

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA, HELD ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1, 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 9:35 a.m., Friday, December 1, 2006.

=====

**II. INVOCATION**

Commissioner Patrick Farrell gave the Invocation.

=====

**III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

=====

**IV. ROLL CALL**

Chairman Liakakis said, I'd like a motion from the floor excusing Dean Kicklighter. He was unable to come today, he was tied up. If someone would make a motion to excuse him from the meeting today. Commissioner Odell said, so moved. Commissioner Thomas said, second. Commissioner Gellatly said, second. Chairman Liakakis said, we have a motion on the floor and a second to excuse Commissioner Dean Kicklighter. Let's go on the board. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Liakakis said, the motion passes.

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: B. Dean Kicklighter, Chairman Pro Tem, District Seven

Also present: Russell Abolt, County Manager  
Jonathan Hart, County Attorney  
Sybil E. Tillman, County Clerk

=====

**CHATHAM COUNTY YOUTH COMMISSIONERS**

Chairman Liakakis welcomed the following Youth Commissioners who were in attendance: Breonna Frazier, a Senior at St. Paul’s Academy for Girls, and Erica Green, a Sophomore at Beach High School.

=====

**V. PROCLAMATIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

**1. PROCLAMATION FOR MS. SHIRLEY S. REID FOR HER RETIREMENT FROM THE CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT OFFICE.**

Chairman Liakakis said, I’d like to call on Commissioner Helen Stone to present the proclamation.

Commissioner Stone read the following proclamation into the record:

***PROCLAMATION***

**WHEREAS**, Chatham County is privileged to have employees of high caliber that take great pride in their duties and responsibilities, and in that regard, we commend Shirley S. Reid; and

**WHEREAS**, Shirley S. Reid began her employment with Chatham County March 28, 1988 as an Administrative Assistant in the District Attorney’s Office and since 1997 has worked in the Office of the Clerk of Superior Court; and

**WHEREAS**, during her tenure Shirley S. Reid has served in the Criminal Division, Real Estate Division and most recently as a Deputy Clerk, where she has performed exceedingly difficult duties assisting judges in court, the public when in the office and for the past two years the duties of a Judicial Case Manager; and

**WHEREAS**, the citizens of Chatham County have benefitted from her marvelous work ethic, infectious smile, and deep rooted desire to assist all the people of the County;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I Pete Liakakis, Chairman, on behalf of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners, do salute:

**SHIRLEY S. REID**

for her faithful service to the citizens of Chatham County and extend best wishes for a long, happy and healthy retirement.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of Chatham County, Georgia to be affixed this 1<sup>st</sup> day of December 2006.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Pete Liakakis, Chairman  
Chatham County Commission

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sybil E. Tillman, Clerk

Ms. Reid said, thank you so very much. It is like leaving family because I have grown with you guys. Some new faces, but mostly old faces.

Chairman Liakakis said, Shirley [Reid], I'd like to thank you on behalf of the Chatham County Commission. You've done an outstanding job, you've really represented the — you know, your position in the court and being helpful with people and all the wonderful things that you have done. I see you have some guests with you today. Would you like — let them stand up and you introduce them also.

Ms. Reid said, this is my oldest daughter, the firstborn, Diane Kennedy Coleman, and my loving son-in-law and her husband Joseph Coleman. The big girl you see over there is my second daughter, Carolyn Lanier. My nephew, Michael Sherman — I'm sure you all know him —, and then Renee Hardin is one of my co-workers, and my boss, the man who I keep straight every day, and two other co-workers, Jan Sheppard and Silvana Vidulich.

Chairman Liakakis asked, Dan [Massey], would you like to make a comment?

Mr. Dan Massey said, just a couple of words. Shirley [Reid] and I knew one another for several years, but it wasn't until the past couple of years, after I went to Superior Court, that we have really learned to know one another well. And as we pass through life and go into these different situations, we run across a lot of roses and a few thorns. Shirley [Reid] has definitely been one of the roses in my life and the lives of all those who she comes in contact with. She will sorely be missed in the Clerk's Office and extremely difficult to replace.

Chairman Liakakis said, Shirley [Reid], thank you again and may you be blessed in your retirement years and have a great healthy life.

=====

## **VI. CHAIRMAN'S ITEMS**

### **1. INTRODUCTION OF JOE MARKWALTER, CHATHAM COUNTY MILITARY LIAISON.**

Chairman Liakakis said, Introduction of Joe Markwalter, Chatham County Military Liaison, who is succeeding Ken Seymour. He will be introduced to the Commission at the next meeting. He is out of town today.

=====

## **VII. COMMISSIONERS' ITEMS**

### **1. CRAMER STREET FUTURE (COMMISSIONER STONE).**

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Stone.

Commissioner Stone said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. As I mentioned to you all in the pre-meeting, this is simply put on the agenda to request that the paving of Cramer Street be removed from the County's list of roads to be paved, and I know that there are several people here that would like to speak on that today and I will not belabor this. I think I gave you sort of a summary in Pre-Meeting, and I will let the people that have come to speak today, let them speak.

Chairman Liakakis asked, okay. Any spokesperson or spokespeople, would you come to the microphone and identify yourself. Come up to the podium please.

Ms. Erica Walling said, hello. I am Erica Walling and I live on Isle of Hope. I'm here to tell you that I am against the paving of Cramer Street and St. Thomas Avenue. I'd like to ask, first of all, if anybody received the letter from Michael Curran. He is President of the Isle of Hope Historic Association and, if you did not receive that, I'll just read a short sentence from his letter. He says, "The current proposed improvements to cure the drainage problem on Cramer Avenue [which is actually Street] in our view runs the unacceptable risk of significant impact to the area both from the intermediate to long term health of the magnificent oak trees as well as possible impact to our local river through direct runoff." I would like to add to that that when we first learned of the project, we hired a Certified Arborist to assess potential tree damage. Many of our trees will be impacted. His name is Jerry Holcomb and he is here and I believe he would like to make a statement. Unfortunately, the County cannot ensure that there will be no damage to these trees and those trees are very important to us. They're very old and very large trees and very beautiful.

I would like to stress that the City of Savannah derives a lot of money from the tourism and the Isle of Hope historic area is a major tourist spot. We have tour buses regularly that come down our roads for the same reason that we love it and that we live there. Its beautiful trees and clean roadways are a major factor in the quality and character of our [inaudible]. This huge project will negatively impact the historic district both in the short term and on the long term with minimal results compared to the massive expense. I would like to see my neighbors' drainage issues resolved. Sincerely. But I feel that other options should be researched or explored before spending such a large sum of money on this project. There are many here who feel as I do if you will you please raise your hand. And I'd like to introduce, if I could, Jerry Holcomb, who is a former City Arborist for Columbus, Georgia, and he is the person who did our assessment for us with the trees. Thank you.

Mr. Jerry Holcomb said, good morning. We had a view to show you this morning, but technical problems have taken care of that in short term. I have passed out in front of you, I hope you have it, a copy of my presentation. So I feel like you need to take it home. I am Jerry Holcomb. I was the City Arborist with the City of Columbus, Georgia, for twelve years. I have been a consultant arborist for the last eight years for municipalities and private individuals and insurance companies as it regards to trees. I'm here today to represent citizens from the Isle of Hope and the Savannah Tree Foundation as it relates to potential tree damage from the proposed Cramer — and I'm not going to go [inaudible], it varies —, the Cramer Street Sewer Drainage Project. I do not have the whys, so in front of you I have it. I was asked to evaluate the trees, predominantly large live oak trees along this route, and to come up with alternative methods to preserve and to prevent injury for these significant live oaks. Major work in construction of a sewer drain is done by trenching. This is the only route that has been in years past for digging the trench to put in the lines.

Mr. Holcomb said, the main concern for us today is that the Cramer Drive exit coming down St. Thomas Avenue as it crosses Bluff Drive. Coming down St. Thomas it is a very narrow street, about 25 - 26 feet. It is an old street in the old historic area. Along this route from Cramer to Bluff is a large number of large pine trees that will have a significant impact on them if a trenching operation is done to put in this drain. At the intersection of Bluff and St. Thomas there are four exceptionally large live oak trees that will have a dire impact from this construction work if it's done by traditional methods. What I would like to do is give you some facts and figures. We have at the Bluff — #19 Bluff — a 74-inch live oak tree. Across the street from the curb to the river on the same property, owned by the landowner, are three other significant oak trees. These trees range from 34 to 59-inches in DBH at this diameter at breast height, four and a half feet above ground. These trees will have a significant impact as the drainage crosses the road. The large live oak in the yard at #19 Bluff Drive, the 74-inch tree, is only 24 feet from the center line of St. Thomas. The other trees, as you shoot a center line across, would be within 23 to 25 feet for trees two and three. This, gentlemen and ladies, causes a concern because if traditional construction methods is used, we're going to have a significant impact on these valuable trees. Most of the time when we go out and we look at trees we look up. All we see is the beautiful canopy, the draping of Spanish moss. We never look down. The life support of a tree is in the ground, the root system. The root system of a tree just doesn't stay in a little spot. It moves out two to three times the height of the tree. Now this 74-inch live oak is probably around 60 foot tall because if you multiply that and you see we have roots of this tree 180 feet away, under your street, into the next-door neighbor's yard. So any type activity would seriously destroy the root system of these trees. We

have to remember that the major root system of a tree are located in the zero to 12-inches depth of the soil. Now, how does that affect the tree? If we did down with a trencher and we severe down to three feet and we run straight down the road on Cramer —, I mean, on St. Thomas, we've just cut off 40 to 50% of this significant 74-inch live oak. Then we cross the road over to the river side and we go down. We are crossing into the protected roots on these other trees. Now, we have what we call a minimum tree protection zone when we are working on trees. This is generally classified as the drip line which is the farthest point of the branches going out. I commend this Commission and Chatham County that years ago y'all adopted to have a Tree Ordinance placed into you all's files for the regulatory use and protection of trees on city or county rights-of-way. Now, in the Chatham County Land Disturbing Activities Ordinance, y'all have in Section 24-207, Section 1-A-8, a table that shows the minimum distance that a construction can get from the trunk of a tree. This circular distance for this use of a 40-foot tall tree plus is 22-1/2 feet. At the time this ordinance was set up, this was the correct thing. In the last few years, new research has shown that this has been modified. We now take it at 1.5 feet times the diameter of the tree and multiply it to give us the distance we can come within the root zone during construction. For this tree it is 111 feet totally across, which means the projected root zone is 55.5 feet away from the trunk of the tree. Now, that's 32 feet difference than y'all [inaudible]. But this is new industry standard. I commend y'all. Y'all do have a way to protect trees on County rights-of-way, but your regulations have come up with better ways.

