

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA, HELD ON FRIDAY, JULY 7, 2006, 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 Pete Liakakis called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m., Friday, July 7, 2006.

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II. INVOCATION

Commissioner Priscilla Thomas introduced Rev. James Taylor, Presiding Elder of the Waycross District African-Methodist-Episcopal Church, who 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: Pete Liakakis, Chairman
- Dr. Priscilla D. Thomas, Vice Chairman, District Eight
- Helen L. Stone, District One
- James J. Holmes, District Two
- Patrick Shay, District Three
- Patrick K. Farrell, District Four
- Harris Odell, Jr., District Five
- David M. Gellatly, District Six
- Absent: Dean Kicklighter, Chairman Pro Tem, District Seven
- Also present: Russell Abolt, County Manager
- Jonathan Hart, County Attorney
- Sybil E. Tillman, County Clerk

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V. PROCLAMATIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**1. PRESENTATION OF AWARD TO CHATHAM COUNTY FOR EXCELLENCE IN FINANCIAL REPORTING BY THE GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION.**

Chairman Liakakis said, what I'd like to do under Item V, Proclamations and Special Presentations, I'd like for Linda Cramer, our Finance Director, and her great staff to come forth to the podium please and also with our County Manager. You know, we've got a great Financial staff that has done a really good job for our citizens over the years. Chairman Liakakis recognized Linda Cramer.

Ms. Cramer said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'd like to introduce Amy Davis. She's the Finance Director for Cherokee County and our Georgia GFOA President here to present the award.

Ms. Amy Davis said, Government Finance Officers Association is a national organization. It was established over a hundred years ago to promote excellence in this area of finance, in public finance, and it's to build excellence in those — the individuals and in government financing for the municipalities and counties, and this certificate of achievement in excellence in financial reporting, it's the highest award awarded by the Government Finance Officers Association and it exemplifies the excellence in all of these individuals and the hard work that they've put forth, and Linda [Cramer] especially exemplifies that. She has also been a past president of our organization and she works hard at the national level as well, and they need to be very proud of this award. It shows her dedication to both the council, the community and Government Finance. Congratulations, Linda [Cramer].

County Manager Abolt said, ladies and gentlemen, this is very special not because it occurs every year — we're appreciative and thankful for that —,but it's special because of the very words you just heard. Being recognized as a broad spectrum corrections and financial recording is extremely good news for this community. We're going to in a moment have staff and then we'll introduce each one of them, go over and place this on the wall. You don't have to count that far up unless you want to, but this is the 22nd award in a row. Rick Tindol, our auditor, who's also with me, tells me he wasn't born when the first award was given.

Ms. Cramer said, a little dig at you. I'd like to introduce some of my staff who are here today. Melva Sharpe, Lynn Stennett, who has moved over to our budget area but is still involved in the capital side, Cheryl Deariso, whom you know — Chairman Liakakis said, raise your hand so when she introduces you, we want sure everybody in the public — see, this is being filmed — so we want the public to know who you are. We know who you are. Ms. Cramer said, Lesha Lanier, Nancy Curry, Joyce Prescott, Read DeHaven, whom you know from the grilling budget sessions, and Tom Drane. And Rick [Tindol] — where did Rick go? Do you want to come up and say something?

Mr. Tindol said, thank you very much. Mr. Chairman and Commissioners, I too want to echo my congratulations to the County for this significant award for 22 years and also to thank Russ [Abolt] for missing my birth date. I know he didn't know my birthday, but he's also got the date wrong, but I appreciate that very much. But it indeed is quite an honor for the County to receive this award for 22 years running. I think it speaks highly of Linda, Russ and all the staff. So, again, just keep up the good work. We look forward to working with you again this year. Thank you very much.

Chairman Liakakis said, so, Rick [Tindol], what you were doing is clarifying what the County Manager said. You are a little over 22 years of age? Mr. Tindol said, a little over 22. As a matter of fact, I remember well the first award 22 years ago. Chairman Liakakis said, thank you very much, and of course on behalf of the Chatham County Commission we do thank all of the financial staff because, you know, in addition to us being the stewards of the resources of the citizens of Chatham County, y'all have done an excellent job to make sure that the monies in the, you know, right places and watching closely over that and the budget and we really appreciate that. We thank all of the employees for the great job that you do for not only the Commission, but all of the citizens of Chatham County.

**CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT
FOR EXCELLENCE IN
FINANCIAL REPORTING**

Presented to

Chatham County, Georgia

For its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report
for the Fiscal Year Ended
June 30, 2005

A Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in
Financial Reporting is presented by the
Governmental Finance Officers
Association of the United States and Canada to
government units and public employee retirement
standards whose comprehensive annual finance
reports (CAFRs) achieve the highest
standards in government accounting
and financial reporting

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2. EXPRESSION OF APPRECIATION TO COMCAST AND MR. MICHAEL DAVES, VP/GENERAL MANAGER FOR CLOSE CAPTIONING OF COMMISSION MEETINGS ON CHANNEL 16.

Chairman Liakakis said, on the agenda too on Item 2 we have an expression of appreciation to Comcast and Mr. Michael Daves, the Vice President and General Manager of Comcast, and what he has done now, he's not here today — oh, Mike [Daves], you made it. Oh, great. Well, good, I didn't see you a little earlier, but Mike's done an outstanding job as Vice President and General Manager of Comcast and, of course, they help us with our transmission of our different meetings and all so that the citizens will be up to date with what's going on at the Chatham County Commission, and we can see ever since Mike [Daves] a few years ago took over Comcast, he's done an excellent job. We do appreciate that very much because offering what you are about the closed captioning, Mike, what that does, that gives the opportunity to some of the people that might have a problem, you know, in our community and they cannot hear, and especially they have that closed captioning there that people understand what's going on, and it really helps us out a lot. And we do appreciate it, and I know that the citizens will too. But if we've also got a special presentation that we'd like to do for you today, Mike, also and Commissioner Pat Farrell will do that.

Commissioner Farrell said, I take this opportunity to read this proclamation.

LETTER OF COMMENDATION

July 7, 2006

**Mr. Mike Daves
Vice President/General Manager
Comcast Cable
145 Park of Commerce Drive
Savannah, Georgia 31405**

Dear Mr. Daves:

On behalf of the Chatham County Commission and the citizens of Chatham County, it is with extreme pleasure and gratitude that I acknowledge your commitment to sponsor closed captioning of the County Commission Meetings.

Comcast is well known for ensuring that information and knowledge are widely shared. Your dedication to working with local leaders and organizations to enhance learning, help businesses grow, and encourage leadership has made quite a positive impact in our community.

It is gratifying to know that you share our thoughts in that all citizens should be afforded the opportunity to see local government at work and how decisions are made that effect our community. Comcast's generosity in providing closed caption of our meetings will allow more of our citizens to do just that.

We look forward to this partnership and the opportunity to be teamed with such a dynamic organization as Comcast.

Sincerely,

/s/ Pete Liakakis

**Pete Liakakis, Chairman
Chatham County Commission**

Commissioner Farrell said, on behalf of Pete Liakakis, Chairman, Chatham County, I make this presentation and thank you very much.

Mr. Daves said, Chairman, Commissioners and Mr. Abolt, thank you very much for this commendation. I know it shows another opportunity of which that local businesses have — should take into ensuring that they partner with the local government to make everything better for everyone. Comcast will continue to improve on our methods of communicating with the organizations and with the people in our — of our subscribers and your residents, but we look forward to continuing that in the future. So we appreciate the opportunity to do this.

Chairman Liakakis said, and thank you for, you know, helping us with Government Channel 16 because it's important, you know, these meetings that are viewed by the citizens so they'll know, you know, that this is an open government and this Chatham County Commission wants all of the people to know what's going on in this community and have those open records, and we thank you for your participation, Mike [Daves], again. Mr. Daves said, thank you very much.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

A Letter of Commendation was presented to Mr. Michael Daves, Vice President and General Manager of Comcast, for the decision of Comcast to sponsor closed captioning of the Commission meetings to the public to ensure that all residents of our County have the opportunity to see local government at work.

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VI. CHAIRMAN'S ITEMS

- 1. SET TWO PUBLIC HEARINGS FOR SPLOST PROJECTS TESTIMONY FROM MUNICIPALITIES.**

Chairman Liakakis said, the next Item VI is we need to set two public hearings for SPLOST projects testimony from municipalities. The — we have a couple of recommendations at this point for July 7th and July 21st. The one on July — excuse me, July 13th. July 13th at 6:30 p.m., and then on Friday, July 21st at our regular Commission meeting, and that’s when we will have those two hearings for — the public hearings for all of our municipalities to come together so that we can discuss that SPLOST funding because that’s really important and for our citizens to know just what specific items are being proposed by all of the cities, Vernonburg and the County.

County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, we need a motion for a special-called meeting for Thursday, the 13th at 6:30.

Commissioner Farrell said, so moved. Chairman Liakakis asked, does that have a second? Commissioner Gellatly said, second. Chairman Liakakis said, we have a second. Let’s go on the board. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter was not present when this vote was taken.] Chairman Liakakis said, okay. Do we have everybody — okay. Okay, motion passes.

County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, if I could, I would like to report that we’re on schedule. Yesterday afternoon we did meet with all the Managers or representatives from the cities who do not have Managers. All fully participated and the meeting ran about three hours. It was, in my estimation, extremely well contributed to by all parties as you have in your packet last night the complete list of all the requests from each of the municipalities and the County, plus you have the value of criteria suggested by the Managers. So I’m very pleased with the progress so far.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Farrell moved to have a special-called meeting on July 13, 2006, at 6:30 p.m., for testimony on SPLOST projects from municipalities. Commissioner Gellatly seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter was not present when this vote was taken.]

A second hearing was scheduled for July 21, 2006, at the regular Commission meeting.

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VII. COMMISSIONERS' ITEMS

Chairman Liakakis said, on Commissioners’ Items we had a letter that we received from Commissioner Dean Kicklighter, who is not here today, and he wanted to enter this letter — amend the agenda for today to place that in the record. Do we have a motion on the floor to add that item on the agenda today? There’s no motion? This dies because we do not have a motion on the floor and a second to place that in the record at this time.

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CHATHAM AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Upon motion made by Commissioner Odell, seconded by Commissioner Gellatly, and unanimously approved, the Board recessed as the County Commission at 9:35 a.m., and convened as the Chatham Area Transit Authority.

Following adjournment of the Chatham Area Transit Authority, the Board reconvened at 10:00 a.m., as the County Commission.

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VIII. TABLED/RECONSIDERED 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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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 APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING: (1) TRANSFERS WITHIN THE GENERAL FUND M& O FY2007 BUDGET OF (A) \$150,000 FROM RESTRICTED CONTINGENCY TO TRANSFER OUT TO CIP FOR TYBEE BEACH RENOURISHMENT, (B) \$125,000 FROM THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT TO TRANSFER OUT TO CIP FOR THE DETENTION CENTER REPAIRS, AND © \$18,200 FROM ANIMAL CONTROL, \$28,200 FROM MARINE PATROL, AND \$200,000 FROM THE COUNTER NARCOTICS TEAM (CNT) TO TRANSFER OUT TO CIP FOR VEHICLE REPLACEMENT; (2) AN AMENDMENT TO THE CIP FUND TO RECOGNIZE TRANSFERS OF (A) \$150,000 FROM RESTRICTED CONTINGENCY FOR TYBEE BEACH RENOURISHMENT, (B) \$125,000 FROM THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT FOR DETENTION CENTER REPAIRS, AND © \$18,200 FROM ANIMAL CONTROL, \$28,200 FROM MARINE PATROL, AND \$200,000 FROM THE COUNTER NARCOTICS TEAM (CNT) FOR VEHICLE REPLACEMENT, (3) A TRANSFER OF**

\$456,000 FROM CIP SSD CONTINGENCY FOR SAVANNAH CHATHAM METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT VEHICLE REPLACEMENT, (4) AN AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT (SSD) FY2006 BUDGET TO RECOGNIZE ADDITIONAL REVENUES OF \$72,000 FROM INTEREST EARNINGS AND \$15,000 FROM 50% DRUG FINE SURCHARGES, AND APPROPRIATE \$25,000 TO MPC FOR A TRANSPORTATION STUDY, \$47,000 TO OPERATING TRANSFERS OUT TO CIP FOR AUDIO VISUAL UPGRADE, AND \$15,000 TO OPERATING TRANSFERS OUT TO THE GENERAL FUND M&O, (5) AN AMENDMENT TO THE GENERAL FUND M&O FY2006 BUDGET TO RECOGNIZE ADDITIONAL \$180,000 IN REIMBURSEMENT REVENUE AND \$15,000 TRANSFER IN FROM THE SSD FUND AND APPROPRIATE \$180,000 TO REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES AND \$15,000 TO DRUG SURCHARGES, (6) A \$8,550 TRANSFER WITHIN THE COUNTY MANAGER'S FY2006 BUDGET FROM VARIOUS LINE ITEMS TO OVERTIME, AND (7) A \$30,370 TRANSFER WITHIN THE SALES TAX III FUND FROM ENGINEERING FEES TO SALARIES AND WAGES.

Chairman Liakakis asked, do we have a motion on the floor for this approval?

Commissioner Farrell said, so moved. Chairman Liakakis asked, do we have a second? Commissioner Shay said, second. Commissioner Gellatly said, second.

