



**JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL
358 THIRD AVE., RIDGELAND SC. 29936**

**COUNCIL CHAMBERS
JUNE 13, 2012 3:30 P.M.
BUDGET WORKSHOP/MEETING
MINUTES**

OFFICIALS PRESENT: CHAIRMAN SAMUEL GREGORY, VICE CHAIRMAN MARTIN SAULS IV, COUNCILMAN HENRY ETHERIDGE, COUNCILMAN LEROY BLACKSHEAR, COUNCILMAN THEODUS L. DRAYTON

STAFF PRESENT: ADMINISTRATOR ANDREW FULGHUM, DEP. ADM. GEORGE HOOD, CLERK TO COUNCIL JUDITH FRANK, DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES RONNIE MALPHRUS

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 GREGORY CALLED THE BUDGET WORKSHOP/ MEETING TO ORDER AT 3:30 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – CHAIRMAN GREGORY LED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

INVOCATION – COUNCILMAN DRAYTON GAVE THE INVOCATION.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE ORDINANCE TO APPROVE THE JASPER COUNTY 2012-2013 BUDGET;
CHAIRMAN GREGORY OPENED THE PUBLIC HEARING.

DENISE DAVIDSON - MS. DAVIDSON SAID THAT SINCE SCDOT MAINTAINS THEY ROADS, WHY THE \$25 PER VEHICLE EXPENSE. MS. DAVIDSON SAID THE COUNTY SHOULD CUT THE BUDGET 15% AND THE COUNCIL NEEDED TO ELIMINATE THE DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR POSITION AND SAVE THE \$85,000. MS. DAVIDSON SAID THE FIRE AND RESCUE SHOULD BE SEPARATE SO THE ADMINISTRATION WOULD QUIT PLAYING GAMES SHIFTING THE FUNDS AND OVERTIME. MS. DAVIDSON ASKED WHY THE HARDEEVILLE MAGISTRATE IS RECEIVING A \$10,000 INCREASE AND WHAT IS BEING DONE ABOUT ELIMINATING THE DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR'S JOB. MS. DAVIDSON PRESENTED A LETTER THAT ADDRESSED THE DISCUSSION OF THE SCHOOL'S BUDGET AND THE PUBLIC HAS NOT HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW THAT BUDGET. MS. DAVIDSON SAID A FOIA REQUEST WAS HAND DELIVERED FOR A REQUEST OF A COPY OF 2011 TO PRESENT A COPY OF ALL THE SCHOOL'S CREDIT CARD RECEIPTS AND WHO RECEIVED BONUSES AND A DETAILED REPORT OF THE SPENDING AND TRAVEL. THERE WERE NO OTHER COMMENTS AND CHAIRMAN GREGORY CLOSED THE PUBLIC HEARING.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION – MR. MALPHRUS SAID THERE WERE NO CHANGES SINCE THE LAST MEETING. MR. MALPHRUS PROVIDED THE COUNCIL WITH INFORMATION TO REVIEW. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THEY WERE ASKED TO FIND A WAY TO GIVE THE EMPLOYEE RAISES WITHOUT INCREASING THE BUDGET. MR. MALPHRUS PROVIDED THE COUNCIL WITH A LIST OF THINGS THAT CAN BE CUT TOTALING \$228,000.