Mr. Holcomb said, if you're following me, you will see that where I'm leading is the way. The group does not want these trees destroyed. We're trying to look at a compromise to work with the County. Now, from my point when I was City Arborist of Columbus I worked with the Engineering Department, Rights-of-Way Department, and all, so I do know there is change to work with. What we are proposing today, instead of the traditional trenching method, we go with tunneling or boring under the rights — these trees' root systems. Granted it does cost more, but when you look at the value of these trees, what they mean to this neighborhood, and the environmental potentials they have, then yes we need to look at all concepts to follow. By tunneling we can go under the root system of these trees at a depth of three to four feet, which will probably be the distance that we have to go down to put in the new drain lines. We would not disturb any roots of these trees if we tunnel outside the drip line of these trees to the river. Of course, I will have to say I am not an engineer, but at the river's edge where the drain line will drop into the river, I realize there will have to be a skit dug for the tunneling site to come out, so you will have to put up some entrance points for you all's drains. This may cause problems but this point, but by boring we're only looking at a problem right on the river's edge, which is a protected area that we need to significantly look at because if we lose any of these trees because of the destruction of the roots on the river, we can start losing erosion and embankment, and I don't think we need this at any point because then you're going to have to deal with the Corps of Engineers.

Mr. Holcomb said, my suggestion and recommendation is that the County look at the opportunity of trenching versus tunneling and go with tunneling out here to protect these trees. Not only will it make these citizens happier, it will show that this County does follow it's own ordinance of protecting trees. The loss of the trees in this neighborhood would be a historic value because that 74-inch diameter live oak is probably 200-plus years of age. We cannot ever replace it if we add up several of our ages together. The other trees are probably very similar in age. It's just that they have grown at different stages. Not only will we lose the aesthetic value from the #19 Bluff

Drive, but we will also lose an extremely important economical value for the homeowner. We wish that this group will look at the option of tunneling. It is not as expensive as it used to be. I'll be glad to entertain any questions and I'm sorry that I didn't get my video, but that may help you out better.

Chairman Liakakis said, no, that's okay. We appreciate your presentation in giving us that information because this Commission is concerned our environment and the protection of people's homes and property and all and we'll take note of that. We discussed this at our pre-meeting today just prior to coming our for our regular meeting and there have been some suggestions. We had information from our County Engineer and, of course, Commissioner Helen Stone, who's brought this up. So what I'd like to do right now, Sybil [Tillman], did you have — have you got his name? Did you get his —. The Clerk said, I have his — his name is all I have. Chairman Liakakis said, oh, okay. But here's what I'd like, for the people that are in, you know, that are supporting this not to pave the Cramer Street at this particular time, if you would raise your hand because I would like our County Clerk to make a note of that in her minutes. If you'll hold your — just keep your hands held up so she can count them please. [NOTE: The total number counted was 19 persons.] Commissioner Odell said, Madam Clerk, you have one additional —. Chairman Liakakis said, no, no.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Stone.

Commissioner Stone said, I just want to make a motion. Mr. Chairman, after months of meetings and reviewing all options to this project, I think that this is a project that is not without significant risks of altering community character and by jeopardizing the trees by running a pipe down Cramer Avenue [sic] and down St. Thomas Avenue. So I would like to certainly keep in mind the need for the people with the drainage in that area and see what other options can be reviewed, but at this time I would like to remove the paving of Cramer Street off of the County's roads to be paved. Commissioner Farrell said, second.

Chairman Liakakis said, all right, we have a motion on the floor to take it off the present paving projects now. 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. Thank you very much. We appreciate you coming forth. Yes?

Mr. Joe Roberts said, Joe Roberts. I live on Cramer Street. This all came up with drainage, not with paving. None of us asked for paving. We just asked for relief from drainage and then the County came and I met with [inaudible] Thomas and different ones, and the trenching and the big projects and the — there's two standing pools of water, one at the corner of [inaudible] and Parkersburg and then Cramer Street. So all of this came up with drainage. So that's my question now, that we have the paving and the trenching and the trees taken care of, and none of us wants to see the trees damaged, but we do need some relief on drainage. That's my only question.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay. Thank you. Our County Manager is — we have a substitute for him today. We have Patrick Monahan, our very able Assistant County Manager, who's representing that position today, but what I'd like to do, I'm sure that our County Manager Russ Abolt, he's in St. Joseph's Hospital recovering from a knee replacement, and I'd like to say hello to him, to Russ [Abolt]. I hope the cameras are giving you that message right now, and of course

all of us on the County Commission and many of our citizens wish you a speedy recovery and may God bless you. Thank you.

Chairman Liakakis said, all right, next item. — Excuse me. Yes, ma'am?

A lady in the audience asked, [inaudible]? Chairman Liakakis said, well, we had discussion. Here's what we did. We had discussion in the prior meeting and we had the Engineer there and they will be looking at that and watching that through the design process and those kinds of things, and then after the Engineer completes his — their design and what they are doing in those areas, they'll bring back to the Commission and we'll advise the residents so they'll know exactly what's going to occur because we don't want to do anything without all of the residents understanding what's going to occur in the future. The lady in the audience said, [inaudible]. Chairman Liakakis asked, would you come up and identify yourself please ma'am?

Ms. Ann Groover and I live on Cramer Street, and we were told by the Engineer, County Engineer, the chief one, Mr. Bungard or —. Chairman Liakakis said, Al Bungard. Ms. Groover said, that if we didn't pave the road we would get no relief from flooding.

Chairman Liakakis said, well, here's what the comments that were made to me when I spoke to the County Engineer — he spoke this morning — is that they're going to look at it. It's still in the project area. They will look at it and see what can occur with that because we have to take a lot of things in consideration, and we're concerned about the flooding, but they will be observing that. They will come back to this Commission, give us the information, and we will go from there.

Ms. Groover said, I'm not for paving the road. We do have a big ditch behind us that was supposed to take the water out, but somehow it got covered up, so I'm saying why can't the water go back to the ditch again, and they keep saying, well, the ditch is higher, so why can't you did it out and make it lower?

Chairman Liakakis said, well, we will advise you. As soon as we get the information from the Engineer, then we will advise, you know, the residents concerning that project. Ms. Groover said, I just hope we don't have a big rain in the meantime. Chairman Liakakis said, yes ma'am. Thank you. Yes?

Mr. Oscar Fultz said, my name is Oscar Fultz. I used to work for you folks. Chairman Liakakis said, right. Mr. Fultz said, I was Mosquito Control Director for 32 years. I've had the great pleasure of living on the Isle of Hope since July of 1964. It's a beautiful area and I want to give you good news. Isle of Hope is a well-drained area. I've seen rainfall is like 4-1/2 inches and it drains well all over the island. I checked with Mosquito Control yesterday and had any standing water problems that would breed mosquitos in that location, and there was no problem with mosquito breeding. That means the water doesn't stand there very long. The island was made of — it's a sandy soil and it drains and percolates very, very well in short order. I'm having a problem here trying to figure out when water would stand somewhere on Isle of Hope because it does drain well. But I just wanted to make a point that the Isle of Hope is in pretty good shape when it comes to drainage and that's the good news, and if we can resolve this small problem that would be great, too, but don't take down the trees please.

Chairman Liakakis said, thank you, Oscar [Fultz]. Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Stone.

Commissioner Stone said, I just wanted to say, Mr. Chairman, that I'll be happy to stay in touch with the residents throughout trying to look at if there's any ditch cleaning or anything that needs to be done to help that water flow and certainly be in contact with the County Engineer to see what can be done.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Stone moved that the County keep in mind the need for the people of Isle of Hope with the drainage problems and see what other options can be reviewed, and that Cramer Street be removed from the County's list of roads to be paved. Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter was not present when this vote was taken.]

**AGENDA ITEM: VII-1**

**AGENDA DATE: December 1, 2006**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners

**THRU:** R. E. Abolt, County Manager

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

**ISSUE:** Paving Cramer Street.

**BACKGROUND:** The 2003-2008 SPLOST includes funds to pave dirt roads in Unincorporated Chatham County. The purpose of the paving program is to improve safety, drainage, trafficability, and to reduce maintenance costs. According to the County Department of Public Works, dirt roads are normally scheduled to be graded twice a month and repaired as needed.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. On May 27, 2005, the Board approved a design contract with McGee Partners, Inc. to design four paving projects on Isle of Hope, one of which is Cramer Street.
2. The consultant developed a preliminary design utilizing the latest American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) Guidelines for Geometric Design of Very Low-Volume Local Roads. These guidelines allow for narrower paving widths. The current standard design for local roads in the County is two twelve foot lanes with two feet wide curb and gutter sections on urban roads, for a total width of twenty-eight feet.
3. McGee Partners distributed survey entry letters to the property owners at the start of the project design. Staff spoke with Mr. Joe Roberts and Mr. Wes Lanier,

property owners on Cramer Street, in January 2006. Their concerns about drainage and paving were conveyed to McGee Partners to incorporate into the preliminary design.

4. The paving of the street and associated drainage improvements addressed three areas of nuisance flooding in the area. The areas are Parkersburg Road between Cornus Drive and Cramer Street, property at 3 Cramer Street, and the unopened right-of-way of Cramer Street adjacent to Saint Thomas Episcopal Church. An existing eighteen inch diameter storm drainage pipe under St. Thomas Avenue from Cramer Street to Bluff Drive removes water from the north end of Cramer Street. The elevations of the existing pipe will not allow for an extension southward down Cramer Street towards Parkersburg Road.

5. On February 23, 2006, a meeting was conducted on site with all or most of the residents to hear their concerns and show a preliminary design. The initial preliminary plan included a paving width of 16 feet in a 21 to 26 feet wide right of way, and proposed a new drainage outfall under Parkersburg Road from Cramer Street to Bluff Drive. The current right of way along Cramer Street varies from 16 feet to 20 feet. The sanitary sewer line must be lowered to install the storm drain pipe. Additional right-of-way is required from the three parcels on the east side of Cramer Street, owned by Ms. Jane Naismith and Ms. Erica Rollings. The residents were concerned that the excavation under Parkersburg Road presented high risk to the large oak trees. The Saint Thomas Episcopal Church expressed concerns about drainage near the intersection of Cramer Street and St. Thomas Avenue.

6. The consultant developed more alternative designs utilizing the AASHTO Guidelines for Geometric Design of Very Low-Volume Local Roads and other options to improve the drainage.

7. In June 2006, the County Department of Public Works cleared the storm drain pipe down St. Thomas Avenue and regraded Cramer Street near the Roberts' property in an attempt to improve storm water runoff.

