



**JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL  
J.C. GOVERNMENT BLDG.  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**May 19, 2014  
MINUTES**

**4:00 P.M.**

**Budget Workshop/Meeting**

**OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Chairwoman Barbara Clark, Councilman Henry Etheridge, Councilman Theodus Drayton, Councilman D. Thomas Johnson

**OFFICIALS ABSENT:** Vice Chairman L. Martin Sauls, IV

**STAFF PRESENT:** Administrator Andrew Fulghum, Clerk to Council Judith Frank, Attorney Marvin Jones, Director of Administrative Services Ronnie Malphrus, Director of Emergency Services Wilbur Daley, Director of Engineering Services Dale Terry, Planning Director LeNolon Edge

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-** Chairwoman Clark called the Budget Workshop to order at 4:00 p.m.

**Barbara Ling Terry – Veteran’s Affairs Office** – Ms. Terry explained that she was requesting an increase in the salary line of \$2,500. Councilman Etheridge asked how that money was to be distributed. Ms. Ling-Terry said that would be used for an increase for herself and her staff member. Chairwoman Clark said that no one on the County’s payroll has received a raise, with the exception of the Voter’s Registration Director, which she did not feel was right. Chairwoman Clark asked what the salary range was for the two positions in the Veteran’s Affairs Office. Ms. Ling-Terry said the director salary is \$45,700 and the clerk makes \$31,000. Chairwoman Clark said there were people who have worked for the County for many years and they don’t make \$25,000 a year. Ms. Ling-Terry discussed the utilities and Chairwoman Clark said that the WiFi is too high and why were they not using the equipment in their office. Ms. Ling-Terry said that the office is not wired for broadband. Councilman Johnson asked if Mr. Bostick handles that and Ms. Ling-Terry said he did. Ms. Ling-Terry discussed the need for filing cabinets and desks. Chairwoman Clark said the quote for the filing cabinets was high. Mr. Malphrus said they were for lateral file cabinets. Ms. Ling-Terry said she was told there may be some equipment and desks available that she could use. Mr. Fulghum said they needed to visit the surplus location in Columbia. Ms. Ling-Terry said the Clerk’s station fell on her foot and she had to file an incident report. Ms. Ling-Terry discussed the Veteran’s Day Celebration and that

they served over 200 people. Councilman Johnson asked if they served 200 veterans or 200 people. Ms. Ling-Terry said most of the people were veterans. Ms. Ling-Terry provided a breakdown of the expenses for this year's event. Councilman Etheridge asked if she got bids for the food and Ms. Ling-Terry said she got verbal quotes from the sandwich shop and from Mr. Pinckney. Ms. Ling-Terry said it was discussed and voted on at their board meeting and that information is in the budget. Councilman Drayton said the newspaper said 100 people attended and that was incorrect. Councilman Drayton said he attended and there were a lot of people there. Chairwoman Clark asked how the veterans were notified. Ms. Ling-Terry said it was in the newspaper and they made phone calls. Ms. Ling-Terry said that since they did not have the money, she put the brakes on and the last two weeks she did not press for participation for fear there would not be enough food. Councilman Johnson asked if she had a list of all the veterans in Jasper County. Ms. Ling-Terry said they did not, but they create a list when people come to the office, but there is no data base. Councilman Johnson commented that you do not get anything from the VA office if you are not on a pension. Ms. Ling-Terry explained how people qualify for compensation and how the income is calculated. Councilman Johnson asked if they deal with healthy vets and Ms. Ling-Terry said a DD213 is the key to getting into the system. Councilman Johnson asked if the office does things that involve finances and Ms. Ling-Terry said they have to apply. Councilman Etheridge asked if people have to wait a long time to get appointments at the VA hospital and Ms. Ling-Terry said they do not if they are rated, but it may take longer if they are not rated. Ms. Ling-Terry said most of the complaints come from individuals who do not qualify. Councilman Drayton said he nor his brother have ever had any problems. Councilman Etheridge asked about travel expenses. Ms. Ling-Terry said that she used some of her travel money for the veteran's celebration and for traveling back and forth to Columbia for manager's training and to maintain her accreditations. Ms. Ling-Terry said some classes she is notified about may be outside of her accreditations, but they are needed to be more efficient and the way applications are submitted determine if they will get what is requested. Councilman Etheridge asked if Ms. Ling-Terry asked the municipalities for any funds for the Veteran's Day Celebration and Ms. Ling-Terry said that last year they turned her down so she felt intimidated to ask again. Councilman Etheridge told Ms. Ling-Terry she needed to go back. Chairwoman Clark said the Council cannot fund something mid-year and that is why they did not approve her request last year. Chairwoman Clark said the Council cannot give everyone what they ask for because the taxes would be so high, people could not afford to live in Jasper County. Chairwoman Clark said she could not see giving raises to anyone unless all the employees can get a raise. Chairwoman Clark said when new employees come on board they are to start at the entry level. Chairwoman Clark said no County Employee has a salary of \$100,000, but the citizens need to look at the School District's budget. Chairwoman Clark said the Council needed to fund the things that are a must. Councilman Etheridge suggested Ms. Ling-Terry look into grants to pay for the Veteran's Day Celebration. Councilman Drayton said a new person will have to be trained. Ms. Ling-Terry said she has a temporary person 3 days per week and she has been working to 8:00 p.m. some nights and she is also taking work home with her. Councilman Drayton asked if her budget request included training for a new person and Ms. Ling-Terry said that she trains the basic things, but the person would have to have accreditation. Chairwoman Clark said she felt the employees needed to be cross-trained. Ms. Ling-Terry said there were 3 trainings a year where

