THE CITIZENS FROM ROBERTVILLE WERE CONCERNED ABOUT GOING FORWARD WITH IMPROVEMENTS BEFORE A STUDY WAS COMPLETED. COUNCILWOMAN JONES ASKED THE COUNCIL TO CONSIDER THIS PLAN. CHAIRMAN HOOD ASKED THE ADMINISTRATOR AND THE STAFF TO STUDY THE PROPOSAL AND THAT IT WAS TIME TO GET A PLAN IN PLACE AND FOR EVERYONE TO WORK TOGETHER TO MAKE THE TRESTLE A NICE PUBLIC PLACE FOR THE ENTIRE COUNTY TO ENJOY.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS AND ORDINANCES:**

**MARVIN JONES – PUBLIC HEARINGS AND 2<sup>ND</sup> READING OF THE ORDINANCE TO MAKE CERTAIN FINDINGS AND DETERMINATIONS; TO ADOPT CERTAIN DEFINITIONS; TO PROHIBIT THE WEARING OF CERTAIN ATTIRE; TO PROVIDE FOR ENFORCEMENT, VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES; AND TO PROVIDE FOR A PUBLIC EDUCATION PROGRAM:**

ATTORNEY JONES EXPLAINED THAT THE ORDINANCE WAS NOT AMENDED SINCE THE 1<sup>ST</sup> READING. VICE CHAIRMAN TUTEN ASKED HOW THIS

ORDINANCE WAS GOING TO BE ENFORCED. ATTORNEY JONES SAID THAT THE LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES WOULD ENFORCE THE ORDINANCE. SHERIFF JENKINS COMMENTED THAT IT HAS NOT BEEN DISCUSSED. ATTORNEY JONES SAID THAT LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS OR IF THE PUBLIC FILES COMPLAINTS IS HOW IT WILL BE ENFORCED. VICE CHAIRMAN TUTEN SAID HE WAS TOLD THAT THE ATTORNEY MET WITH THE THREE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES IN THE COUNTY. ATTORNEY JONES SAID THAT THEY MET AND DISCUSSED THE ORDINANCE AND MADE SUGGESTIONS AND THIS ORDINANCE HAS INCORPORATED THE AMENDMENTS DISCUSSED. ATTORNEY JONES SAID THAT THE REASON THAT THIS ORDINANCE IS BEING GIVEN THREE READINGS AND ANOTHER PUBLIC HEARING IS BECAUSE IT IS VERY DIFFERENT FROM THE ORIGINAL ORDINANCE. ATTORNEY JONES SAID THAT HE ALSO RECEIVED AN OPINION FROM THE ATTORNEY GENERAL REGARDING THE ORDINANCE. VICE CHAIRMAN TUTEN ASKED IF THE COUNTY HAD THE BLESSINGS OF THE 3 LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICES AND ATTORNEY JONES RESPONDED NO, THEY DID NOT, HOWEVER, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOUND NO REASON WHY THE COUNTY COULD NOT PASS THIS ORDINANCE. COUNCILWOMAN JONES ASKED IF SHERIFF JENKINS COULD SPEAK REGARDING ENFORCING THE ORDINANCE AND CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID THAT HE WOULD LIKE FOR THE SHERIFF TO READ THE REVISED ORDINANCE BEFORE HE COMMENTED ON ENFORCING IT. VICE CHAIRMAN TUTEN ASKED IF THE PUBLIC WILL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR INPUT AND CHAIRMAN HOOD ANSWERED THAT THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE ORDINANCE WAS SCHEDULED FOR THIS MEETING. COUNCILMAN TYLER ASKED HOW THE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM WILL BE INVOLVED. CHAIRMAN HOOD RESPONDED THAT THE COUNTY WILL COMMUNICATE WITH DR. SANFORD AND ASK HIM TO EMBRACE THE ORDINANCE IF IT IS PASSED.

CHAIRMAN HOOD OPENED THE PUBLIC HEARING.

DON GABBARD COMMENTED THAT PRESIDENT-ELECT OBAMA, WHEN ASKED ABOUT THE MUNICIPALITIES WEIGHING IN ON BAGGY PANTS, AND PRESIDENT-ELECT OBAMA RESPONDED THAT THE MUNICIPALITIES SHOULD FIND SOMETHING BETTER TO DO AND HE FELT THE PANTS SHOULD BE PULLED UP.

CHRISTOPHER JONES SAID HE DOESN'T BELIEVE THE ORDINANCE SHOULD BE PASSED AND THERE WERE MORE PROBLEMS LIKE RECREATION AND EDUCATION AND NOW THEY WANT TO FINE PEOPLE WHO ARE ALREADY IN A FINANCIAL CRISIS.

BEING NO FUTHER COMMENTS CHAIRMAN HOOD CLOSED THE PUBLIC HEARING.

COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR MOTIONED AND VICE CHAIRMAN TUTEN SECONDED THE MOTION THAT THIS BE THE PUBLIC HEARINGS AND 2<sup>ND</sup> READING OF THE ORDINANCE TO MAKE CERTAIN FINDINGS AND DETERMINATIONS; TO ADOPT CERTAIN DEFINITIONS; TO PROHIBIT THE WEARING OF CERTAIN ATTIRE; TO PROVIDE FOR ENFORCEMENT, VIOLATIONS, AND PENALTIES; AND TO PROVIDE FOR A PUBLIC EDUCATION PROGRAM. THE

MOTION CARRIED WITH VICE CHAIRMAN TUTEN AND COUNCILMEN TYLER AND BLACKSHEAR VOTING FOR; COUNCILWOMAN JONES VOTED AGAINST.

