



## JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL

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### JASPER COUNTY GOVERNMENT BUILDING COUNCIL CHAMBERS COUNCIL MEETING

JUNE 1, 2009

4:00 P. M.

### MINUTES

#### **OFFICIALS PRESENT:**

GEORGE HOOD, CHAIRMAN  
LEROY BLACKSHEAR, VICE CHAIRMAN  
HUBERT TYLER, COUNCILMAN  
HENRY ETHERIDGE, COUNCILMAN  
REV. SAMUEL GREGORY, COUNCILMAN

#### **STAFF PRESENT:**

ANDREW FULGHUM, ADMINISTRATOR  
RONNIE MALPHRUS, DEP. ADM. ADM. SERVICES  
DALE TERRY, DEP. ADM. ENG. SERVICES  
WILBUR DALEY, DEP. ADM. EMG. SERVICES  
WENDY KELLY, DEP. ADM. DEV. SERVICES  
JUDITH FRANK, CLERK TO COUNCIL  
MARVIN JONES, ATTORNEY  
DAVID JIROUSEK, PLANNING DIRECTOR  
SUSAN WAITE, ASSESSOR

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 BLACKSHEAR GAVE THE INVOCATION.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

COUNCILMAN GREGORY MOTIONED AND VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF 5/13, 5/18 2009 AND TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES FROM THE COUNCIL COMMITTEES AND CYPRESS RIDGE BUSINESS INDUSTRIAL PARK MEETING FOR INFORMATION. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

**PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS:**

**PUBLIC HEARINGS AND ORDINANCES:**

**RONNIE MALPHRUS – PUBLIC HEARING AND 2<sup>ND</sup> READING OF THE ORDINANCE TO APPROVE THE 2009-2010 JASPER COUNTY BUDGET:**

MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT THERE HAVE BEEN CHANGES MADE AND THE NUMBERS FOR THE COUNTY HAVE BEEN REDUCED ABOUT \$1,000,000.00. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED IF THE REVENUES CAPITALIZED ON THE COURTHOUSE WERE INCLUDED AND MR. MALPHRUS RESPONDED THAT THEY WERE INCLUDED.

CHAIRMAN HOOD OPENED THE PUBLIC HEARING.

BARBARA CLARK ASKED IF THE BUDGET INCLUDED MONEY FOR THE LEVY FIRE STATION AND THAT THEY HAVE NO PROBLEM WITH THE FUNDS BEING IN THE EMS BUDGET TO PAY THE BILLS OR WITH THE 2 EMPLOYEES BEING COUNTY EMPLOYEES, HOWEVER, THE CITIZENS WANTED EVERYTHING ELSE TO REMAIN THE SAME AND NOT AS STATED IN THE LETTER FROM MR. FULGHUM. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID THAT MR. GRAHAM CAN NEGOTIATE WITH THE ADMINISTRATOR AND THE COUNTY ATTORNEY. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID THE LETTER COULD ALSO BE DISCUSSED AT THE BUDGET WORKSHOP ON WEDNESDAY. MS. CLARK STATED THAT SHE WANTED THE COUNCIL TO KNOW THIS ISSUE IS NOT ABOUT DOUG GRAHAM, THE ISSUE IS ABOUT THE CITIZENS OF LEVY, LIMEHOUSE, BELLINGER HILL, AND THEIR CONCERNS. MS. CLARK SAID THE PEOPLE DO NOT APPRECIATE THE WAY THE LETTER WAS WRITTEN. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID IT WAS GOOD TO KNOW AND THAT THEY SHOULD MEET AND NEGOTIATE WITH THE ADMINISTRATOR.

GLENN STORCK QUESTIONED WHO APPROVED THE ADMINISTRATOR'S TRAVEL SINCE HE HAD TO APPROVE THE EMPLOYEES OUT OF STATE TRAVEL. MR. STORCK ALSO ASKED ABOUT THE \$75.00 STIPEND FOR TELEPHONE THAT THE COUNCIL RECEIVES. MR. MALPHRUS THAT HE HAD TO GET THE INFORMATION TO THE CLERK PRIOR TO THE CHANGES BEING MADE AND THE \$75.00 STIPEND THE COUNCIL MEMBERS RECEIVE FOR TELEPHONE

HAS BEEN REMOVED FROM THE BUDGET. MR. STORCK ASKED WHERE THE \$1,000,000.00 CASH CARRY FORWARD WOULD COME FROM AND CHAIRMAN HOOD RESPONDED THAT IT CAME FROM THE FUND BALANCE. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT THE FUND BALANCE IN JUNE, 2008 WAS \$4,600,000.00. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID THE COUNCIL WILL LOOK AT IT CLOSELY THIS YEAR AND THAT THE COUNCIL WILL MONITOR THE ADMINISTRATOR'S TRAVEL. MR. STORCK SAID HE FELT THAT SHOULD BE STATED IN THE BUDGET ORDINANCE.

MS. GABBARD, JARM, SAID SHE WANTED TO REMIND THE COUNCIL THAT THEY NEEDED ALL THE FUNDS THAT THEY REQUESTED AND HOPED THAT THEY WOULD NOT BE CUT ANYMORE THAN THEY WERE ALREADY. MS. GABBARD SAID THE JARM WAS PERFORMING A COUNTY FUNCTION.

ROY POWELL SAID THAT SO MANY THINGS HAVE BEEN CHANGED IN THE BUDGET AND HE ASKED WHY THE COUNCIL COULD NOT EXTEND THE CURRENT BUDGET FOR 2-3 MONTHS AND SINCE THE BUDGET IS NOT COMPLETE, HOW IS THE PUBLIC EXPECTED TO BE ABLE TO COMMENT ON IT. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID THAT EVEN AFTER THE BUDGET IS APPROVED, IF THE STATE HAS NOT SETTLED THE LAWSUIT ABOUT THE STIMULUS FUNDING, THEY WILL NOT KNOW ABOUT THE FUNDING PROVIDED BY THE STATE. MR. POWELL ASKED HOW MUCH OF AN INCREASE IS PROJECTED AND MR. MALPHRUS ANSWERED THE INCREASE WOULD BE APPROXIMATELY 7%. MR. POWELL ASKED ABOUT CUTTING POSITIONS. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID THAT POSITIONS WILL BE CUT, BUT NOT EVERYONE HAS BEEN NOTIFIED AND THE COUNCIL WILL DISCUSS IT AFTER EVERYONE IS NOTIFIED. MR. POWELL ASKED HOW MANY EMPLOYEES WILL RECEIVE A PAY INCREASE AND CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID THERE WERE NO INCREASES THAT HE KNEW ABOUT. MR. POWELL ASKED ABOUT THE STATUS OF THE CLERK OF COURT USING THE SCHOOL HOUSE AND CHAIRMAN HOOD RESPONDED THAT ATTORNEY JONES WOULD ADDRESS THAT LATER IN THE MEETING. MR. POWELL ASKED ABOUT THE HARDEEVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT AND MR. FULGHUM SAID HE RECEIVED A CALL FROM THE HARDEEVILLE ADMINISTRATOR ABOUT THE CONTRACT. MR. POWELL ASKED ABOUT THE \$643,000.00 THAT WAS PAID TO HARDEEVILLE AND THE CONTRACT WAS FOR \$275,000.00. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THE CONTRACT WAS FOR \$195,000.00, PLUS ½ THE PAYMENT FOR THE LADDER TRUCK. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THE OTHER PORTION OF THE \$643,000.00 WAS FOR THE CHERRY POINT DISTRICT WHICH IS PAID BY THE TREASURER FROM THE CHERRY POINT FIRE DISTRICT TAX. MR. POWELL SAID THAT THERE WAS \$650,000.00 FOR OVERTIME FOR FIRE AND RESCUE AND HE ASKED WHY THEY DID NOT HIRE MORE PEOPLE.

COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID HE WAS TOLD BY THE ADMINISTRATION THAT IT WAS CHEAPER TO PAY OVERTIME THAN TO HIRE MORE PEOPLE AND HAVE TO PAY BENEFITS. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID MAYBE THEY NEEDED TO HIRE A PROFESSIONAL TO HANDLE THE SCHEDULING OR HAVE A LOOK AT THE SITUATION. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID HE WOULD HAVE THE ADMINISTRATION LOOK INTO THIS. MR. POWELL ASKED ABOUT THE \$70,000.00 FOR MEDICAL SUPPLIES AND HE ASKED IF PEOPLE WERE SENT A BILL. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT ANYONE WHO USES THE AMBULANCE SERVICE IS SENT A BILL. MR. POWELL ASKED WHERE THIS REVENUE WAS LISTED AND MR. MALPHRUS RESPONDED THAT THE \$394,000.00 IN REVENUE THAT IS SHOWN ON THE BUDGET IS ONLY THROUGH MARCH AND HE BUDGETED \$800,000.00 IN REVENUE NEXT YEAR BECAUSE THEY WERE INCREASING THE RATES. MR. MALPHRUS ADDED THAT THE RATE INCREASE HAS NOT BEEN APPROVED. MR. POWELL ASKED WHAT THE FUNDS LISTED BY THE VARIOUS FIRE DEPARTMENTS WERE FOR AND MR. MALPHRUS SAID IT WAS FOR EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES FOR THE RURAL FIRE STATIONS. MR. POWELL ASKED THAT MR. DALEY GET BACK TO HIM WITH A LIST REGARDING WHAT THE FUNDS WERE USED FOR AND CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID THAT MR. MALPHRUS AND MR. DALEY WILL GET HIM THE INFORMATION. MR. POWELL ASKED ABOUT VEHICLE MAINTENANCE AND MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT THE VEHICLE MAINTENANCE COVERED ALL THE VEHICLES IN THE DEPARTMENT AND THE MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS WERE FOR THE EQUIPMENT IN THE DEPARTMENTS. MR. POWELL ASKED ABOUT THE INCREASE IN FUNDS FOR THE VOLUNTEERS AND MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT WAS INCREASED BECAUSE THE NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS HAS INCREASED. MR. POWELL ASKED ABOUT THE \$25,000.00 FOR FIRE FIGHTERS PHYSICALS. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT COVERS THE VOLUNTEERS AND THE STAFF. MR. POWELL QUESTIONED THE COST OF TELEPHONES AND UTILITIES IN SEVERAL DEPARTMENTS. MR. POWELL ASKED ABOUT THE \$65,000.00 FOR RADIOS AND MR. MALPHRUS ANSWERED THAT IS FOR NEW RADIOS THAT ARE NEEDED AND ALSO TO UPDATE OTHERS. MR. POWELL ASKED IF THE *IT* SALARY LINE WAS FOR ONE PERSON AND MR. MALPHRUS ANSWERED IT WAS FOR ONE PERSON. MR. POWELL ASKED ABOUT THE \$275,000.00 BUDGETED FOR MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS IN THE *IT* DEPARTMENT. MR. MALPHRUS EXPLAINED THAT THOSE FUNDS COVERED SERVERS, BACK-UP SERVICES AND OFFSITE BACK-UP FOR ALL RECORDS. MR. POWELL ASKED ABOUT THE \$10,000.00 IN TRAVEL AND TRAINING IN THE *IT* DEPARTMENT AND WHAT DID IT COVER. MR. MALPHRUS RESPONDED THAT HE DID NOT HAVE A LIST. MR. POWELL ASKED ABOUT THE \$14,000.00 BUDGETED FOR THE

ADMINISTRATOR'S RETIREMENT. MR. MALPHRUS RESPONDED THAT THE ADMINISTRATOR'S CONTRACT CALLS FOR THE COUNTY TO PAY HIS PART AND THE COUNTY'S PART. MR. POWELL SAID THAT THE CONTRACT ONLY STATES ONE RETIREMENT PAYMENT, NOT TWO, AND CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID THAT SOUTH CAROLINA DOESN'T PERMIT HIM NOT TO BE ON THE STATE RETIREMENT PROGRAM. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT IT WAS ACTUALLY A SAVING PAYING IT THIS WAY INSTEAD OF HOW THE CONTRACT WAS WRITTEN. MR. POWELL ASKED HOW MANY EMPLOYEES WERE IN THE ADMINISTRATION'S DEPARTMENT. MR. MALPHRUS RESPONDED THAT THERE WERE THREE. MR. POWELL ASKED ABOUT THE PHONE BILL IN THE ADMINISTRATION'S DEPARTMENT. MR. MALPHRUS ANSWERED THAT ALL THE PHONES IN THIS BUILDING ARE BILLED TO THAT DEPARTMENT. MR. POWELL SAID EACH DEPARTMENT HAS A TELEPHONE LINE. MR. MALPHRUS SAID EACH DEPARTMENT PAYS FOR THEIR INDIVIDUAL DEPARTMENT LINES. MR. MALPHRUS CONTINUED THAT ALL THE SWITCHES ARE BILLED TO ADMINISTRATION AND THE NUMBER IN THE BUDGET IS JUST AN ESTIMATE. MR. POWELL ASKED ABOUT THE UTILITIES BUDGETED IN ADMINISTRATION AND MR. MALPHRUS SAID THE UTILITIES ARE FOR THIS BUILDING. MR. POWELL ASKED HOW MANY VEHICLES ARE ASSIGNED TO ADMINISTRATION. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THE VEHICLES ARE BUDGETED TO THAT DEPARTMENT, BUT NOT ASSIGNED TO IT. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THE VEHICLES ARE USED BY EMPLOYEES WHO HAVE TO TRAVEL OUT OF TOWN. MR. POWELL ASKED ABOUT THE \$13,000.00 BUDGETED FOR TRAVEL AND TRAINING FOR THE ADMINISTRATOR. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID HE DID NOT HAVE AN ANSWER FOR THAT, BUT THEY HAVE PLEDGED TO CUT BACK. MR. POWELL ASKED ABOUT DEPT. 52 AND THE NEW WORLD CONTRACT. MR. MALPHRUS RESPONDED THAT THE NEW WORLD CONTRACT FOR THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT SOFTWARE AND 911 SOFTWARE. MR. POWELL ASKED ABOUT \$55,000.00 FOR CONTRACT LABOR IN DEPT. 53 AND MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT WAS FOR POSTING PROPERTY FOR THE DELINQUENT TAX SALE AND THAT MONEY IS CHARGED BACK TO THE OWNER AT THE SALE. MR. POWELL ASKED HOW MANY EMPLOYEES DID THE \$210,000.00 IN SALARIES AND \$110,000.00 IN OVERTIME COVER. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT COVERED 6 PEOPLE. MR. POWELL ASKED TO MEET WITH THE FINANCE DIRECTOR TO REVIEW THE STUDY REGARDING HIRING MORE PEOPLE OR PAYING OVERTIME. MR. POWELL SAID WE WOULD LIKE A BREAKDOWN FOR THE PHONE BILLS AND THE UTILITY BILLS. MR. POWELL ASKED WHAT MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS HAVE BEEN ADDED. MR. MALPHRUS SAID HE HAD A LIST HE WOULD GIVE TO MR. POWELL. MR. POWELL ASKED WHERE THE EMERGENCY