she and the clerk needed to attend, but this year due to budget restraints she sent her assistant. Chairwoman Clark asked where training requirements and opportunities are listed and Ms. Ling-Terry said some are listed on SCAVO. Chairwoman Clark thanked Ms. Ling-Terry and said the Council will take her request under consideration.

**Budget Discussion and Recommendations** – Chairwoman Clark asked Sheriff Jenkins why he did not schedule a time to come before Council with his budget requests. Sheriff Jenkins said that he does the best he can to put in his request what he needs and he intended no disrespect by not coming before them. Councilman Johnson commented that the Sheriff's Department, the Detention Center and the Solicitor's Office are connected and the people's stay in jail are held up by evidence delays. Sheriff Jenkins said that is a problem some of the time depending what it is and most major cases have issues. Councilman Johnson asked if an independent evidence lab would be beneficial. Sheriff Jenkins said he would entertain anything that would help the citizens and he would sit down and discuss it with the others. Councilman Johnson said if it reduced the number of days an inmate would be at the detention center, that saving could be used to pay for it. Sheriff Jenkins said they are currently reaching outside the County and working with other agencies within the County. Councilman Johnson commented about the worker's compensation claims and Sheriff Jenkins said he encourages his staff to use the fitness facility to stay in shape. Sheriff Jenkins said the vehicles are in bad shape and run 24/7. Chairwoman Clark commented that Sheriff Jenkins was to provide the Council with a copy of his Personnel Policy Handbook. Sheriff Jenkins said the handbook is being updated, but he can give the Council what he has. Sheriff Jenkins said there are issues like domestic violence that need to be addressed and he is constantly working on it. Sheriff Jenkins said he has no issue with sharing it with Council. Councilman Etheridge said he has been waiting 3 years for the policy. Councilman Etheridge said that the County provides the insurance and the vehicles for the Sheriff's Dept. and he wants to compare if the Sheriff's policy is close to the County's. Sheriff Jenkins said he has no problem with drug testing and they all signed the form and know about random drug testing. Sheriff Jenkins asked about the insurance money from the cars that were totaled because the money does not go back to the Sheriff's Department to replace the vehicles. Councilman Etheridge said they were working on that now. Chairwoman Clark said that most of the accidents are due to hitting deer. Sheriff Jenkins said his cars are on the move 24 hours a day and the deer run into the cars.

Mr. Fulghum discussed the LGF and said that it has been funded at the same level as last year with the addition of \$2,000,000-\$3,000,000.

Councilman Etheridge asked Mr. Fulghum why Detention has more budgeted for travel and training than the Sheriff. Mr. Fulghum responded that the Detention Center has more turnover and they have to be certified. Councilman Etheridge asked for a breakdown of the utilities for the Sheriff's Dept. and the Detention Center. Mr. Malphrus informed the Council that the Sheriff's Utilities also include the utilities for the Detective Division located at the old jail. Mr. Malphrus is to report back to the Council as to the number of employees in that building and the area being used. Mr. Malphrus said they may also be using the old trailer. Councilman Etheridge asked that Mr. Malphrus update the Council about this.