**DAVID JIROUSEK – 3<sup>RD</sup> READING OF THE ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF JASPER COUNTY SO AS TO TRANSFER THE FOLLOWING PARCELS GENERALLY KNOWN AS OPSREY LAKES DEPICTED ON THE JASPER COUNTY OFFICIAL ZONING MAP TO THE PLANNED DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT ZONE: 038-00-06-103 AND 038-00-06-168:**

MR. JIROUSEK PRESENTED THE ORDINANCE AND INFORMED THE COUNCIL THAT SINCE THE ORDINANCE WAS AMENDED, THE COUNCIL WOULD NEED TO MAKE A MOTION APPROVING THE AMENDMENT, PRIOR TO APPROVING THE ORDINANCE. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THAT THE PLANNING COMMISSION AND STAFF RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE ORDINANCE.

VICE CHAIRMAN TUTEN MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE AMENDMENT TO THE ORDINANCE. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

VICE CHAIRMAN TUTEN MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR SECONDED THE MOTON THAT THIS BE THE 3<sup>RD</sup> READING OF THE ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF JASPER COUNTY SO AS TO TRANSFER THE FOLLOWING PARCELS GENERALLY KNOWN AS OPSREY LAKES DEPICTED ON THE JASPER COUNTY OFFICIAL ZONING MAP TO THE PLANNED DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT ZONE: 038-00-06-103 AND 038-00-06-168. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

**DAVID JIROUSEK – 3<sup>RD</sup> READING OF THE ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF JASPER COUNTY SO AS TO TRANSFER THAT PROPERTY CONSISTING OF APPROXIMATELY 22.7 ACRES BEARING JASPER COUNTY TAX MAP NUMBER 072-00-01-31 LOCATED ON BELLINGER HILL ROAD NEAR HARDEEVILLE FROM RESIDENTIAL ZONE TO THE RURAL PRESERVATION ZONE:**

MR. JIROUSEK PRESENTED THE ORDINANCE AND STATED THAT THERE HAVE NOT BEEN ANY CHANGES. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THE STAFF AND THE PLANNING COMMISSSION RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE ORDINANCE.

COUNCILMAN TYLER ASKED IF PEOPLE CAN CHANGE FROM ONE ZONING TO ANOTHER. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THAT PEOPLE CAN REQUEST THE CHANGE AND MOST PEOPLE REQUEST TO ZONE UP WHILE THIS REQUEST IS A DOWN ZONING WHICH LIMITS THE NUMBER OF RESIDENTIAL DENSITY. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THAT THIS REQUEST IS CONSISTANT WITH THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN. COUNCILMAN TYLER ASKED IF IT WOULD CHANGE THE VALUE OF THE PROPERTY AND MR. JIROUSEK RESPONDED THAT UPZONING WOULD ALLOW FOR ADDITIONAL USES AND MAKE IT

MORE VALUABLE, THIS REQUEST IS BEING MADE FOR AGRICULTURAL USES.

COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR MOTIONED AND VICE CHAIRMAN TUTEN SECONDED THE MOTION THAT THIS BE THE 3<sup>RD</sup> READING OF THE ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF JASPER COUNTY SO AS TO TRANSFER THAT PROPERTY CONSISTING OF APPROXIMATELY 22.7 ACRES BEARING JASPER COUNTY TAX MAP NUMBER 072-00-01-31 LOCATED ON BELLINGER HILL ROAD NEAR HARDEEVILLE FROM RESIDENTIAL ZONE TO THE RURAL PRESERVATION ZONE. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

**DAVID JIROUSEK – PUBLIC HEARING AND 2<sup>ND</sup> READING OF THE ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF JASPER COUNTY SO AS TO TRANSFER THAT PROPERTY CONSISTING OF APPROXIMATELY 3.99 ACRES BEARING JASPER COUNTY TAX MAP NUMBER 038-00-05-008 AND GENERALLY LOCATED AT THE INTERSECTION OF LEVY ROAD AND HIGHWAY 170A FROM THE SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL ZONE TO THE COMMUNITY COMMERCIAL ZONE ON THE JASPER COUNTY OFFICIAL ZONING MAP; AND TO AMEND THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF JASPER COUNTY SO AS TO TRANSFER THAT PROPERTY CONSISTING OF APPROXIMATELY 4.94 ACRES BEARING JASPER COUNTY TAX MAP NUMBER 080-00-03-046 AND GENERALLY LOCATED ON THE NORTH SIDE OF PEARLSTINE DRIVE FROM THE RESIDENTIAL ZONE TO THE INDUSTRIAL ZONE ON THE JASPER COUNTY OFFICIAL ZONING MAP:**

MR. JIROUSEK EXPLAINED THAT THE ORDINANCE IS TO CHANGE THE ZONING ON THE 3.99 ACRES OF PROPERTY LOCATED AT THE INTERSECTION OF LEVY ROAD AND HIGHWAY 170A FROM SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL TO COMMUNITY COMMERCIAL AND THAT THE CHANGE IN ZONING IS INCLUDED IN THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AND IT IS THE ONLY PROPERTY AT THAT INTERSECTION ZONED SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL AND THAT THE OWNERS OF THE 4.94 ACRES OF PROPERTY LOCATED BEHIND PEARLSTINES ARE REQUESTING THE CHANGE SO THAT THEY CAN BUILD A CEMENT PLANT. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THE COUNCIL HAS THE AUTHORITY TO TAKE ACTION ON THIS TYPE OF REQUEST. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THE PLANNING COMMISSION AND THE STAFF RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF BOTH ZONING CHANGE REQUESTS.

CHAIRMAN HOOD OPENED THE PUBLIC HEARING. THERE WERE NO COMMENTS. CHAIRMAN HOOD CLOSED THE PUBLIC HEARING.