Chairman Liakakis said, let's go on the board. The motion carried the motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell and Commissioner Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.] Chairman Liakakis said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Farrell moved that the Board approve the following: (1) Transfers within the General Fund M& O FY2007 budget of (a) \$150,000 from Restricted Contingency to Transfer Out to CIP for Tybee Beach Renourishment, (b) \$125,000 from the Sheriff's Department to transfer out to CIP for the Detention Center repairs, and © \$18,200 from Animal Control, \$28,200 from Marine Patrol, and \$200,000 from the Counter Narcotics Team (CNT) to transfer out to CIP for vehicle replacement; (2) an amendment to the CIP fund to recognize transfers of (a) \$150,000 from Restricted Contingency for Tybee Beach Renourishment, (b) \$125,000 from the Sheriff's Department for Detention Center repairs, and © \$18,200 from Animal Control, \$28,200 from Marine Patrol, and \$200,000 from the Counter Narcotics Team (CNT) for vehicle replacement, (3) a transfer of \$456,000 from CIP SSD Contingency for Savannah Chatham Metropolitan Police Department vehicle replacement, (4) an amendment to the Special Service District (SSD) FY2006 budget to recognize additional revenues of \$72,000 from interest earnings and \$15,000 from 50% drug fine surcharges, and appropriate \$25,000 to MPC for a transportation study, \$47,000 to Operating Transfers Out to CIP for audio visual upgrade, and \$15,000 to Operating Transfers Out

to the General Fund M&O, (5) an amendment to the General Fund M&O FY2006 budget to recognize additional \$180,000 in reimbursement revenue and \$15,000 transfer in from the SSD fund and appropriate \$180,000 to reimbursable expenses and \$15,000 to Drug Surcharges, (6) a \$8,550 transfer within the County Manager's FY2006 budget from various line items to Overtime, and (7) a \$30,370 transfer within the Sales Tax III Fund from Engineering Fees to Salaries and Wages. . Commissioners Shay and Gellatly seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Odell and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

AGENDA ITEM: IX-1**AGENDA DATE: July 7, 2006****TO:** Board of Commissioners**THRU:** R.E. Abolt, County Manager**FROM:** Linda B. Cramer, Finance Director

ISSUE: To request approval of the following: (1) transfers within the General Fund M&O FY2007 budget of (a) \$150,000 from Restricted Contingency to Transfer Out to CIP for Tybee Beach Renourishment, (b) \$125,000 from the Sheriff's Department to transfer out to CIP for the Detention Center repairs, and © \$18,200 from Animal Control, \$28,200 from Marine Patrol, and \$200,000 from the Counter Narcotics Team (CNT) to transfer out to CIP for vehicle replacement; (2) an amendment to the CIP fund to recognize transfers of (a) \$150,000 from Restricted Contingency for Tybee Beach Renourishment, (b) \$125,000 from the Sheriff's Department for Detention Center repairs, and © \$18,200 from Animal Control, \$28,200 from Marine Patrol, and \$200,000 from the Counter Narcotics Team (CNT) for vehicle replacement, (3) a transfer of \$456,000 from CIP SSD Contingency for Savannah Chatham Metropolitan Police Department vehicle replacement, (4) an amendment to the Special Service District (SSD) FY2006 budget to recognize additional revenues of \$72,000 from interest earnings and \$15,000 from 50% drug fine surcharges, and appropriate \$25,000 to MPC for a transportation study, \$47,000 to Operating Transfers Out to CIP for audio visual upgrade, and \$15,000 to Operating Transfers Out to the General Fund M&O, (5) an amendment to the General Fund M&O FY2006 budget to recognize additional \$180,000 in reimbursement revenue and \$15,000 transfer in from the SSD fund and appropriate \$180,000 to reimbursable expenses and \$15,000 to Drug Surcharges, (6) a \$8,550 transfer within the County Manager's FY2006 budget from various line items to Overtime, and (7) a \$30,370 transfer within the Sales Tax III Fund from Engineering Fees to Salaries and Wages.

BACKGROUND: Board approval is required for budget amendments and transfers between organizational units.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

- 1) The adopted FY2007 General Fund M&O budget included appropriations for equipment and projects that are eligible for the Capital Improvement Program (CIP). These include the Tybee Beach Renourishment, repairs to the Detention Center, and Public safety vehicles. Resolutions to transfer these funds to the CIP Fund have been prepared.
- 2) The intergovernmental agreement between Chatham County and the City of Savannah for the police merger includes a schedule for vehicle replacement. The recommended CIP contingency transfer (\$456,000 SSD), will fund vehicle replacement for the SCMPD patrol function. Vehicle replacement for Animal Control, Marine Patrol and CNT is funded in the adopted FY2007 General Fund M&O budget as described above. The resolution to amend the CIP Fund is attached.
- 3) Interest earnings in the Special Service District fund have exceeded budget. A budget amendment to recognize \$72,000 in revenue will provide funding for a transportation study in MPC (\$25,000) and a transfer to CIP for an audio visual upgrade in the Commission chambers. A resolution is attached.
- 4) The Special Service District (SSD) fund receives revenue from surcharges on court fines. These include a 50% surcharge on drug fines. These funds are transferred to the General Fund M&O and restricted for drug prevention and rehabilitation programs. Collections in fiscal year 2006 have exceeded budget. Resolutions to amend the SSD and General Fund M&O for the \$15,000 additional revenue have been prepared, and are attached.
- 5) The General Fund M&O receives reimbursement from some state and local agencies for expenses incurred. The collections in FY2006 have exceeded budget. A resolution to amend the General Fund for the additional revenue and expenses (\$180,000) is attached.
- 6) The County Manager's office has experienced overtime expenditures that exceed budget. Funds are available within the departmental budget for transfer.
- 7) An adjustment in the allocation of salaries among sales tax projects requires a \$30,370 transfer in the Sales Tax III fund. A resolution is attached.

FUNDING:

Funds are available within the respective departmental budgets and CIP contingency for the transfers. The budget resolution will set up funding in the General M&O, Special Service District (SSD), and Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Funds.

ALTERNATIVES:

1) That the Board approve the following:

GENERAL FUND M&O (FY2007)

- a) a transfer of \$150,000 from Restricted Contingency to Transfer Out to CIP for Tybee Beach Renourishment.
- b) a transfer of \$125,000 from the Sheriff's Department to transfer out to CIP for the Detention Center repairs.
- c) transfer of \$18,200 from Animal Control to transfer out to CIP for vehicle replacement.
- d) a transfer of \$28,200 from Marine Patrol to transfer out to CIP for vehicle replacement.
- e) a transfer of \$200,000 from the Counter Narcotics Team (CNT) to transfer out to CIP for vehicle replacement.

GENERAL FUND M&O (FY2006)

- a) a transfer of \$8,550 within the County Manager's budget from line items to Overtime.
- b) an amendment to recognize \$15,000 transfer in from SSD and appropriate \$15,000 to 50% Drug Surcharge restricted expenditures.
- c) an amendment to recognize \$180,000 in reimbursement revenue and appropriate \$180,000 to reimbursable expenditures.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FUND FY2007

- a) an amendment to recognize \$150,000 transfer in from M&O Restricted Contingency for Tybee Beach Renourishment.
- b) an amendment to recognize \$125,000 transfer in from Sheriff's Department budget for Detention Center repairs.
- c) an amendment to recognize \$18,200 transfer in from Animal Control budget for vehicle replacement.
- d) an amendment to recognize \$28,200 transfer in from Marine Patrol budget for vehicle replacement.
- e) an amendment to recognize \$200,000 transfer from CNT for vehicle replacement.
- f) a transfer of \$456,000 from SSD contingency to Police vehicle replacement.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FUND (FY2006)

- a) an amendment to recognize \$47,000 transfer in from SSD for audio visual upgrade.

SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT FUND (FY2006)

- a) an amendment to recognize \$15,000 revenue from 50% Drug fines surcharges and appropriate \$15,000 to transfer out to the General Fund M&O.
 - b) an amendment to recognize \$72,000 revenue from interest earnings and appropriate \$25,000 to MPC for a transportation study and \$47,000 to Operating Transfers Out to CIP.
- 2) Amend or deny the request.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

State law grants the Board authority to amend the budget during the year as it deems necessary.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board approve Alternative 1.

Prepared by: Read DeHaven

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2. REQUEST BOARD TO HOLD LAST PUBLIC HEARING AS REQUIRED BY STATE LAW ON THE COUNTY'S INTENT TO LEVY A MILLAGE RATE THAT EXCEEDS THE CALCULATED "ROLLBACK" MILLAGE RATE FOR AD VALOREM TAX PURPOSES.

Chairman Liakakis said, ladies and gentlemen, this hearing is being held in compliance with state law. The Chatham County Board of Commissioners has announced publicly its intention to increase the property taxes it will levy this year by 7.97 percent over the rollback millage rate for General Maintenance and Operations taxes, 4.83 percent over the rollback millage rate for Special Service District taxes, and 7.19 percent over the rollback millage rate for Chatham Area Transit Authority.

The purpose of this hearing is to provide members of the public the opportunity to comment. The proposed millage rate for the General Fund is 11.037 mils, which is .815 mils greater than the calculated "rollback millage" of 10.222 mils. The proposed millage rate for the Special Service District Fund is 3.475 mils, which is .16 mils greater than the calculated "rollback millage" of 3.315 mils. The proposed millage rate for the Chatham Area Transit Authority is 0.820 mils, which is .055 mils greater than the calculated "rollback millage" of 0.765 mils.

Chairman Liakakis said, a list is provided at the front of the room for you to record your name and address, as well as the group or organization you represent, if any. This will allow us to document that public input was solicited.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay, since we have none we'll go to — excuse me.

Ms. Marianne Heimes said, good morning. My name is Marianne Heimes. I would just like to mention the fact that I think there are a lot of people sitting at home perhaps watching, perhaps not, who are very interested in what you're going to do. So I think the lack of attendance doesn't speak for the feelings of the people. As a senior citizen I would like to remind you that we on fixed incomes are faced with increases in nearly aspect of our lives today. My electricity bill went up a hundred dollars in one month, and I can assure you I wasn't doing a lot of anything extra. My Medicare fee has now gone up, only \$4.00 a month, which isn't much, but you add everything else that is coming our way. Of course, our gas prices. Trips to the doctor are necessary. It would be nice if we could take CAT, but CAT does not always go where we need to go. I implore you to remember that there are a good many of us out here who have basically paid our taxes over the year, which has helped put Chatham County where it is today, and I believe you owe it to use to give us every break possible. Thank you.

Chairman Liakakis said, thank you, Marianne [Heimes]. Item 3. To request that the Board approve a resolution clarifying —.

County Attorney Hart said, can we close the public hearing.

Oh, excuse me. I'd like a vote to close the public hearing — a motion please.

Commissioner Thomas said, move for approval. Commissioner Stone said, second. Chairman Liakakis said, we have a motion on the floor and a second to close the public hearing. Go on the board. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter was not present when this vote was taken.]

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Thomas moved to close the public hearing on the County's intent to levy a millage rate that exceeds the calculated "rollback" millage rate for ad valorem tax purposes. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM: IX-2
AGENDA DATE: July 7, 2006

TO: Board of Commissioners
THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager
FROM: Linda Cramer, Finance Director

ISSUE:

To hold last Public Hearing as required by State law on the County's intent to levy a millage rate that exceeds the calculated "rollback" millage rate for ad valorem tax purposes.

BACKGROUND:

Chatham County is required by State law (O.C.G.A. Code Section 48-5-32.1) to compute a "rollback" millage rate, which is the previous year's millage rate minus the millage equivalent of the total net assessed value added by reassessments of existing real property. The law further provides that, if the levying authority proposes to levy a millage rate in excess of the computed "rollback" rate, certain advertisements and three public hearings must be held before the adoption of the final millage rate.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

- (1) At its June 12, 2006 meeting, the Chatham County Commission instructed staff to proceed with the necessary advertisements and schedule the public hearings necessary to adopt the millage rates for the 2006 Tax Digest:
 - (a) For the General Fund the millage rate will remain unchanged from last year at 11.037 mils. This exceeds the calculated "rollback" rate of 10.222 mils, by 0.815 mils, an 7.97% increase.
 - (b) For the Special Service District the millage rate will remain unchanged at 3.475 mils. This exceeds the calculated "rollback" rate of 3.315 mils, by .16 mils, a 4.83% increase.
 - (c) For the Chatham Area Transit Authority the millage rate will remain unchanged from last year at 0.820 mils. This exceeds the calculated "rollback" rate of 0.765 mils, by .055 mils, a 7.19% increase.
- (2) Public hearings were held at 9:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. on June 27, 2006. These hearings were advertised in the Savannah Morning News on June 19, 2006.
- (3) A third public hearing is scheduled for 9:30 a.m. July 7, 2006. That hearing was advertised in the Savannah Morning News on June 28, 2006. After the public hearing is complete, the Board can adopt the millage rate.
- (4) Also, as required by law, on June 19, 2006, Chatham County issued a press release to the Savannah Morning News and the television media announcing the above mentioned millage rates and the three public hearings.
- (5) Notification of the public hearings was broadcast on Channel 16.

ALTERNATIVES:

- (1) Proceed with the third public hearing on July 7, 2006.

(2) Give staff alternate direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

State law requires three advertised public hearings before the adoption of any millage rate that exceeds the “rollback” rate.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board adopt Alternative No. 1.

Attachment

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3. TO REQUEST THAT THE BOARD APPROVE A RESOLUTION CLARIFYING THE MILLAGE LEVY FOR FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2006 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2007.

Chairman Liakakis recognized County Manager Abolt.

County Manager Abolt said, ladies and gentlemen, just to ask you to pass this. This is at the request of our external auditor, Mr. Tindol — a very young Mr. Tindol I might add — but that aside, this clarifies the fact that we have a fiscal year, it’s not a calendar year. So for audit purposes it’s important to pass the resolution. That’s the sole purpose behind the resolution.

Chairman Liakakis said, we have had a lot of comments from our Commissioners and all, and what I’d like to do is —. County Manager Abolt said, pass the resolution please — please, sir. Chairman Liakakis said, yeah.

Commissioner Shay said, Mr. Chairman, I make a motion that we approve the resolution clarifying that we’re on a fiscal year rather than a calendar year. Commissioner Stone said, second. Commissioner Holmes said, second.

Chairman Liakakis said, let’s go on the board. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter was not present when this vote was taken.] Chairman Liakakis said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Shay moved to approve a resolution clarifying that we are on a fiscal year and not a calendar year and clarifying the millage levy for fiscal year July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007. Commissioners Stone and Holmes seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter was not present when this vote was taken.]

AGENDA ITEM: IX-3
AGENDA DATE: July 7, 2006

DATE: June 28, 2006
TO: Board of Commissioners
THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager
FROM: Linda Cramer, Finance Director

ISSUE:

To request that the Board approve a Resolution clarifying the millage levy for fiscal year July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007.

BACKGROUND:

On July 28, 2000, the County Commission approved the year 2000 Tax Levy. Prior to January 1, 2000, the adoption of the annual millage levy for the Chatham County government was for generating taxes for the County's fiscal year budget which was January 1 through December 31. With the change of the fiscal year effective in year 2000, it is necessary to clarify the tax year 2006 Millage Levy.

FACTS & FINDINGS

- (1) A meeting was held on September 25, 2000, with the County Attorney, Richard Tindol with the audit firm Karp, Ronning, & Tindol, P.C., and the Finance Director of the County to discuss the year 2000 Millage Levy and the funding for the short fiscal year.
- (2) The County Auditor, Richard Tindol with the audit firm Karp, Ronning, & Tindol, P.C., requested that the County Commission clarify the application of the taxes from year 2000 Millage Levy for the audit for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2000.
- (3) The attached Resolution is intended to clarify the Tax Levy for the tax year 2006.
- (4) The millage levy applies to all three taxing districts: the General Fund M&O, Special Service District Fund and Chatham Area Transit District Fund.

FUNDING: N/A

ALTERNATIVES: N/A

POLICY ANALYSIS:

State law requires that the Board adopt a tax levy resolution annually for submission of the digest to the State of Georgia, Department of Revenue (Ga. Code 48-5-302).

