

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA, HELD ON FRIDAY, MAY 11, 2007, IN THE COMMISSION MEETING ROOM ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF THE CHATHAM COUNTY COURTHOUSE, LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING, 124 BULL STREET, SAVANNAH, GEORGIA.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Pete Liakakis called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m., Friday, May 11, 2007.

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II. INVOCATION

Chairman Liakakis gave the Invocation.

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III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

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IV. ROLL CALL

The Clerk called the roll.

Present: Pete Liakakis, Chairman
 Dr. Priscilla D. Thomas, Vice Chairman, District Eight
 B. Dean Kicklighter, Chairman Pro Tem, District Seven
 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: Helen L. Stone, District One

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

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YOUTH COMMISSIONERS

Chairman Liakakis welcomed the following Youth Commissioners who were in attendance: Kirsten Smith, a Senior at Johnson High School, and Desirae Suggs, representing Savannah Arts Academy.

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V. PROCLAMATIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

1. CHAIRMAN'S STATE OF THE COUNTY ADDRESS.

Chairman Liakakis said, we appreciate each and every one of you coming this morning to hear our State of the Chatham County Commission, and it's really important that we let the citizens know the accomplishments of this Commission.

Fellow Commissioners, elected officials, Chatham County staff and fellow citizens, I am here to report to you on what I have to call another very good year for your Chatham County government. During the past twelve months, your County Commission showed again that by working together for the best interest of all our citizens, putting aside political distractions that can result in inaction, respecting each other's opinions and points of view, trusting our professional staff to do their jobs and, most importantly, listening to our citizens. We can best do the job of the people who elected us to do the job they elected us to do.

We faced considerable challenges when we first came together. The progress we made has been an outgrowth of the teamwork that each of you has been committed to. I thank you and the citizens of Chatham County thank you. This progress has not gone unnoticed by our peers. The recent issue of *Georgia County Government*, the statewide magazine of ACCG, had an excellent feature article on Chatham County's government. I think it sums up much of what is being said about the work being done here. I quote:

"Progress in Chatham County is thanks in large part to experienced county leadership that relies on intergovernmental partnerships, solid planning and progressive initiatives to meet infrastructure demands, accommodate growth and solve problems in the community. Chatham County leaders have made stellar accomplishments in recent years – partnering with municipal governments, facilitating new, high-tech businesses and growing innovative programs for youth and the impoverished."

Progress is indeed what we have done. From the financial mess we inherited in 2005, Chatham County is in its best shape in more than 40 years. Our bond rating is AA-plus. We've amassed \$4.5 million in the M&O account and \$2.5 million in the SSD account to devote to needed and long unfunded capital improvements. We conducted another successful SPLOST campaign, which will fund \$445 million of capital improvements. Intergovernmental relations are at an all time high. Regular meetings with local elected officials have and will continue to the benefit of everyone in our community. Our Step-Up Savannah Anti-Poverty Initiative received the 2007 ACCG *Georgia Trend Magazine* Georgia County Excellence Award, an example of a public/private partnership working for our people. We constructed a temporary 300-bed jail addition to meet alarming overcrowding and have begun planning for a new 800-bed jail. We reinforced our commitment to the Metropolitan Police Department and stand united with the City of Savannah to fight crime. We dedicated a state of the art Counter Narcotics Team headquarters and welcomed new CNT command. Our disaster preparedness is continually improving and we expanded our warning siren system. We completed \$10 million in capital improvements in virtually every area of our county facilities, many of which had not been touch in years if ever, a priority where recreation areas that desperately needed major improvements to restore them to their needed role in the lives of our citizens. Every tennis court in the county was resurfaced, many for the first time ever. Improvements are being made to the Aquatic Center. Boat ramps are being improved. Parks are being revived, and the list goes on.

We've also improved in some instances relocated County offices and surface facilities so that our citizens can gain better access to County services and employees can have adequate and up-to-date work environments to do their jobs.

We adopted an ordinance to authorize creation of enterprise zones, which encourage redevelopment of distressed areas. In the first enterprise zone the President Street corridor, Georgia Pacific has already committed 400 construction jobs and some 90 permanent jobs with a goal that ten percent of them would be targeted toward low income families. The County added more than 250 acres in green space during the year and began a process to acquire more than 1,000 acres during 2007. We assisted in obtaining a one million dollar grant for a 6.5 mile trail which will link Daffin Park to Lake Mayer. Upgrades and improvements were made in wastewater treatment, lift stations and water systems. We resurfaced over five miles of County roads with Local Assistance Road Program. We seated our first Chatham County Historic Preservation Committee. After twenty-plus years Chatham County will see the start of a brand new library. After much anticipation, our W.W. Law Branch is in final stages of a complete renovation with a projected opening later this year. We continue our partnership with Read It Loud Savannah, which is an initiative to communicate the importance and benefits of reading aloud to children, especially from birth to age five.

