

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA, HELD ON FEBRUARY 19, 1999, IN THE COMMISSION MEETING ROOM ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF THE CHATHAM COUNTY COURTHOUSE, LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING, 124 BULL STREET, SAVANNAH, GEORGIA.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Billy Hair called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m., Friday, February 19, 1999.

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II. INVOCATION

Commissioner Eddie DeLoach gave the invocation.

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III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All pledged allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

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IV. ROLL CALL

The Clerk called the roll.

PRESENT:	Dr. Billy B. Hair, Chairman Dr. Priscilla D. Thomas, Vice Chairman, District Eight Frank G. Murray, Chairman Pro Tem, District Four David L. Saussy, District One Joe Murray Rivers, District Two Martin S. Jackel, District Three Harris Odell, Jr., District Five (arrived approximately 9:15 a.m.) Ben Price, District Six Eddie W. DeLoach, District Seven
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IN ATTENDANCE:	Russ Abolt, County Manager R. Jonathan Hart, County Attorney Sybil E. Tillman, County Clerk
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Chairman Hair said, for the benefit of our audience this morning we may be going into Executive Session early today because of a conflict one of our Commissioners has. We'll try to get through as much of the agenda as possible before we do that, but there is a —, normally we do that at the end of the session, but we may do that in the middle of the session today so I just wanted to alert you to that fact.

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YOUTH COMMISSIONERS

Chairman Hair said, before I get to the Proclamations and Special Presentations, I'd like to recognize our Youth Commissioners who are with us this morning. We have Brianne Draffin, who's a sophomore at St. Andrews, we have Angela Parker, who is a junior at Beach High School, and we have Courtney Pennington, who is a senior at Memorial Day School.

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RECOGNITION OF MEMORIAL DAY SCHOOL STUDENTS

Chairman Hair said, we also have government students here today from Memorial Day School who are here observing the governmental process. Would y'all like to stand up and be recognized? We're glad to have y'all with us today. Is your teacher —, is she —. She looked like one of the students. Ingrid, is it Lelos? Ms. Lelos said, Ingrid Lelos. Chairman Hair said, Lelos. Okay, we're glad to have y'all here. Ms. Lelos said, thank you very much. Chairman Hair said, teachers weren't that young when I was in school.

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V. PROCLAMATIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

1. MYSTERY CUSTOMER AWARDS.

Chairman Hair said, okay, we will now have the Mystery Customer Awards.

County Manager Abolt said, I'd like to introduce Mr. Johnson.

Mr. Van Johnson said, Dr. Hair, Dr. Thomas and gentlemen, it is our pleasure to present to you this month's recipients of our Mystery Customer Award. Because we know that February is the month of love, our mystery customer moved throughout the County offices and departments spreading love and cheer, and we present to you this morning our recipients.

Mr. Johnson said, Emily Vinke. She started with Chatham County in April of 1986 as an Accounting Tech and transferred to the Assessor's office in May of 1988. She presently serves as a Personal Property Auditor in the Tax Assessor's office. Ms. Vinke is accompanied by Gary Udinsky of the Tax Assessor's office.

County Manager Abolt asked, and do we have a check? Mr. Johnson said, we have several checks. County Manager Abolt asked, how many checks do we have? Mr. Johnson said, we have at least two, but to ensure that we would have a check—. Ms. Vinke said, that's not my name. Mr. Johnson said, that's not is it. Well, we have another one. Commissioner Rivers said, that's a forgery on that signature there. Mr. Johnson said, I don't know anything about that. Chairman Hair said, yes, that doesn't look like my signature. County Manager Abolt said, we do have a real check. Would you please give the real check to her. Mr. Johnson said, I sure will.

Ms. Vinke said, thank you. Thank you very much. I just try to give the kind of service that I would like to get if I was a customer. Thank you. Chairman Hair said, thank you. Commissioner Saussy said, congratulations.

Mr. Udinsky said, I'll be brief. Thank you very much. Chairman Hair said, that's the briefest you've ever been, Gary [Udinsky]. Commissioner Rivers said, where's his check?

Commissioner Jackel said, Mr. Chairman, it's been my pleasure to know Ms. Vinke for several years and know her husband, and it's just a pleasure to see her around the Courthouse. She always has that pretty smile on her face and is always pleasant to everyone. A job well done. Commissioner Rivers said, she was born that way.

Mr. Johnson said, our second recipient is Sandra Derks. This is Ms. Derks' second tour of duty with Chatham County. Her first tour started in January of 1975 as a Clerk Typist and Intermediate Clerk Stenographer in the Police Department.

She returned to the Chatham County family in June 1998 as a Clerical III in the Inspections Department. Ms. Derks is accompanied by the Inspections Director, Mr. Gregori Anderson.

Ms. Sandy Derks said, I've been with Chatham County the second term for a little over eight months. I'm in a particularly challenging position in Inspections, and I'd like to thank the Commission for telling me I'm doing a good job. Chairman Hair said, thank you. Thank you very much.

Mr. Anderson said, I also want to thank the Commission. Ms. Derks is one of our newest shining stars in the Inspections Department and she epitomizes what our approach is to customer service, and I thank you. Chairman Hair said, thank you, Gregori [Anderson].

Mr. Johnson said, our final recipient this morning is Ms. Michele Carthon-Hagins. Ms. Carthon-Hagins has the distinct honor of being the first member of our temporary pool to receive the Mystery Customer Award. Ms. Carthon-Hagins is currently working on her Master of Public Administration Degree at Savannah State University. Ms. Carthon-Hagins started as an intern in the Human Resources Department and after completing her internship became a member of our temporary pool. She is currently assigned to the Finance Department. It is because of your direction that we continue to provide unpaid internship opportunities to college students and to fortify our workforce with our temporary pool. Our temporary pool is an invaluable part of our workforce. They're expected to be customer focused and service oriented just as all of our full time regular employers are, and Ms. Carthon-Hagins is accompanied by Clara Rouse of the Finance Department. And we have two checks for you too. Chairman Hair said, the real one is the one that's got my real signature.

Ms. Carthon-Hagins said, thank you and it has been a real pleasure working with Chatham County thus far. Chairman Hair said, thank you.

Ms. Rouse said, and I just say thank you, and Michele [Carthon-Hagins] is an excellent worker and she is an asset to our department. We've enjoyed having her.

Chairman Hair said, Van [Johnson] we appreciate your work on that. I think it's really good for us to recognize superior customer service, and this is a good program. I hope we continue to do it.

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STATEMENT REGARDING HEARING IMPAIRED INDIVIDUALS

Chairman Hair said, the next thing on our list today, we have a group with us today, a hearing impaired group that would like to make a very brief statement to us. I believe Mr. Ray Williams is going to be the person coming forward. You'll also notice we have an interpreter here today, so we'd like to recognize him at this time.

Mr. Ray Williams said, first, don't think I'm turning my back on you but I want to sign for my [inaudible], if you don't mind. I'd like to thank Dr. Hair for the [inaudible] this morning. I am impressed with Chatham County having an interpreter in their employ. So I'm proud of Melody [Nelson] for that. Ms. Nelson said, thank you. Mr. Williams said, we wanted to come this morning to express our concerns about the lack of services for persons with a hearing loss in Chatham County [inaudible]. We need services. There's public services for hearing people [inaudible]. People are not sensitive to the needs of the deaf community. In Chatham County with about 2,000 deaf and probably 21,000 or so with a hearing loss, you have a vast field out there being ignored. We need to call attention to that. In the past we have met with Dr. Hair and we're proud of him. More than six months ago we expressed concerns about this and also there were concerns about a place for meetings for establishing a deaf services center or some kind of service location. Another concern that was expressed was the need of interpreters and naturally hearing services, and since that time individuals have taken it on themselves from their own expenses to send in one certified interpreter for the area and it's doing very well. For myself, out of Atlanta, I am funded to supply services for part time and [inaudible] with the deaf, but my money is running out. I'm not here to beg [inaudible] for myself, but for services for the deaf because when my money runs out, I cannot afford to keep on coming down here and to oversee the deaf [inaudible]. For example, alcohol and drug abuse services, AIDS awareness, all of these services are not available for the deaf in the community. Also I have another deaf person and a young senior in the school system here this morning. If they would like to say anything, I'd like to share my time with them. What did you say? No thank you? Okay. You want —.

Through the interpreter one individual whose first name is Chris said, I moved here—. Commissioner Jackel asked, would you step to the mike please. The interpreter said, from Hospice, but I forgot—. I don't know how to communicate and talk. I am hearing impaired. I moved here from Valdosta. I have been in the hospital five times with no interpreter. I have been in Hospice. Because you don't have an interpreter here to help me here in this area, and please improve [sic] the assistance for the deaf school in Chatham County. Thank you very much.

Chairman Hair said, thank you. Thank you very much. We —. Thank you very much for coming. We appreciate y'all being here. We did meet —, as Mr. Williams said, we met about six months ago. We actually —, Russ [Abolt], if you'll remember,

we actually prepared an action plan. Maybe if you could maybe give us a report on that action plan as to where we are with each one of the items on that plan. County Manager Abolt said, yes sir. Chairman Hair said, I think that we really have two roles to play. I think certainly at the County level we have —, we need to make sure that all of our offices have services available to the hearing impaired, but beyond that I think we could be the catalyst to bring other agencies together, city government, the hospitals, the school system, we could sort of be the catalyst to make sure that these services are provided, not just in the County but in our community because I think it is a real need, and we appreciate these folks being here this morning and making us even more aware.

Commissioner Thomas said, I'd just like to comment on that too. I'm very happy that they have brought this to our attention because there is a dire need for this service in our County. I can remember when I was Haven Elementary School serving as principal, we were looking for a place to provide an opportunity for a class of deaf students, and I'm real happy to say that I was able to provide that linkage for them. I did not —, I was not aware of the fact that we were not continuing with that, but we work very closely with the school system so hopefully we will be able to work as a catalyst that you talked about and do something because it's greatly needed.

Chairman Hair said, thank you, Dr. Thomas. Anyone else? Thank you very much for coming.

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2. PROCLAMATION FOR PAGE HUNGERPILLER ON HER RETIREMENT FROM THE CHATHAM COUNTY TREE COMMISSION.

Chairman Hair said, you have on your agenda a proclamation for Ms. Hungerpiller. She's not able to be with us this morning, so we will do that at another time.

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VI. CHAIRMAN'S ITEMS

1. REQUEST FOR TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE, JUNIOR WEIGHT LIFTING FEDERATION (CHAIRMAN AND COMMISSIONER SAUSSY).

Chairman Hair said, the first thing on the list is under my name and also Commissioner Saussy, who has put a lot of time and effort in the Junior Weightlifting Federation. We're going to have a request this morning for some assistance for the Weightlifting Federation and we're not going to take any action today because we have to get some legal opinions about how we can do this and take action at the next Commission meeting but we will have a presentation. Michael [Cohen], are you going to make the presentation? Commissioner Saussy said, Michael [Cohen] and Susan [Waters]. Chairman Hair said, Susan [Waters]. Okay. Commissioner Saussy said, Susan Waters and Michael Cohen.

Ms. Waters said, I'm Susan Waters. I'm Director of Operations for the '99 Junior World Weightlifting Championships. The Weightlifting Championships were awarded to Savannah, Georgia, in 1997 by the International Weightlifting Federation, and at that time the Team Savannah Group and the Chatham Recreation Authority came together to form a Board of Directors to administer this event. I've been on board for about eight months and prior to that as a volunteer helping out with this, and we've been working with our budget diligently. We are working very hard to make sure that everything is within budget, that we do not go over budget. We've got in your packet an updated list of the sponsors that are involved to date. We are still working with some major companies that are involved on the Olympic level. Because we are a smaller event in the big world of the Olympics, the big sponsors don't come on board as readily with a lot of money. We are wanting to make sure that the citizens of Chatham County have an opportunity to come to this event. I was very involved with the Olympics and with the sailing venue, and I know that a lot of citizens of Chatham County were not able to go out on the water to see the yachting events because of either getting seasick or the expense of the tickets to go out to see the event. Our tickets are not going to be expensive. The venue will be open to anybody in Chatham County to come see. The Civic Center is working very closely with us. They're going to handle the tickets for us as far as the ticket sales, and we want to give the citizens and the children of Chatham County the opportunity to come. So what we've done is our proposal to the Chatham County Commissioners is we would like some assistance coming on board as one of our sponsors and in return we would give an equal amount of tickets to be issued to the children or adults, whoever y'all see fit, so they could come see this event.

Chairman Hair said, what we're going to try to do is make it work through our Recreation Department and also through our Summer Bonanza Program and maybe try to, you know, administer the tickets through that mechanism. We still have some

of the details to work out, but we're going to receive the request today and it will go to the Attorney for review and then it will be on our agenda. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Saussy.

