



**JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
BUDGET WORKSHOP
MARCH 30, 2011
3:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

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

OFFICIALS ABSENT: COUNCILMAN L. MARTIN SAULS IV.

STAFF PRESENT: ADMINISTRATOR-ANDREW FULGHUM, CLERK TO COUNCIL-JUDITH FRANK, DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIVISION - RONNIE MALPHRUS, DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES DIVISION

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 BLACKSHEAR CALLED THE BUDGET WORKSHOP TO ORDER AT 3:00 P.M.

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

INVOCATION- COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE GAVE THE INVOCATION

DISCUSSION

CARL ROACHE – COUNCIL ON AGING – MR. ROACHE PROVIDED MATERIALS FOR THE COUNCIL TO REVIEW. MR. ROACHE SAID THAT THIS YEAR THEY HAVE HAD STIMULUS AND GRANT FUNDING TO HELP WITH EXPENSES THAT WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE IN THE COMING YEAR. MR. ROACHE SAID THAT THEY PLAN TO CONTINUE WITH THE HOME DELIVERED MEALS AND THE LIMITED SERVICES IN GRAYS AND COOSAWHATCIE AT THE NUTRITIAN SITES THREE DAYS PER WEEK; THE SERVICES AT THE CENTERS WILL REMAIN THE SAME. MR. ROACHE SAID THE \$100,000 THEY RECEIVE

FROM THE COUNTY PAYS FOR THE OVERALL OPERATIONS AND \$10,000 GOES TOWARD THE SERVICES PROVIDED TO GRAYS AND COOSAWHATCHIE. MR. ROACHE DISCUSSED A \$25,000 GRANT THAT ALLOWS PALMETTO BREEZE TO PICK THE PEOPLE UP AND BRING THEM HOME. MR. ROACHE SAID THAT CURRENTLY THEY ARE WORKING ON THE ROBERTVILLE CENTER AND ALSO NEW SIGNAGE FOR THAT CENTER. MR ROACHE SAID COUNCIL ON AGING SERVES 400 PEOPLE COUNTY WIDE AND THEIR MISSION IS TO KEEP PEOPLE IN THERE HOMES INSTEAD OF A NURSING HOME. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED ABOUT FUNDS FROM LCOG. MR. ROACHE SAID THAT LCOG MANAGES THEIR FUNDING. MR. ROACHE SAID THEY WILL NEED TO FIND ALTERNATIVE FUNDING FOR 25-30 PEOPLE OR THEY WILL NOT BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED DID THEY KNOW THIS. MR. ROACHE SAID THE INDIVIDUALS WERE TOLD WHEN THEY WERE ADDED THAT THE FUNDING MAY BE CUT. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON SAID HE DID NOT SEE THE STIMULUS FUNDING LISTED ANYWHERE. MR. ROACHE SAID THE AUDIT WAS FOR THE LAST FISCAL YEAR AND THE STIMULUS MONEY WILL SHOW UP IN THIS YEARS AUDIT. MR. ROACHE SAID HE WOULD REPORT BACK TO COUNCIL THE AMOUNT OF THE STIMULUS FUNDING.

