



**JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
358 THIRD AVE., RIDGELAND, SC
JUNE 15, 2015**

Officials Present: Chairwoman Barbara Clark, Vice Chairman L. Martin Sauls, IV, Councilman Theodus Drayton, Councilman D. Thomas Johnson, Councilman Henry Etheridge

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, 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 – Vice Chairman Sauls called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Budget Workshop – The Council discussed the A-Tax and Councilman Etheridge said he wanted to build up the Point South Exit and asked to have \$5,000 earmarked for the County to beautify Exit 33. The Council made changes to the allocation as follows: to the J.C. Resource Foundation to \$1,224, to the Port South Merchants to \$70,000, the Pocatlico Festival \$1,000 and the remainder remain the same as present as recommended. Mr. Malphrus and Mr. Fulghum reviewed the changes made to the budget and the changes made regarding the school district. Vice Chairman Sauls said he did not think the risk manager’s position was needed. Councilman Etheridge said it could be let go for another year. Councilman Drayton asked who was doing it now and Mr. Malphrus said Ms. Lucas. Councilman Drayton asked how many people were in HR and Mr. Malphrus said 4. Councilman Drayton said the Council should give her another employee. Councilman Etheridge said he thought the Risk Manager could be used in other areas. Councilman Etheridge said more money needs to go to Parks and Recreation and the numbers of people using the parks and activities have tripled. Councilman Etheridge said that Parks and Recreation needed two part-time employees. Vice Chairman Sauls said they could discuss it further during the meeting. Vice Chairman Sauls said the I-T also needed a part –time person, but that was already included in the budget, but the 2 part-time employees for Parks and Recreation were not in the budget currently. Vice Chairman Sauls said the Risk Manager was included in the budget currently.

Chairman Clark and Councilman Johnson arrived during executive session.

Executive Session – Councilman Drayton moved and Councilman Etheridge 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 – Prospect Update; Discussion of

negotiations incident to proposed contract arrangements and proposed purchase or sale of property, receipt of legal advice where the legal advice relates to a pending, threatened, or potential claim or other matters covered by the attorney-client privilege, settlement of legal claims, or the position of the public agency in other adversary situations involving the assertion against the agency of a claim – Preacher Road Closing, Leases, Port; and 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 – Board Appointments, County Attorney. The motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

Return to Open Session Councilman Drayton motioned and Councilman Etheridge seconded the motion to return to open session. The motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

Chairwoman Clark announced that the meeting was being live streamed to the Zenie Ingram Room since the elevator was not working.

Pledge of Allegiance – Chairman Drayton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Invocation – Vice Chairman Sauls gave the invocation.

Approval of Agenda – Councilman Etheridge moved and Councilman Drayton seconded the motion to amend the agenda to include the 1st Reading of an Ordinance regarding the procurement amendment by title only. The motion carried with all members present voting in favor. Councilman Etheridge moved and Councilman Drayton seconded the motion to approve the amended agenda. The motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

Approval of the Minutes – 05/18/2015 and 06/04/2015 – Councilman Drayton moved and Vice Chairman Sauls seconded the motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

Presentation and Proclamations – Danny Black- Promise Zone Designation- Mr. Black provided an overview of the Promise Zone Designation and provided information regarding the advantages of being in the Promise Zone.

Ordinances

LeNolon Edge – 3rd Reading of the Ordinance to amend the Official Zoning Map of Jasper County so as to transfer a portion of property bearing Jasper County Tax Map Number 083-00-04-003 located at Strobhart Road and Lowcountry Drive from the Rural Preservation Zone to the General Commercial Zone- Mr. Edge reviewed the ordinance and said the Planning Commission did not provide any recommendation concerning this ordinance. Councilman Etheridge said the rezoning only affects the property and not which road would be used. Councilman Johnson moved and Councilman Etheridge 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 a portion of property bearing Jasper County Tax Map Number 083-00-04-003 located at Strohart Road and Lowcountry Drive from the Rural Preservation Zone to the General Commercial Zone. The motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

LeNolon Edge –3rd Reading the Ordinance to amend the Official Zoning Map of Jasper County so as to transfer a portion of property bearing Jasper County Tax Map Number 081-00-01-014 located on Lowcountry Drive from the Residential Zone to the Industrial Development Zone on the Jasper County Official Zoning Map – Mr. Edge requested the 3rd reading and said there were no changes to the ordinances. Councilman Johnson moved and Vice Chairman Sauls seconded the motion that this be the 3rd Reading the Ordinance to amend the Official Zoning Map of Jasper County so as to transfer a portion of property bearing Jasper County Tax Map Number 081-00-01-014 located on Lowcountry Drive from the Residential Zone to the Industrial Development Zone on the Jasper County Official Zoning Map. The motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

Ronnie Malphrus –3rd Reading of the Ordinance to provide for the levy of tax for public purposes in Jasper County for the fiscal year beginning July 1st, 2015 and ending June 30th 2016 and to make appropriations for said purposes; to adopt and approve the Jasper County Capital and Operations Budget for FY 2015-2016; to adopt and approve the Jasper County School District Capital and Operations Budget for FY 2015–2016; to provide for the levy of taxation for FY 2015–2016; to limit the disbursements by the county treasurer to those appropriated by law; to provide that expenditures not exceed appropriations; to authorize tax anticipation notes; to make authorization of certain transfers; to provide for continuing appropriations for subsequent years; to require certain agencies and departments to file accountings; to require the treasurer to sign general fund checks; to provide special rules for travel and training disbursements; to provide for travel reimbursements; to provide compliance with Act no. 317 of 1990; to provide certain benefits to council members; to provide for county commission and committee stipends; to provide for jury mileage; to adopt property values; and to provide for effective date of this ordinance – Councilman Johnson moved and Councilman Etheridge seconded the motion to amend the budget attachments to reflect the following changes to add \$18,000 for a part – time position in Parks and Recreation; to cut \$18,000 from the phone line for DSS; to add an appropriation of \$1,000 for Helping Hands and reduce Human Relations Board appropriation from \$2,500 to \$2,000; to fund the Risk Management position, but the position is not to be filled until the Council approves a job description and places the position within the organizational structure; and that the 1% cost of living increase and step adjustment increase is not to be received by any employee who received a lump sum increase in the 2012-2013 budget. The motion was carried by all members present voting in favor. Councilman Johnson moved and Vice Chairman Sauls seconded the motion the to approve the sentence added to SECTION 2 page 2 *There is hereby appropriated to the School Operation Budget the remaining non-appropriated funds collected through the School District ad valorem taxation in Fiscal Year 2014-2015.* The motion carried with all members present voting in favor. Councilman Etheridge motioned and Councilman