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board approve the attached Resolution.

PREPARED BY: Estelle Brown

STATE OF GEORGIA)	CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD
)	OF COMMISSIONERS
COUNTY OF CHATHAM)	IN RE: TAX LEVY YEAR 2006

WHEREAS, the millage levy approved on July 7, 2006 applies to calendar year 2006 costs that cover portions of two fiscal years of Chatham County as follows: a) the six month period from January 1, 2006 through June 30, 2006 which are part of the County’s fiscal year ended June 30, 2006 and b) the six month period from July 1, 2006 through December 31, 2006 which are part of the fiscal year ended June 30, 2007; and

WHEREAS, taxes are billed in two installments, which are due June 1st and November 15th each year; and

WHEREAS, the second six month period of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2007 representing the period from January 1, 2007 through June 30, 2007 will be billed at the millage rate approved on July 7, 2006 based on assessed values on January 1, 2006, and will be adjusted on the November 2007 installment billing to reflect the approved 2007 millage levy;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Commissioners of Chatham County do hereby clarify the year 2006 Millage Levy in accordance with this resolution.

APPROVED THIS 7TH DAY OF JULY 2006 IN OPEN COURT.

Pete Liakakis, Chairman
Chatham County Commission

ATTEST:

Sybil Tillman, County Clerk

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4. ADOPTION OF YEAR 2006 CHATHAM COUNTY GENERAL MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS, SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT, AND CHATHAM AREA

TRANSIT DISTRICT MILLAGE LEVY RESOLUTION PURSUANT TO ADVERTISEMENT HAVING BEEN PUBLISHED IN ACCORDANCE WITH O.C.G.A. 48-5-32.1. IN ADDITION, FORM PT-35 COUNTY MILLAGE RATE CERTIFICATION AND FORM PT 32.1 COMPUTATION OF MILLAGE RATE ROLLBACK AND PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN PROPERTY TAXES FOR TAX YEAR 2006 MUST BE CERTIFIED AND SUBMITTED TO THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE FOR DIGEST APPROVAL FOR THE TAX YEAR 2006.

Chairman Liakakis said, I'd like to read this resolution. First, there will need to be a motion to adopt the M&O, SSD and CAT millage levy resolutions as shown. Then a motion would need to be made to amend the resolution. The current millage rate for the General Fund is 11.037 mills. I would like to propose a reduction on the millage rate of two-tenths of a mill. This would reduce the millage to the citizens of Chatham County 10.837 mills, and this will be \$1,800,000 we return to the citizens with this .2 millage reduction at this time. We were looking at quite a number of things with this budget that we had and, of course, the additional money in the tax digest, and one of the things that has occurred in that additional monies that we have is that almost \$3,000,000 of that additional tax digest will have to go to the Sheriff's Department to add these temporary modular-type jail cells that will be brought in here for the next three years, you know, to do something about this overage of the citizens that we have. And, of course, we've got a few other decision packages also, but that doesn't leave us very much money to do that. But anyway, what I'd like to at this point, as I mentioned, the two-tenths of a mill reduction will reduce tax collections by over \$1,800,000. Therefore, I would like someone to make a motion to amend the millage levy resolution to show a millage rate of ten dollars and 837 cents per \$1,000, a rate of 10.837 mills.

Commissioner Shay said, so moved, Mr. Chairman. Commissioner Odell said, second.

Chairman Liakakis said, we have a motion on the floor. Do we have any discussion? Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Stone.

Commissioner Stone said, I would like maybe, and obviously there's a motion on the floor, but to consider maybe a little higher rollback. I would like to return as much as we can to the citizens. I do have some concerns, having said that, and the concerns that I have is that I know in the original, the base budget for the SSD for the police merger there was no funding in that base budget, and I know that needs to be complete. I do have concerns about the rising costs in health care for our employees as well as fuel for our County vehicles, and I also am concerned about any salary adjustments that might be made in the Police Department by the City of Savannah that could affect our budget, and I am aware and I am supportive of the modular jail cells that we need at the Chatham County Jail, but I would like to propose a slightly larger rollback.

Chairman Liakakis said, well, one of the things the reason why I did .2 mills is because we're looking at our decision packages. You have been distributed this from the, you know, our Finance Department and we've got over \$18,000,000 in decision packages. Once we do this, \$1,800,000 returned to the citizens, what will occur is that we will only have just about \$2,000,000 and the

decision packages were over \$18,000,000, and what has occurred in the past to us is that a number of items were not funded, different programs and projects that the County has had in the past, for whatever reason they were not funded, and of course what has occurred that instead of spending a small amount of money, the citizens in Chatham County are having to spend 20, 30, 40, 50 times as much as they should have because those things were not funded. And since we have about \$18,000,000, it's really tough, you know, just to work with \$2,000,000 because all of us voted last year on that decision packages that we had and looking at this and from the recommendation that we are getting from our Finance people and all. Now, our County is moving forward, our tax digest has gone up again this year. I've had discussions with our financial people, also our County Manager, to see, you know, we have a tax digest increase next year, that we reduce the millage again next year so that we can give additional monies back to the citizens of Chatham County, but I feel after studying this and going into depth and really praying about it, I feel that .2 mills, you know, what we can give back. The City of Savannah also, I think, they're taking the same road, .2 mills also. Of course, our overall amount going back to the citizens will be more than what the City of Savannah, you know, is talking with their .2 mills.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Gellatly.

Commissioner Gellatly said, I want to also say that I'm going to vote for the rollback as it is, but I really, truly have some strong feelings that it should be at a much higher rate for the citizens. We do have a lot of citizens out there on fixed incomes and a lot of people going through really tough times right now and they need all the tax breaks they can get. Also, I'd like to propose that next year, and I'm glad to hear you talking about we can rollback next year, I would like for next year, before we decide how to spend, I would like first for all us to have an agreement what that rollback is going to be. In other words, we agree what the rollback's going to be period right up front and then we decide on the spending. This time we did it the other way around. You know, I would like to — I don't think there's a single Commissioner up here that wants to raise taxes and I think that everyone of us are concerned about our constituents equally, and I'm just requesting next year that we come up with a consensus what that rollback is going to be before we start coming up with ways to spend the extra money that may come in. Thank you.

Chairman Liakakis said, that's a good proposal and we can look at this, but what we're trying to do for our citizens is to give money back to them. We want to operate this community, this Chatham County, as best we can to give the best services to our citizens, to be fiscally responsible, but we don't want to put ourselves in a position that it has been in the past for whatever reason that occurred that the citizens are having to pay a lot more tax money to do things. When you spend something in a particular department, instead of spending a couple of hundred thousand dollars, you're spending all over \$4,000,000, that's terrible. So we are looking at this. Our Commissioners are working together for the citizens of Chatham County, and I appreciate that, Commissioner Gellatly, you know, in that way, but this strongest conversations that I've had with our financial people and our County Manager, we're looking at that because it looks like we'll be able to do it next year the way that the County is growing, and we hope to do, you know, a lot more for our citizens.

Chairman Liakakis said, we have a motion on the floor now —.

Commissioner Thomas said, I just wanted to say the same thing. I have the same feelings even though I am going to vote for this, but I think we all do have these mixed emotions about what we need to do, and since we're all working together and trying to better serve our citizens, if we can start from after today start looking into next year so that we can perhaps do a much better job along those lines. And that is something that I certainly would like for us to follow exactly what Dave [Gellatly] has just said so that we can return as much back as possible.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Odell.

Commissioner Odell said, one of our problems is that we had an increase in the digest. When we have an increase in the digest that means that you have more houses. If you have more houses than people, you have more need for services. So I don't know how realistic it is to believe that you can keep a flat service level and have more people to serve. I think what we're doing with .02 [sic] — or two-tenths of a mill is a good thing. The decision package having been partly reviewed, we've got departments and constitutional officers who are telling us that they need \$18,000,000. Let us not be deceived. Immediately we lose two and a half — not lose — we're going to have to devote two and a half million dollars to the modular units, increased staffing, for the jail. It's always intellectually amusing that those people who fight crime don't want to pay for the jail. We can't keep them at home. We've got to put them somewhere and it's unfair to our Sheriff to believe that he controls the jail population. That's borders on being asinine. The Sheriff doesn't make a determination who goes to jail. Police officers do; judges make that determination. He has an inn that he has to keep open for everyone. We are over the 1,150 which we're authorized to have and have been running 1,500 to 1,600 every day, you know, which creates an additional increase in staffing. We cannot convince the citizens that it costs money to maintain a jail, it costs money to operate vehicles, it costs money to operate the court system. I mean, I wish we could. I wish we could have a continuously flat expenditure with a millage increase that would — a mill that's increased over the last two years and I'm just not able to resolve that. We have some serious concerns. We have a hurricane season, and I'll say this. I plan to vote for the increase, but I'd like to look at the decision package seriously after the hurricane season. I'd like to have that amount of money in case our luck runs out and we need those fundings, and there's a good chance, like yesterday we had some flooding. I know I had it in my district and that I drove my entire district during the rain just to see what areas in fact were flooded, and I'll confer with Russ [Abolt] the early part of next week to try to get those issues addressed. That was a minor storm. What happens if we have a major storm? We must learn from the lessons in New Orleans. New Orleans had a history of lying to its citizens. They told them exactly what they wanted to hear. Unfortunately, being a public official we have more information than any citizen and any of the TV or radio or newsprint. We have more information. We have to take that — our duty is to take that information and make a decision that we conclude is in the best interest of the citizens, even if they initially disagree. It is not about re-election, it's about doing the things that we are obligated to do, and I'd like to tell — because my district is as poor as any district up here —. Commissioner Thomas said, [inaudible]. Commissioner Odell said, well, maybe just a tad more, but the point being is that any increase substantially impacts my people. But we've got to have a police department, we've got to have a health department, we've got to have courts, and unfortunately we don't always control those funds. Ninety-nine percent of the time we don't. So

this is a good thing the Chairman has offered, the two-tenths rollback. It shows that we're compassionate not only for the citizens, but the services that they will demand. We're compassionate for that. Helen [Stone], I'd like to see it be more, I think we all would, but I think we need to have something called a reserve. And, Mr. Chairman, thank you and I yield.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay, we have the motion on the floor and a second — .2 of a mills, which will give \$1,800,000 back to the citizens. Lets go on the board. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter was not present when this vote was taken.] Chairman Liakakis said, the motion passes.

County Manager Abolt said, the motion for Special Service District, CAT, and then the authorization for you to sign the Department of Revenue Forms PT-35 and 32.1.

Chairman Liakakis asked, do we have a motion on the floor for the SSD and the CAT millage also? Commissioner Thomas said, move for approval. Chairman Liakakis said, okay. Do we have a second? Commissioner Shay said, I'll second. Chairman Liakakis said, okay, all in favor for the millage for SSD and CAT, let's go on the board. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter was not present when this vote was taken.] Chairman Liakakis said, the motion passes.

Chairman Liakakis said, I want everybody to know, because some citizens, you know, are concerned about us having to build a larger jail. What's occurred is our police department are putting a lot of the repeaters — about 80% of the crime in our community is covered — is caused by some 20% of the criminals, and what the police department has done, they have arrested a lot of those repeaters, which is reducing the crime in our community at this particular point, but we also want the citizens to know this. That what we are and we have in the budget and this Commission will be working with others also and how programs that we can put in effect that will prevent crime in our community, not just putting people in jail, but what we will be doing is putting programs into effect. Some of them are already in the budget that was approved at the last meeting is that putting resources into the poverty area and other things that we're going to be doing, so we will be working, this Commission will be working with others in the community so that we can reduce crime in our community by preventing that and helping some of those that don't have a skill, that don't have an education so that we can help them with a skill, their education and help them get a job because there are a number of successful programs already going in our community. But what we would like to do, of course, is to increase those particular programs. And one of the things I'd like to say right now since I'm on the air —, well, you know, I'll just pass on that for right now.

Commissioner Odell said, go, Mr. Chairman. You work so hard.

Chairman Liakakis said, well, let me just say, they print out these stickers that Pete Liakakis is taxes, means taxes and all of that. Let me explain something to everybody. In 1997, when I saw the assessments on homes — this is before we had the Stephens-Day Bill — went up, I'm the one that brought a presentation, an elaborate presentation to the City Council and asked them to reduce the millage to help the citizens in Savannah, Georgia, in reducing the taxes, and from —

every year from '97, '98, '99, 2000, 2001, and going into 2002 I championed that. So we know we want to do the best we can for the citizens and I'll continue to do that, and we've got great Commissioners up here who want to return money to our citizens but also give the services that we can and to make sure that we've got one of the best counties in the entire country.

County Attorney Hart said, Mr. Chairman, just for purposes of clarification, on the CAT millage adoption that y'all's motion was for purposes of adopting the millage rate in the staff report as written? Chairman Liakakis said, yeah, the staff report, right. County Manager Abolt said, Item B, C and D on page two of the staff report regarding the millage for Special Service District, CAT, and authorization for the Board to — the Chairman to sign the Department of Revenue Forms. The minutes will reflect.

Chairman Liakakis asked, you've entered that into the minutes, Sybil [Tillman]. The Clerk said, yes, I have. Chairman Liakakis said, okay, so that everybody knows.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Shay moved to approve the millage rate for Chatham County's General Fund Maintenance & Operations of 10.837, recognizing a rollback of .2 mills. Commissioner Odell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter was not present when this vote was taken.]

Commissioner Thomas moved to approve the millage rates for Special Service District of 3.315 mills and Chatham Area Transit Authority of .820 mills, and authorize the Chairman to sign the Department of Revenue Form PT-35, County Millage Rate Certification, and Form PT 32.1, Computation of Millage Rate Rollback and Percentage Increase in Property Taxes for Tax Year 2006. Commissioner Shay seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter was not present when this vote was taken.]

AGENDA ITEM: IX-4
AGENDA DATE: July 7, 2006

TO: Board of Commissioners
THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager
FROM: Linda Cramer, Finance Director

ISSUE:
Adoption of year 2006 Chatham County General Maintenance and Operations, Special Service District, and Chatham Area Transit District millage levy resolution pursuant to advertisement having been published in accordance with O.C.G.A. 48-5-32.1.

In addition, Form PT-35 County Millage Rate Certification and Form PT 32.1 Computation of Millage Rate Rollback and Percentage Increase in Property Taxes

for Tax Year 2006 must be certified and submitted to the Georgia Department of Revenue for digest approval for the tax year 2006.