COUNCILWOMAN JONES MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN TYLER SECONDED THE MOTION THAT THIS BE THE PUBLIC HEARING 2<sup>ND</sup> READING OF THE ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF JASPER COUNTY SO AS TO TRANSFER THAT PROPERTY CONSISTING OF APPROXIMATELY 3.99 ACRES BEARING JASPER COUNTY TAX MAP NUMBER 038-00-05-008 AND GENERALLY LOCATED AT THE INTERSECTION OF LEVY ROAD AND HIGHWAY 170A FROM THE SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL ZONE TO THE

COMMUNITY COMMERCIAL ZONE ON THE JASPER COUNTY OFFICIAL ZONING MAP; AND TO AMEND THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF JASPER COUNTY SO AS TO TRANSFER THAT PROPERTY CONSISTING OF APPROXIMATELY 4.94 ACRES BEARING JASPER COUNTY TAX MAP NUMBER 080-00-03-046 AND GENERALLY LOCATED ON THE NORTH SIDE OF PEARLSTINE DRIVE FROM THE RESIDENTIAL ZONE TO THE INDUSTRIAL ZONE ON THE JASPER COUNTY OFFICIAL ZONING MAP. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

**DAVID JIROUSEK – PUBLIC HEARING AND 2<sup>ND</sup> READING OF THE ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF JASPER COUNTY SO AS TO SHOW A 1.59 ACRE LOT BEARING JASPER COUNTY TAX MAP NUMBER 029-48-04-006 ON PHILLIPS ROAD IN THE HARDEEVILLE INDUSTRIAL PARK AS BEING ZONED INDUSTRIAL:**

MR. JIROUSEK EXPLAINED THAT THERE WAS A ZONING MAP ERROR AND THIS PIECE OF PROPERTY WAS NEVER GIVEN A ZONING DESIGNATION. MR. JIROUSEK CONTINUED THAT THE PARCEL IS ALREADY PART OF THE HARDEEVILLE INDUSTRIAL PARK AND HAS A COMMERCIAL WAREHOUSE ON IT. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THE PROPERTY IS COMPATIBLE WITH THE SURROUNDING AREA AND THE STAFF AND PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMEND APPROVAL.

CHAIRMAN HOOD OPENED THE PUBLIC HEARING. THERE WERE NO COMMENTS. CHAIRMAN HOOD CLOSED THE PUBLIC HEARING.

COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR MOTIONED AND COUNCILWOMAN JONES SECONDED THE MOTION THAT THIS BE THE PUBLIC HEARING AND 2<sup>ND</sup> READING OF THE ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF JASPER COUNTY SO AS TO SHOW A 1.59 ACRE LOT BEARING JASPER COUNTY TAX MAP NUMBER 029-48-04-006 ON PHILLIPS ROAD IN THE HARDEEVILLE INDUSTRIAL PARK AS BEING ZONED INDUSTRIAL. 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 ONE (1) LOT BEARING JASPER COUNTY TAX MAP NUMBER 037-00-02-003 LOCATED AT THE INTERSECTION OF U.S. HIGHWAY 17A AND SOUTH CAROLINA PRIMARY HIGHWAY 170A FROM THE RESIDENTIAL ZONE TO THE COMMUNITY COMMERCIAL ZONE:**

MR. JIROUSEK EXPLAINED THAT NORTH SAVANNAH PROPERTIES, LLC WAS REQUESTING A ZONING CHANGE FROM THE RESIDENTIAL ZONE TO COMMUNITY COMMERCIAL ZONE. MR. JIROUSEK COMMENTED THAT THE OWNERS PLAN TO BUILD A BANK AND GAS STATION ON THE PROPERTY. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THAT THERE MAY BE SOME TRAFFIC ISSUES, BUT THEY WOULD BE COORDINATED AND THE TRAFFIC ISSUES WOULD BE REVIEWED AT STAFF LEVEL. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THIS TYPE OF ZONING IS NOT SHOWN ON THE COMPREHENSIVE MAP, BUT THERE HAVE BEEN

MAJOR CHANGES OR FUTURE CHANGES IN THE AREA AND THAT THE COUNCIL HAS THE AUTHORITY TO APPROVE THE ZONING CHANGE. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THAT THE 5 ACRES ARE LOCATED ON A MAJOR INTERSECTION AND THEY SHOULD NOT BE ZONED RESIDENTIAL. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THAT THE STAFF AND THE PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMEND APPROVAL. COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR ASKED IF THE COUNCIL WOULD ONLY BE APPROVING THE REQUEST FOR THE ZONING MAP CHANGE AND MR. JIROUSEK SAID THAT WAS CORRECT. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THE OWNERS GAVE A CONCEPTIONAL PLAN, BUT NOW THEY ARE LOOKING AT THE ALLOWABLE USES. MR. JIROUSEK CONTINUED THAT THE COUNTY COULD REQUIRE A PDD AND THAT COMMERCIAL USE IS THE CORRECT ZONING FOR THIS PROPERTY. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THE COUNCIL WOULD ONLY BE APPROVING A ZONING CHANGE.

COUNCILWOMAN JONES MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR 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 ONE LOT BEARING JASPER COUNTY TAX MAP NUMBER 037-00-02-003 LOCATED AT THE INTERSECTION OF U.S. HIGHWAY 17A AND SOUTH CAROLINA PRIMARY HIGHWAY 170A FROM THE RESIDENTIAL ZONE TO THE COMMUNITY COMMERCIAL ZONE. 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 THE FOLLOWING PARCELS BEARING TAX AP NUMBER(S) 039-00-02-001, 039-00-02 002, 039-00-02-003, AND 039-00-02-004 DEPICTED ON THE JASPER COUNTY OFFICIAL ZONING MAP IN THE RESIDENTIAL ZONE TO THE COMMUNITY COMMERCIAL ZONE AND TO TRANSFER PARCEL BEARING TAX MAP NUMBER 038-00-01-003 DEPICTED ON THE JASPER COUNTY ZONING MAP IN THE RESIDENTIAL ZONE TO THE RESOURCE CONSERVATION ZONE:**

MR. JIROUSEK EXPLAINED THAT THE REQUEST IS FOR A ZONING CHANGE FOR THE FOUR PARCELS TO CHANGE THE ZONING FROM RESIDENTIAL TO COMMUNITY COMMERCIAL AND THE REQUEST IS FOR THE ONE PARCEL TO BE CHANGED FROM THE RESIDENTIAL ZONE TO THE RESOURCE CONSERVATION ZONE.

COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR MOTIONED AND VICE CHAIRMAN TUTEN 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 THE FOLLOWING PARCELS BEARING TAX AS NUMBER(S) 039-00-02-001, 039-00-02 002, 039-00-02-003, AND 039-00-02-004 DEPICTED ON THE JASPER COUNTY OFFICIAL ZONING MAP IN THE RESIDENTIAL ZONE TO THE COMMUNITY COMMERCIAL ZONE AND TO TRANSFER PARCEL BEARING TAX MAP NUMBER 038-00-01-003 DEPICTED

ON THE JASPER COUNTY ZONING MAP IN THE RESIDENTIAL ZONE TO THE RESOURCE CONSERVATION ZONE. 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 CODE OF ORDINANCES TO RESCIND CEDED PLANNING AND ZONING AUTHORITY TO THE TOWN OF RIDGELAND PURSUANT TO CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA 6-29-330: TO AMEND SECTION 20-41, 20-42, 20-43, 2-181, 2-182, AND 2-184 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF JASPER COUNTY; TO WITHDRAW JURISDICTION FROM THE CENTRAL JASPER COUNTY-TOWN OF RIDGELAND JOINT PLANNING COMMISSION AND THE CENTRAL JASPER COUNTY-TOWN OF RIDGELAND ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS AND VEST THAT JURISDICTION IN THE JASPER COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION AND THE JASPER COUNTY ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS, RESPECTIVELY; TO REPEAL A CERTAIN INTER-GOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT; TO REPEAL JASPER COUNTY ORDINANCE 20-201, 20-202, 20-203, 20-210, 20-301, 20-302, 20-303, 20-310 AND 20-320; AND TO PROVIDE FOR REVOCATION OF DELEGATED POWERS SEVERABILITY AND EFFECTIVE DATES:**

MR. JIROUSEK STATED THAT THE ORIGINAL JOINT PLANNING INITIATIVE WAS SUCCESSFUL AND THE JOINT PLANNING ADMINISTRATION AND ZONING AUTHORITY WITHIN THE FIVE MILE RADIUS WAS GIVEN TO THE MUNICIPALITIES. MR. JIROUSEK STATED THAT THE COUNTY HAS ALREADY RESCINDED THOSE CEDED RIGHTS FROM THE CITY OF HARDEEVILLE AND THIS ORDINANCE WILL RESCIND THOSE CEDED RIGHTS FROM THE TOWN OF RIDGELAND. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THIS WILL CAUSE LESS CONFUSION FOR THE APPLICANTS, BUT IT WILL ALSO CREATE MORE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE STAFF. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THE SIZE OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION AND THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS WILL REMAIN THE SAME. MR. JIROUSEK ALSO DISCUSSED THE RESOLUTION ON THE AGENDA THAT WILL ADDRESS FUTURE JOINT PLANNING AND THE NEED FOR CONTINUED COMMUNICATION FOR GOOD REGIONAL PLANNING. COUNCILMAN TYLER ASKED IF THE COUNTY WAS PULLING OUT OF THE ORIGINAL AGREEMENT WITH RIDGELAND AND MR. JIROUSEK RESPONDED THAT THE ORIGINAL AGREEMENT GAVE THE PLANNING AND ZONING AUTHORITY TO RIDGELAND IN THAT 5 MILE RADIUS AROUND THE RIDGELAND TOWN LIMITS AND MOST OF THE LAND IN THAT 5 MILE RADIUS HAS BEEN ANNEXED INTO THE TOWN AND THIS ORDINANCE WILL GIVE THE PLANNING AND ZONING AUTHORITY BACK TO THE COUNTY.

COUNCILWOMAN JONES MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN TYLER SECONDED THE MOTION THAT THIS BE THE 1<sup>ST</sup> READING OF THE ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE JASPER COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES TO RESCIND CEDED PLANNING AND ZONING AUTHORITY TO THE TOWN OF RIDGELAND PURSUANT TO CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA 6-29-330: TO AMEND SECTION 20-41, 20-42, 20-43, 2-181, 2-182, AND 2-184 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF JASPER COUNTY; TO WITHDRAW JURISDICTION FROM

THE CENTRAL JASPER COUNTY-TOWN OF RIDGELAND JOINT PLANNING COMMISSION AND THE CENTRAL JASPER COUNTY-TOWN OF RIDGELAND ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS AND VEST THAT JURISDICTION IN THE JASPER COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION AND THE JASPER COUNTY ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS, RESPECTIVELY; TO REPEAL A CERTAIN INTER-GOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT; TO REPEAL JASPER COUNTY ORDINANCE 20-201, 20-202, 20-203, 20-210, 20-301, 20-302, 20-303, 20-310 AND 20-320; AND TO PROVIDE FOR REVOCATION OF DELEGATED POWERS SEVERABILITY AND EFFECTIVE DATES. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

**RESOLUTIONS:**

**DAVID JIROUSEK - RESOLUTION TO ADDRESS JOINT PLANNING IN JASPER COUNTY:**

MR. JIROUSEK SAID THAT THIS RESOLUTION ALSO ADDRESS THE JOINT PLANNING IN JASPER COUNTY AND WHILE NO SINGLE GOVERNMENT HOLDS ALL THE ANSWERS, THEY WILL ALL BE SHARING IDEAS THAT WILL BE OF A MUTUAL BENEFIT TO ALL ENTITIES. COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR ASKED IF THIS RESOLUTION WOULD HAVE ANY AFFECT ON ANNEXATION AND THE MUNICIPALITIES. MR JIROUSEK RESPONDED THAT IT WON'T ELIMINATE ALL THE ISSUES, BUT IT WILL HELP TO SOLIDIFY THINGS. COUNCILWOMAN JONES ASKED IF THIS WOULD ELIMINATE THE DONUT HOLES AND MR. JIROUSEK COMMENTED THAT THERE WERE TWO TYPES OF DONUT HOLES; HOLES WITHIN THE MUNICIPALITIES BOUNDARIES AND HOLES WITHIN THE UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF JASPER COUNTY THAT ARE SURROUNDED BY THE MUNICIPALITIES. COUNCILWOMAN JONES MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR SECONDED THE MOTION TO PASS THE RESOLUTION TO ADDRESS JOINT PLANNING IN JASPER COUNTY. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**BILL OLENDORF – REQUEST FOR 3% A-TAX FUNDS FOR BILLBOARDS, SHERIFF PATROL AND MAPPING:**

MR OLENDORF REQUESTED \$44,450.00 FROM THE LOCAL A-TAX FUNDS. MR. OLENDORF EXPLAINED THAT THIS AMOUNT WAS UP FROM THE PREVIOUS YEAR DUE TO MAPPING EXPENSE AND THE FACT THAT HE IS USING A DIFFERENT BILLBOARD THAT COST MORE. MR. FULGHUM EXPLAINED THAT THE COUNCIL PASSED AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING FEES FOR E-911 DATA AND COMPANIES THAT DO ONLINE MAPPING WOULD HAVE TO PAY FOR THIS INFORMATION AND MR. OLENDORF WAS REQUESTING THAT IT BE PAID FOR WITH A-TAX FUNDS. COUNCILWOMAN JONES STATED THAT THIS WOULD BE TAKING MONEY FROM THE COUNTY'S A-TAX ACCOUNT AND PAYING THE COUNTY'S FEE ACCOUNT. MR. OLENDORF SAID THAT THE LOCAL A-TAX IS PAID MONTHLY TO THE COUNTY. COUNCILWOMAN JONES ASKED ABOUT HOW MUCH MR.

OLENDORF'S REVENUE WAS DOWN THIS YEAR AND MR. OLENDORF RESPONDED THAT IT WAS DOWN ABOUT 15%. VICE CHAIRMAN TUTEN ASKED IF CRIME HAS GONE DOWN AT POINT SOUTH DUE TO THE EXTRA PATROLLING BY THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT. MR. OLENDORF SAID HE WAS NOT SURE, BUT HE COULD REPORT BACK TO THE COUNCIL. MR MALPHRUS SAID THAT THE LEGISLATURE AMENDED THE LOCAL ACCOMMODATION TAX SECTION 6-1-53 WHICH WILL NOW ALLOW THE COUNTY TO USE 20% OF THE FUNDS COLLECTED FOR FIRE AND POLICE SERVICES AND THIS REQUEST WOULD PUT THE COUNTY RIGHT AT 20%. COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR MOTIONED AND VICE CHAIRMAN TUTEN SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE REQUEST FROM THE POINT SOUTH MERCHANTS FOR \$44,450.00 FROM THE LOCAL A-TAX FUND TO PAY FOR THE BILLBOARDS, THE EXTRA SHERIFF PATROLS, AND THE MAPPING. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

**DAVID JIROUSEK – REPORT ON CEMETERIES:**

MR. JIROUSEK REPORTED THAT UNDER ARTICLE 6 OF THE COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCE, CEMETERIES ARE ALLOWED IN ALL AREAS AND THAT THE PROPERTY SIZE, PARKING, AND ACCESS REQUIREMENT ARE OUTLINED IN THE ORDINANCE. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THAT CEMETERIES ARE GENERALLY MAINTAINED BY THE RELATIVES OF PEOPLE BURIED THERE OR THE OWNERS OF THE CEMETERY.

**NEW BUSINESS;**

**JIM WESCOTT- REQUEST FOR 3% A-TAX FUNDS FOR EXPANSION PROJECT:**

MR. WESCOTT REQUESTED \$100,000.00 FROM THE A-TAX MONEY FOR AN EXPANSION OF THE WELCOME CENTER AT POINT SOUTH. MR. WESCOTT EXPLAINED THE IMPORTANCE OF THE CENTER AND HOW MANY TOURISTS AND VISITORS PASS THROUGH THERE EACH YEAR. MR. WESCOTT ALSO PRESENTED A CONCEPTIONAL DRAWING OF THE PROPOSED ADDITION. MR. WESCOTT SAID THE ADDITION WOULD HAVE A BARN LIKE LOOK SO THAT IT WILL FIT INTO THE PLANTATION THEME. MR. WESCOTT SAID THE ADDITION WILL COST \$500,000.00 AND THEY HAVE ALREADY RAISED \$50,000.00. MR. WESCOTT SAID THE CENTER HAS BEEN OPEN FOR 11 YEARS. COUNCILWOMAN JONES ASKED IF THE LARGE PUBLIC ROOM WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR THE CITIZENS TO USE AND MR. WESCOTT RESPONDED THAT IT WOULD. VICE CHAIRMAN TUTEN SAID THAT THE FUND ONLY HAD \$115,000.00 IN IT AND MR.WESCOTT WAS REQUESTING \$100,000.00. MR. MALPHRUS RESPONDED THAT THE MEMO HE PROVIDED ONLY LISTED THE ACCOMMODATION TAX COLLECTED, BUT THE COUNTY ALSO HAD \$290,000.00 THAT WAS COLLECTED FROM THE HOSPITALITY TAX. MR. FULGHUM SAID HE RECEIVED A REQUEST FROM THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOR FUNDS AND HE ASKED THAT THE COUNCIL DEFER A DECISION UNTIL THEY HEARD THE CHAMBER'S REQUEST. COUNCILWOMAN JONES SAID THE CHAMBER ALREADY GETS A

PERCENTAGE FOR THE A-TAX FUNDS. MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT THEY DID, AND THERE HAS BEEN A LOT OF INTEREST IN THESE FUNDS. COUNCILWOMAN JONES ASKED IF THE CHAMBER'S REQUEST WAS OVER AND ABOVE WHAT THEY ALREADY GET AND MR FULGHUM SAID THAT IT WAS AND HE WOULD FIRM UP THE CHAMBER'S PROPOSAL FOR THE NEXT MEETING. COUNCILWOMAN JONES THANKED MR. WESCOTT FOR THE GOOD JOB HE WAS DOING.