My friends, the list of accomplishments is too long for me to recite them. Here there's a list of them, well over 90 accomplishments that this County Commission and its staff has accomplished in this last year. Even I was taken aback about how many had been accomplished. It speaks volumes to the excellent work of our County Manager and of every single member of our County workforce. There is a can-do spirit in the officers in the Courthouse and elsewhere. I believe a lot of this is due to good professional management that's been allowed to be creative and innovative in problem solving and coming up with new ways to do in some cases old jobs. Our constitutional officers and jurists likewise have demonstrated a desire to provide the best service for our citizens and we are all grateful to them. It's a privilege to work with you all together to do the people's work. Now let's get back to work. Thank you.

Chairman Liakakis said, thank you very much. We're going to continue with our agenda right now, so we know some of the judges and others have to get back to their particular areas. So we understand that.

Commissioner Thomas asked, Mr. Chairman? Chairman Liakakis said, yes. Commissioner Thomas asked, may I just make a comment just before you go back? Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. I'd just like to say to our Chairman, we thank you for that State of the Union Address of the County. It has been a pleasure serving and working with you and I know I voice the sentiments of this entire Board. You are a go-getter, your expectations are high, and we try to answer the call. We do not always agree and will not agree on every issue, but we respect each other's opinions and we also respect the wishes of the citizens of Chatham County. Therefore, we are able to accomplish the things that we have accomplished. We look forward to another year, and when you bring your State of the County Address next year, we hope that it will have doubled what we have done this year, and we just thank you so very much.

Chairman Liakakis said, thank you. You know, we really do have a great Commission. As was mentioned, sometimes there might be some item that we have a discussion and might not all be in accord with, but this Commission is working hard for all the citizens in Chatham County, and you're going to see them continuing to do the same thing and we'll see a lot more accomplishments next year, and we are going to continue to help the citizens to bringing this County and all the seven cities, to a higher level.

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2. DISTRIBUTION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FY08 AND DISCUSSION ON SETTING A SCHEDULE OF BUDGET WORKSHOPS. SEE ENCLOSED STAFF REPORT. (NOTE: COPIES OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET WILL BE PLACED IN ALL BRANCH LIBRARIES FOR EASY PUBLIC ACCESS.)

Chairman Liakakis said, we have a report from our staff and, of course, this a lot of people say, well, y'all just look at a few figures. Well, this is the County budget here for the Fiscal Year 2008 and it's got quite a bit of information in here for our County Commissioners and what we're going to do today is set up or announce our first workshop that we will have on this budget, and that will be the 17th of May at 2:00 P.M. in the afternoon. So we will be coming together, and after that particular day we will have three more workshops to go over this budget and, of course, give the opportunity to the citizens in Chatham County to be able to have their input on the budget that we have in the upcoming year.

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3. RECOGNITION OF GRADUATES OF CHATHAM COUNTY/UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.

Chairman Liakakis said, if you will come forth Van [Johnson].

County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, if I may, as Van [Johnson] is coming forward, this is another one of your innovations. You're going to see some real leaders in the making. This is a program that you've breathed life back in and I'll guarantee you in the years to come, along with your goal, our goal, to do more, it will be the ladies and gentlemen that you meet today that will be doing it.

Mr. Van Johnson said, thank you, Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, Mr. County Manager. It is fitting that our Chairman chose today to inform our citizenry about the state of our County and he chose to say that the County is strong and thriving. This is further emphasized by the 22 career public servants that sit before you this morning. As we celebrate their achievements and their accomplishments and their completion of Chatham County's Management Development Program. We currently contract with the Carl Vinson Institute of Government at the University of Georgia for this service, and we have been most pleased with the results of our last two classes. Certainly, we are glad that you view training as an investment. It is not a [inaudible] or something that is on a budget line because through the training that you have been able to provide for these young people, we've seen a difference in their personal lives and their professional lives, and training is something that will go with them for the rest of their lives. You've seen these folks on TV. You've also seen them in the newspapers because part of their community project was to go into our community and positively effect the community, further emphasizing that Chatham County and continues to be a good corporate neighbor. They chose Spencer Elementary School as part of a reading program. As you know, Chatham County is very involved with reading and they formed very good relationships with the young people at Spencer Elementary School. This was something that grew and grew and grew and we are just so excited about, and they helped to kind of branch off into our recent Read It Loud Campaign with the Youth Commission and also some of these same employees that went back into pre-schools all over our County to read to our children. So we are here today to celebrate this. We here to celebrate that these individuals will go back to their departments different than they were than when they came. We celebrate the fact that their department heads, their supervisors and managers allowed them the opportunity to come out and to be able to better themselves in order to better our workforce. So we are very pleased to have with us Mr. Gordon Maner was the Local Program Manager and our partner at the University of Georgia. Ms. Franzelle Pertilla, who is the dynamic instructor of this class, could not be with us today, but we are hopeful and we are working very hard to have her back for our Management Development Program, Part III. And as we always say, the best is yet to come. Gordon [Maner], would you like to have a couple of words.