8. Another meeting was held with property owners on September 13, 2006, at the County Department of Engineering to show the changes incorporated into four alternative designs. The paving width was further reduced to twelve feet. The alternative preliminary designs relocate the drainage outfall from Cramer Street along St. Thomas Avenue to Bluff Drive, replace and lower the junction box at the intersection of Cramer and St. Thomas, and replace the existing 18 inch storm drainage pipe with a 24 inch pipe. This route has fewer oak trees, but increases the length and depth of the pipe. Also, the width of the right-of-way on St. Thomas Avenue is extremely narrow. Replacement of the storm drain pipe will be difficult, slow and costly.

9. The residents proposed reducing the paving width further, making the street a one-way street or making the street a cul-de-sac. On September 25, 2006, staff responded to these proposals. The paving could be reduced to eleven feet and

the street could be changed to a one-way street in either direction, but the street should not be changed to a cul-de-sac. The residents had mixed opinions to the paving, but most were opposed to the proposed storm drainage improvements. The primary concerns are the potential impacts to the large oak trees. The staff arborist stated that the excavation for the storm drain piping could have some impacts to the oak tree roots. The residents hired an arborist to assess the impacts and quantify the value of the trees at \$293,000.

10. The construction costs will likely exceed \$750,000.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. That the Board direct the paving of Cramer Street.
2. That the Board direct not to pave Cramer Street.

**FUNDING:** No funding is required at this time.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** The longstanding policy of the Board has been to approve projects to pave and reduce dirt roads in the Unincorporated County.

**RECOMMENDATION:** For Board consideration.

District 1

Prepared By: Kirk Thomas

=====

## **2. MINORITY CONTRACTORS' PARTICIPATION IN FUTURE SPLOST PROJECTS (COMMISSIONER THOMAS).**

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Thomas.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you, Mr. Chairman and members of this Commission. I will be very brief. I placed this on the agenda this morning because in my estimation and in talking with the many, many citizens of this County, we cannot continue to do business as usual. Minority participation in County contracts are very essential in promoting balance, economic and community growth throughout Chatham County and, therefore, I'm asking you, my colleagues, this morning to reaffirm Chatham County's commitment to the inclusion of minority small business contracting, especially in regard to SPLOST projects and to continue its effort to achieve this purpose, and I would also like to ensure that all of our contract bid documents contain language so that contractors understand the importance and benefits of this inclusion and also like to also —, I'm sorry. I would also like to state that when we are awarding points, it might be good to give extra consideration to those who are complying with the request, and this is going to be put in a motion unless we have some further discussion on this issue.

Chairman Liakakis said, well, it was mentioned earlier in the pre-meeting about updating the resolution, you know, concerning that, so if you would like then if you make the motion to have the County Attorney give us the wording so that we can vote on that so that can be applied to our future contracts.

County Attorney Hart said, that motion that was made by Dr. Thomas is absolutely in good order and just reaffirms the former position of the Commission and I think would in and of itself be sufficient to —. Chairman Liakakis asked, that's sufficient? County Attorney Hart said, yes sir. Chairman Liakakis said, okay.

Commissioner Shay said, I'd like to second the motion.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay. We have a motion on the floor and 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, the motion passes.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you very much.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Assistant County Manager Monahan.

Assistant County Manager Monahan said, Mr. Chairman, I'll — at the next meeting — actually I drafted the 1993 resolution and I'll just update that and bring it back for the Commission's confirmation.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay, that will be fine. Chairman Liakakis recognized Youth Commissioner Frazier.

Youth Commissioner Frazier asked, Ms. Thomas, what are some of the [inaudible] subjects for minority contracting? Commissioner Thomas said, well, right now we have the jail expansion and then we have the courthouse expansion and we want to make sure that minorities are included in those contracts whenever they do the RFP's and the work to begin on those particular projects. So those are some of the things we need to do.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Youth Commissioner Green.

Youth Commissioner Green asked, what are the benefits of minority contracting inclusion? Dr. Thomas said, well, it's going to increase your economic base across the County by doing that. If everybody do not have an opportunity to participate in a project in terms of economic growth, then you do not have an overall situation where everybody is increasing their participation and their growth. So, therefore, it's very important that everybody, you know, that — have an opportunity to be included in the process. In other words, if you live next door to me and I'm getting all of the work and you do not get anything, then that's not a good thing. Okay? So that means we're not going to be on equal footing if we do that in that regard. Okay? Maybe some of the other Commissioners might want to expand on that.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Odell.

Commissioner Odell said, we talked in pre-meeting about amending the contract amount as the law as bumped up the amounts, Jon [Hart], from 40 or \$60,000 to now \$100,000. Will that need to come back to us? County Attorney Hart said, we probably need to go back and revisit that and try to adopt standards within the law recognizing what impact that may have on small business participation. Obviously the higher the bond rate the more difficult it is for a small business to be able to [inaudible]. Commissioner Odell said, when you do that, can you look at what the City of Savannah's doing. Watching their council meeting, their last council meeting, they amended their ordinance to increase the amount from 40 to \$100,000 or less regarding the bonding, and if we could determine whether or not paralleling what the City is doing would make sense so that if you are doing business in Chatham County, hopefully at some point we will have such uniformity that we won't have varying rules from the City to the County. If that's possible. Can you give us a time when that might come back to us? County Attorney Hart said, next meeting? Commissioner Odell said, next meeting.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Thomas.

Commissioner Thomas said, yeah, I forgot to mention what I was saying. I would hope that, and I don't want to put Mr. Bill Hubbard on the spot — I don't know if he's still here —, but anyway the same way that, you know, the Chamber came forth and they worked very hard with the total community with the SPLOST, it is my understanding that the Chamber is very interested in assisting in doing whatever they can outside of, you know, of what we're doing to ensure that this takes place. So we would welcome anybody who would help the minority contractors to, you know, to participate.

Chairman Liakakis said, yeah, I think Bill [Hubbard] has left, but we'll get the message to him.

#### **ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Thomas moved that Chatham County reaffirm its commitment to the inclusion of minority small business contracting, especially in regard to SPLOST projects, and to continue its effort to achieve this purpose, and that all of our contract bid documents contain language so that contractors understand the importance and benefits of this inclusion and that we give extra consideration to those who are complying with this request. Commissioner Shay seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter was not present when this vote was taken.]

=====

#### **RECOGNITION OF NEW CHIEF OF POLICE**

Chairman Liakakis said, what I would like to do right now before we proceed any further, we have the new Chief of Police in the audience, the Chief of our Chatham-Savannah Metro Police Department. I'd like him to come forward to the microphone and say some words to us. I've been to several meetings where the new Chief has come into town and he's fielded many questions from our citizens, he has talked a good bit about things that he would like to, he has now — once

he analyzes things, as he told us, you know, he'll be putting a number of things into process. But, Chief, welcome again on behalf of the Chatham County Commission, and this is live going out to the general public now, plus it's replayed three or four times, so we'd like for you, if you'd like to say anything right now.

Chief Michael Berkow said, well, Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, it's really a pleasure to be here. I've had a great welcome. It feels like it's been five minutes since the day seems to start early and end late. There's a lot of folks to meet and to get out and I've been trying to do that, and I appreciate some of the phone calls and the invitations that I've had from different Commissioners and I'm doing my best to work with each of you, and I had the pleasure of being with Dr. Thomas and yourself, sir, the other night, which I greatly appreciate, and Commissioner Stone and I have worked on a couple of issues already. So I just look forward to getting to meet you and having the opportunity to serve you and the citizens in this community over the coming years. Right now I'm just learning and listening to everyone and trying to identify the issues internally and externally and figure out the best ways to make this the safest most secure community in the United States that we possibly can be. And I have to tell you that I've been overwhelmed by the sense of welcome that I've received and the sense of commitment that I've received from both the community and the officers in terms of really wanting to make this a safe and secure community. So I deeply appreciate the welcome. I'm happy to be here. I look forward to working with all of you and meeting with all of you, and I'm pretty clear that I have more bosses than anybody else in Chatham County and maybe the State. So it's my pleasure to be here.

Chairman Liakakis said, thank you, Chief, and we encourage all the citizens of Chatham County to support you and to work with you so that those different issues and different things that you're going to put in place that it will be very successful because of you and the citizens joining up with you.

Chief Berkow said, thank you very much. Commissioner Thomas said, thank you.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Stone.

Commissioner Stone said, I just wanted to say I don't know how that man gets everywhere he needs to be, but every time I turn around he's at another place, so you must have a very high energy level and whatever you eat for breakfast I'd like some of it because he's everywhere all the time. Thank you. Chief Berkow said, thank you.

=====

## **CHATHAM AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY**

Upon motion made by Helen Stone, seconded by Commissioner Shay and unanimously approved, the Board recessed at 10:10 A.M., as the County Commission and convened as the Chatham Area Transit Authority.

Following adjournment of the Chatham Area Transit Authority, the Board reconvened as the County Commission at 12:28 P.M.

=====

## **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 (\*).

### **1. TO ADOPT A PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CHATHAM COUNTY PERSONNEL ORDINANCE AND PROCEDURES MANUAL, POLITICAL ACTIVITY, ARTICLE III-106, TO PROHIBIT A COUNTY EMPLOYEE FROM HOLDING ELECTED OFFICE. *Tabled at meeting of November 17, 2006.***

Chairman Liakakis said, it's on here as tabled items, but we tabled that, as you remember, for 30 days. So we just retain that on the table. Yes?

Commissioner Stone said, about that, Mr. Chairman, since this does affect our employees of Chatham County, is there a memo sent out that they know that this is something that's going to be discussed. Commissioner Odell said, it's called the Savannah News-Press. Commissioner Stone said, well, I mean I'd like to do it professionally though. I think we have an obligation to our employees to at least let them know that this is something that —. Commissioner Odell asked, you'd like to do it professionally. Are you implying that they are not professional? Commissioner Stone said, said, I just mean our way.

Chairman Liakakis said, well, Mr. Monahan, if you could put it on the board and let the department people know. Assistant County Manager Monahan said, we'll — we can create an advisory. Chairman Liakakis said, okay, good.

### **ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

This item was not removed for consideration by the Board; however, Commissioner Stone requested that the County employees be advised that this action is scheduled for consideration.

=====

## **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. TO REQUEST APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING: (1) AN AMENDMENT TO THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FUND BUDGET FOR A \$20,583 TRANSFER IN FROM THE GENERAL FUND M&O, AND (2) A TRANSFER OF \$2,120 FROM CNT CONTINGENCY TO CNT EXPENDITURES IN THE CONFISCATED FUNDS SPECIAL REVENUE FUND.**

Chairman Liakakis asked, do we have a motion on the floor to approve that?