BACKGROUND:

A tax levy resolution must be submitted to the State of Georgia Department of Revenue, and is scheduled for delivery by the Tax Assessor's Office during the week of July 24, 2006.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

- (1) At its June 23, 2006 meeting, the Chatham County Commission instructed staff to proceed with the necessary advertisements and schedule the public hearings necessary to adopt the millage rates for the 2006 Tax Digest. This has been done. As a result, the Board of Commissioners has the option to adopt millage increases.
- (2) The recommended millage rates for tax year 2006 are as follows:
 - (a) General M&O, ~~11.037~~ mills. This exceeds the calculated rollback millage rate of 10.222 mills by ~~.815~~ mills. **[Amended to 10.837 mills, which exceeds rollback millage rate of 10.222 by .615 mills.]**
 - (b) Special Service District, 3.475 mills. This exceeds the calculated rollback millage rate of 3.315 mills by .160 mills.
 - (c) Chatham Area Transit District .820 mills. This exceeds the calculated rollback millage rate of 0.765 mills by .055 mills and is therefore considered a millage increase. The current millage rate is .820 mills.
- (3) The 5-year history of levy for Chatham County was advertised on June 22, 2006, as required by State Law and incorporated millage rates in excess of the recommended rates.
- (4) In addition to the rollback rate calculation relating to reassessed values as documented on Form PT-32.1, State law also requires that the County compute a millage rate and rollback rate associated with Local Option Sales Tax and Insurance Premium Tax (OCGA 48.8.91 and OCGA 33-8-8.3 respectively). The M&O Sales Tax rollback rate is computed at 1.075 mills. The SSD Insurance Premium Tax rollback rate is computed at .846 mills. These rollback rates are documented in the attached resolution.

FUNDING:

N/A

ALTERNATIVES:

- (1) Adopt the year 2006 levy resolution pursuant to advertisement having been published and the Millage Rates as follows:

- (a) General M&O, 11.037 mills (net of sales tax rollback of 1.075).
 - (b) Special Service District, 3.475 mills (net of insurance premium rollback of .846 mills).
 - (c) Chatham Area Transit District .820 mills.
 - (d) Authorize the Chairman to sign the Georgia Department of Revenue Forms PT 35 and PT 32.1.
- (2) Modify the tax levy resolution.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

State law requires that the Board adopt a tax levy resolution annually for submission of the digest to the State of Georgia, Department of Revenue (Ga. Code 48-5-302). Georgia law 48-5-32 and 48-5-32.1 further specifies method of publication by County of ad valorem tax rate.

RECOMMENDATION:

For Board consideration.

STATE OF GEORGIA)	CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD
)	OF COMMISSIONERS
COUNTY OF CHATHAM)	IN RE: TAX LEVY YEAR 2006

IT IS ORDERED that a net tax of Ten Dollars and Eighty-Three and Seven Tenth cents per One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000) (rate of 10.837 mills) is hereby levied and assessed on all taxable property in Chatham County, Georgia, in the year 2006 to pay the cost of the following General Maintenance and Operation Services to be provided by the Chatham County Government during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2006: General Government, Judiciary, Health and Welfare, Public Safety, Public Works, Culture and Recreation, Housing and Development, Debt Service and Other Financing Uses. The Sales Tax Rollback, as required by State Law, is One Dollar and Seven and Five Tenths Cents per One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000) (rate of 1.075 mills).

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the gross tax rate for General Maintenance and Operations taxes for Chatham County and the sales tax rollback be calculated based upon applicable sales tax collections during 2005 and the final 2006 Chatham County digest. The resulting gross tax rate as reduced by the sales tax rollback for General Maintenance and Operations shall result in a net tax rate of Ten Dollars and Eighty-Three and Seven Tenth Cents per One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000) (rate of 10.837 mills).

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a net tax for Special Service District of Three Dollars and Forty-Seven and Five Tenth Cents per One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000) (rate of 3.475 mills) be levied and assessed on all taxable property in Chatham County located outside

the incorporated limits of the Municipalities of Bloomingdale, Garden City, Pooler, Port Wentworth, Savannah, Tybee Island, Thunderbolt and Vernonburg for the year 2006 to pay for the support and maintenance of the following during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2006: General Government, Judiciary, Public Safety, Public Works, Housing and Development, Debt Service and Other Financing Uses. The Insurance Premium Rollback, as required by State Law, is Eighty-Four and Six Tenth Cents per One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000) (rate of .846 millage).

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the gross tax rate for Special Service District taxes for Chatham County and the insurance premium rollback be calculated based upon insurance premiums received in 2005 and the final 2006 digest. The resulting gross tax rate as reduced by the Insurance premium rollback for Special Service District shall result in a net tax rate of Three Dollars and Forty-Seven and Five Tenth Cents per One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000) (rate of 3.475 mills).

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a Special Service District tax of Eighty-Two Cents per One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000) (rate of .820 mills) be levied and assessed on all taxable property in Chatham County located within the Chatham Area Transit District for the year 2006 to pay for the support and maintenance of the Chatham Area Transit Authority.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Chairman be authorized to execute the documentation for submission of the 2006 Tax Digest to the State of Georgia Department of Revenue in accordance with this resolution.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the said taxes be collected by the Tax Commissioner of the County or his successor in office.

APPROVED THIS 7TH DAY OF JULY 2006, IN OPEN COURT.

Pete Liakakis, Chairman
Chatham County Commission

ATTEST:

Sybil Tillman, County Clerk

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5. RESOLUTION ON STRONG RESTAURANT STANDARDS. (NOTE: See further background in memorandum from County Attorney).

Chairman Liakakis said, of course, you know we have Dr. Skelton who has been working on that and we also had some further background in a memorandum from our County Attorney. Doctor, would you like to give us some information now.

Dr. Douglas Skelton, Mr. Chairman and members of the Commission, I appreciate your support in the last meeting for a resolution. I worked with the County Attorney and I don't have a copy before me, but the language, I think, is before you in the resolution and I would hope that you will adopt this. There is a hearing — a public hearing on this on the proposed revision of the food service regulations. That public hearing is July the 27th in Atlanta at the Board of Human Resources Board Room. A lot of people across the State have made comments, written comments and [inaudible] comments for the Hearing Officer about their view on this matter, but I would urge your adoption of this resolution and I'd be happy to pass it on as part of my comments to the Hearing Officer. You are a quality — absolute high quality county government and maybe you'd like to support this and you'd like to send it to the next level of government in this State, not to the Hearing Officer.

Commissioner Odell asked, do we need a motion to approve? Commissioner Shay said, Mr. Chairman. Chairman Liakakis said, yes. Commissioner Shay said, I'd like to make a motion that we adopt the resolution that's been placed in front of us and send the word back that Chatham County at least, we feel like our restaurant community performs at such a high level that we're able and ready to embrace the standards that were originally proposed. Commissioner Stone said, second.

Chairman Liakakis said, this resolution — proposed resolution that we have here is in, of course, it was distributed to everybody. It goes into some depth. We appreciate Dr. Skelton, that helped us with this, and of course our able-bodied County Attorney working, as always, to put things together so that we can have it in the proper manner, and we have a motion on the floor now — Yes?

Commissioner Farrell said, I'd just like to speak in favor of the idea of having a large letter grade easily visible to the public so that they have an idea of what the Chatham County Health Department feels like is a reflection of their cleanliness.

Commissioner Odell said, Mr. Chairman, may I just ask — Chairman Liakakis said, yes. Commissioner Odell said, the Doctor a question. On the 27th will you be at that meeting, Doctor? Dr. Skelton said, well, I'm not as on how much time they're going to give me. There are going to be some folks there, the Georgia Public Health Association will testify against the proposed revisions and I've contacted my colleagues in the Medical Association of Georgia to see about their activity, but I do plan to provide an in-depth written comment and I may be there in person if I can work it out. Commissioner Odell asked, will any of our board members be there, like the Chair or Vice Chair, because we've got some good people on the Health Board? Dr. Skelton said, we do and I'll be happy to talk to Dr. Taylor. She might be able to do that. Commissioner Odell said, I think that would be — any support locally that we can bring there, and we have some very eloquent people on our board, too. I mean, well educated.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay, we have a motion on the floor and a second. Let's go on the board. The motion carried the motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter was not present when the vote was taken.] Chairman Liakakis said, the motion —, excuse me.

County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, with your permission I'd just like to recognize Dr. Skelton. I think you've seen the man before you. I had the good fortune to see him weekly. The man has courage, the man has one big backbone. Dr. Skelton said, thank you.

Chairman Liakakis said, we all recognize that, Doctor. Thank you very much. We appreciate all that you do for the citizens of our area and around the district where you head up also for the Health Department. Dr. Skelton said, thank you. I'll be glad to tell my State colleagues that the rest of the State needs to call the Chatham County Commission. Commissioner Shay said, thank you. Chairman Liakakis said, thank you.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Shay moved to adopt a resolution to reject the food service regulations now subject to public hearing and to reaffirm support for the February 2006 regulations. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter was not present when this vote was taken.]

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, protecting the health of the citizens of Chatham County and the many visitors to Chatham County is a primary concern of government; and,

WHEREAS, the protection of the public from food borne illnesses is carried out by the Chatham County Health Department following food services regulations passed by the Georgia Board of Human Resources; and,

WHEREAS, new regulations adopted by the Board of Human Resources in February, 2006 enhanced the training requirements for both restaurant employees and public health inspectors; and,

WHEREAS, the February, 2006 regulations included a new and more visible to the public grading system of letter grades with an A grade possible only for restaurants with no critical violations, i.e. violations which could result in serious illnesses; and,

WHEREAS, in June, 2006 the Board of Human Resources approved for submission to public hearing revised food service regulations which remove the visible letter grades on entry doors and drive thru windows, reduce the number of violations thereby raising scores, and allow a score of 92 or A with a critical food service violation; and,

WHEREAS, Chatham County is home to many excellent restaurants which contribute to the quality of life of our community and to our attraction as a designation for tourists; and,

WHEREAS, it is important for our residents and our visitors to be clearly informed of the quality of food service in all our restaurants.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Commissioners of Chatham County, in a desire to protect the public’s health and to demonstrate the high level of food service preparation in Chatham County restaurants, urges the Board of Human Resources to reject the food service regulations now subject to public hearing and to reaffirm support for the February, 2006 regulations.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED, this _____ day of _____, 2006.

CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA

By: _____
Pete Liakakis, Chairman
Chatham County Commission

Attest: _____
Sybil Tillman, Clerk
Chatham County Commission

[SEAL]

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6. SIX-MONTH REVIEW LAND USE HISTORY.

County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, this is something we do because we’re required to. It’s every six months we give you a view back on the land use that has been made two years ago and where or not there have been any changes since that. We have one parcel — we have two parcels enumerated, one of which permits were issued and the other which they were not. This goes back to the time when the County was concerned about borrow pits back in 1987 and the language has remained on the books. So we’re complying with the law.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Stone.

Commissioner Stone said, Mr. County Manager, does this throw up any red flags that no permits have been filed for the property on Bonaventure Road? County Manager Abolt said, it’s the right of the individual to use their land in the way in which they see fit. I professionally, as you know, from my years on the Planning Commission, I would ask at some time that this Board look at referring this back to MPC to eliminate the requirement. I think in this day and age when you in effect have so much going on in the development of land and the way in which land is managed, to imply or to put a specter over land that’s somewhere 24 months after the decision is made on

the land use that you might take it back, I don't think is fitting at the time. That's my opinion. Commissioner Stone said, well, my concern with that would be that if there are any changes in the surrounding property, that it's a safeguard and —. County Manager Abolt said, it's up to you all. Commissioner Stone said, you know, I just —. County Manager Abolt said, MPC at the time they recommended to the previous Commission that this be struck from the books and it wasn't, but that's fine. We'll continue to do it every six months.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay, we have that.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Received as information.

AGENDA ITEM: IX-6
AGENDA DATE: July 7, 2006

TO: BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
THRU: R. E. ABOLT, COUNTY MANAGER
FROM: GREGORIS. ANDERSON, DIRECTOR OF BUILDING SAFETY AND REGULATORY SERVICES

ISSUE:

List of properties which received a Map Amendment within 24 months.

BACKGROUND:

Section 11-3 of the County Zoning Ordinance was adopted in 1987. The Zoning administrator is responsible to report the status of subject properties for development activity within 24 months of the zoning approval date.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The listed property obtained a map amendment through the MPC between July 1, 2004 and December 31, 2004.
2. One of the listed properties has initiated development activities through building permits. The other has shown no activity.

ACTION

For information only.

Property Rezoning From June 1, 2004 Through December 30, 2004

ZONING

PERMIT

MPC File No.	ADDRESS	PIN	CHANGE	ISSUED
Z-040616-33742-1408,	412, 414 Bona-	1-0276-02-001	R-1/IL to PILT	No Permits
	venture Rd.	1-0276-01-002 & 003		
Z-040818-34882-1	5616 Ogeechee Rd.	1-0991-01-008A	R-A to P-B-N	03/14/06

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7. TO CONSIDER A REQUEST FROM THE CITY OF SAVANNAH TO ANNEX A PARCEL NOT CONTIGUOUS TO INCORPORATE MUNICIPAL LIMITS BUT LOCATED IN UNINCORPORATED AREA CHATHAM COUNTY. (NOTE: See additional memorandum from the County Attorney offering caution on how to proceed).

Chairman Liakakis said, one of the things that has been brought to my attention and some discussion on the staff that we table this for right now to have more information and so that our Commissioners will have more input. Commissioner Gellatly asked, is this for the fire station? Chairman Liakakis said, yes, but there’s a problem over, you know, in that area, too, because that gives certain rights —. Commissioner Gellatly asked, and there’s no problems with tabling? Chairman Liakakis said, yeah. Do we have a motion to table —?

Commissioner Farrell said, motion to table Item 7. Chairman Liakakis said, to the next meeting. Chairman Liakakis said, Item 7. Do we have a second? Commissioner Gellatly said, second. Commissioner Stone said, second.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay, let’s go on the board. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter was not present when this vote was taken.] Chairman Liakakis said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Farrell moved to table to the meeting on July 21, 2006, the request from the City of Savannah to annex a parcel not contiguous to incorporate municipal limits but located in unincorporated area Chatham County. Commissioners Stone and Gellatly seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter was not present when this vote was taken.]

AGENDA ITEM: IX-7
AGENDA DATE: July 7, 2006

DATE: June 30, 2006
TO: R. E. Abolt, County Manager
FROM: Jonathan Hart, County Attorney

SUBJECT: City of Savannah's Request to Annex 6.17 Acres of Land on Chevis Road for Construction of New Fire Station.

We have reviewed the City of Savannah's request to annex 6.17 acres off of Chevis Road in unincorporated Chatham County for the City's fire station. My understanding is that the City would like to annex this 6.17 acres into the City which will result in an municipal island surrounded by the remainder of unincorporated Chatham County.