Mr. Gordon Maner said, thank you, Van [Johnson], and thank you for your kind comments about the program. Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, it's nice to see y'all again. It's been about two weeks since we saw y'all in Savannah. I want to thank you for the opportunity to stand before you today to recognize twenty-two of Chatham County's finest. Those who've committed and dedicated themselves to professional growth and to Chatham County by completion of the program. The program has been a partnership for the last three years with Chatham County and the Carl Vinson Institute of Government and we're quite proud of that partnership. Over the last year these men and women have participated in twenty-four days of classroom management and leadership training. Numerous out-of-class assignments, completion of a group project that Van [Johnson] just mentioned and the individual process improvement project. The projects demonstrate the learned skills and produce a measurable return on investment for the County. As I'm fond of saying, the Vinson Institute is not in the training business, we're in the improving county government business. Franzelle Pertilla has done an excellent job facilitating and doing the training for this class and mentoring the projects that each person completed. She has become one of your own and that is a testament to her competency and integrity and her ability to deliver what you want when you want it.

Mr. Maner said, before I go on and mention some of the projects, I'd like to introduce a couple of special people who are also partners with Chatham County from the University. Jan Crosby, if you'd stand please. Jan is our air traffic control [inaudible]. We have people in any given day in five or six different counties and she's making sure that the baggage is on, the books are there and everything's going. So, Jan [Crosby], good to have you. Also, from your partners in Extension Service, we have Jackie Ogden and Karen Schlanger. Karen is brand new with the Extension Service.

Mr. Maner said, I'd like to just mention a couple of examples of the process improvements that some of your participants have developed. Maze Newsome is developing an online service request form, which will increase response time to citizen requests, increase employee productivity. It's a software tracking system that will help his department immensely. William Martin is developing a high-performance tracking sheet development implementation to identify the high performance for promotion and training opportunities, and this will also be a decision support tool that will increase conflict — decrease conflict and negative counseling. Vickie Blumberg, countywide walking program has increased the employee productivity and wellness and to reduce healthcare costs. Angelia Dorsey has done a project on Spanish training. It will help bi-lingually trained County employees in better communications with our Latin community. Robert Marshall is doing a project on training and procedures manual for the QBS process and the selected mental — help with the most qualified professional firms for design and engineering projects for Chatham County. Vickie Tubbs is doing quarterly training for tax commissioners, motor vehicle division, and will reduce the process of errors and liability to the County and also produce a high quality of procurement process. Sandra Smalls is going to do something with the MDP — Management Development Program alumni and a mentoring program that will increase moral, education, employee effectiveness, facilitate succession planning and reduce turnover and cost turnover. Those are just a handful of the projects and all the projects represented and the process improvements were truly outstanding.

Mr. Maner said, the Vinson Institute is pleased to be presenting this third set of certificates to these men and women who worked so hard to improve efficiency and effectiveness of your County. A few weeks ago I had the pleasure of meeting you guys in Savannah in receiving the award that you got from ACCG for the County of Excellence outstanding and that in combination with these projects will only take this County further into its levels of excellence. Chatham County's commitment of training and development and to the Carl Vinson Institute is valued and appreciated and we look forward to many years to come. Congratulations to the 2007 graduates of the Chatham County/Vinson Institute Management Development Program. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and thank you, Commissioners.

Mr. Johnson said, thank you, Gordon [Maner], and again, Mr. Chairman and members of the Commission, Mr. Abolt, Mr. Kaigler, thank you for your support in investing in our employees. All of our employees, although they received certificates for each set of the — for each part of the program, today they will receive a very, very nice certificate which is in a very, very nice frame — a beautiful frame of high quality and we are hoping that they will be able to display it proudly. It's very, very nice. So, Mr. Chairman and Mr. Abolt, if you'll come down to greet our graduates and, Ms. Allen, if you will come and give me some assistance.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, Van [Johnson] — Mr. Johnson said, yes. Commissioner Kicklighter asked, did you by any chance pick out those frames? Mr. Johnson said, well — no. But they are very, very nice. I think my staff knew that they didn't want me to pick them out. They had some in Wal-Mart for \$2.99 and they said that wasn't going to cut it.