Commissioner Farrell said, so moved. Commissioner Thomas 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 Farrell moved to approve the following: (1) An amendment to the Emergency Management Fund budget for a \$20,583 Transfer In from the General Fund M&O, and (2) a transfer of \$2,120 from CNT Contingency to CNT Expenditures in the Confiscated Funds Special Revenue Fund. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter was not present when this vote was taken.]

**AGENDA ITEM: IX-1**

**AGENDA DATE: December 1, 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) an amendment to the Emergency Management Fund budget for a \$20,583 Transfer In from the General Fund M&O, and (2) a transfer of \$2,120 from CNT Contingency to CNT Expenditures in the Confiscated Funds Special Revenue Fund.

**BACKGROUND:**

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

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

- 1) The Board of Commissioners approved a transfer of \$20,583 from the General fund M&O to the Emergency Management Fund at the November 17, 2006 meeting. A resolution to amend the Emergency Management Fund budget for the transfer is attached.

- 2) The Counter Narcotics Team (CNT) has received a court order to make a payment of \$2,119.95. A transfer of \$2,120 from CNT Contingency to CNT Expenditures in the Confiscated Funds Special Revenue Fund is necessary to set up funding. A copy of the court order is attached.

**FUNDING:** The budget amendment will set up funding in the Emergency Management Fund. Funds are available in the Confiscated Funds Contingency for the transfer.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

- (1) That the Board approve the following:

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FUND**

an amendment for a \$20,583 Transfer In from the General Fund M&O.

**CONFISCATED FUNDS SPECIAL REVENUE FUND**

a transfer of \$2,120 from CNT Contingency to CNT Expenditures.

- (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

=====

## **2. RECREATION PLANNING AND POLICY CONSIDERATION.**

Assistant County Manager Monahan said, Mr. Chairman, this is just a report providing the status of the ongoing effort to take a look — a comprehensive look at the County's recreation programs. It's just mainly for information.

Chairman Liakakis said, and we were distributed information —. Assistant County Manager Monahan said, yes sir. Chairman Liakakis said, — concerning that, as everybody knows.

Commissioner Odell said, and that should really, cause one of the big items is Westside, so really we need to do that when Dean [Kicklighter] is here, because Dean [Kicklighter] and Priscilla [Thomas] have the Westside. Assistant County Manager Monahan said, yes sir. In fact, we've met a couple of times with Commissioner Kicklighter specifically.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Report on recreation planning and policy consideration provided as information.

**AGENDA ITEM: IX-2****AGENDA DATE: December 1, 2006****TO:** Board of Commissioners**THRU:** R.E. Abolt, County Manager**FROM:** Robert W. Drewry, Director of Public Works and Park Services

**Issue:** Provide Board status of evaluating the County's recreation programs and request Board approve a priority plan and policy to meet the goals established.

**Background:** At the October 6, 2006 Board meeting staff presented a plan to evaluate the County's recreation program. Staff has developed a methodology for this evaluation of the programs and facilities that included 4 goals as follows:

1. To improve the visibility of the recreational facilities and the quality of the recreational programs for the citizens of this community.
2. To increase recreation services in the unincorporated area.
3. To establish programs that are not a duplication of services provided elsewhere.
4. To tap into those citizens that are not currently participating in any recreational programs.

**Facts and Findings:**

1. County Recreation staff has met with the Sports Panel and discussed the County facilities and programs. Additional meetings will be required since no outcomes were developed.
2. Staff recognizes that in order to offer quality programs, as a priority our facilities must meet the expectations of the users. There is no question that the County facilities are approaching critical maintenance needs. As County Finance staff prepares the CIP for Board's review, Recreation staff outlines over \$9M in maintenance needs.
3. Staff recognizes the uniqueness of the County's recreation program in that the County offers more than the traditional recreational programs. **As shown on the attached exhibit**, the County offers:

- a. passive recreation for casual exercise such as walking or jogging, community parks, pier fishing, access to waterways for boating, bandshells, and neighborhood parks;
  - b. County-wide programs for soccer, tennis, aquatics, and weightlifting;
  - c. traditional youth programs such as youth soccer, youth baseball, youth football, youth basketball, and a youth summer camp. Adult programs include softball and soccer. Also, the County participates in other programs such as track and field meets, summer lunch programs, senior citizen/handicap day out, cheerleading competitions and other special events.
4. Staff recognizes that the traditional recreation programs are also offered by each municipality including the YMCA and private organizations such as the Coastal Georgia Soccer Association. On the surface it may seem that every sports program is identical but, in fact, they are not. As an example, some programs provide personal equipment to the participants, whereas, the County does not. Some programs operate under different rules and state sponsored sanctions. Based upon the rules followed, none of these programs restrict participants despite where they may live. Unfortunately, this allows a team to participate in multi-programs.
  5. Staff recognizes the complexity of evaluating our programs with other jurisdictions and the dynamics of ever-changing recreational needs in the community. However, it is staff's opinion that there is never enough facilities to accommodate the number of participants county-wide. Therefore it is difficult to compare our recreational services with any other in the region.
  6. Staff recognizes the need to provide recreational programs to new citizens in the growing areas of unincorporated West Chatham in order to meet Goals #2 and #4. This need can be approached by a combination of improving the L. Scott Stell Park and partnering with the City of Pooler.
  7. Based upon the recognized needs, it is staff's recommendation to adopt the following priority plan for recreational facilities:
    - Priority #1 Improve the County owned facilities
    - Priority #2 Expansion of existing County owned facilities
    - Priority #3 New facilities and new services.
  8. In addition, the County should have in place a comprehensive long range future facility plan to ensure that when considering requests for municipal partnering it is compatible with the County-wide recreational needs. This partnering of the County and municipalities should make use of funding options available through the Recreation Authority. The Recreation Authority has the ability to issue bonds for a project pertaining to recreational facilities at the request of Chatham County

or a Chatham County municipality. For multi-jurisdictional funding, arrangements for debt incurred could be through inter-governmental agreements.

**Funding:** Funds are not requested.

**Policy Statement:** As Staff develops a recreation plan, the focus will remain on the goals established at the Board's meeting on October 6<sup>th</sup> meeting.

1. Staff requests that the Board adopt the recommended priority plan in Facts and Findings #7 and adopt a policy to present multi-jurisdictional requests for funds through the Recreation Authority that are compatible to our planning efforts, priorities and goals.
2. Board give staff other direction.

**Recommendations:** Board approve Alternative #1.

All Districts

=====

### **3. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL TO CREATE A BUILDING MAINTENANCE MECHANIC I POSITION IN THE FACILITIES MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS DIVISION AND CREATE A CHAPLAIN'S POSITION IN THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT.**

Commissioner Odell said, move for approval. Commissioner Gellatly said, second. Commissioner Thomas said, second.

Chairman Liakakis said, we have a motion on the floor and 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, the motion passes.

#### **ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Odell moved to approve the request to create a Building Maintenance Mechanic I position in the Facilities Maintenance and Operations Division and create a Chaplain's position in the Sheriff's Department. Commissioners Gellatly and Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter was not present when this vote was taken].

**AGENDA ITEM: IX-3****AGENDA DATE: DECEMBER 1, 2006****TO:** Board of Commissioners**THRU:** R. E. Abolt, County Manager**FROM:** Michael A. Kaigler, Director, Human Resources and Services

**Issue:** To request Board approval to create a Building Maintenance Mechanic I position in the Facilities Maintenance and Operations Division and create a Chaplain's position in the Sheriff's Department.

**Background:** Since the mid 1990's, the Facilities Maintenance and Operations Division has provided support for various properties Chatham County leases for health services. The current maintenance staff in the Facilities Maintenance and Operations Division consists of 12 service personnel and two supervisors. They maintain 52 buildings totaling approximately 916,671 square feet. In order to provide the needed maintenance, staff is requesting that the Board create an additional Building Maintenance Mechanic I position.

The County has historically had Chaplains assigned to the Police and Sheriff's Department to provide assistance to the officers. With the merger of the City and County Police Departments, all the Chaplains assigned to the County Police were transferred and assigned to Savannah Chatham Metropolitan Police Department (SCMPD). Police Chaplain, Father Patrick O'Brien, has requested to be transferred from the SCMPD to the Sheriff's Department.

**Facts and Findings:**

1. During the past eight years the Facilities Maintenance and Operations Division has been in a reactive mode regarding maintenance service. The mechanical maintenance staff consists of twelve (12) service personnel and two supervisors. They service 52 buildings totaling approximately 916,671 square feet. The average workday consists of answering urgent, routine and emergency work requests making it virtually impossible to perform scheduled or preventive maintenance.
2. This reactive posture was addressed very strongly in the recent Management Study which indicated that the Facilities Maintenance and Operations Division was 13.6 maintenance staff employees short. The study went on to recommend that five (5) Building Maintenance Mechanics be hired immediately in an attempt to achieve at least a "C" level of overall maintenance. A level "C" is the lowest level of acceptable maintenance.
3. Funds for the position will come from rent revenue and the operating budget for Facilities Maintenance and Operations. Rent revenue is estimated as \$35,780. If approved a transfer of \$11,760 within the Building Maintenance and Operations

budget will be required. Amendments to the General Fund M & O and Capital Improvement Program budgets will be necessary.

4. Police Chaplain, Father O'Brien, has requested to be transferred from the SCMPD to the Chatham County Sheriff's Department. Sheriff St. Lawrence has agreed to the transfer.

5. Funding for the position of Chaplain in the Sheriff's Department would come from the Sheriff's operating budget.

**Funding:**

1. Funding for the Building Maintenance Mechanic I position would come from rent revenue and the Facilities Maintenance and Operations budget.

2. Funding for the position of Chaplain in the Sheriff's Department would come from the Sheriff's operating budget.

**Alternatives:**

1. Authorize the creation of one Building Maintenance Mechanic I position in the Facilities Maintenance and Operations budget and authorize the transfer of the Chaplain's position from the SCMPD to the Sheriff's Department.

2. Provide staff with other direction.

3. Deny the request to create a Building Maintenance Mechanic I position and deny the transfer of the Chaplain's position.

**Policy Analysis:**

Personnel changes to add or transfer positions from one department to another requires approval of the Board of Commissioners. In the past, the Board of Commissioners has approved resource enhancements to departments where a need has been demonstrated and these enhancements maintain the delivery of services to the citizens of Chatham County at adequate and efficient levels.

**Recommendation:**

The Board adopt Alternative 1.

=====

**4. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL TO CREATE A PROCEDURE TO COMPENSATE EMPLOYEES WHOSE SALARIES ARE CURRENTLY AT OR NEAR THE PAY RANGE MAXIMUM.**

Chairman Liakakis recognized Assistant County Manager Monahan.