Councilman Drayton asked about the \$4,000 salary for the Farmers' Market and why can't the farmers use the Farmers' Market Building. Mr. Fulghum said that the salary was for the Market

manager and the manager is checking to see if the farmers want to use the building or stay in the downtown location. Mr. Malphrus said there was a lot more activity in town. Mr. Fulghum said he would support whatever the vendors decided.

Councilman Drayton asked if the amount for the South Carolina Alliance was for a salary or a fee. Mr. Fulghum said it was for a portion of the salary for the individual assigned to Jasper County and a portion was for marketing. Mr. Fulghum said the revenue from the Commercial Development Fund pays for this. Mr. Fulghum said the County does this as a package deal.

Chairwoman Clark said she is upset that someone asks for a 50 cent an hour raise and they want to pay their secretary more than some deputies make and she hopes she never sees again where one person is given a raise and not give a raise to the others. Chairwoman Clark said that is not fair to the employees. Mr. Fulghum said that the County has not been able to give increases and there is no incentive for longevity. Mr. Fulghum said a study was done in 2008 and it analyzed what people did and their responsibilities to come up with a value. Mr. Fulghum said the study has become stagnant and no raises were given and people are doing more since people have been cut. Mr. Fulghum said giving an across the board cost of living raise will not do it and the County cannot afford another study at this time. Chairwoman Clark said we know more about our people than the people who would do the study and we need to find a way to give them at least 1% raise. Mr. Fulghum said he asked Ms. Lucas to see if something can be done to reward longevity and that is how it needed to be approached. Mr. Fulghum said they needed to look at longevity to give them an increase. Councilman Drayton said we had a trained person who left and the department head included the previous salary, not the entry level salary. Chairwoman Clark added that the department head also added an increase. Councilman Drayton said that is not feasible. Councilman Etheridge said the department head also included an increase for herself. Councilman Drayton said the new person should start at the bottom and the County will have to train them. Councilman Johnson asked about exit interviews. Mr. Fulghum said they are done. Councilman Johnson said he has only seen one exit interview and the one he saw did not suggest they were leaving due to income. Councilman Johnson said he felt the exit interviews were important to find out why people are leaving. Mr. Fulghum said only about ½ of the employees fill out exit interviews. Mr. Fulghum said that he feels it is resentment from the staff on longevity issues and new employees coming in at higher rates. Chairwoman Clark said there is a lot of turnover in the Detention Center and that is a hard job. Councilman Johnson asked if there was any legal way to make people do exit interviews because they would be very valuable. Councilman Johnson said he felt someone else in addition to Ms. Lucas needs to look at the exit interviews. Councilman Etheridge said there has been a big turn over in the Sheriff's Dept. also.

Councilman Etheridge asked about the Levy Fire Dept. Contract. Mr. Fulghum said that the terms for Ridgeland and Hardeeville were approved by Council, but the amount for Levy has not been determined and it was still in the budget at \$205,000. Councilman Drayton asked why would it be more than \$205,000 and Chairwoman Clark reminded Councilman Drayton that he said to add \$50,000 because there are two stations. Councilman Drayton agreed that he did suggest that. Mr. Malphrus said they may need equipment now, but not every year. Councilman Johnson said that he thought they were going to give the same monetary amount and equipment. Mr. Fulghum said that this is a five year contract. Mr. Fulghum said previously it was an annual contract and then the County went to a three year contract and he was

recommending a five year contract. Councilman Etheridge said Levy has nowhere else to go for equipment other than the County. Chairwoman Clark said the additional funds could only be used for equipment and Chief Graham will not purchase anything that is not needed and would return to the County any extra money left in his contract. Councilman Drayton said that Chief Graham is very frugal. Mr. Fulghum said that Council will have to come up with a number and it is Council's choice. Mr. Malphrus commented that the contract is for five years and equipment won't be needed every year. Mr. Malphrus said all the bills from Levy are sent to him. Mr. Fulghum said he could ask for a list of what was needed. Chairwoman Clark said to do the contract for \$230,000 for the two stations and \$25,000 for equipment. Councilman Etheridge said if Chief Graham said equipment is needed, the Council should not say no if it is necessary. Councilman Etheridge said that Chief Graham keeps the two stations running and he has reduced the ISO ratings in the areas he covers. Councilman Etheridge said that Chief Graham keeps his volunteers and this is not happening in other areas of the County. Councilman Johnson said he likes to keep the budget symmetrical and give the equipment as needed. Councilman Johnson said if they give an amount in the contract, then they are stuck with it for five years. Chairwoman Clark said that they have been having trouble with the tower and Chief Daley brought a company to check on it and it would cost \$40,000, but the company said they would not guarantee it would fix the problem and Chief Graham said then don't fix it and they would use radios. Councilman Johnson asked Mr. Edge how many structure fires have there been in each of the protection areas. Mr. Edge said he did not have that information, but he could coordinate with the assessor and the fire department to get the answer. Councilman Etheridge said he had the numbers and Chief Graham covers more area than the other fire districts and he depends on the County for equipment. Councilman Etheridge said the Council needed to know what equipment Chief Graham needed.