Mr. Johnson said, we'll have our graduates as they come up: Vickie Blumberg from Public Works & Park Services; Inger Bostic, Voters Registration; Estelle Brown in Finance; Maryellen Burner, Tax Assessor's Office; Andrea Clark in the Superior Court Clerk; Suzanne Cooler in Engineering; Angelia Dorsey in the Sheriff's Department; Heather Ferguson, Mosquito Control; Ann Galletta, State Court Clerk's Office; Jill Growe from the best department, Human Resources and Services — oh, I'm sorry. I wasn't supposed to say that. — Theresa Harrelson in the Tax Commissioner's Office; Michelle M'Boya, Voters Registration; Robert Marshall in Purchasing, which is a division of Human Resources and Services; William Martin, Public Works and Park Services; Wanda Meier from another great department, Human Resources and Services; Maze Newsome, Public Works and Park Services; Stephanie Parker from the Sheriff's Department; Connie Roberts from Building Safety & Regulatory Services; Kathleen Watson-Scott from Purchasing, which is a division of Human Resources and Services; Sandra Smalls from a very good department, Human Resources and Services; Lynn Stennett in Finance; Vickie Tubbs, Tax Commissioner's Office. Let's give a big round of applause to all of our graduates. And certainly some of our department heads and some of our

supervisors and managers of our graduates are here today, so if you would stand and raise your hand so that you can turn around and see all the support. So again we are very supportive. You will also notice that they are wearing a starfish, which certainly you know has some very great significance, particularly when you look at the story about a young boy who's throwing starfish out to sea and the older fellow asked him why were you throwing these starfish out to sea because there were millions of them along the sand and they would die if they were left in the sun. And ultimately the story ends with the young boy picking one starfish up and throwing it out to sea and saying, well, it made a difference to this one. So thank you for making a difference to these twenty-two and, by extension, their families and their departments. Thank you very much.

Ms. Theresa Harrelson said, on behalf of the Management Development Group Course Three graduates, we have actually had a plaque and we also have a gift for our facilitator and we wanted to at least to show everyone the gift and the plaque and to give it to Sandra or to the University of Georgia to take back to Ms. Franzelle [Pertilla]. She was a great instructor. Thank you very much. Mr. Maner said, we are delighted to have her and we look forward to her coming back in the future. Ms. Harrelson said, she was very beneficial. Thank you. Mr. Maner said, thank you.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Holmes.

Commissioner Holmes said, I want to take this moment to say congratulations to all the graduates and I'm always easy to say that Frank Callen Boys and Girls Club got to be the best youth development in the Chatham County Old Savannah, Georgia, and last year we acknowledged a young man by the name of Rouse. He came through the Boys and Girls Club, and I want to say a special congratulations to two more alumni of the Boys and Girls Club — Mr. Newsome and Ms. Bostic. You all are still a find, a good product that Frank Callen Boys and Girls Club produce. Keep the good work up and congratulations.

Chairman Liakakis said, this Management Development Program is a great program that the University of Georgia, the Carl Vinson Institute of Government has, you know, for all of the people that are with city government, county government and all, and we really appreciate that because, you know, our graduates here and, of course, we've got great employees, but we'll see more efficiency, savings and cost factors and all of those kind of things, and it shows the citizens of Chatham County that we really care, we want to do a better job for all of the people in our community. And one of the things I'd like to say, the representative here, Gordon Maner, he's a Savannahian. Of course, he's one of the leaders now in the University of Georgia Carl Vinson Institute of Government and has been for a number of years, but he's an attorney, his father was a great attorney in our community. He is a Savannahian. We appreciate you coming here and maybe someday you'll move back to Savannah from Atlanta, Gordon [Maner]. Thank you for all that you do for all of

Youth Commissioner Suggs asked, good morning. I have a question about the program. How are you selected to take part in that program.

Chairman Liakakis asked, Van [Johnson]? Could you come up to the podium just a minute? Desirae [Suggs] wanted to ask a question. Oh, and let me recognize before you leave, Ricky Temple, one of the outstanding ministers, not only here, the State of Georgia, but the entire country.

Mr. Johnson said, I believe the question was how are employees elected. Well, right now it's an open process. We are actually advertising tomorrow for our next version that any County employee with their supervisor or management approval can participate in the program. Youth Commissioner Suggs said, thank you. Mr. Johnson said, thank you.

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4. PROCLAMATION DECLARING MAY7-11, 2007, AS COUNTY CLERKS WEEK.

