

**JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL
MARY GORDON ELLIS EXECUTIVE BUILDING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
BUDGET WORKSHOP
APRIL 3, 2007
2:30 P.M.**

MINUTES

OFFICIALS PRESENT:

DR. GEORGE M.HOOD, CHAIRMAN
LEROY BLACKSHEAR, COUNCILMAN
FRED TUTEN, COUNCILMAN
HUBERT TYLER, COUNCILMAN

STAFF PRESENT:

ANDREW FULGHUM, ADMINISTRATOR
RONNIE MALPHRUS, DEP. ADM. AD. SER.
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 PRESENTATIONS, MINUTES ARE TYPICALLY CONDENSED AND PARAPHRASED.

CARL ROACHE - COUNCIL ON AGING:

MR. ROACHE PASSED OUT THEIR AUDIT FOR THE YEAR 2006. THE AUDIT EXPLAINED THE ACTIVITIES PROVIDED AND THE COST TO PROVIDE THOSE ACTIVITIES. MR. ROACHE SAID THAT THE ASSETS ARE HIGHER BECAUSE OF THE NEW CENTER IN RIDGELAND.

MR. ROACHE PASSED OUT THE PROPOSED BUDGET FOR NEXT YEAR. MR. ROACHE SAID THE COST OF THE MEALS HAS INCREASED FROM \$2.17 TO \$2.57. MR. ROACHE SAID THE STATE SUPPLEMENTS THE MEALS THAT ARE DELIVERED TO HOMES AND THE CENTER IS ALLOWED TO SERVER 7,500 HOME DELIVERED MEALS. COUNCILMAN TUTEN ASKED WHAT IT COST TO THE PERSON FOR THE HOME DELIVERED MEAL. MR. ROACHE SAID THEY ASK FOR A \$1.00 DONATION. COUNCILMAN TYLER ASKED IF MORE PEOPLE COULD GET THE MEALS. MR. ROACHE SAID THEY ARE INCREASING THE NUMBER OF MEALS SERVED, BUT THE DINING MEALS ARE DOWN. MR. ROACHE SAID THAT ANY FUNDS COLLECTED MUST GO BACK INTO THE PROGRAMS THAT GENERATED THE FUNDS. MR. ROACHE SAID THAT THEY HAVE REQUESTED 180,000 PASSENGER MILES. MR. ROACHE SAID THAT THEY WERE ASKING FOR AN ADDITIONAL \$10,000.00 FROM THE COUNTY BECAUSE OF THE INCREASE IN FUEL COSTS, PLUS THE \$20,000 FOR THE MEALS AT THE SITES. MR. ROACHE SAID THEIR TOTAL BUDGET IS \$588,255.00.

MR. ROACHE DISCUSSED THE COOSAWHATCIE AND GRAYS SITES AND THAT THEY WERE NOT ACCEPTING ANY NEW PEOPLE AT THOSE SITES. MR. TYLER ASKED IF THEY HAD ANY KIND OF PROGRAM TO INCREASE THE PARTICIPATION. MR. ROACHE SAID THEY HAVE HAD GREAT SUCCESS IN RIDGELAND, BUT NOT IN THE RURAL AREAS. MR. ROACHE SAID HE HAD NO PROBLEM WITH INCREASING THE NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS, BUT GRAYS HAS SUCH A SMALL AMOUNT OF PEOPLE PARTICIPATING THAT THEY HAD TO CHANGE THE WAY THE FOOD WAS SHIPPED. COUNCILMAN TUTEN SAID IF THERE WAS ROOM FOR NEW PARTICIPANTS, HE DID NOT THINK THEY SHOULD BE TURNED AWAY. MR. ROACHE SAID THEY WANHT TO SERVE THE PEOPLE BASED ON THE WISHES OF THE COUNCIL. COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID THAT A FEW YEARS BACK IT WAS MANDATED THAT THOSE TWO CENTERS BE CLOSED AND THE PEOPLE FROM COOSAWHATCHIE CAME TO COUNCIL AND ASKED TO JUST BE ALLOWED TO USE THE BUILDING AND THE COUNCIL ON AGING SAID THEY COULD NOT AFFORD TO KEEP IT OPEN AND THAT THE

PARTICIPANTS WOULD HAVE TO GO TO RIDGELAND. COUNCILMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID THE COUNCIL AGREED TO ALLOW THEM TO USE THE BUILDING UNDER CERTAIN CRITERIA.

CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID THAT A MEMO REGARDING THE COUNCIL ON AGING REQUEST FOR HARDEEVILLE. THE REQUEST WAS FOR \$150,000.00 TO PURCHASE PROPERTY IN HARDEEVILLE FOR A NEW SENIOR CENTER.

THE COUNCIL ON AGING'S REGULAR REQUEST WAS FOR \$125,000.00 IN ADDITION TO THE REQUEST FOR HARDEEVILLE.

CODA:

MS. LAWRENCE HANDED OUT INFORMATION FROM CODA AND EXPLAINED THAT CODA HAD PROVIDED SHELTER FOR 24 PEOPLE FROM JASPER COUNTY. MS. LAWRENCE SAID THAT THE PEOPLE STAY FROM 35 TO 60 DAYS IN THE SHELTER AND THAT THE COUNTY'S APPROPRIATION EQUATES TO \$40.00 PER INDIVIDUAL, \$40.00 FOR A PERSON TO SPEND 35-60 DAYS. MS. LAWRENCE SAID THAT WHILE THE PEOPLE ARE IN THE SHELTER THEY RECEIVE FOOD, CLOTHING, COUNSELING AND LAST YEAR THEY SHELTERED ON MAN WHO WAS ABUSED IN A HOTEL. MS. LAWRENCE SAID THAT THERE WERE 238 CALLS FROM JASPER COUNTY AND 35 WOMEN RECEIVED LEGAL HELP AND 50 WOMEN WERE HELPED WITH THE OUTREACH PROGRAM. MS. LAWRENCE SAID THAT THEY WERE WORKING ON THE MEGAN PROGRAM WHICH DEALS WITH VIOLENCE AND TEEN DATING. MS. LAWRENCE SAID THAT DUE TO THE INCREASE IN POPULATION THERE IS AN INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE BEING SERVED. MS. LAWRENCE SAID THAT SHE WAS REQUESTING \$5,000.00 THIS YEAR. CHAIRMAN HOOD COMMENTED ON HOW IMPORTANT THE WORK SHE WAS DOING AND THAT THE COUNCIL WOULD DO THEIR BEST TO HELP. COUNCILMAN TUTEN ASKED IF PEOPLE COULD COME BACK IF THEY NEEDED TO AND MS. LAWRENCE SAID THEY COULD COME BACK AS MANY TIMES AS THEY NEEDED. MS. LAWRENCE SAID THE BEAUFORT COUNTY APPROPRIATED \$25,000.00 AND JASPER COUNTY APPROPRIATES \$2,000.00, BUT THE FUNDING SHE GETS FROM HAMPTON COUNTY AND COLLETON COUNTY CMES FROM UNITED WAY AND EACH AREA SENDS \$5,000.00. MS. LAWRENCE INFORMED THE COUNCIL THAT THE 141 MONEY THAT COMES TO THE COUNTY AND GOES TO THE VICTIM WITNESS PROGRAM CAN ALSO BE USED FOR HER PROGRAM. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THE MONEY GOES INTO THE GENERAL FUND. CHAIRMAN HOOD ASKED MR. MALPHRUS TO CHECK INTO THE 141 MONEY.

SMITTY COOLER - JASPER COUNTY YOUTH BASEBALL:

MR. COOLER SAID THAT THEY WERE REQUESTING \$11,400.00 AND THE FUNDS WOULD BE USED TO RECONFIGURE KLECKLY FIELD. MR. COOLER SAID THAT DUE TO THE INCREASE IN PARTICIPATION AND THE INFLUX OF PLAYERS FROM HARDEEVILLE THEY NEEDED MORE FIELD AND BY RECONFIGURING THE FIELDS THE OLDER BOYS AND GIRLS WHO PLAY IN THE DIXIE LEAGUE WILL HAVE A PLACE TO PLAY AND PRACTICE. MR. COOLER SAID THAT THESE KIDS HAVE NOT HAD A HOME TURF TO PLAY ON AND THEY WERE A GOOD GROUP OF VERY RESPECTFUL KIDS. MR. COOLER SAID THAT THE REASON THEY WERE DOING THIS IS SO THAT THEY CAN USE THE OLD LIGHTING, BUT THE FENCING AND THE FIELDS WERE IN BAD SHAPE. MR. COOLER SAID THE \$11,400.00 WOULD HELP TO GET THE PROJECT DONE, BUT THEY WILL ALSO BE HAVING FUND RAISERS AND DOING MOST OF THE WORK IS DONE BY VOLUNTEERS. COUNCILMAN TYLER ASKED IF THERE WERE PLAYERS FROM THE RURAL AREA AND MR. COOLER SAID THEY PLAYERS COME FROM EVERY AREA OF THE COUNTY. MR. COOLER SAID THEY HAVE A GROUP OF GREAT COACHES AND PARENTS WHO WILL EVEN GO PICK UP THEIR PLAYERS IF THEY NEED A RIDE. COUNCILMAN TUTEN SAID HE FELT THIS WAS A GREAT ASSET AND HE FULLY SUPPORTED THEIR REQUEST.

MR. FULGHIM SAID HE WAS WORKING ON A JOINT MEETING WITH THE COUNCILS AND ADMINISTRATORS OF THE MUNICIPALITIES REGARDING JOINT PLANNING. HE WAS TRYING FOR APRIL 26, 2007 AND HE SUGGESTED A DINNER MEETING. MR FULGHUM SAID HE WOULD GET BACK TO THE COUNCIL WHEN HE HAD A DEFINITE DATE AND TIME.

ADJOURN:

THE BUDGET WORKSHOP ENDED AT 3:50 P.M

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY:

APPROVED BY:

JUDITH M. FRANK, CCC
CLERK TO COUNCIL

DR. GEORGE M. HOOD
CHAIRMAN