Mr. Fulghum asked the Council about the position at the VA office. Mr. Fulghum told the Council that no new people have been hired except for public safety people. Councilman Etheridge said that the VA needed some help. Chairwoman Clark asked if it should be full or part-time help. Chairwoman Clark said the administration needed to find file cabinets and furniture. Mr. Malphrus said the \$3,500 in the budget request was for the file cabinets and desks. Chairwoman Clark said they needed to look at what was already available. Mr. Fulghum said they would also check with state surplus. Chairwoman Clark asked about the National Convention for VA and Mr. Malphrus said the travel and training line will be over this year and last year an additional \$1,500 was requested. Chairwoman Clark told Mr. Malphrus the travel and training for VA office needed to be cut. Councilman Etheridge said the special projects needed to be cut to \$1,500. Mr. Fulghum said he would get a list of the travel and training necessary and the cost. Chairwoman Clark asked if they could approve someone part-time (3 days per week) for that office without benefits. Mr. Malphrus said someone could be hired part-time with no benefits depending on the number of hours. Mr. Fulghum asked if they should fill the position as it stands or bring back more information. Chairwoman Clark told Mr. Fulghum to put the position on hold and bring back more information.

Councilman Johnson asked if it was feasible to have an extra clerical person that could float where needed. Mr. Fulghum said that would be a problem because you would be dealing with County staff and elected officials staff. Mr. Malphrus added there would be software training

issues and the issue of money. Councilman Johnson said he was thinking of a lower level of service as he feels it is important for the citizens to speak with a human. Chairwoman Clark asked the Council to work on the School Board Budget so that the Council can give them some direction. Chairwoman Clark reminded the Council that the School District was asking for a 7 mil increase.

### **Executive Session – Council Conference Room**

#### **Executive Session**

**Discussion of matters relating to the proposed location, expansion, or the provision of services encouraging location or expansion of industries or other business in the area served by a public body – Project Update, Ridgeland Airport, Jasper Ocean Terminal, The Settings at Mackay Point**

**Discussion of 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- Register of Deeds Office – Councilman Drayton moved and Councilman Johnson 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 business in the area served by a public body – Project Update, Ridgeland Airport, Jasper Ocean Terminal, The Settings at Mackay Point and the discussion of 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- Register of Deeds Office; the motion carried with all members present voting in favor.**

#### **DINNER BREAK**

**Return to Open Session – Councilman Drayton moved and Councilman Johnson seconded the motion to return to open session; the motion carried with all members present voting in favor.**

#### **6:30 P.M.**

Chairwoman Clark called the meeting back to order at 6:40 p.m.

Chairwoman Clark said no action was needed as a result of executive session.

**Pledge of Allegiance – Councilman Drayton led the Pledge of Allegiance.**

**Invocation – Councilman Johnson gave the Invocation.**

**Approval of the Minutes – 05/05/2014 – Councilman Drayton moved and Councilman Etheridge seconded the motion to approve the minutes; the motion carried with all members present voting in favor.**

**Approval of the Agenda – Councilman Etheridge moved and Councilman Drayton seconded the motion to approve the agenda; the motion carried with all members present voting in favor.**

### **Presentations**

**Jackie Chavers – Building Fees for Churches** – Mr. Chavers, Pastor of Gospel Lighthouse Church, explained that their Church burned to the ground and they were in the process of rebuilding. Mr. Chavers said the building fees and permits were about \$12,000 and he said he was surprised that the Churches were not exempt. Councilman Etheridge said that the state passed a law in 1999 and that the County picked up on it. Mr. Chavers said the Council can make a law or change a law that so not only Churches, but the citizens too, who have experience a fire do not have to pay these fees. Mr. Chavers said the insurance only allows \$2,500 for the fees. Mr. Chavers asked the Council to please stop capitalizing on tragic losses and to please change the law. Councilman Johnson addressed the four questions and said the County does not capitalize on anyone and the fees are there to cover the cost of the services provided. Councilman Johnson said the County is not a profit center and he felt waiving or reducing the fees was an excellent suggestion and he hoped it would apply to everyone, but people want to keep the government out of the churches when it suits them. Chairwoman Clark told Mr. Chavers that the Council would look into the issues presented. Councilman Drayton extended his sympathies and said he was aware of when the Church burned to the ground.