ANN WALKER – BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB- MS. WALKER INTRODUCED MR. DOUG BERRY, THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE LOWCOUNTRY BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB. MR. BERRY SAID THAT ORIGINALLY THERE WERE 10 CLUBS AND THEY WERE NOW DOWN TO 5 CLUBS. MS. WALKER SAID IT WAS A DIFFICULT TIME AND THEY MAY NOT BE ABLE TO RUN THE SUMMER PROGRAM IF THEY DO NOT FIND THE FUNDING. MS. WALKER INTRODUCED XAVIER RIVERS, YOUTH OF THE YEAR. MR. RIVER READ HIS WINNING SPEECH ABOUT WHAT THE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB MEANS TO HIM. MR. RIVERS TOLD THE COUNCIL THAT THE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB HAS HAD A VERY POSITIVE EFFECT ON HIM AND HOW HE LIVES HIS LIFE. MR. RIVERS SAID HE WAS 16 YEARS OLD AND HE HAS BEEN GOING TO THE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB SINCE HE WAS 11 YEARS OLD. MR. RIVERS SAID HIS SIBLINGS ALSO ATTEND THE CLUB AND IT GIVES HIS MOM PEACE OF MIND WHILE SHE IS WORKING. MS. WALKER INTRODUCED MS. SCOTT, PRESIDENT OF THE PARENTS ASSOCIATION. MS. SCOTT TOLD THE COUNCIL ABOUT THE FUND RAISING EVENTS THEY HAVE HELD. MS. SCOTT SAID THE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB KEEPS THE KIDS OFF THE STREET AND THAT THE CHILDREN AND THE PARENTS NEED THE CLUB. MS. SCOTT SAID SHE BELIEVES IN SUPPORTING THE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB BECAUSE IT MAKES DREAMS HAPPEN. MS. WALKER SAID THE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB IS TAKING OVER THE STUDY HALLS AND SAT MENTORING. SUSIE HENDERSON DISCUSSED THE VARIOUS FUND RAISERS HELD BY THE BOARD. SHE ALSO THANKED THE COUNCIL FOR THE A-TAX FUNDS THEY HAVE PROVIDED FOR THOSE EVENTS. MS. HENDERSON SAID THEY HAVE CUT THE BUDGET TO THE BONE AND THEY NEED FUNDING FOR THE OPERATING COSTS. MS. HENDERSON SAID THEY ARE CURRENTLY SERVING OVER 125 CHILDREN. MS. HENDERSON SAID IF THE MONEY IS NOT THERE THEY WILL NOT LET THE CLUB STAY OPEN. MS. HENDERSON ASKED THE

COUNCIL TO CONSIDER THEIR REQUEST FOR \$50,000. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY ASKED MR. RIVERS WHAT CLOSING THE CLUB WOULD MEAN TO HIM. MR. RIVERS SAID THE CLUB IS PART OF HIM AND HE IS CLOSE TO THE STAFF. MR. RIVERS SAID THE CLUB MEANS A LOT TO HIM AND THE OTHER CHILDREN. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY ASKED ABOUT OTHER FUNDING. MS. HENDERSON RESPONDED THAT THEY HOLD FUND RAISERS AND THEY HAVE ASKED THE MILBANK'S FOR A LARGER DONATION THIS YEAR. MS. HENDERSON SAID THE OPERATING BUDGET WAS \$250,000 PER YEAR AND THEY HAVE A STAFF OF 12 PEOPLE. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY ASKED IF THEY HAVE DONE ANYTHING TO BRING THE COMMUNITY TOGETHER OR HAVE THEY ASKED THE CHURCHES FOR HELP. MS. HENDERSON SAID THEY HAVE HELD FUND RAISERS AND THEY ARE WORKING WITH THE DEDICATED BLACK MEN. MS. HENDERSON SAID THE DEDICATED BLACK MEN ARE GOING TO BE CONTACTING THE CHURCHES. MS. HENDERSON SAID THAT SOME OF THE CLUBS HAVE INCREASE THE DUES, BUT SHE DID NOT THINK THE PEOPLE COULD AFFORD IT. MS. HENDERSON SAID THAT THE DUES ARE CURRENTLY \$20 PER YEAR. MS. HENDERSON SAID THAT HILTON HEAD AND BEAUFORT CHARGE MONTHLY DUES. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED ABOUT THE QUALIFICATION OF THE STAFF. MS. HENDERSON SAID THEY DO NOT HAVE TO BE COLLEGE GRADUATES; THEY ARE TRAINED BY THE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF AMERICA. MS. WALKER SAID IF THEY CANNOT STAY OPEN DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS, THEY ARE GOING TO LOOSE THEIR STAFF. MS. WALKER SAID THEY CANNOT SURVIVE ON FEES AND THAT 30% OF THE ATTENDEES ARE TEENAGERS. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED HOW LONG THE CLUB HAS BEEN IN JASPER COUNTY. MS. WALKER RESPONDED 10 YEARS. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED IF THEY HAVE TRACKED THE CHILDREN WHO HAVE PARTICIPATED IN THE PROGRAM. MS. WALKER SAID ONLY CASUALLY, BUT THEY ARE STARTING NOW TO TRACK THE STUDENT FROM WHEN THEY ENTER UNTIL THEY LEAVE. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON ASKED WHAT TWO FUNDRAISERS THEY HELD. MS. HENDERSON SAID THE TASTE OF JASPER ANC THE BLIZZARD AT BLUE HERON.

