



**JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
358 THIRD AVE., RIDGELAND, SC 29936
FEBRUARY 7, 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, CLERK TO COUNCIL-JUDITH FRANK, COUNTY ATTORNEY – MARVIN JONES, DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES-RONNIE MALPHRUS, DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES-WILBUR DALEY, DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING SERVICES-DALE TERRY, 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.

CALL TO ORDER- 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- COUNCILMAN SAULS MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE 01/03/2011 COUNCIL MEETING- COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN

DRAYTON SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE 1/18/2011 COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS - THERE WERE NO PROCLAMATIONS OR PRESENTATIONS.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND ORDINANCES

DAVID JIROUSEK – 3RD READING OF AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE CONVEYANCE OF JAPER COUNTY’S INTEREST, IF ANY, IN .23 ACRE, MORE OR LESS TO THE TOWN OF RIDGELAND BY QUITCLAIM DEED. THIS REAL PROPERTY IS LOCATED BETWEEN I-95 NORTHBOUND, EXIT 21 OFF RAMP AND SYCAMORE DRIVE WITH THE NORTH MOST CORNER MARKER INTERSECTING WITH MAIN STREET/S.C. HIGHWAY 336 RIGHT-OF-WAY; AND HAS NOT YET BEEN ASSIGNED A JASPER COUNTY TAX MAP NUMBER – MR. JIROUSEK EXPLAINED THAT THE PLAT WAS RECORDED THE AFTERNOON OF 2/07/11 IN PLAT BOOK 0032 PAGE 0296. MR JIROUSEK SAID THAT THE STAFF RECOMMENDED APPROVAL. COUNCILMAN SAULS MOTIONED AND VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE AS RECOMMENDED BY THE STAFF. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED WHY THERE WAS NO TITLE SEACH DONE ON THIS PROPERTY. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THE TOWN OF RIDGELAND HAS THE BURDEN OF PROOF TO MAKE SURE THE TITLE WAS CORRECT. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED IF THE PROPERTY WAS LOCATED IN THE TOWN OF RIDGELAND. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THAT IT WAS LOCATED IN THE TOWN OF RIDGELAND. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY ASKED WHY NO ONE KNOWS WHO OWNS THE PROPERTY AND WHY THE RESEARCH WAS NOT DONE. COUNCILMAN SAULS MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN DRAYTON SECONDED THE MOTION THAT THIS BE THE 3RD READING OF AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE CONVEYANCE OF JASPER COUNTY’S INTEREST, IF ANY, IN .23 ACRE, MORE OR LESS TO THE TOWN OF RIDGELAND BY QUITCLAIM DEED. THIS REAL PROPERTY IS LOCATED BETWEEN I-95 NORTHBOUND, EXIT 21 OFF RAMP AND SYCAMORE DRIVE WITH THE NORTH MOST CORNER MARKER INTERSECTING WITH MAIN STREET/S.C. HIGHWAY 336 RIGHT-OF-WAY; AND HAS NOT YET BEEN ASSIGNED A JASPER COUNTY TAX MAP NUMBER. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

DAVID JIROUSEK – PUBLIC HEARING AND 3RD READING OF THE ORDINANCE TO ADOPT THE POINT SOUTH COUNTY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT PLAN AS AN ATTACHMENT TO THE JASPER COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – MR. JIROUSEK EXPLAINED THAT THE ORDINANCE WAS AMENDED TO INCLUDE THE DATE OF THE SECOND PUBLIC HEARING TO THE ORDINANCE. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THE STAFF RECOMMENDED APPROVAL. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR OPENED THE PUBLIC HEARING. THERE WERE NO COMMENTS. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR CLOSED

