



**JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
358 THIRD AVE., RIDGELAND, SC 29936
DECEMBER 5, 2011, 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, DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES RONNIE MALPHRUS, DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES WILBUR DALEY, DALE TERRY, DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING SERVICES, ATTORNEY MARVIN JONES, CLERK TO COUNCIL JUDITH FRANK, PLANNING DIRECTOR DAVID JIROUSEK, CHIEF BUILDING INSPECTOR HERMAN SMITH

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 DRAYTON GAVE THE INVOCATION.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA- CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR ADDED 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 TO THE EXECUTIVE SESSION – [DEPUTY COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR](#). VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN DRAYTON SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE AMENDED AGENDA. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES 11/07/11 COUNCIL MEETING, 11/14/11 CALLED MEETING, 10/31/11 ENGINEERING SERVICES MEETING – VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN SAULS SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE 11/07/11 COUNCIL MEETING AND 11/14/11 SPECIAL CALLED MEETING AND TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE 10/31/11 ENGINEERING SERVICES MEETING FOR INFORMATION.

PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

PALMETTO ELECTRIC – PRESENTATION OF RDA FUNDS – DANIELLE TROLL PRESENTED THE COUNTY WITH A CHECK FOR \$300,000 FROM PALMETTO ELECTRIC RDA FUNDS FOR ADDITIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE AT THE CYPRESS RIDGE BUSINESS INDUSTRIAL PARK. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR ACCEPTED THE CHECK AND THANKED PALMETTO ELECTRIC FOR THEIR SUPPORT.

JAMIE MCCURRY, GEORGIA PORTS AUTHORITY – SAVANNAH HARBOR EXPANSION PROJECT/JASPER OCEAN TERMINAL – MR. MCCURRY PROVIDE THE COUNCIL AND UPDATE ON THE SAVANNAH HARBOR EXPANSION PROJECT/JASPER OCEAN TERMINAL. MR. MCCURRY'S UPDATE INCLUDED THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE SAVANNAH PORT AND THE INCOME AND TAXES IT GENERATE. MR. MCCURRY DISCUSSED THE IMPORTANCE OF DEEPENING THE PORT. MR. MCCURRY PROVIDED A SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS OF THE JASPER PORT SITE. COUNCILMAN SAULS ASKED ABOUT THE OXYGEN INFILTRATION. MR. MCCURRY SAID THAT IT IS WORKING ON ANOTHER PROJECT. COUNCILMAN SAULS SAID HE FELT THAT DHEC HAS GIVEN AWAY THE FARM AND HE ASKED WHAT THE GEORGIA PORTS AUTHORITY FELT ABOUT THE LITIGATION. MR. MCCURRY SAID HE WAS NOT PREPARED TO ANSWER THAT QUESTION.

DEAN MOSS- SAVANNAH MARITIME COMMISSION – MR. MOSS SAID THAT THE MARITIME COMMISSION MET AFTER THE DHEC APPROVAL AND THEY OBJECTED TO DHEC'S DECISION. MR. MOSS SAID THEY DID NOT FEEL THE AGREEMENT WENT FAR ENOUGH TO PROTECT THE WATER QUALITY AND RESOURCES. MR. MOSS SAID THAT BY STATUTE THE MARITIME COMMISSION CAN GRANT THAT RIGHT AND THEY ARE MEETING ON DEC. 9, 2011 TO DECIDE WHAT TO DO. MR. MOSS SAID THEY HOPE TO AVOID LITIGATION, BUT HE COULD NOT DISCUSS IT AT THIS TIME. COUNCILMAN SAULS ASKED IF THE OXYGEN INFILTRATION IS A PROVEN METHOD. MR. MOSS SAID HE WAS NOT AWARE IF IT HAS BEEN UTILIZED AT THIS SCALE AND TYPE OF ENVIRONMENT AND THAT IT IS NOT PRUDENT TECHNOLOGY. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED IF IT HAS BEEN USED ANYWHERE. MR. MOSS SAID THAT IT IS A BIG PROBLEM TO SOLVE AND IT

HAS ONLY BEEN USED ON A SMALLER SCALE AND HE HAS YET TO SEE IF IT WILL GO ANY FURTHER. COUNCILMAN SAULS SAID THAT OXYGEN INFILTRATION IS NOT THE ONLY ISSUE, THERE ARE MANY ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES. MR. MOSS SAID THERE IS ALSO AN INTERNAL ISSUE IN SOUTH CAROLINA AS TO WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR DEALING WITH THIS AND IT IS A SIGNIFICANT ISSUE THAT THE STATE NEEDS TO MAKE THEIR DECISION CAREFULLY AND CORRECTLY. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON ASKED ABOUT THE SIZE OF THE SHIPS. MR. MOSS SAID THEY ARE SUBSTANTIALLY DIFFERENT THAT WHAT IS THERE TODAY. MR. MOSS SAID THEY WILL BE A LOT BIGGER AND SAVANNAH IS PLANNING A DEPTH OF 48 FT. WHICH IS SUBSTANTIALLY DEEPER THAN IT IS NOW.