BILL STANLEY - MARINE RESCUE SQUADRON - MR. STANLEY EXPLAINED THAT THE SQUADRON WAS HEADQUARTERD IN HARDEEVILLE, AND THEY PROVIDE A UNIQUE SERVICE TO THE COUNTY. MS. STANLEY SAID THEY PROVIDE LIFE SAVING SERVICES TO PEOPLE ON THE WATER DUE TO THE BUDGET CONSTRAINTS OF DNR AND THE COAST GUARD. MR. STANLEY TOLD THE COUNCIL THAT THEY SERVE ALL THE WATERWAYS IN THE AREA. MR. STANLEY SAID THAT CURRENTLY THE EMS HAS NOT WAY TO TRANSPORT PEOPLE FROM THE WATER. MR. STANLEY SAID THE ONLY FUNDING THEY GET IS FROM JASPER COUNTY, FUND RAISING AND OUT OF THEIR OWN POCKETS. MR. STANLEY SAID THEY USE THEIR OWN BOATS AND EQUIPMENT. MR. STANLEY SAID THEY ALSO ASSIST IN FINDING DROWNING VICTIMS AND ALSO PEOPLE MISSING ON LAND. MS. STANLEY SAID THEY SPENT OVER 1,200 MAN HOURS ON FUNDRAISERS, DID 3 PRACTICE MISSIONS, 18 HOURS OF CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION FOR 27 MEMBERS AND WENT ON 17 MISSIONS REQUIRING 196 MAN HOURS AND

ATTENDING 40 HOURS OF MEETINGS. MR. STANLEY SAID THEY ARE ON CALL 24/7 AND THEY DO IT FOR FREE. MR. STANLEY ASKED THAT THE COUNCIL PLEASE CONSIDER INCREASING THEIR APPROPRIATION. MR. STANLEY SAID HE WOULD BE WILLING TO PROVIDE THEIR BOOKS FOR THE COUNCIL TO REVIEW. MR. STANLEY SAID THEIR APPROPRIATION HAS GONE FROM \$3,000 TO \$1,000. MR. STANLEY SAID THAT THEY WERE REQUESTING \$5,000 FOR THE SERVICES THEY PROVIDE.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION – MR. FULGHUM SAID THEY WILL HAVE MORE INFORMATION AT THE NEXT BUDGET WORKSHOP. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED IF THEY HAD ANY REVENUE INFORMATION. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THEY SHOULD HAVE IT NEXT WEEK AND THEY HAVE NOT MADE ANY CHANGES TO THE BUDGET. MR. MALPHRUS DISCUSSED THE ROLLBACK LAW AND HE CONTACTED THE DEPT. OF REVENUE AND ASKED WHAT HAPPENED IF VALUES WENT DOWN. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT THE UNOFFICIAL OPINION OF THE DEPT. OF REVENUE WAS THE MILLAGE CAN BE INCREASED TO A BREAK EVEN POINT. MR. MALPHRUS SAID IT WOULD BE REVENUE NEUTRAL ON REASSESSMENT. MR. MALPHRUS TOLD THE COUNCIL A LETTER WAS SENT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR AN OPINION. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR ASKED ABOUT THE CAP ON THE MILLAGE. MR. MALPHRUS SAID IF THE LAW ALLOWS TO INCREASE THE MILLAGE TO A BREAK EVEN POINT, THE CAP WOULD BE ON TOP OF THAT. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THERE IS A FORMULA TO CALCULATE THE BREAK EVEN POINT. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY ASKED IF THAT MEANT A TAX INCREASE. MR. MALPHRUS SAID ON THE WHOLE, NO, BUT SOME PEOPLE MAY SEE AN INCREASE IN TAXES.

COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED ABOUT THE \$165,000 FOR A NEW VEHICLE IN BUILDING MAINTENANCE. MR. MALPHRUS SAID IT WAS CUT BY THE ADMINISTRATION, AND IT WAS FOR A NEW GARBAGE TRUCK. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID THE DEPT. REQUESTED \$50,000 FOR NEW CONTAINERS AND THE ADMINISTRATION IS RECOMMENDING \$10,000. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED ABOUT THE CONDITION OF THE GARBAGE TRUCK. MR. MALPHRUS SAID IT IS IN BAD SHAPE, THE REALITY IS ABOUT THE MONEY AND THEY WANTED TO TRY AND HOLD OUT FOR ANOTHER YEAR. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THEY COULD FINANCE ONE, BUT THEY WERE TRYING TO STAY OUT OF MORE DEBT. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THEY HAD TO DO SOMETHINGS THEY DID NOT WANT TO DO. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED ABOUT THE \$100,000 FOR THE LANDFILL. MR. MALPHRUS RESPONDED THAT IS WHAT THEY COUNTY PAYS TO BRING TRASH TO THE LANDFILL. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED IF THE COUNTY STILL HAD TO PAY TO DISPOSE OF TIRES. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THE COUNTY GETS SOME FUNDS FOR THE TIRES, BUT NOT ENOUGH TO COVER THE EXPENSES. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED ABOUT STATE AID. MR. MALPHRUS SAID HE HAS \$700,000 IN THE BUDGET; HOWEVER IT SHOULD BE \$840,000 - \$850,000 BUT HE WAS NOT CONFIDENT ABOUT IT. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED ABOUT THE MONEY IN THE MISC. ACCOUNT. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THE AUDITOR DIVIDES IT OUT WHEN THE AUDIT IS DONE AND PUTS IT

WHERE IT NEEDS TO GO. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THEY KNOW WHAT THEY ARE GOING TO NEED, BUT THEY DO NOT HAVE THE PROPERTY VALUES YET. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR ASKED ABOUT A LEASE AGREEMENT FOR THE GARBAGE TRUCK. MR. MALPHRUS SAID HE WOULD LOOK INTO IT, BUT GENERALLY THEY DO NOT DO A LEASE ON THAT TYPE OF VEHICLE.

COUNCILMAN DRAYTON ASKED ABOUT THE RECREATION ATHLETIC PROGRAM. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT WAS FOR ALL THE PROGRAMS LIKE SOCCER, BASKETBALL AND OTHERS. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON ASKED IF UNIFORMS WERE PURCHASED AND WERE THEY PURCHASED LOCALLY. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THE PLAYERS GENERALLY GET A TEE SHIRT AND HE WAS NOT SURE WHERE THEY WERE PURCHASED, BUT HE THOUGHT THEY WERE BID OUT. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON SAID HE WAS INTERESTED IN THEM BEING PURCHASED IN JASPER COUNTY.

COUNCILMAN DRAYTON ASKED IF THE FIRE CONTRACTS HAD TO BE RENEWED BY MARCH 1, 2011. MR. FULGHUM RESPONDED THAT THEY NEEDED TO LET THE MUNICIPALITIES KNOW BY MARCH 1, 2011 IF THEY PLANNED TO RENEW THE CONTRACTS. MR. FULGHUM SAID HE WOULD PROVIDE THE PROS AND CONS OF RENEWING THE CONTRACTS FOR MONDAY'S MEETING.

VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY ASKED WHY THE RECYCLING MONEY CANNOT BE USED FOR ITEMS NEEDED AT PUBLIC WORKS. MR. MALPHRUS SAID IT IS SHOWN AS REVENUE. MR. MALPHRUS SAID IF THE FUNDS ARE DESIGNATED FOR SOMETHING, THE REVENUE WOULD HAVE TO BE REPLACED SOME OTHER WAY.

COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID THE SHERIFF ASKED FOR \$350,000 FOR NEW VEHICLES. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED HOW MANY CARS THE SHERIFF HAS NOW AS TO HOW MANY HE HAD THREE YEARS AGO. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THEY ARE NOT DOWN SIGNIFICANTLY AND THEY HAVE SPARES. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED FOR A LIST OF EVERY VEHICLE OWNED BY THE COUNTY. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY ASKED IF THE COUNCIL CAN DECIDE WHAT TYPE OF VEHICLE IS PURCHASED. MR. ETHERIDGE SAID THE COUNCIL APPROVES THE FUNDS AND THE SHERIFF DECIDES WHAT VEHICLES TO PURCHASE. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID THEY NEED TO GO TO SOMETHING SMALLER, CHEAPER AND GAS EFFICIENT. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THE COUNCIL HAS TO DECIDE WHAT IS ECONOMICALLY RIGHT FOR JASPER COUNTY AND THEY CAN DRIVE WHAT THE COUNCIL APPROVES. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT THEY WILL ARGUE THAT THE CROWN VICS AND CHARGERS ARE BUILT FOR POLICE WORK.

MR. FULGHUM SAID THEY HAVE BEEN TRYING TO FIND WAYS TO CUT COSTS AND GET REVENUE. MR. FULGHUM SAID THE COUNTY CAN CHARGE FEES FOR WHAT THE TAXES DO NOT COVER. MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT MANY COUNTIES CHARGE A ROAD MAINTENANCE FEE AND THE FEE IS APPLIED TO PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES ON VEHICLES. MR. FULGHUM SAID HE WAS CHECKING TO SEE IF THAT COULD BE DONE. MR. FULGHUM SAID ROAD MAINTENANCE COSTS THE COUNTY ABOUT \$530,000 AND THERE ARE ABOUT 20,000 REGISTERED VEHICLES IN JASPER COUNTY AND IF FEES ARE CHARGED, THEY CAN BE APPLIED TO ROAD MAINTENANCE.

COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID BEAUFORT COUNTY HAS BEEN CHARGING A ROAD MAINTENANCE FEE FOR A LONG TIME. MR. FULGHUM SAID A LOT OF COUNTIES CHARGE ALL SORTS OF DIFFERENT FEES. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON ASKED IF A FEE COULD BE CHARGED FOR CARS THAT ARE JUST SITTING IN PEOPLES YARD. MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT WOULD BE CODE ENFORCEMENT TO CHECK. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID THAT THERE IS AN ORDINANCE TO COVER THAT, BUT JUST LIKE THE BAGGY PANTS ORDINANCE, IT IS NOT BEING ENFORCED.