Assistant County Manager Monahan said, yes sir, Mr. Chairman. There are approximately 24 employees who are at the top of the pay range and will not receive any pay increases pending completion of the compensation classification study, which will adjust those ranges. They are primarily within the Sheriff's Department. I believe there are 23 of the 24 employees over at the Sheriff's Department. So this would provide a procedure in which those employees on an annual basis would get a lump-sum payment. It would be reflected in their compensation — annual compensation, so it does count towards retirement as well.

Commissioner Odell asked, the procedure would have to come back to us for approval? Assistant County Manager Monahan said, you are providing the — you are giving approval of the procedure here. Each —. Commissioner Odell asked, if we don't have a procedure how can we approve the procedure? Assistant County Manager Monahan said, you are adopting this new procedure. It's a new element of the plan which allows a one time lump-sum payment for employees that are at the top of the range — pending the completion of the classification compensation study. Commissioner Odell asked, and who's recommending this? Assistant County Manager Monahan said, we — the staff is recommending this.

Commissioner Gellatly asked, including the Sheriff? Assistant County Manager Monahan said, including the Sheriff. I think the Sheriff is here to speak on the subject if you would like to hear him.

Commissioner Odell said, you know, I'd like to hear him. Assistant County Manager Monahan said, primarily it affects the Sheriff's Department more than any other because the — in fact, that we've not adjusted the ranges in a number of years and the fact that we have so many senior members of the Sheriff's Department. Commissioner Odell said, before Al [St. Lawrence] speaks, my only concern is to do this before we do the compensation study, rather than after. If there's an urgency or emergency, we [inaudible] do it. If there's an urgency or emergency, I'm concerned that this opens the floodgate. We don't have a problem now with Al [St. Lawrence], but there are other departments out there that we're going to have a problem with and if we do this and make that adjustment here, we're going to have to have the same rationale for other places. Assistant County Manager Monahan said, and this doesn't affect every department. It just so happens that the number of employees who are directly affected are within the Sheriff's Department, but it does affect every other department as well.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Stone.

Commissioner Stone asked, and there's no additional cost associated with it. Assistant County Manager Monahan said, no. Each department already has this budgeted. It's just that they are not allowed to authorize the increase —.

Commissioner Odell said, yeah, but that's not a correct answer. When you said there is no —, her question is: Is there no additional cost, and you said no. The answer is there is additional cost —. Assistant County Manager Monahan said, but it's budgeted. Commissioner Odell said, — but it's budgeted. Assistant County Manager Monahan said, yes sir. Commissioner Odell said, that's the difference between lightning and a lightning bug.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Sheriff Al St. Lawrence.

Sheriff St. Lawrence said, I just want you know that I'm not one of them though I've got more years than anybody else, but this is something we've been looking at for over a year. We've got people frozen that can't get a pay increase, and this is the solution. It involves all of the departments. It just so happens right now there are 23 of the 24 in the Sheriff's Department, but it will affect other departments in the same fashion.

Commissioner Odell said, I'm sorry when I did not call you or Michael [Kaigler] to discuss it. I would like to talk to you and to Michael about this just to share my concerns. I am uncomfortable — I trust both of you all with Pete's [Liakakis] life.

Mr. Michael Kaigler said, one of the things I'd like to point out and what really prompted this was this is the direct result of the law enforcement [inaudible]. As you will recall, we instituted a pay plan back in '98 and —. Commissioner Odell said, oh, okay. Mr. Kaigler said, — and we've had individuals also employed with the Sheriff's Department that have moved through the ranks and they're now [inaudible]. They can't get any additional increases. This won't be added to until their base pay [inaudible] receive it as a lump-sum —.

Commissioner Odell said, move for approval. Commissioner Gellatly said, second. Chairman Liakakis said, all right, let's go on the board. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Liakakis said, the motion carries.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Shay.

#### **ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Odell moved to create a procedure to compensate employees whose salaries are currently at or near the pay range maximum. Commissioner Gellatly seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

#### **AGENDA ITEM: IX-4**

**AGENDA DATE: December 1, 2006**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners

**THRU:** R. E. Abolt, County Manager

**FROM:** Michael A. Kaigler, Director, Human Resources and Services

**Issue:** To request Board approval to create a procedure to compensate employees whose salaries are currently at or near the pay range maximum.

**Background:** On December 18, 1998 the Board of Commissioners approved and funded the Chatham County law enforcement pay plan for sworn law enforcement officers. The new pay plan placed officers on the step pay plan. Officers advanced from one step to the next each January based on satisfactory job performance. The officers also receive a cost of living increase July 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. Since the plan was implemented, there are a number of law enforcement officers who have reached the maximum pay range and whose salaries are frozen until a cost of living

increase is given. This has the effect of not rewarding officers for satisfactory job performance and penalizing senior officers who have been with the organization for twenty-five or more years.

**Facts and Findings:**

1. The current law enforcement pay plan has 24 steps in the pay grade for each rank. There are currently 23 employees in the Sheriff's Department who are currently on step 24 of the pay plan. These officers are not eligible to receive a step increase effective January 1, 2007 due to their being on step 24. These officers are typically long service employees who have been with the County over twenty-five years.

2. In order to continue to provide the step increase for satisfactory performance, staff is requesting that the Board establish a policy that will allow a step increase that would normally be due to those employees be given to them in a lump sum and not added to their base pay.

3. If approved, employees would receive the lump sum step increase the first payday in January. This coincides with the step increase that would normally be given to employees that are below step 24 on the pay plan. While this step increase would not be added to their base pay, it would be added to their wages to calculate pension.

4. There is no additional cost associated with this policy due to the fact that this increase is included in the Sheriff's current operating budget.

5. While this problem currently affects law enforcement, if the Board desires to fund the merit program, it may affect non law enforcement positions. If the policy is approved, staff requests that the policy cover all County positions.

**Funding:** No additional funding required.

**Alternatives:**

1. Adopt a policy to compensate employees (step increase or merit increase) whose salaries are at or near the pay range maximum. This would apply only to step increases for law enforcement officers or merit increases if funding by the Board of Commissioners.

2. Do not adopt the policy to compensate employees whose salaries are at or near the pay range maximum.

**Policy Analysis:** The Board has maintained a policy of rewarding employees financially for performance. In December, 1998, the Board approved funding for the law enforcement pay plan. In order to recruit and maintain the finest law enforcement personnel, it is imperative that we provide these employees comparable compensation and a sense of professional progression that will allow

officers to grow in salary as they grow in knowledge and responsibility. It is much more expensive to continue recruiting and training law enforcement personnel only for them to leave Chatham County to be employed by other local law enforcement agencies. The current law enforcement pay plan allows our law enforcement departments to be competitive with other law enforcement agencies.

**Recommendation:** The Board adopt Alternative 1.

=====

## **MEETING WITH STATE LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION**

Commissioner Shay said, Mr. Chairman a couple of the members of the State Legislative Delegation have arrived and [inaudible] and at least one of them left the County to go get food, Representative Stephens.

Chairman Liakakis said, the only reason we were waiting trying to get some of the business — we were waiting for some of the others. I talked to Lee [Hughes] and them and some of them are on the way now from what I understand, and so we're just going through the business now, Patrick [Shay]. Commissioner Shay said, I just wanted to point out to you that we had a State Senator that has already arrived and left. That's all I'm saying.

Commissioner Gellatly said, we need to get on with this other meeting. Commissioner Odell said, we can come back to this after that.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay. Let's go. We only have —. Priscilla [Thomas], did she leave? Commissioner Thomas said, I don't know. Chairman Liakakis said, I thought she went outside talking to someone. Commissioner Thomas said, I have no idea. Chairman Liakakis said, okay.

Commissioner Farrell said, I make a motion that we recess for time indefinite. Commissioner Gellatly said, second. Chairman Liakakis said, we recess until we finish the legislation. All in favor signify by going on the board. Let's go on the board please. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Shay moved that the meeting be reconvened as the Chatham County Commission. Commissioner Thomas said, second. Chairman Holmes said, second. Chairman Liakakis said, let's go on the board. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Farrell, Odell and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

=====

## **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 said, approval of, you see, what you've got there, Items 1 through 8 and under 8 Items A through P. Do we have any under there that you would like to hold out before we vote? Any items?

Commissioner Gellatly said, motion to approve. Commissioner Thomas said, second.

Chairman Liakakis said, we have a motion on the floor to approve Items 1 through 8 and the alphabetical items under Item 8. Let's go on the board. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Odell and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Gellatly moved to approve Items 1 through 8-P, both inclusive. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Odell and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

=====

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

=====

**1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF NOVEMBER 17, 2006, AS MAILED.**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commission Gellatly moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of November 17, 2006. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Odell and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

=====

**2. CLAIMS VS. CHATHAM COUNTY FOR THE PERIOD NOVEMBER 9 THROUGH NOVEMBER 21, 2006.**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Gellatly moved to authorize the Finance Director to pay the claims against the County for the period November 9, 2006, through November 21, 2006, in the amount of \$7,809,240. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Odell and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

=====

- 3. REQUEST FROM THOMAS & HUTTON, ENGINEER FOR THE DEVELOPER, NORTH POINT REAL ESTATE, TO APPROVE THE CONSTRUCTED IMPROVEMENTS FOR SOUTHBRIDGE AT BERWICK, PHASE 3, AND INITIATE THE TWELVE-MONTH WARRANTY PERIOD.  
[DISTRICT 7.]**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Gellatly moved to approve the request from Thomas & Hutton, engineer for the developer, North Point Real Estate, to approve the constructed improvements for Southbridge at Berwick, Phase 3, and initiate the twelve-month warranty period. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Odell and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

**AGENDA ITEM: X-3**

**AGENDA DATE: December 1, 2006**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners

**THRU:** R. E. Abolt, County Manager

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

**ISSUE:** To approve the constructed improvements for Southbridge at Berwick, Phase 3, and initiate the twelve-month warranty period.

**BACKGROUND:** The engineer, Thomas & Hutton, for the developer, North Point Real Estate, requests that the County approve the constructed improvements and initiate the twelve-month warranty period for Southbridge at Berwick, Phase 3.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. Southbridge at Berwick is a single-family residential subdivision located within the Berwick Plantation development on Highway 17. This phase consists of 154 lots on 168 acres.
2. Paving and drainage will be maintained by the County. Water and sewer are maintained by Consolidated Utilities, Inc.
3. The required site improvements are complete. They have been inspected and found to be without fault.
4. The developer previously submitted a letter of credit issued by Darby Bank & Trust in the amount of \$1,173,272, which is 50% of the cost of dedicated improvements (paving and drainage).