SERVICES BUILDING WAS LOCATED AND MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT EMERGENCY SERVICES IS LOCATED IN THE OLD ARMORY AND THERE IS A FIRE STATION BEHIND IT. MR. POWELL ASKED ABOUT CONTRACTS BEING BID OUT. MR. MALPHRUS SAID EVERYTHING THAT HAS TO BE BID OUT IS BID OUT. MR. POWELL QUESTIONED THE OVERTIME FOR THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT. MR. MALPHRUS SAID HE NEVER DID A STUDY FOR THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT'S OVERTIME. MR. POWELL SAID THAT THE PERSONAL USE OF COUNTY VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT COULD BE CUT FROM THE BUDGET. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID THAT ONLY THE EMPLOYEES ON CALL CAN BRING THEIR VEHICLES HOME AND HE WANTED TO KNOW WHO WAS USING COUNTY EQUIPMENT FOR PERSONAL GAIN. MR. POWELL SAID HE ASKED ABOUT THE SHERIFF DEPUTIES DOING SIDE JOBS. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID THAT THE COUNCIL HAD NO AUTHORITY OVER THE SHERIFF'S EMPLOYEES AND THAT MR. POWELL NEEDED TO TAKE THAT UP WITH THE SHERIFF. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID THE COUNCIL ONLY APPROVES THE ELECTED OFFICIALS BUDGET. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID THE COUNCIL DID BRING THIS TO THE SHERIFF'S ATTENTION AT A BUDGET WORKSHOP. CHAIRMAN HOOD SUGGESTED THAT MR. POWELL MAKE HIS REQUESTS TO MR. MALPHRUS OR NOTIFY MS. FRANK. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID THAT THE STAFF WILL PROVIDE HIM WITH THE INFORMATION. MR. POWELL SAID THE TAXPAYERS SHOULD BE ABLE TO GET INFORMATION. MR. MALPHRUS SAID HE CANNOT BE EXPECTED TO KNOW EACH DETAIL. MR. LASSITER ASKED IF THE COUNCIL WILL KEEP THE FIRE DEPARTMENT IN LEVY. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID THAT IN ORDER TO HAVE MORE ACCOUNTABILITY, THE COUNCIL HAS ALLOCATED \$275,000.00 FOR LEVY AND THE STATION HAS NOT BEEN CLOSED. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID THAT THE COUNTY WILL PAY THE LEVY FIRE STATION BILLS FROM THE \$275,000.00 ALLOCATED TO EMS FOR LEVY. MR. LASSITER SAID THE PEOPLE WANT TO KNOW IF THAT IS ENOUGH. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID THAT \$275,000.00 HAS BEEN BUDGETED FOR LEVY AND THE COUNCIL WANTS TO PROVIDE THE BEST SERVICE THEY CAN FOR THE CITIZENS. COUNCILMAN GREGORY SAID HE HEARD THAT THE LEVY FIRE STATION WAS TO BE CLOSED AND HE WOULD NEVER VOTE FOR THAT. COUNCILMAN GREGORY SAID HE VOTED TO PUT \$275,000.00 IN THE EMS BUDGET FOR THAT STATION AND THE PEOPLE NEED TO WORK TOGETHER AND THEY NEED TO GET THE PAPERS SO THAT EVERYONE IS WORKING TOGETHER. COUNCILMAN GREGORY SAID HE WOULD NEVER VOTE TO CLOSE THE LEVY FIRE STATION AND THE PEOPLE ARE HAPPY WITH WHAT THEY HAVE. WILLIE MAE HERRINGTON ASKED IF DOUG GRAHAM WOULD STILL BE CHIEF. COUNCILMAN GREGORY SAID HE NEVER HAD A PROBLEM

WITH MR. GRAHAM BEING CHIEF. MS. HERRINGTON SAID THAT A LOT OF QUESTIONS WAS ASKED AND THE STAFF COULD NOT PROVIDE THE ANSWERS. MS. HERRINGTON ASKED THE COUNCIL NOT TO PASS THE 2<sup>ND</sup> READING. CHAIRMAN HOOD RESPONDED THAT MR. MALPHRUS CANNOT BE EXPECTED TO HAVE ALL THE ANSWERS. MS. HERRINGTON SAID THAT SHE FELT THEY SHOULD HAVE THE ANSWERS WHEN THE CITIZENS COME AND THEY KNEW THIS WAS ON THE AGENDA AND THEY SHOULD HAVE HAD THE ANSWERS. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID THAT MR. MALPRHUS WILL PROVIDE THE ANSWERS TO ANYONE WHO MAKES A REQUEST. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID THAT THE COUNCIL HAS HAD ABOUT 10 BUDGET WORKSHOPS AND THE PUBLIC WAS WELCOME TO ATTEND. DOUG GRAHAM SAID THAT THEY BELIEVED THE PEOPLE ARE HERE BECAUSE OF THE LETTER HE RECEIVED LAST WEEK. MR. GRAHAM SAID THE LETTER WAS A STATEMENT AND THAT IS NOT WHAT WAS REQUESTED. MR. GRAHAM SAID THAT THEY ASKED THAT THE COUNTY PAY THE BILLS, THAT COUNTY FIRE FIGHTERS BE PUT IN LEVY AND TO LEAVE THE REST ALONE. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID THAT MR. GRAHAM WAS WELCOME TO STAY, BUT THEY COULD NOT MAKE ANY PROMISES AS THIS NEEDED TO BE WORKED OUT WITH THE ADMINISTRATOR AND THE COUNTY ATTORNEY. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID THAT THEY WERE TRYING TO BE ACCOUNTABLE. MR. GRAHAM SAID THAT HE CAN ACCOUNT FOR EVERY PENNY THAT HAS BEEN SPENT OUT OF LEVY'S BUDGET. MR. GRAHAM SAID HE WAS NEVER CONTACTED ABOUT AN AGREEMENT AND WHAT HE RECEIVED FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR WAS A STATEMENT AND HE KNEW NOTHING ABOUT WHAT WAS BEING DONE REGARDING LEVY FIRE DEPARTMENT UNTIL THE BUDGET WORKSHOP LAST WEEK WHEN MR. FULGHUM GAVE HIM THE LETTER.

BEING NO FURTHER COMMENTS, CHAIRMAN HOOD CLOSED THE PUBLIC HEARING.

VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN TYLER SECONDED THE MOTION THAT THIS BE THE PUBLIC HEARING AND 2<sup>ND</sup> READING OF THE ORDINANCE TO APPROVE THE 2009-2010 JASPER COUNTY BUDGET. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH CHAIRMAN HOOD, VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR, COUNCILMAN TYLER, AND COUNCILMAN GREGORY VOTING FOR; COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE VOTED AGAINST. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID THERE WERE TOO MANY UNANSWERED QUESTIONS AND HE REQUESTED THAT THE COUNCIL GO OVER THE ORDINANCE PRIOR TO TONIGHTS MEETING.