GARY HODGES – REQUEST FOR RECOGNITION TO HONOR THE LATE SHERIFF CLARENCE W. FLOYD ON THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS DEATH – MR. HODGE SAID THAT THE COUNTY WILL BE CELEBRATING IT'S CENTENNIAL AND IN JUNE IT WILL BE 50 YEARS SINCE SHERIFF FLOYD LOST HIS LIFE IN THE LINE OF DUTY. MR. HODGES REQUESTED THAT AS THE COUNTY'S GOVERNING BODY THAT THE COUNCIL COME UP WITH SOMETHING TO RECOGNIZE HIS SACRIFICE. MR. HODGES SAID SHERIFF FLOYD IS THE ONLY COUNTY EMPLOYEE KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY. MR. HODGES SAID HE PREVIOUSLY REQUESTED THAT THE LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER BE NAMED IN HIS HONOR. MR. HODGES SAID SHERIFF HODGES ONLY HAS THREE LIVING CHILDREN AND HE WAS REQUESTING THAT SOMETHING BE DONE NOW. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR ASKED HOW THE COUNCIL WANTED TO HANDLE THIS REQUEST. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN DRAYTON SECONDED THE MOTION TO TABLE THIS REQUEST UNTIL THE COUNCIL HAS MORE INFORMATION AND SUGGESTIONS. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

STEVE ROUNTREE – HISTORICAL SOCIETY CONCERNS REGARDING RENOVATION OF THE OLD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL USED BY THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT – MR. ROUNTREE REQUESTED THAT THE COUNTY DELAY WORKING ON THE OLD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL. RITA LIVINGSTON EXPLAINED THAT THE BUILDING IS ONE OF THE FIVE OLDEST BUILDINGS IN THE COUNTY AND MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE HISTORICAL REGISTRY. MS. LIVINGSTON INFORMED THE COUNCIL THAT THERE MAY BE GRANTS AVAILABLE AND ASKED THE COUNCIL FOR TIME TO EXPLORE POSSIBLE FUNDING FOR THE BUILDING TO BE PRESERVED. COUNCILMAN SAULS MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL TIME TO EXPLORE FUNDING. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

ORDINANCES

MARVIN JONES – 2ND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING 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 EXPLAINED THAT THE ORDINANCE WAS FOR A REFERENDUM TO BE PLACED ON THE BALLOT TO CHANGE THE METHOD OF THE ELECTION OF COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBERS FROM AT LARGE TO SINGLE MEMBER DISTRICTS. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR OPENED THE PUBLIC HEARING.

MS. BARTOLDUS ASKED FOR AN EXPLANATION OF THE QUESTIONS FOR THE REFERENDUM. MR. JONES EXPLAINED THAT IT IS FOR THE VOTERS TO DECIDE IF THEY WANT TO VOTE TO HAVE A SINGLE MEMBER DISTRICTS WHERE THE COUNCIL MEMBER WOULD BE VOTED ON ONLY IN THE DISTRICT HE/SHE REPRESENTS OR IF THEY WANTED TO CONTINUE TO VOTE AT LARGE FOR ALL THE MEMBERS OF COUNCIL. MS. BARTOLDUS ASKED IF THERE WAS ANY BENEFIT TO HAVING THE SAME NUMBER OF COUNCIL MEMBERS AND SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS. MR. JONES SAID HE WAS NOT SURE WHERE THAT STANDS, BUT IT WAS NOT DEALT WITH IN THIS ORDINANCE. MR. JONES ADDED THAT THE DISTRICTS WILL NEED TO BE REDRAWN DUE TO CENSUS TO REFLECT THE POPULATION. MS. BARTOLDUS ASKED WHO DRAWS THE DISTRICTS. MR. JONES SAID THE COUNTY COUNCIL DRAWS THE DISTRICTS AND GENERALLY THEY HAVE DEMOGRAPHIC PEOPLE DRAW THE LINES AS THERE ARE A LOT OF LAWS THEY MUST FOLLOW. MR. JONES SAID THE COUNCIL WILL ADOPT THE DISTRICTS BY ORDINANCE. MR. JONES SAID THIS WILL NOT AFFECT THE 2012 ELECTION.

MILTON WOODS- STATED THAT THIS IS AN ISSUE THAT THE PEOPLE HAVE TO UNDERSTAND AND IF IT IS CHANGED, THERE WILL BE 5 COUNCIL MEMBERS AND THEY WILL ONLY BE ABLE TO VOTE FOR ONE. MR. WOODS SAID THAT CURRENTLY THERE ARE 5 COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENTING ALL THE CITIZENS AND THEY NEED TO CONSIDER THE FUTURE COUNCILS WHEN THEY ARE MAKING A DECISION REGARDING SPENDING MONEY. MR. WOODS ASKED THAT THE COUNCIL STUDY IT AS A PROSPECTIVE OF THE CITIZENS AND THE LEGAL RAMIFICATIONS IT WILL IMPOSE ON THE TAXPAYERS. MR. WOODS SAID THERE HAS NOT BEEN ANY GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THIS WITH THE PUBLIC. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID THE PEOPLE WILL DECIDE, NOT THE COUNCIL. MR. WOODS SAID THAT THIS WOULD BE LIMITING THE REPRESENTATION OF THE TAXPAYERS.

GARY HODGES SAID THE COUNCIL WOULD HAVE TO REPEAL THE PREVIOUS ORDINANCE REGARDING THIS MATTER. MR. JONES SAID THAT THE COUNCIL PREVIOUSLY APPROVED 2 QUESTIONS AND IT WAS POSTPONED; THE CURRANT ORDINANCE ONLY ADDRESSES VOTING FOR SINGLE MEMBER DISTRICTS AND VOTING AT LARGE.

CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR CLOSED THE PUBLIC HEARING. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN SAULS SECONDED THE MOTION THAT THIS BE THE 2ND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING 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.

KIM STATLER – 3RD READING AND PUBLIC HEARING OF THE ORDINANCE TO ENTER INTO A MULTI-COUNTY PARK AGREEMENT WITH BEAUFORT COUNTY DANIEL DEFENSE- MS. STATLER EXPLAINED THAT THIS IS THE 3RD READING AND PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE ORDINANCE TO ENTER INTO A MULTI-COUNTY PARK AGREEMENT WITH BEAUFORT COUNTY FOR DANIEL DEFENSE. MS. STALER SAID THAT DANIEL DEFENSE WILL BE INVESTING \$5,300,000 AND CREATING 100 JOBS. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR OPENED THE PUBLIC HEARING. THERE WERE NO COMMENTS. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR CLOSED THE PUBLIC HEARING. COUNCILMAN SAULS MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN DRAYTON SECONDED THE MOTION THAT THIS BE THE 3RD READING AND PUBLIC HEARING OF THE ORDINANCE TO ENTER INTO A MULTI-COUNTY PARK AGREEMENT WITH BEAUFORT COUNTY DANIEL DEFENSE. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

DAVID JIROUSEK – 2ND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING 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. JIROUSEK EXPLAINED THAT THE OWNER OF THE PROPERTY WAS REQUESTING THE CHANGE AND THE BUSINESS WOULD HAVE 2 PEOPLE OVERSEEING THE BUSINESS AND 5 EMPLOYEES. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR OPENED THE PUBLIC HEARING. THERE WERE NO COMMENTS. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR CLOSED THE PUBLIC HEARING. COUNCILMAN SAULS MOTIONED AND VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SECONDED THE MOTION THAT THIS BE THE 2ND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING 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.

DAVID JIROUSEK – 3RD READING OF THE ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF JASPER COUNTY SOS AS TO TRANSFER A PROPERTY BEARING JASPER COUNTY TAX MAP NUMBER 039-00-06-228 AND GENERALLY LOCATED ON LIMEHOUSE ROAD FROM THE RESIDENTIAL ZONE TO THE COMMUNITY COMMERCIAL ZONE ON THE JASPER COUNTY OFFICIAL ZONING MAP- MR. JIROUSEK EXPLAINED THAT MR. STEWART REQUESTED THE CHANGE SO THAT A BEAUTY SUPPLY

STORE AND SHOP COULD BE LOCATED THERE. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THAT THIS ITEM WAS TABLED AND THERE WERE 2 INDIVIDUALS OPPOSING THE CHANGE. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THAT THE PLANNING COMMISSION AND STAFF RECOMMENDED APPROVAL. COUNCILMAN SAULS MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SECONDED THE MOTION TO DENY THE ZONING REQUEST. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THE PRIMARY USE OF THE LAND IN THAT AREA IS RESIDENTIAL; HOWEVER THERE WAS SOME COMMERCIAL USES IN THE AREA. MR. JIROUSEK EXPLAINED THAT COMMUNITY COMMERCIAL IS A BETTER FIT TO RESIDENTIAL AREAS. MR. WILLIAMS EXPLAINED THAT HIS FAMILY HAS LIVED IN THAT AREA ALL OF THEIR LIVES AND THEY DID NOT WANT THE ZONING CHANGED. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY ASKED HOW CLOSE WAS HIS PROPERTY TO THE PROPERTY REQUESTING TO BE REZONED. MR. WILLIAMS RESPONDED IT WAS ABOUT 25 YARDS. MR. WILLIAMS SAID THE SIGN FOR THE REZONING WAS IN A DITCH AND NO ONE COULD SEE IT AND COME TO OPPOSE THE REZONING. TANJALIA PEOPLES JOHNSON SAID SHE WAS THE OWNER OF THE PROPERTY AND THE PROPERTY WAS FOR SALE FOR 9 MONTHS AND THE SIGN IN THE DITCH WAS THE REAL ESTATE SIGN. MS. JOHNSON SAID MR. WILLIAMS PROPERTY IS 525 FT. FOR HER PROPERTY AND HER PROPERTY WAS 255 FEET FROM MR. EVANS DRIVEWAY. MS. JOHNSON SAID SHE WANTED TO CLEAR ½ ACRE AND WOULD LEAVE A BUFFER. MR. WILLIAMS DISAGREED WITH MS. JOHNSON'S STATEMENT AND HE SAID HE HAD OFFERED TO PURCHASE THE PROPERTY FROM THE SELLER. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE COMMENTED THAT IF THIS PROPERTY IS REZONED, IT WOULD BE ON ONLY PIECE OF COMMERCIAL PIECE OF PROPERTY ON THAT SIDE OF THE ROAD. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID WHEN HE WENT TO LOOK AT THE PROPERTY NO REZONING SIGN WAS UP. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY AND COUNCILMEN DRAYTON, ETHERIDGE AND SAULS VOTING FOR. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR DID NOT VOTE.