Commissioner Shay read the following proclamation:

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the County Clerk, a vital part of local government, exists throughout the country; and

WHEREAS, the County Clerk is among the most time-honored of public servants; and

WHEREAS, the County Clerk provides the professional link between the citizens, the local governing bodies, and agencies of government at other levels; and

WHEREAS, County Clerks have pledged to be ever mindful of their neutrality and impartiality, rendering equal service to all; and

WHEREAS, the County Clerk continually strives to improve the administration of the affairs of the Office of the County Clerk through participation in education programs,

seminars, workshops and the annual meetings of their state, county and professional organizations; and

WHEREAS, it is most appropriate that we recognize the accomplishments of the County Clerk.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Chatham County Board of Commissioners hereby recognizes the week of May 7 through May 11, 2007, as:

COUNTY CLERKS WEEK

and further extends appreciation to our County Clerk, **Sybil E. Tillman**, and to all County Clerks for the vital services they perform and their exemplary dedication to the communities they represent.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, Pete Liakakis, Chairman, on behalf of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners, have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of Chatham County, Georgia, to be affixed on this, the 11th day of May, 2007.

Pete Liakakis, Chairman, Board of
Commissioners of Chatham County, Georgia

Commissioner Shay said, we'll give this to the County Clerk to make sure that it's appropriately handled. Mr. Chairman said, right.

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VI. CHAIRMAN'S ITEMS

None.

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VII. COMMISSIONERS' ITEMS

1. RESOLUTION OF POLLING LOCATION CHANGES (COMMISSIONER THOMAS).

Chairman Liakakis said, I all on Commissioner Priscilla Thomas for that item.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you, Mr. Chairman, members of the Commission, ladies and gentlemen. I placed this on the agenda because of many, many concerns from the citizens throughout Chatham County as well as the elected officials who represent those various areas. Many of our areas have been affected greatly by the recent suggestion about closing many precincts throughout Chatham County and we, the citizens of those particular areas and representatives of those areas, object and, therefore, this resolution asking that they withhold their status on this and I would like to get the Commissioners' approval to send this to the Board of Elections because they're having a public meeting on Monday, I believe at four o'clock, in the Board of Elections office, which is very small. It's open to the public and the other main reason why this resolution came about was the fact that they had a meeting on Monday, April 9, 2007, and we were not properly notified or there was a lack of notification, and this disturbed me and others greatly because we were not able to notify our citizens who were going to be affected by these changes. We are not here to try to micro-manage what they do. We know that changes are needed, but they need to work with the citizens and the leaders who represent those citizens of Chatham County. So, therefore, I ask that we adopt this resolution today. Commissioner Kicklighter said, second.

Chairman Liakakis said, we have a motion on the floor and a second. Do we have discussion?

Commissioner Odell said, just a couple of comments. First of all, thank you, Priscilla — Dr. Thomas. This is something that it absolutely necessary, and I say that it is necessary in that you keep a democracy by having as many people as possible included in the government. Any time that you change polling places, there's always the probability that you're going to have fallout where people especially the elderly and those who depend upon CAT who will have difficulties traveling to the new polling site, and unfortunately there's no way that we can effectively communicate to every citizen

to ensure that every citizen is aware of his or her new polling place. Most of them or many will receive, even if we issue new cards and make a presumption that that is simply confirming that they are registered voters rather than micro-managing and looking at the new polling site. This doesn't offend or should not offend anyone. It doesn't intrude upon any prerogative of any of the board. I think those who encourage liberty will encourage inclusion, and that is all people should be encouraged to vote every time. I think we have better decisions when we have that. Thank you.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Kicklighter.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to compliment Dr. Thomas on putting the resolution on the agenda also. I'll state that I definitely admire and appreciate the task that the Board of Elections are, you know, that they have to do here, and I understand the intent with the realization that most of the poll workers are probably, sadly to say, dying off. We don't have young people volunteering to work the polls, and it's really pretty sad when you go into most of the polling places, so we definitely — we need young folks to get out there and volunteer, and that would be a great thing for the Youth Commission to take on by the way is try to get people, young folks to get in there and get started because it really it's an aging population in there that's trying to, you know, help out with all of the polling places. So understand what they're trying to accomplish. But I think that a huge part of the problem, I guess, could be solved with just better communications like Dr. Thomas said. I know that in the last election many people in Bloomingdale woke up to go to their regular polling place to find out that they were having to go all the way to Port Wentworth to vote, and that's quite a little trip there. So, you know, I commend you for bringing this up and I strongly encourage the Board of Elections to communicate and have more public hearings and also let them know that I do appreciate the task that they are trying to accomplish here. And, that's it.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Holmes.

