

**JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL  
MARY GORDON ELLIS EXECUTIVE BUILDING  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**APRIL 8, 2009  
2:30 P.M.**

**BUDGET WORKSHOP**

**OFFICIALS PRESENT:**

LEROY BLACKSHEAR, VICE CHAIRMAN  
HUBERT TYLER, COUNCILMAN  
HENRY ETHERIDGE, COUNCILMAN  
REV. SAMUEL GREGORY, COUNCILMAN

**OFFICIALS ABSENT:**

DR. GEORGE HOOD, CHAIRMAN

**STAFF PRESENT:**

ANDREW FULGHUM, ADMINISTRATOR  
RONNIE MALPHRUS, DEP. ADM. ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES  
WENDY KELLY, DEP. ADM. DEVELOPMENT SERVICES  
WILBUR DALEY, DEP. ADM. EMERGENCY SERVICES  
DALE TERRY, DEP. ADM. ENGINEERING SERVICES  
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:**

VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR CALLED THE BUDGET WORKSHOP TO ORDER AT 2:30 P.M.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR LED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

**INVOCATION:**

COUNCILMAN TYLER GAVE THE INVOCATION.

**PRESENTATIONS:**

**SHERIFF JENKINS:**

SHERIFF JENKINS REQUESTED 12 ADDITIONAL PATROL OFFICERS AT A COST OF APPROXIMATELY \$75,000.00 EACH. SHERIFF JENKINS SAID THAT THE OFFICIERS PATROL 24 HOURS A DAY, 7 DAYS A WEEK AND HE NEEDS

THE ADDITIONAL OFFICERS TO COVER THE COUNTY. SHERIFF JENKINS SAID THAT LAST MONTH HE DEFERRED 10 OFFICERS TO PATROL TEMPORARILY AND THAT THE FUEL BILL INCREASED FROM \$4,600.00 TO \$12,000.00 DURING THAT PERIOD OF TIME. SHERIFF JENKINS SAID HE TOOK THIS ACTION TO HAVE PATROL OFFICERS IN CLOSER PROXIMITY TO THE CITIZENS AND TO RESPOND TO CALLS. SHERIFF JENKINS SAID THE PROBLEMS DECREASED DURING THIS TIME, BUT PROBLEMS ARE STILL HAPPENING. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED IF ALL 12 OFFICERS WOULD BE PATROL OFFICERS. SHERIFF JENKINS RESPONDED THAT THEY WOULD. COUNCILMAN TYLER STATED THAT AS HE SEES IT THERE IS NOT ENOUGH PERSONNEL TO COVER THE COUNTY. SHERIFF JENKINS SAID THAT WAS THE PROBLEM AND THE NEW OFFICERS WILL HELP CUT DOWN THE CRIME. COUNCILMAN GREGORY SAID THAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING THE SHERIFF DOES NOT HAVE ENOUGH OFFICERS, BUT EACH YEAR MORE OFFICERS ARE ADDED TO PATROL THE COUNTY, BUT THEY ARE NOT BRINGING IN ANY REVENUE. COUNCILMAN GREGORY ASKED HOW MANY PATROL OFFICERS WERE THERE IN HIS DEPARTMENT AND SHERIFF JENKINS RESPONDED 17 OFFICERS AND THEY WORK WITH 2 OR 3 OFFICERS ON EACH SHIFT. COUNCILMAN GREGORY ASKED IF THEY WERE BEING PAID OVERTIME AND SHERIFF JENKINS SAID THAT THEY DID GET PAID OVERTIME. SHERIFF JENKINS EXPLAINED THE VARIOUS FUNCTIONS OF THE OTHER OFFICERS IN THE SHERIFF DEPARTMENT. COUNCILMAN GREGORY ASKED IF THE 17 OFFICERS PATROLING ARE PULLED TO GO TO COURT. SHERIFF JENKINS SAID THAT THEY WERE. COUNCILMAN GREGORY INFORMED THE SHERIFF THAT HE HAS HEARD ABOUT OFFICERS SPEEDING TO A LOCATION AND THEN ARE SEEN TALKING ON THE CORNER. SHERIFF JENKINS ASKED TO BE NOTIFIED WHEN ANYONE WITNESSES THAT TYPE OF A BEHAVIOR AS HE HAS NOT BEEN NOTIFIED AND HE NEEDS TO KNOW THESE THINGS SO THAT HE CAN TAKE ACTION. COUNCILMAN GREGORY ASKED THAT IF THEIR WERE ENOUGH VOTES FOR THE ADDITIONAL PATROL OFFICERS PEOPLE ARE GOING TO EXPECT MORE VISIBILITY AND HE ASLO ASKED IF THE NEW OFFICERS WOULD BE AN ADDITIONAL SOURCE OF REVENUE FOR THE COUNTY. SHERIFF JENKINS RESPONDED THAT COULD HAPPEN, HOWEVER, THEIR MAIN PRIORITY WOULD BE THE SAFETY OF THE CITIZENS. VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR ASKED FOR THE TOTAL NUMBER OF OFFICERS AND SHERIFF JENKINS RESPONDED THAT THERE WERE 38 OFFICERS. SHERIFF JENKINS SAID HE HAD TWO CLERKS THAT WERE PAID BY A FEDERALLY FUNDED GRANT. VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR ASKED THE SHERIFF HOW MANY OF HIS OFFICERS WERE CERTIFIED AND SHERIFF JENKINS RESPONDED THAT 33 WERE CERTIFIED. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED IF 17 WERE ON THE ROAD AND THE OTHERS WERE NOT AND SHERIFF JENKINS SAID THAT WAS CORRECT.

VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID THE COUNCIL NEEDED TO MOVE ON BECAUSE THEY WERE BEHIND SCHEDULE. COUNCILMAN TYLER COMMENTED THAT THE COUNCIL MAY NEED ADDITIONAL TIME SO THAT

THEY CAN GET THEIR QUESTIONS ANSWERED AND SOME REQUESTS MAY TAKE LONGER THAN OTHERS. COUNCILMAN TYLER SAID HE DID NOT THINK THEY HAD TO STICK TO THE TIME SCHEDULE. VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR RESPONDED THAT IN THE EVENT THAT MORE TIME WAS NEEDED, THE PERSON COULD BE ASKED TO COME BACK AND THAT DURING THE BUDGET WORKSHOPS, THE COUNCIL WAS ONLY RECEIVING REQUESTS. COUNCILMAN GREGORY SAID THAT HE DID NOT AGREE WITH GIVING PEOPLE A TIME LIMIT AND THE WORKSHOP IS A TIME TO FIND OUT WHAT IS BEST FOR JASPER COUNTY.

**CARL ROACHE – COUNCIL ON AGING:**

MR ROACHE PRESENTED HIS REQUEST FOR \$120,000.00 AND PROVIDED A BREAKDOWN OF HOW THE FUNDS WERE TO BE SPENT. MR. ROACHE SAID THE 3 MEALS A WEEK PROVIDED IN GRAYS AND COOSAWHATCHIE ARE PAID FOR WITH \$20,000.00 PROVIDED BY THE COUNTY. MR. ROACHE SAID THE NUMBER OF MEALS BEING SERVED IN THAT AREA HAS DECREASED AND CURRENTLY 15 MEALS ARE BEING SERVED IN COOSAWHATCHIE AND 7 IN GRAYS AND THE SERVICE WILL BE CONTINUED IF THAT IS WHAT THE COUNCIL DECIDES. MR. ROACHE PROVIDED THE COUNCIL WITH A COPY OF LAST YEAR'S AUDIT. COUNCILMAN TYLER ASKED IF THERE ARE ANY SENIOR CITIZENS BEING LEFT UNSERVED AND MR. ROACHE SAID THAT DUE TO EXTRA FUNDING FROM LCOG AND THE STIMULUS FUNDS TO HELP WITH THE HOME DELIVERED MEALS, THEY HAVE ADDED 7 ADDITIONAL PEOPLE TO HAVE MEALS DELIVERED. MR ROACHE SAID THAT THEY TAKE IT VERY SERIOUSLY THAT THE NEEDS OF THE PEOPLE ARE MET.

COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED HOW MANY MEALS ON WHEELS ARE SERVED AND MR. ROACHE SAID ABOUT 140, AND THAT PEOPLE HAVE TO BE HOMEBOUND TO QUALIFY. MR. ROACHE SAID THE COUNCIL ON AGING WILL PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION TO THE CENTERS FOR THE OTHERS.

**ANN WALKER – BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB:**

HEATHER DAVIS, BOARD PRESIDENT, INTRODUCED MRS. TYLER, MRS. HENDERSON BOARD MEMBERS. MS. DAVIS THANKED THE COUNCIL FOR THE PREVIOUS FUNDING TO THE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB. MS. DAVIS SAID THE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB HAS AN EXCELLENT STAFF, A GOOD RELATIONSHIP WITH THE SCHOOLS AND THAT 366 CHILDREN ARE MEMBERS OF THE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB. MS. DAVIS SAID THAT IT IS VERY HARD TO RAISE MONEY AND THEY HOLD SEVERAL FUND RAISING EVENTS EACH YEAR TO HELP SUPPORT THE CLUB. MS. DAVIS SAID THAT MOST OF THE BUDGET GOES FOR STAFFING AND THIS YEAR THEY WERE REQUESTING \$25,000.00. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED ABOUT THEIR TOTAL BUDGET AND MS. DAVIS RESPONDED THAT THE TOTAL BUDGET WAS \$207,000.00 AND 90% GOES TO STAFFING. COUNCILMAN TYLER ASKED WHAT WAS THE TOTAL ENROLLMENT IN THE CLUB. MS. DAVIS SAID 366 CHILDREN ARE REGISTERED INCLUDING 4 TEENAGERS. COUNCILMAN GREGORY ASKED WHAT THE CHILDREN DO AT THE CLUB.

MS. DAVIS RESPONDED THAT THEY START WITH POWER HOUR TO DO HOMEWORK AND THEY MOVE THROUGH THE CLUB TO THE VARIOUS ACTIVITIES. MS. WALKER SAID THE CLUB HAS AN ACTIVE ART DEPARTMENT, DANCE ROOMS, MIND, BODY AND SOUL PROGRAM AND VARIOUS OTHER ACTIVITIES. MS. WALKER SAID THE TEENAGERS ARE CURRENTLY RAISING MONEY TO ATTEND THE KEYSTONE CONFERENCE. MS. WALKER INFORMED THE COUNCIL THAT DUE TO THE INCREASE IN PARTICIPANTS, ADDITIONAL FUNDS ARE NEEDED. MS. WALKER SAID THAT STATE AND FEDERAL FUNDING IS DOWN AND THE DONATIONS ARE ALSO DOWN. COUNCILMAN GREGORY ASKED IF THE COUNTY CANNOT FUND THE \$25,000.00 WOULD THAT CAUSE A CUTBACK OF STAFF. MS. DAVIS SAID THAT THEY WOULD TRY NOT TO DO THAT IN ORDER TO KEEP THE CHILDREN SAFE. MS. DAVIS SAID THEY HAVE BEEN TRYING TO HELP THEMSELVES BY HOLDING SEVERAL FUNDRAISERS. MRS. TYLER EXPLAINED THAT THE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB IS A VERY POSITIVE PLACE FOR THE CHILDREN AND THE STAFF AND BOARD MEMBERS HAVE REALLY IMPROVED THE FACILITY AND SHE WAS ASKING THE COUNTY COUNCIL TO HELP THEM MEET THEIR BUDGET TO OPERATE THE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB. MRS. TYLER ADDED THAT THE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB IS A GREAT PROGRAM. VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR COMMENDED THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE WORKED TO MAKE THE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB WHAT IT IS TODAY AND HE SAID IT WAS A REAL ASSET TO THE COUNTY. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE NOTED THAT THE SUMMER PROGRAM LASTED 10.5 HOURS PER DAY AND HE ASKED IF THEY SERVE FOOD. MS. WALKER SAID THAT FOOD WAS PROVIDED. MS. DAVIS SAID A \$5.00 FEE PER CHILD IS CHARGED FOR THE SUMMER PROGRAM AND MEMBERSHIP IN THE CLUB IS \$15.00 PER CHILD.