RESOLUTIONS

ANDREW FULGHUM – RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF BEAUFORT COUNTY AS A QUALIFIED LOCAL PUBLIC AGENCY IN CONNECTION WITH A PROJECT RELATED TO THE BLUFFTON PARKWAY AND THE EXIT 3 INTERCHANGE – MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT TED FELDER OBTAINED THE GRANT OF \$500,000 AND THERE WAS A \$125,000 MATCH. MR. FULGHUM SAID THE GRANT WAS IDENTIFIED FOR EXIT 3 AND A ROUTE STUDY FOR THE BLUFFTON PARKWAY. MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT STRATFORD WILL PAY FOR THE MATCH AND BEAUFORT COUNTY WILL BE THE LOCAL PUBLIC AGENCY TO ADMINISTER THE GRANT WITH JASPER COUNTY PARTICIPATION. COUNCILMAN SAULS MOTIONED AND VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SECONDED THE MOTION TO PASS THE RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF BEAUFORT COUNTY AS A QUALIFIED LOCAL PUBLIC AGENCY IN CONNECTION WITH A PROJECT RELATED TO THE BLUFFTON PARKWAY AND THE EXIT 3 INTERCHANGE. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

KIM STATLER – INDUCEMENT RESOLUTION FOR DANIEL DEFENSE, INC. – MS. STATLER EXPLAINED THAT THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH DANIEL DEFENSE AUTHORIZED THIS INDUCEMENT AGREEMENT THAT INCLUDED A PILOT AND DEFERRING THE PILOT UNTIL THE NEXT CALENDAR YEAR. MR. MCNAFF SAID DANIEL DEFENSE IS VERY EXCITED ABOUT OPENING IN JASPER COUNTY AND THEY HAVE HAD OVER 400 APPLICATIONS FOR EMPLOYMENT. MR. MCNAFF SAID THEY WERE RENOVATING THE 90,000 SQ. FT. BUILDING. COUNCILMAN SAULS ASKED IF THERE WERE ANY NEW POSITIONS AND MR. MCNAFF RESPONDED CURRENTLY ONLY CONSTRUCTION WORK IS BEING DONE AND NO FULLTIME PEOPLE HAVE BEEN HIRED YET. MR. MCNAFF SAID THEY HAVE ORDERED MILLIONS OF DOLLARS WORTH OF EQUIPMENT AND PLAN TO START HIRING NEAR THE END OF THE 1ST QUARTER, BUT WILL START INTERVIEWING AFTER THE 1ST OF THE YEAR. MR. MCNAFF SAID THEY SELL TO THE MILITARY IN US AND THE UK AND TO POLICE AGENCIES ACROSS THE COUNTY. COUNCILMAN SAULS MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE INDUCEMENT RESOLUTION FOR DANIEL DEFENSE, INC. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

RONNIE MALPHRUS – RESOLUTION TO RENEW THE BOND ANTICIPATION NOTE FOR THE SCHOOL PROJECT- MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT THE BAN RENEWAL FOR THE SCHOOLS ORIGINATED IN 2005 WHEN THE 2 NEW SCHOOLS WERE BUILT. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THE SCHOOL DISTRICT PLEDGED THEIR PORTION OF THE SCANA MONEY TO PAY FOR THE BAN. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THE PLAN WAS TO RENEW IT FOR ONE MORE YEAR AND/OR BOND IT OUT PERMANENTLY IN 2012. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN DRAYTON SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION TO RENEW THE BOND ANTICIPATION NOTE FOR THE SCHOOL PROJECT. COUNCILMAN SAULS ASKED ABOUT THE INTEREST RATE. MR. MALPHRUS SAID IT WAS UNDER 2%. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THE ORIGINAL AMOUNT WAS \$5,255,000 AND CURRENTLY IT IS \$5,000,000. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THIS MUST BE RENEWED PRIOR TO FEB., 2012. COUNCILMAN SAULS ASKED WHY A CUSHION WAS NEEDED. MR. MALPHRUS SAID IT WAS DUE TO THE ISSUANCE COSTS AND THEY DID NOT KNOW WHAT THEY WOULD BE. COUNCILMAN SAULS ASKED IF THE COUNCIL WILL KNOW THE AMOUNT PRIOR TO SIGNING. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THIS RESOLUTION AUTHORIZES THE ADMINISTRATOR AND THE CHAIRMAN TO SIGN TO RENEW. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID IF THEY ARE PAYING \$35,000 PER YEAR ON THE PRINCIPAL IT WILL TAKE 100 YEARS TO PAY FOR IT. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID THE PILOT WAS IN 2003 AND IT WAS FOR 30 YEARS. MR. MALPHRUS SAID HE FELT THERE WAS ENOUGH OF THE SCHOOL'S PORTION TO COVER THE SCHOOL'S COSTS. THE MOTION WAS CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

OLD BUSINESS – NO OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

ANDREW FULGHUM - APPROVAL OF MOU BETWEEN JASPER COUNTY AND BEAUFORT COUNTY REGARDING GRANT FOR EXIT 3 AND THE BLUFFTON PARKWAY PHASES 6 AND 7 - MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT BEAUFORT COUNTY HAS NOT APPROVED THE MOU AND HE REQUESTED THAT THE COUNCIL APPROVE FOR THE ADMINISTRATOR TO SIGN THE MOU PROVIDING THERE HAVE BEEN NO MAJOR CHANGES. COUNCILMAN SAULS MOTIONED AND VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MOU BETWEEN JASPER COUNTY AND BEAUFORT COUNTY REGARDING GRANT FOR EXIT 3 AND THE BLUFFTON PARKWAY PHASES 6 AND 7 AND AUTHORIZE THE ADMINISTRATOR TO SIGN PROVIDING NO MAJOR CHANGES HAVE BEEN MADE. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