Commissioner Saussy said, I'd just like to say that this is one program that has only been one time in the United States and, as I understand it, this is the second time, and it's a worldwide program. So I think we're extremely lucky to have gotten this. Susan [Waters] and especially Mike [Cohen] have worked real hard in getting this to Savannah. It will bring how many participants? Ms. Waters said, we expect around 600 athletes, coaches and officials, and with them another entourage of up to 1500 people outside of the Savannah area will be traveling to Savannah. We know that the country of Nauru has already chartered an airplane. They've filled it up with over 100 people and they coming to Savannah. The economic impact that will be in this area is going to be great. The Chamber of Commerce ran numbers for us. It's in your packet. Under Junior World Facts I've made in bold letters some of the things that I think are important to Chatham County. We will have some very high-ranking officials. We will have world-class athletes here in Savannah. We will have Olympic contenders here in Savannah, and something that people in Savannah may not know, but in Savannah, Georgia, our young athletes here, we probably will have 8 of the 15 members from Savannah, Georgia, Chatham County, on this weightlifting team. Not only that, but we expect to field the U.S. Women's Olympic Team, which will be the first time in the Olympics in 2000. We expect to have 3 or 4 women from Chatham County on that team, so we're hoping that our full women's team going from Chatham County will be the U.S. Women's Olympic Team. So we've got a real opportunity to showcase what these young people are doing in Savannah and give them —, our other young people who aren't involved in the weightlifting area an opportunity to see that there is something that they can do that they can achieve. We've got kids in the gym now that have been on the streets, and they are turning their lives around because of what is going on and because of what Chatham County has done with the one cent option plan and built that facility for the people of Chatham County. We're offering this free of charge to the kids and the adults in Chatham County. There's over a thousand people that come through that gym every single month to work out, so we are on the cutting edge in the country. We've got the largest, best equipped weight training center in the United States thanks to Chatham County.

Commissioner Saussy said, I'd also like to say that this is one of the only legacies I think that we've got in the State of Georgia left from the Olympics, and I think we can be very proud of that that we've got it here in Savannah.

Chairman Hair said, thank you, Susan [Waters]. I appreciate your —. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner DeLoach.

Commissioner DeLoach said, I just want to make sure I get a postcard from Savannah. We get postcards from everywhere and I want to make sure I get one from Savannah now.

Ms. Waters said, that can be arranged. If you have any questions, I am available. I believe on the letterhead the phone number at work's there. You can call me at home. I will instruct them at the gym to give out my phone number at home. I have no problems coming down and meeting with you individually, but I'm available to you.

Chairman Hair said, thank you, Susan [Waters]. I appreciate you —. Commissioner Thomas said, fantastic.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

No action taken at this time. The County Attorney is to review and furnish a legal opinion on how the Commission can proceed in response to the request and bring back to the Commissioners on the next agenda.

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2. TYBEE PIER RENTAL.

Chairman Hair said, the next item on the agenda, I've had a request from Mayor Walter Parker to put this before the Commission. I think this is an opportunity for us to maybe correct something that we didn't really intend to do. Eight or nine months ago, probably longer than that, the Mayor and the City Manager from Tybee appeared before us and requested that any city-sponsored events, these are City of Tybee sponsored events, that were held at the pier, that we would waive the rental fee, and we operated under that premise for seven or eight months and then about eight weeks ago the Commission passed a policy that everybody would pay the at least cost associated with rentals. It is my belief that in the case of Tybee that if it is a city event that we still should waive the rental fee on the Tybee Pier, and I'd like to present that to you. This is not like the band shell, there's not a tremendous amount of cost associated with it, and it just seems a little bit odd to me that we would charge Tybee to use the pier that's inside their city limits. So I would request of my fellow Commissioners to support only city-sponsored events at Tybee to waive the rental fee for the Tybee Pier. It doesn't deal with the band shells, it doesn't deal with anything else, just the Tybee Pier. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Murray said, I certainly don't have a problem with that, but I guess what I don't understand in this letter that Bill Farmer, the City Manager of Tybee, sent out to us, there was a request for Chatham County to participate in this and

I don't remember anything like that ever coming before the Commission. If it's a request like that, why were we not notified to make a decision whether we wanted to participate or not?

County Manager Abolt said, I've not see Mr. Farmer's letter. I will need clarification if this is your choice. If you look at what's in your packets, there's a letter from Mr. Golden to Mr. Farmer, you'll see that the City of Tybee is co-sponsoring. I would ask clarification if co-sponsoring is sufficient because in these cases apparently they have Armstrong Atlantic University Band Concerts, a festival for the arts and the Chamber of Commerce. We don't —, we need clarification.

Chairman Hair said, if this —. I asked Mayor Parker about that, and he is only requesting any events that the City has a sponsorship in it, which means if they have some input to it, they have some —, they are putting some funds in it, or something like that. He is not asking for anything outside of a city-sponsored event. So I would ask my fellow Commissioners to support that, that we could get a motion to —.

Commissioner Rivers said, I think, Dr. Hair, what he's trying to do is get clarification on a dual —. Chairman Hair said, right. Commissioner Rivers said, situations to where you have Tybee being the sponsor of some other participant. Chairman Hair said, I would suggest that if we could pass the motion that we get the Attorney to talk to Mr. Farmer —, Dr. Farmer, and make sure that there's clarification on that issue. I think that's somewhat of a legal issue and I would submit that would be a way to clarify that. Russ [Abolt], if we could have Mr. Hart talk to Dr. Farmer and work the details if we can get a motion passed, but he made it very specific. I talked to him as last as day before yesterday. He made it very specific he was only asking for city-sponsored events.

County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, you did an excellent job explaining the topic before you. There's one item you mentioned that's the most recent discussion about eight weeks ago, and that has to do with absorbing the costs for it. If this carries forward, which certainly it's your choice, we would have the issue then of anywhere from \$4300 to \$4700 in expenses. Now traditionally it would be just absorbed within the Parks Department. At that meeting of about eight weeks ago some members of the Board were saying that that's not fair to one department just to absorb it because, you know, there are other obligations on the department. We will do as have we done in the past if the motion passes. I just bring that to your attention. Chairman Hair said, okay. Commissioner Odell and then Commissioner DeLoach.

Commissioner Odell said, my position is that we need to start tracking the exceptions to the Recreation budget so that when we are preparing a budget for the following year and we make these exceptions, then we have some idea of the cost impact that our decision —. County Manager Abolt said, we've done that. We gave that to you at your last meeting. I believe we've got 20-some thousand dollars that Mr. Golden absorbed. Commissioner Odell said, but as far as Tybee, my perception is that the pier is within their jurisdiction and I really don't see us charging them for events there.

Chairman Hair said, I think your idea, Commissioner Odell, is an excellent idea to keep track of costs and then next year we will put that amount of money in the budget —, Recreation budget to cover that so there wouldn't be an issue. Commissioner DeLoach and then Commissioner Jackel.

Commissioner DeLoach asked, does that hold true for all the rest of them that want to use the band shell? Chairman Hair said, my request is only for the Tybee Pier. It has nothing to do with anything else. Commissioner DeLoach said, I beg to differ with everybody up here then. I've got a problem with the fact that for some odd reason since we've got a pier in one location, that community is no different than any other community and if Pooler, which they do at times and we've told them —, and we've started telling them that they've got to pay, if they want to use the band shell for events that they have there, that now they've got to pay and then Tybee doesn't, they don't have pay. I don't understand the difference. I don't care if the pier is located there. If you want to leave the band shell sitting in Pooler, we'll let it —, set it up in Pooler and we'll have it sit there, but the fact of it is it's not right to let one use the, you know —, it's not right to let one group get by without paying and another group suffer. It's just not fair and if you want to do it for one, you need to do it for all. Period. I mean there can be no exceptions, either do it or don't do it.

Chairman Hair said, Commissioner Odell wants to respond to that and then Commissioner Jackel. Commissioner Odell said, if I could. My impression is that any municipality who wanted to use the band shell, whether it be Pooler, Garden City, Port Wentworth, Tybee, Thunderbolt —. Commissioner DeLoach said, City of Savannah. Commissioner Odell said, City of Savannah. Commissioner DeLoach said, right. Commissioner Odell said, that we waive that fee. Commissioner DeLoach said, okay, then that —. Chairman Hair said, I supported that all along, Commissioner DeLoach. I totally support that. I think your charging fees for these things is ridiculous anyway. I totally support that if you're talking about you want to include that in the motion. Commissioner DeLoach said, no, it —. Chairman Hair said, I have no problem with that as long as you limit it to municipalities. Commissioner DeLoach said, sure. Okay. Commissioner Odell said, but the problem is we're trying to consolidate services —. Commissioner DeLoach said, oh, I don't have a problem with that. We were talking pier and only pier whenever we were talking here, and I wanted to make sure that, you know, everybody's covered and make everybody —, you know, I just want to cover it and make it uniform. Commissioner Odell said, we didn't forget the westside. Commissioner DeLoach said, no, I'm not —, I don't want to say that. I'm talking about Savannah too.

Chairman Hair said, Commissioner Jackel then Commissioner Murray and Commissioner Saussy.

Commissioner Jackel said, we have gotten off track here. We realized when people use the —, our band shell that it was costing us money. We had to have people work nights, we had to have them work weekends, we had to pay those people to set it up, and we said we don't want to make any money off of you, we just want to be covered for our cost; otherwise, it's a donation and we agreed with that. Now we seem to be doing away with this policy by exceptions. Commissioner DeLoach said, right. Chairman Hair said, just like the football stadium, if someone wants to use Memorial Stadium, there's a fee associated with it, whether it's another municipality or whatever, there's a fee. Commissioner DeLoach said, the Board or anybody. Commissioner Jackel said, anybody that wants to use it, and I don't see why this is —, and then we're opening up Pandora's box by letting the sponsors —, and I think you're making a good point, Mr. Powers, in that suppose they want to sponsor a cancer fund drive out at the pier. Why would they not want to do that, and then again we're in the position of having to donate the amount of cost of setting up the project. I'm just afraid to go there. I think it's a land mine once we start making —, a mine field once we start making these exceptions and then there are going to be exceptions and exceptions in this policy. We're just asking people to reimburse us for our cost. We're not looking to make any money. When we use their facilities, we pay the reasonable cost of it, and I'm going to have to vote against it.

Chairman Hair said, okay, Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Murray said, Russ [Abolt], I don't know whether you or Jim Golden or who would need to answer this question, but reading this letter, how did we arrive at these particular costs? County Manager Abolt said, if you're referring —. Commissioner Murray said, they look a little high to me and that's why I was wondering what do those costs actually cover on the pavilion at Tybee? Chairman Hair asked, Jim [Golden], could you —.

County Manager Abolt said, I'll defer to Jim [Golden]. You're referring to the letter of the first of February to Mr. —. Chairman Hair said, Jim [Golden], would you come forward please and answer Commissioner Murray's question. How did you arrive at the cost? Mr. Golden said, the cost is derived —, the cost is derived by —, you've got the labor, you've got the cleanup and things of that nature. Hourly wage is minimum, four people, and then we already have contractual service there to do likewise. Tables have to be moved and things like that. The place has to be cleaned up after. What we did, we came up with a minimum and when you voted to accept that minimum, then it took away the rates as five hours or less or five hours and over. Here to the advantage you have a flat rate and you can use it all day, and this is to the advantage now based on our new setup. The rates here as we voice here with April it goes to the highest figure and with the May it goes to the lowest figure here, which are similar, are reversed. But to get a little background in this, Mr. Chairman, what you have three groups requesting through Tybee to use the pier. Chairman Hair said, we're going to clarify that. I think that's a good question and we're going to clarify that legally.

Commissioner Murray asked, why would our costs be more one month than it would be another month to do those central —? Mr. Golden said, all right, what you have, you have someone, if they rent half of it is less than the whole, which is more. Commissioner Murray said, no, what I'm saying is, right here, Item 3, second Saturdays beginning in April or May 1999, for various programs cosponsored by the Tybee City Council of the Savannah Area Chamber of Commerce (\$2,700/April or \$3,150/May). Mr. Golden said, well, that's reversed. It's a mistake here, sir. The —. Commissioner Murray asked, what's the mistake? Mr. Golden said, start with the April and picks up the [inaudible] for over two in May. That's the difference. It's more money. Commissioner Murray asked, which figure is right? Mr. Golden said, the —, if it's April, it's the \$3,150 fee. They gave us conflicting [sic] in their correspondence, so we —. Commissioner Murray said, my question is why is it a difference price in May than it would be in April if they're doing the same thing and using the same amount of facilities. Commissioner Jackel said, there are more days. Commissioner Odell said, last paragraph. Mr. Golden said, well, you have a difference here. If you look up to the top, you have the entire pavilion and then you have half the pavilion. Commissioner Murray said, yes, but that says July 2nd. Mr. Golden said, all this is lump sum now. Commissioner Murray said, well, July 2nd, 1999, Armstrong Atlantic University Band Concert, \$266 for half the pavilion. Mr. Golden said, yes sir. Commissioner Murray said, item two, October 15, 16, and 17, 1999, Festival of the Arts, \$1,350 for entire pavilion. Commissioner Jackel said, that's three days times the 500. Commissioner Murray said, okay.

County Manager Abolt said, what we've also found, Dr. Thomas and gentlemen, when we went through it actually even with the fees that we charge we do not fully reimburse the County for expenses if we keep them at the level Mr. Golden has. We tried to make the judgment not to devote an awful lot of accounting time in additional expenses to rent the pier, and Mr. Golden estimates —.

Commissioner Murray said, all right, my other question again then would be was Chatham County asked to participate in this and, if so, why were we not notified? Why did we not have a choice of participating or not if we were asked to participate? Mr. Golden said, I can answer that. Commissioner Murray said, okay. Mr. Golden said, we were asked to participate after the —, we told them the we couldn't waive the fee and they came back and they asked us to participate. Commissioner Murray said, that makes sense. Chairman Hair said, that's logical. Commissioner DeLoach said, well, that cleared that up. Commissioner Rivers said, I understand that now.

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Saussy.

Commissioner Saussy said, I feel like Eddie [DeLoach]. I think if the cities and the towns of Chatham County are participating in it, that's fine, but if other people are participating with them, then they need to pay their fair share. This

whole thing could be solved if we consolidate the whole County and cities. Chairman Hair said, I certainly agree with that comment.

Commissioner Rivers said, Mr. Chairman. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Rivers. Commissioner Rivers asked, can't we have —, even if we're doing it, even if we're go into an intergovernmental agreement to allow the cities and the other municipalities to use this, can't they participate in the cleanup, therefore defraying some of the costs? Commissioner Odell said, yes. Chairman Hair said, and I suspect they probably are to some extent. Commissioner Rivers asked, I mean, can't the cities provide their own cleanup? County Manager Abolt said, sure, we'd try to keep it simple. I realize this is a lot of money and not a lot of money depending on your perspective. We tried to manage it in such a way where we could make sure the pier is usable after an event and some of you have come to me and said, oh, my goodness, it was like a Monday morning and people were calling in and saying the restrooms are in deplorable shape. We —, it's the County's pier. We're the ones that gets the calls. We want to make sure there's quick cleanup and things like that. Commissioner Rivers said, but in that agreement if we check it and they have not done a sufficient job of cleaning it up, then we bill them for that cleanup.

Chairman Hair said, Commissioner Murray and then let's get a motion one way or the other. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Murray asked, Russ [Abolt], if we request the use of Grayson Stadium for a County event, do we pay for it or we do not pay for it? County Manager Abolt said, it's just a simple example of Memorial Stadium. Commissioner Murray asked, if we use rooms at the Civic Center for a meeting, do we pay for them or not? County Manager Abolt said, yes sir, we pay for them. Commissioner Murray said, we pay for them. So why in the world should we allow the other municipalities not to pay us and we just gratis free, gratis here it is when they bill us for the use. Commissioner DeLoach said, I agree with you a hundred percent. Can I make a comment on that? Chairman Hair said, certainly. Commissioner Murray said, Tybee's in my district, but I just feel like we're either going to have a policy or we're not going to have a policy, and if we're not going to enforce the policy, we need to do away with it. So either way, let's take a vote and move on.

Chairman Hair said, Commissioner DeLoach and then let's do what we're going to do.

Commissioner DeLoach said, all right, I want to make a motion that we deny this and that we go back to our policy that we passed originally that each individual, whoever it be, be charged the cost of cleanup and/or setting period. Chairman Hair asked, do we have a second? Commissioner Murray said, I will second it if you will add one other item. Commissioner DeLoach said, okay. Commissioner Murray said, if a municipality requests the use of the pier or any of the other facilities if they do the cleaning and stuff, that staff be allowed to work with them and if it's not done to satisfaction then they get billed for that additional fee, or we can deduct that fee if they do it. Chairman Hair said, so they're already paying the fee if this motion passes. Commissioner DeLoach said, okay, I agree with that.

Chairman Hair said, all right, we have a motion and a second. Any discussion of the motion. This is —, the motion is to deny.

Commissioner Price said, each of these municipalities has their own police force, maybe with the exception of Vernonburg, but why can't we also, Frank [Murray], include the security part of that and if they want to provide security, that we would not charge them for that either. Chairman Hair asked, do you accept that, Commissioner DeLoach? [NOTE: No audible response was made by Commissioner DeLoach.] Commissioner Price said, if they want to do the cleanup and the setup and breaking it down and the cleanup and the security at their own cost, with our inspection of it afterwards, let's throw all that in there together.

Chairman Hair asked, will you accept that. [NOTE: No audible response was made by Commissioner DeLoach.] Chairman Hair said, all right, all this —, the motion is to deny. All those in favor of denial vote yes, opposed to denial vote no. Commissioners Saussy, Rivers, Jackel, Murray, Odell, Price, DeLoach and Thomas voted in favor of the motion to deny. Chairman Hair voted in opposition. The motion to deny carried by a vote of eight to one. Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved that the Board deny the request by the City of Tybee for waiver of the fee for use of the Tybee Pier; that if a municipality requests the use of the pier or any of the other facilities, that staff be allowed to work with them on the cleanup and if it's not done to the County's satisfaction then they get billed for that additional fee, or we can deduct that fee if the cleanup is done to the County's satisfaction; and that any security during the event will be at the expense of the municipality renting the facility. Commissioner Murray seconded the motion. Commissioners Saussy, Rivers, Jackel, Murray, Odell, Price, DeLoach and Thomas voted in favor of the motion to deny. Chairman Hair voted in opposition. The motion to deny carried by a vote of eight to one.

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VII. COMMISSIONERS' ITEMS

1. GARDEN CITY ANNEXATION, DEAN FOREST ROAD SOUTH OF 16 (COMMISSIONER DELOACH).

Commissioner DeLoach said, I need some instruction on this and some explanation from the staff so that everybody will understand the reasons I'm saying this. Could I get somebody as far as this goes —? Inspections handled this, right? County Manager Abolt said, no sir. Commissioner DeLoach asked, who handled it? County Manager Abolt said, if I may, we're talking about the item under your name on Garden City annexation. Commissioner DeLoach said, that's correct.

County Manager Abolt said, Commissioner DeLoach, Dr. Thomas and members of the Board, I have discussed it briefly with Commissioner DeLoach, and I believe the concern has to do with a letter that was received by the attorney for the City of Garden City, it's dated the 31st of January to the MPC and it proposes the annexation of certain land along Dean Forest near the entrance to Southbridge, and that is the case. Under State law the County must, in effect, testify to the fact that whatever is anticipated after the annexation by way of land use is compatible with what the soon to be annexed territory would be zoned by the host city. That was information prepared by MPC and refers to the maps from the attorney for Garden City. I would have to defer to the County Attorney as to what options you might have from the standpoint of voicing either any objection or questioning the logic of the boundaries proposed.

Commissioner DeLoach asked can I give an explanation of why I've got this on here so everybody will understand? If you'll imagine a pie being cut up, that's what we have on the annexation to make annexation work properly so that we don't have a conflict of who's going to cover this area. We had that situation with the City of Savannah, Garden City, Pooler, or Bloomingdale —, I mean, Pooler when Savannah annexed Dean Forest road to the airport. Okay? So they annexed just the roadway, so all of a sudden whenever we had an accident on the roadway, we got four or five different groups coming to the wreck and only one person could handle it. Well, if they guy doesn't get there, everybody sits there and looks. Nothing happens because, hey, that's not my jurisdiction, I can't cover that, this is a City of Savannah deal, and so forth and so on, so everybody sits there in the middle of the road wrecked because nobody can handle it. Well, this is the same situation that's fixing to happen here. The City of Garden City annexed a pie-shaped, one-quarter of the area of Dean Forest towards the City of Garden City. Now they have reached across the road, if you want to call it —, no necessarily they have. Somebody has petitioned them, let's annex this here because I don't want to have to pay "County taxes" or whatever you want to think, but what this is going to do is you're going to carve out a little section out of the area that is not annexed to go to the City of Garden City. Now anywhere up and down this road on either side of this area, it's the responsibility of Chatham County to cover it, but this spot right here in the middle of the road, you know, in the middle of the opposite of the road which they cannot annex, they're supposed to cover, so all of a sudden you have an accident over there or we have somebody's house burn down and we have somebody gets broke into, the City of Garden City's got to answer that call. So who do you call in that little area of 19 acres on an area that's probably 1100 —, not 1100, probably 4,000 or 5,000 acres over there, from that all the way to 95 and so forth on down the road. We're going to pull out 19 acres and give it to Garden City and it is not logical in the direction we're going. This does not work. This is just —, I mean, it's easy. It's what I call and some people call in business cherry-picking. You pick out the good spot and you put it in the City of Garden City because they can get the taxes from the people that are in there, and yet we've got to figure out at what point does this —, looking at your maps on what you've got in front of you, you'll see that you've got it picked out, well, is that lot part of it or is that lot part of it or is that acre part of it or whatever. It's just asinine to have this set up like this, and I'm asking whatever we can do as a County government to tell the Legislators this is crazy. This is not good for Chatham County or anybody else that's trying to deliver services to this area. And I spoke to the Chairman on it, and I feel like he'll concur with roughly what I've said.

Chairman Hair said, I have some real concerns about just the entire annexation issues. I think we've got to deal with the bigger picture, and I think Commissioner DeLoach is talking about a problem, but it's just really a small piece of the bigger problem. Commissioner DeLoach said, right. Chairman Hair said, we've got some really crazy laws in Georgia on annexation. I mean, when a guy calls me as he did a few months ago and he read in the newspaper that his property was being annexed and that's the only notification he had was he just happened to see it in the newspaper that he was being annexed into a municipality, I think we've got to address it and it's obviously got to be addressed at the State level, Commissioner DeLoach, but I think we could go on record as making some changes. Why don't we do this? I think if we could get the County Manager and the County Attorney to put their heads together and maybe give us some options of how we could solve this problem and the concerns we have, and then we would come back and maybe at the next meeting and maybe pass a proclamation to the delegation and requesting specific changes we think would be appropriate because I think we have to deal with the bigger issue because we've really got a convoluted system of annexation in Georgia.

Commissioner Price said, so moved. Commissioner Murray said, I'll support that. Chairman Hair asked, would everybody support that. We don't necessarily need a motion, but if we get a consensus of everybody that support that.

County Manager Abolt said, if I may, too, Chairman Hair, I know you're [inaudible], and I certainly support that, ACCG has been very instrumental trying to get the legislation changed. Just to underscore the wisdom of what you're doing, just bear

with me a moment. You'll have an item later on in your agenda, it's Item #5 on the Action Calendar, which seems fairly straightforward, having to do with municipalities coming together to agree to pay the State for the cost of electricity to light interchanges along I-16. This matter was brought to staff's attention a number of months ago by Commissioner DeLoach, and we thought that was easy. The State law says that GDOT will put up a light, not charge the municipality or the County for the light, only for the energy annually. What we got into, as Commissioner DeLoach alluded to, the annexation made —, actually made the annexation of the City of Savannah of the airport, was a serpentine going out I-16 just picking up the right-of-way and then going up Dean Forest. The intersections we're talking about illuminating are either within the City of Savannah or the City of Pooler or the City of Garden City. Chatham County unincorporated area does not have any of this territory, but to move it along and to facilitate it, staff agreed, and it's not a lot of money, but if you approve that item I referenced, the unincorporated area for a short period of time will have to pay the energy cost to illuminate the southwest quadrant of the intersection of I-16 and Dean Forest. We don't have a dog in that fight, but to get it moving we had to make that entree, the reason being is that the cities have used the umbilical cord to go out and annex it, but we don't have adjoining property. We have no interest in it.

Chairman Hair said, I think you're absolutely correct, Russ [Abolt]. I just think we've got to address this issue because it is —, it's getting to be, you know, the municipalities are getting these land grants and it's destroying the entire base. I think —.

County Attorney Hart said, Mr. Chairman, I think all of y'all recognize the importance of this issue. Unfortunately, we're bound by State law on four methods of annexation, but Commissioner DeLoach is one hundred percent right. We have situations in Chatham County where the municipalities will actually annex up to a road on both sides of the road and you'll have two different municipalities and no one annexes the road because they don't want the responsibility for the maintenance of the road, but you have Chatham County having to maintain a road that is splitting two municipalities. Chairman Hair said, it's really gotten out of hand. County Attorney Hart said, we've got an interchange in this City that's got four different jurisdictions in it. I sat down with the City Attorney and after about an hour's discussion it was still unclear as between the two of us where the jurisdictional basis for who regulated that interchange. We've got it all over the County.

Chairman Hair said, Commissioner Murray and then Commissioner Odell.

Commissioner Murray said, I agree a hundred percent with Eddie [DeLoach] on what's going on. I know that year's ago the same thing happened down at Tybee. They annexed —, they skipped over a portion of what I thought should have been in Tybee if they were going to annex and they went to Lazaretto Creek and took in the restaurants and the docks and everything, but they left Spanish Hammock and DAV Island, which is still unincorporated. The reason was they felt like their police force could handle those problems they were having there better than we could since we had —, wouldn't have to go down there any more. We still have to go down there because we still got unincorporated in between the city limits as you go through it, and it's not right. If they're going to annex, then take it all. Don't just take part of it. Commissioner Thomas said, that's true.

Chairman Hair said, Commissioner Odell and then Commissioner Saussy.

Commissioner Odell said, I guess my question is to Russ [Abolt] in whether or not our Association of County Commissioners has taken a position on this. County Manager Abolt said, yes sir, they have and I do not want to take future legislation with the experience in the past, but the efforts have been totally unsuccessful because of the predominant interest of the municipalities. There aren't many states in the 50's that have the type of annexation law that is so intensive in the very issues you've discussed. Commissioner Odell said, and one of the reasons is that you see a small municipality that would almost make a pyramid out to the interstate and annex a portion of that interstate and it always correlated with some kind of municipal building programs or maybe getting the tourists for speeding through. County Manager Abolt said, well, again the example I've given, to make the Savannah Airport contiguous to the City of Savannah the way it was annexed by going up, picking up the right-of-way along I-16, coming up to its intersection with Dean Forest, going up Dean Forest and making it contiguous at the southeast corner of the airport. Commissioner Odell said, legislation that would say that the example Jon [Hart] used that they would be obligated to annex that road if they annex up to [inaudible]. County Manager Abolt said, yes sir. There's ways of handling it, and I don't want to have to keep your time on this, but many states have —, you are not allowed to use right-of-way either from roads or railroads to create contiguity. You have to have other land. There's many ways of handling it.