At the present time, we have received no information which indicates that the City fire station must be located within its municipal limits. As you are aware, a citizen may request under the 100% method of annexation to be annexed into the City. O.C.G.A. § 36-36-20. However, O.C.G.A. § 36-36-21 requires that the area to be annexed must be contiguous to the City limit. The current property does not meet the definition of contiguous under O.C.G.A. § 36-36-21(a). However, O.C.G.A. § 36-36-20(b) provides notwithstanding the limitation of subsection (a), an area may be annexed by agreement between the municipal corporation and the governing body of the County in which the proposed territory to be annexed is to be located.

This is a policy decision for the Board of Commissioners to make. Should the governing authority consent, this 6.17 acres would become part of the City of Savannah. The City at some point in the future could use the 100% method to annex the land surrounding this "island" since all the property would be contiguous.

I have prepared the enclosed staff report for Board consideration and would request this memo be attached to the agenda item to provide further background.

RJH/jr

enclosure

AGENDA:

DATE: July 7, 2006

TO: Board of Commissioners

THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager

FROM: Jonathan Hart, County Attorney

ISSUE:

To consider a request from the City of Savannah to annex a parcel not contiguous to incorporated municipal limits but located in unincorporated area Chatham County.

BACKGROUND:

The City of Savannah has requested that the Board approve a request to allow the City to annex a 6.17-acre parcel on Chevis Road for the construction of a new fire station. Under Georgia law, since the property remains surrounded in the unincorporated area and not contiguous to any property within the City of Savannah, the parcel can only be annexed by approval of the Board.

FACTS & FINDINGS:

1. The City of Savannah needs to construct a fire station to serve nearby areas which the City annexed and has selected a 6.17-acre site on Chevis Road. The City has entered a contract to acquire the property pending the Board of Commissioners' action.
2. The City of Savannah has previously evaluated other sites in this area, including those within areas already annexed. None proved suitable. This parcel, which is vacant and undeveloped, remains centrally located to other newly annexed areas.
3. It is a policy decision to be made by the Board of Commissioners concerning the allowance of annexation so as to create a 6.17 acre municipal island within Chatham County.

FUNDING:

Not applicable.

ALTERNATIVES:

POLICY ANALYSIS:

O.C.G.A. § 36-36-20(b) requires that a city can annex property not contiguous to its existing boundaries and located within an unincorporated area only with approval of a county commission.

RECOMMENDATION:

For Board consideration.

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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 Liakakis asked, any particular items that the Commissioners would like to hold off. We have Items 1 through 9 and 9 has the items for amounts to be dispensed A through H? Any items?

Commissioner Odell said, I just want to pull F so that I can make a comment. I'll make a motion for approval. Chairman Liakakis asked, and to what all — Item F just for a comment, but to approve it also? Commissioner Odell said, yes. Commissioner Thomas said, second. Chairman Liakakis said, okay, we have a motion on the floor and a second to approve all the action items. Let's go on the board. The motion carried unanimously. [[NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter was not present when this vote was taken.] Chairman Liakakis said, the motion carries.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Odell moved to approve Items 1 through 9-H, but to pull Item 9-F just for a comment. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter was not present when this vote was taken.]

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[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 FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF JUNE 23, 2006, AS MAILED.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commission Odell moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of June 23, 2006. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter was not present when this vote was taken.]

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2. CLAIMS VS. CHATHAM COUNTY FOR THE PERIOD JUNE 15 THROUGH JUNE 28, 2006.**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Odell moved to authorize the Finance Director to pay the claims against the County for the period June 15, 2006, through June 28, 2006, in the amount of \$7,855,668. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter was not present when this vote was taken.]

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**3. REQUEST BOARD RECORD THE SUBDIVISION PLAT FOR PALMETTO ROW SUBDIVISION, PHASE 2, ACCEPT THE SUBDIVISION AGREEMENT AND FINANCIAL GUARANTEE AND WAIVE THE REQUIREMENT FOR A STREETLIGHT ASSESSMENT DISTRICT.
[DISTRICT 3.]****ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Odell moved to approve the request to record the subdivision plat for Palmetto Row Subdivision, Phase 2, accept the subdivision agreement and financial guarantee and waive the requirement for a streetlight assessment district. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter was not present when this vote was taken.]

AGENDA ITEM: IX-3
DATE: July 7, 2006

TO: Board of Commissioners

THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager

FROM: Vincent Grevemberg, Senior Engineer

ISSUE: To record the subdivision plat for Palmetto Row Subdivision, Phase 2, accept the subdivision agreement and financial guarantee and waive the requirement for a streetlight assessment district.

BACKGROUND: The engineer, EMC, for the developer, Compass Design & Management, requests that the County approve the final plat for recording, accept the subdivision agreement and financial guarantee and waive the requirement for a streetlight assessment district.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. Palmetto Row is a new subdivision located on Norwood Ave. Phase 2 of Palmetto Row consists of 6 lots on 1.64 acres. Paving and drainage improvements will be maintained by the Palmetto Row Homeowners' Association. Water and sewer will be maintained by Chatham County.
2. Staff approved construction plans and issued a permit. Construction of the improvements is underway.
3. The developer has submitted a letter of credit issued by Darby Bank & Trust Company in the amount of \$119,320, which is 100% of the cost of improvements.
4. The developer has requested that the Board waive the requirement for a streetlight assessment district. It is his intent to have the Homeowners' Association maintain the streetlights. This waiver was granted for Phase 1.
5. An Environmental Site Assessment was previously conducted on the subdivision in accordance with the Subdivision Ordinance. No environmentally unsafe conditions were found on the site.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. To approve the recording of the subdivision plat for Palmetto Row Subdivision, Phase 2, accept the subdivision agreement and financial guarantee and waive the requirement for a streetlight assessment district.
2. Do not approve the request.

POLICY ANALYSIS: This action is consistent with the subdivision regulation regarding the creation of lots through plat recording.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Commissioners adopt Alternative No. 1.

District 3

PREPARED BY: Nathaniel Panther

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4. **REQUEST BOARD AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN TO SIGN A QUITCLAIM DEED RELEASING THE COUNTY'S INTEREST, IF ANY, IN A CRIMINAL RECOGNIZANCE BOND DATED NOVEMBER 18, 1950, REGARDING PIETIFTON DISMEAU.**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Odell moved to authorize the Chairman to sign a Quitclaim Deed releasing the County's interest, if any, in a Criminal Recognizance Bond dated November 18, 1950, regarding Pietifton Dismeau. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter was not present when this vote was taken.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-4**AGENDA DATE: July 7, 2006****TO:** Board of Commissioners**THRU:** R. E. Abolt, County Manager**FROM:** R. Jonathan Hart, County Attorney**ISSUE:**

Request Board authorize the Chairman to sign a quitclaim deed releasing the County's interest, if any, in a criminal recognizance bond dated November 18, 1950, regarding Pietifton Dismeau.

BACKGROUND:

The County Attorney's Office was contacted by attorney Clyde Thompson who stated that the property records for property located at 4115 Montgomery Street show that there is a criminal recognizance bond secured by the property for the appearance in Recorder's Court of Pietifton Dismeau. The bond is in favor of Chatham County Commissioners who are described as ex-officio judges. The person was to appear in court on November 20, 1950. Mr. Thompson has requested that a quitclaim deed be executed by the County to clear the property title.

FINDINGS AND FACT:

1. The County has been requested to execute a quitclaim deed to clear the title on property located at 4115 Montgomery Street. A 1950 criminal recognizance bond in favor of the County Commissioners as ex-officio judges has been found in the title search for the property.

2. Before the Enabling Act was adopted, the County Commissioners were referred to as ex-officio judges. The County has no apparent interest in the property or the 1950 recognizance bond.

FUNDING:

N/A.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

The Board should authorize the Chairman to sign the quitclaim deed releasing the County's interest, if any, in a criminal recognizance bond dated November 18, 1950, regarding Pietifton Dismeau. The County has no apparent interest in the property or the recognizance bond.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Authorize the Chairman to sign a quitclaim deed releasing the County's interest, if any, in a criminal recognizance bond dated November 18, 1950, regarding Pietifton Dismeau.

2. Do not authorize the Chairman to sign a quitclaim deed releasing the County's interest, if any, in a criminal recognizance bond dated November 18, 1950, regarding Pietifton Dismeau.

RECOMMENDATION:

Alternative No. 1.

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**5. TO DECLARE AS SURPLUS A VACANT LOTS ON 0 GROVE STREET (1400 BLOCK) AND 0 RYALS AVENUE (2800 BLOCK) IN THE CITY OF SAVANNAH AND AUCTION THE COUNTY'S INTEREST IN THESE PROPERTIES HELD BY TAX DEED.
[DISTRICT 2.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Odell moved to declare as surplus PIN 2-0054-12-006, 0 Grove Street (1400 Block) about 11' x 100', described as North 11 Feet Lot 10, Schwarz Ward, and auction the County's interest held by tax deed in PIN 2-0596-03-018, 0 Ryals Avenue (2700 block), 30 Blk D, Ogeecheeton, located in the City of Savannah and authorize staff to proceed with the disposition of the properties as provided by Georgia law, including issuance of a quitclaim deed. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter was not present when this vote was taken.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-5**AGENDA DATE: July 7, 2006****TO:** Board of Commissioners**THRU:** R. E. Abolt, County Manager**FROM:** Patrick Monahan, Asst. County Manager**ISSUE:**

To declare as surplus vacant lots on 0 Grove Street (1400 block) and 0 Ryals Avenue (2800 block) in the City of Savannah and auction the county's interest in this property held by tax deed.

BACKGROUND:

Chatham County has legal interest by tax deed (unpaid taxes) in 0 Grove Street and 0 Ryals Avenue in the City of Savannah. While some legal question remains about the extent of Chatham County's interest in such properties, the Board has followed the following procedure:

1. Properly advertise the properties for sale in accordance with Georgia law, O.C.G.A. 36-9-3 (public bid after 15 day legal notice that describes properties).
2. Make the successful bidder responsible for paying all outstanding taxes, penalties and interest, which represents Chatham County's interest in the property.
3. Make the successful bidder responsible for obtaining marketable title.

FACTS & FINDINGS:

1. The properties of interest are:
 - 1a. 0 Grove Street (1400 Block). It is a vacant lot, reportedly about 11 feet wide by 100 feet with a legal description as "North 11 Feet Lot 10, Sschwarz Ward," Property Identification Number 2-0054-12-006.
 - 1b. 0 Ryals Avenue (2700 block). It is a vacant lot, reportedly 30 feet wide by 100 feet, with a legal description as, "30 Blk D, Ogeecheeton," Property Identification Number 2-0596-03-018.
2. Chatham County owns tax interest (Sheriff's Deed) in this property because of the default of the property owner of record to pay taxes or pursue any form of redemption. Chatham County's interest remains as a tax lien and not any established marketable title; thus, any auction attempts only to obtain Chatham County's interest in the property (the property previously went to sale on the Courthouse steps, but because no one bid on it, state law provides it becomes titled in the name of the County to ensure no transfer of the property until the tax liability becomes settled.
3. Because tax deed properties involve interest acquired through default of taxes, staff explains to any prospective buyers the problems that can arise with marketable

title. The owner assumes all liability to clear title, which includes paying off all outstanding tax liability.

FUNDING:

Funding not applicable.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Authorize staff to proceed with the disposition of the property as provided by Georgia law, including issuance of a quit claim.
2. Do not authorize staff to proceed with disposition of the property.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

Under Georgia law (O.C.G.A. 36-9-3), Chatham County must follow certain procedures in the disposition of any public interest held in property. However, the Georgia Constitution authorizes that conveyances between two governments can be handled without the usual requirements of a public sale or notice.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board adopt Alternative 1.

District 2 (Groves)

District 1 (Ryals)

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**6. TO DECLARE AS SURPLUS FIVE VACANT LOTS IN THE CITY OF SAVANNAH AND AUTHORIZE CONVEYING THE COUNTY'S INTEREST HELD BY TAX DEED IN THE PROPERTIES TO THE LAND BANK AUTHORITY.
[DISTRICTS 1 AND 2.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Odell moved to declare as surplus five vacant lots: PIN 2-0064-05-002, 1708 LeGrand Street, 24' x 100', described as Lot 122, Schwarz Ward; PIN 2-0054-21-003, 0 Grove Street (1500 block), 25' x 100', described as 133 Block 7, Schwarz Ward; PIN 2-0027-05-024, 244 McIntyre Street, 30' by 100', described as 45 Clay Ward; PIN 2-0027-03-022, 210 Fell Street, 30' by 100', described as Lot 160, Clay Ward; and PIN 2-0027-05-011, 0 Millen Street (200 block), 30' x 100', described as Lot 117 Royale Vale Terrace, Clay Ward, located in the City of Savannah and authorize conveying the County's interest held by tax deed in the properties to the Land Bank Authority. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter was not present when this vote was taken.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-6**AGENDA DATE: July 7, 2006****TO:** Board of Commissioners**THRU:** R. E. Abolt, County Manager**FROM:** Patrick Monahan, Asst. County Manager**ISSUE:**

To declare as surplus five vacant lots in the City of Savannah and authorize conveying the county's interest held by tax deed in the properties to the Land Bank Authority.

BACKGROUND:

The Land Bank Authority is working redevelopment of properties in the City of Savannah. Chatham County holds a tax deed on properties within areas of redevelopment. Use of the Land Bank Authority, which is limited to redevelopment of property for low and moderate income housing, helps to resolve tax disputes that cloud title.

FACTS & FINDINGS:

1. The properties (all vacant lots) of interest are:

1a. PIN 2-0064-05-002, 1708 LeGrand Street, a 24 foot by 100 foot lot, with the property description as "Lot 122, Schwarz Ward."

1b. PIN 2-0054-21-003, 0 Grove Street (1500 block), a 25 foot by 100 foot lot, with the property description as "133 Block 7, Schwarz Ward."

1c. PIN 2-0027-05-024, 244 McIntyre Street, a 30 foot by 100 foot lot, with the property description as "45 Clay Ward."

1d. PIN 2-0027-03-022, 210 Fell Street, a 30 foot by 100 foot lot, with the property description as "Lot 160, Clay Ward."

1e. PIN 2-0027-05-011, 0 Millen Street (200 block), a 30 foot by 100 lot, with the property description as "Lot 117 Royale Vale Terrace, Clay Ward."

2. Chatham County holds interest in the properties through a tax deed. While not marketable title, a tax deed can be used as an entry to acquire ownership warranty. The Land Bank Authority will ensure the interested property owner knows about the added steps that will be necessary before the properties can be prepared cleared of title defects and prepared for redevelopment (i.e. marketable title).

FUNDING:

Not applicable.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. That the Board authorize conveying the properties described above to the Land Bank Authority.

2. That the Board not convey the properties as described above to the Land Bank Authority and request that the Tax Commissioner's Office initiate an in rem foreclosure process.