**MARVIN JONES- PUBLIC HEARING AND 1<sup>ST</sup> READING OF THE ORDINANCE TO AMEND ARTICLE I, CHAPTER 9 OF CODE OF**

**ORDINANCES OF JASPER COUNTY SO AS TO RE-ESTABLISH THE JASPER COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND TO CONFIRM FOR THE POSITION OF DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES, TO CLARIFY THE POWERS OF THE DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES, TO PROVIDE TRAINING PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS, TO PROVIDE FOR CERTAIN ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY, AND TO DESIGNATE CERTAIN VEHICLES AS EMERGENCY VEHICLES; TO AMEND ARTICLE IV, CHAPTER 9 OF CODE OF ORDINANCES OF JASPER COUNTY SO AS TO PROVIDE CERTAIN FINDINGS AS TO THE JASPER COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICTS, TO PROVIDE FOR GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR AND GEOGRAPHIC LIMITATIONS OF THE CHERRY POINT FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT, THE RURAL JASPER COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT, THE LEVY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT, THE RIDGELAND VICINITY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT, AND THE HARDEEVILLE VICINITY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT; TO ORDER THE PUBLICATION OF CERTAIN NOTICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE ADOPTION OF THIS ORDINANCE; AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE REPEAL OF THE FOLLOWING PREVIOUSLY ADOPTED ORDINANCES OF JASPER COUNTY: JASPER COUNTY CODE §9-121, §9-122, §9-123, §9-124 AND ORDINANCE NO. 02-03 ADOPTED ON THE MARCH 4, 2002:**

MR. JONES EXPLAINED THAT THE COUNCIL PASSED A RESOLUTION TO HOLD THIS PUBLIC HEARING AND HE PRESENTED A DRAFT OF THE ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH OR AMEND THE FIRE DISTRICTS IN THE COUNTY. MR. JONES SAID THIS ORDINANCE WOULD MAKE ALL THE FIRE DISTRICTS THE SAME AND IT WOULD ALLOW THE COUNTY TO IMPOSE FEES OR TAXES FOR FIRE SERVICE OR TO SELL BONDS AND AMORTIZE THE BONDS AMONG THE DISTRICTS. MR. JONES SAID THE ORDINANCE DOES NOT DISALLOW FIRE SERVICE CONTRACTS. CHAIRMAN HOOD OPENED THE PUBLIC HEARING.

GLENN STORCK SAID THAT THIS WAS AN INTERESTING CONCEPT, AND HE ASKED WHAT IT BRINGS TO THE TABLE FOR THE CITIZENS. MR. STORCK ASKED IF THIS IS GOING TO IMPROVE FIRE PROTECTION. MR. STORCK SAID THAT THE TOWN OF RIDGELAND DOES A GREAT JOB IN HIS AREA AND THEY HAVE AN ISO RATING OF 5. MR. STORCK SAID THAT MR. JONES SAID THAT THE COUNTY COULD CHARGE A FEE AND IF THE COUNTY CAN DOES THAT, THE STAFF SHOULD TELL THE CITIZENS WHAT THOSE FEES WILL BE. CHAIRMAN HOOD ANSWERED THAT THE ORDINANCE GIVES THE COUNTY THE OPPORTUNITY TO SET UP THE DISTRICTS. MR. STORCK ASKED WHAT IS THERE TO INSURE THE CITIZENS THAT FEES WILL NOT BE CHARGED IN THE FUTURE. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID HE COULD

NOT PREDICT THE FUTURE. MR. STORCK SAID HE WANTED TO BE SURE THAT THE COUNTY DOES NOT SLAP A FIRE DISTRICT TAX ON HIM. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID THAT SOME AREAS OF THE COUNTY STILL HAVE AN ISO RATING OF 10 AND THIS WILL HELP THEM. MR. STORCK ASKED IF THEY HAD ANY IDEA OF THE RATE AND CHAIRMAN HOOD RESPONDED THEY DID NOT AT THIS TIME.

AARON SAXON SAID THAT IF PEOPLE LIVED 5 MILES FROM A FIRE STATION, EVEN IF THEY ARE IN A FIRE DISTRICT, THEIR ISO RATING WOULD STILL BE 10 AND WOULD REMAIN A 10 UNLESS A FIRE STATION IS BUILT WITHIN 5 MILES OF THEIR RESIDENCE. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID HE DID NOT SEE ANY SENSE TO DO THIS IF IT DID NOT GIVE THE CITIZENS A BETTER RATING. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID HE FELT THE CITIZENS WOULD REQUEST THIS BASED ON THE NEEDS OF THE AREA. MR. JONES SAID THAT ANY FUNDS GENERATED FROM A DISTRICT MUST BE SPENT IN THAT DISTRICT.

BARBARA CLARK SAID THAT BELLINGER HILL IS A 10 AND THEY WOULD HAVE ALREADY HAD A SUB-STATION, BUT THEY CAN'T DO THAT BECAUSE THEY DON'T KNOW WHAT IS HAPPENING. CHAIRMAN HOOD STATED THAT THE PEOPLE NEEDED TO COME TOGETHER AND WORK TOWARDS MAKING THINGS BETTER.

ROY POWELL ASKED TO HAVE THE BEGINNING OF THE ORDINANCE EXPLAINED. MR. JONES EXPLAINED THAT THIS WAS DRAFTED SO THE DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES WOULD BE OVER ALL AREAS OF THE COUNTY. MR. JONES SAID THAT THE WAY IT IS NOW, THE DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES IS NOT OVER THE CONTRACTED AREAS. MR. JONES SAID THIS ORDINANCE WOULD ESTABLISH THAT THE COUNTY WILL HAVE OVERSIGHT OF HOW FIRE SERVICE IS PROVIDED THROUGH OUT THE ENTIRE COUNTY. MR. POWELL SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE ORDINANCES THAT THIS ORDINANCE WOULD REPEAL. MR. JONES SAID THAT HE DID NOT HAVE THEM WITH HIM. MR. POWELL SAID THAT IF ORDINANCES ARE BEING REPEALED THEY SHOULD BE ON HAND FOR THE PUBLIC TO REVIEW. MR. POWELL STATED THAT THIS ORDINANCE IS REPEALING FOUR ORDINANCES. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID THAT MR. POWELL CAN GET THE INFORMATION FROM THE ATTORNEY.

FREDDY BRANTLEY ASKED WHAT THE ADVANTAGE IS FOR THE COUNTY TO CONTRACT OUT FIRE SERVICE. MR. FULGHUM RESPONDED THAT THE PEOPLE OUTSIDE OF RIDGELAND WOULD HAVE A HIGHER ISO RATING IF THERE WAS NO CONTRACT WITH RIDGELAND AND THE CONTRACT PROVIDES AN ENHANCED LEVEL OF FIRE SERVICE. MR. BRANTLEY ASKED IF THE COUNTY PAID THE BILLS. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID THAT THE \$330,000.00 BUDGETED LAST YEAR FOR LEVY WAS SENT TO LEVY AND THEY PAID THE BILLS.

CHAIRMAN HOOD ADDED THAT THE \$275,000.00 IN THIS BUDGET WILL GO TO THE EMS BUDGET FOR LEVY AND THE COUNTY WILL PAY THE BILLS. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE STATED THAT WHEN THE FUNDS WERE SENT TO LEVY, THERE WAS A CLAUSE IN THE CONTRACT THAT THE COUNTY COULD AUDIT THEIR BOOKS AT ANY TIME.

GLADYS BOSTICK WILLIAMS STATED THAT SHE LIVED IN A RURAL AREA AND WHY WAS THERE A COMMOTION ON HOW THINGS WERE BEING PAID BEFORE. MS. WILLIAMS SAID A LOT OF PEOPLE WERE PRESENT AND THE ADMINISTRATION DOES NOT HAVE THE INFORMATION FOR THE PUBLIC. MS. WILLIAMS SAID THERE WERE TOO MANY HANDS IN THE POT AND THE PUBLIC CANNOT GET ANSWERS. MS. WILLIAMS ASKED HOW HER AREA WAS COVERED. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID THAT HER AREA WAS PROVIDED COVERAGE BY THE COUNTY AND ALL THE BILLS ARE PAID FOR BY THE COUNTY. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID THERE WAS NO CONTRACT FOR FIRE SERVICE IN HER AREA. MS. WILLIAMS SAID THERE WAS MONEY FOR SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT AND SHE WANTED TO KNOW HOW MANY FIRE TRUCKS WERE AT GRAYS FIRE STATION AND IF AN AMBULANCE WAS STATIONED THERE. MS. WILLIAMS ASKED IF THERE WAS 24/7 COVERAGE AT THE GRAYS' FIRE STATION. MR. MALPHRUS SAID HE WAS NOT IN CHARGE OF EMS AND FIRE. MR DALEY RESPONDED THAT THERE IS ONE PERSON STATIONED AT GRAYS' FIRE STATION 24/7, HE ADDED THAT THERE IS 1 FIRE ENGINE, 1 TANKER AND NO AMBULANCE. MS. WILLIAMS ASKED ABOUT DRY HYDRANTS. MR. DALEY SAID THERE WERE NO DRY HYDRANTS IN HER AREA.