MR. MALPHRUS SAID THE TWO DETENTION CENTER EMPLOYEES WERE ADDED AND SALARY AND BENEFITS WOULD BE \$72,500 LEAVING A BALANCE OF \$153,500 FOR EMPLOYEE RAISES AND MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT IS NOT ENOUGH TO GIVE THE EMPLOYEES A 3% COST OF LIVING RAISE. MR. MALPHRUS SAID A 3% COST OF LIVING RAISE WOULD COST ABOUT \$300,000. VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS ASKED THE TOTAL COST OF THE DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR INCLUDING BENEFITS. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT TOTAL IS \$108,000 AND VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS IF YOU ADD IT TO THE OTHER CUTS, IT WOULD PUT THE TOTAL VERY CLOSE TO WHAT WAS NEEDED TO GIVE THE EMPLOYEES RAISES. VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS SAID HE KNOWS THE DETENTION CENTER EMPLOYEES ARE NEEDED BUT HE FELT THEY COULD MAKE CUTS TO THE SUPPLIES, OVERTIME AND GAS AND OIL. VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS SAID THEY NEEDED TO TAKE A GOOD LOOK AND COME UP WITH THE OTHER \$107,000. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THE GOAL WAS TO COME UP WITH THE DOLLARS AND HOLD THE COUNTY MILLAGE STEADY AND THEY ARE NOT QUITE AT THE \$300,000. MR. MALPHRUS TOLD THE COUNCIL HE STILL DID NOT HAVE THE NUMBERS FROM THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUND AND DEPENDING ON WHAT THE LEGISLATURE DOES WOULD MAKE A DIFFERENCE. CHAIRMAN GREGORY ASKED HOW MUCH THE DIFFERENCE WAS FROM A 3% RAISE TO A 2% RAISE AND MR. MALPHRUS SAID ABOUT \$100,000. VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS SAID THAT IF THEY CAME UP WITH \$110,000 AND MADE SOME OF THE CHANGES HE SUGGESTED, THEY WOULD HAVE MONEY TO GIVE JCNU, THE LIBRARIES AND TO KEEP SOME OTHER AGENCIES AFLOAT. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THE COUNCIL WOULD NEED ABOUT \$65,000 TO DO THOSE. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID \$50,000-\$60,000 COULD BE CUT FROM THE FOOD LINE AND HOUSING AT THE DETENTION CENTER BASED ON THE REDUCTION OF INMATES. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID EVEN WITH HIS SUGGESTED CUT THEY WOULD STILL HAVE A CUSHION. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID THE TWO NEW EMPLOYEES AT THE DETENTION CENTER CANNOT BE CUT AS THEY ARE GREATLY NEEDED, BUT HE AGREED THAT THE DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR POSITION SHOULD BE CUT AND HE SUGGESTED CUTTING \$40,000 FROM THE PHONES AND TO REMIND THE EMPLOYEES. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID TO CUT \$70,000 FROM OVERTIME AND THEY WOULD STILL HAVE \$500,000 BUDGETED FOR OVERTIME AND THEY NEEDED TO GET PERMANENT EMPLOYEES. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID THAT RETIREMENT IS ESTIMATED TOO HIGH IN FIRE AND EMS AND HE ASKED THE ADMINISTRATION TO LOOK AT THOSE THINGS AND COME BACK. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID THAT \$10,000 WAS ALREADY CUT FROM JUVENILE HOUSING. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON ASKED IF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUND WOULD BE DETERMINED BY JUNE 30, 2012. MR. MALPHRUS SAID HE HOPED, BUT DID NOT KNOW IF THEY WOULD BE DONE BY JUNE 30, 2012. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON AGREED THAT THEY SHOULD REDUCE THE TELEPHONES BY \$40,000. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON SAID THAT GAS, OIL AND GREASE COULD BE \$20,000 LESS AND TO CUT THE LEVY FIRE CONTRACT BY \$50,000. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON SAID HE KNOWS EVERYONE IS SACRIFICING AND PEOPLE HAVE TO LEARN TO DO WITHOUT. VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS SAID THAT POST MORTEMES COULD BE CUT BY \$10,000 AND THE REDISTRICTING CAN BE TAKEN OUT. MR. MALPHRUS SAID REDISTRICTING WAS REMOVED. COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID \$30,000 COULD BE CUT BY ELIMINATING THE SECURITY GUARD. VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS AGREED. CHAIRMAN GREGORY TOLD THE ADMINISTRATION TO PUT THIS TOGETHER AND BRING IT BACK TO COUNCIL. MR. FULGHUM SAID HE WOULD WORK ON THE BUDGET AND HE REMINDED THE COUNCIL THAT THE TWO POSITIONS AT THE DETENTION CENTER WERE CREATED TO BE TEMPORARY POSITIONS WITH NO BENEFITS. MR. FULGHUM SAID THE POSITIONS WITH BENEFITS WILL COST THE COUNTY ABOUT \$72,500 AND WITHOUT BENEFITS THE COST WOULD BE \$46,000.

