



**JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL
ENGINEERING SERVICES COMMITTEE
COUNCIL CHAMBER'S CONFERENCE ROOM
358 THIRD AVE., RIDGELAND, SC 29936
NOVEMBER 28, 2011, 3:30 P.M.
MINUTES**

OFFICIALS PRESENT: COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN SAMUEL GREGORY, COMMITTEE MEMBER L. MARTIN SAULS, VI

STAFF PRESENT: ENGINEERING SERVICES DIVISION DIRECTOR – DALE TERRY, CLERK TO COUNCIL – JUDITH FRANK,

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 – COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN GREGORY CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 3:40 P.M.

INVOCATION – COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN GREGORY GAVE THE INVOCATION.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN GREGORY LED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

MONTHLY REPORTS – MR. TERRY REPORTED THAT NEXT MONTH RECYCLING FUNDS SHOULD INCREASE. MR. TERRY SAID PEOPLE HAVE BEEN BREAKING INTO THE CONVENIENCE SITES AND STEALING ITEMS. MR. TERRY SAID THEY EVEN CUT THE LOCK AT HAPHAZARD. MR. TERRY SAID HE WAS HOPING TO CATCH SOMEONE AND MAKE AN EXAMPLE OUT OF THEM SO IT WILL STOP. MR. TERRY SAID THE DEPUTIES ARE RIDING THE AREA MORE, BUT HE PLANNED TO SPEND THE NIGHT THERE. MR. TERRY REPORTED THAT THE TRACK HOE WAS BEING REPAIRED AND THEY HAVE BEEN TRYING TO HAUL OFF AS MUCH AS THEY CAN. MR. TERRY SAID THE JUNK PEOPLE WON'T COOPERATE. COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THE PEOPLE NEED A LICENSE TO SELL THE ITEMS ACCORDING TO STATE LAW.

FREDDY NIMMER – PAVING OF NIMMER TURF ROAD – BILL NIMMER EXPLAINED THAT HIS FATHER WENT TO THE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE FOR FUNDING TO PAVE NIMMER TURF ROAD AND THE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE APPROVED UP TO \$150,000.00. MR. NIMMER