DAVID JIROUSEK – APPROVAL OF CONTRACT WITH BROWN AND CALDWELL FOR 2012 JASPER COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE- MR. JIROUSEK EXPLAINED THAT IT WAS TIME TO UPDATE THE COUNTY’S SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN AND PRESENTED A CONTRACT FROM BROWN CALDWELL FOR THE 2012 SOLID WASTE PLAN. MR. JIROUSEK SAID NO WORK HAS BEEN DONE SINCE 2002 AND THE CURRENT PLAN IS DUE TO EXPIRE IN 2 YEARS. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THAT HE HAS CONTACTED WASTE MANAGEMENT ABOUT PAYING FOR THE COST OF THE PLAN. COUNCILMAN SAULS MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN DRAYTON SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONTRACT WITH BROWN AND CALDWELL FOR 2012 JASPER COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE CONTINGENT UPON WASTE MANAGEMENT FUNDING THE UPDATE. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR. COUNCILMAN SAULS THANKED MR. JIROUSEK FOR THE WORK HE HAS DONE ON THE PLAN AND HE ALSO THANKED WASTE MANAGEMENT FOR BEING GOOD PARTNERS WITH THE COUNTY. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THE CURRENT HOST AGREEMENT HAS EXPIRED, BUT THIS INFORMATION IS IMPORTANT FOR NEGOTIATIONS REGARDING THE HOST AGREEMENT.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: COUNCILMAN SAULS REPORTED THAT THE EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE MET AND DISCUSSED VARIOUS GRANTS AND A REQUEST TO PURCHASE ADDITIONAL VEHICLES. COUNCILMAN SAULS SAID THE COMMITTEE REQUESTED ADDITIONAL INFORMATION. COUNCILMAN SAULS SAID THAT THE EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE ALSO DISCUSSED THE FIRE TOWER ROAD FIRE STATION TO SEE IF THE COMMUNITY WOULD COME TOGETHER LIKE LEVY DID TO GET THE STATION BUILT AND BETTER FIRE SERVICE WOULD BE BENEFIT THAT AREA AND OTHER AREAS OF THE COUNTY. COUNCILMAN SAULS SAID THE COMMITTEE WAS WORKING WITH THE STAFF AND WILL BE MAKING A RECOMMENDATION TO THE COUNCIL AT A FUTURE MEETING. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THE ENGINEERING SERVICES COMMITTEE MET AND EVERYTHING IS MOVING RIGHT ALONG.

COUNCILMAN DRAYTON SAID HE WAS ASSIGNED TO THE LAND USE STEERING COMMITTEE AND THEY MET IN CHARLESTON TO DISCUSS 10 ISSUES WHICH WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE LEGISLATORS.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – MR. FULGHUM REPORTED THAT THE RIDGELAND INDUSTRIAL PARK WAS MOVING FORWARD. MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT THE COUNTY RECEIVED A REFUND OF \$35,000 FROM WORKERS COMPENSATION. MR. FULGHUM TOLD THE COUNCIL THAT THE STATE INFRASTRUCTURE BOARD WAS READY TO HEAR PROPOSALS AND HE WOULD BE ATTENDING THE MEETING ON DEC. 13, 2011 WITH THE COUNCIL CHAIRMAN. CHIEF DALEY REQUESTED PERMISSION TO ENTER INTO A MOU WITH HAMPTON COUNTY AND BEAUFORT COUNTY FOR A REGIONAL 911 NETWORK THAT WILL BACK EACH OTHER UP. CHIEF DALEY SAID THIS WOULD BE DONE AT NO COST TO THE COUNTY AND THE COUNTIES WOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR OWN EQUIPMENT. COUNCILMAN SAULS MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SECONDED THE MOTION TO ALLOW CHIEF DALEY TO ENTER INTO A MOU WITH HAMPTON COUNTY AND BEAUFORT COUNTY FOR A REGIONAL 911 NETWORK AT NO COST TO THE COUNTY. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

MR. MALPHRUS REQUESTED PERMISSION TO FILL A FULL TIME POSITION IN THE ASSESSOR'S OFFICE THAT HAS BECOME AVAILABLE. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT THE ASSESSOR'S OFFICE HAS RECEIVED OVER 800 TAX APPEALS. COUNCILMAN SAULS MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE FILLING THE FULL TIME POSITION OF APPRAISER IN THE ASSESSOR'S OFFICE. THE MOTION WAS CARRIED WITH ALL PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR. DAVID JIROUSEK REPORTED THAT THE PARKING LOT AT EMERGENCY SERVICES IS UNDERWAY AND SHOULD GO OUT TO BID BY THE END OF DECEMBER. THE COUNCIL RECEIVED AN UPDATE FROM MR. JIROUSEK ON THE IMPROVEMENTS NEEDED AND THE ADDITIONAL COST TO REMOVE THE ASBESTOS AT THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THAT TERRY LEE CONSTRUCTION IS MOVING FORWARD ON THE PROJECT AT CYPRESS RIDGE AND THE PROJECT IS ON SCHEDULE. MR. JIROUSEK REQUESTED PERMISSION TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT NOT TO EXCEED \$210,000. MR. JIROUSEK REQUESTED TO USE \$20,000 FROM THE COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT FUNDS FOR CONTINGENCIES. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THE PROJECT IS CURRENTLY UNDER BUDGET WITHOUT THE CONTINGENCIES. COUNCILMAN SAULS MOTIONED AND VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SECONDED THE MOTION TO DENY THE REQUEST OF \$210,000 AND TO KEEP THE CONTRACT AT \$200,000 AS DIRECTED. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THAT CAROLINA CHERRY WILL HAVE TO BE DROPPED AND IT WILL LIMIT DEVELOPMENT. COUNCILMAN SAULS TOLD MR. JIROUSEK TO GO BACK TO TERRY LEE AND NEGOTIATE. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THEY HAD AGREED TO THE \$200,000 AND THEY SHOULD KEEP IT THAT WAY. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY, AND COUNCILMEN SAULS AND ETHERIDGE VOTING FOR;

COUNCILMAN DRAYTON VOTED AGAINST. MR. JIROUSEK WITHDREW HIS SECOND REQUEST.

MR. JIROUSEK DISCUSSED THE TOUR OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT AND THAT ASBESTOS HAS BEEN FOUND IN SEVERAL AREAS. MR. JIROUSEK REQUESTED TO A RESAMPLE THE CEILING BECAUSE THE DEMOLITION WILL IMPACT THE CEILING EVEN THOUGH IT WILL NOT BE REMOVED. MR. JIROUSEK SAID HE HAD A QUOTE OF \$1,600 TO RETEST THE ORIGINAL CEILING. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN SAULS SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE BID OF \$1,600 TO RETEST THE ORIGINAL CEILING FOR ASBESTOS. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THIS IS THE SAME BUILDING THEY ARE DELAYING WORK ON AT THE REQUEST OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND PERHAPS THEY SHOULD WAIT TO SEE IF THE BUILDING IS TO BE TORN DOWN. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID THE MOTION WAS NOT ESSENTIAL TO THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S REQUEST, BUT IT WILL HELP FINALIZE THE COSTS. THE COUNCIL DISCUSSED THE OTHER AREAS IN THE BUILDING WHERE THERE IS ASBESTOS PRESENT. COUNCILMAN SAULS COMMENTED THAT IT WILL STILL BE WITHIN THE AMOUNT BUDGETED. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THE PROJECTED COST FOR THE TESTING AND DESIGN ARE WITHIN BUDGET, BUT THE ASBESTOS PROBLEMS MAY NOT BE. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

MR. FULGHUM REPORTED THAT HE ATTENDED A FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING AT SCAC AND THEY DISCUSSED THE MULTI-LOT DESIGNATION. MR. FULGHUM SAID THE BUILDERS ARE PUSHING FOR AN EXTENSION AND THEY ARE TRYING TO GET A 10 LOT MINIMUM WITH AN EXTENSION OF 2 YEARS.

MR. FULGHUM REPORTED THAT THE POSITION OF DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR CREATED BY THE COUNCIL 8 MONTHS AGO WAS FILLED. MR. FULGHUM SAID HE FELT THERE WAS CONTROVERSY REGARDING THE APPLICANTS FOR THE POSITION. MR. FULGHUM REPORTED THAT THERE WERE 38 APPLICANTS OF WHICH 22 HAD FULLY COMPLETED THE PACKET. MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT 13 INDIVIDUALS WERE SCHEDULED TO BE INTERVIEWED, 3 INDIVIDUALS WITHDREW; 10 INDIVIDUALS WERE INTERVIEWED. MR. FULGHUM SAID ALL APPLICANTS HAD TO PAY THEIR OWN TRAVEL EXPENSES. MR. FULGHUM SAID THEY NARROWED IT DOWN TO 3 APPLICANTS AND ON DEC. 1, 2011 THE JOB WAS OFFERED TO DR. GEORGE HOOD AT \$76,928 AND DR. HOOD WOULD START WORK ON DECEMBER 12, 2011.

OPEN FLOOR TO THE PUBLIC - REQUEST TO BE HEARD PER ORDINANCE 08-17 - ANY CITIZEN OF THE COUNTY MAY SIGN UP TO SPEAK AT ANY REGULAR MEETING OF COUNTY COUNCIL ON MATTERS PERTAINING TO COUNTY SERVICES AND OPERATIONS. INTERESTED CITIZENS MAY SIGN AN AGENDA LIST MAINTAINED BY THE CLERK TO COUNCIL PRIOR TO EACH REGULAR MEETING. CITIZENS WISHING TO SPEAK MUST INDICATE THE SUBJECT AND PURPOSE FOR WHICH THEY SEEK TO ADDRESS COUNCIL AND INCLUDE THEIR NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER.

PRESENTATIONS WILL BE LIMITED TO THREE (3) MINUTES. THE CHAIRMAN MAY PERMIT ADDITIONAL TIME FOR SPEAKERS. NO SPEAKER MAY USE LANGUAGE THAT IS OBSCENE, DISRUPTIVE, SCURRILOUS, OR RECKLESSLY DEFAMATORY:

ROY PRYOR ASKED IF THE DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR POSITION WAS REALLY NEEDED AND IF THE COUNTY CAN AFFORD TO HIRE ONE, THEY NEEDED TO HIRE FROM WITHIN. MR. PRYOR SAID HE SAW A LOT OF SHARP PEOPLE HERE TONIGHT AND HE ASKED IF THEY HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO GET THE JOB. MR. PRYOR SAID 5-7 FIREMEN SHOULD HAVE BEEN HIRED. MR. PRYOR ASKED IF DR. HOOD WAS GOING TO GO OUT AND ATTRACT INDUSTRY. MR. PRYOR SAID THIS WHOLE THING HAS BEEN A WASTE OF TIME, AND WHY NOT HIRE SOMEONE FROM WITHIN THAT HAS NOT BEEN FIRED FROM HIS LAST TWO JOBS BY THE SCHOOL DISTRICT AND THE CITIZENS. MR. PRYOR SAID DR. HOOD'S FRIENDS ARE HIRING HIM AS A DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR. MR. PRYOR SAID THE PEOPLE ARE UPSET ABOUT THE TAXES AND THE COUNCIL NEEDS TO STOP CARELESS SPENDING. MR. PRYOR SAID HE WAS NOT HAPPY ABOUT HIS TAXES. MR. PRYOR SAID EVERYONE IS COMING ASKING FOR MONEY AND SOONER OR LATER THINGS NEED TO BALANCE. MR. PRYOR SAID THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR WHO HIRED DR. HOOD HAS NOT BEEN LISTENING TO THE PUBLIC, THE PUBLIC CAN ONLY VOTE TO MAKE CHANGES.

DENISE DAVIDSON SAID SHE WAS HAPPY TO SEE THAT COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE WAS WELL ENOUGH TO ATTEND THE MEETING. MS. DAVIDSON SAID THAT SHE PREPARED A SIGN FOR THE MEETING AFTER SHE ADDED ALL THE SALARIES AND BENEFITS IN THE JASPER COUNTY BUDGET. MS. DAVIDSON SAID THAT THE TOTAL IS \$11,358,390 WHICH IS OVER 50% OF THE ENTIRE BUDGET. MS. DAVIDSON SAID THAT A FAMILY OF FOUR, EVERY PERSON HAS TO PAY \$974 TO MEET THIS TAX BURDEN AND THAT DOES NOT INCLUDE THE TAXES ON EVERYTHING ELSE. MS. DAVIDSON ASKED THE COUNCIL HOW MUCH MORE DO YOU WANT FROM THE RESIDENTS. MS. DAVIDSON SAID THE PEOPLE RECEIVED THEIR ASSESSMENTS AND THE PROPERTY VALUES WENT DOWN, BUT THE TAXES WENT UP. MS. DAVIDSON COMMENTED THAT THE COUNCIL IS GOING TO CHARGE WHATEVER THEY WANT TO CHARGE. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID MS. DAVIDSON'S TIME WAS UP.

MILTON WOODS SAID HE WAS REALLY DISAPPOINTED, BUT HE SHOULD NOT BE SINCE IT WAS MANDATED TO HIRE A MINORITY FOR THE DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR'S POSITION. MR. WOODS SAID HE STILL CONTENDS IT WAS A POLITICAL PAYOFF AND THE COUNCIL ABSOLUTELY IGNORED THE VOTING PUBLIC SINCE JULY. MR. WOODS SAID TWO COUNCIL MEMBERS LISTENED, THREE DID NOT. MR. WOODS SAID THEY PRESENTED OVER 1,000 SIGNATURES AND THE COUNCIL IGNORED THEM. MR. WOODS SAID IT WAS THE COUNCIL'S AGENDA TO DO THIS AND IT IS UTTERLY RIDICULOUS. MR. WOODS SAID THAT THE COUNTY HAS HAD TO TAKE LOANS TO MAKE PAYROLL, THE TAXES ARE SKY HIGH, THE PROPERTY'S ASSESSED VALUES HAVE GONE DOWN, BUT THE CITIZENS TAXES HAVE GONE UP. MR. WOODS INFORMED THE COUNCIL THAT THEY HAVE AWAKENED A SLEEPING GIANT BY GOING THROUGH WITH THIS HIRING.