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. To approve the constructed improvements for Southbridge at Berwick, Phase 3, and initiate the warranty period.
2. Do not approve the request.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** This action is consistent with the subdivision regulation regarding warranty of dedicated improvements.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Commissioners adopt Alternative No. 1.

District 7

**PREPARED BY:** Suzanne Cooler

=====

#### **4. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE ACCEPTANCE OF THREE DONATED PROPERTIES FOR PURPOSES OF OPEN SPACE, GREEN SPACE AND DRAINAGE.**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Gellatly moved to approve acceptance of three donated properties for purposes of open space, green space and drainage as follows: Property 1 - PIN 1-0139-01-026, a 2.5-acre described as "Hammocks on Long Field Creek, Whitmarsh Island;" Property 2 - PIN 1-0788-02-050, a 1.27-acre site described as "Park area part of Mills Run Subdivision, PRB 22P 4;" and Property 3 - PIN 1-0788-02-051 described as "Proposed drainage right-of-way Pt of Mills Run Sub BBB 22P 4," subject to a Phase I environmental report and subject to donors preparing the proper documentation for donation. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Odell and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

**AGENDA ITEM: X-4**

**AGENDA DATE: December 1, 2006**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners

**THRU:** R. E. Abolt, County Manager

**FROM:** Patrick Monahan, Asst. County Manager

**ISSUE:**

To approve acceptance of three donated properties for purposes of open space, green space and drainage.

**BACKGROUND:**

Chatham County received inquiries from two different property owners about acceptance of three properties through donation. Staff reviewed the three properties and determined that they would prove valuable for purposes of green space and open space; one of the properties provide drainage, which Chatham County already maintains.

**FACTS & FINDINGS:**

1. Property 1, a 2.5-acre upland hammock on Whitemarsh Island, has a legal description, as follows: "Hammocks on Long Field Creek, Whitemarsh Island." The owner planned to develop the property as part of residential community but now has decided otherwise. As a pristine island hammock, it can be held as green space and open space. It is PIN 1-0139-01-026.
2. Property 2, a 1.27-acre site, formerly served as Beverly community park. The County removed the playground equipment in the early 1990s as part of a reduction in recreational services. The property remains vacant. It has a legal description as "Park area part of Mills Run Subdivision, PRB 22P 4." It is PIN 1-0788-02-050.
3. Property 3 adjoins the Beverly park parcel. Chatham County already maintains the canal. With a legal description as "Proposed drainage right of way Pt of Mills Run Sub BBB 22P 4." It is PIN 1-0788-02-051.
4. All properties will be accepted subject to a Phase I environmental report.
5. Donations of property with marketable value to Chatham County can be used as a tax deduction. It will be the responsibility of each donor to prepare the proper documentation.
6. None of the properties will require additional maintenance responsibility.

**FUNDING:**

Not applicable.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. That the Board approve acceptance of the three properties as a donation as presented in *Facts & Findings*.
2. That the Board approve only those properties for acceptance as it deems appropriate.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:**

Despite several requests annually from property owners who want to donate property to Chatham County, the County only accepts property with marketable value or serves a public purpose. Adding these properties will enhance the

County's open space and green space programs, which require little, if any, maintenance or on-going obligation.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board adopt Alternative 1.

District 1 (Whitemarsh Island hammock)

District 5 (Sandlewood Drive property)

=====

**5. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE TRANSFER OF BEER AND WINE RETAIL PACKAGE LICENSE FOR 2006. PETITIONER: KENNETH BOONE, D/B/A WAL-MART SUPER CENTER #604, LOCATED AT 1955 E. MONTGOMERY CROSS ROADS.  
[DISTRICT 1.]**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Gellatly moved to approve the petition of Kenneth Boone, d/b/a Wal-Mart Super Center #604, located at 1955 E. Montgomery Cross Roads, for transfer of beer and wine retail package license for 2006. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Odell and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

**AGENDA ITEM: X-5**

**AGENDA DATE: December 1, 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 beer & wine retail package license for 2006, Kenneth Boone, d/b/a Wal-Mart Super Center, #6;05, located at 1955 E. Montgomery Cross Roads.

**BACKGROUND**

Mr Boone requests approval for transfer of retail package license for beer & wine in connection with an existing department super center store. The store changed managers.

FACTS AND FINDINGS

1. The application was reviewed by the Police Department for compliance of the applicant and separation requirements and approved.
2. The returned application was reviewed by Building Safety. The County Fire Inspector inspected the structure for compliance of the applicable codes and approved.
3. The applicant and business meets the requirements of the Chatham County Alcoholic Beverage Ordinance.

RECOMMENDATION

Police Department and Building Safety recommend approval.

District 1

=====

**6. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE A NEW BEER AND WINE RETAIL LICENSE FOR 2006. PETITIONER: ANTONIO REMOND SHEPPARD, D/B/A FOOD LION, INC. #1618, LOCATED AT 1040 KING GEORGE BOULEVARD. [DISTRICT 6.]**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Gellatly moved to approve the petition of Antonio Remond Sheppard, d/b/a Food Lion, Inc. #1618, located at 1040 King George Boulevard, for a new beer and wine retail license for 2006. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Odell and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

**AGENDA ITEM: X-6**

**AGENDA DATE: December 1, 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 beer & wine retail package license for 2006. Antonio Remond Sheppard, d/b/a Food Lion, Inc. #1618, located at 1040 King George Boulevard.

BACKGROUND

Mr. Sheppard requests approval for a new beer and wine retail license in connection with a new grocery store. This 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 Building Safety. The County Fire Inspector inspected the site for compliance of the codes requirements and approved the facility.
3. The application is in compliance with all requirements.
4. The applicant has been notified in writing of the date and time of the hearing.

RECOMMENDATION

The County Police Department and Building Safety recommend approval.

District 6

=====

**7. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE NEW BEER AND WINE POURING AND SUNDAY SALES LICENSES FOR 2007. PETITIONER: ROY C. SAMUELSON, D/B/A GRAPEVINE, LOCATED AT 346-B JOHNNY MERCER BOULEVARD. [DISTRICT 4.]**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Gellatly moved to approve the petition of Roy C. Samuelson, d/b/a Grapevine, located at 346-B Johnny Mercer Boulevard, for new beer and wine pouring and Sunday sales licenses for 2007. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Odell and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

**AGENDA ITEM: X-7**

**AGENDA DATE: December 1, 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 of beer and wine pouring and Sunday sales licenses for 2007, Roy C. Samuelson, d/b/a Grapevine, located at 346B Johnny Mercer Boulevard.

BACKGROUND

Mr. Samuelson requests approval of new beer and wine pouring and Sunday sales license in connection with an existing restaurant. This business at this location meets the requirements of the Chatham County Alcoholic Beverage and Sunday sales 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 Marshall inspected the site for compliance with the commercial kitchen requirements and approved the facility.
3. The applicant and business meets the requirements of the Chatham County Alcoholic Beverage and Sunday sales Ordinance.
4. The applicant has been notified in writing of the date and time of the hearing.

RECOMMENDATION

The Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Police Department and Building Safety recommend approval.

District 4

=====

**8. 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. Cisco network infrastructure	ICS	Entre Solutions (MBE)	\$24,327	CIP - Hurricane Preparedness

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
B. Summary Change Order No. 2 to the contract for the construction of Tom Triplett Park - Phase III for added items to complete the project	SPLOST	Collins Construction Services, Inc.	\$5,134	SPLOST (2003-2008) - Tom Triplett Park
C. Juvenile Court Activity and Tracking System software and license agreement	Juvenile Court	Canyon Solutions	Not to exceed \$75,000	General Fund/M&O - Juvenile Court
D. Change Order No. 2 to the contract to pave Mobley Street, Pekins Place and Yucca Place for additional services	SPLOST	Griffin Contracting, Inc.	\$14,500	SPLOST (1985-1993) - Andrews Street / Mobley Street / Yucca Place / Perkins Place / Stone Street and Welch Road
E. Two (2) Ford 15 passenger van	Sheriff	J. C. Lewis Ford	\$43,560	CIP - Fleet Replacement
F. Renew building, contents and related property insurance coverage	Finance	St. Paul Travelers Insurance Company	\$541,068	Risk Management Fund
G. Contract for the construction of covered area including concrete and electrical work at the Wilmington Island Drop-Off Center	Solid Waste	PINCO	\$123,500	Solid Waste Fund (pending budget amendment)
H. Demolition of interior flooring at 408 West Broughton Street	SPLOST	Coastline Concrete	\$17,500	SPLOST (2003-2008) - Courthouse Renovations

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
I. Demolition of the southeast quadrant of the North Annex (formerly Child Support) for the construction of the Sallyport area	SPLOST	B & B Demolition and Contractors, Inc. (MBE)	\$32,000	SPLOST (2003-2008) - Courthouse Renovations
J. Purchase and installation of inmate holding cell systems (truss wall) in basement of Montgomery Street Courthouse	SPLOST	CCC Group, Inc.	\$1,152,205	SPLOST (2003-2008) - Courthouse Renovations
K. Change Order No. 1 to the paving contract for George C. Lynch Drive for modifications to include the construction of new Department of Driving Services familiarization course	ANG Facility	Bryco, Inc.	\$242,400	CIP Bond - Government Building
L. Change Order No. 2 to the contract for Chatham County Courthouse renovations, Phase I - Underground Connectors for installation of underground sanitary re-routing and removal of pile foundation	SPLOST	The Industrial Company (TIC)	\$70,841	SPLOST (2003-2008) - Courthouse Renovations

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
M. Change Order No. 1 to the construction contract for Union Mission for drywall additions and credit for non-removal of concrete slab	Union Mission	Dabbs-Williams	\$1,182	2005 DSA Bonds - Union Mission
N. Installation of conventional stucco finish for building exterior at Records Center and Elections/ Voter Registration	ANG Facility	Classic Stucco, Inc.	\$11,500	CIP Bond - Government Building
O. Installation of three (3) water meters and interior water and sanitary building preparations for 408 West Broughton Street	SPLOST	Consolidated Plumbing Company (WBE)	\$17,650	SPLOST (2003-2008) - Courthouse Renovations
P. Removal and disposal of underground fuel tanks at the Citizens Service Center and the old Mosquito Control facility	ANG Facility	Petroleum Service Group	\$21,107	CIP Bond - Government Building

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Gellatly moved to approve Items 8-A through 8-P, both inclusive. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Odell and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

=====

**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. THE PETITIONER, PHILLIP MCCORKLE, AGENT (FOR JAMES THOMAS MOORE) IS REQUESTING TO REZONE 4343, 4347, 4351, 4359, 4363, AND 4401 OGEECHEE ROAD FROM AN R-A (RESIDENTIAL-AGRICULTURE) ZONING CLASSIFICATION TO A P-U-C (PLANNED COMMUNITY BUSINESS) CLASSIFICATION. The MPC recommends approval.  
MPC FILE NO. Z-060928-49980-1**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

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

Petition of Phillip McCorkle, Agent  
James Thomas Moore, Petitioner  
MPC File No. Z-060928-49980-1

MPC recommends that the following described property be rezoned from its present R-A (Residential-Agriculture) classification to a P-B-C (Planned Community Business)

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

Beginning at a point located on the northernmost right of way line of Ogeechee Road, approximately 320 feet east of its intersection with the centerline of Heathcote Circle, thence proceeding easterly along the northernmost right of way of Ogeechee Road a distance of approximately 460 feet to a point, thence southerly along a line South 14 degrees 53 minutes East a distance of approximately 886 feet to a point, thence along a line North 69 degrees 40 minutes West a distance of approximately 307 feet to a point, thence southwesterly along a line South 21 degrees 19 minutes West a distance of approximately 315 feet to a point, thence in a westerly direction along a line South 76 degrees 08 minutes West a distance of approximately 39 feet to a point, thence northerly along a line North 13 degrees 51 minutes West a distance of approximately 945 feet back to the point of beginning.