3. That the Board not take any action on the properties described above.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

Under Georgia law (O.C.G.A. 36-9-3 et. al), Chatham County must follow certain procedures in the disposition of public property. While recent amendments to this code section make this task easier, the law requires certain procedures to maintain the public's interest in property it owns. Returning these properties to private ownership achieves the county's goals of returning property to tax generating status and responsible maintenance.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board adopt Alternative 1.

- District 1 (McIntyre, Fell, Millen)
- District 2 (Legrand, Grove)

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7. REQUEST FOR TRANSFER OF SUNDAY SALES, BEER, WINE AND LIQUOR POURING LICENSE FOR 2006: PETITIONER: KEITH ALLEN RANKIN, D/B/A REDLEG SALOON, LOCATED AT 2883 FORT ARGYLE ROAD. [DISTRICT 7.]

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Odell moved to approve the petition of Keith Allen Rankin, d/b/a Redleg Saloon, located at 2883 Fort Argyle Road, for transfer of Sunday sales and beer, wine and liquor pouring license for 2006. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter was not present when this vote was taken.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-7
AGENDA DATE: July 7, 2006

TO: BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

THRU: R. E. ABOLT, COUNTY MANAGER

FROM: GREGORI S. ANDERSON, DIRECTOR OF BUILDING SAFETY AND REGULATORY SERVICES
WILLIE LOVETT, INTERIM POLICE CHIEF

ISSUE:

Request for transfer of Sunday sales, beer, wine and liquor pouring license for 2006, Keith Allen Rankin, d/b/a Redleg Saloon, located at 2883 Fort Argyle Road.

BACKGROUND:

Mr. Rankin requests approval for transfer of Sunday sales, beer, wine and liquor pouring license in connection with an existing lounge. The business at this location meets the requirements of the Chatham County Alcoholic Beverage Ordinance.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The application was reviewed by the Police Department for compliance of the applicant and site distance requirements and approved.
2. The returned application was reviewed by Regulatory Services. The County Fire Marshal inspected the site for compliance with the commercial kitchen requirements and approved the facility.
3. This application is in compliance with all requirements.
4. The applicant has been notified of the hearing date and time.

RECOMMENDATION

The Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Police Department and Regulatory Services recommend approval.

District 7

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8. REQUEST FOR NEW SUNDAY SALES, BEER, WINE AND LIQUOR POURING LICENSE FOR 2006 PETITIONER: WEN JIE HUANG, D/B/A 17 SAKURA RESTAURANT, LOCATED AT 5730 OGEECHEE ROAD, SUITE 470. [DISTRICT 7.]

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Odell moved to approve the petition of Wen Jie Huang, d/b/a 17 Sakura Restaurant, located at 5730 Ogeechee Road, Suite 470, for a new Sunday sales and beer, wine and liquor pouring license for 2006. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter was not present when this vote was taken.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-8
AGENDA DATE: July 7, 2006

TO: BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

THRU: R. E. ABOLT, COUNTY MANAGER

FROM: GREGORI S. ANDERSON, DIRECTOR OF BUILDING SAFETY AND
REGULATORY SERVICES
WILLIE LOVETT, INTERIM POLICE CHIEF

ISSUE:

Request for new Sunday sales, beer, wine and liquor pouring license for 2006, Wen Jie Huang, d/b/a 17 Sakura Restaurant, located at 5730 Ogeechee Road, Suite 470.

BACKGROUND:

Ms. Hang requests approval for new Sunday sales, beer, wine and liquor pouring license in connection with a new restaurant. The business at this location meets the requirements of the Chatham County Beverage Ordinance.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The application was reviewed by the Police Department for compliance of the applicant and site distance requirements and approved.
2. The returned application was reviewed by Regulatory Services. The County Fire Marshal inspected the site for compliance with the commercial kitchen requirements and approved the facility.
3. This application is in compliance with all requirements.

4. The applicant has been notified of the hearing date and time.

RECOMMENDATION

The Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Police Department and Regulatory Services recommend approval.

District 7

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9. 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.)

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
A. Confirmation emergency purchase and installation of various building supply items	CNT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Savannah Architectural Supply •Consolidated Plumbing •All Season's Comfort 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •\$13,585 •\$16,196 •\$17,990 	Confiscated Funds - CNT
B. Professional services contract for Phase I Archeological Study	SPLOST	Tidewater Atlantic Research	\$16,176	SPLOST (1998-2003) - Riverwalk Expansion
C. Annual software and maintenance agreement on the Financial Management Information System	ICS	Sungard Pentamation, Inc. (Sole Source)	\$47,580	General Fund/M&O - ICS
D. Storage Area Network (SAN)system upgrade	ICS	Xiotech (Sole Source)	\$85,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •General Fund/M&O - ICS - \$37,000 •General Fund/M&O - Communications - \$48,000

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
E. Change Order No. 1 to the construction contract for the Compliance upgrade to the Pine Barren Wastewater Treatment Plant, to replace rusted conduit and wiring to an in-ground junction box and adding ten (10) days to the contract	Water and Sewer	Southern Champion Construction, Inc.	\$3,937	Water and Sewer
F. Two (2) mowing tractors	Public Works and Park Services	Atlantic Coastal Equipment	\$39,110	CIP - Public Works
G. Contract to assess, design, install and maintain a Media, Communication and Presentation System upgrade if the Commission Meeting Room	Commissioners	Stage Front Presentation Systems, Inc.	\$102,131	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Land Bank Authority - \$60,000 •CIP - Building Maintenance and Operations - \$42,131 - (Pending Board approval of budget amendment)
H. Change Order No. 7 to the contract to provide monthly pest control service to discontinue monthly service at the "Old" CNT facility and add service to the "New" CNT facility	CNT	Ideal Pest Control Services	\$420	General Fund/M&O - CNT

As to Items 9-A through 9-H:

Commissioner Odell moved to approve Item 9-A through 9-H. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried the motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter was not present when this vote was taken.]

Comment as to Item 9-F:

Commissioner Odell said, F is two mowing tractors and that may in the larger scheme of things — we talked about a \$400,000,000 budget might seem insignificant, but we get these calls that say they didn't cut my ditch, they didn't cut my ditch, I need them to cut the grass and edge the —, cut the easement, yada, yada, yada. And it's important that the general public knows that for many, many years we had reduced public works and the last budget we started to reinstate. This is a continuation of that reinstatement by making it out of —. It's a mistake to believe that the people in Public Works did not care or were not concerned. But if you're eight or ten people below staffing, it's impossible for you to meet all the needs and for us to be purchasing the tractors. I've got a constituent in Lamarville and he will be very happy of this, and I will send him a little clip that says we took your problem and rather than just giving it a surface answer, we tried to look at the underlying situation and resolve that, and this is part of that. And I move —, it's already been approved, hasn't it? Chairman Liakakis said, yes.

Chairman Liakakis said, Mr. County Manager —. County Manager Abolt said, sir. Chairman Liakakis asked, what is the current with the City with some of the organized community associations, you know, the neighborhood associations that they have is that when it is fully organized and they have people in there and especially volunteers that help out, that they have to help in a given area that what they do is they pay a little stipend to some people in that neighborhood association to do some of the things, like cutting the grass and those kind of things. That's something I'd like for you to think about, you know, with our Public Works Department because any organized neighborhood association out in the County, and that would relieve us because we have such a great area that we have to take care of. But it has been successful in some areas of the City and it might be able to help us also. County Manager Abolt said, yes sir. Chairman Liakakis said, okay.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Odell moved to approve Item 9-A through 9-H, and pull Item 9-F just for comment. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter was not present when this vote was taken.]

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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.

On first reading, presentation by MPC staff and discussion only by Commissioners will be heard.

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.

1. REQUEST BOARD AMEND THE COUNTY OCCUPATIONAL/BUSINESS TAX ORDINANCE TO MODIFY THE TAX RATE ON GROSS RECEIPTS.

Chairman Liakakis said, there's no comment on that at this time.

Commissioner Farrell said, I'd like to speak and ask some questions on it. Chairman Liakakis said, well, on first readings — County Attorney Hart said, usually you don't have discussions, only — Chairman Liakakis said, there's no discussion on that. County Attorney Hart said, but you can make comments. Commissioner Farrell said, yes. Can I ask some questions?

Commissioner Farrell said, I noticed through the Facts and Findings that this business tax schedule hasn't been amended since 1997 and I was wondering what was the impetus to look at it at this time? County Manager Abolt said, well, in 1997 we were woefully inadequate in looking at how best to provide a tax on business because it was not reflective of the vitality of the business. So we commissioned a study that identified and established certain brackets based on the wealth coming into the business. And from there then we established — the previous Board established a business occupation tax. We looked at it again this year because this is the special service district revenue, looking at what we were charging business tax compared to the City of Savannah, and we came up with this recommendation. In spite of the very good news we've had in the M&O, as you know, the SSD budget has been nip and tuck and so one of my charges to staff, in this case Mr. Anderson responded in such a fine fashion as always. We evaluated what we were receiving from business license tax and we're now recommending this adjustment that will yield a half a million dollars more in revenue for SSD, which will pick up some of the expenses that are growing faster than we can come up with dollars, including the Police Department. And from that then, by adopting this we'll still be lower than the City of Savannah, but this rate then will allow an adjustment on business license tax based on the brackets that Mr. Anderson has raised for you. Commissioner Farrell asked, so a half million that we would raise if this were enacted will just go into the SSD Unrestricted? County Manager Abolt said, yes. It's been obligated from the standpoint, you remember, going into our budget we had problems with Recorder's Court revenue, we had some very serious down turns, we had rising costs in the Police Department, as Commissioner Stone has said. We did not recommend a tax increase. We looked at other options and this was one of them we brought to you as part of your budget deliberations and you approve it. This just confirms it and allows the ordinance to be amended and the taxes will be collected.

Commissioner Farrell asked, the way the information is presented, it gives some cost per thousand. Could staff put together some sample sheets that actually have costs, you know, such as the green one here that we get every year? County Manager Abolt said, staff will do whatever you want us to do. Commissioner Farrell said, just so that — rather than looking at going from 17¢ to 47¢, we could really see the dollars and how it would affect the different brackets. And also I had one other question. At one time I think that there was a cap or whatever, you could just pay a professional price or just a flat fee. Is that still in effect or —? Mr. Gregori Anderson said, that is not affected by this change. Certainly the regulations that we're following here are mandated by the State. There was a change in the legislation back in '95 that enacted this statewide. We in turn modified our ordinance to reflect that. As far as professionals are concerned, there's an option — a couple of options depending upon the profession you're in. What we're doing today will have no effect on that. Commissioner Farrell said, so the professions will stand —. Mr. Anderson said, that's correct. Commissioner Farrell said, as — and then all the other small and large businesses in the unincorporated area would be affected by the percentage rate increases —. Mr. Anderson said, that's correct. Commissioner Farrell said, — that's stated in the code. Mr. Anderson said, that's correct. The plan is, Commissioner, and this goes into effect next year as we do the renewals that go out in November, there will be very similar type of bracketing that you have on that green sheet will be mailed out reflecting the revised package, if it is supported here. And that will go out with the renewals as well as any new businesses that will start January 1st, '07, will be effected by this rate. But, yes, there is a bracket, a new bracket that will show what the tax is through each one of those revenue streams.

Commissioner Farrell asked, we have businesses from all of the A through F probability classes? Or do we just have like a C class? Mr. Anderson said, most — not many in the F's, E's and F's, not many of those, but we do have some — most of them are probably between A and D in this community. A few A's, E's and F's. Not a whole lot, but we have a few. Commissioner Farrell asked, could we get a percentage of breakdown between the different classes of how many we currently have? Mr. Anderson said, sure, sure. Commissioner Farrell said, just for the information for the different Commissioners —. Mr. Anderson said, we can do that. Commissioner Farrell said, — to look at before the next meeting.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Stone.

Commissioner Stone said, I would be just be [inaudible] what Commissioner Farrell said. I would like a breakdown as well because we certainly want to see what an impact this is going to have the small business owners.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay, thank you. We appreciate that, Greg [Anderson].

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Chairman Liakakis read this item into the record as the first reading.

AGENDA ITEM: XI-1
AGENDA DATE: July 7, 2006

TO: BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

THRU: R. E. ABOLT, COUNTY MANAGER

FROM: GREGORI S. ANDERSON, DIRECTOR OF BUILDING SAFETY AND REGULATORY SERVICES

ISSUE:

To amend The County Occupational/Business Tax Ordinance to modify the tax rate on gross receipts.

BACKGROUND:

Under Georgia law, Chatham County is authorized to levy an Occupational/Business Tax as covered by provisions contained in O.C.G.A. 48-13-5 through 48-13-26. In 1995 Chatham County adopted the Occupational/Business Tax Ordinance to levy the tax throughout the unincorporated limits.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The occupational tax levy is based on gross receipts and profitability classification.
2. The initial tax rate for the gross receipts was reduced through an amendment to the ordinance in 1997.
3. The proposed tax rate increase will become effective January 1, 2007.
4. Renewal forms are mailed in November. The mail-outs will contain the modified tax rate schedule.
5. The proposed rate is expected to generate an additional revenue of approximately \$500,000.
6. The current occupational tax rate for the City of Savannah is between 69 and 119 cents per thousand dollars of gross receipts.

FUNDING

The modified gross receipt tax rate would provide an estimated \$500,000 additional annual revenue.

ALTERNATIVES

1. Approve proposed gross receipt tax rate modifications.
2. Deny proposed modifications.

POLICY ANALYSIS

The procurement of diverse revenue sources is consistent with established financial policies.

RECOMMENDATION:

Alternative #1, Approve proposed tax rate modification.

AMENDMENT TO THE CODE OF CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA

An Ordinance to amend the Code of Chatham County, Georgia to provide for the assessment of a Business/Occupational Tax; and other purposes. Be it ordained by the Chatham County Commission in Regular Session as Follows, to wit;

CHAPTER 16
ARTICLE I

16-104(B)(3) BUSINESS PROFITABILITY CLASSES

Businesses shall be assigned to profitability classes by the first two digits of the Standard Industrial Classification measured by nationwide averages derived from statistics, classifications, or other information published by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget, the U.S. Internal Revenue Service, or successor agencies.

The six profitability classes with tax rates expressed as decimals are incorporated into the Business Tax Schedule in Section 16-105.

<u>PROFITABILITY CLASS</u>	<u>TAX RATE ON GROSS RECEIPTS</u>	
	<u>ADD: \$</u>	<u>BRACKETS PER \$1,000</u>
	<u>DELETE \$</u>	
A	.47	.17
B	.57	.27
C	.67	.37
D	.77	.47
E	.87	.57
F	.97	.67

Effective this _____ day of _____, 2006.

