



**JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
BUDGET WORKSHOP
APRIL 14, 2010
3:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

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, DEP. ADM. ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES
JUDITH FRANK, CLERK TO COUNCIL

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 WORKSHOP TO ORDER AT 3:00 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

CHAIRMAN HOOD LED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION:

VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR GAVE THE INVOCATION.

PRESENTATIONS:

3:15 BJHCOMP HEALTH – ROLAND GARDNER

MR. ROLAND GARDNER, CEO OF BEAUFORT JASPER HAMPTON COMP. HEALTH, REQUESTED ADDITIONAL FUNDING THIS YEAR FOR THE RIDGELAND AND HARDEEVILLE OFFICES. MR. GARDNER SAID THAT THEY HAVE HAD AN INCREASE OF 15%-18% IN PATIENTS AND THEY HAVE 1,300 NEW PATIENTS THAT DO NOT HAVE ANY INSURANCE. MR. GARDNER SAID THEY HIRED AN ADDITIONAL PHYSICIAN FOR THE HARDEEVILLE OFFICE.

MR. GARDNER DISCUSSED THE NEW MEDICAL SCHOOLING PROGRAM ASSOCIATED WITH BJHCH AND THAT 16 MEDICAL STUDENTS WILL BE SPENDING 3 YEARS IN THE BJHCH COUNTIES. MR. GARDNER ASKED THE COUNCIL TO INCREASE THEIR APPROPRIATION THIS YEAR AND NOT TO CUT IT. MR. GARDNER SAID THEY REQUESTED \$110,000.00 LAST YEAR AND RECEIVED \$75,000.00. COUNCILMAN GREGORY SAID THAT IF THEY CANNOT INCREASE THE APPROPRIATION, THEY WILL TRY TO LEAVE IT AS IT IS. COUNCILMAN GREGORY ASKED IF THE PRESIDENT'S HEALTHCARE PLAN WILL HELP HIS ORGANIZATION. MR. GARDNER SAID HE DID NOT EXPECT THE HEALTHCARE PLAN TO MAKE ANY IMPACT UNTIL 2014. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED IF BJHCH WILL BE RECEIVING ANY INCREASES FROM THE STATE OR FEDERAL GOVERNMENT. MR. GARDNER RESPONDED THAT THEY WILL NOT GET ANY FROM THE STATE; HOWEVER, THEY WILL GET FEDERAL FUNDS FOR REPAIRS. MR. GARDNER SAID THAT SOUTH CAROLINA PRIMARY CARE HAS A POT OF MONEY, BUT THEY DID NOT GET IT THIS YEAR. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED IF THE INCREASE IN PATIENTS IS DUE TO UNEMPLOYMENT AND MR. GARDNER SAID THAT IS PART OF THE REASON, BUT MORE PEOPLE ARE COMING BECAUSE THEY HAVE A FULL TIME DOCTOR NOW. MR. GARDNER SAID THAT THEY HAVE A PROGRAM WITH PZIFER DRUG COMPANY AND GET \$16,000.00 PER QUARTER FOR MEDICATIONS FOR THEIR PATIENTS. MR. GARDNER SAID THEY HAVE OFFER DENTAL SERVICES AT THE HIGH SCHOOL FOR THE PAST FOUR YEARS. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED IF IT WAS OFFERED AT BOTH HIGH SCHOOLS AND MR. GARDNER SAID THAT IT IS ONLY IN HARDEEVILLE AND RIDGELAND WOULD HAVE TO REQUEST THAT SERVICE. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED IF A STUDENT IN RIDGELAND NEEDED DENTAL CARE, COULD THAT STUDENT GO TO HARDEEVILLE AND GET THE WORK DONE. MR. GARDNER SAID THEY COULD. CHAIRMAN HOOD ASKED IF A PERSON COMES IN WITH NO INSURANCE, CAN THEY GET SERVICE AND IF A PATIENT IS TERMINAL IS THERE A SERVICE FOR THEM TO GET THE MEDICINES THEY NEED. MR. GARDNER SAID THAT IF THEY ARE INDIGENT THEY ARE REFERRED TO HOSPICE AND PZIFER FOR MEDICATIONS. MR. GARDNER SAID BJHCH WILL CONTINUE TO SEE PATIENTS UNTIL THEY NEED HOSPICE CARE. COUNCILMAN GREGORY ASKED ABOUT A PATIENT ON MEDICAID WHO WAS REFUSED SURGERY. MR. GARDNER SAID THAT INDIGENT CARE IS HANDLED AT MUSC AND THE INDIVIDUAL MAY HAVE BEEN REFUSED DUE TO FINANCIAL CONSTRAINTS OR THEY MAY HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL THE PROCEDURE CAN BE WORKED INTO THE BUDGET. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED FOR A COPY OF THE BJHCH FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND MR. GARDNER SAID HE WOULD PROVIDE ONE FOR THE COUNCIL. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED IF THEY RECEIVED THE FUNDING FROM THIS YEARS APPROPRIATION. MR. MALPHRUS SAID IT WAS PAID ON MARCH 5, 2010. MR. GARDNER SAID THE COUNTY ASKED HIM TO HOLD OFF UNTIL THE LAST QUARTER TO REQUEST HIS FUNDING. MR. FULGHUM SAID THE REQUEST WAS MADE DUE TO CASH FLOW. COUNCILMAN TYLER ASKED ABOUT THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS. MR. GARDNER SAID THE NUMBER HAS INCREASED DUE TO THE DENTAL SERVICE. MR. GARDNER SAID THEY HAVE A NURSE AT THE SCHOOL. MR.

GARDNER SAID IF THEY HAD MORE FUNDING, THEY COULD HAVE MORE PEOPLE AT THE SCHOOLS MORE OFTEN. CHAIRMAN HOOD THANKED MR. GARDNER AND TOLD HIM THE COUNCIL WOULD DO THE BEST THAT THEY CAN.

3:30 SIDEWALK PROJECT – GLADYS BOSTICK WILLIAMS

MRS. GLADYS BOSTICK WILLIAMS WAS NOT PRESENT.

3:45 AUDITOR - HAZEL HOLMES

MS. HAZEL HOLMES WAS NOT PRESENT:

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

DISCUSSION REGARDING 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:

COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN GREGORY SECONDED THE MOTION TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR A DISCUSSION REGARDING 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. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION:

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

COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE MOTIONED THAT AN INDEPENDENT AUDITOR BE PERMITTED TO AUDIT THE ROD OFFICE. THE MOTION DIED FOR LACK OF A SECOND.

COUNCILMAN GREGORY MOTIONED AND VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SECONDED THE MOTION TO HAVE THE CLERK TO COUNCIL CONTACT THE

OTHER CLERKS ABOUT HOW THE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE OPERATES IN THEIR COUNTY. THE MOTION WAS CARRIED WTH CHAIRMAN HOOD, VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR AND COUNCILMEN GREGORY AND ETHERIDGE VOTING FOR; COUNCILMAN TYLER VOTED AGAINST.

ADJOURN:

COUNCILMAN GREGORY MOTIONED AND VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SECONDED THE MOTION TO ADJOURN THE BUDGET WORKSHOP. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

THE BUDGET WORKSHOP ENDED AT 3:30 P.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY:

APPROVED BY:

JUDITH M. FRANK, ccc
CLERK TO COUNCIL

DR. GEORGE M. HOOD
CHAIRMAN