**SANDY FOWLER- APPOINTMENT TO THE LOWCOUNTRY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD:**

MS. FOWLER EXPLAINED THAT THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD POSITION WAS VACANT AND THE TOWN OF HARDEEVILLE NOMINATED TED FELDER FOR THE POSITION. COUNCILWOMAN JONES MOTIONED AND VICE CHAIRMAN TUTEN SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPOINT TED FELDER TO THE LOWCOUNTRY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

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

THIS ITEM WAS TABLED UNTIL A PLAN IS FORMULATED.

**ANDREW FULGHUM –APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDERS FOR THE ANNEX BUILDING:**

MR. FULGHUM PRESENTED CHANGE ORDER #5 FOR THE ANNEX BUILDING AND HE PROVIDED THE COUNCIL WITH A SUMMARY OF THE ITEMS INCLUDING ADDITIONAL COSTS AND CREDITS. THE CHANGE ORDERS TOTALED \$46,601.00 AND IT ALSO ADDED 27 DAYS TO COMPLETE THE PROJECT. MR. FULGHUM SAID THE ORIGINAL COST OF THE ANNEX WAS \$5,321,000.00 AND A \$266,000.00 CONTINGENCY WAS RECOMMENDED TO COPE WITH UNEXPECTED CONDITIONS DURING CONSTRUCTION. MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT CONSTRUCTION IS 85% COMPLETE AND TO DATE \$72,292.00 OR ROUGHLY 27% OF THE CONTINGENCY FEE HAS BEEN CHARGED. THIS AMOUNT ASLO REFLECTS THE VARIOUS CREDITS THAT WERE GIVEN DUE TO CHANGES. MR. FULGHUM SAID THE PROJECTED DATE FOR COMPLETION OF THE ANNEX BUILDING IS JANUARY 15, 2009. COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR STATED THAT ANOTHER CHANGE WAS NECESSARY. COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR EXPLAINED THAT THE CASE WORK THAT WAS TO BE INSTALLED IN THE FILE ROOM IN THE COUNCIL/CLERK TO COUNCIL SPACE WAS INSTALLED IN THE WRONG ROOM. COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR EXPLAINED THAT THE CLERK WAS GOING TO TAKE THE SMALLER ROOM BECAUSE THE FILES, COPIER, AND OTHER NECESSARY ITEMS WOULD NOT FIT IN THE ROOM ORIGINALLY DESIGNATED AS VOLUNTEER/FILE ROOM. COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR ALSO COMMENTED THE FILING SYSTEM NEEDED TO BE CHANGED BECAUSE THE FLOOR IN THIS AREA WAS NOT REINFORCED AS ORIGINALLY REQUESTED. SANDERS TATE SAID THAT HE DID NOT FEEL

THIS WOULD BE A PROBLEM TO MOVE THE CASE WORK IF COUNCIL AGREED TO THE CHANGE. MR. FULGHUM SAID HE WOULD RELAY THE MESSAGE TO HAVE THE CASE WORK MOVED. COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN TYLER SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE CHANGE ORDER #5 AND TO APPROVE HAVING THE CASE WORK MOVED TO THE PROPER LOCATION IN THE COUNCIL/CLERK TO COUNCIL AREA.

VICE CHAIRMAN TUTEN ASKED IF THE COUNTY HAD THE MONEY TO MAKE THESE CHANGES AND MR. FULGHUM RESPONDED THAT THE CHANGE ORDERS ARE PAID FROM THE BUILDING CONTINGENCY FUND. VICE CHAIRMAN TUTEN SAID THAT CHANGE ORDERS COST MONEY. MR FULGHUM RESPONDED THAT THE CHANGE ORDERS WILL NOT USE ALL THE MONEY THAT WAS PLACED IN THE BUILDING CONTINGENCY FUND. MR. TATE SAID HE FELT ABOUT \$150,000.00 OF THE BUILDING CONTINGENCY FUND WOULD COME BACK TO THE COUNTY. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

**ANDREW FULGHUM – COURTHOUSE RENOVATION:**

MR FULGHUM SAID THAT THE FLOOR PLANS WERE APPROVED BY MS. BOSTICK AND PROBATE JUDGE JOEY MALPHRUS AND HE WOULD LIKE TO PROCEED WITH THE BIDDING PROCESS. COUNCILWOMAN JONES ASKED IF ONLY MS. BOSTICK WAS INVOLVED WITH THE DECISION SINCE SHE IS OVER THE COURTHOUSE. MR. TATE SAID THAT BOTH MS. BOSTICK AND PROBATE JUDGE MALPHRUS AGREED TO THE PLANS. COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR ASKED IF THE RESTORATION COMMITTEE WAS INVOLVED AND CHAIRMAN HOOD RESPONDED THAT THE COMMITTEE HAS BEEN RELEASED. COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR MOTIONED AND VICE CHAIRMAN TUTEN SECONDED THE MOTION TO INSTRUCT THE ADMINISTRATOR TO PROCEED WITH THE BIDDING PROCESS FOR THE COURTHOUSE RENOVATION. COUNCILWOMAN JONES ASKED ABOUT THE TIMEFRAME. SANDERS TATE SAID THAT HE WOULD ADVERTISE ON THURSDAY AND THE BIDS WOULD BE DUE BY DECEMBER15, 2008 AND THEY WOULD BE READY TO START AS SOON AS THE PEOPLE IN THE COURTHOUSE COULD MOVE OUT. COUNCILWOMAN JONES ASKED IF THERE WERE PLANS AS TO WHERE THEY WERE GOING TO GO AND MR. FULGHUM RESPONDED THAT THE COUNCIL HAS NOT APPROVED THAT YET, BUT MS. BOSTICK HAS WORKED IT OUT. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**GLADY JONES – SILVER HAIRED LEGISLATURE REPORT:**

COUNCILWOMAN JONES EXPLAINED THAT THE SILVER HAIRED LEGISLATURE WAS CREATED IN 1999 AND THEY HAVE REPRESENTATIVES FROM EVERY COUNTY BASED ON THE NUMBER OF SENIORS THAT THEY ADVOCATE.