Chairman Hair said, I don't think we can rely totally —, I agree we should support ACCG's efforts, but we need to still have an independent look at it because there may be things we need in this County that's not in the ACCG bill, so I'd like to see us get what's best for Chatham County and then we —, if all —, everything's in the ACCG bill, then we can get behind that bill, but otherwise we might need to make some modifications.

County Attorney Hart said, the biggest thing that would be of help would be to make sure that the Commission expresses its views candidly and quickly to the Legislative Delegation because if they do it by special act of the Legislation [sic], they have very few rules that they have to follow other than pass the act.

Chairman Hair said, Commissioner Saussy and then Dr. Thomas.

Commissioner Saussy asked, this piece of property is contiguous to Garden City, right? Commissioner DeLoach said, it's across the road from it. Commissioner Saussy said, across the road. Well, then it doesn't touch it —, Garden City then. Commissioner DeLoach said, yes, because Garden City annexed —, we had them annex the road in because we weren't going to take responsibility for the road —. Commissioner Saussy said, okay. Commissioner DeLoach said, so they picked up 17 down to Dean Forest and come across there, so they were able to step across the road based on that. Commissioner Saussy said, okay, well this is just another —, just another point for consolidation. [Unintelligible comments were made when several Commissioners began speaking at the same time.]

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Thomas.

Commissioner Thomas said, this is in reference to the same thing about annexation in Garden City because I've gotten quite a few calls this past week from some of my constituents, 17-South, Salt Lake —, I mean, Salt Creek area. They have a lot of questions that they need answered, and so I told them that I would try to get some answers for them working with the County Manager because they have some of the same concerns so we may want to look into that area as well.

Chairman Hair said, I think the —, Commissioner Murray is asking if we need a resolution. I don't think we need it today. I think we need to have the specifics in the resolution and let's get the County Manager and County Attorney to draft something for us and then vote on it so we can give them very specific recommendations. I think anything today we do would just be —.

Commissioner DeLoach said, the only thing I would say on this is this issue isn't up there is the way I understand it, and if —, I wanted —. How does this work? I mean, once they —, does it —, the Legislature has to approve it, right? County Attorney Hart said, my understanding is that this particular —, most of the big annexations, you're a hundred percent right, it's been done by special act of the Legislature. It's my understanding in this particular instance this is being done under the fourth method of annexation, which is if a municipality has it within its charter and they have the charter power in Garden City, and they're doing it under a resolution and referendum, which is a fairly new method that broadens the ability of municipalities to annex.

Chairman Hair said, okay, we'll get the Attorney and the Manager to present something to us. Hopefully, y'all can have it for the next meeting. County Manager Abolt said, yes sir. There's three weeks in between meetings, we should have it done. Chairman Hair said, okay. Very good.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Staff directed the County Manager and County Attorney to prepare a resolution regarding annexation of unincorporated area by municipalities, which resolution is to be presented at the next meeting for consideration by the Commissioners.

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2. SKATING RINK CONFLICT (COMMISSIONER PRICE).

Commissioner Price said, I'm not sure if you got the letter I got. The owner of Play It Again Sports, a gentlemen names William Hjortsberg, if I'm pronouncing it correctly, brought to our attention that the Savannah Hockey and Skating Association, which is headed up by two individuals that brought this project to us, a project I supported, Mr. Greg Eng and Mr. Joe Turcotte, that they're using the association as a way for people who are required to sign up for the league play had to do it at their retail store, and I forget the name of the store that Joe [Turcotte] and [Greg] also own. It's another type of sports equipment store. We've had a similar occasion occur, not to this degree, but somewhat at the Aquatic Center, but I think this is something that is a dilemma that we need to address and need to correct. I don't know if Mr. Hjortsberg is here —. Commissioner Odell said, he is. Commissioner Price said, if he'd like to come to the podium he can address the issues in more detail than I have, but I think the bottom line is this: Public funds, you know, should never get involved in the business of free enterprise and we should never be in a predicament like I believe we may be here where we're giving the enterprise for free, where we're giving people the opportunity to have business and do business in a monopolistic way, and I think there's a very valid point that this letter addresses and I think we need to take some kind of action, and I'll let Mr. Hjortsberg —. There's also some concerns about the fencing and the siding at the rink if you would like to address that as well, go right ahead.

Mr. William Hjortsberg said, I'm guessing about what you said that —. Chairman Hair said, please state your name for the record. Mr. Hjortsberg said, my name is William Hjortsberg. I'm the owner and operator of Play It Again Sports. I was asked to appear here today by Mr. Price based on the letter that I wrote to him. At the time I thought about copying all of the Commissioners, but I did not do that. Commissioner Odell said, it's in the packet. It's in our packet. Commissioner DeLoach said, we've got it. Mr. William Hjortsberg said, you've got it, okay. So you're familiar with the details of the letter. Initially, I just want to tell about my background in athletics, that I speak from a general point of expertise. I've been involved in pretty much all the major sports around the Savannah/Chatham County area for about 15 years. I've got a son and a nephew that played most sports. I've coached most of the major sports in various leagues, City, County and private. I was

an assistant administrator of a private league, which is a league involving the private schools, so I have a pretty extensive background and experience with sports in Chatham County and the way that they're been run and the facilities that they've been run in. Initially when the sport of hockey was started up, the league was run by the YMCA and still is to this day. That's been going on for about three years. I've been an avid supporter of that league over that time. I've donated my own time for coaching and materials for use by the league and team sponsorships.

Commissioner Price said, street hockey. Mr. Hjortsberg asked, excuse me? Commissioner Price said, street hockey. Mr. Hjortsberg said, correct. It's been played at various parking lot facilities around town on what they call a border patrol, which is kind of rough at times because some of the parking lots are kind of rough. But we all look forward and I've had previous involved with Greg Eng of the Savannah Skate and Hockey Association [sic] as far as he coached my son's team for a while. I've known him for a couple of years and we had talked previous to the opening of this facility about what possible future the sport could have and the growth that it could have with a permanent facility. Unfortunately, when I attended the grand opening at Lake Mayer I was under the impression at that time because of the talk at the grand opening that all of the equipment that had been put on the concrete slab which had been paid for by the County, the slab had been paid for by the County, that all the equipment had been put on top of that by the Savannah Hockey and Skate Association had been donated. I found out later at a meeting with Mr. Golden and Greg [Eng] and Joe [Turcotte] that they did not donate that part of the equipment, that they owned still that part of the equipment, and I was told rather emphatically by Greg [Eng] that if anybody else wanted to use the facility, even though it's built on public property and partially —, greatly with public money, that I would be able to but they would remove their boards and fencing and I would have to use a concrete slab. I was told that by Greg [Eng] at a meeting. I was also under the impression from the grand opening that being that the Savannah Hockey and Skate Association was a nonprofit group that the administration of the league and all its dealings was going to be nonprofit, as most leagues are. I don't believe any of the other leagues in any other sport that I know of around the County are being run on a for-profit basis. It's my impression that all monies collected for use of facilities or whatever go back into the maintenance of that facility. You know, all facilities take money to upkeep whether they be, you know, grass fields, football, baseball, whatever. Obviously, what I've come to believe after that is that this is the farthest thing from being a nonprofit business, and there are some things that lead me to believe that. Number one, starting with the facility itself, the County's sign that was put up and I'm guessing paid for by the County that sits next to the facility, lists the address of 321 Montgomery Crossroads as the address for any information about the league and the facility. Well, when you go to 321 Montgomery Crossroads, what you see on the outside of that building is a retail store sign and when you walk into that location, you see a retail store, and there are no if's, and's or but's about that. It is a retail store. It is not an administrative office. There may be an administrative office located in there somewhere, but you sure don't see it walking in the front door. You see a hockey store and the store is filled with hockey equipment. The fees that they are charging for the league when compared with other sports and other leagues around town are probably a little bit on the exorbitant side, and that's not just my personal opinion. I obviously in my business have a lot of contact with people, parents in particular and coaches, who are involved with their children in all sorts of sports and they have made this —, they have notated [sic] this with me when they come in my store that the fees are kind of high based on what they get.

Commissioner DeLoach said, let's elaborate. You've got all the numbers, let's have the numbers. Mr. Hjortsberg said, well —. Commissioner DeLoach asked, what are the rates of one as compared to the other? Mr. Hjortsberg said, okay, well, for example, what they're charging for an individual to participate in this league for about a six-week season is \$79. For that \$79, initially the USA hockey membership, which this is a USA Hockey sanctioned facility, so you're required to have that membership, was included in that fee, but subsequently they're still charging the same amount of money once you are a member, so that means \$25 more goes towards whatever it's going towards. And for that you get the use of the facility as far as like a couple of games a week for about a six-week season, you get one practice a week. Any other practices that your team wishes to schedule, you have to pay \$25 an hour to use that facility, which again is kind of an unusual situation. Commissioner DeLoach said, okay. What does the YMCA charge? Mr. Hjortsberg said, the YMCA, the last fee that I paid for my son was about \$65. Commissioner DeLoach asked, how much? Mr. Hjortsberg said, 65. Commissioner DeLoach asked, and what are they charging? Mr. Hjortsberg said, 79. Commissioner DeLoach said, okay, now —. Mr. Hjortsberg said, plus the YMCA season is longer. Commissioner DeLoach said, okay. Mr. Hjortsberg said, the YMCA season, they start sign-ups around this time, middle of February, they start preseason practices which you do not —, you can schedule as many practices as you want as long as you don't conflict with somebody else and use the YMCA facilities for your practices so you're not paying for practice time, and then you get a season which lasts from probably game time, two months, you know, one or two games a week and then a playoff at the end, so it's a little bit longer season and, you know, once you've paid the fee to get in the league that's it. You know, there are no more additional charges whether you want to practice or anything. Commissioner DeLoach asked, where do they practice? Mr. Hjortsberg asked, the YMCA? Commissioner DeLoach said, yes. Mr. Hjortsberg said, generally on their facilities, the Habersham Y practices in the Y parking lot. Down at Richmond Hill I'm not sure. The Islands Y I think either practices at the Y or they take their border patrol out down to the parking lot of Tybee where they play the games and just practice down there. But again, like I said, they're not charged to do that. Commissioner DeLoach said, okay.

Mr. Hjortsberg said, I was also told at the meeting that I had with Mr. Golden and Greg [Eng] and Joe [Turcotte] that this was not per se a public league. Mr. Golden told me that once they contracted with the Savannah Hockey and Skate Association, that was, in his estimation at that meeting, out of County hands, that it was now a private league and anything that had to do with the league went through Greg [Eng] and Joe [Turcotte], the Savannah Hockey and Skate Association. I kind of took exception to that because a private league being run on public property having been paid for largely with

public money, whether the County likes it or not, I sort of feel like the County is in a partnership with these guys. They signed a contract with them and it's on County property.

Commissioner DeLoach asked, how about the YMCA? Are we in a partnership with the YMCA? We fund the YMCA. Do they exclusively run the skating rink there as far as street hockey is concerned? Mr. Hjortsberg said, well, they don't have a specific rink. What they use —. Commissioner DeLoach said, beside that. Are we partners with that league, the YMCA? Mr. Hjortsberg said, I don't understand your question. Commissioner DeLoach said, what I'm saying is, you say it's a public league and the YMCA —, we give money to the YMCA. Mr. Hjortsberg said, correct. Commissioner DeLoach said, grant-in-aid funding. Mr. Hjortsberg said, right. Commissioner DeLoach said, all right, they in turn —, we make it their responsibility to run that "hockey program." Mr. Hjortsberg said, right. Commissioner DeLoach asked, is that any different than us funding the —, where we paid for the slab up there and having a park where we —, we do not fund this group as far as handing them the money and saying you're in business of doing hockey, we just —, I don't even know what you call it, contract with them to make the thing go. Is that any different than —, is that any different than the YMCA? Mr. Hjortsberg said, well, I think it is in a sense because you're dealing with the YMCA as a County-wide absolutely, positively not-for-profit organization. Commissioner DeLoach said, but you —. Okay, go ahead. Mr. Hjortsberg said, and this really and truly is not the case here. Commissioner DeLoach said, is that right. Chairman Hair said, Commissioner Murray has a question. Commissioner DeLoach said, okay.

Commissioner Murray said, my whole —, based on what I've heard you say so far, I think the County is wrong if this is the case in what's going on. If we took tax dollars and built a facility on County property as a County recreation center, and we've got a private group maintaining it and operating it for a profit and using that facility and not allowing other people to play and do the things they're supposed to be doing, something's wrong with the system and that's not the way I understood when I voted to put that skating rink in. I thought it was going to be open for the public to use and it would be scheduled just like any other facility through the County. Mr. Hjortsberg said, well, there are some other details here. It is open for the public to use as far as general skating when it's not being used for hockey so if anyone wants to go over there during the day to skate around on it, they're perfectly welcome to do that. Commissioner Murray asked, do we have any other facilities in Chatham County that we have built like that that a private group operates and maintains and schedules the people? Commissioner DeLoach said, the swimming pool. Commissioner Murray said, they contract out to somebody to do that. Mr. Hjortsberg said, well, the swimming pool is a little bit different —.

Chairman Hair said, I think before we get too far off the base here, I think the attorney needs to make a comment and then I'll recognize —. Mr. Hjortsberg said, excuse me. Could I just make one more point here please? Chairman Hair asked, sir? Mr. Hjortsberg asked, could I make one more point? Chairman Hair said, certainly.