MR. MALPHRUS TOLD THE COUNCIL THAT THEY WORKED WITH THE SHERIFF ON HOW TO GENERATE REVENUE FOR THE NEW VEHICLES. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THE SHERIFF FELT WITH HIS CURRENT STAFF HE CAN GENERATE ENOUGH REVENUE TO PURCHASE A PORTION OF THE VEHICLES. MR. MALPHRUS TOLD THE COUNCIL THAT THE SHERIFF SAID HE COULD GENERATE ABOUT \$240,000 IN FINES TO PAY FOR NEW VEHICLES FOR THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT. VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS ASKED WHAT CHECKS AND BALANCES WOULD BE IN PLACE TO MAKE SURE THIS IS DONE. MR. MALPHRUS SAID HE WOULD

TRACK THE REVENUE. VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS ASKED WHAT THE PLAN WAS TO GENERATE \$240,000. MR. MALPHRUS SAID 2 STAFF MEMBERS WOULD BE ON TRAFFIC PATROL TO GENERATE THE FUNDS. VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS SAID THAT THE MONEY WOULD BE PRODUCED AND THEN THE CARS WOULD BE PROVIDED. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THEY WOULD BE ABLE TO BUY A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF VEHICLES EACH YEAR FROM THE MONEY THEY GENERATE AND THEY COULD USE A LEASE PURCHASE. VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS SAID ANTICIPATED MONEY MAKES HIM NERVOUS AND HE WANTS THE MONEY IN HAND BEFORE ANY VEHICLES ARE PURCHASED. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED HOW MUCH FINE MONEY COMES TO THE COUNTY FROM THE SHERIFF FROM JULY 1, 2011 TO MAY 31, 2012. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID THAT \$202,000 WAS FINED, BUT ONLY 40% COMES TO THE COUNTY. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID THE SHERIFF SAID HE ONLY HAD 3 DEPUTIES TO PATROL THE COUNTY AND NOW ONE OF THEM IS GOING TO BE PUT ON TRAFFIC PATROL. CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THE SHERIFF RUNS HIS DEPARTMENT AND HE SAID HE CAN DO THIS AND CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THEY NEEDED TO MOVE FORWARD. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID EVEN IF THE SENATE PASSED THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUND, THE HOUSE CAN CUT IT. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID THEY SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUND SOON AND IF THEY CUT IT, THE COUNTY CAN CUT THE MANDATED AGENCIES BY THE SAME PERCENTAGE THAT THE COUNTY IS CUT. MR. FULGHUM SAID THEY NEED TO KNOW THE AMOUNT AND PERCENTAGE THE COUNCIL WANTS CUT FROM THE BUDGET. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON AGREED THAT THEY SHOULD NOT PURCHASE ANY CARS FOR THE SHERIFF UNTIL THEY HAVE THE MONEY IN HAND. CHAIRMAN GREGORY ASKED HOW WILL THEY GENERATE MONEY IF THEY DON'T HAVE CARS. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON SAID THE COUNCIL CANNOT TELL THE SHERIFF WHAT TO DO AND HE HAS EQUIPMENT NOW AND HE CAN USE IT AND MAKE IT WORK. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON SAID HE DOESN'T WANT TO SAY TO PURCHASE THE CARS. CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THEY CAN GET A WRITTEN AGREEMENT THAT THEY WILL DO WHAT THEY SAID THEY WERE GOING TO DO AND THEY CANNOT MAKE THAT CALL. MR. FULGHUM SAID THEY COULD FIND A WAY TO FINANCE THE VEHICLES AND THEY COULD HAVE MONEY PRIOR TO USE AND HE WOULD WORK ON A PLAN TO PROTECT THE COUNCIL. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON SAID THAT THE COUNCIL WAS TO MEET WITH THE SHERIFF. CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THAT MR. FULGHUM AND MR. MALPHRUS MET WITH THE SHERIFF DUE TO THE BUDGET, BUT THE COUNCIL CAN ASK THE SHERIFF TO COME BACK. MR. FULGHUM SAID HE WANTED TO MEET WITH THE SHERIFF FIRST TO GET THE NUMBERS AND THE POSSIBILITIES. CHAIRMAN GREGORY TOLD THE ADMINISTRATOR TO SET UP A MEETING WITH THE COUNCIL AND THE SHERIFF. VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS SAID IT WAS THE CONSENSUS OF THE COUNCIL THAT THE PROGRAM HE MENTIONED THAT ONCE THE MONEY WAS IN HAND, THE VEHICLES COULD BE PURCHASED AND THEY NEEDED TO MOVE FORWARD WITH IT. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON ASKED WHAT THE COUNTY PREVIOUSLY RECEIVED FROM THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUND IN PREVIOUS YEARS AND WHAT DID THEY THINK THEY WOULD GET THIS YEAR. MR. MALPHRUS RESPONDED THAT THEY BUDGETED \$950,000 AND IF THE SENATE VERSION PASSES THE COUNTY WOULD GET \$990,000, BUT IF THE HOUSE VERSION PASSED THEY WOULD GET \$840,000-\$850,000. MR. MALPHRUS SAID HIS GUESS WAS ABOUT \$900,000. CHAIRMAN GREGORY ASKED ABOUT THE MONEY FOR COURT EXPENSES FROM THE CLERK OF COURT AND MR. MALPHRUS EXPLAINED IT WAS FOR JURY EXPENSES AND ITEMS FOR REFRESHMENTS AND THE OTHER JURY EXPENSES ARE FOR ALL THE MAGISTRATE'S JURORS FOR FOUR DIFFERENT MAGISTRATE COURTS. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED WHY \$950,000 WAS BUDGETED FROM THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUND IF THEY THOUGHT THEY WERE ONLY GOING TO GET \$900,000. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THEY WERE HOPING FOR THE SENATE'S VERSION AND BEING OPTIMISTIC. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO SEE TRAVEL AND TRAINING REDUCES TO \$100,000. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID HE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO SEE IF THEY COULD OPERATE WITH AN ON CALL ATTORNEY AND JASPER COUNTY IS THE ONLY COUNTY OF IT'S SIZE TO HAVE A FULL TIME ATTORNEY. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID IF THEY KEEP THE FULL TIME ATTORNEY THEN HE FELT THE OTHER ATTORNEY FEES SHOULD BE CUT 50%. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID HIS CUTS INCLUDING