The property is further identified by the Property Identification Number:

P.I.N.: 1-0836 -02-008 thru 013

=====

**2. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE AND ADOPT THE COMBINED SAVANNAH/CHATHAM COUNTY SPEED ZONE ORDINANCE, WHICH HAS BEEN UPDATED TO INCLUDE CORRECTIONS AND ADDITIONAL ROAD THE COUNTY HAS ACCEPTED FOR MAINTENANCE.**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

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

**AGENDA ITEM: XI-2**

**AGENDA DATE: December 1, 2006**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners

**THRU:** R. E. Abolt, County Manager

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

**ISSUE:** That the Board approve and adopt the combined Savannah/Chatham County Speed Zone Ordinance, which has been updated to include corrections and additional roads the County has accepted for maintenance.

**BACKGROUND:** The City of Savannah and Chatham County maintain a combined Speed Zone Ordinance which lists the roads and their associated speed limits that the Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Police enforce with radar pursuant to Georgia Code 40, Article 9, Section 40-6-183 of the Uniform Rules of the Road Act. Any change to the road system or in driving patterns of the public may require the ordinance to be revised to incorporate these changes and/or additions to the existing speed zones.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. The Board approved corrections and additions to the Combined Savannah/Chatham County Speed Ordinance at their March 10, 2006 meeting. After the Board's approval, the speed limit on Chatham Parkway between US 17 and Veterans Parkway was reduced from 45 MPH to 35 MPH. This correction was made to the combined Speed Ordinance after the Board's initial approval.

- 2. The updated Speed Ordinance was sent to the Georgia Department of Transportation and approved. The GDOT returned two original copies of the updated Speed Ordinance to be signed by the Chairman of the Board and the Mayor of Savannah.
- 3. Once the two original copies are executed and returned to the GDOT, new radar permits will be issued to the Savannah/Chatham Metropolitan Police Department. These permits are required for the SCMPD to enforce speed limits on City and County roadways.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

- 1. That the Board approve and adopt the updated Savannah/Chatham County Speed Zone Ordinance.
- 2. That the Board not approve the changes.

**FUNDING:** None required.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** The Police Department can only enforce speed limits listed on the Speed Ordinance approved pursuant to Georgia Code 40, Article 9, Section 40-6-183 of the Uniform Rules of the Road Act.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Board approve Alternative 1.

Districts: All

Prepared by: Nathaniel Panther  
Civil Engineer I

=====

**XII. SECOND READINGS**

None.

=====

**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.

=====

**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  
AGENDA DATE: December 1, 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>
Ballots for General Election	Elections Board	Printelect	\$6,678	General Fund/M&O - Elections Board
24ft trailer	SPLOST	Dorsey Trailer Sales	\$5,951	SPLOST (2003-2008) - Vehicle Replacement
Purchase and installation of Mitel Superset hub package	SPLOST	Integrated Network Solutions (Sole Source)	\$2,911	SPLOST (2003-2008) - Courthouse Construction
Various telephone equipment to include phones and hard drives	CIP	Integrated Network Solutions (Sole Source)	\$9,160	CIP - Hurricane Preparedness
54 tons asphalt for Wilmington Island Drop Off Center	Solid Waste	Carroll and Carroll	\$2,808	Solid Waste Fund
500 tons stone	Solid Waste	Martin Marietta Aggregates	\$7,875	Solid Waste Restricted Fund
Overlay portion of Islands Expressway	Public Works	Apex Property Maintenance	\$9,900	SSD - Public Works

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
Purchase and installation of inner perimeter fencing at the firing range	Sheriff	Savannah Fence and Entry Systems	\$6,785	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•General Fund/M&amp;O - Sheriff (\$3,392.50)</li> <li>•General Fund/M&amp;O - Detention Center (\$3,392.50)</li> </ul>

=====

**3. ROAD AND DRAINAGE REPORTS.**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Status reports were attached for review.

**AGENDA ITEM: XIII-3 Roads**  
**AGENDA DATE: December 1, 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 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
  - a. Phase 3. Lighting project had been by awarded by GDOT.
  - b. Phase 5. Right of way (ROW) plans were approved by the GDOT on June 30, 2005. The property acquisitions will take until April 2008 to complete (26 parcels acquired by early acquisition; 65 parcels to acquire). Design is underway.

2. US 17, Ogeechee River to SR 204: The GDOT awarded a new contract to complete the project. Work is underway. The completion date is March 2007.
3. Middleground Road/Montgomery Cross Road Widening. The GDOT approved a change order with APAC to continue work setting a 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. APAC was notified by letter that the City of Savannah wanted to make a final inspection on the storm water system when their subcontractor (Dixie Excavating) said all corrective work was complete. Due to the lack of response from APAC, staff coordinated with the City of Savannah to do a final inspection on the new storm water system. The City of Savannah cleaned the storm drains of debris that interfered with the televising of the system on August 28, 2006. The televising has now been done and reviewed. A detailed report from the City of Savannah of corrective work has been received. Staff recently received a letter from GDOT that enumerated the punch list items that APAC had not corrected (the list includes water line items). The items for the water lines was compiled jointly by the City of Savannah, Chatham County and GDOT during the final inspection. All sanitary sewer work has been accepted by the City of Savannah. APAC is handling project close-out through their attorneys. APAC has had ample time to correct deficient items. They have not had a presence on the project for many months and have effectively abandoned the project. Staff has begun the process to find them in default of the contract.
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. A Public Information Open House (PIOH) was held on February 28, 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 consultant received additional comments from GDOT on July 19, 2006, and responded on August 17, 2006. Approval of the Concept Report (and the design) is on hold pending resolution of the median width (24 feet versus 50 feet) and the tree planting opportunities.

6. Diamond Causeway Widening. 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 management of the project. In the meantime, the County offered to do the improvements on Skidaway Island by permit. The plans and permit are pending GDOT approval.
7. Bay Street Widening from I-516 to Bay Street Viaduct. The Concept Report was approved by the GDOT on February 9, 2005. The FHWA approved the Draft EA for Advancement to Public Hearing on October 20, 2006. GDOT has tentatively scheduled the public hearing for January 18, 2007.
8. Jimmy DeLoach Parkway, Phase 2 (I-16 to US 80). The FHWA approved the Final EA on March 3, 2006. On September 22, 2006, the Board approved a change order for the engineering services contract to continue the design.
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 to 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 transferred management of the project from Atlanta to the Jesup District Office. The revised need and purpose has been approved by GDOT and sent to FHWA for comments.
10. Eisenhower Widening from Abercorn to Truman Parkway. The Concept Report was approved by GDOT on June 22, 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. City and County staff will set a meeting to further reduce scope.
11. Abercorn Widening from Largo Drive to Rio Road. The GDOT is managing a project for Abercorn Street from Truman Parkway (Phase 5) to U.S. 17. PIOHs were held November 14 at AASU and November 15 at the SW Middle School on U.S. 17.
12. Skidaway Widening. The Final EA was approved by the FHWA on December 30, 2004. The Board approved a new engineering services contract with the County's consultant on October 20, 2006, to resume design of the project incorporating all new GDOT requirements known to date.
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. The last utility estimate was received and the consultant submitted the Concept Report on August 8, 2006.
14. Abercorn Intersection Improvements (DeRenne Avenue, Mall Boulevard, Apache Drive, Tibet Avenue). The County has certified the ROW to GDOT for DeRenne, Apache and Mall Boulevard. The ROW issue with the City of Savannah involving Tibet has been resolved. Appraisals are in the process of being redone.
  15. Local Roads
    - a. Fountain Road. Board approved the construction contract on June 12, 2006. NTP was issued July 24, 2006. Completion is expected by January 30, 2007. Georgia Power poles in the middle of the newly aligned road are delaying the project. These poles were on private easement and Georgia Power is in the process of obtaining a new easement on which to relocate the poles.
    - b. Mobley Street, Yucca Place, Perkins Place. The Board approved award of the construction contract on April 7, 2006. A revision in the storm drain piping was made as a result of pleas from residents to eliminate the planned open ditches. After the contractor installed the additional piping, several of the property owners objected to the open end of the storm drain pipe in their front yards. Subject to the approval of the Board, a change order will include additional drop inlets to eliminate the open ends of the piping. The paving is complete.
    - c. Heather Street, Shore Road. The Board authorized the award of the construction contract on April 7, 2006. NTP was issued on June 21, 2006. Utility conflicts on both streets delayed the projects. Georgia Power completed relocations on September 28, 2006. Bell South and COMCAST must now relocate onto the new Georgia Power poles. Water and gas lines will also have to be relocated. On Shore, the gas company completed their relocation. An 8 inch water line must be lowered that interferes with the storm drains (in progress). The scheduled completion date of December 28, 2006, will not happen due to these utility delays.
    - d. Bond Avenue, Betran Street. GDOT executed the County Contract and issued NTP on August 19, 2005. Complications in the ROW negotiations on Bond and Betran Avenues are taking much longer than originally believed.
    - e. Dulany Road. The request for County Contract with GDOT was approved by the Board on October 21, 2005. Several alternatives have been designed. The project is on hold because of right of way issues with one of the two property owners affected by the project.

- f. Cramer Street. The consultant (McGee Partners) met with staff on February 21-23 to discuss plan development on Cramer Street. 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. On December 1, 2006, staff will seek direction from the Board.
- g. Palm Drive. Construction plans are near completion. ROW negotiations are underway on three parcels impacted.
- h. Old Pine Barren Road. ROW negotiations are underway and construction plans should be ready in December.
- i. Stone Street. The property owners 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 and plats to acquire ROW were returned for corrections on October 27, 2006. Two parcels are impacted.