Mr. Hjortsberg said, the main crux of this whole matter is this: When I said I really don't believe they're a nonprofit business, this is why. Everything that they do involving this league, and I mean virtually everything, they are very adamant about every person that signs up for this league absolutely, positively has to come into their retail store to sign up. There's a group on Wilmington Island who formed their own teams, and it says on their flyer that you can enter a team at a fee of \$700. There's a group on Wilmington Island who went into the store, and you'd be able to do this in any other sport, what they wanted to do is pick up 23 forms to take to their kids, have them fill them out. They've collected the money from the kids. They were going to write a check to the SHSA for the league fee. Greg Eng told the guy who was in there looking for those forms that each individual on both of his teams would have to come into his store to pick up those forms. He would not supply him with those forms. So they are very adamant about directing everyone into the league at least one point in time —, with their involvement in the league into their store, which obviously being that it is a fully-stocked retail store, gives them a serious advantage.

Commissioner Rivers said, Mr. Chairman, I just want to get one clarification. You know, we're getting one side of the story here. Chairman Hair said, we are. Commissioner Rivers said, Jim [Golden] is back there shaking his head. The attorney's here so —. Chairman Hair said, we are getting one side —. Commissioner Rivers said, why don't we —. Chairman Hair said, we do need to hear both sides of the story. We're only hearing one side and we'll make sure that they have as much time as they need to explain their side, but I —, Jon [Hart], you wanted to make a comment before we —, on terms of the legal agreement that we have?

County Attorney Hart said, basically this was a partnering situation. There was a recognized need for a skating rink of this type and the Commission was very positive in their putting together some type of facility where there was some private sharing with public funds for public good. We do own the rink and at the time the discussions were talked about, the question came up of who's going to run it, who's going to operate it, who's going to maintain it, and an agreement was made with a private nonprofit organization, or at least that's what they represented themselves to be, which we required them to carry the liability insurance on the rink and it was thought at time that it would be needed to have somebody to have a scheduling mechanism for the use of the facility, to collect the fee, if necessary, for the maintenance of that, and the agreement's pretty clear that that private entity could not control that rink exclusively. It had to be open to everybody, but if you had eight people show up wanting to use it at the same time, there had to be some mechanism by which that could be regulated. Now I do not know the status of truly whether that organization is nonprofit. They represented to the County of that. I've heard allegations being made here today that money is being misapplied or misspent. If they're a nonprofit organization, they have to comply with the laws regarding nonprofit organizations. A private citizen has the right to request information from that organization and to receive that organization [sic], and to require an accounting of the funds spent

in that organization. If there is a problem with the handling of that, the County certainly has the right to ask all parties to come back in, sit down and come up with some rules and regulations about the operation of the facility or else we can terminate our agreement with them, period.

Commissioner Price asked, does the County also have the right to ask for the same information? County Attorney Hart said, sure. Commissioner Price asked, and in this situation do you not deem that that would be appropriate? County Attorney Hart said, if so directed, we could ask for that type of information.

Chairman Hair said, Commissioner Odell and then Commissioner Saussy and then Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Odell said, I don't think we're going to solve it today, but [inaudible] what appears to me is that a private [sic] using County funds has literally set up a monopoly which compels everyone to come into a particular enterprise in order to join a County-sponsored —. Wait, let me finish here. Commissioner DeLoach said, I am. I'm not saying anything. Commissioner Odell said, all right —, and if that be the case, then I'm not certain if we're going to solve this today. What I would like to see, and we can debate it all week, is to have the staff to (a) take the concerns of this gentleman and (b) do an audit of the program and come back with a staff report so that if there are any —, even the appearance of impropriety, that's known to us and we can have the information, we can have both sides of the story, and we can make a decision. I don't think we can make a decision today or should be required to make one.

Chairman Hair said, I totally agree with Commissioner Odell, and I do think that this does beg, I think, maybe for an internal audit and bring this back to us. I think he's right, we could talk this thing for five hours and still not solve anything. I do think though that in all fairness since we have given one side five or ten minutes to give a side and present it to the public and the precedence here, I do think it would be appropriate to give the other two gentlemen at least, say, ten minutes to give their side and then that would be —, then take Commissioner Odell's suggestion and have the staff do that. So I think in all fairness I think we do need the other side. I'm going to give you —, he had roughly ten minutes, I'm going to give you roughly ten minutes. Is that okay with you? Mr. Turcotte said, that's fine with me. Chairman Hair said, okay, and as you're coming up I'm going to recognize —, Commissioner Saussy, is that okay with you? Commissioner Saussy said, that's what I was going to ask. Chairman Hair said, okay, and then —. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Murray. Chairman Hair said, come on up while he [inaudible].

Commissioner Murray said, that's fine. My question is, we have two examples, and I'll be glad to listen to what they have to say too, but you brought up in your comments that if you or another group uses the facilities that all of that equipment that's in there comes out and you have to supply your own or either play on the concrete. We've got another facility that we built in Chatham County, the Weightlifting Center. We built the center, they furnished the weights, and they don't make people bring their own weights in there to utilize it. They're used by whoever goes in that facility and works out. It's been done —, and they donate, they run the facility and they operate it, but they're doing a terrific job with it and I would hope that these other gentlemen would consider doing the same type thing so if they want to be a good partner with Chatham County. Otherwise, I'm not going to support their efforts.

Chairman Hair said, all right, I'm going to recognize Commissioner DeLoach for a comment and then we'll have Joe [Turcotte] and Greg [Eng] come up and say whatever they want to say.

Commissioner DeLoach said, I just wanted to —, and I'm like you, I want to make sure they get an opportunity to speak because obviously having the address on the board at the facility, we recognized as a Commission that somebody had to operate it, and it was that group that developed this. Had they not done this, we would not have that facility out there, and I think it's very important that we recognize that this is a conflict of a person who is doing business in the same business that they're in and there's a conflict there with a person coming up and saying, hey, we've got a problem here because these guys are selling hockey equipment. Well, he's got a bunch of hockey equipment he wants to sell. So we've got a conflict here also. So the point is both of these people right here are good people and so is this gentleman right here, and I don't want it to cause any ill feelings or any —, us start questioning before we really hear the full facts on all this stuff.

Chairman Hair said, I totally agree. That's why I suggested that we hear the other side and then we take the path of the staff and do it. So, Joe [Turcotte], whoever is going to speak first.

Mr. Joe Turcotte said, good morning. As you know, I came to you about —. The Clerk asked that Mr. Turcotte state his name. Mr. Turcotte said, my name is Joe Turcotte, and I'm President of the Savannah Hockey and Skate Association. As you know, about three years ago I stood in front of you with this concept and luckily over three years and constant communication with Mr. Golden and Commissioner Saussy, I got to know Mr. Lynch real well, and a lot of help behind the scenes from our attorneys and our accountants to figure out a way what I recognized from day one when I came to Savannah was Savannah didn't have a hockey rink and thinking that [inaudible] later I can't build a rink, I thought well where it's like in other cities, especially in California where I was coming from, what happened was a bunch of guys got together and approached municipalities and say, hey, look, let's work together. Especially now more than ever when government funding is tight and you guys are getting pinched constantly, I thought, well, it's going to take a little money on our part and hopefully you guys will like the concept and we can work it out. And that's kind of in a nutshell three years ago where I was with this. Since then we have incorporated a nonprofit association and we have incorporated a profit association. We have a nonprofit that's housed in a retail store. It's —, basically what the nonprofit is right now as it exists is that we have

—, had this rink built with the County and the funding wasn't there to build, you know, a state-of-the-art facility so what we're doing is we're taking donations from business people. We've had a lot of help from people like Critz, [inaudible] Savannah, Dr. Watson, Lenscrafters, Dr. Whalen [phonetic], Coca-Cola, Wendy's Hamburgers, they've all recognized how important this sport is to the community and they've stepped forward and given us money. What we've done as a nonprofit is we've taken every penny of that and put it back into the facility. As the facility sits today, we've got \$5,000 or \$6,000 surplus sitting there, we've got a new fence on the way, we've got a scoreboard on the way. We've made it a state-of-the-art facility, which when we talk about rates to play the sport, \$68 for the YMCA in a parking lot versus \$79 on a state-of-the-art facility I think the economics —, I think \$79 is cheap myself. There seems to be a lot of confusion on profit/nonprofit. Like I've said, we have incorporated a nonprofit, we have incorporated a profit. I don't —, I'm not an attorney, I'm not saying the legal, but we were advised that it was perfectly fine to have your office within the store. Economics, you know, it's cheaper. Why open a nonprofit office down the street when you can just have it in your store. Kill two birds with one stone type thing. So that's where we are today. We accept donations, we put them back into the facility. There is maintenance concerned. We'll have to put a new surface down. That's where we are.

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Price.

Commissioner Price said, I think a lot of this has to do with the fact that to register to participate in the league, there seems to be —, and the statements, and we've only heard one side of it certainly, but the requirement to come to your store to do that, and you have the team that wanted to get several copies to take back to the kids to fill out, but you indicated to them that each one of those kids and parents, or whatever, had to come to your store to get that. Why is it that the County at the Lake Mayer facility, why couldn't we distribute the registration forms at Lake Mayer? Why do we have to have that requirement that they come to your store? Another question I have is whatever that fee is, whether that's fair or not I can't really determine that at this point, the additional cost to practice on that rink over the \$25 figure that he indicated, I don't see any other league, and I participate personally and my kids participate personally in a lot of other leagues in Savannah, and there's not that —, once you pay the initial fee there's not these subsequent fees due to practice or to use the facility. What's the —, I mean, what's the justification for that additional \$25 fee to use the rink? Mr. Turcotte said, to answer your question on the forms, we're in partnership with USA In-Line. It's a national office out in Colorado. We have to do our administration, we have to —, it's a multi-copy form. We have to send them a copy along with \$25.00 for them to participate to make sure that we have that million dollar insurance policy. What we found early on in the process, and this happens everywhere, is people come in and grab forms and the next thing you know we're ordering —, we're constantly ordering forms, ordering forms, so what we decided was let's have everybody fill out the form right there because we've ordered forms, we've probably ordered five, six, seven hundred forms and gotten maybe, you know, 50 back. So we're thinking fill out all your paper work here. We have to make sure it's correct, we have to make sure it's filled out properly, and then they sign up for the program. As far as the \$25 fee, our program is set up to where we have two games a weekend and we have one practice a week, and I think that's common everywhere. One practice a week. Commissioner Price said, the accuracy of the forms and filling out the forms, I have tremendous confidence because we do this for other leagues, the County Recreation Department, and the individuals in the Recreation Department being able to assure that they are filled out correctly. I do think that there is if at least the appearance of a conflict of interest here, and I don't want to see this program by any means be stymied or slowed down. It's a great program and you know I supported it when you came to me and asked me to support it. I'm going to continue to support it, and I appreciate what you guys are doing, but what I think we have to make sure of as a County is that we're in the position that it does not appear or even a perception that is there that we are favoring one group over another or that one group has an advantage economically or in an enterprise system over another. And so I would hope that you would take this not in a threatening way by us in any way that we simply wanted to hear what both sides of the story were, and that's why I asked the County Manager to make sure you guys were here too, and that we go through this process of understanding this in more detail and if we can do an audit on what you might already have with the nonprofit organization, SHSA, so we can take a look at that, and I think that we could come to some type of agreement and understanding of how to go forward with it. Mr. Turcotte said, there's just two points I'd just like to clarify. The \$25 is a rental of the facility, that's all it is. We schedule practice and games and we have a —, we have a schedule just like the Parks people have [inaudible] at the rink. If you want to use the facility for hockey, you're a member of USA In-Line, you can use it, but there's a \$25 rental fee. That's all that is.

Commissioner Price asked, are there any other organizations besides USA In-Line, are any other leagues outside that organization that might want to use the rink? Mr. Turcotte said, what it's boiled down to in the sport of roller hockey is that when it initially started there was three or four groups out there, and what's happened was USA In-Line, which is better known than the ice hockey industry for 50 or 60 years, they've all fallen back into that. There's one national organization. They're the ones that supply the insurance. That's not to say someone else can't get the insurance, 'm just saying for in-line hockey, they're the one. When you go to regional tournaments you've got to be a member of that association. Commissioner Price said, well, we've had this program with the soccer fields. We had a problem with the youth at the aquatic center. We've had to go back in after we've gotten things open and running and, if you will, kind of fine tune the operational aspect of it, and that's really what we're here trying to do today is go back in and see if we —, what we need to do. But I'd like to move that we direct staff —, what was your first point, Harris [Odell], besides the audit? Commissioner Odell said, have the staff to investigate the concerns as articulated by Mr. Hjortsberg and provide us a recommendation and, two, to do an audit. Commissioner Price said, of USHA [sic]? Commissioner Odell said, right. Commissioner Price said, I so move. Chairman Hair said, I have a motion. Do I have a second? Commissioner DeLoach said, second.

Chairman Hair said, before we vote on the motion I'd just —, I think I would be remiss if I didn't say I think Joe [Turcotte] and Greg [Eng] really did a lot of work. This facility would not be there if it weren't for these two gentlemen right here. I can tell you, it would never happen, and I want to make sure we clearly understand that. Greg [Eng] was talking about, you know, when I buy my lottery tickets, you know, from him, of course he hasn't given me any winning lottery tickets. I should just get one of them [inaudible], but —, but, I mean, I have been a supporter of this. It's a wonderful facility and it's a great addition to Chatham County, and I want to make sure that anything that's said today does not in any way take away from the work that these two gentlemen have done. Commissioner DeLoach said, I agree. Chairman Hair said, they have done a tremendous job and they deserve a lot of credit for what they've done, so —. Commissioner DeLoach said, and I think Jim Golden wants to make a comment also. Chairman Hair said, absolutely.