**HONEY JOHNSON AND SHAWN JADRNICKEK – FARMERS’ MARKET:**

MS. JOHNSON EXPLAINED THAT IT HAS BEEN THREE YEARS SINCE THE COUNCIL VOTED TO RESTORE THE BEAN SHED. MS. JOHNSON SAID THAT THE MARKET HAS BEEN OPERATED VERY CONSERVATIVELY THROUGH DEVELOPMENT SERVICES BUDGET, AT A TOTAL COST OF \$7,000.00. MS. JOHNSON REFERENCED THE COUNTY/CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AGREEMENT TO PROMOTE THE FARMERS’ MARKET. MS. JOHNSON SAID THEY WERE MAKING A BARE BONES REQUEST TO OPERATE THE MARKET. MS. JOHNSON STATED THAT SHE WORKED WITH SHAWN JADRNICKEK AND THEY ARE REQUESTING \$8,000.00. MR. JADRNICKEK ANNOUNCED THAT HE HAS RESIGNED FROM HIS POSITION FROM CLEMSON AND INCLUDED IN THE BUDGET REQUEST WAS FUNDING FOR A MARKET MANAGER. MR. JADRNICKEK SAID THAT THE CLEMSON AGENT IN BEAUFORT WILL WORK WITH THE CITIZENS OF JASPER COUNTY. COUNCILMAN TYLER ASKED IF THEY HAVE EXPERIENCED ANY DISINTEREST FROM THE FARMERS REGARDING THE MARKET. MR. JADRNICKEK SAID HE HAD NOT. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED ABOUT FUNDS THAT WERE LEFT OVER FROM THE OLD FARMERS MARKET BOARD AND THAT THE FUNDS WERE

GIVEN TO BE USED ON THE MARKET. VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR THANKED MR. JADRNICEK FOR HIS HARD WORK DURING HIS TIME IN JASPER COUNTY.

**GLADYS WILLIAMS REQUEST:**

MS. WILLIAMS REQUESTED THE USE OF THE GRAYS SENIOR CENTER TO HOLD COMMUNITY MEETINGS MONTHLY FOR THE RIVERSHILL COMMUNITY. MS WILLIAMS SAID THERE IS A COMMUNITY CENTER IN RIVERSHILL, HOWEVER, IT WAS PRIVATE AND THEY WOULD BE CHARGED A FEE TO USE IT. VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID THAT THE COUNCIL COULD NOT GIVE HER AN ANSWER, BUT THEY WOULD HAVE THE STAFF LOOK INTO IT AND GET BACK TO HER. MS. WILLIAMS SAID SHE SPOKE TO COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE AND HE SAID HE WOULD HAVE THE BUILDING CHECKED OUT AND SHE ALREADY SENT OUT THE AGENDA FOR A MEETING TONIGHT AT THE CENTER. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID HE TOLD MS. WILLIAMS HE WOULD CHECK INTO IT AND SHE WAS TO GET BACK IN TOUCH WITH HIM AS TO A DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID HE FEELS THERE WAS A MISUNDERSTANDING AND THE BUILDING WAS CHECKED OUT BY MR. TERRY AND IT IS IN USABLE CONDITIONS. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO HELP THEM, BUT HE CANNOT MAKE THE DECISION. MR ETHERIDGE SAID HE HAD ASKED HER TO PUT HER REQUEST IN WRITING SO THAT HE COULD PRESENT IT TO THE COUNCIL FOR APPROVAL. MS. WILLIAMS ASKED TO BE NOTIFIED IN WRITING OF THE COUNCIL'S DECISION SO THAT THERE ARE NO MORE MISUNDERSTANDING.

**ADJOURN:**

VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 4:10 P.M.

RESPECTULLY SUBMITTED BY:

APPROVED BY:

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JUDITH M. FRANK, ccc  
CLERK TO COUNCIL

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LEROY BLACKSHEAR  
VICE CHAIRMAN