



**JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
358 THIRD AVE., RIDGELAND, SC 29936
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
JUNE 30, 2010, 10:00 A.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. ADMINISTRATOR OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES,

STAFF ABSENT: JUDITH M. 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 10:04 A.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: CHAIRMAN HOOD LED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION: VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR GAVE THE INVOCATION.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE REDUCTION IN FORCE FOR JASPER COUNTY: MR. FULGHUM PRESENTED THE RESOLUTION AND EXPLAINED THAT ALL REDUCTION IN FORCE POSITIONS WOULD BE EFFECTIVE AUGUST 2, 2010 WITH THE EXCEPTION OF ONE POSITION. MR. FULGHUM EXPLAINED THAT THE ONE POSITION IS A PLANNED RETIREMENT THAT WILL BE EFFECTIVE 2/01/2011. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE COMMENTED THAT 9 POSITIONS WERE BEING CUT; HOWEVER, FOUR OF THE POSITIONS WERE VACANT AND ONLY FIVE PEOPLE WILL BE LAID OFF. COUNCILMAN GREGORY SAID THE ADMINISTRATION AND COUNCIL WORKED HARD TO GET THE REDUCTION IN FORCE DOWN TO FIVE ACTUAL PEOPLE. COUNCILMAN GREGORY SAID THAT LAST YEAR 21 INDIVIDUALS WERE LAID OFF. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN TYLER

SECONDED THE MOTION TO PASS THE RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE REDUCTION IN FORCE FOR JASPER COUNTY. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH COUNCILMEN ETHERIDGE, TYLER AND GREGORY VOTING FOR. CHAIRMAN HOOD AND VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR VOTED AGAINST.

3RD READING OF THE ORDINANCE TO APPROVE THE 2010-2011 JASPER COUNTY BUDGET: MR. FULGHUM GAVE A BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE BUDGET. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID HE FELT THE SCHOOLS NEEDED TO TIGHTEN THEIR BELTS JUST LIKE THE COUNTY DID AND HE DID NOT AGREE WITH THE INCREASE FOR THE SCHOOL. COUNCILMAN TYLER ASKED IF THE EMPLOYEES INVOLVED IN THE RIF BE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO GET JOBS WITH THE COUNTY IF THERE ARE ANY VACANCIES. MR. FULGHUM RESPONDED THAT THE RIF EMPLOYEES WILL BE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY FOR ANY JOB VACANCIES. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID ONE FIREMAN WAS INCLUDED IN THE RIF AND HE ASKED IF MR. DALEY FOUND ANYWAY TO KEEP THE FIREMAN. MR. FULGHUM SAID HE DID NOT. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE COMMENTED THAT MOST OF THE EMPLOYEE CUTS OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS HAVE BEEN PUBLIC SAFETY EMPLOYEES. COUNCILMAN GREGORY MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN TYLER SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE 2010-2011 JASPER COUNTY BUDGET WITH TOTAL EXPENDITURES FOR THE COUNTY AND THE SCHOOLS IN AMOUNT OF \$39,207,174.00. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH COUNCILMAN GREGORY, COUNCILMAN TYLER VOTING FOR. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE AND VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR VOTED AGAINST. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID THAT THE MOTION PASSED.

BETH MCNEER THANKED THE COUNCIL FOR RESTORING THE FUNDING TO THE AHJ LIBRARY APPROPRIATION. MS. MCNEER SAID OVER 350 CHILDREN ATTENDED THE SUMMER READING PROGRAM.

CHAIRMAN HOOD SPOKE ABOUT THE COUNTY SERVICES IN HARDEEVILLE AND MR. FULGHUM SAID THE SATELLITE OFFICE IN HARDEEVILLE IS COMPLETE. VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SECONDED THE MOTION TO HAVE THE OFFICIALS SET A DATE AS TO WHEN THE OFFICE WILL OPEN AND WHAT DAYS IT WILL BE OPEN. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

ADJOURN: COUNCILMAN GREGORY MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SECONDED THE MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR. THE MEETING ENDED AT 10:25 A.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY:

APPROVED BY:

JUDITH M. FRANK, ccc
CLERK TO COUNCIL

DR. GEORGE M. HOOD
CHAIRMAN