BEING NO FURTHER COMMENTS, CHAIRMAN HOOD CLOSED THE PUBLIC HEARING.

COUNCILMAN GREGORY ASKED IF A REFERENDUM WAS NEEDED REGARDING FIRE DISTRICTS. MR. JONES RESPONDED THAT A REFERENDUM WAS NOT NEEDED. COUNCILMAN GREGORY ASKED IF THE COUNTY COULD MAKE A FIRE DISTRICT IN ANY AREA OF THE COUNTY AND MR. JONES RESPONDED THAT IT COULD. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED IF AN ISO RATING COULD BE ESTABLISHED FOR ANY DISTRICT THAT IS ESTABLISHED AND MR. JONES SAID THAT WAS CORRECT. COUNCILMAN GREGORY ASKED WHY THEY NEEDED TO BE RE-ESTABLISHED. MR. JONES RESPONDED THAT EMS SHOULD HAVE THE OVERSIGHT ABILITY OVER THE ENTIRE DISTRICT. COUNCILMAN GREGORY ASKED ABOUT LEVY AND MR. JONES ANSWERED THAT LEVY, CHERRY POINT, AND RURAL JASPER ARE ESTABLISHED DISTRICTS AND THE EMS AUTHORITY WAS ONLY OVER RURAL JASPER AND IT NEEDS TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ENTIRE COUNTY INCLUDING THE HARDEEVILLE VICINITY, THE RIDGELAND VICINITY, LEVY, CHERRY POINT, AND RURAL JASPER. COUNCILMAN

GREGORY ASKED THE ADMINISTRATION TO WORK WITH LEVY AND MR. GRAHAM. COUNCILMAN GREGORY SAID THAT MR. GRAHAM TOLD HIM THAT HIS ACCOUNTS WERE OPEN AND COULD BE INSPECTED AT ANYTIME. COUNCILMAN GREGORY SAID IT BOTHERED HIM THAT HE WAS TOLD THAT LEVY DID NOT HAVE TO BE ACCOUNTABLE FOR THE FUNDS THEY WERE GIVEN.

COUNCILMAN TYLER MOTIONED AND VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SECONDED THE MOTION THAT THIS BE THE PUBLIC HEARING AND 1<sup>ST</sup> READING OF THE ORDINANCE TO AMEND ARTICLE I, CHAPTER 9 OF CODE OF ORDINANCES OF JASPER COUNTY SO AS TO RE-ESTABLISH THE JASPER COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND TO CONFIRM FOR THE POSITION OF DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES, TO CLARIFY THE POWERS OF THE DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES, TO PROVIDE TRAINING, PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS, TO PROVIDE FOR CERTAIN ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY, AND TO DESIGNATE CERTAIN VEHICLES AS EMERGENCY VEHICLES; TO AMEND ARTICLE IV, CHAPTER 9 OF CODE OF ORDINANCES OF JASPER COUNTY SO AS TO PROVIDE CERTAIN FINDINGS AS TO THE JASPER COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICTS, TO PROVIDE FOR GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR AND GEOGRAPHIC LIMITATIONS OF THE CHERRY POINT FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT, THE RURAL JASPER COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT, THE LEVY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT, THE RIDGELAND VICINITY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT AND THE HARDEVILLE VICINITY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT; TO ORDER THE PUBLICATION OF CERTAIN NOTICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE ADOPTION OF THIS ORDINANCE; AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE REPEAL OF THE FOLLOWING PREVIOUSLY ADOPTED ORDINANCES OF JASPER COUNTY: JASPER COUNTY CODE §9-121, §9-122, §9-123, §9-124 AND ORDINANCE NO. 02-03 ADOPTED ON THE MARCH 4, 2002. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

**MARVIN JONES – 2<sup>ND</sup> READING OF THE ORDINANCE ORDERING A REFERENDUM REGARDING A CHANGE IN THE METHOD OF ELECTION OF COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBERS FROM THE EXISTING AT LARGE METHOD TO THE SEVEN (7) SINGLE MEMBER DISTRICTS METHOD; FORMULATING THE REFERENDUM QUESTION; AND TO PROVIDE FOR OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO:**

MR. JONES SAID HE SPOKE WITH ATTORNEY SAM HOWELL AND MR. HOWELL INFORMED HIM OF AN ATTORNEY GENERALS OPINION AND THAT THEY MAY HAVE TO CHANGE THE QUESTION ON THE BALLOT. MR. JONES SAID HE WOULD HAVE THE CHANGE MADE FOR THE NEXT MEETING. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID THAT THE SCHOOL BOARD

HAS NINE DISTRICTS ESTABLISHED AND IT IS EXPENSIVE TO HAVE TO ESTABLISH DISTRICTS. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID HE FELT THE COUNCIL AND THE SCHOOL BOARD SHOULD HAVE THE SAME NUMBER OF DISTRICTS. COUNCILMAN GREGORY SAID HE FELT THAT 7 MEMBERS WERE ADEQUATE AND HE SAID THAT THERE HAS BEEN SOME DISCUSSION ABOUT THE SCHOOL BOARD GOING TO SEVEN MEMBERS. MR. JONES SAID THE ELECTION WILL NOT COST VERY MUCH, BUT THE EXPENSE IS IN ESTABLISHING THE DISTRICTS. CHAIRMAN HOOD SUGGESTED THAT THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE MEET WITH THE SCHOOL BOARD TO DISCUSS THIS. COUNCILMAN GREGORY SAID HE THOUGHT THE DELEGATION MADE THE DECISION REGARDING THE SCHOOL BOARD.

COUNCILMAN GREGORY MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN TYLER SECONDED THE MOTION THAT THIS BE THE 2<sup>ND</sup> READING OF THE ORDINANCE ORDERING A REFERENDUM REGARDING A CHANGE IN THE METHOD OF ELECTION OF COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBERS FROM THE EXISTING AT LARGE METHOD TO THE SEVEN (7) SINGLE MEMBER DISTRICTS METHOD; FORMULATING THE REFERENDUM QUESTION; AND TO PROVIDE FOR OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

**ANDREW FULGHUM - 2<sup>ND</sup> READING OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND RESTATING ORDINANCE NO. 09-09 AUTHORISING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF CERTAIN INSTRUMENTS RELATING TO THE ACQUISITION, CONSTRUCTION, EQUIPPING, USE, LEASING, AND RENOVATION OF CERTAIN COUNTY FACILITIES; APPROVING THE ISSUANCE OF ST. PETERS PARISH/JASPER COUNTY PUBLIC FACILITIES CORPORATION INSTALLMENT PURCHASE REVENUE BONDS, CERTIFICATES OF PARTICIPATION AND BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES; CONSENTING TO THE FORM OF TRUST AGREEMENTS BETWEEN ST. PETERS PARISH/JASPER COUNTY PUBLIC FACILITIES CORPORATION AND THE CORPORATE TRUSTEE; THE LEASE OF EQUIPMENT AND VEHICLES AND CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY AND THE BUILDINGS AND OTHER SITE IMPROVEMENTS LOCATED THEREON BY JASPER COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA TO ST. PETERS PARISH/JASPER COUNTY PUBLIC FACILITIES CORPORATION, INCLUDING AUTHORISING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A BASE LEASE AGREEMENT, BETWEEN JASPER COUNTY AND ST. PETERS PARISH/JASPER COUNTY PUBLIC FACILITIES CORPORATION; AUTHORISING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A PUBLIC FACILITIES AND OCCUPANCY AGREEMENT BETWEEN JASPER COUNTY AND ST.**