COUNCILWOMAN JONES REPORTED ON THE CONFERENCE SHE ATTENDED AND SHE PROVIDED THE PUBLIC WITH A LIST OF THE RESOLUTIONS THEY PRIORITIZED TO PRESENT TO THE LEGISLATURE.

1. SILVER ALERT (WHICH IS LIKE THE AMBER ALERT, BUT FOR SENIORS).
2. HIGH INTEREST LOANS LIKE CAR TITLE AND PAYCHECK THAT HAVE NO LIMIT ON THE AMOUNT OF INTEREST THEY CAN CHARGE. MS. JONES SAID THEY WERE MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS TO PUT A CEILING ON THE INTEREST RATE AND TO LIMIT THE NUMBER OF LOANS AN INDIVIDUAL COULD HAVE AT ONE TIME.
3. FOR LEGISLATURE TO INCREASE THE FUND FOR ABUSED SENIOR CITIZENS, WHICH IS CURRENTLY THE SAME AMOUNT THAT WAS BUDGETED IN 1970.
4. DEBT FORGIVENESS FOR NURSE PRACTITIONERS WHO SPECIALIZES IN GERIATRICS.
5. INCREASE FUNDING FOR IN HOME OR COMMUNITY SERVICE BASED CARE GIVERS AS IT COST LESS TO PROVIDE THE SERVICE AND IT ALLOWS SENIORS TO STAY IN THEIR HOMES.

COUNCILWOMAN JONES SAID THAT TRANSPORTATION WAS ALSO DISCUSSED AND SHE NOTED THAT IT WAS A NATIONAL PROBLEM. COUNCILWOMAN JONES SAID SHE WOULD BE GOING TO THE SILVER HAIRED CONGRESS IN WASHINGTON, D.C. IN FEBRUARY AND SHE WOULD REPORT BACK TO THE CITIZENS.

COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID THAT THE DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE MET AND THEY WERE GOING TO GO TO ROBERTVILLE AND EVALUATE THE PARK AND THAT THEY WILL REPORT BACK TO COUNCIL. COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID THAT THE PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR AND STAFF NEED TO COME UP WITH A PLAN THAT THE COMMUNITY APPROVES OF AND THEN BRING IT TO COUNCIL FOR APPROVAL.

COUNCILWOMAN JONES SAID THAT EACH OF THE COUNCIL MEMBERS RECEIVED A COPY OF THE REPORT ON COUNTY CELL PHONES. COUNCILWOMAN JONES ASKED THAT THE ADMINISTRATOR RESEARCH THIS AS TO WHY 160 COUNTY EMPLOYEES HAVE COUNTY PAID FOR CELL PHONES. COUNCILWOMAN JONES SAID THE 160 EMPLOYEES WITH CELL PHONES DO NOT INCLUDE THE EMPLOYEES WHO RECEIVE A MONTHLY ALLOWANCE FOR USING THEIR OWN PERSONAL CELL PHONE FOR COUNTY BUSINESS. COUNCILWOMAN JONES SAID THAT THE COUNTY PAYS OVER \$72,000.00 FOR CELL PHONES PER YEAR AND SHE ALSO QUESTIONED WHY THE COUNTY WAS PAYING \$130.00 PER MONTH FOR CERTAIN EMPLOYEES TO HAVE BLACKBERRY PHONES. CHAIRMAN HOOD TOLD THE ADMINISTRATOR TO HAVE THE INFORMATION AND JUSTIFICATION FOR THIS AT THE NEXT MEETING. COUNCILWOMAN JONES SAID THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT ASKED FOR CAMERA PHONES AND SHE UNDERSTOOD WHY THEY NEEDED THEM SINCE THEY DO NOT HAVE CAMERAS IN SOME OF THE PATROL CARS, BUT SHE SAW NO REASON WHY ANYONE NEEDED A BLACKBERRY.

**ADMINISTRATORS' REPORTS:**

**RONNIE MALPHRUS – UPDATE ON DELINQUENT TAX SALE:**

MR. MALPHRUS REPORTED THAT 237 PROPERTIES WERE SOLD AT THE TAX SALE FOR A TOTAL OF \$1,325,000.00 AND \$334,000.00 WAS PAID OUT OF THAT FOR THE TAXES WHICH GOES INTO THE COUNTY'S GENERAL FUND. VICE CHAIRMAN TUTEN ASKED HOW MUCH PROPERTY WAS REDEEMED FROM LAST YEAR'S SALE AND MR. MALPHRUS SAID HE WOULD HAVE TO GET THAT INFORMATION FROM THE TAX COLLECTOR. CHAIRMAN HOOD ASKED MR MALPHRUS TO PROVIDE THAT INFORMATION TO THE CLERK TO COUNCIL AND SHE WOULD GET IT TO THE COUNCIL.

**RONNIE MALPHRUS – UPDATE ON INSTALLMENT PAYMENT OF TAXES:**

MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT HE GAVE THE COUNCIL AN UPDATE A FEW MONTHS AGO, AND DUE TO THE COSTS, THE COUNCIL DECIDED TO HOLD OFF ON IT UNTIL A LATER DATE AND HE HAS NOT DONE ANYTHING FURTHER ON THIS MATTER. COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID HE THOUGHT THAT THE PROGRAMING COULD BE DONE FOR LESS THAN WAS THE \$30,000.00 QUOTED BY SMITH DATA. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THE FOUR COUNTIES THAT ARE DOING INSTALLMENT PAYMENTS OF TAXES ALL HAVE IN-HOUSE PROGRAMERS. CHAIRMAN HOOD ASKED MR MALPHRUS TO CONTACT THE 4 COUNTIES AND SEE IF THE COUNTY COULD USE THEIR PLAN. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT THE COUNTY WOULD NEED NEW SOFTWARE THAT COULD BE INTEGRATED INTO THE CURRENT COUNTY PROGRAMS AND MAINTENANCE. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT SMITH DATA HANDLES 30 COUNTIES AND NONE OF THOSE COUNTIES DO INSTALLMENT PAYMENT OF TAXES. MR. FULGHUM ASKED THAT THE COUNCIL ALLOW HIM AND MR. MALPHRUS TO WORK ON THIS. IT WAS THE CONSENSUS OF THE COUNCIL THAT MR. FULGHUM AND MR. MALPHRUS WORK ON THIS.