SAID THAT HE HOPED THE COUNTY WOULD AGREE TO PAVE THE ROAD. MR. NIMMER DISCUSSED THE WOOD PELLET PLANT AND THAT PEOPLE FROM FLORIDA HAVE TAKEN OVER THE PLANT IN JUNE. MR. NIMMER SAID THAT CURRENTLY THE SOD FARM HAS ABOUT 20 TRIPS PER DAY PLUS THE PEOPLE WHO WORK THERE ALSO TRAVEL THE ROAD. MR. NIMMER SAID THE PELLET MILL COULD DOUBLE IN SIZE AND THEY COULD HAVE ABOUT 30 TRACTOR TRAILERS PER DAY IN AND OUT. MR. NIMMER SAID THE BUYERS HAVE AN OPTION FOR 23 MORE ACRES AND CURRENTLY THEY HAVE A 2 YEAR LEASE PURCHASE CONTRACT. MR. NIMMER SAID THE BUYERS ALSO TOOK OVER THE OFFICE COMPLEX. COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN GREGORY ASKED ABOUT MAINTENANCE OF THE ROAD IF IT WAS PAVED AND HOW OFTEN DID THEY THINK IT WOULD NEED TO BE RESURFACED. THE COMMITTEE AND MR. TERRY DISCUSSED THE TYPES OF PAVING THAT COULD BE USED. COMMITTEE MEMBER SAULS SAID THE NIMMERS AGREED TO MAINTAIN THE ROAD FOR FIVE YEARS AND THEN THE COUNTY WOULD TAKE OVER. MR. NIMMER SAID THEY WOULD PROVIDE THAT IN WRITING. COMMITTEE MEMBER SAULS SAID THE COUNTY WOULD STILL BE LIABLE. DAN RAY, A RESIDENT ON NIMMER TURF ROAD, SAID THE COUNTY DOES A GREAT JOB MAINTAINING THE ROAD AND IT REALLY DOESN'T TAKE MUCH TO KEEP THE ROAD IN GOOD CONDITION. MR. RAY SAID ASPHALT WOULD BE A MAINTENANCE PROBLEM, BUT CONCRETE POURED LIKE A HIGHWAY WOULD COST TOO MUCH. MR. NIMMER SAID 100% OF ALL THE TRUCKS FOR THE PELLET MILL WILL USE THAT PORTION OF THE ROAD THEY WERE REQUESTING BE PAVED, BUT IT WOULD DEPEND ON THE DESTINATION OF THE SOD TRUCKS AS TO WHICH PORTION OF THE ROAD THEY WOULD USE. MR. DAY SAID A VEHICLE GOES DOWN THAT ROAD EVERY 6 MINUTES AND HE SAID HE WOULD RATHER THE ROAD NOT BE PAVED, BUT THAT SOMETHING BE DONE ABOUT THE DUST. COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN GREGORY ASKED WHERE THE ESTIMATE TO PAVE THE ROAD CAME FROM AND MR. TERRY SAID THAT HE WAS ASKED BY THE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE TO GET A PRICE FROM CLELAND CONSTRUCTION. MR. JONES SAID THAT THE COUNTY SPECS ARE NOT THE SAME AS SCDOT SPECS. COMMITTEE MEMBER SAULS SAID THE ROAD ALSO HAS A GOOD BASE. COMMITTEE MEMBER SAULS ASKED MR. TERRY TO GET AN ESTIMATE FROM CLELAND CONSTRUCTION TO PAVE THE ROAD TO SCDOT SPECS SINCE THE ROAD WILL HAVE SO MUCH TRAFFIC. MR. JONES SAID THAT IF THE STANDARDS ARE REDUCED, THE COST WOULD ALSO BE LESS, BUT MAINTENANCE WOULD BE MORE. COMMITTEE MEMBER SAULS SAID THEY NEEDED TO EXPLORE THE IDEA SINCE THE COUNTY WILL BE THE ONE PAYING FOR IT. MR. DAY ASKED WHAT WOULD CHANGE IF THE ROAD WAS NOT PAVED. MR. NIMMER SAID THE DEPENDABILITY OF THE ROAD REGARDLESS OF THE WEATHER, AND THERE WOULD BE LESS WEAR AND TEAR ON THE VEHICLES. MR. DAY SAID HE HAS NEVER KNOWN A DAY THAT THE ROAD WAS NOT NAVIGABLE. MR. NIMMER SAID THEY WOULD ALSO LIKE TO SEE THE ROAD STRAIGHTENED OUT. HELEN RAY INVITED THE GROUP TO COME EAT WITH THEM WHEN THE ROAD WAS DRY. MRS. RAY SAID THEY CANNOT OPEN WINDOWS DUE TO THE DUST AND THE SPEED LIMIT IS NOT MUCH HELP SINCE ONLY 1 OR 2 DRIVERS OBEY IT. MRS. RAY SAID THEY NEEDED DUST CONTROL MORE THAN 1 OR 2 TIMES A YEAR. COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THE COMMITTEE WOULD SHARE THE INFORMATION WITH THE ENTIRE COUNCIL AND THAT THE COUNCIL WILL MAKE THE FINAL DECISION AS TO IF IT GETS PAVED. COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID HE FELT CONCRETE WAS BETTER THAN ASPHALT AND MAYBE THE ENTIRE ROAD SHOULD BE PAVED NOT JUST A PORTION. COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THE NIMMERS WOULD HAVE TO PROVIDE THE 5 YEAR MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT IN WRITING. MR. NIMMER ASKED THAT THEY ALSO CONSIDER CHANGING THE TURN. COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN GREGORY ASKED MR. TERRY TO LOOK INTO THE CONCRETE COST, AND THE COST TO DO THE ENTIRE ROAD. COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THE COMMITTEE WILL DISCUSS IT WITH THE COUNCIL AND GIVE A RECOMMENDATION AFTER REVIEWING THE NEW INFORMATION. COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

GREGORY SAID THAT THE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE CAN APPROVE THE FUNDING, BUT THE COUNCIL MUST APPROVE IF THE ROAD WILL BE PAVED. COMMITTEE MEMBER SAULS SAID HE WAS CONCERNED ABOUT THE THICKNESS OF THE ASPHALT AND THAT IT MAY BE BETTER TO SPEND MORE NOW THAN LATER.

ADJOURN - COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN GREGORY ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 4:40 P.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY:

APPROVED BY:

JUDITH M. FRANK, ccc
CLERK TO COUNCIL

REV. SAMUEL GREGORY
COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN