



JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL

**JASPER COUNTY GOVERNMENT BUILDING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
SPECIAL CALLED COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 22, 2009
2:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

OFFICIALS PRESENT:

DR. GEORGE M. 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. ADM. SERVICES
WENDY KELLY, DEP. ADM. DEV. SER.
WILBUR DALEY, DEP. ADM. ES
MARVIN JONES, ATTORNEY
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 MEETING TO ORDER AT 2:00 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

CHAIRMAN HOOD LED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

INVOCATION:

VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR GAVE THE INVOCATION.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SECONDED THE MOTION TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS MATTERS RELATING TO THE PROPOSED LOCATION, EXPANSION, OR THE PROVISION OF SERVICES ENCOURAGING LOCATION OR EXPANSION OF INDUSTRIES OR OTHER BUSINESSES IN THE AREA SERVED BY THE "PUBLIC BODY" AS AUTHORIZED BY SECTION 30-4-60 OF THE SC FREEDOM OF

INFORMATION ACT. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION:

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

CHAIRMAN HOOD REPORTED THAT THE COUNCIL RECEIVED INFORMATION AND ASKED THE ADMINISTRATOR TO MOVE FORWARD. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID NO MOTION WAS NEEDED.

PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS:

COUNCILMAN GREGORY MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SECONDED THE MOTION TO PASS THE PROCLAMATION FOR THE JASPER COUNTY RELAY FOR LIFE. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND ORDINANCES:

2ND READING OF THE ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE CONVEYANCE OF AN EASEMENT TO HARGRAY, INC.:

MARVIN JONES EXPLAINED THAT AN EASEMENT WAS NECESSARY TO BRING CABLE AND FIBER OPTICS TO THE NEW GOVERNMENT BUILDING AND THE COURTHOUSE. VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN TYLER SECONDED THE MOTION THAT THIS BE THE 2ND READING OF THE ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE CONVEYANCE OF AN EASEMENT TO HARGRAY, INC. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

COUNCILMAN GREGORY ASKED MR. JONES TO CHECK AND SEE IF ALL THE LINES WILL BE UNDERGROUND AND REPORT BACK TO COUNCIL PRIOR TO THE 3RD READING.

1ST READING OF THE ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A PROPERTY TRANSFER FOR A NEW COMMUNICATIONS TOWER:

MR. DALEY EXPLAINED THAT THIS WAS FOR A LAND SWAP BETWEEN JASPER COUNTY AND THE OKEETEE CLUB. THE SWAP IS FOR THE OLD TOWER LOCATION CONSISTING OF 4.3 ACRES, THE EXISTING RADIO TOWER, ELECTRICAL WIRING, ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS AND SUPPORTING BUILDING FOR 4.13 ACRES OF LAND FOR THE NEW 450 FOOT TOWER. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED IF IT WOULD BE THE HIGHEST IN THE COUNTY AND MR. DALEY ANSWERED THAT HE WAS NOT SURE. CHAIRMAN HOOD ASKED ABOUT HEALTH ISSUES AND MR. DALEY RESPONDED THAT HE WAS NOT AWARE OF ANY. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED IF THE OLD TOWER WILL BE TORN DOWN AND MR. DALEY SAID THAT THE FORESTRY COMMISSION WAS GOING TO USE THE OLD TOWER. COUNCILMAN GREGORY MOTIONED AND VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SECONDED THE MOTION THAT THIS BE THE 1ST READING OF THE ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A PROPERTY TRANSFER FOR A NEW

COMMUNICATIONS TOWER. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

OLD BUSINESS:

APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN JASPER COUNTY AND LEVY FIRE DEPARTMENT –FIRE PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY SERVICES:

MR. JONES PRESENTED THE AGREEMENT AND TOLD THE COUNCIL THAT TERM OF THE AGREEMENT IS TO BE FROM JULY 1, 2009 UNTIL JUNE 30, 2014. CHAIRMAN HOOD ASKED WHAT WAS THE RATIONALE FOR A FIVE YEAR CONTRACT AND MR. JONES SAID THAT IT WAS DONE SO THAT LEVY DID NOT HAVE TO COME BACK EVERY YEAR TO NEGOTIATE THE CONTRACT. MR. JONES SAID THAT THE AMOUNT OF THE APPROPRIATION WOULD HAVE TO BE APPROVED BY COUNCIL EACH YEAR. COUNCILMAN GREGORY ASKED WHAT THE PHRASE UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED MEANT. MR. JONES SAID THAT MEANT IF AN ITEM IS COVERED IN ANOTHER LINE ITEM, IT WOULD BE PAID FROM THERE. MR. MALPHRUS GAVE THE EXAMPLE OF FIREMEN'S PHYSICALS. COUNCILMAN GREGORY ASKED WHO APPROVES THE EXPENDITURES AND CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID ANY CHANGES MADE WOULD HAVE TO COME BACK TO COUNCIL FOR APPROVAL. COUNCILMAN GREGORY SAID THAT THE PEOPLE REQUESTED THAT DOUG GRAHAM REMAIN CHIEF. MR. JONES SAID THAT WAS COVERED IN THE AGREEMENT. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN TYLER SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN JASPER COUNTY AND LEVY FIRE DEPARTMENT-FIRE PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY SERVICES. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH COUNCILMEN TYLER, ETHERIDGE AND GREGORY VOTING FOR; VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR VOTED AGAINST AND CHAIRMAN HOOD DID NOT VOTE.

ADJOURN:

COUNCILMAN GREGORY MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN TYLER SECONDED THE MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. THE MOTION WAS CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

THE MEETING ENDED AT 4:00 P.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY:

APPROVED BY:

JUDITH M. FRANK,CCC
CLERK TO COUNCIL

DR. GEORGE HOOD
CHAIRMAN