CUTTING THE DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR'S POSITION ALMOST TOTAL \$500,000. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED ABOUT CONTRACTS AND THE WEBSITE SERVICES. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THE SECURITY OFFICER IS UNDER CONTRACT AND THE VC3 CONTRACT MAKE UP THE MAJORITY OF THE \$125,000. VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS SAID TO CUT THE \$30,000 FOR THE SECURITY AND HE ASKED WHAT THE \$24,000 WAS FOR AND MR. MALPHRUS SAID HE WOULD FIND OUT. VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS ASKED ABOUT THE SHOP SUPPLIES AND MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT IS FOR SMALL SUPPLIES AND SHOP EQUIPMENT. VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS ASKED ABOUT HEATING FUEL AND MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT WAS FOR THE SHOP. VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS ASKED ABOUT ATTORNEY FEES AND MR. MALPHRUS SAID IT WAS FOR OUTSIDE ATTORNEY FEES AND THAT IT WAS CUT BY \$10,000. VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS SAID THAT DOUBLE IS BUDGETED AS TO WHAT WAS ACTUALLY USED. VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS SAID TO CUT \$25,000. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON ASKED WHY MORE WAS BUDGETED FOR GAS, OIL AND GREASE THAN THE DEPARTMENTS ASKED FOR. MR. MALPHRUS SAID IT WAS INCREASED DUE TO THE INCREASE IN THE COST OF FUEL AND NOT KNOWING WHAT THE COST IS GOING TO BE. CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID TO CUT \$500,000 FROM EMS AND TO CUT ALL THE STATIONS TO \$2,500. CHAIRMAN GREGORY ASKED ABOUT THE \$10,000 FOR MAPPING. MR. MALPHRUS SAID IT IS TO CONTRACT HELP WITH MAPPING. CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID TO CUT IT TO \$5,000. CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID EVERY DEPARTMENT IS GOING TO HAVE TO WATCH THEIR BUDGET AND HE THINKS THEY CAN OPERATE WITH LESS. VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS ASKED ABOUT THE MAINTENANCE CONTRACT AND MR. MALPHRUS EXPLAINED IT WAS FOR I-T AND PRINTERS. VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS ASKED ABOUT SMITH DATA AND MR. MALPHRUS SAID IT WAS NOT PART OF THAT LINE. VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS REQUESTED A SPREADSHEET ON THE MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS. CHAIRMAN GREGORY ASKED WHAT THE FOOD SERVICE CONTRACT WAS SO HIGH. MR. MALPHRUS SAID IT IS FOR THE DETENTION CENTER AND IT WAS DECREASED TO \$230,000 AND IT WOULD BE RISKY TO CUT IT ANY FURTHER. CHAIRMAN GREGORY SUGGESTED CUTTING IT TO \$200,000 AND MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT WAS TOO LOW. VICE CHAIRMAN SAUL ASKED IF IT WAS WHERE YOU GUARANTEE A MINIMUM AND MR. MALPHRUS SAID IT ALLOWS FOR ADDITIONAL PEOPLE BEYOND THE MINIMUM. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID TO GO TO \$200,000. CHAIRMAN GREGORY DISCUSSED THE SOLICITOR AND HIS ASSISTANT. CHAIRMAN GREGORY ASKED IF IT IS MANDATED. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT AMOUNT CANNOT BE REDUCED UNTIL THE FOLLOWING YEAR. MR. MALPHRUS SAID \$100,000 IS TO PAY THE SOLICITOR AND \$4,950 IS TO HELP PAY FOR HIS ASSISTANT. CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID TO GIVE THE SOLICITOR \$100,000. CHAIRMAN GREGORY ASKED ABOUT THE LEGAL FEES AND MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT \$22,000 WAS SPENT THIS YEAR AND HE IS CONSERVATIVE, BUT FELT IT WOULD BE RISKY TO CUT IT. CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID IT WAS RECOMMENDED TO CUT \$25,000. MR. MALPHRUS ASKED IF HE WAS TO CUT ALL THE ITEMS THE COUNCIL SAID AND CHAIRMAN GREGORY RESPONDED YES. VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS ASKED ABOUT THE JUDICIAL LIBRARY AND MR. MALPHRUS SAID THE LOCAL BAR HAS A LIBRARY AND THEY REQUESTED THE COUNTY TO PAY FOR IT. VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS SAID TO DELETE THAT LINE AS OTHER AGENCIES NEEDED IT MORE. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID THE PEOPLE OF JASPER COUNTY WOULD BE HAPPY IF ALL THE SUGGESTED CUTS WERE MADE. CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THE COUNCIL WAS TRYING TO DO WHAT WAS RIGHT. CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID TO CUT ALL THE OFFICE SUPPLIES \$10,000. VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS SAID THE COUNTY FURNISHES TWO OFFICES FOR THE SOLICITOR AND WAS THAT THE ORIGINAL AGREEMENT. MR. FULGHUM SAID THE SOLICITOR SPECIFICALLY REQUESTED A SEPARATE OFFICE FOR THE CAREER CRIMINALS STAFF. MR. FULGHUM SAID AFTER HE REVIEWS ALL THE CUTS HE WILL SEE IF THEY CAN GIVE THE EMPLOYEES A 3% RAISE. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED ABOUT THE STEP RAISES BASED ON THE AMOUNT OF THE SALARY. VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS SAID THEY COULD DISCUSS THIS IN EXECUTIVE SESSION AT THE NEXT BUDGET WORKSHOP. CHAIRMAN GREGORY ASKED ABOUT THE AMOUNT FOR CAR ALLOWANCE. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT WAS FOR MR. FULGHUM AND THE CORONER. MR. FULGHUM PROVIDED THE COUNCIL WITH A LIST OF THE INDIVIDUALS WHO RECEIVE OVERTIME AND THE AMOUNT OF OVERTIME THEY HAVE BEEN PAID. MR. FULGHUM REMINDED THE COUNCIL THAT

THIS IS CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION. CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THE FIRE AND RESCUE OVERTIME NEEDED TO BE CUT. MR. MALPHRUS SAID IT WAS PART OF THE CUTS REQUESTED BY THE COUNCIL. TEDD MOYD, JCNU, REQUESTED THAT THE COUNCIL INCLUDE \$30,000 IN THE BUDGET FOR JCNU. CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID IT WOULD BE ADDED TO THE LIST OF ITEMS TO DISCUSS.

ADJOURN- CHAIRMAN GREGORY ADJOURNED THE BUDGET WORKSHOP/MEETING AT 4:50 P.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY:

JUDITH M. FRANK, ccc
CLERK TO COUNCIL

APPROVED BY:

REV. SAMUEL GREGORY
CHAIRMAN