Drayton seconded the motion to approve the budget with all the mentioned amendments. The motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

Andrew Fulghum – 1st Reading of the Ordinance to donate +/- 7.5 acres of property within the Cypress Ridge Business/Industrial Park to Project Handler (by title only)- Mr. Fulghum explained that the property donation was part of the incentive agreement with Project handler. Councilman Etheridge moved and Vice Chairman Sauls seconded the motion that this be the 1st Reading of the Ordinance to donate +/- 7.5 acres of property within the Cypress Ridge Business/Industrial Park to Project Handler (by title only). The motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

LeNolon Edge – 1st Reading of the Ordinance to amend the zoning map of Jasper County so as to transfer a property bearing Jasper County Tax Map Number 079-00-00-011 located along North Okatie Highway from the Residential Zone to the General Commercial Zone on the Jasper County Official Zoning Map- Mr. Edge explained that the zoning request was for 1.35 acres on North Okatie Highway and the Planning Commission recommended approval. Councilman Drayton moved and Councilman Johnson seconded the motion that this be the 1st Reading of the Ordinance to amend the zoning map of Jasper County so as to transfer a property bearing Jasper County Tax Map Number 079-00-00-011 located along North Okatie Highway from the Residential Zone to the General Commercial Zone on the Jasper County Official Zoning Map. The motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

LeNolon Edge – 1st Reading of the Ordinance, to amend the zoning ordinance, to add Other Residential Care Facilities as a conditional use in the Residential District and Rural Preservation District; to amend Article 6:1, Table 1; and to add conditions to Article 11:7 as 11:7.21A – Mr. Edge requested to amend the sections to amend Article 6:1, Table 1; and to add conditions to Article 11:7 as 11:7.21A of the zoning ordinance to all residential care facilities in residential and rural preservation districts. Mr. Edge said the Planning Commission recommends approval. Councilman Etheridge moved and Councilman Johnson seconded the motion that this be the 1st Reading of the Ordinance, to amend the zoning ordinance, to add Other Residential Care Facilities as a conditional use in the Residential District and Rural Preservation District; to amend Article 6:1, Table 1; and to add conditions to Article 11:7 as 11:7.21A. The motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

Resolutions

David Tedder – Resolution to consent to the abandonment of any interest in, and to the statutory closure of, Preacher Road in the Town of Ridgeland – Mr. Tedder provided a map of the area and explained that the County had no need for the road and the Town of Ridgeland would like to have ownership of the road. Councilman Drayton moved and Vice Chairman Sauls seconded the motion to pass the resolution to consent to the abandonment of any interest in, and to the statutory closure of, Preacher Road in the Town of Ridgeland. The motion carried with all member present voting in favor., with the exception of Councilman Johnson who abstained from voting.

Old Business – None.

New Business

Ronnie Malphrus – Approval of A-Tax Requests- Councilman Johnson moved and Councilman Drayton seconded the motion to approve the A-tax requests as presented with the following changes: the Resource Foundation will receive \$1,224, the County is to receive \$5,000 to make improvements at Point South and \$1,000 taken from the Point South Merchants and \$1,000 given to the Pocatamico Festival. The motion carried with all members present voting in favor, with the exception of Vice Chairman Sauls who abstained.

Dale Terry – Approval of Bids for Rock- Mr. Terry requested that the Council approve the low bid from JR Wilson in the amount of \$154,000. Vice Chairman Sauls moved and Councilman Drayton seconded the motion to approve the bid from JR Wilson in the amount of \$154,000 for rock. The motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

Committee Reports –Councilman Etheridge discussed the Promise Zone. **Vice Chairman Sauls** discussed the activities of the Alliance. **Councilman Johnson** said he attended several meetings regarding the Port. **Chairwoman Clark** discussed Mr. Jones retirement and she reminded the public that the first meeting in July has been cancelled.

Administrator’s Report – Mr. Fulghum provided an update regarding the tree clearing projects and the Litter Control Group would like to have an ad hoc committee and Councilman Etheridge would chair the committee and Vice Chairman Sauls would also serve on the committee. Councilman Johnson moved and Vice Chairman Sauls seconded the motion to have Mr. Fulghum send a letter regarding the Bluffton Parkway Project. The motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

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. Justin Eason discussed a Martin Luther King Festival and he discussed the parks regulations concerning amplified equipment being prohibited and that anything sold would need to be approved. Mr. Eason said he wanted this to have an impact on the community. Chairwoman Clark said that Mr. Eason would have to appear before the Town of Ridgeland regarding any events at Turpin Park. Being no further comments, Chairwoman Clark closed the floor to the public.

Adjourn- Vice Chairman Sauls moved and Councilman Etheridge seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried with all members present voting in favor.
The meeting ended at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Approved by:

Judith M. Frank, ccc
Clerk to Council

Barbara B. Clark
Chairwoman