Commissioner Holmes said, this resolution came about from several town hall meetings that were held on the eastside of town and the westside of town. These town hall meetings we heard various compliments on what was going on and what was not going on. And I want to kind of give you a clear picture of what we're talking about. Last year the Elected [sic] Board they decide to move Yamacraw from their voting place up to the Civic Center. Dr. Thomas and Alderman Johnson, they pled with them not to do that. They sent a letter asking them not to do that, and for some reason many phone calls went in to them not to do that, and the reason why they knew and we knew that had those citizens stayed in Yamacraw to vote, they would have participated. And by them moving from Yamacraw coming across MLK up to the Civic Center, it was a tremendous drop off in voting in the last election. So it's nothing that we don't know. It is things that we know in our community that take place. We, as elected officials, will have to sit up, stand up, and be accountable for the ones that can't speak for themselves. And when we look back at what we have to do now, that meeting on Monday I'm hoping we have a good turnout for the citizens to voice their concern of what's taking place here in Chatham County. We're going to need your support in this. We ask for your support and we're not asking them to not make change. Maybe some of these changes are going to take place, but at least the timing in which they are implementing this proposal we don't think it's a good time. So if they can hold off until after 2008, we all here as citizens know what happens in 2008. It's the presidential election time. So if we can wait until then, get with our elected officials, get with the citizens along with the board, we can make some sort of better strategy to what polls should be closed, what place it should be located and who merge together.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay. Thank you. We have a motion on the floor and a second to — excuse me. Kirsten [Smith].

Youth Commissioner Smith asked, what Mr. Kicklighter was saying about the youth coming out to volunteer, is there somewhere we can go to talk to about trying to volunteer and is there an age requirement? Commissioner Kicklighter said, you would have to be eighteen — eighteen years old, but with your leadership, because you are such leaders, I'm sure that you know if you're not eighteen, I'm sure that you know many productive eighteen year olds and people, you know, younger people that you could as a group encourage them to get in there because honestly once you're able to go vote, you'll see what I'm talking about. It's — I mean, there's some really older people working the polls and a lack of young people in there, and ten years from now we may be in trouble because they literally may die off and we won't have people working the polls and we're going to be in big trouble because most of them are very old.

Commissioner Thomas said, Commissioner Kicklighter, I would like to say that we are looking towards that and, as a matter of fact, last year I personally — I don't know about others — but I personally had ten young people to qualify and work the different polls. And so we will continue to encourage those young people to do that.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay. Let's go on the board. Excuse me. Desirae [Suggs]?

Youth Commissioner Suggs said, my question is directed to Dr. Priscilla Thomas. Why — what brought on the changes in the poll locations in the first place? Commissioner Thomas said, well, they felt — I mean, the Board of Elections — felt that there were too many precincts. They're spreaded [sic] all over Chatham County and they do not have the workers to, you know, to accommodate those precincts. Therefore, any precinct that had less than a thousand — am I correct? They were looking at those changes regardless of the voting strength in those areas.

Commissioner Kicklighter asked, can I respond to that, too? Commissioner Thomas said, yes. Commissioner Kicklighter said, one good example, it's actually in Dr. Thomas' district, and it's right outside of mine, with Savannah Christian. They had a polling place there and that one actually needed to go. It was like two or three or four people —. Commissioner Thomas said, two. Commissioner Kicklighter said, — two people voted, and so that's a lot of money

going for one, so that's why I applaud the actual writing and the makeup of this resolution. It's not asking them to hold until — and I respect Commissioner Holmes — it's not asking them to hold off until —. There's no time line in there. It's just asking them for better communications because there's definitely room for improvement in anything we all do. So I'm not asking them to stop trying to improve, just to communicate with this group and get the input of the citizens better.

Commissioner Thomas said, there's one last thing. Commissioner Holmes said, Commissioner Dean [Kicklighter], there is a time in there. Commissioner Thomas said, yes, there's a —. Commissioner Holmes said, there's a year in there. Commissioner Holmes said, if you read it. Commissioner Thomas said, 2008. After 2008 when elections —. And let me say this, and let me say this. The main thrust here is that democracy must prevail. We're in 2007 and I can tell you unequivocally I for one am not going to get off it. We must provide access to all citizens. That's a right, and if we deny people the right to vote, then that's a problem. So the bottom line is access, access, access. And I think that sums it up.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, Mr. Chairman. Chairman Liakakis said, Dave [Gellatly]. Commissioner Kicklighter said, oh, I'm sorry.