THE PUBLIC HEARING. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN SAULS SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE AMENDMENT. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN SAULS SECONDED THE MOTION THAT THIS BE THE SECOND PUBLIC HEARING AND 3RD READING OF THE ORDINANCE TO ADOPT THE POINT SOUTH COUNTY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT PLAN AS AN ATTACHMENT TO THE JASPER COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN. 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 SO AS TO TRANSFER PROPERTIES BEARING JASPER COUNTY TAX MAP NUMBERS 038-05-00-003 AND 038-05-00-004 AND GENERALLY LOCATED ON SPEEDWAY BOULEVARD FROM THE COMMUNITY COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL SPLIT ZONE TO THE COMMUNITY COMMERCIAL ZONE ON THE JASPER COUNTY OFFICIAL ZONING MAP – MR. JIROUSEK EXPLAINED TO THE COUNCIL THAT AN ADDITIONAL NOTICE WAS MAILED BY CERTIFIED MAIL TO THE ADJOINING PROPERTY OWNERS. MR. JIROUSEK SAID HE RECEIVED ONE CALL REQUESTING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THAT AN ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEARING WAS NOT NEEDED, HOWEVER, SINCE ADDITIONAL NOTICES WENT OUT, THERE MAY BE SOMEONE PRESENT WHO WANTED TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR OPENED THE FLOOR FOR COMMENTS. THERE WERE NO COMMENTS. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR CLOSED THE FLOOR. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN SAULS SECONDED THE MOTION THAT THIS BE THE 3RD READING OF THE ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF JASPER COUNTY SO AS TO TRANSFER PROPERTIES BEARING JASPER COUNTY TAX MAP NUMBERS 038-05-00-003 AND 038-05-00-004 AND GENERALLY LOCATED ON SPEEDWAY BOULEVARD FROM THE COMMUNITY COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL SPLIT ZONE TO THE COMMUNITY COMMERCIAL ZONE ON THE JASPER COUNTY OFFICIAL ZONING MAP. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED ABOUT BUFFERS. MR. JIROUSEK RESPONDED THAT A 50 FOOT BUFFER OF VEGETATION WAS REQUIRED BY THE ZONING ORDINANCE. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON ASKED WHAT DID MRS. SHEPPARD REQUEST SINCE SHE WITHDREW HER REQUEST. MR. JIROUSEK SAID MRS. SHEPPARD WITHDREW HER REQUEST FOR GENERAL COMMERCIAL ZONING AND REAPPLIED FOR COMMUNITY COMMERCIAL. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

RESOLUTIONS – THERE WERE NO RESOLUTIONS.

OLD BUSINESS – THERE WAS NO OLD BUSINESS.

NEW BUSINESS

ANDREW FULGHUM – APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO THE LIBRARY BOARD – THIS ITEM WAS TABLED UNTIL THE NEXT MEETING.

LOTTIE JENKINS-SCOTT – REQUEST FOR FUNDING FOR THE ALOIV' J EDUCATIONAL ENRICHMENT LEARNING CENTER, LTD.: MS. JENKINS-SCOTT EXPLAINED THE EDUCATIONAL ENRICHMENT PROGRAM BEING OFFERED AT THE LEVY COMMUNITY CENTER AND REQUESTED \$5,130 FOR THE PROGRAM. IT WAS THE CONCENSUS OF THE COUNCIL THAT THIS WAS A GOOD PROGRAM, HOWEVER THE COUNTY CANNOT FUND A PRIVATE ENTERPRISE.