CAROLINA GARBADE READ A LETTER FROM KATHY LANGFORD FOR THE RECORD. "IN JUNE OF 2011, I STARTED COMING TO THE MEETINGS AND TRYING TO GET THE PUBLIC INVOLVED AND INFORMED ABOUT THE MAJOR WRONG DOINGS OF THIS COUNCIL. I WORKED HARD TRYING TO GET THE MEDIA AND THE PUBLIC INVOLVED TO MAKE SURE THAT THE CITIZENS AND TAX PAYERS OF THIS COUNTY WERE AWARE OF THE GRAVE WRONG DOINGS AND MISUSE OF OUR TAX DOLLARS BY OUR COUNCIL. I WAS RELIGIOUS ABOUT MEETINGS AND GETTING INVOLVED. BUT IN OCTOBER MY MOTHER IN LAW BECAME ILL AND HAS MOVED IN WITH ME AND MY HUSBAND AND THIS HAS LIMITED MY AVAILABILITY TO COME TO AND BE A PART OF THESE MEETINGS. MY MOTHER IN LAW IS WAY MORE IMPORTANT TO ME THAN DEALING WITH YOU UNINFORMED AND UNCONCERNED COUNCILMEN. I WISH, YOU, THE COUNCIL, WOULD REALIZE HOW SICKENING, WE THE PUBLIC VIEW YOU AS LEADERS OF OUR COMMUNITY. YOU ARE AN EMBARRASSMENT TO US!!!! OUR COUNTY IS THE LAUGHING STOCK OF THE ENTIRE STATE. WHY CAN'T YOU SEE HOW MUCH DAMAGE YOU ARE DOING TO THIS COMMUNITY AND ITS PEOPLE WITH YOUR STUPID WRONGFUL SPENDING? WE DO NOT NEED GEORGE HOOD OR ANY OTHER DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR; WE NEED MORE FIRE AND EMS. WE NEED MORE WORKERS IN THE COUNTY ASSESSOR'S OFFICE. WE NEED OUR TAXES LOWERED, NOT RAISED AS YOU HAVE DONE TO COVER YOUR ERRONEOUS SPENDING HABITS. THE MAJORITY OF THE PUBLIC VOTED GEORGE HOOD OUT OF OFFICE, SO WHY ARE YOU WASTING OUR MONEY TO HIRE HIM JUST TO GET HIM BACK IN AND HELP RUIN OUR COUNTY. WE NEED YOU TO LISTEN TO THE MAJORITY OF THE PUBLIC AND REALIZE THAT YOU ARE RUINING US FINANCIALLY AND YOU'RE SITTING THERE ALL SMUG BECAUSE YOU HAVE THE MONEY TO PAY YOUR BILLS, BUT MOST OF US DON'T. WE ARE THE ONES WHO WILL BE LOSING OUR PROPERTIES AND VEHICLES, NOT YOU. WHY WON'T YOU PAY ATTENTION TO US? YES WE CAN VOTE A COUPLE OF YOU OUT THIS TIME BUT BEFORE THAT TIME COMES, YOU WILL HAVE RUINED US ALL. I WILL GET INVOLVED AND INFORM THE DIFFERENT CHURCHES, ALL COLORS OF WHAT YA'LL, THE COUNCIL IS DOING TO THEM. I WILL LET THEM KNOW THAT THEIR PEOPLE, AS YOU PUT IT BEFORE, IS DOING THIS TO THEM. MAY THE LORD VISIT EACH OF YOU TONIGHT AND MAKE YOU REALIZE HOW YOU ARE HURTING YOUR FELLOW MAN, WOMAN AND CHILD IN THIS COMMUNITY AND MAY HE LET YOU KNOW HOW WRONG YOU ARE AND HOW DISSATISFIED HE IS WITH YOU AND YOUR SERVICE FOR HIM. OR BETTER YET, MAYBE THE DEVIL HIMSELF COULD VISIT YOU AND TELL YOU WHAT A GOOD JOB YOU ARE DOING FOR HIM IN AIDING HIS RUINATION OF OUR COUNTY AND FOR WORKING FOR HIM INSTEAD OF THE LORD." KATHY LANGFORD

BARBARA BARTOLDUS READ FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT COMPARING JASPER COUNTY SCHOOLS TO THE STATE SCHOOLS. MS. BARTOLDUS SAID THAT \$10,351 PER STUDENT IS BEING SPENT IN JASPER COUNTY AND ATTENDANCE IS DOWN, THE GIFTED AND DISABLED PROGRAMS ARE DOWN, EXPULSIONS ARE UP, ADULT EDUCATION IS DOWN, THE DROP-OUT RATE IS DOUBLE THAT OF THE STATE, THE AVERAGE

TEACHER'S SALARY IS \$48,815 AND THE SCHOOL BOARD RENEWED THE SUPERINTENDENT'S CONTRACT AND ONLY 45% OF THE STUDENTS GRADUATE.

GARY HODGES – SAID THAT HIS PHONE HAS BEEN RINGING OFF THE HOOK ABOUT THE TAX BILLS. MR. HODGES SAID IT TAKES THREE OF THE FIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS TO APPROVE THE BUDGET AND TO RAISE THE TAXES 30% IN ONE YEAR IS ABSURD. MR. HODGES SAID THE COUNCIL NEEDS TO TELL THE PEOPLE HOW THAT HAPPENED AND WHERE THE MONEY IS GOING.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

DISCUSSION OF NEGOTIATIONS INCIDENT TO PROPOSED CONTRACTUAL ARRANGEMENTS AND PROPOSED SALE OR PURCHASE OF PROPERTY, THE 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

 [ACCOUNTING SERVICES](#)

 [PROPOSED RIDGELAND REPLACEMENT AIRPORT](#)

 [WASTE MANAGEMENT DISPOSAL SERVICE AGREEMENT](#)

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 – [DEPUTY COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR](#) – [COUNCILMAN DRAYTON](#) MOTIONED AND [COUNCILMAN SAULS](#) SECONDED THE MOTION TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE DISCUSSION OF NEGOTIATIONS INCIDENT TO PROPOSED CONTRACTUAL ARRANGEMENTS AND PROPOSED SALE OR PURCHASE OF PROPERTY, THE 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

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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 - DEPUTY COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

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

CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR REPORTED THAT THE COUNCIL DISCUSSED INFORMATION REGARDING THE ACCOUNTING SERVICES, A PROPOSED RIDGELAND REPLACEMENT AIRPORT AND THE WASTE MANAGEMENT DISPOSAL SERVICE AGREEMENT. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID THE COUNCIL RECEIVED INFORMATION REGARDING THE AUDIT SERVICES AND RECEIVED INFORMATION REGARDING THE HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR THE EMPLOYEES. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID NO ACTION WAS NEEDED.

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

THE MEETING ENDED AT 8:00 P.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY:

APPROVED BY:

JUDITH M. FRANK, ccc
CLERK TO COUNCIL

LEROY BLACKSHEAR
CHAIRMAN