



**JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
JASPER COUNTY GOVERNMENT BUILDING
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING/WORKSHOP
SEPTEMBER 13, 2010
3:30 P.M.**

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

STAFF PRESENT - ANDREW FULGHUM-ADMINISTRATOR, RONNIE MALPHRUS-DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES, JUDITH FRANK –CLERK TO COUNCIL, MARVIN JONES – ATTORNEY, WILBUR DALEY- DIRECTOR OF EMS. STEVEN MALPHRUS- ASST. DIR. EMS, YASEMINE ATAR- IT MANAGER, MARGARET BOSTICK – CLERK OF COURT, JOANNE MCDONALD- CHIEF MAGISTRATE, DAVID JIROUSEK- PLANNING AND BUILDING DIRECTOR, CHRISTY HERMAN – SPECIAL PROJECTS COORDINATOR

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 3:35 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - CHAIRMAN HOOD LED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

INVOCATION - VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR GAVE THE INVOCATION.

ANDREW FULGHUM – DISCUSSION OF THE COURT CASE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM – MR. FULGHUM PROVIDED THE COUNCIL WITH A MEMO ON THE COURT SYSTEM. THE PROPOSAL WAS THAT THE S.C. JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT IN COLUMBIA WOULD TAKE OVER MANAGEMENT. MR. FULGHUM TOLD THE COUNCIL THAT CURRENTLY IT IS MANAGED BY BEAUFORT COUNTY. MR. FULGHUM SAID THE PROPOSAL WILL CHANGE THINGS AND REDUCE COSTS. MR. FULGHUM SAID THE 1ST UPDATE PROVIDED GRANTS TO BUILD THE NETWORK. STEVEN MALPHRUS EXPLAINED THE PROGRESSION OF THE NETWORK FROM THE BEGINNING

UP TO TODAY. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THEY ARE CONNECTED TO BEAUFORT COUNTY AND HAMPTON COUNTY. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT THE SYSTEM WAS MOVING TOWARDS VIDEO BOND HEARINGS. MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT \$422,000.00 HAS BEEN INVESTED IN THE SYSTEM OVER THE YEARS AND THERE IS ALSO AN ONGOING MAINTENANCE COSTS. MR. FULGHUM LISTED THE WAYS THAT WILL BENEFIT THE COUNTY WHEN THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM TAKES OVER MANAGEMENT. MR. FULGHUM SAID THE COURT ALSO REQUESTED THAT THE MAGISTRATES' OFFICES BE MOVED TO THE MARY GORDON ELLIS BUILDING AND THE COURT SYSTEM WOULD GIVE THE COUNTY \$12,000.00 TO UPGRADE THE BUILDING, IN ADDITION TO THE EQUIPMENT. MR. FULGHUM SAID THE COURT SYSTEM IS MAKING THE REQUEST. MR. MALPHRUS ALSO DISCUSSED DARK FIBER WHICH IS HURRICANE PROOF AND THE COST IS ABOUT \$220,000.00 TO CONNECT SEVERAL FACILITIES. MR. FULGHUM PROPOSED THAT \$50,000.00 COULD COME FROM THE JAIL BUILDING FUND, BUT THEY HAVE NOT FOUND A WAY TO PAY FOR THE DIFFERENCE. MR. FULGHUM SAID THE BLACK FIBER IS THE WAY THEY WANT TO GO. MR. FULGHUM SAID HE WOULD LIKE THE COUNCIL TO CONSIDER THIS AND HE WILL PRESENT IT AT THE NEXT MEETING. VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR ASKED WHY PUBLIC WORKS WAS INCLUDED. MR. FULGHUM SAID IT WAS TO UPGRADE THEIR SOFTWARE AND TO CONNECT ALL THE COUNTY BUILDINGS. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED ABOUT THE RIDGELAND AND HARDEEVILLE MAGISTRATES AND IF THEY CAME THROUGH THE RIDGELAND FIRE DEPARTMENT. MS. ATAR SAID THERE WAS ONE FIBER CONNECTION AND ANOTHER RADIO SYSTEM USING THE TOWER AS BACKUP. STEVEN MALPHRUS SAID THERE IS A TOWER AT THE RIDGELAND FIRE DEPARTMENT. MS. ATAR ADDED THAT SHE IS TRYING TO GET EVERYONE CONNECTED TO THE NETWORK. MS. ATAR SAID THERE ARE OVER 20 OFFICES AND THEY HAVE VARIOUS TYPES OF CONNECTIONS. MS. ATAR SAID THE COUNTY'S NETWORK IS BETTER THAN MOST OF THE OTHER COUNTIES IN THE STATE. MR. FULGHUM SAID NO ACTION WAS NEEDED TODAY, BUT HE WILL BRING A MOU TO THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING. MS. ATAR SAID WORKING WITH BEAUFORT COUNTY HAS CAUSED SOME PROBLEMS AS THE UPDATES ARE NOT BEING DONE IN A TIMELY MANNER AND WITH THE STATE EVERYTHING WILL BE WEB BASED.