**PETERS PARISH/JASPER COUNTY PUBLIC FACILITIES CORPORATION; AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN JASPER COUNTY AND ST. PETERS PARISH/JASPER COUNTY PUBLIC FACILITES CORPORATION; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO:**

MR. FULGHUM REPORTED THAT IN FEBRUARY THE COUNCIL PASSED AN ORDINANCE FOR FINANCING THE GOVERNMENT BUILDING AND RENOVATION OF THE COURTHOUSE. MR. FULGHUM INFORMED THE COUNCIL THAT THIS ORDINANCE WOULD AMEND THE ORIGINAL AMOUNT TO BE FINANCED FROM \$18,000,000.00 TO \$20,500,000.00. MR. FULGHUM SAID THE ADDITIONAL AMOUNT WOULD PAY OFF ANY OF THE COUNTY'S LONG TERM LEASES. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED WHAT THE BOND WAS GOING TO PAY OFF AND MR. MALPHRUS RESPONDED THAT THE BOND WOULD PAY OFF ALL THE LONG TERM LEASES, A PORTION OF THE GRANT MATCH FOR THE RADIO TOWER, AND THE SHERIFF'S VEHICLES. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED IF THE COUNTY WILL HAVE ANY OTHER DEBT AND MR. MALPHRUS SAID THERE WOULD BE THE LEASE PURCHASE AT THE GREENWAY BUSINESS PARK IN HARDEEVILLE, BUT THAT LEASE IS PAID FOR WITH A-TAX FUNDS. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED IF THE ADDITIONAL FUNDS WOULD BE SEPARATE FROM THE \$18,000,000.00. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT IT WOULD BE SET UP AS TWO BONDS AND COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED ABOUT THE TERMINOLOGY "PORTION THERE OF" AND WHAT IT MEANT. MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT IT WAS LEGAL LANGUAGE TO COVER IF THE COUNCIL DID NOT WANT TO PAY OFF EVERYTHING. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THE INTENT IS TO PAY OFF EVERYTHING. COUNCILMAN GREGORY ASKED HOW THIS WOULD BE PAID AND MR. MALPHRUS RESPONDED THAT WHEN THE BOND IS DONE, THE COUNCIL WILL DETERMINE THE TERM OF THE BOND. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE COMMENTED THAT THIS BOND IS NOT TO INCLUDE ANY ADDITIONAL DEBT, BUT IT IS TO PAY OFF THE EXISTING DEBT AT A LOWER RATE. VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SECONDED THE MOTION THAT THIS BE THE 2<sup>ND</sup> READING OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND RESTATING ORDINANCE NO. 09-09 AUTHORISING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF CERTAIN INSTRUMENTS RELATING TO THE ACQUISTION, CON-STRUCTION, EQUIPPING, USE, LEASING, AND RENOVATION OF CERTAIN COUNTY FACILITIES; APPROVING THE ISSUANCE OF ST. PETERS PARISH/JASPER COUNTRY PUBLIC FACILITIES CORPORATION INSTALLMENT PURCHASE REVENUE BONDS, CERTIFICATES OF PARTICIPATION AND BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES; CONSENTING TO THE FORM OF TRUST AGREEMENTS BETWEEN ST. PETERS PARISH/JASPER COUNTY PUBLIC FACILITIES CORPORATION AND THE CORPORATE TRUSTEE; THE

LEASE OF EQUIPMENT AND VEHICLES AND CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY AND THE BUILDINGS AND OTHER SITE IMPROVEMENTS LOCATED THEREON BY JASPER COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA TO ST. PETERS PARISH/JASPER COUNTY PUBLIC FACILITIES CORPORATION, INCLUDING AUTHORISING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A BASE LEASE AGREEMENT, BETWEEN JASPER COUNTY AND ST. PETERS PARISH/JASPER COUNTY PUBLIC FACILITIES CORPORATION; AUTHORISING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A PUBLIC FACILITIES AND OCCUPANCY AGREEMENT BETWEEN JASPER COUNTY AND ST. PETERS PARISH/JASPER COUNTY PUBLIC FACILITIES CORPORATION; AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN JASPER COUNTY AND ST. PETERS PARISH/JASPER COUNTY PUBLIC FACILITIES CORPORATION; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

**RESOLUTIONS:**

THERE WERE NO RESOLUTIONS.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**MARVIN JONES – APPROVAL OF AMENDED AGREEMENT WITH THE JASPER COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT:**

MR. JONES EXPLAINED THAT HE HAS NOT RECEIVED THE AGREEMENT BACK FROM THE SCHOOL BOARD'S ATTORNEY AND ASKED TO TABLE THIS UNTIL THE NEXT MEETING.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**DAVID JIROUSEK – ROAD NAME CHANGE:**

MR. JIROUSEK PRESENTED A ROAD NAME CHANGE REQUEST FROM THOMAS EXLEY. MR. JIROUSEK EXPLAINED THAT THIS WAS A PRIVATELY MAINTAINED ROAD AND THE EXLEY'S OWNED ALL THE PROPERTY ON THE ROAD. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THE ADDRESS FOR THE PROPERTY IS CURRENTLY KNOWN AS 12902 PURRYSBURG ROAD AND THEY WERE REQUESTING THAT THEIR PRIVATELY MAINTAINED ROAD BE KNOWN AS EXLEY PLANTATION ROAD. VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE ROAD NAME CHANGE AS PRESENTED. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

**DALE TERRY – APPROVAL OF BID FOR 25 YARD OPEN TOP CONTAINERS:**

MR. TERRY ASKED THE COUNCIL TO APPROVE THE LOW BID FROM BAKER WASTE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$11,912.12 FOR THREE TWENTY

FIVE YARD OPEN TOP CONTAINERS. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED IF THEY WERE INCLUDED IN THE BUDGET. MR. TERRY RESPONDED THAT THEY WERE. COUNCILMAN GREGORY MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE LOW BID FROM BAKER WASTE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$11,912.12 FOR THREE TWENTY FIVE YARD OPEN TOP CONTAINERS. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

**WENDY KELLY – APPROVAL OF LANDSCAPING CONTRACT FOR THE JASPER COUNTY GOVERNMENT BUILDING:**

MS. KELLY PRESENTED THE LANDSCAPING CONTRACT FOR THE NEW GOVERNMENT BUILDING. MS. KELLY SAID THAT SHE RECEIVED 6 BIDS AND THE COST OF THE LANDSCAPING IS PART OF THE \$18,000,000.00 BOND FUNDINGS. MS. KELLY ASKED THE COUNCIL TO APPROVE THE LOW BID FROM MAZZANA'S LAWN SERVICE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$21,630.00. COUNCILMAN GREGORY MOTIONED AND VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE BID FROM MAZZANA'S LAWN SERVICE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$21,630.00 FOR THE JASPER COUNTY GOVERNMENT BUILDING PLANTING INSTALLATION. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID HE WANTED SOME ASSURANCES THAT THE RENOVATION WORK AT THE COURTHOUSE WOULD NOT AFFECT THE LANDSCAPING. MS. KELLY RESPONDED THAT SHE FELT THAT COULD BE COORDINATED.