### **Ordinances**

**LeNolon Edge –3<sup>rd</sup> Reading of Ordinance to Amend the Official Zoning Map of Jasper County so as to Transfer Property Bearing Jasper County Tax Map Number 039-00-05-032 located at 8406 Speedway Blvd. from the Community Commercial Zone to the Industrial Development Zone of the Jasper County Official Zoning Map -** Mr. Edge said there were no changes to the ordinance since the last reading. Mr. Edge said the planning commission recommended denial, but the staff recommended approval. Councilman Etheridge said he visited the site and wished the entire area would be changed to light commercial. Councilman Johnson said he was impressed with the company and the owners of the company. Councilman Johnson moved and Councilman Drayton seconded the motion that this be the 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading of Ordinance to Amend the Official Zoning Map of Jasper County so as to Transfer Property Bearing Jasper County Tax Map Number 039-00-05-032 located at 8406 Speedway Blvd. from the Community Commercial Zone to the Industrial Development Zone of the Jasper County Official Zoning Map; the motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

**LeNolon Edge – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of the Ordinance to Approve the Comprehensive Plan-** Mr. Edge explained that the Comprehensive Plan was online for the citizens to review and that a public hearing was scheduled for June 16, 2014. Chairwoman Clark commented that this was a draft and there would be workshops before the plan was adopted. Chairwoman Clark asked the

public to send any questions to the Clerk. Councilman Drayton asked how often is the plan done and Mr. Edge responded every 10 years with a review every five years. Mr. Edge said the new plan recommended doing the Comprehensive plan more often. Mr. Edge said that this is a conceptual plan and it can determine what can be done with the land. Councilman Johnson said this is an important plan. Councilman Etheridge said that 6,200 Jasper County citizens leave the County for work and that is why the Council is trying to get more jobs in the County. Councilman Etheridge moved and Councilman Drayton seconded the motion that this be the 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of the Ordinance to Approve the Comprehensive Plan; the motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

**Andrew Fulghum – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of the Ordinance to Establish a Multi-County Industrial Park Designation for Project Pioneer and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of an Ordinance Authorizing the Granting of Special Source Revenue Credits for Project Pioneer** – Mr. Fulghum explained that both ordinances pertained to Project Pioneer and the County entered a MOU and the company would invest money in the County and bring new jobs to the County. Councilman Drayton moved and Councilman Etheridge seconded the motion that this be the 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of the Ordinance to Establish a Multi-County Industrial Park Designation for Project Pioneer; the motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

Councilman Drayton moved and Councilman Etheridge seconded the motion that this be the 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of an Ordinance Authorizing the Granting of Special Source Revenue Credits for Project Pioneer; the motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

**Ronnie Malphrus – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of an Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of Jasper County, South Carolina, Special Source Revenue Bonds (Jasper County Schools Project); the Entering Into of Certain Covenants and Agreements; and the Execution and Delivery of Certain Instruments Relating to the Issuance of the Aforesaid Bonds, Including an Indenture and Certain Other Matters Relating Thereto (by Title Only)** – Mr. Malphrus told the Council that this ordinance would authorize permanent financing of the BAN for the School District and that by doing the annual note, they have paid the note down and the permanent financing should be paid off in 2019. Councilman Drayton moved and Councilman Johnson seconded the motion that this be the 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of an Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of Jasper County, South Carolina, Special Source Revenue Bonds (Jasper County Schools Project); the Entering Into of Certain Covenants and Agreements; and the Execution and Delivery of Certain Instruments Relating to the Issuance of the Aforesaid Bonds, Including an Indenture and Certain Other Matters Relating Thereto (by Title Only); the motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

**Resolutions - None**

**Old Business - None**

**New Business**

**Andrew Fulghum – Acceptance of Grant from the South Carolina Aeronautics Commission-**

Mr. Fulghum asked the Council to accept the grant from SC Aeronautics Commission. Mr. Fulghum said the County's portion is \$5,018 and the State portion is \$7,528 for a total of \$12,546. Councilman Drayton moved and Councilman Johnson seconded the motion to accept the grant; the motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