**RECOMMENDATION:** For information.

Districts: All

SUMMARY OF ROAD PROJECT STATUS

December 2006

PROJECT	ELEMENT	MILESTONE FOR COMPLETION	AGENCY RESPONSIBLE	NOTES
Truman Parkway, Phase 5	Environmental ROW Final Design Construction	Complete April 2008 Feb 2007	County County/GDOT County/GDOT GDOT	EIS approved 8/12/99 Acquisition underway.  CST FY 2009
US 17: Ogeechee River to SR 204	Construction	March 2007	GDOT	
Middleground /Montgomery Cross Road Widening	Construction	May 2008	GDOT	Change order with APAC signed May 31, 2006.
Jimmy DeLoach Parkway, Phase 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 2/13/04. On hold - median/tree issue. 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.  ROW FY 2007 CST FY 2010
Skidaway Road Widening	Environmental Design ROW Construction	Complete	County County County GDOT	Final EA signed 12/30/04. New contract 10/20/06.  CST FY 2010
Bay Street from I-516 to Viaduct	Environmental ROW Final Design Construction	Mar 2007	County County County GDOT	Draft EA approved 10/20/06. ROW (Local cost) FY 2008  CST LR
White Bluff/Coffee Bluff	Environmental	Unknown	County	CST FY 2010
Eisenhower (Abercorn to Truman Parkway)	Environmental Construction		County	Concept Report approved 6/22/04. 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: December 1, 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 function automatically. A final pay request from the contractor and a summary change order are outstanding.
    - ii. A project to make adjustments to the equipment to improve operation is underway and expected to be complete by January.
  - b. Phase 2 (From SR 21 to I-95). Double channel size and provide maintenance access. The permit application documents have been submitted to the USACE for approval. The Consultant and staff are working to address preliminary comments.
  - c. Kahn Mitigation Site. This site will provide the necessary wetland mitigation for the Pipemakers Canal Drainage Improvement project. The project is being reviewed by the USACE on a parallel track with the Phase 2 permit application.
  - d. Bridge Removal and Sheet Pile Wall Modifications. A project to remove an existing bridge that restricts drainage from Pipemakers Canal into the Savannah River. Design work has been temporarily suspended while options with the Georgia Ports Authority are discussed.
2. Hardin Canal
- a. Phase 1 (SR307 bridges). Widen channel and replace bridge crossings. The USACE has provided review comments on the permit application. The consultants and staff are working to address these comments. Preliminary right of way drawings are under review by staff, and design work is underway.
  - b. Phase 1 (Southbridge bridges). Replace bridge crossings. The owners of the Southbridge Golf Course have offered to cooperate in a project to replace two bridge crossings with wider structures. Right of way acquisition is underway. Design work will commence after the right of way is secured.
  - c. 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.
3. 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. The County has received the permit from the USACE. Construction is on hold pending acquisition of the required easements.
4. Westlake/Springfield Canal
- a. Acquisition and removal of flood-prone properties are complete. Construction of a project to improve access for maintenance of the canal is complete.
  - b. CSX railroad undercrossing. Final Design is complete. Staff is working to acquire access onto Hunter Army Airfield property which is required to facilitate project construction. Easements and environmental permits are

- complete. Staff is working to secure permission to enter onto HAAF property for project construction.
5. Conaway Branch Canal (tributary of Pipemakers Canal) Widen channel with road crossing improvements and a maintenance road from north of Main Street to the Pipemakers Canal.
    - a. Phase 1A extends from Pipemakers Canal to Conaway Road. Right of way acquisition is underway. Closing has been completed on 1 of 27 parcels. 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.
    - b. Phase 1B extends from Conaway Road to Main Street. There is no target date for completion.
    - c. Phase 1C includes the area west of Maple Street. Construction costs are to be funded by the City of Bloomington. Recommended improvements have been provided to the City of Bloomington.
  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. Work is underway to conduct preliminary geotechnical investigations to be used for final design of the improvements.
  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. Review of preliminary report and recommendations is complete. Staff expects to begin acquisition of easements and rights of way in the near future.
  8. Kings Way Canal Phase 2 Widen channel and enlarge culverts from Kings Way Court to the Truman Parkway. Design work and work to acquire right of way is underway.
  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 and acquisition of rights of way and easements is underway. The project will connect to the Skidaway Road Shoulder Improvement Project which will include improvements to the roadside ditch.
  10. Village Green Canal, Phase 2 A project to improve the outfall. Wetland delineation has been approved by the USACE. Staff is negotiating a final engineering scope of work and fee, to be presented to the Board for approval in the near future.

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.
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 Louis Mills system as well as improve the drainage in the Rahn Dairy canal. Preliminary design is complete and the permit from the USACE has been obtained. Acquisition of easements is underway.
14. Diggs Avenue Drainage (part of Louis Mills) This drainage improvement project involves improving drainage at the east end of Diggs Avenue. Notice to proceed with construction was issued to the contractor on June 9, 2006. Construction is complete. At the request of area residents, staff is proceeding with construction of fencing the site from unauthorized access.
15. Ogeechee Farms Phase 2 Improve road crossings at various locations. The permit from the USACE has been received. Mitigation requirements have been met. A fee proposal from the Consultant for design of drainage improvements in additional areas identified by Public Works has been requested.
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. To protect existing residential structures, the County will perform a limited investigation of geotechnical conditions.
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. The permit from USACE has been received and required easements have been acquired. Proposals for construction are being solicited.
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 approximately 55 percent complete and has been inspected. An opinion from the design engineer regarding acceptance of the completed work is pending. Construction of the second half of the project is underway.
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. This project is completed.
22. Wilmington Outfall A project to correct storm sewer drainage pipes between Wilmington Road and the Wilmington River. Design work is completed and necessary easements for construction work have been obtained. The permit application to the USACE was made in September 2006.
23. Henderson Channel and crossing improvements to alleviate flooding in the subdivision.
  - a. Brown Thrush Canal (a.k.a. Channel 1): Crossing and channel improvements on the canal parallel to Brown Thrush Road, from Al Henderson Blvd. to Little Neck Road. A contract for design and permitting was approved by the Board on October 20, 2006. Design work is expected to begin in December 2006.
  - b. Little Neck Crossing: Replacement of the undersized culvert. A contract for design and permitting was approved by the Board on September 22, 2006. Design work is expected to begin in December 2006.
  - 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 construction of the project.

**RECOMMENDATION:** For information.

Districts: All

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

=====

**4. MONTHLY STATUS REPORT ON NEW RECREATION RESOURCES (RAP).****ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Status reports were attached for review.

**AGENDA ITEM: XIII-4**  
**AGENDA DATE: December 1, 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

**BACKGROUND:**

At the Board's request, staff has developed a Recreational Action Plan (RAP) that best utilizes the additional funds allocated to Parks and Recreation for FY 07. 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 the Board with data on RAP
2. FY 06 staff was able to accomplish the following:
  - In-house renovation of Lake Mayer's Restrooms
  - Installed new infield mix for Ambuc Park, L. Scott Stell, and Charlie Brooks Park
  - Installed new backstop and foul line fencing for Ambuc Park
  - Hired nine Maintenance Workers
  - Replaced the scoreboards at Ambuc, L. Scott Stell, and Charlie Brooks Park
  - Replaced all roofs at Memorial Stadium
  - Purchased three new vehicles
  - Purchased material for the renovation of the restroom at Ambuc Park
  - Painted the exterior of the concession stand at L. Scott Stell, and Ambuc Park
3. With remaining funds allocated for FY 07, staff established a priority project list and anticipate proceeding with the following:
  - Contract to replace the large pavilion roof at Lake Mayer was awarded to Roofing Professionals, Inc. on 11/3/06. The preconstruction meeting will be scheduled once the signed contract is received.

- At the next Board meeting, staff will request funding for total reconstruction of four courts at L. Scott Stell, two courts at Wilmington, and resurfacing of eight courts at Lake Mayer and the remaining four courts at L. Scott Stell.
4. Priority projects identified on previous RAP reports that are still unfunded:
- Back stop fencing and dugouts replacement at L. Scott Stell
  - Any remaining tennis courts to be resurfacing or reconstructed at L. Scott Stell, Lake Mayer, and Wilmington Island.

**FUNDING:**

Looking at CIP choices by Board in early 2007

**RECOMMENDATION:**

For Board Information Only

**[All Districts]**

=====

**CONCEPTUAL APPROVAL TO SERVE AS LOCAL SPONSOR FOR COCKSPUR ISLAND LIGHTHOUSE STABILIZATION PROJECT.**

Chairman Liakakis recognized Assistant County Manager Monahan.

Assistant County Manager Monahan said, I just wanted to remind you, you were going to add conceptual approval for Chatham County to serve as local sponsor for the Cockspur Lighthouse Stabilization Project.

Chairman Liakakis said, yeah. I'd like a motion on the floor.

Commissioner Shay said, Mr. Chairman, I'd like to make a motion we amend the agenda so that we can discuss the Cockspur Island Project. Commissioner Stone said, second.

Chairman Liakakis said, we have a second. Go on the board. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Odell and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.] Chairman Liakakis said, the motion passes. Now we need a motion on the floor for consensus to work with the Department — the Engineers and the Port. Assistant County Manager Monahan said, the Natural Park Service and the Corps of Engineers. Chairman Liakakis said, the Corps of Engineers.

Commissioner Thomas said, so moved, Mr. Chairman. Commissioner Farrell said, second.

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

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

- a. Commissioner Shay moved to amend the agenda to discuss the Cockspur Island Project. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Odell and Kicklighter were not present when this vote took place.]
- b. Commissioner Thomas moved to conceptually approve to serve as local sponsor for Cockspur Island Lighthouse Stabilization Project. Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Odell and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

=====

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chairman Liakakis said, we're going to have a quick Executive Session. I'd like a motion on the floor to recess to go into Executive Session. County Attorney Hart said, for litigation and land acquisition.

Upon motion being made by Commissioner Farrell and seconded by Commissioner Shay the board recessed at 1:50 P.M. to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing litigation and land acquisition. [NOTE: Commissioners Odell and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

Following adjournment of the Executive Session, the meeting of the Board of Commissioners was reconvened at 2:11 P.M.

=====

**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 Shay 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 Holmes seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Odell and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

=====

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 2:12 P.M.

=====

**APPROVED:** THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2006

\_\_\_\_\_  
PETE LIAKAKIS, CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF  
COMMISSIONERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA

\_\_\_\_\_  
SYBIL E. TILLMAN, CLERK OF COMMISSION