



**JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL
358 THIRD AVE., RIDGELAND SC. 29936**

**COUNCIL CHAMBERS
MAY 9, 2012, 3:30 P.M.
BUDGET WORKSHOP/MEETING
MINUTES**

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

STAFF PRESENT: ADMINISTRATOR ANDREW FULGHUM, DEP. ADM. GEORGE HOOD, CLERK TO COUNCIL JUDITH FRANK, DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES RONNIE MALPHRUS

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 GREGORY CALLED THE MEETING/WORKSHOP TO ORDER AT 3:35 P.M.

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

INVOCATION - COUNCILMAN DRAYTON GAVE THE INVOCATION.

BUDGET PRESENTATIONS:

STAFF UPDATE- MR. MALPHRUS PROVIDED THE COUNCIL WITH AN EXPENSE BUDGET PERFORMANCE REPORT WITH THE ACTUAL AMOUNTS THROUGH TODAY. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THEY DO NOT HAVE THE BUDGET READY, BUT IT SHOULD BE READY FOR NEXT WEEK. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED MR. MALPHRUS TO POINT OUT ANYTHING THAT WAS OUT OF LINE WITH THE REPORT HE PROVIDED. MR. MALPHRUS SAID MOST OF THE BUDGETED ITEMS ARE RIGHT ON TARGET, BUT THERE ARE A FEW THAT ARE OVER BUDGET. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THE TELEPHONE LINE IS OVER \$20,000, AND THAT INCLUDES ALL THE MAINTENANCE OF THE EQUIPMENT. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THE PHONE LINE WAS ONE OF THE LINES THAT COUNCIL CUT. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED ABOUT THE TELEPHONE LINE AND PART TIME LINE IN THE EMERGENCY SERVICES BUDGET AND MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT THE OVERTIME LINE AND THE REGULAR SALARY LINES ARE UNDER BUDGET AND HE FELT THEY WOULD BALANCE OUT. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED IF THAT WAS DUE TO A VACANCY. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT WAS THE REASON. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED ABOUT THE EXPENSE FOR CONTRACTED LABOR BEING OVER BUDGET IN THE DELINQUENT TAX DEPARTMENT AND MR. MALPHRUS SAID IT WAS FOR POSTING PROPERTIES AND THE COUNTY WOULD COLLECT THAT MONEY WHEN THE TAXES ARE SOLD AS IT IS ADDED INTO THE AMOUNT THE PEOPLE HAVE TO PAY. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT THE ADVERTISING IS OVER DUE TO THE INCREASE OF NUMBER OF PROPERTIES. CHAIRMAN GREGORY ASKED HOW CAN IT BE BALANCED IF THEY DON'T GET TRUE FIGURES. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THE FIGURES IN THE REPORT HE GAVE THE COUNCIL WERE THE TRUE FIGURES. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON COMMENTED ON THE SHERIFF

BEING OVER BUDGET IN THE OVERTIME LINE. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THE SHERIFF REIMBURSES THE COUNTY FOR THE OVERTIME FROM HIS DRUG FUND. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON ASKED ABOUT THE MAINTENANCE LINE AND MR. MALPHRUS SAID THEY WOULD GET SOME MONEY BACK FROM THE INSURANCE COMPANY. CHAIRMAN GREGORY ASKED IF THE SHERIFF IS NOTIFIED ABOUT OVERTIME AND MR. MALPHRUS SAID THE SHERIFF IS BILLED QUARTERLY FOR OVERTIME. COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR ASKED HOW THE BUDGET LOOKED AND MR. MALPHRUS SAID THERE WERE A LOT OF INCREASED EXPENSES THAT THEY HAVE NO CONTROL OVER AND THE REVENUE IS DOWN. COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR ASKED ABOUT CUTTING PERSONNEL AND MR. MALPHRUS SAID THEY WILL BE TALKING ABOUT HOW TO MAKE THIS WORK. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON ASKED ABOUT THE NEW LIFE CENTER AND MR. MALPHRUS EXPLAINED THAT THEY ARE PAID WITH THE MONEY THE COUNTY RECEIVED FROM MINI BOTTLE TAX THAT IS SENT TO THE COUNTY. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT THE MONEY HAS TO BE USED FOR DRUG AND ALCOHOL PREVENTION. VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS ASKED ABOUT THE INSURANCE BEING OVER BUDGET AND VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS SAID IT MIGHT BE GOOD TO LOOK INTO OTHER WAYS AND AGENCIES FOR THE BUILDING AND HOSPITALIZATION. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THE INSURANCE POLICIES ARE RENEWED IN FEBRUARY. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON ASKED WHY THE INCREASE IN THE INSURANCE LINES AND MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT THE STATE CHANGED THE REQUIREMENT.

CLERK OF COURT – MARGARET BOSTICK – MS. BOSTICK REQUESTED THAT THE COUNCIL NOT CUT ANYTHING THAT SHE REQUESTED FROM HER BUDGET. MS. BOSTICK TOLD THE COUNCIL THAT SHE IS GOING TO FUND THROUGH CHILD SUPPORT A PROGRAM THAT WILL TRAIN THE PEOPLE WHO ARE SENTENCED TO WORK RELEASE HOW TO GET A JOB AND KEEP A JOB. MS. BOSTICK SAID THE PROGRAM GUARANTEES THE PARTICIPANTS A JOB. MS. BOSTICK SAID THERE ARE GOING TO BE CHANGES IN CHILD SUPPORT IN JUNE AND SHE WILL FINALLY HAVE EVERYTHING IN PLACE BY JUNE, 2013 AND IT WILL BE UNDER FEDERAL MANDATE.

JARM – CAROL ADAMS – MS. ADAMS AND SCOTT HOLLOWAY REQUESTED \$180,000 FOR JARM. MS. ADAMS EXPLAINED THAT THEY HAVE STORAGE PROBLEMS AND THAT THERE ARE MORE DOGS AND CATS BEING TURNED IN DUE TO THE ECONOMY. MS. ADAMS SAID STATE LAW REQUIRES THE SHELTER TO HOLD THE ANIMALS 5 DAYS AND THEY ARE TRYING TO PLACE AS MANY AS POSSIBLE. MS. ADAMS SAID THE BUILDING IS DETERIORATING. MS. ADAMS LISTED THE VARIOUS REASONS AND CONDITIONS THEY RECEIVE THE ANIMALS. MS. ADAMS SAID THAT THEY ALSO HAVE A PROBLEM FEEDING THE ANIMALS SINCE PEDIGREE IS NO LONGER PROVIDED THE FOOD FREE. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED ABOUT THE CREDIT CARD FEES OF \$2,000. MS. ADAMS SAID THEY ACCEPT CREDIT CARD PAYMENT FOR ADOPTIONS, BUT HAVE TO PAY A FEE FOR THE SERVICE. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED WHAT WAS THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF TIME THEY KEEP AN ANIMAL. MR. HOLLOWAY SAID THEY HAVE HAD ONE DOG FOR 6 MONTHS, 1 DOG FOR FIVE MONTHS AND THE REST OF THE ANIMALS HAVE BEEN THERE 3 MONTHS OR LESS. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED WHY THEY KEEP A DOG FOR 6 MONTHS. MR. HOLLOWAY RESPONDED THAT THERE IS NOTHING WRONG WITH THE DOG; IT DOES NOT COST THE COUNTY ANY MONEY ON THE ADOPTION SIDE. MS. ADAMS SAID THEY DO NOT PUT A TIME CLOCK ON AN ANIMAL UNLESS THEY ARE UNADOPTABLE, BUT THEY DO MONITOR THE POPULATION. CHAIRMAN GREGORY ASKED HOW MANY ANIMALS WERE AT THE SHELTER. MR. HOLLOWAY SAID THEY 20 ADULT DOGS AND 55 PUPPIES AND HE SAID THEY HAVE SEVERAL LITTERS OF KITTENS. MR. HOLLOWAY INVITED THE COUNCIL TO VISIT THE SHELTER. CHAIRMAN GREGORY THANKED THEM FOR THEIR PRESENTATION.