**WENDY KELLY – APPROVAL OF DESIGN CONTRACT FOR A SPEC BUILDING AT CYPRESS RIDGE BUSINESS/ INDUSTRIAL PARK:**

MS. KELLY PRESENTED THE DESIGN CONTRACT FOR THE CYPRESS RIDGE SPEC BUILDING ON PARCEL A. MS. KELLY SAID THAT SHE RECEIVED THREE BIDS AND THE LOW BID COMING FROM CARLISLE ASSOCIATES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$32,500.00. MS. KELLY SAID THAT THERE IS \$700,000.00 IN THE ACCOUNT TO COVER THE COST. MS. KELLY SAID THE COUNTY HAS RECEIVED \$300,000.00 A YEAR FROM PALMETTO ELECTRIC COOP FOR THE LAST TWO YEARS AND \$100,000.00 FROM EMBARQ. MS. KELLY ASKED THAT THE COUNCIL APPROVE THE LOW BID AND TO AUTHORIZE THE ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR THE DESIGN OF THE BUILDING. VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE LOW BID OF \$32,500.00 FROM CARLISLE ASSOCIATES FOR THE DESIGN CONTRACT FOR THE SPEC BUILDING AT CYPRESS RIDGE BUSINESS/INDUSTRIAL PARK. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

**RONNIE MALPHRUS - APPROVAL OF A-TAX COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:**

MR MALPHRUS TOLD THE COUNCIL THAT THE A-TAX FUNDS TOTALED \$142,000.00 AND THAT THE COUNTY GETS \$25,000.00 PLUS 5% OF THE NET REVENUE (\$5,850.00), AND THE J.C. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE GETS 30% OF THE NET REVENUE (\$35,100.00) AND THE BALANCE OF \$76,050.00 PLUS THE CASH CARRY FORWARD (\$1,458.00) IS DIVIDED AND APPROVED BY THE COMMITTEE AND THEY MAKE THE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL TO APPROVE. MR. MALPHRUS EXPLAINED THAT THE A-TAX COMMITTEE MET AND WERE REQUESTING THE COUNCIL'S APPROVAL OF THE RECOMMENDED EXPENDITURES. MR. MALPHRUS TOLD THE COUNCIL THAT THE TOTAL IN THE A-TAX FUND WAS \$77,508.00 THE EXPENDITURES TOTALED \$77,445.00. THE RECOMMENDATIONS ARE \$25,845.00 TO THE J.C. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, \$36,100.00 TO THE POINT SOUTH MERCHANTS, \$9,000.00 TO LOWCOUNTRY TOURISM, AND \$6,500.00 TO SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED HOW THE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION USES THE MONEY AND MR. MALPHRUS SAID IT IS USED FOR BILL BOARDS. COUNCILMAN GREGORY MOTIONED AND VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATIONS AS PRESENTED FROM THE A-TAX COMMITTEE. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

**STEVEN MALPHRUS - APPROVAL OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH BEAUFORT COUNTY FOR IT SERVICES:**

STEVEN MALPHRUS SAID THAT HE HAS BEEN NEGOTIATING AN AGREEMENT WITH BEAUFORT COUNTY BECAUSE THE COUNTY ONLY HAS ONE *IT* PERSON AND THE WORKLOAD IS MORE THAN ONE PERSON CAN HANDLE. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT BEAUFORT COUNTY WOULD PROVIDE ONE PERSON WHO IS A STUDENT TO HANDLE DESKTOP CONCERNS AND THE COURT ADMINISTRATION SOFTWARE. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THIS PERSON WOULD ALSO HELP WITH IMPLEMENTATIONS. MR. MALPHRUS ASKED THE COUNCIL TO APPROVE UP TO \$15,000.00 FOR THIS CONTRACT AND THAT HE WOULD COME BACK TO COUNCIL FOR APPROVAL IF THE AMOUNT EXCEEDS \$15,000.00. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THE OTHER CONTRACT WAS WITH B.B. BARBER FOR THE GIS WEBSITE AND HE WAS REQUESTING THE COUNCIL TO APPROVE UP TO \$35,000.00. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED IF THERE WAS MONEY IN THE BUDGET TO COVER THE AGREEMENTS. MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT THERE WERE FUNDS IN THE BUDGET TO HIRE AN ADDITIONAL *IT* PERSON AND THIS MONEY COULD BE USED TO GET ADDITIONAL

HELP. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT PROVIDES A PERSON WHO WOULD BE ON CALL AND THE B.B. BARBER CONTRACT WAS FOR OTHER *IT* NEEDS. MR MALPHRUS ADDED THAT THE TOTAL FOR BOTH AGREEMENTS WAS \$50,000.00 AND THERE WERE FUNDS IN THE CURRENT BUDGET TO COVER THE EXPENSES FOR THE BEAUFORT CONTRACT. MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT THE CONTRACT FOR \$35,000.00 COULD BE PUT IN THE UPCOMING BUDGET AND PAID FOR OUT OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED IF THERE WAS \$35,000.00 IN THE CURRENT BUDGET THAT COULD BE USED AND MR. RONNIE MALPHRUS RESPONDED THAT THEY HAD THE \$35,000.00 IN THE CURRENT BUDGET. COUNCILMAN GREGORY ASKED IF THIS WAS FOR AN NEW EMPLOYEE. STEVEN MALPHRUS RESPONDED THAT THE INDIVIDUAL WOULD WORK FOR BEAUFORT COUNTY. COUNCILMAN GREGORY SAID THAT SINCE THERE IS A FREEZE ON HIRING, HE DID NOT THINK THIS SHOULD BE DONE AND HE HAD A PROBLEM THAT THIS IS EVEN BEING PRESENTED. STEVEN MALPHRUS SAID THIS WOULD GIVE THE COUNCIL THE OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE THE TECHNOLOGY FUNCTIONAL. COUNCILMAN GREGORY SAID HE DID NOT THINK IT SHOULD BE DONE. CHAIRMAN HOOD ASKED IF THE SERVICES WERE FOR THE J.C. GOVERNMENT BUILDING AND MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT OTHER BUILDINGS WOULD BE INCLUDED AND IT WOULD PULL ALL THE DATA TOGETHER IN ONE LOCATION. COUNCILMAN GREGORY ASKED IF THERE WOULD BE A HARDSHIP IF THE COUNCIL DID NOT APPROVE THIS. STEVEN MALPHRUS SAID THAT HE WOULD HAVE TO CONTINUE WORKING WEEKENDS AND NIGHTS AS A SALARIED EMPLOYEE WHILE OTHERS ARE PAID OVERTIME. STEVEN MALPHRUS ADDED THAT IT WOULD TAKE LONGER TO COMPLETE THE PROJECT. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED IF THEY WANTED TO SPEND \$15,000.00 FROM THE CURRENT BUDGET FOR AN ADDITIONAL PERSON TO WORK WITH *IT* AND ADD TO MAINTENANCE CONTRACT THIS YEAR. MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT THERE IS \$63,000.00 IN THE CURRENT BUDGET AND THEY ARE TALKING ABOUT SPENDING \$50,000.00. MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT MR. STEVEN MALPHRUS WANTED TO DO THE B.B. BARBER CONTRACT OUT OF NEXT YEARS BUDGET. VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR MOTIONED AND CHAIRMAN HOOD SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGREEMENT WITH BEAUFORT COUNTY IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$15,000.00 AND TO APPROVE THE B.B. BARBER CONTRACT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$35,000.00 AND THAT THE FUNDS WOULD COME OUT OF THE CURRENT YEAR'S BUDGET. THE MOTION WAS CARRIED WITH CHAIRMAN HOOD, VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR, AND COUNCILMAN TYLER VOTING FOR; COUNCILMEN GREGORY AND ETHERIDGE VOTED AGAINST.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