REPRESENTATIVE BRANTLEY'S REQUEST: CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR DISCUSSED WITH THE COUNCIL THE DECISION THEY MADE AT THE LAST COUNCIL MEETING REGARDING THE RIDGELAND HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID THAT REP. BRANTLEY MADE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE GIRLS TO BE RECOGNIZED ON THE STATE HOUSE FLOOR ON APRIL 14, 2011 AND THAT HE WANTED THE COUNTY TO PAY FOR THE BUSES AND MEALS FOR THE GIRLS AND WHOEVER WANTED TO ATTEND. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID THAT THE COUNCIL VOTED NOT TO FUND THE TRIP SCHEDULED BY REPRESENTATIVE BRANTLEY AND TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THEIR OWN PLANS. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR TOLD THE COUNCIL THAT MR. JAMES GARDNER CONTACTED THE CLERK ABOUT THE TRIP AND THAT THE GIRLS WOULD BE ON SPRING BREAK ON APRIL 27, 2011. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THAT WHEN REP. BRANTLEY SPOKE TO HIM, REP. BRANTLEY THOUGHT IT WOULD COST ABOUT \$500. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THE BUS WOULD COST MORE THAT \$500. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THAT SINCE SPRING BREAK IS ON THE WEEK OF APRIL 27, REP. BRANTLEY ASKED THAT THE COUNCIL RECONSIDER AND APPROVE FUNDING FOR APRIL 14, 2011. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID REP. BRANTLEY SPOKE TO THE ADMINISTRATOR PRIOR TO TALKING TO THE COUNCIL. MR. FULGHUM SAID HE DID SPEAK WITH REP. BRANTLEY, BUT HE DID NOT REMEMBER THE REP. SAYING ANYTHING ABOUT THE DATE. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID IT SOUNDS LIKE THIS WAS PLANNED WITHOUT ANY INPUT FROM THE COUNCIL AND SINCE THE COUNTY ENDED UP GIVING THE DELEGATION OFFICE OVER \$60,000 LAST YEAR, HE FELT THAT OFFICE SHOULD FUND THE TRIP. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON SAID HE FELT THEY SHOULD STILL GO WITH THE ORIGINAL DATE. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID THE REPRESENTATIVE COULD REQUEST THE GIRLS BE RECOGNIZED ON THE FLOOR ON APRIL 17. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID YOU JUST CAN'T REQUEST IT. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON SAID MAYBE THEY SHOULD CONSIDER THE 14TH AND VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID HE WAS NOT IN AGREEMENT TO TAKE THEM ANYWHERE; HE FELT THEY SHOULD BE RECOGNIZED IN JASPER COUNTY. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID THE PROBLEM IS NOT TAKING THEM THERE; THE PROBLEM IS THE REPRESENTATIVE WANTS THE COUNTY TO PAY TO TAKE THEM THERE AND TO PAY FOR THE DINNERS. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID HE WOULD HAVE LIKED TO GET THE TEAM A CHAMPIONSHIP RING. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE AND VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SECONDED THE MOTION TO FORGET BOTH TRIPS TO COLUMBIA, AND TO RECOGNIZE THE TEAM IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, TO GIVE THE

MEMBERS A PLAQUE PRIOR TO A 4:00 O'CLOCK COUNCIL MEETING. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

SCHEDULING OF EXECUTIVE SESSION - CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR ASKED IF THE COUNCIL MEMBERS WANTED TO HAVE EXECUTIVE SESSIONS PRIOR TO OR AT THE END OF THE COUNCIL MEETINGS. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID THAT LOOKING AT THE AGENDA, IT APPEARED THAT THERE WERE ITEMS THAT NEEDED ACTION TAKEN AND THEY COULD NOT TAKE ACTION UNTIL THEY WERE DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY AGREED THAT THE EXECUTIVE SESSIONS NEEDED TO BE PRIOR TO THE MEETINGS SO THAT THE PUBLIC WILL BE PRESENT WHEN THE COUNCIL RETURNS TO OPEN SESSION AND TAKES ACTION. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SECONDED THE MOTION TO HAVE THE EXECUTIVE SESSION PRIOR TO THE COUNCIL MEETINGS. COUNCILMAN GREGORY ASKED IF THIS WAS FOR ALL FUTURE COUNCIL MEETINGS OR JUST THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING AND THE CHAIRMAN RESPONDED THAT IT WOULD BE FOR ALL COUNCIL MEETINGS. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID HIS MOTION STANDS AND COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID HIS SECOND STANDS. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED IF THE RESOLUTIONS REGARDING THE FIRE CONTRACTS WERE SOMETHING THEY COULD DISCUSS IN EXECUTIVE SESSION. MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT SINCE THEY INVOLVE A CONTRACT THEY CAN BE DISCUSSED. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID THE EXECUTIVE SESSIONS WOULD START AT 3:00 P.M. PRIOR TO THE 4:00 P.M. MEETINGS AND THE EXECUTIVE SESSIONS WOULD START AT 6:00 P.M. PRIOR TO THE 7:00 P.M. MEETINGS. MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT THE EXECUTIVE SESSION COULD BE EXTENDED AT THE END OF THE MEETING IF THERE WAS NOT ENOUGH TIME TO COVER AN ISSUE. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY, COUNCILMAN DRAYTON AND COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE VOTING FOR; CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR VOTED AGAINST.

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

RESPECTFULLY PRESENTED BY:

APPROVED BY:

JUDITH M. FRANK, ccc
CLERK TO COUNCIL

LEROY BLACKSHEAR
CHAIRMAN