CHATHAM COUNTY COMMISSION

Pete Liakakis, Chairman

ATTEST: CLERK OF COMMISSION

Sybil Tillman

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XII. SECOND READINGS

1. ORDINANCE TO LEVY A 3% EXCISE TAX ON MIXED DRINKS.

Chairman Liakakis said, I'd like a motion on the floor to table this for one month. Commissioner Odell asked, why's it got to be tabled for one month. County Manager Abolt said, 21st, sir. Chairman Liakakis said, I mean, the 21st of July, right.

Commissioner Odell I make the motion. Is there a second? Commissioner Stone said, second. Chairman Liakakis said, we have a motion on the floor to table this until the next meeting. Go on the board. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Liakakis said, thank you.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Odell moved to table to the 21st of July, 2006, the ordinance to levy a 3% excise tax on mixed drinks. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter was not present when this vote was taken.]

AGENDA ITEM: ~~XI-1~~
AGENDA DATE: ~~June 23, 2006~~

AGENDA ITEM: XII-1
AGENDA DATE: July 7, 2006

TO: BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

THRU: R. E. ABOLT, COUNTY MANAGER

FROM: GREGORI S. ANDERSON, DIRECTOR OF BUILDING SAFETY

ISSUE

Proposed Ordinance to Levy a 3% Excise Tax on Mixed Drinks.

BACKGROUND

O.C.G.A. 3-4131 allows Counties to levy a 3% tax on distilled spirits by the drink. The tax would be levied County-wide, including Municipalities that do not already levy the tax.

FACTS AND FINDINGS

1. The proposed ordinance will amend the County code.
2. The second reading will include a Public Hearing. The Public Hearing will allow discussion and information from the Municipality Representatives and the general public.
3. Upon approval of the proposed amendment, workshops will be held with Bar and Restaurant owners to cover the submittal requirements, tax forms and monthly returns.
4. The proposed amendment has been reviewed by the County Attorney and Finance Director.

FUNDING

Not Applicable.

ALTERNATIVE

1. Approve amendment to levy a 3% excise tax on distilled spirits sold by the drink, County-wide.
2. Disapprove amendment.
3. Provide direction to staff.

POLICY ANALYSIS

The State statute allows for the County-wide levy of the excise tax. Municipal Governments that already levy the tax will be exempt from the tax levy conducted by Chatham County. Restaurants and Bars located within the Municipal boundaries where the tax is not currently levied will be contacted and informed of the start date. Public Service Announcements and direct mailing will be utilized to notify the public.

Instructional workshops will be scheduled to assist the applicable establishment owners. The workshops will be used to distribute the tax forms, provide assistance in completing the tax forms and provide a submittal schedule. The Finance Department staff will be the tax receiver and information contact point.

RECOMMENDATION

Alternative #1; Approve amendment to levy 3% excise tax on distilled spirits sold by the drink, County-wide. To be effective September 1, 2006.

**AMENDMENT TO THE CODE OF
CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA**

An Ordinance to amend the code of Chatham County, Georgia to provide for the assessment of an excise tax on distilled spirits by the drink; and other purposes. Be it ordained by the Chatham County Commission in regular session as follows, to wit;

CHAPTER 17

Article I

Alcoholic Beverage Code

17-122 Alcoholic Beverage Excise Tax

Each bar or restaurant within Chatham County shall pay in addition to the regular license provided by this ordinance, an excise tax of 3% on distilled spirits sold by the drink in accordance with the following Municipalities that currently levy an excise tax on distilled spirits sold by the drink are hereby exempt from this provision.

1. Report Process, Due Date and Penalties

- (a) True and correct records of all sales of such beverages; such records shall be preserved for a period of one year and to be made available on request for inspection by any duly authorized representative of Chatham County;
- (b) Collect from each drink the amount of tax due under the ordinance and hold the same in trust for the County until such amount is remitted to the County, as provided in this section;
- (c) All taxes on distilled spirits sold by the drink are due and payable to the Chatham County Finance Department on or before the tenth day of the month;

- (d) There shall be a penalty of not less than \$5.00 or 3% whichever is greater, on all remittances not submitted by the proper due date;
- (e) All remittances of excise taxes must be accompanied by a completed report form approved by the Chatham County Finance Department. All forms must be supported by records that must be made available for inspection by County Officials upon request.

2. Sale Prohibited if Taxes Are Not Paid

It shall be unlawful for any person to sell distilled spirits by the drink that taxes provided for int his ordinance have not been paid to the County.

Effective this _____ day of _____, 2006

CHATHAM COUNTY COMMISSION

Pete Liakakis, Chairman

Attest:

Clerk of Commission

Sybil Tillman

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XIII. INFORMATION ITEMS

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

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

A status report was attached for review.

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

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

A status report was attached for review.

AGENDA ITEM: XIII-2
DATE: July 7, 2006

List of Purchasing Items between \$2,500 and \$9,999
 That Do Not Require Board Approval

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
Digital color copy machine	Manager	Imagistics International, Inc.	\$8,700	General Fund/M&O - Manager
Replace five (5) ton heat pump unit	Facilities Maintenance and Operations	Boaen Mechanical Services, Inc.	\$3,000	CIP - Health Department - Gateway
Develop a Chatham County Property Tax web application that displays tax bills with on-line credit card payment feature and includes automated tax digest updating	Tax Commissioner	Binary Bus., Ltd.	\$7,495	CIP - Tax Commissioner
Replacement of 20 ton compressor in 40 ton Trane unit	CNT	Erickson Associates, Inc.	\$8,000	Confiscated Funds - CNT
Hurricane screens for four (4) windows and the Bull Street entrance	Facilities Maintenance and Operations	Coastal Canvas Products Co., Inc.	\$5,016	General Fund/M&O - Facilities Maintenance and Operations

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3. ROAD AND DRAINAGE REPORTS.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Status reports were attached for review.

AGENDA ITEM: XIII-3 – Roads**AGENDA DATE: July 7, 2006**

TO: Board of Commissioners

THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager

FROM: Allan R. Black, P.E., Assistant County Engineer

ISSUE: To provide information on the status of Chatham County road projects.

BACKGROUND: The schedules for construction are dictated by GDOT allocations of funds among the Congressional districts and the balancing of funds in the Chatham Urban Transportation Study (CUTS) Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The current Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) was approved by the CUTS Policy Committee on June 22, 2005. The new TIP was approved on June 28, 2006. Key milestone events are summarized in the attached table.

FACTS AND FINDING:

1. Truman Parkway, Phase 5. Right of way (ROW) plans were approved on June 30, 2005. The acquisition process has started and will take until mid-2007 to complete (26 parcels acquired by early acquisition; 65 parcels to acquire). Design is underway.
2. US 17, Ogeechee River to SR 204: Subsequent to ceasing work, the GDOT put the contractor on notice for non-performance. The contractor filed for bankruptcy. GDOT advises that negotiations with the bonding company and a contractor has resulted in the signing of a contract. A new completion date has been established for March 2007.
3. Middleground Road/Montgomery Cross Road Widening. Construction by APAC has now resumed. There has been some relocation of electrical, telephone and water/sewer facilities by utility companies. GDOT approved a change order with APAC to continue work, setting a new completion date of May 31, 2008.
4. Stephenson Avenue. Substantially complete as of April 1, 2005. Liquidated damages totaling \$54,450 were assessed from December 1, 2004 to March 31, 2005. GDOT, County, City of Savannah and APAC performed the joint final inspection on June 14, 2005. A punch list was compiled (129 items) and given to APAC on June 21, 2005. Some punch list items remain to be corrected. A water valve manhole under the pavement at Forest Park Drive and Stephenson Avenue needs to be raised. A fence adjacent to the West Side Rental Company needs to be re-erected. APAC has been notified by letter that the City of Savannah wants

to make a final inspection on the storm water when their subcontractor (Dixie Excavating) says all corrective work is complete. Staff is coordinating with the City of Savannah and Dixie Excavating to do a final inspection on the new water lines. All sanitary sewer work has been accepted by the City of Savannah. APAC is now handling project close-out through their attorneys.

5. Whitfield Avenue Widening. The FHWA approved the EA on February 13, 2004. Preliminary design was completed in June, 2004. Staff was advised in January, 2005, however, that the widening of the median for landscaping and the proposed reduction in speed limit would require amending the previously approved Concept Report and Environmental Assessment. The wider median with landscaping causes four additional residential displacements and increases GDOT's ROW acquisition costs. The revised Concept Report was submitted to GDOT on July 6, 2005. GDOT asked for updated ROW acquisition costs which was provided to GDOT on October 21, 2005. A Public Information Open House (PIOH) was held on February 28, 2006. The comment period for the PIOH ended March 14, 2006. As a result of a meeting with the GDOT Project Manager on May 2, 2006, the GDOT provided (by email) written guidance as to an acceptable minimum landscaped median width (not less than 40 feet) and a design speed (45 mph). The County's consultant is revising the Concept Report and Environmental Assessment accordingly.

6. Diamond Causeway Widening. The Draft EA was approved by the FHWA on February 25, 2005, for advancement to public hearing. A PIOH was held on June 9. Because of issues regarding the impact of changed design criteria (width of median and design speed of high span bridge) on approval of the EA, the GDOT has taken over design and management of the project. In the meantime, the County offered to do the improvements on Skidaway Island by County Contract or permit. The design for the portion on the Island is complete, and was submitted to GDOT for review in January. Review comments from GDOT were received June 16, 2006.

7. Bay Street Widening from I-516 to Bay Street Viaduct. The Concept Report was approved by the GDOT on February 9, 2005. The Draft EA was sent to the FHWA on February 1, 2006. FHWA comments were transmitted March 28, 2006. The County's consultant is addressing the FHWA comments. When the Draft EA is signed, a public hearing can be scheduled.

8. Jimmy DeLoach Parkway, Phase 2 (I-16 to US 80). The FHWA approved the Final EA on March 3, 2006. A proposal from the County's consultant to complete the design has been submitted and is under review.

9. White Bluff/Coffee Bluff Road. A PIOH was held on August 12, 2004. The Need and Purpose Statement was revised to essentially create a 3-lane section from Willow Road to Cedar Grove (near entrance to Country Day School) and improve the two lanes (i.e. widen pavement to 12 feet wide travel lanes) from Cedar Grove to Rose Dhu Road. It was submitted to GDOT January 19, 2006. The project will include either sidewalks on both sides or a multi-purpose trail on one side. GDOT has apparently transferred management of the project from Atlanta to the Jesup District Office and the consultants latest submittal has been misplaced.

10. Eisenhower Widening from Abercorn to Truman Parkway. The Concept Report was approved by GDOT on June 22, 2004, but was not received by the County until November 15, 2004. Because of the high estimated ROW costs (over \$22 million -- local cost), the City of Savannah, County and consultant proposed reductions in the project. The proposal was sent to GDOT October 28, 2005. This project has also been transferred to the Jesup District office to manage. Status of the last proposal is not resolved.

11. Abercorn Widening from Largo Drive to Rio Road. The project is on hold. A letter has been sent to the consultant indicating the County intends to cancel this contract because GDOT has included the concept development and environmental permitting in their Abercorn project from U.S. 17 to Truman Parkway.

12. Skidaway Widening: The Final EA was approved by the FHWA on December 30, 2004. The County's consultant submitted a proposal (over \$750,000) which staff still has to evaluate for an amendment to the engineering services contract or a new contract to incorporate all new GDOT requirements known to date to complete the design. In accordance with the LGPA, the County is responsible for acquiring the necessary ROW. The GDOT has agreed to fund, award and manage the construction project. Due to reductions in state and federal highway funds, staff will look at the feasibility of requesting that GDOT break this project into several construction contracts.

13. Islands Expressway Bridge Replacement. LPA Group (consultant) is under contract with County to develop the Concept Report. A PIOH was held on May 26, 2005, presenting three alternatives to construct high span bridges. Written responses to the comments are complete. Estimates of utility relocation costs from GDOT are needed to complete the Draft Concept Report.

14. US 80/SR26

a. Lynes Parkway to Victory Drive. GDOT is preparing the EA. The GDOT schedule shows a PIOH in 2006 and award of a construction contract in 2008.

b. Bull River to Lazaretto Creek. GDOT is working on the EA. The GDOT hosted a PIOH on August 25, 2005, at the Tybee Island City Hall.

15. Local Roads

a. Fountain Road. Board approved the construction contract on June 12, 2006. NTP will be issued during the first week of July, 2007.

b. Mobley Street, Yucca Place, Perkins Place. GDOT executed the County Contract on March 1, 2006. The Board approved award of the construction contract on April 7, 2006. Work is in progress. Scheduled completion date is October 22, 2006.

c. Bond Avenue, Heather Street, Betran Avenue, Shore Road. GDOT executed the County Contract and issued NTP on August 19, 2005. Right-of-way issues on all the roads required changes to the construction plans, thereby delaying the bid process. Complications in the ROW negotiations on Bond and Betran Avenues are taking much longer than originally believed. As a result, GDOT agreed to a staff request to bid Heather Street and Shore Road separately for construction. The Board authorized the award of the construction contract for Heather and Shore on April 7, 2006. Chatham County received signed bonds for Shore Ave. and Heather Street on June 16, 2006. The NTP was issued on June 21, 2006. Scheduled completion is December 28, 2006.

d. Dulany Road, Cramer Street, Palm Drive and Old Pine Barren Road. Requests for County Contracts with GDOT on Old Pine Barren and Dulany were approved by the Board approval on October 21, 2005. ROW and construction plans for Dulany and Old Pine Barren should be ready in August. The consultant (McGee Partners) met with staff on February 21-23 to discuss plan development on Cramer Street, Palm Drive and other projects. During this visit a second field trip to Cramer Street was made to listen to property owner concerns. The Department of Engineering received a petition from property owners in the neighborhood requesting that any design for paving take into consideration the historic sensitivity of the area and trees that may incur root damage as a result of construction activity. The petitioners had an arborist assess the trees and placed a monetary value to them (\$293,000) and seek a 10 year monitoring period.

e. Stone Street. The property owners on this street originally did not want the street paved and submitted a petition to not pave the street. After several meetings, they changed their minds and submitted another petition with 20 of 22 property owners requesting that the street be paved. The Board authorized entering into a County Contract with GDOT on February 24, 2006. The request (GDOT Form 532) was sent to GDOT on March 1, 2006. Final construction plans will be ready in July, 2006. Right-of-way acquisition is needed on 2 parcels.

RECOMMENDATION: For information.