Commissioner Gellatly said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. What I'd like us to look at, we are so fortunate to have the Youth Commission that we have now and have had for a long time, and I understand that the voting precincts that there is an age limit of eighteen, but I'm sure that if we look at it real close that there's something in there, there must be some job in there that someone less than eighteen could do, and what an awesome learning opportunity that would be if we can determine if there's a precinct requirement of six people, if one of those people can't be under eighteen years of age. We have these people here that are so qualified and so much need to have the opportunity to gain some experience, and so I would ask the Election people to take a look at it and see if we can't use some people under the age of eighteen. I fully realize that most of the positions require probably by law that you have to be eighteen or older, but I'm also equally as sure that if there are six positions in a precinct that one of them could be under eighteen. I would like them to look at that. Thank you.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Kicklighter.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, Mr. Chairman, I don't know if this is a legal question or not, but I guess now that I stand corrected and the wording is in there until after 2008, would this, if they followed this legally, if they followed this request, would this make it where they couldn't actually correct the problems, like I stated earlier, that a lot of citizens from Bloomingdale have to go all the way into Port Wentworth now to vote, if they held with this request, then they couldn't even correct their problem and bring them back because no changes would take place. Correct?

County Attorney Hart said, that's the request, but the decision on where the precincts are —. Commissioner Odell said, that's not our decision. County Attorney Hart said, is not y'all's.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, it's not a legal question. It's just a —. Commissioner Odell said, so basically —. Commissioner Kicklighter said, — just a — because this is not a law we're passing. Commissioner Odell said, basically what we're saying, Dean [Kicklighter], is we're saying the ones that you close and that you are scheduling to close, don't do that until after the election. That doesn't preclude them from correcting a mistake that they made in your district where people have to drive halfway over America just to vote. They could correct that error and this doesn't preclude that. And I guess bottom line is we're sending a recommendation, not an ordinance. Commissioner Thomas said, right. Commissioner Kicklighter asked, can it somehow be worded excluding —. Commissioner Odell asked, excluding Dean's district? Commissioner Kicklighter said, no. Excluding just that one area. I mean, there was understandably very upset people having to go from Bloomingdale all the way to Port Wentworth.

Chairman Liakakis said, I don't — this resolution is —. Commissioner Kicklighter said, we're talking about people walking 500 feet from Yamacraw to the Civic Center was a problem. It surely is a problem going ten, fifteen more miles. So —. Chairman Liakakis said, but it just was — just stated they can correct. This resolution can go through like it is, Dean, and the request can —. Commissioner Kicklighter said, as stated —. Chairman Liakakis said, — be made —. Commissioner Kicklighter said, as stated, I support this though.

Chairman Liakakis said, yeah. Now, what I'd like to do at this time, Mary Osborne, who's on the City Council, and represents District Two, who's done an outstanding job for City Council representation, I'd like to call on her because she would like to make a statement on this resolution.

Ms. Mary Osborne said, thank you, Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, staff and public. First of all, I'd like to go on record as saying that the Savannah City Council yesterday passed a resolution asking the Board of Elections to hold off on any changes in the precincts that are presently existing at this time and to a date certain later on down the line. Now the bottom line is that — I like Dr. Thomas' words — access, access, access. There was a town hall meeting held in the First District, there was one held in the Second District at my calling at the town hall meeting and it was overwhelmingly crowded and overwhelmingly resounding do not make changes in the polls. First of all, the Board of Elections acknowledged that it is not a financial problem that they have in doing that. They didn't necessarily mention so much that there were problems with poll managers. Yes, they are older, and if I'm correct, I believe they do receive a stipend. It's not a volunteer issue, and I think with proper recruitment, they can get who they need and train who they need and get better training than some of their —, but that might be an age factor also. But I want to stand before you today to encourage you, as an elected body, to sign onto this also. We need to speak loudly as we represent the

constituents in our areas that we support them. You talk about two people, Dean [Kicklighter], having to go over —, I would suggest also that Yamacraw Village is further than 500 feet from the Civic Center. I grew up in Yamacraw and I know it very well. But the point of the matter is, it's not the numbers. It doesn't matter whether it's less than a thousand people. You have to consider distance, access to transportation, the senior citizens, all of that, and numbers, and come up with a reasonable and reconcilable solution to the problem. So I urge you gentlemen —, ladies and gentlemen, to please support this resolution. Thank you for the opportunity of speaking.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Gellatly.

Commissioner Gellatly said, yeah. I'd like to — I've heard several comments from my young fellow Commissioner next to me and representing maybe some of the older folks, I would like for us to take a look at the stipend that these poll workers get. I think it's \$100 a day. Why couldn't we double that and by doing that, why, I would point out that the older folks that man these polls — precincts, they're extremely qualified. They're very bright, very alert, and they're going to be around for a long time, and if we pay just a little bit more, why that —, we might find that we'll have enough people to man the precincts. So I would like for them to take a look at that also. Let's just increase the stipend, let's double it. Thank you.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, Mr. Chairman. Chairman Liakakis said, yes. Commissioner Kicklighter said, just to answer my older colleague here, I never thought or alluded that they weren't intelligent, wonderful people, but the fact is we're all going to die and, you know, we have an aging population and we need young folks involved. So I just wanted that clear. I think they're wonderful folks, but we've got to get young people involved. Commissioner Gellatly said, what he's saying, that none of us are going to get out of this alive. Commissioner Kicklighter said, exactly.