ANDREW FULGHUM – APPROVAL OF TASK ORDER FOR LDR – MR. FULGHUM PRESENTED A TASK ORDER FROM THOMAS AND HUTTON FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES. MR. FULGHUM SAID THE COUNCIL PREVIOUSLY APPROVED FUNDS FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES IN THE BUDGET AND THE COUNTY HAS FIRMS UNDER CONTRACT THAT THE COUNCIL APPROVED. MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT ALL PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACTS MUST BE APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL. MR. FULGHUM SAID THE TASK ORDER AND THE AMOUNT GO TO THE ADMINISTRATOR PRIOR TO COMING TO COUNCIL. MR. FULGHUM SAID THE AMOUNT OF THE TASK ORDER FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR THE LDR IS \$2,000.00. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THE ZONING ORDINANCE AND THE LDR ARE TWO AREAS WHERE THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT DEPENDS ON ENGINEERS TO REVIEW THE RELATED

DOCUMENTS AND MAKE SURE THE DOCUMENTS MEET THE EXPECTATIONS. MR. JIROUSEK SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO USE THOMAS AND HUTTON FOR THIS TASK. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED IF IT WOULD BE PAID FROM THE \$20,000.00 PLANNING EXPENSES AND MR. FULGHUM WOULD LIKE TO BE ABLE TO APPROVE THE TASK ORDER WITHOUT COMING TO COUNCIL. MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT WAS CORRECT. MR. FULGHUM SAID HE WOULD LIKE THE COUNCIL TO CONSIDER AMENDING THE PROCUREMENT POLICY AND TO PUT A CAP ON HOW MUCH THE ADMINISTRATOR CAN APPROVE FOR TASK ORDERS WITHOUT COMING BACK TO COUNCIL. VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE TASK ORDER FROM THOMAS AND HUTTON IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,000.00 AND THAT IT IS TO BE PAID FROM THE PLANNING EXPENSE LINE IN THE BUDGET. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

ANDREW FULGHUM – APPROVAL OF BIDS FOR PARKING LOTS AND HARDSCAPE- MR. FULGHUM REVIEWED A MEMO FROM MS. HERMAN STATING THAT THEY ONLY RECEIVED THE INFORMATION FOR THE BIDS ON THE DAY OF THE MEETING. MR. FULGHUM SAID TWO BIDS WERE RECEIVED AND HE REQUESTED THE COUNCIL TO APPROVE THE LOW BID FROM LJ CONSTRUCTION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$615,570.00. MS. HERMAN EXPLAINED THAT THE BID COVERED THE PARKING LOTS, CURBS, SIDEWALKS, PAVERS, FOUNTAIN AND BENCHS, STREET SIGNS AND SIGNAGE. MS. HERMAN SAID THE PARKING LOTS WOULD BE CONSTRUCTED OF PERVIOUS CONCRETE. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED HOW MANY ADDITIONAL PARKING SPOTS WILL BE CREATED AND MS. HERMAN RESPONDED 70 SPACES, NOT INCLUDING THE PARALLEL PARKING SPOTS ON 2ND AVE. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED THE TOTAL FEET OF THE SIDEWALKS. MS. HERMAN SAID SHE DID NOT HAVE THE INFORMATION. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED ABOUT A BREAKDOWN FOR THE COSTS OF EACH PARKING LOT AND SIDEWALKS. MS. HERMAN SAID THAT SHE HAS IT BROKEN DOWN BY PARKING LOT. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID THAT WAS WHAT THE COUNCIL ASKED FOR AND IT WAS NOT INCLUDED IN THE INFORMATION THEY RECEIVED. MS. HERMAN SAID THAT LJ IS SUBBING OUT A LOT OF THE WORK TO COMPANIES LIKE THE GREENERY. MS. HERMAN SAID THE GREENERY DID NOT PUT IN A BID. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID HE FELT IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN BROKEN DOWN AND BID THAT WAY AS THEY MAY HAVE HAD DIFFERENT BIDDERS FOR CERTAIN THINGS AND IT WOULD HAVE BEEN CHEAPER. MS. HERMAN SAID THAT WAS NOT THE WAY IT WAS DONE. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED IF THE PARKING LOTS AND SIDEWALKS WERE BID SEPARATELY. MR. FULGHUM SAID EVERYTHING WAS BID OUT AS ONE PROJECT AND THE ENGINEER WENT BACK TO THE LOW BIDDER TO GET A BREAKDOWN. MR. FULGHUM SAID THE TOTAL THAT NEED TO BE APPROVED WAS \$646,348.50 WHICH INCLUDES THE CONTINGENCY AMOUNT. VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN GREGORY SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE BID OF LJ CONSTRUCTION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$646,348.50 AND THAT IT IS TO BE

PAID FROM THE COURTHOUSE RENOVATION FUND. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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 -BEAUFORT COMMERCE PARK, LEVY FIRE CONTRACT, FRAMPTON TRACT - COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN TYLER SECONDED THE MOTION TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE 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 -BEAUFORT COMMERCE PARK, LEVY FIRE CONTRACT. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION - VICE CHARIMAN BLACKSHEAR MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SECONDED THE MOTION TO RETURN TO OPEN SESSION. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

COUNCILMAN GREGORY LEFT THE MEETING DURING EXECUTIVE SESSION.

CHAIRMAN HOOD REPORTED THAT THE COUNCIL DISCUSSED THE BEAUFORT COMMERCE PARK AND HE ASKED THE ADMINISTRATOR TO GET MORE INFORMATION.

CHAIRMAN HOOD REPORTED THAT THE COUNCIL RECEIVED INFORMATION REGARDING THE LEVY FIRE CONTRACT AND NO ACTION WAS NEEDED.

CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID THEY RECEIVED INFORMATION ON THE FRAMPTON TRACT AND HE ASKED THE ADMINISTRATOR TO MOVE FORWARD WITH CONTACTING SCE&G AND SENDING THE INFORMATION THAT WAS REQUESTED.

ADJOURN - COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE MOTIONED AND VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SECONDED THE MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. THE MOTION WAS CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR. THE MEETING ENDED AT 5:45 P.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY:

APPROVED BY:

JUDITH M. FRANK, ccc
CLERK TO COUNCIL

DR. GEORGE M. HOOD
CHAIRMAN