**Dale Terry – Approval of Bids for Paving Family Circle Road and Wickes Lumber Road** – Mr. Terry explained that the Transportation Committee approved funding for the paving of Family Circle Road and Wickes Lumber Road. Mr. Terry requested approval of the low bid from Preferred Material Inc. in the amount of \$150,035. Councilman Drayton moved and Councilman Etheridge seconded the motion to approve the bid from Preferred Material Inc. in the amount of \$150,035; The motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

**Dale Terry – Request to resurface the Industrial Park Road and to Pave a 30 Ft. Apron at the entrance of Wellington Road** – Mr. Terry requested permission to go to the Transportation Committee to ask for funds to resurface Industrial Park Road and to pave a 30 ft. apron at the entrance to Wellington Road. Councilman Drayton moved and Councilman Johnson seconded the motion to grant permission to go to the Transportation Committee to ask for funds to resurface Industrial Park Road and to pave a 30 ft. apron at the entrance to Wellington Road; the motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

**Committee Reports-** Councilman Etheridge reported that he attended the School District's Budget Workshop and he has spent numerous hours working on the County's Budget. Councilman Etheridge said he attended a meeting at Point South and he reported on a snag on widening Hwy. 17. Councilman Etheridge said that the road has to be built to withstand earthquakes and it will cost about \$30,000,000 more than the \$21,000,000 that they had allotted to build. Councilman Drayton reported that the walking trail has been started in Tarboro and that he attended a luncheon in Hardeeville and he was very happy with the business and the owners of Project Pioneer. Councilman Drayton said he attended a scholarship event held by the School District and he would be attending a meeting in Charleston on Thursday. Councilman Johnson reported that he attended the luncheon in Hardeeville and he was very impressed with the building, the product and the people. Councilman Johnson said he attended the fishing event held by DNR, Blue Heron Nature Center and OWL. Councilman Johnson said it was a great event and was a good example of people working together. Councilman Johnson said he has received a lot of complaints about Hwy. 321 and it is not a County road. Councilman Johnson told the public that he would be attending a meeting in Charleston regarding the Port. Chairwoman Clark told the public that Vice Chairman Sauls was held up in Atlanta and he wanted to know about the status of the tankers. Chairwoman Clark said she attended a Human Affairs meeting in Columbia and she was a speaker at the Scholarship Event for the School District. Chairwoman Clark said her passion is in the classroom and the teachers. Chairwoman Clark invited the public to attend the meeting being held by Senator Pinckney regarding redistricting for the School Board. Chairwoman Clark said the people need to come out and express their opinion. Chairwoman Clark added that the meeting starts at 6:00 p.m. and will be held in the Council Chambers. Chairwoman Clark said she would also be attending the meeting in Charleston regarding the Port. Chairwoman Clark

told the public that she went to a meeting in Columbia where Rhonda Cradle was honored by being named the SC Victim’s Witness Advocate. Chairwoman Clark said the County would also be presenting her with a plaque and the Council would also be presenting Mr. D.P. Lowther with a plaque for his years of service to the County. Chairwoman Clark recognized Mr. Frank Turano and the Alliance Group. Chairwoman Clark stated that she attended the Alliance Group Celebration in Columbia and it was an outstanding event.

**Administrator’s Report** – Mr. Fulghum said he provided his report in the Council’s meeting books for information. Mr. Fulghum announced that he received a letter that the Dept. of Commerce had reviewed the contract for the health department and for the County to proceed.

Wilbur Daley announced the dates and times for communities meetings to recruit volunteers. Mr. Daley updated the Council on the tanker and said they are currently locating the trucks and he hopes to have contracts ready next week. Chairwoman Clark asked Mr. Daley to get together with Levy and train together. Councilman Etheridge said that everyone is welcome to attend the community meetings and the County needed volunteers through out the County.

**Open Floor to the Public- Per ordinance 08-17 any citizen of the County may sign to speak before the Council on matters pertaining to County Services and Operations. Presentations will be limited to three (3) minutes and total public input will be limited to 30 minutes-** Chairwoman Clark opened the floor to the public. There were no comments. Chairwoman Clark closed the floor to the public.

**Adjourn** –Councilman Drayton moved and Councilman Johnson seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

The meeting ended at 7:31 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

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Judith M. Frank, ccc  
Clerk to Council

Approved by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Barbara B. Clark  
Chairman

**Adjourn**