DAVID JIROUSEK – APPROVAL OF TASK ORDER FOR OLD HOUSE TREE ASSESSMENT: MR. JIROUSEK EXPLAINED THAT THE TASK ORDER IS BEING PRESENTED DUE TO THE CONCERNS OF THE CITIZENS REGARDING THE TREES AT THE SITE OF THE PROJECTED ROAD IMPROVEMENTS AT HWY. 336 AND HWY. 462. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THE TASK ORDER CAN BE PAID FOR FROM THE PLANNING EXPENSES LINE IN THE BUDGET. MR. JIROUSEK EXPLAINED THAT THE WORK WOULD BE DONE BY MR. GLASSBERG AND MR. MURRAY. COUNCILMAN SAULS ASKED IF THE SCDOT DID NOT PERFORM THIS INSPECTION. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THAT SCDOT OUTSOURCES THIS TO STANTEC WHO HAS AN ARBORIST ON STAFF. COUNCILMAN SAULS SAID HE DID NOT THINK THE COUNTY NEEDED TO SPEND \$2,213 TO LOOK OVER SCDOT'S SHOULDER. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THERE WERE A LOT OF CONCERNED CITIZENS AND HE FELT THERE WAS A NEED FOR OUTSIDE REVIEW. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID HE DID NOT UNDERSTAND WHY THIS WAS NEEDED IF SCDOT ALREADY DID IT. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID HE FELT THIS WOULD BE A WASTE OF TAXPAYERS MONEY. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THE COUNTY CAN STILL OPPOSE THE PROJECT AT OLD HOUSE. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THAT SCDOT SAID IF THE COUNTY OPPOSED THE TURNING LANE, THEN SCDOT WOULD NOT DO IT. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON ASKED WHY THE COUNTY SHOULD PAY FOR THIS TASK ORDER IF THE STATE WAS NOT GOING TO DO THE WORK. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THE ROOT SYSTEMS MAY BE IMPACTED BY THE STRAIN OF THE TRAFFIC. MR. JIROUSEK SAID NO TRAFFIC SIGNAL WILL BE INSTALLED WITHOUT A TURNING LANE. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID SCDOT WAS TO PROVIDE DATA CONCERNING ACCIDENTS. MR. JIROUSEK SAID HE SENT SCDOT A LETTER AND SCDOT REPLIED THAT A SIGNAL WAS NOT JUSTIFIED. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THE WORK HAS BEEN DELAYED DUE TO SCDOT CHANGING THE PLANS. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID HE FELT THE TASK ORDER WAS PREMATURE SINCE THE FINAL PLANS ARE NOT DONE. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THIS NEEDED TO BE DONE SO THAT THE RESULTS COULD BE INCORPORATED INTO SCDOT'S PLANS. COUNCILMAN SAULS SAID THAT SCDOT HAS A CERTIFIED ARBORIST ON STAFF TO REVIEW THE BEST PRACTICES. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THAT SCDOT OUTSOURCED THE ENGINEERING AND THE ARBORIST. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID HE OBJECTED TO THE TASK ORDER AND FELT THE FUNDS COULD BE BETTER SPENT ON A DIFFERENT PROJECT. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THAT SCDOT HAD 100 PROJECTS ON A LIST AND IF THE COUNTY WAS OPPOSED TO THIS, SCDOT WOULD MOVE ON TO THE NEXT PROJECT. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON ASKED WHY ONLY ONE PERSON BID ON THE PROJECT. MR. JIROUSEK

EXPLAINED THAT THE QUOTE WAS FROM MR. GLASSBURG, A RESIDENT OF RIDGELAND, AND THAT THE COUNTY HAS A CONTINUING SERVICE CONTRACT WITH MR. GLASSBURG AND HE IS TEAMING UP WITH A LOCAL EXPERT. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY AND COUNCILMAN SAULS SECONDED THE MOTIONED TO TABLE THIS FOR FURTHER STUDY. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – THERE WERE NO COMMITTEE REPORTS.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – MR. FULGHUM REMINDED THE COUNCIL THAT THEY NEEDED TO FILE THEIR STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC INTEREST WITH THE STATE. MR. FULGHUM SAID MS. JOHNSON WAS AVAILABLE TO HELP THEM, IF THEY SO DESIRED.

MR. FULGHUM REPORTED THAT CHA WOULD MAKE A PUBLIC PRESENTATION AT THE MARCH 7, 2011 MEETING OF COUNTY COUNCIL.

MR. FULGHUM INFORMED THE COUNCIL THAT 435 JASPER COUNTY CITIZENS HAVE USED THE NACO PRESCRIPTION CARD AND SAVED \$12,911. MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT FORMS WERE AVAILABLE AND HE ENCOURAGE THE PEOPLE TO GET THE WORD OUT.

MR. FULGHUM DISCUSSED SCAC AND THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION. MR. FULGHUM SAID HE WOULD DISCUSS LEGISLATIVE MATTERS WITH THE COUNCIL AT THEIR RETREAT.