COUNCILMAN GREGORY ASKED ABOUT THE COMPANY THAT WAS DISCUSSED TO DO INSPECTIONS AND HOW MUCH MONEY WILL THIS TAKE FROM JASPER COUNTY. COUNCILMAN GREGORY SAID HE FELT THE COUNTY WOULD LOSE MORE THAN IT WOULD GAIN BY USING THIS COMPANY. MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT THE JOHN ENGLAND CONTRACT WOULD ONLY COVER DOING WHAT THE COUNTY IS NOT CERTIFIED TO DO AT THIS POINT. COUNCILMAN GREGORY ASKED IF THE COUNTY WOULD LOSE OR GAIN. MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT HE COULD ARGUE BOTH SIDES, ONE SIDE WOULD BE THAT YOU DO NOT HAVE TO FUND AN EMPLOYEE, BUT YOU WOULD LOSE REVENUE IF YOU DO THE CONTRACT BECAUSE THE JOHN ENGLAND COMPANY WOULD GET 80% OF THE FEES. COUNCILMAN GREGORY SAID HE FELT THE COUNCIL NEEDED TO DISCUSS THIS FURTHER. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID THAT BY CONTRACTING THIS OUT, YOU LOSE GOOD COMMUNICATION WITH THE LOCAL CONTRACTORS. MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT COULD HAPPEN. COUNCILMAN GREGORY SAID THAT EVEN THOUGH THINGS ARE NOT BOOMING RIGHT NOW AND HE DIDN'T THINK THE COUNTY SHOULD DO A CONTRACT WITH SOMEONE WHO TAKES 80% OF THE FEES. MR. FULGHUM SAID THERE WERE PROS AND CONS AND THE COUNCIL NEEDS TO DISCUSS THIS FURTHER.

COUNCILMAN GREGORY ASKED ABOUT THE ROADS, HE SAID HE WAS GETTING COMPLAINTS ABOUT THE ROAD AGAIN. MR. TERRY RESPONDED THAT HIS MEN WERE TIED UP HELPING WITH THE MOVE, BUT THEY WERE BACK TO WORKING THE ROADS.

CHAIRMAN HOOD PROVIDED A REPORT ON THE FUND BALANCES FROM 2003-2008. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID HE FELT THE ECONOMY WAS STARTING TO TURN AROUND AND HE HOPED THE GOVERNOR WOULD ACCEPT THE STIMULUS FUNDS. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID THAT MICHELLE KNIGHT FROM LCOG IS WORKING ON GRANTS AND IF ANYONE NEEDED HELP, THEY SHOULD CONTACT MS. KNIGHT.

### **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:**

MR. FULGHUM REPORTED THAT THERE WAS FEDERAL FUNDING FOR HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENTS AND THAT HE ATTENDED A WEBINAR THAT IDENTIFIED GRANT OPPORTUNITIES. MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT THE OLD SENIOR CENTER IN HARDEEVILLE BEING TURNED INTO A NEW LIBRARY HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED AS A POSSIBILITY FOR A GRANT APPLICATION. MR. FULGHUM SAID THE PORT COMMITTEE WILL MEET AND MAKE A PRESENTATION ON JULY 9, 2009 AT 11:30 A.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS. MR. FULGHUM TOLD THE COUNCIL THAT THEY WILL NEED TO PASS A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE REDUCTION IN

WORKFORCE AT WEDNESDAY'S MEETING. MR. FULGHUM ASKED THE COUNCIL TO APPOINT TWO MEMBERS TO THE ST. PETERS PARISH/JASPER COUNTY PUBLIC FACILITIES CORPORATION AT WEDNESDAY'S MEETING. MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT ATTORNEY JONES WOULD PROVIDE THE COUNCIL WITH INFORMATION AS TO WHAT TYPE OF PEOPLE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED FOR MEMBERSHIP. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID HE ATTENDED A MEETING WITH THE INFRASTRUCTURE BANK IN MYRTLE BEACH WITH THE ADMINISTRATOR AND THEY ASKED FOR SUGGESTION AS TO WHERE THEY COULD GET FUNDS. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID THAT THEY ARE TO GO BACK ON JUNE 18, 2009 TO MAKE THE FINAL BID FOR THIS PROJECT.

**OPEN FLOOR TO THE PUBLIC (3 MINUTE TIME LIMIT PER INDIVIDUAL):**

GLADYS JONES ASKED HOW THE 7% INCREASE WILL EFFECT THE HOMEOWNERS AND SHE REQUESTED THAT THE COUNCIL HOLD A SECONDED PUBLIC HEARING ON THE BUDGET AT THE NEXT MEETING SO MORE PEOPLE COULD ATTEND. CHAIRMAN HOOD RESPONDED THAT THE COUNCIL WILL HAVE A WORKSHOP ON WEDNESDAY AND NO ONE SHOULD BE EXPECTED TO ANSWER QUESTIONS ON THE SPOT. MS. JONES COMMENTED THAT NEW INFORMATION HAS COME FORWARD TODAY ABOUT THE ISSUE IN THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT AND THE TOWN OF RIDGELAND MAY BE INTERESTED IN USING THE COUNTY BUILDING INSPECTORS AND THIS NEEDED TO BE LOOKED INTO.

BARBARA CLARK SAID THAT SHE HEARD THAT IT WAS SAID THAT THERE WAS NO ACCOUNTABILITY AT THE LEVY FIRE DEPARTMENT AND SHE CHALLENGED THE COUNCIL MEMBERS TO COME TO LEVY TONIGHT AND LOOK AT THEIR BOOKS AND INFORMATION. MS. CLARK SAID THAT 4 PEOPLE ARE NEEDED TO GO TO A STRUCTURE FIRE AND SHE SAID THE PEOPLE OF LEVY WERE REQUESTING THAT 3 FULL-TIME FIREMEN BE PLACED IN LEVY. MS. CLARK ASKED THE COUNCIL TO GIVE LEVY A FIVE YEAR CONTRACT AND TO WALK WITH THEM. MS. CLARK SAID THAT THE PEOPLE OF LEVY ARE TIRED OF HAVING TO COME EVERY YEAR AND FIGHT FOR THEIR CONTRACT. MS. CLARK SAID THAT THEY ARE VERY SERIOUS ABOUT THEIR FIRE STATION AND THEY WANT TO WORK OUT WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE. MS. CLARK TOLD THE COUNCIL THAT THEY DO NOT NEED TO HAVE A SHERIFF'S DEPUTY FOR PROTECTION FROM THE PEOPLE FROM LEVY. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID HE DID NOT REQUEST THE DEPUTY.

PASTOR YOUNG SAID SHE WOULD LIKE FOR THE BUDGET TO BE MORE DETAILED.

GLADYS WILLIAMS COMMENTED THAT SHE DID NOT BRING A LETTER REGARDING LIGHTS AND SIDEWALKS AT RIVERSHILL, BUT SHE WAS

STILL SINCERE ABOUT THE THINGS THAT NEEDED DONE IN RIVERSHILL.  
BEING NO FURTHER COMMENTS CHAIRMAN HOOD CLOSED THE FLOOR TO THE PUBLIC.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN GREGORY SECONDED THE MOTION TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS EMPLOYMENT AND CONTRACTUAL MATTERS. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

**RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION:**

COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN TYLER SECONDED THE MOTION TO RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION.

CHAIRMAN HOOD REPORTED THAT NO ACTION WAS NECESSARY.  
CHAIRMAN HOOD REPORTED THAT THE COUNCIL RECEIVED INFORMATION ON CONTRACTUAL AND EMPLOYMENT MATTERS AND INSTRUCTED THE ADMINISTRATOR AS TO WHAT ACTION TO TAKE AND REPORT BACK TO THE COUNCIL.

**ADJOURN:**

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

THE MEETING ENDED AT 8:25 P.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY:

APPROVED BY:

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JUDITH M. FRANK, CCC  
CLERK TO COUNCIL

\_\_\_\_\_  
DR. GEORGE M. HOOD  
CHAIRMAN