Commissioner Rivers said, to either Joe [Turcotte] or Greg [Eng], what would be the possibility and would it be too much of a problem for you to register people out of the Chatham County Recreation Department at Lake Mayer? Is that a —. Mr. Turcotte said, I keep —, all I keep thinking about is our lease agreement with the County, and the last paragraph explains everything. I'm not an attorney, I can't, you know —. Commissioner Rivers said, I'm not talking about the lease agreement or anything. I'm asking you a simple question: Does it present a problem for you to register your participants through the Chatham County Recreation Department? Mr. Turcotte said, I don't see a problem, I just think there ought to be some perimeters set up, that's all. Maybe some procedures.

Chairman Hair said, Commissioner Murray and then we need to do a vote on the motion.

Commissioner Murray said, Jon [Hart], when you're going through the process you can look at this if you want to. My only question is you said you had two groups, one nonprofit and one for profit. I just would like to see a breakdown of which one's which and where the money's going when it's taken in for anything to do with this soccer [sic] rink, and I want that to be a part of what y'all are —. Chairman Hair said, we'll make that part of the —.

County Manager Abolt said, I'd like to emphasize what you said, Mr. Chairman and Commissioner Price, for the benefit of the news media. This is before you because it was brought in this fashion. This is no different than soccer, swimming or the Weightlifting Center. In all cases, the fine tuning was done, the improvements were made. You did not have the notoriety here, but for the benefit of the news media, this is not an issue of major consequence. It can be resolved. Commissioner DeLoach said, ten-four.

Chairman Hair asked, do you want to say anything else quickly, Greg [Eng] or, Jim [Golden], do you want to say anything real quick. We're ready to vote on the motion? Jim [Golden], do you want to say anything quickly?

Mr. Jim Golden said, Mr. Chairman, I'd like to think that I'm down [inaudible]. We have a variety of individuals, whether they're private groups, community, civics, or whatever, sponsoring, co-sponsoring various functions. We have the remote cars, remote boats, we have the remote airplanes, we have the BMX tracks still under a contract of this similar, which is a part of our goal to obtain quality assistance to enhance the recreational services. It's no different that I see the athletic clubs, they've got sponsor groups charging admission, using the County facilities. In this sense here, this was co-sponsored finance involved. We have some groups who donate land to build facilities and operate and maintain it. We had a situation where we had bicycle shops, an individual running a BMX track at Lake Mayer and also at Stell Park. This is the first time that I've been involved with the [inaudible] of private enterprise of someone else doing the same business and then you've got a complaint, and when I got involved with it and heard about it, I called the two gentlemen in and we sat down and talked. I realize it was a legal problem, but we have an agreement with the situation, and I can tell you we don't have any problem individually operating or maintaining the management. Our focus is public use. As long as they meet the requirements, they have a chart there of what you have to wear. There's no schedule there. They have to submit us a schedule. The public comes in to use it, staff checks out to see if they meet those requirements so far as safety and whatever have you, so we're right down the middle working with a gaggle of volunteer groups to do many things, and when it's time to bring up an agreement that it's a conflict in the agreement, a violation of the agreement, we can get that straightened out. We work with them.

Chairman Hair said, thank you, Mr. Golden. I appreciate that. Okay, we have a motion and a second on the floor. All those in favor of the motion vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Price moved to direct staff to investigate the concerns regarding the Savannah Hockey and Skate Association and provide us a recommendation and to do an audit of the nonprofit association to determine where donations have been applied. Commissioner DeLoach seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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VIII. TABLED/POSTPONED ITEMS

Unless action is contemplated at today's meeting, staff report and file material has not been duplicated in your agenda packet. The files are available from the Clerk. Those on which staff is requesting action are indicated by asterisk (*).

None.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Hair said, I think now is the time we've arrived to go into Executive Session, and for what purpose, Mr. Abolt? County Manager Abolt said, my understanding, sir, and I want to make sure before I mention it. It would be just for the one item and the balance of other items will be handled later on. Chairman Hair said, I think we need to do them all probably while we're there. Mr. Hart, not —, let's just go ahead and do them all. County Manager Abolt said, land acquisition, litigation and personnel. Chairman Hair said, all right, we need a motion and a second.

Commissioner Murray moved that the Board go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing land acquisition, litigation and personnel. Commissioner DeLoach seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Following conclusion of the Executive Session, the meeting of the Board of Commissioners reconvened.

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IX. ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL ACTION

(Unless the Board directs otherwise, adoption of an Action Item will mean approval of the respective County staff report and its recommended action.)

1. **REQUEST BOARD APPROVE THE FOLLOWING: ONE PERCENT SALES TAX EXTENSION FUND (1993-1998) CONTINGENCY TRANSFERS OF \$33,800 TO THE TATEMVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER PROJECT AND \$30,450 FOR LIBRARY LEASE AGREEMENT NOT TO EXCEED SIX MONTHS AT \$5,075 PER MONTH AND A RESERVE FOR SPECIFIED PROJECTS TRANSFER OF \$75,000 FOR AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF PORT WENTWORTH FOR THE RELOCATION OF WATER AND SEWER LINES IMPACTED BY THE BONNY BRIDGE ROAD INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS; A CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FUND BUDGET AMENDMENT TO RECOGNIZE LEASE PROCEEDS OF \$200,000 FOR A LONG REACH TRACK EXCAVATOR FOR PUBLIC WORKS, \$300,000 FOR A MCDONALD DOUGLAS 500E HELICOPTER FOR MOSQUITO CONTROL AND \$225,000 FOR A SEWER CLEANER FOR PUBLIC WORKS; A GENERAL FUND M & O CONTINGENCY TRANSFER OF \$20,150 TO ANDERSON COHEN WEIGHTLIFTING CENTER FOR INCREASE IN CONTRACTUAL RATE AND A BUDGET AMENDMENT TO RECOGNIZE AN ADDITIONAL \$75,270 LIBRARY REIMBURSEMENT REVENUE FOR EFFINGHAM, LIBERTY AND STATE FUNDED POSITION SALARIES.**

Commissioner DeLoach said, so moved. Chairman Hair said, I have a motion. Is there a second? Commissioner Odell said, second. Chairman Hair said, second. Any discussion? All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers, Murray and Price were not present.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve the following: One Percent Sales Tax Extension Fund (1993-1998) Contingency transfers of \$33,800 to the Tatemville Community Center project and \$30,450 for Library lease agreement not to exceed six months at \$5,075 per month and a Reserve for Specified Projects transfer of \$75,000 for agreement with the City of Port Wentworth for the relocation of water and sewer lines impacted by the Bonny Bridge Road intersection improvements; a Capital Improvement Program Fund Budget Amendment to recognize lease proceeds of \$200,000 for

a Long Reach Track Excavator for Public Works, \$300,000 for a McDonald Douglas 500E Helicopter for Mosquito Control and \$225,000 for a Sewer Cleaner for Public Works; a General Fund M & O Contingency transfer of \$20,150 to Anderson Cohen Weightlifting Center for increase in contractual rate and a Budget Amendment to recognize an additional \$75,270 Library reimbursement revenue for Effingham, Liberty and State funded position salaries. Commissioner Odell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers, Murray and Price were not present.]

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2. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE THE FIRST NOTE RESOLUTION FOR THE TAX ANTICIPATION NOTES FOR FISCAL YEAR 1999 FOR THE GENERAL FUND AND SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT FUND TOTALING \$8.2 MILLION (GENERAL FUND \$7.1 MILLION AND SSD \$1.1 MILLION).

County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, Dr. Thomas, as you know from the staff report previously distributed, we had to fill in the blanks. The bids were submitted yesterday evening at five o'clock to your financial adviser. I'm pleased to report that on your desk right now is a recommendation to award to Wachovia Bank for the amount the Chairman has indicated at the interest rate of three percent.

Commissioner DeLoach said, so moved. Chairman Hair asked, second? Commissioner Saussy said, second. Chairman Hair asked, any discussion? All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers, Murray and Price were not present.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve the resolution to award the 1999 Tax Anticipation Notes to Wachovia Bank for the General Fund and Special Service District Fund totaling \$8.2 million (General Fund \$7.1 million and Special Service District \$1.1 million) at the rate of three percent (3%), and authorize the Chairman to sign all related closing documents. Commissioner Saussy seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers, Murray and Price were not present.]

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3. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE THE NAME OF THE TRADE CENTER AND ITS MAIN SPACES.

Commissioner DeLoach said, so move. Chairman Hair said, I have a motion. Do I have a second? Commissioner Saussy asked, could we have a little bit of discussion on this? Commissioner Thomas said, yes. Chairman Hair said, all right, let's get a second. Commissioner Jackel said, I'll second. Chairman Hair said, all right we have a motion and a second. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Saussy.

Commissioner Saussy said, let me find my notes. Some of the names they came up with —, I don't have it in front of me now, but —. Commissioner Jackel said, Savannah International Trade and Convention Center. Commissioner Saussy said, well, that's okay. Some of the other names they came up with, I think we need to put a little bit more history in them instead of naming it like they've got it. Georgia International Square, let's see, Trade Center Square. That name doesn't do much for me. I think we need to have something in there Tomochichi.

Chairman Hair said, well, what we might want to do, Commissioner Saussy, and correct me, Pat [Monahan], if I can't do this, but we might —, we would still —, wouldn't we have the right at some point in the future change them if we wanted to?

Mr. Patrick Monahan said, the only problem is we have reached a point in the project where we have started the signage program, the graphics and the signage program, and the graphics program is a little bit expensive, so if we go through changing names, then we have to change the graphics program. It's not just a matter of putting it on the front, on the door, it's located throughout the building, you've got computer kiosks involved, you've got maps involved, so that's —, that would be the only area of hesitancy.

Chairman Hair said, I don't have any problems with the names. If Commissioner Saussy is the only one, we probably need to —. Commissioner Jackel said, no, no, no. I don't —. Commissioner Saussy said, I think also one of the other things we need, we were so much involved with getting this thing built and done and funded, I think something ought to be named the Commissioners Square or something like that.

Mr. Monahan said, you might be interested in knowing now at the entrance to the building there will be a bronze plaque that's erected that recognizes the contributions of all the Commissioners who have participated in this project and, Lord knows, there have been a bunch, as well as the Governor, Zell Miller, who was very instrumental in the \$18 million in State contribution and our legislative delegation. Chairman Hair asked, do we also have recognition in there for Commissioner

Shackelford and Tom Triplett? Mr. Monahan said, yes, we do. Chairman Hair asked, both of those names are on there? Mr. Monahan said, yes sir. We've already planned to recognize the contributions of the Department of Transportation and those two gentlemen in particular, as well as some others who have participated in the project.

Commissioner Odell asked, how was this name listing determined? Did the Trade Center Board do that? Mr. Monahan said, yes, the Trade Center Authority did it. More in the sense of —. Commissioner Odell said, so this is not just one person —. Mr. Monahan said, no sir. It's a matter of I gave them some suggestions, some general areas to look at, historical names. They actually came up with the idea of the flowers. We had looked at the idea of naming each one of the board rooms after a municipality, but unfortunately we just don't have enough spaces, like to have the Pooler and the Garden —, we've have to leave a couple out, and that was —. Commissioner Odell asked, how long was this —, you've answered. If you were answering my question, you've answered it. How long of a process has this been? Have we been doing this for a month or two months or —? Mr. Monahan said, about a year. Commissioner Odell said, about a year. Commissioner Jackel said, I would like —. Commissioner Odell said, I'm not finished. Chairman Hair said, you know how these lawyers are. Commissioner Odell asked, why didn't we have an opportunity —, if we need to make an approval we'll have to [inaudible]? Mr. Monahan said, you don't have to do it today. You don't have to do it today.

Chairman Hair said, what I was going to suggest we do, let me suggest something. I think, since several of you have concerns, why don't we do this, why don't you write your concerns down and submit them to the Manager, who can submit them to the Assistant Manager, and let them negotiate that and go back and meet with them and express the concerns of the Commission and say the Commission wants these things recognized and then bring them back to us a list that reflects that. Commissioner DeLoach said, okay.

Commissioner Jackel said, let me say something here. I'm looking at this list here and, you know, I realize I'm intellectually challenged, but when I go to airports and I go to hospitals and other places and the signs confuse me, I say who else is confused, a lot of people must be confused. Now when I look at this list, I have to wonder who came up with Boardroom A is Camellia, but Boardroom D is Azalea. It seems like Boardroom A should be Azalea, and it seems like Boardroom C should be Camellia. I mean, if you're talking about having a list that won't confuse people, and that's —. Chairman Hair said, well, I'm already confused. Commissioner Jackel said, I mean, how hard is that. Mr. Monahan said, when you see the signs to give directions, it will say Boardroom A. You will not see that it's the Camellia Boardroom until you get there and there's —, it will say Camellia on there and there might be a stained glass of a camellia. Commissioner Jackel said, that is confusing too. You guys need to consult [inaudible] because the material's going to go out we're going to meet in the Camellia Boardroom and they're going to get there and all they're going to see is A or C or whatever. Mr. Monahan said, no, they're going to say —. Commissioner Jackel said, you need to be consistent in your pattern and if you're going to use A, line it with a C, but aside from that, we are a historic city and we've got —, we ought to stress our history in this function, and we have —, the names are in our squares and General Pulaski, I don't see that anywhere on here, Tomochichi was mentioned, and I think that would be more appropriate and it would also suggest, you know, that we keep in mind the things like that. We already have the Oglethorpe Auditorium. East Square is just a —, Trade Center Square, I think a more distinguished name would do better than Trade Center, but, you know, I just have to wonder when Room A is Camellia and Room D is Azalea.