HARDEEVILLE MARINE RESCUE – BILL STANLEY – MR. STANLEY DISCUSSED THE ITEMS THAT HAVE BEEN STOLEN FROM HIS FACILITY. MR. STANLEY SAID THEY DID 10 RESCUE MISSIONS AND PUT IN 600 HOURS

OF TRAINING AND 1,000 HOURS OF FUNDRAISING. MR. STANLEY SAID THEY HANDLE BOATING ACCIDENTS AT NO COST TO THE COUNTY. MR. STANLEY REQUESTED \$5,000 TO HELP COVER OPERATING EXPENSES. MR. STANLEY SAID THE SQUAD USES THEIR OWN BOAT AND PROVIDE THE FUEL. MR. STANLEY PROVIDED THE 2011 FINANCIAL REPORT AND THE EXPENDITURES WERE \$19,948. MR. STANLEY SAID EVERYONE VOLUNTEERS AND THEY HAVE FUNDRAISERS, BUT MOST OF THE COSTS ARE PAID OUT OF POCKET BY THE VOLUNTEERS. MR. STANLEY SAID THEY WOULD APPRECIATE ANY HELP THE COUNCIL CAN GIVE. MR. STANLEY SAID THEY HAVE 400 MEMBERS IN THE ORGANIZATION THAT WOULD COME TO JASPER COUNTY FOR AN EMERGENCY. CHAIRMAN GREGORY ASKED ABOUT THE LIABILITY IF THEY USE THEIR OWN BOATS. MR. STANLEY SAID THEY WORK UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE COAST GUARD AND THEY ARE COVERED UNDER THE GOOD SAMARITAN LAW. CHAIRMAN GREGORY ASKED IF THEY EVER REQUESTED A BOAT AND WHY WAS IT CALLED HARDEEVILLE MARINE RESCUE. MR. STANLEY SAID PREVIOUSLY RIDGELAND ALSO HAD A MARINE RESCUE SQUAD, BUT IT DISBANDED AND NOW HIS GROUP COVER THE ENTIRE COUNTY. MR. STANLEY SAID THEY SPONSOR THE CATFISH FESTIVAL AND THE POW WOW. VICE CHAIRMAN SAULS SAID HIS GRANDFATHER WAS PART OF THE RESCUE SQUAD AND THEY DO A GOOD JOB. MR. STANLEY SAID THEY WILLINGLY GO WHEREVER THEY ARE NEEDED. CHAIRMAN GREGORY THANKED MR. STANLEY FOR HIS PRESENTATION.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION – CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THEY WOULD WORK ON THE NEW BUDGET. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED ABOUT THE VEHICLE MAINTENANCE MONEY GOING INTO THE GENERAL FUND. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT IT IS LISTED AS MISCELLANEOUS REVENUE. MR. MALPHRUS SAID HE COULD GET A REPORT FROM PUBLIC WORKS THAT WOULD LIST WHAT MONEY IS OUTSTANDING. CHAIRMAN GREGORY ASKED IF THE SHERIFF WOULD GET A BALANCE. MR. MALPHRUS SAID AS LONG AS THEY DO NOT GO OVER THEIR ENTIRE BUDGET AND HE CAN GIVE THEM THE BALANCE TO THE PENNY. CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THAT IF THE COUNCIL DOESN'T KNOW WHAT IS LEFT IN THE SHERIFF'S BUDGET THEY CAN'T GIVE HIM MONEY. CHAIRMAN GREGORY ASKED FOR A REPORT OF HOW MUCH MONEY IS DUE THE SHERIFF FROM INSURANCE. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED ABOUT OVERTIME IN THE SHERIFF'S BUDGET. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THEY CREATED A LINE FOR OVERTIME REIMBURSEMENT AND THE COUNCIL CAN SEE HOW MUCH IS REIMBURSED. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED IF VEHICLE MAINTENANCE COULD BE HANDLED THE SAME WAY. MR. MALPHRUS SAID IT COULD BE SENT UP THAT WAY. CHAIRMAN GREGORY ASKED WHY IT IS NOT PUBLISHED WHEN THE SHERIFF GETS DRUG MONEY. CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID HE FELT THE CITIZENS SHOULD KNOW. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED ABOUT THE DETENTION CENTER MAINTENANCE CONTRACT BEING OVER BUDGET AND MR. MALPHRUS SAID THEY ENTERED A NEW MAINTENANCE CONTRACT THAT GIVES THEM EXTRA TIME. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON SAID HE WAS TOLD JASPER COUNTY DOES NOT HAVE A DRUG FORCE. MR. MALPHRUS SAID IT IS THE BEAUFORT/JASPER DRUG FORCE. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON SAID HE WAS TOLD THAT BEAUFORT COUNTY RUNS IT. MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT HE HAS A COPY OF THE AGREEMENT AND HE PROVIDED THE PREVIOUS COUNCIL WITH A COPY AND HE WILL GET THIS COUNCIL A COPY. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THEY PLAN TO HAVE THE BUDGET AND THE BUDGET APPROVAL SCHEDULE READY FOR THE NEXT BUDGET WORKSHOP. CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THE COUNCIL NEEDS TO SCHEDULE SEVERAL HOURS TO GO OVER THE BUDGET. CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID ALL CONTRACTS NEEDED TO BE REVISITED AND REBID. MR. MALPHRUS SAID EACH CONTRACT IS DIFFERENT AND THE MAJORITY ARE DONE EVERY THREE YEARS. MR. FULGHUM SAID THEY CAN IDENTIFY THE CONTRACTS AND MAKE A PROPOSAL FOR THE BUILDINGS AND THE COUNCIL CAN VOTE ON THE SUGGESTIONS.

VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY ASKED IF MR. DALEY ADVERTISED FOR VOLUNTEERS FOR FIRE TOWER ROAD FIRE STATION. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED ABOUT INSURANCE FOR THE VOLUNTEERS AND MR. MALPHRUS SAID HE WOULD CHECK INTO IT. COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID THIS PROJECT HAS TAKEN

A DIFFERENT TURN AND THE STAFF WAS ONLY TO SECURE THE COST AND THE COUNCIL WAS TO GET THE VOLUNTEERS AND THEY CAN GET LIABILITY INSURANCE. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THE COUNCIL NEVER VOTED ON VOLUNTEERS AND COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID THAT WAS BECAUSE THEY NEVER GOT A QUOTE. MR. FULGHUM SAID THEY WILL SEE IF THERE IS ANY INTEREST IN VOLUNTEERING. COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID THE COUNCIL WILL GET THE VOLUNTEERS. MR. FULGHUM SAID THE COUNTY CAN GET THE VOLUNTEERS AND CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID THE COUNTY CAN RUN AND PAY FOR THE AD.

MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT HE RECEIVED A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$60,000 FOR NIMMER TURF ROAD AND THE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE APPROVED \$150,000. MR. FULGHUM SAID HE PROPOSED TO PAVE AS FAR AS THOSE FUNDS COVERED AND TO PAVE THE ROAD IN PHASES.

MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT WASTE MANAGEMENT HAD A ZONING ISSUE AND HE WAS GOING TO DO A CONTRACT WITH DAVID JIROUSEK TO DO THE WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN AND WASTE MANAGEMENT WOULD PAY FOR IT. MR. FULGHUM TOLD THE COUNCIL THAT MR. JIROUSEK'S PROPOSAL WAS \$4,200 AND IT WILL NEED OFFICIAL ACTION AT A COUNCIL MEETING AND HE REQUESTED A CONSENSUS FROM THE COUNCIL TO MOVE FORWARD AND GET STARTED. IT WAS THE CONSENSUS OF THE COUNCIL FOR MR. FULGHUM TO MOVE FORWARD.

ADJOURN – CHAIRMAN GREGORY ADJOURNED THE BUDGET WORKSHOP AT 5:30 P.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY:

APPROVED BY:

JUDITH M. FRANK, ccc
CLERK TO COUNCIL

REV. SAMUEL GREGORY
CHAIRMAN