**OPEN FLOOR TO THE PUBLIC (3 MINUTE TIME LIMIT PER INDIVIDUAL);**  
CHAIRMAN HOOD OPENED THE FLOOR TO THE PUBLIC.

CARRIE FAIRE OF JASPER COUNTY NORTHERN NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION TOLD THE COUNCIL THAT THE ASSOCIATION WAS TRYING TO PUT TOGETHER A MEMORIAL FOR PAST COUNCILWOMAN EUNICE DOE, WHO WAS FROM PINELAND. MS. FAIRE SAID THAT THE MEMORIAL WOULD BE SIGNAGE ALONG HWY. 601 AT THAT THE HAMPTON COUNTY LINE TO HWY. 321. MS. FAIRE SAID THAT THE ASSOCIATION APPEARED BEFORE THE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE AND NOW THEY WERE COMING HERE TONIGHT TO NOTIFY COUNTY COUNCIL OF THEIR PLANS. CHAIRMAN HOOD ASKED THE COUNTY ATTORNEY TO INVESTIGATE AND SEE WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE. MS. FAIRE SAID THEIR MISSION IS TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN THEIR COMMUNITY AND TO RECOGNIZE INDIVIDUALS FROM THEIR COMMUNITY.

KELVIN PEEPLES SPOKE OUT AGAINST THE SAGGY PANTS ORDINANCE. MR. PEEPLES SAID THAT LAWS LIKE THIS HELP TO PERPETUATE THE

PROBLEM AND CHRIST LOOKS AT THE INNER HEART OF A PERSON, NOT ON THE OUTWARD APPEARANCE. MR. PEEPLES SAID THIS ORDINANCE IS MAKING SOME PEOPLE'S APPEARANCE CRIMINAL. MR. PEEPLES SAID THAT YOUNG BLACK MEN WILL BE RACIALLY PROFILED AND THAT THE LAW AFFECTS THE MINORITY PEOPLE DISPROPORTIONATELY. MR. PEEPLES SAID THAT PRESIDENT ELECT OBAMA WAS ASKED ABOUT THE BAGGY PANTS AND HE SAID THEY SHOULD PULL THEM UP. MR. PEEPLES SAID THAT JASPER COUNTY IS ONE OF THE POOREST COUNTIES IN THE COUNTRY AND TAKING TIME TO COORDINATE A PERSON'S DRESS IS A WASTE OF TIME. MR. PEEPLES SAID THAT PRESIDENT ELECT OBAMA SAID THAT THEY SHOULD CONCENTRATE ON JOBS, EDUCATION, AND HEALTHCARE. MR. PEEPLES SAID THAT PEOPLE ARE FOCUSING ON SAGGY PANTS AND IT IS A WASTE OF TIME. MR. PEEPLES SAID THAT THIS ORDINANCE ONLY CREATES ANOTHER WAY FOR THE SHERIFF TO PUT 100 PEOPLE IN JAIL AND THERE ARE BIGGER PROBLEMS THAN THE WAY PEOPLE DRESS. MR. PEEPLES SAID THAT LAWS AGAINST BAGGY PANTS ARE AGAINST THE PEOPLES RIGHT TO EXPRESS THEMSELVES AND SPEECH CAN ONLY BE SUPPRESSED IF IT IS GOING TO CREATE EMINENT DANGER. CHAIRMAN HOOD COMMENTED THAT HE HOPED THAT MR. PEEPLES CONTINUED HIS WORK WITH THE YOUNG MEN IN THE COMMUNITY.

LAYFETTE WEBBER COMMENTED THAT HE SUPPORTED THE SAGGY PANTS ORDINANCE AND THAT HE KNOWS FIRST HAND THE MENTALITY OF THE YOUNG MEN WHO WEAR THESE PANTS AS THEY PASS IN FRONT OF HIS HOUSE TO GET TO THE DRUG HOUSE. MR. WEBBER SAID HE WAS RAISED BY THE STRONG HANDS OF HIS FATHER, BUT MOTHERS TODAY HAVE A REAL TASK TO RAISE BOYS BECAUSE THEY DO NOT HAVE THE FAMILY SUPPORT. MR. WEBBER SAID HE FELT THE UNIFORMS IN SCHOOL WAS A POSITIVE STEP AND THIS ORDINANCE WILL RESULT IN MORE GOOD MOVES IN JASPER COUNTY. MR WEBBER SAID THAT ON OCTOBER 29, 2008, THREE SEVENTEEN YEAR OLD BOYS WERE CAUGHT SELLING DRUGS, AND IF THEY ARE DOING THIS AT SEVENTEEN, WHAT DIRECTION WERE THEY HEADED. MR. WEBBER SAID THAT THERE ARE SOLUTIONS TO PROBLEMS AND THE CITIZENS WILL HAVE TO WORK WITH THE COUNCIL TO HELP THE YOUNG PEOPLE AND ALL THE PEOPLE NEED TO ADDRESS THE ISSUES. BEING NO FURTHER COMMENTS, CHAIRMAN HOOD CLOSED THE FLOOR TO THE PUBLIC.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

COUNCILWOMAN JONES MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN TYLER SECONDED THE MOTION TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS EMPLOYMENT MATTERS AND CONTRACTUAL MATTERS. THE MOTION WAS CARRIED BY ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

**RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION:**

COUNCILWOMAN JONES MOTIONED & COUNCILMAN TYLER SECONDED THE MOTION TO RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID THAT A MOTION WAS NOT NECESSARY ON THE CONTRACTUAL MATTER & HE ASKED THE ADMINISTRATOR TO PROCEED.

CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID THAT A MOTION WAS NOT NECESSARY ON THE EMPLOYMENT MATTER.

**ADJOURN:**

COUNCILWOMAN JONES 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 7.15.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