Chairman Hair said, well, we'll make sure —. Sybil [Tillman], make sure that's recorded in the minutes so we can express that, but I think that is appropriate. All of you, if you have concerns, you should write them down and give them to the Manager and we'll negotiate that with the Trade Center and bring it back at another time, Pat [Monahan], okay. Mr. Monahan said, yes sir. Chairman Hair said, so we're not —.

Commissioner DeLoach said, let's do keep in mind that what is historic right here in the City of Savannah might not necessarily be historic and meaningful in the world, and we're trying to get the world here not the folks from the City of Savannah. Commissioner Saussy said, we want the world to know about what's historic here. Commissioner Jackel said, that's correct. Chairman Hair said, and also I think it's important to point out though that while this is housed across the river, these other municipalities of Chatham County are supporting this facility with their sales tax money, Port Wentworth and Pooler and Garden City, and I think it's important so, you know, we don't want to leave them out as well. Chairman Hair said, okay, so we're going to proceed with that.

County Attorney Hart said, Mr. Chairman, are you going to make a motion to table that until —. Commissioner DeLoach said, so moved. Commissioner Saussy said, second. Chairman Hair said, all those in favor of tabling vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Murray and Price were not present.] Chairman Hair said, the motion is tabled.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

1. Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve the name of the Trade Center and its main spaces . Commissioner Jackel seconded the motion.
2. Commissioner DeLoach moved to table this item with direction that all Commissioners submit their suggestions to the County Manager for ultimately being submitted to the Trade Center Authority for negotiation and that a list then

be brought back to the Commissioners for approval. Commissioner Saussy seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Murray and Price were not present.]

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4. REQUEST BOARD ADOPT A POLICY REGARDING ANY SPECIAL EVENT USE OF GRAND PRIZE OF AMERICA AVENUE (HUTCHINSON ISLAND LOOP ROAD) DURING 1999.

Commissioner DeLoach asked, that's dead, right? County Manager Abolt said, no sir, this is policy. It's a policy decision we ask you to make which in effect would allow us to continue to close Grand Prize of America —. Commissioner DeLoach said, so moved. Commissioner Saussy said, second. Chairman Hair said, we have a motion and a second. All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Murray and Price were not present.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved to adopt a policy confirming the continued closing of Grand Prize of America Avenue (Hutchinson Island Loop Road) for any special events in 1999, except recognizing the contractual obligation under the agreement with the Colonial Motorsports Group or its assigns. Commissioner Saussy seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Murray and Price were not present.]

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5. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL FOR MINOR STAFF RESTRUCTURING, DELETING ELEVEN (11) POSITIONS TO FUND CREATION OF FOUR (4) NEW POSITIONS.

Commissioner Jackel said, I move to approve. Commissioner Thomas said, second. All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. All those in favor —.

Mr. Timothy Mackey said, may I request, Mr. Chairman, before you pass that —. Chairman Hair said, please come forward. Mr. Mackey said, Timothy Mackey, Citizens for Library Preservation. Mr. Chairman, good morning. The very first thing, we had absolutely no idea that this had to do with the Library and it does, and again I am coming to tell the Board that these positions that are on tap for restructuring will delete from the manning of inner city libraries and further, and exacerbate the early closing and the killing of these branches. Chairman Hair said, well, Mr. Mackey, we already have in place the money cannot be drawn down if they close those libraries. So whether —, regardless of what they restructure the positions, they still can't get the money. Mr. Mackey said, well, Mr. Chairman, let me tell you —, if you would allow me, sir. With all due respect to the Chair, you were talked about like a dog in the last library meeting, and I'm you had to —. Chairman Hair said, I'm a politician, I'm used to —. Mr. Mackey said, hold up, let me tell you that. I understand, you say you're used to it and that's fine, but, you know, when I come to a meeting and I came here to this meeting on December 18th of 1998 and listened to what the mandate of the Commission was regarding that \$400,000, you know, all of a sudden Mr. Kaster said that when he asked you about the \$400,000 that you gave him a flip answer. You gave him a flip answer and that was not your intention for the money, and he said that. That's on tape, and he said that it wasn't the Commission's authority basically to tell them where to put this \$400,000, and that's not his understanding, that wasn't where it was supposed to go. He's got a problem with that. Now that was my understanding and that was everybody else's understanding, but again I'm telling you that there is so much going on in this board that you —, and the matter were not knowledge of until you've got a one-man show from Mr. Kaster, who is just totally nonsense —, totally insensitive to the public. I mean, I understand his corporate attitude, but it means nothing when you come down to the community. The community is in outrage again. Chairman Hair said, well, I think it's important to point out, Mr. Mackey, that our role with respect to the library is a budgetary role only. Mr. Mackey said, I understand. Chairman Hair said, by law we can't tell them to close and what not to close, but we can control the money. We do have to vote on the money. That's in the law. So we do control the budget, but we cannot control their actions, and so that much is true. So to my knowledge none of that money has been drawn down because it has to come to us as an agenda item, and it's not on this money —. That money is not available to them until they come to us as an agenda item and tell us what they're going to spend it for. Mr. Mackey said, Mr. Chairman, I'm not so sure they're going to come to you this year, and that is deliberate and it's planned, and I said that on December 18th, and I'm saying it again for matter of the record now and I understand, Mr. Chairman, that you guys have just budgetary limitations only, and I respect that and I respect the Chair, but I also want you to know that I remember a task force or a board that not too long ago forgot who appointed them to be a board, and this is the exact same thing where we are now. These people are conniving, they're slick and they do not stop. And if they want to outrage a community like they are, that's fine and whatever repercussions come, that is fine, but I'm telling you that the actions of the board led by Mr. Kaster, which is a one-man show, that it's going to have some serious —, it's going to be reverberated back into the community.

Chairman Hair said, okay, I appreciate your comments very much. I really do. I just want you to understand what our —. Mr. Mackey said, I understand. Chairman Hair said, we can control the money, and that's all we can control. Commissioner Saussy said, call the question. Mr. Mackey said, you understand that these 11 positions that they're restructuring, they will be drawn from these inner city libraries and they will be choked off and killed.

Commissioner Thomas said, question. Commissioner Saussy said, the question's been called. Commissioner Thomas said, I still want to ask a question. Chairman Hair said, let's let Dr. Thomas —. Commissioner Saussy said, all right. Commissioner Thomas said, I want to know if this is related to the library why wasn't it stated in the form, in that form. Number 5, it doesn't say anything about libraries, it just says approve for minor staff restructuring.

County Manager Abolt said, if I may —. Chairman Hair asked, you can respond to that? County Manager Abolt said, it's purely an oversight. I noticed it for the first time when the Chairman read it. The staff report does speak to it. It is very specific as to how it will affect inner city libraries and the testimony from Mr. Dickerson.. I apologize for the loss of one word in the agenda title, but the staff report is very expansive on the subject. Commissioner Thomas said, okay.

Chairman Hair said, we have a call for the question. Commissioner Rivers said, Mr. Chairman, I'll move to table until we can get clarification. Chairman Hair said, we have a motion. Do we have a second? Commissioner Thomas said second. Chairman Hair said, second. All those in favor to table vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Murray and Price were not present.] Chairman Hair said, the motion is tabled. Thank you.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

1. Commissioner Saussy moved to approve the request for minor staff restructuring of the Chatham County Library, deleting eleven (11) positions to fund the creation of four (4) new positions. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion.
2. Commissioner Rivers moved to table this item until the Board gets clarification on the request by the Library for staff restructuring. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Murray and Price were not present.]

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6. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL TO WAIVE THE 90-DAY HIRING FREEZE AND AUTHORIZE HUMAN RESOURCES TO ADVERTISE POSITIONS THAT THE DEPARTMENT DEEMS MORE COST EFFICIENT TO FILL.

- **CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT - CHILD SUPPORT SPECIALIST (1 POSITION)**
- **INSPECTIONS - SITE PLAN REVIEWER (1 POSITION)**
- **PUBLIC WORKS - CREW CHIEF (2 POSITIONS); OPERATOR I (1 POSITION)**

Chairman Hair said, the first one is Child Support Enforcement, Child Support Specialist I (one position). Is someone here to explain that? No one. Okay, I'll entertain a motion. Commissioner Jackel said, I move to approve. Chairman Hair said, move to approve. Do I have a second? Commissioner Saussy said, I'll second. Chairman Hair said, all those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Murray and Price were not present.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

Chairman Hair said, the next one is Inspections, Site Plan Reviewer (one position). Chairman Hair recognized, Mr. Anderson.

Mr. Gregori Anderson said, thank you. I've just received our recent resignation of our current Site Plan Reviewer, who's relocating out of the community. We do have, as indicated in the staff report, a very high volume that we are processing through the Inspections Department right now. We're experiencing a record number of permits that we're issuing, inspections that we're issuing every day. Any delay in filling this position would have an adverse affect in the design and renewal of the community, and we're asking to have it waive.

Commissioner DeLoach said, so moved. Chairman Hair said, I have a motion. Do I have a second? Commissioner Jackel said, second. Chairman Hair said, all those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

Chairman Hair said, the next one, Public Works, Crew Chief (two positions), Operator I (1 position).

Mr. Robert Drewry said, good morning. These positions recently became vacant because we were able to promote within. I currently have one Crew Chief and three Operator I positions that are vacant and have satisfied the 90-day hiring freeze, but I wanted to include this group in my current search.

Chairman Hair said, the Chair will entertain a motion. Commissioner DeLoach said, so moved. Commissioner Jackel said, second. Chairman Hair said, second. All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Saussy did not cast a vote either in the affirmative or in opposition; Commissioners Murray and Price were not present.]

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

1. Commissioner Jackel moved to approve waiver of the 90-day hiring freeze and authorize the Human Resources to advertise: Child Support Enforcement - Child Support Specialist I (1 position). Commissioner Saussy seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Murray and Price were not present.]
2. Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve waiver of the 90-day hiring freeze and authorize the Human Resources to advertise: Inspections - Site Plan Reviewer (1 position). Commissioner Jackel seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Murray and Price were not present.]
3. Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve waiver of the 90-day hiring freeze and authorize the Human Resources to advertise: Public Works - Crew Chief (2 positions); Operator I (1 position). Commissioner Jackel seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Saussy did not cast a vote either in the affirmative or in opposition to this motion; Commissioners Murray and Price were not present.]

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X. ACTION CALENDAR

(The Board can entertain one motion to adopt the below-listed calendar. Such motion would mean adoption of staff's recommendation. Any Board Member may choose to pull an item from the calendar and it would be considered separately.)

Chairman Hair said, does anybody want to take anything off the Action Calendar. Okay, the Chair will entertain a motion to approve the Action —. Commissioner DeLoach said, so moved. Chairman Hair said, motion. Second? Do I have a second? Commissioner Odell said, I'll second. Chairman Hair said, all those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Murray and Price were not present.]

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved that the Action Calendar be approved in its entirety. Commissioner Odell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Murray and Price were not present.]

[NOTE: ACTION OF THE BOARD IS SHOWN ON EACH ITEM AS THOUGH AN INDIVIDUAL MOTION WAS MADE THEREON.]

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1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING ON FEBRUARY 5, 1999, AS MAILED.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on February 5, 1999, as mailed. Commissioner Odell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Murray and Price were not present.]

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2. CLAIMS VS. CHATHAM COUNTY FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 29 THROUGH FEBRUARY 10, 1999.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved that the Finance Director is authorized to pay claims for the period January 29, 1999, through February 10, 1999, in the amount of \$4,294,752. Commissioner Odell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Murray and Price were not present.]

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- 3. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL FOR A STREETLIGHTING PLAN AND ASSESSMENT RATE DISTRICT FOR BURROUGH'S VILLAGE SUBDIVISION.
[DISTRICT 6.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve the request for a streetlighting plan and assessment rate district for Burrough's Village Subdivision. Commissioner Odell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Murray and Price were not present.]

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- 4. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE AN EARLY ACQUISITION REQUEST FOR PROPERTY OWNED BY GERTRUDE TORLEY, 9220 WHITFIELD AVENUE, TRUMAN PARKWAY, PHASE IV.
[DISTRICT 1.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve an early acquisition request for property owned by Gertrude Torley, 9220 Whitfield Avenue, Truman Parkway, Phase IV. Commissioner Odell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Murray and Price were not present.]

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- 5. REQUEST BOARD AUTHORIZE ENTERING INTO AGREEMENTS WITH THE MUNICIPALITIES OF GARDEN CITY, POOLER AND SAVANNAH FOR FUNDING THE OPERATION, MAINTENANCE AND ANNUAL ENERGY COSTS OF LIGHTING THE INTERCHANGE AT INTERSTATE 16 AND DEAN FOREST ROAD.
[DISTRICT 7.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved to authorize entering into agreements with the municipalities of Garden City, Pooler and Savannah for funding the operation, maintenance and annual energy costs of lighting the interchange at I-16 and Dean Forest Road. Commissioner Odell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Murray and Price were not present.]