Districts: All

SUMMARY OF ROAD PROJECT STATUS
July 2006

PROJECT	ELEMENT	MILESTONE FOR COMPLETION	AGENCY RESPONSIBLE	NOTES
Truman Parkway, Ph 5	Environmental ROW Final Design Construction	Complete Aug 2007 Feb 2007	County County/GDOT County/GDOT GDOT	EIS approved 8/12/99 Acquisition underway. CST FY 2009
US 17: Ogeechee Riv/SR204	Construction	March 2007	GDOT	Bonding company now responsible
Middleground/Montgomery Cross Road Widening	Construction	May 2008	GDOT	Change order with APAC signed May 31, 2006.
Jimmy DeLoach Pkwy, Ph 2	Environmental ROW Design Construction	Mar 2006	County County County GDOT	Final EA approved by FHWA. CST LR
Whitfield Avenue Widening	Environmental Design ROW Construction	Feb 2004	County County County/GDOT GDOT	EA/FONSI approved. Preliminary plans on hold. ROW funded FY2006/07 CST FY 2008
Diamond Causeway Widening and two bridges	Environmental Design ROW Construction	Unknown	GDOT GDOT GDOT GDOT	Draft EA signed Feb 05. CST FY 2010

Skidaway Road Widening	Environmental Design ROW Construction	Complete	County County County GDOT	Final EA signed 12-30-04 Change order or new contract needed for design to continue. CST. FY 2010
Bay Street from I-516 to Viaduct	Environmental ROW Final Design Construction		County County County GDOT	Draft EA pending approval by FHWA. R/W (Local) FY 2008 CST LR
US 80 Widening - Bull River to Lazaretto Ck - I-516 to Victory Drive	Environmental Environmental	Unknown Unknown	GDOT GDOT	CST FY 2012 CST FY 2008
White Bluff/Coffee Bluff	Environmental	Unknown	County	CST FY 2010
Eisenhower (Abercorn to Truman Parkway)	Environmental		County	Concept Report approved June 22, 2004. CST FY 2010

NOTES: CST = FY in which the projects are programmed for construction in the CUTS 2007-2009 TIP.

AGENDA ITEM: XIII-3 – Drainage
AGENDA DATE: July 7, 2006

TO: Board of Commissioners

THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager

FROM: A. G. Bungard, P.E., County Engineer

ISSUE: To provide information on the status of Chatham County drainage projects.

BACKGROUND: For construction contracts that have been awarded, this report provides the latest scheduled completion dates. For projects pending environmental permits, start dates are best estimates. All project scopes include varying degrees of canal widening, bank stabilization, larger bridges and culverts.

FACTS AND FINDING:1. Pipemakers Canal

- a. Phase 1 (From the outfall at Savannah River to SR 21). Double channel size, replace bridges, replace tidegate, and provide maintenance access.
 - i. Construction work is complete and the new sluice gates now function automatically. The contractor has been provided a list of items to complete under warranty. A final pay request from the contractor and a summary change order is outstanding.
 - ii. Equipment to monitor gage operation has been installed.
- b. Phase 2 (From SR 21 to I-95). Double channel size and provide maintenance access.
 - i. The permit application documents have been submitted to the USACE for approval. The Consultant and staff are working to address preliminary comments.
 - ii. A contract to install an access road between Phase 1 and SR21. Work is approximately 90% complete.
- c. Kahn Mitigation Site. This site will provide the necessary wetland mitigation for the Pipemakers Canal Drainage Improvement project. Construction documents are being reviewed by the USACE.
- d. Bridge Removal and Sheet Pile Wall Modifications. A project to remove the existing bridge (with the tidegates) restricting the flow of drainage from Pipemakers Canal into the Savannah River. Design work has been temporarily suspended. Staff is discussing options with the Georgia Ports Authority.

2. Hardin Canal

- a. Phase 1 (SR307 bridges). Widen channel and replace bridge crossings. The permit application is under review by the USACE. Design work is in progress. The Consultants and staff are working to address comments received from the USACE.
- b. Phase 2 (From 307 to Pine Barren Road). Widen channel and construct a detention pond. No target construction date. Staff is working to acquire canal rights of way for the future improvements on property owned by the Georgia Ports Authority. No target construction date.

3. Westlake/Springfield Canal

- a. Phase 2. Acquisition and removal of flood-prone properties are complete. Plans to provide access and improve the outfall are being prepared.
- b. CSX railroad undercrossing. Final Design is complete. Staff is negotiating for access onto Hunter Army Airfield property (to facilitate project

- construction). Required easements have been acquired from private property owners.
4. Placentia Canal Phase 2 A project to correct drainage problem along Tennessee Ave. and to improve the appearance of the canal near the Bonaventure Bridge. Work is underway to secure easements and prepare construction documents. Staff is proceeding with fencing modifications to improve security to the tidegate area and provide access for the Department of Public Works.
 5. Conaway Branch Canal (tributary of Pipemakers Canal) Widen channel with road crossing improvements and a maintenance road.
 - a. Phase 1 includes channel improvements and crossing upgrades north of Main Street to Pipemakers Canal.
 - i. Phase 1A extends from Pipemakers Canal to Conaway Road. Right of way plans have been forwarded to the consultant to begin acquisitions. Title searches are underway. Coordination with GDOT for the crossing at Highway 80 is ongoing. Wetland delineation approval and a Provisional Wetland Permit have been received from the USACE.
 - ii. Phase 1B extends from Conaway Road to Main Street. Construction of these improvements is subject to available funding.
 - iii. Phase 1C includes the area west of Maple Street. Construction costs are to be funded by the City of Bloomingdale. Recommended improvements have been provided to the City of Bloomingdale.
 - b. Phase 2 includes improvements to system south of Main Street to Hardin Canal. These improvements are the responsibility of the City of Bloomingdale.
 6. Little Hurst Canal Improve undercrossings at SR 21 and railroad, and widen channel downstream of SR21. A project to acquire rights of way and easements, and to acquire the required permits is underway.
 7. Wilmington Park Canal Phase 2 Widen channel and improve culvert crossings under Wilmington Island Road. The permit from USACE was received on July 5, 2002. Project is under design, incorporating changes to reduce cost while still attaining storm water goals. Surveying for alternative route is complete. Review of preliminary report and recommendations is underway.
 8. Kings Way Canal Phase 2 Widen channel and enlarge culverts from Kings Way Court to the Vernon River. Improvements to widen the canal and enlarge culverts upstream of Truman Parkway were delayed because of strong objections by a property owner and by constructability issues at road crossings.

A decision on alignment has been determined. Design and acquisition of easements is preceding.

9. Romney Place Drainage Phase 2 Improve storm drains and road crossings on Romney Place and along Parkersburg Road. Final design drawings are complete. Permitting has been completed. Acquisition of rights of way and easements is underway.
10. Village Green Canal, Phase 2 A project to improve the outfall. Wetland delineation has been approved by the USACE. Staff is soliciting engineering proposals for design of Phase 2 improvements.
11. Port Industrial Park Increase the capacity of the crossing under State Route 307 and improve the channel downstream to Pipemakers Canal. Design of the project to improve the canal downstream from SR307 to Pipemakers Canal is complete. Staff is working with Garden City staff and the property owner to coordinate plans for future development with the needs of the drainage improvement project.
12. Louis Mills Canal Widen channel from Veterans Parkway downstream to outfall at Westlake Canal and improve crossing under Marshall Avenue. Design is complete. Acquisition of Easements and ROW is underway. The permit from the USACE has been obtained. Acquisition of easements is underway.
13. Redgate/Rahn Dairy A project to provide larger undercrossings at several roads, canal widening and provisions for maintenance access. This project will reduce storm water flows in the in the Louis Mills system as well as improve the drainage in the Rahn Dairy canal. Preliminary design is complete. Acquisition of easements and permitting is underway.
14. Diggs Avenue Drainage (part of Louis Mills) This drainage improvement project involves improving drainage at the east end of Diggs Avenue. The required ROW has been obtained. The County solicited bids for the work and received only one response. A negotiated agreement with the one bidder was approved by the Board of Commissioners at the May 12, 2006 meeting. Notice to proceed will be issued after the contract is finalized.
15. Ogeechee Farms Phase 2 Improve road crossings at various locations. The permit from the USACE has been received. Mitigation requirements have been met.

- i. Due to budget constraints, project scope has been revised to include crossing improvements at various locations. Staff has requested a fee proposal from the Consultant for design of additional problem areas identified by Public Works.
16. Fawcett Canal Phase 2 Provide increased storm water drainage capacity in areas affecting Red Fox Drive and White Hawthorne Drive. Design is complete. Acquisition of easements from the City of Savannah is complete. Acquisition of the remaining easements is underway.
17. Quacco Canal Drainage Improvements East of US17 Improve Quacco Canal and associated road undercrossing capacities from US 17 to marsh, including removal of a private tidegate structure. Agreements have been reached with the property owner. A permit from USACE is expected. Acquisition of easements is underway.
18. Quacco/Regency Park Storm collector improvements to relieve severity and frequency of flooding within community. Design work is underway.
19. Halcyon Bluff Subdivision Storm collector improvements to relieve severity and frequency of flooding within community. Construction is underway. Progress has been slow.
20. Golden Isles Subdivision Phase 2 Storm collector improvements to relieve severity and frequency of flooding within community. Approval by Health Department to proceed with the project has been obtained. Right of way acquisition is complete. Options to provide access for maintenance of the outfall are being evaluated. Staff is negotiating a fee proposal with the consultant to provide surveying services.
21. Georgetown Canal Upgrading roadway undercrossings to improve drainage capacity at St. Ives Way. Construction work was completed in February 2006. Minor cleanup and an inspection report for the sanitary sewer work still remaining to be completed.
22. Wilmington Outfall A project to correct storm sewer drainage pipes between Wilmington Road and the Wilmington River. Design work is underway. At the consultant's recommendation, a preparatory cleaning and inspection project has been completed. Staff is reviewing the inspection report and preliminary construction drawings.

- 23. Henderson Channel and crossing improvements to alleviate flooding in the subdivision.
 - a. Brown Thrush Canal: Crossing and channel improvements on the canal parallel to Brown Thrush Road, from Al Henderson Blvd. to Little Neck Road. Survey and analysis are complete. Staff is soliciting engineering proposals for design and permitting services.
 - b. Little Neck Crossing: Replacement of the undersized culvert. Proposals for professional services to include final design and permitting have been received and a consultant selected to begin contract negotiations. Staff will present a contract to the Board for approval.
 - c. Henderson Canal: Provide maintenance road for canal from Gateway Blvd. to Little Neck Road through wetlands. Wetland delineation has been approved by the USACE. No target construction date.

- 24. Walthour Canal at Off Shore A project to improve the undersized culverts under the entrance road to the Off Shore Subdivision. Final construction documents have been received. Efforts continue to secure the necessary permits for the project.

RECOMMENDATION: For information.

Districts: All

Prepared by W.C. Uhl, P.E.

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4. MONTHLY STATUS REPORT ON NEW RECREATION RESOURCES (RAP).

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

A status report was attached as information.

AGENDA ITEM: XIII-4
AGENDA DATE: July 7, 2006

TO: Board of Commissioners

THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager

FROM: Robert Drewry Director, Public Works and Park Services

ISSUE: Provide Board a status update on RAP and provide Turf Maintenance and Operation plan for Charlie Brooks Sports Complex

BACKGROUND:

At the Board's request, staff has developed a Recreational Action Plan (RAP) that best utilizes the \$500,000 allocated to Parks and Recreation for FY 06. It is staff's overall commitment to improve the visibility of the recreation facilities and the quality of recreational programs for the citizens of this community.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. To provide Board with a status update on RAP
2. To address the Charlie Brooks Park Turf Management Program:
 - The cost of the Core Aerator demonstrated on June 6, 2006 is approximately \$30,000. Because of funding, staff will examine other options that are available to secure a Core Aerator.
 - Extension Services continue to provide input on maintaining the turf at Charlie Brooks..
 - An inaugural tournament was held on June 30, 2006.
3. The RAP is as Follows:

I. **Personnel**

Tasks:

1. **Purchase equipment for Carpentry Crew:**

Purchased additional carpentry tools. The crew has begun making repairs as noted further in the update.

II. **Facility Repairs**

Task:

1. **Lake Mayer**

A. Replace roof on large pavilion.

- Replacement of the roof bid was put on hold until after the high use period this summer and availability of funds.

B. Renovate restrooms

- Both restrooms are completed. The entrance way to the restrooms will be completed by mid July.
- Facilities Maintenance and Operations provided assistance with electrical requirements.
- Staff to update the Chairman of the progress at Lake Mayer not to lose those that volunteered to assist with the painting of the restroom floor.

2. Ambuc Park

- A. Renovate restrooms
 - Staff has secured the needed material for the restroom renovation, and will move to Ambuc from Lake Mayer.
- B. The replacement of fencing has started on two fields leaving the other two fields in operation.
- C. Score clocks are in and will be installed at the completion of the baseball season in mid June.

3. L. Scott Stell Park/Jim Golden Complex

- A. Renovate restrooms
 - Staff is currently securing the material cost to begin construction.
- B. The handicap walks have been installed with other concrete repairs to be made during restroom renovation.
- C. Because of high bids and lack of funds, replacement of the backstop fencing is placed on hold until next fiscal year.
- D. Score clocks are in and will be installed at the completion of the baseball season in mid June.

4. Memorial Stadium

- A. Repairs to the roofs have begun and are expected to be completed on schedule, weather permitting.
- B. Inside painting of the restrooms will be addressed based on available funds at the completion of the roof repairs.

III. Recreational Programs

Task

- 1. Air time on WTYB 103.9 Radio Station highlighting Park Services summer recreation activities began 6/26/06 and will run through 7/7/06. The two air times are 6am - 10am Monday and Friday.
- 2. The Sports Panel has scheduled a baseball tournament beginning June 30th to officially open Charlie Brooks Sports Complex to limited activity.

Funding:

N/A

FOR BOARD INFORMATION ONLY

Various Districts

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon motion being made by Commissioner Thomas and seconded by Commissioner Gellatly, the board recessed at 10:45 a.m. to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing litigation and personnel.

Following adjournment of the Executive Session, the meeting of the Board of Commissioners was reconvened at 11:26 a.m.

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ITEMS FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

- 1. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE A MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN TO EXECUTE AN AFFIDAVIT THAT THE EXECUTIVE SESSION WAS HELD IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT.**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Farrell moved to approve a motion to authorize the Chairman to execute an Affidavit that the Executive Session was held in compliance with the Open Meetings Act. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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PERSONAL PRIVILEGE - COMMISSIONER THOMAS

Commissioner Thomas said, I will be entering the hospital on Wednesday morning for surgery on my esophagus. After the doctor looks at it, he will then decide to do complete surgery or whatever needs to be done. And after I come home, I will need time to recuperate. But in the event something happens, you can just take care of my constituents.

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 11:29 a.m.

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FRIDAY

JULY 7

2006

APPROVED: THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2006

**PETE LIAKAKIS, CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA**

SYBIL E. TILLMAN, CLERK OF COMMISSION