MR. FULGHUM INFORMED THE COUNCIL OF HIS ATTENDANCE AT THE SCCM CONFERENCE JAN. 21-22, 2011 AND HE UPDATED THEM ON THE VARIOUS WORKSHOPS HE ATTENDED.

MR. FULGHUM PROVIDE THE COUNCIL WITH AN UPDATE OF THE FAA GRANT AND A NEWSPAPER ARTICLE REGARDING EMERGENCY GATE ACCESS IN BEAUFORT COUNTY. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY ASKED WHO WAS LIABLE REGARDING THE EMERGENCY GATE ACCESS AND MR. FULGHUM RESPONDED THAT THE COUNTY WAS NAMED IN THE LAWSUIT.

MR. FULGHUM REPORTED THAT THE PARKS AND RECREATION STAFF AND OTHER STAFF MEMBERS WILL BE PARTICIPATING IN THE AMERICAN HEART WALK TO RAISE FUNDS.

OPEN FLOOR TO THE PUBLIC (3 MINUTE TIME LIMIT PER INDIVIDUAL)- CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR OPENED THE FLOOR TO THE PUBLIC. MILTON WOODS SAID HE ASKED ABOUT THE COST OF A TRAFFIC LIGHT AS COMPARED TO THE COST OF A TURNING LANE. MR. WOODS SAID A TRAFFIC LIGHT WOULD COST \$90,000 AND THE TURNING LANE WILL COST APPROXIMATELY \$500,000. MR. WOODS SAID THAT SOMETHING IS WRONG WITH THE ECONOMICS OF SPENDING \$500,000 WHEN A \$90,000 TRAFFIC LIGHT WILL SERVE THE SAME PURPOSE. MR. WOODS TOLD THE COUNCIL THAT THE TREES ARE OVER 300 YEARS OLD AND SOMEONE NEEDED TO TALK WITH SCDOT. BEING NO FURTHER COMMENTS, CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR CLOSED THE FLOOR TO THE PUBLIC.

CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR REMINDED THE CITIZENS THAT THERE WERE ONLY 8 DAYS LEFT TO SIGN UP FOR INSTALLMENT PAYMENTS FOR PROPERTY TAX.

COUNCILMAN SAULS ANNOUNCED THAT THE JOINT COUNCIL MEETING WOULD BE HELD ON FEB. 10, 2011 AT THE HARDEEVILLE TOWN HALL AT 6:30 P.M.

EXECUTIVE SESSION- DISCUSSION OF MATTERS RELATING TO THE PROPOSED LOCATION, EXPANSION, OR THE PROVISION OF SERVICES ENCOURAGING LOCATION OR EXPANSION OF INDUSTRIES OR OTHER BUSINESSES IN THE AREA SERVED BY A PUBLIC BODY -

JASPER OCEAN TERMINAL AND PROJECT ROSE – VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN SAULS SECONDED THE MOTION TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE DISCUSSION OF MATTERS RELATING TO THE PROPOSED LOCATION, EXPANSION, OR THE PROVISION OF SERVICES ENCOURAGING LOCATION OR EXPANSION OF INDUSTRIES OR OTHER BUSINESSES IN THE AREA SERVED BY A PUBLIC BODY - JASPER OCEAN TERMINAL AND PROJECT ROSE. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

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

CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR REPORTED THAT THE COUNCIL RECEIVED INFORMATION REGARDING THE JASPER OCEAN TERMINAL AND PROJECT ROSE. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID NO ACTION WAS NEEDED

CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR REPORTED THAT THE COUNCIL RECEIVED INFORMATION REGARDING THE CONDITION OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT BUILDING.

COUNCILMAN DRAYTON MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SECONDED THE MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE ADMINISTRATOR TO ASSESS THE STABILITY OF THE STRUCTURE AND TO REPORT BACK THE RESULTS TO THE COUNCIL. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

ADJOURN – COUNCILMAN DRAYTON MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SECONDED THE MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

THE MEETING ENDED AT 7:00 P.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY:

APPROVED BY:

JUDITH M. FRANK, ccc
CLERK TO COUNCIL

LEROY BLACKSHEAR
CHAIRMAN