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- 6. REQUEST BOARD AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN AND CLERK TO SIGN AN APPLICATION FOR A TRAFFIC SIGNAL PERMIT AS REQUIRED BY GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND FOR ACCEPTANCE OF MAINTAINING THE TRAFFIC SIGNAL AT SR 204/ABERCORN STREET AND PINE GROVE ROAD UPON INSTALLATION BY GDOT.
[DISTRICTS 6 AND 7.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved to authorize the Chairman and Clerk to sign an application for a traffic signal permit as required by Georgia Department of Transportation and for acceptance of maintaining the traffic signal at SR 204/Abercorn Street and Pine Grove Road upon installation by GDOT. Commissioner Odell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Murray and Price were not present.]

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7. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE THE USE OF NON-MATCHING FUNDS FROM THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY TO FUND PROJECT IMPACT.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve the use of non-matching funds from the Federal Emergency Management Agency to fund Project Impact. Commissioner Odell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Murray and Price were not present.]

NOTE: Having voted on the prevailing side, reconsideration of Item 7 has been requested by Commissioner Saussy.

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8. REQUEST FOR NEW LICENSE FOR RETAIL SALES OF BEER AND WINE FOR 1999. PETITIONER: KAREN SUE REID BELL, D/B/A ZIP-N BEVERAGE CENTER #2, LOCATED AT 2505 FORT ARGYLE ROAD. [DISTRICT 7.]

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve the request of Petitioner Karen Sue Reid Bell, d/b/a Zip-N Beverage Center #2, located at 2505 Fort Argyle Road, for a new license for retail sales of beer and wine for 1999. Commissioner Odell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Murray and Price were not present.]

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9. REQUEST FOR NEW LICENSE FOR RETAIL SALES OF LIQUOR FOR 1999. PETITIONER: KAREN SUE REID BELL, D/B/A E-Z LIQUORS #2, LOCATED AT 2505 FORT ARGYLE ROAD. [DISTRICT 7.]

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve the request of Petitioner Karen Sue Reid Bell, d/b/a E-Z Liquors #2, located at 2505 Fort Argyle Road, for a new license for retail sales of liquor for 1999. Commissioner Odell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Murray and Price were not present.]

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10. REQUESTS FOR NEW LICENSE FOR BEER AND WINE POURING FOR 1999.

- A. PETITIONER: LOUIS W. KIETZMAN, D/B/A BULL RIVER YACHT CLUB MARINA, INC., LOCATED AT 8005 TYBEE ROAD. [DISTRICT 4.]**
- B. PETITIONER: SURENDRA PATEL, D/B/A DENNY'S RESTAURANT, LOCATED AT ONE GATEWAY BOULEVARD. [DISTRICT 7.]**
- C. PETITIONER: MAEYU C. WU, D/B/A HUNAN'S RESTAURANT, LOCATED AT 318 JOHNNY MERCER BOULEVARD. [DISTRICT 4.]**
- D. PETITIONER: JOHN GERACA, D/B/A GIOVANNI'S ITALIAN RESTAURANT, LOCATED AT 1 FORT ARGYLE ROAD. [DISTRICT 6.]**
- E. PETITIONER: ALAN C. CALE, D/B/A HENDERSON GOLF CLUB, LOCATED AT 1 AL HENDERSON DRIVE. [DISTRICT 7.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve Items 10-A through 10-E, both inclusive. Commissioner Odell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [Note: Commissioners Murray and Price were not present.]

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11. REQUESTS FOR RENEWAL OF SUNDAY SALES OF BEER, WINE AND LIQUOR POURING LICENSE FOR 1999.
- A. PETITIONER: RAYMUNDO L. JAMIE, D/B/A EL POTRO MEXICAN RESTAURANT #14, WITHIN THE ECONOLodge MOTEL AT 7 GATEWAY BOULEVARD. [DISTRICT 7.]
 - B. PETITIONER: STEPHEN A. GROVE, D/B/A APPLEBEE'S NEIGHBORHOOD GRILL & BAR, LOCATED AT 4705 U.S. HIGHWAY 80 EAST. [DISTRICT 4.]
 - C. PETITIONER: STEPHEN A. GROVE, D/B/A APPLEBEE'S NEIGHBORHOOD GRILL & BAR, LOCATED AT 5460 AUGUSTA ROAD. [DISTRICT 7.]
 - D. PETITIONER: MARY ELIZABETH GARRETT, D/B/A THE SHELL HOUSE RESTAURANT, LOCATED AT 8 GATEWAY BOULEVARD, WEST. [DISTRICT 7.]
 - E. PETITIONER: JUANA L. DELATORRE PICAZO, D/B/A CANCUN MEXICAN RESTAURANT II, LOCATED AT 216 JOHNNY MERCER BOULEVARD. [DISTRICT 4.]
 - F. PETITIONER: BELINDA F. FLANIGAN, D/B/A THE CRAB SHACK AT CHIMNEY CREEK, LOCATED AT 4-A ESTILL HAMMOCK ROAD. [DISTRICT 4.]
 - G. PETITIONER: MICHAEL J. BYRNE, D/B/A DEER CREEK CLUB, LOCATED AT 1 DEER CREEK ROAD, THE LANDINGS. [DISTRICT 4.]
 - H. PETITIONER: MICHAEL J. BYRNE, D/B/A MARSHWOOD COUNTRY CLUB, LOCATED AT 11 WESTCROSS, THE LANDINGS. [DISTRICT 4.]
 - I. MICHAEL J. BYRNE, D/B/A OAKRIDGE CLUB, LOCATED AT 11 WESTCROSS, THE LANDINGS. [DISTRICT 4.]
 - J. MICHAEL J. BYRNE, D/B/A PLANTATION CLUB, LOCATED AT 1 COTTONWOOD DRIVE. [DISTRICT 4.]
 - K. PETITIONER: PANAGIOTIS A. KIRIAKOS, D/B/A SNAPPERS SEAFOOD RESTAURANT, LOCATED AT 104 BRYAN WOODS ROAD. [DISTRICT 4.]
 - L. PETITIONER: SUSAN E. BEDNARCZYK, D/B/A UNION STATION BAR & GRILL, LOCATED AT 2130 NORWOOD AVENUE. [DISTRICT 3.]
 - M. PETITIONER: AURRIE BELLE WRIGHT, D/B/A WILMINGTON ISLAND CLUB, FORMERLY THE SHERATON SAVANNAH INN, LOCATED AT 612 WILMINGTON ISLAND ROAD. [DISTRICT 4.]
 - N. PETITIONER: ALVIN S. HIRSCH, D/B/A BIG AL'S BAR-B-Q, INC., LOCATED AT 300 JOHNNY MERCER BOULEVARD. [DISTRICT 4.]

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve Items 11-A through 11-N, both inclusive. Commissioner Odell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Murray and Price were not present.]

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12. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL TO AWARD BIDS AS FOLLOWS: (Please note that new purchase thresholds of \$10,000 or more have been enacted; however, contracts and change orders of a lesser amount still will appear.)

ITEM	DEPT.	SOURCE	AMOUNT	FUNDING
A. First renewal option to annual contract to provide cost allocation services and to recognize the change in the name of the firm	Finance	Karp, Ronning, Arkin & Tindol, P.C.	\$8,800	General Fund/M & O - Audit Contract Account
B. Annual contract, with option to renew for two additional one year terms, to provide a community service work program to youth under the jurisdiction of Juvenile Court	Juvenile Court	Marshlands, Inc.	Not to exceed \$12,000 per year	Restricted Account - Supervision Fees - Juvenile Court

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
C. First renewal option to annual contract to provide various high volume paper and chemical products	•Detention Center •Southside Warehouse	Doyle Chemical and Supply	Same terms and conditions	•General Fund/M & O - Various •SSD - Various
D. Change Order No. 4 to the contract to provide design services to improve the tidegate on Placentia Canal Storm Water System for additional services associated with the project	Engineering	Hussey, Gay, Bell and DeYoung	\$8,000	CIP - 1999 Drainage (pending Board approval of carryovers)
E. Renewal of lease for office space	Police	Mahia K. Wilson	\$12,300	SSD - Police
F. Agreement for relocation of water and sewer lines impacted by Bonny Bridge Road (SR30, SR21 & SR25) Intersection Improvement	SPLOST	City of Port Wentworth	\$75,000	SPLOST (1993-1998) - Reserve for specified projects (pending transfer)
G. Annual contract, with renewal options for two additional one-year terms, for drop-off/recycle attendants at Chevis Road, Sharon Park and Wilmington Island Recycle/Drop-off centers	Solid Waste	•Leon Gardner (Chevis Road) •Retha Scruggs (Sharon Park) •Phelps Painting (Wilmington Island)	•\$900 per month •\$1,500 per month •\$1,600 per month	Solid Waste Management Fund
H. Five (5) Motorola 800MHz radios	EMS	Motorola, Inc. (sole source)	\$14,000	General Fund/M & O - EMS
I. Annual price agreement for "Biomist 4+4"	Mosquito Control	Clarke Mosquito Control Products (sole source)	\$30.50 per gallon	General Fund/M & O - Mosquito Control
J. Agreement to relocate the substation which serves Georgia Regional Hospital from the path of Truman Parkway, Phase III	SPLOST	Savannah Electric and Power	\$94,535	SPLOST (1985-1993) - Truman Parkway Phase III
K. One (1) woodwaste reduction grinder and additional consumable parts	Solid Waste	Bandit Industries	\$192,332	Lease Proceeds
L. Change Order No. 2 to the contract for right-of-way acquisition services for additional services	SPLOST	Moreland Altobelli Associates	\$3,250	SPLOST (1993-1998) - Right-of-way Consultants
M. The Millennium Information Suite hardware and software	Commissioners	Consolidated Media Systems	\$40,960	General Fund/M & O - Commissioners
N. Change Order No. 1 to the travel services contract to permit a service charge of \$10 for each airline ticket transaction	Finance	Four Seasons Travel	\$1,580 per year	•General Fund/M & O - Various •SSD - Various
O. Professional Service Contract for design/engineering of a band shell (alternate location)	SPLOST - Band Shell	BGA Design	\$58,000	SPLOST (1993-1998) - Band Shell

ITEM	DEPT.	SOURCE	AMOUNT	FUNDING
P. Change Order No. 1 to the contract increasing the hourly rate for operation of the Weightlifting Center from \$38.78 to \$45.00 per hour effective 22 February 1999	Anderson-Cohen Weightlifting Center	Team Savannah, Inc.	\$20,152.80	General Fund/M&O -Anderson Cohen Weightlifting (pending Board approval of contingency transfer)
Q. Change Order to contract in order to meet City requirements for elevation necessary to meet flood plain requirements	SPLOST - Taterville Community Center	DMK Construction	\$33,800	SPLOST (1993-1998) Contingency
R. Change Order No. 3 to the contract for fee per parcel, including appraisal review services, for property adjacent to the Thomas Avenue Landfill	Solid Waste Management	Moreland Altobelli Associates	\$3,450 per parcel including appraisal review services	Solid Waste Management Fund

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve Items 12-A through 12-R, both inclusive. Commissioner Odell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Murray and Price were not present.]

NOTE: Having voted on the prevailing side, Commissioner Saussy has requested reconsideration of Items 13-N and 13-P.

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XI. FIRST READINGS

Proposed changes to ordinances must be read or presented in written form at two meetings held not less than one week apart. A vote on the following listed matters will occur at the next regularly scheduled meeting. Comments, discussion and debate from members of the public will be received only at the meeting at which a vote is to be taken on one of the following listed items.

- PETITIONER, PHILLIP R. MCCORKLE, AGENT (FOR MULTIPLE OWNERSHIP), IS REQUESTING THAT A 12.9 ACRE TRACT WITHIN THE 634 ACRE HENDERSON GOLF COMMUNITY BE REZONED FROM A PUD-C (PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT-COMMUNITY) CLASSIFICATION TO A P-B-C (PLANNED COMMUNITY-BUSINESS) CLASSIFICATION. THE MPC RECOMMENDED THAT THE PETITIONER'S REQUEST BE APPROVED.
MPC FILE #98-12381-C
[DISTRICT 7.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Read into the record as first reading.

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XII. SECOND READINGS

None.

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XIII. INFORMATION CALENDAR

- 1. PROGRESS REPORT ON GENERAL FUND CONTINGENCY ACCOUNT - M&O AND THE SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT (SEE ATTACHED).**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Report received as information.

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- 2. LIST OF PURCHASING ITEMS BETWEEN \$2,500 AND \$9,999 (SEE ATTACHED).**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Report received as information.

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- 3. STATUS ON MERGER OF INSPECTIONS DEPARTMENT WITH CITY OF SAVANNAH..**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Report received as information.

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- 4. STATUS ON FINANCIAL ADVISOR’S RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING \$4.3 MILLION IN SPLOST EARNINGS.**

County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, if I may. With the help of Commissioner Price we were able to get the report from A. G. Edwards on the \$4.3 million. It’s only on the Information Calendar and at the time Mr. Persaud wrote the report we were still awaiting this. I received this first thing this morning. Commissioner Price wanted to make sure that all of the Board members received it. I will distribute it. Please understand this is only for your information at this time. We’ll come back with something at your first meeting in March, but we wanted to make sure all members of the Board had this and members of the media who would like to have it.

Chairman Hair said, okay. Make sure the media gets a copy.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Report received as information.

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- 5. MONTHLY ROADS AND DRAINAGE REPORTS.**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Report received as information.

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, Chairman Hair declared the meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

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APPROVED: THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 1999

DR. BILLY B. HAIR, CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA

SYBIL E. TILLMAN, COUNTY CLERK