Commissioner Shay said, Mr. Chairman, I'd like to call for the question.

Chairman Liakakis said, let's go on the board. We have a motion and a second on the floor. Let's go on the board. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Liakakis said, it has passed. Commissioner Kicklighter said, he's older and doesn't have his glasses. Chairman Liakakis said, okay. That's fine. The motion passes. [NOTE: Commissioners Stone and Farrell were not present.]

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Thomas moved to adopt a resolution opposing polling location changes until after the 2008 elections. Commissioner Kicklighter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Stone and Farrell were not present.]

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Chatham County Board of Commissioners acknowledges that the right to vote is a privilege afforded to access all citizens; and

WHEREAS, lack of notification to all members of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners, a public hearing was held on Monday, April 9, 2007 by the Chatham County Board of Elections concerning a proposal to realign polls which could result in the closing of certain poll locations; and

WHEREAS, this proposed change could affect the manner in which over 34,000 voters are accustomed to; and

WHEREAS, the Chatham County Board of Commissioners has received numerous and various communications from citizens objecting to the proposal which could greatly effect voters that are disabled, elderly, less fortunate and lack transportation; and

WHEREAS, it concerns the County Commissioners that sufficient public notification was not received regarding the hearing for the proposed change and how these changes will effect voters' rights.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chatham County Board of Commissioners respectfully request that no action be taken by the Chatham County Board of Elections relating to change(s) of polling places until after 2008 and that such action be reviewed in accordance with the law by the United States Department of Justice; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chatham County Board of Commissioners respectfully request of the Chatham County Board of Elections that they seek input from local elected officials and community organizations to address the matter of polling locations.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of Chatham County, Georgia to be affixed this the 11th day of May 2007.

Pete Liakakis, Chairman
Chatham County Commission

ATTEST:

Sybil E. Tillman, Clerk

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RECOGNITION OF GUESTS

Chairman Liakakis said, I'd like to recognize, you know, as I mentioned in my state of County about our jurists and our constitutional officers have done a good job for our citizens, and I see we've got two of them in the audience and I'd like to recognize Sheriff Al St. Lawrence and, of course, the Tax Commissioner Danny Powers. And we have enough individual who's leaving out. I know that he was concerned about it, Richard Shinholster, is the Vice President of the NAACP, but he heard. We appreciate you coming today also, Richard. Mr. Shinholster said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Chairman Liakakis said, okay. I see in the audience too, that we have Roy Harris, our new Commander of CNT. I'm glad he's on board with us. You know, he's really gotten into there already since he was sworn in here the other day.

Chairman Liakakis recognized County Manager Abolt.

County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, Dr. Thomas and gentlemen, this gives an opportunity if you would like to recognize both his leadership and response to the City of Garden City. You've all received correspondence and we all understand, and Commissioner Gellatly — former Chief Gellatly — has spoken so well at your last meeting about vacancy, I think, I think it's important for this community to realize that to the leadership of Commander Harris, Chief Lyons and the Garden City administration we will now have an additional officer from Garden City that will help us out in this time in need and for that certainly I appreciate it.

Chairman Liakakis said, you know, one of the other things, too, the membership of that CNT, of course, they've got great officers on there. They have arrested since 1994 well over 10,000 people. They've confiscated a lot of drugs, they've confiscated a lot of weapons, they've confiscated a lot of money, but one of the things that we really need is I have requested a couple of days ago, Russ [Abolt], is we need to get that, you know, that full compliment of all the cities, you know, for them to have their people on board with the CNT because the more people that they have, the better job they can do because they can handle more of the raids or whatever else is necessary for the operation of the Counter Narcotics Team.

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CHATHAM AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Farrell, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and unanimously approved, the Board recessed as the County Commission at 10:30 a.m., and convened as Chatham Area Transit Authority.

The Board reconvened as the County Commission at 11:56 a.m.

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VIII. TABLED/RECONSIDERED ITEMS

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

None.

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IX. ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL ACTION

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

1. **TO REQUEST APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING: (1) AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT FUND TO: A) TRANSFER \$5,478 WITHIN THE RECORDER'S COURT BUDGET TO SALARIES AND BENEFITS, B) TRANSFER \$11,400 FROM CONTINGENCY TO THE METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR RENT, (2) AMENDMENTS TO THE GENERAL FUND M&O TO: A) TRANSFER \$2,500 FROM CONTINGENCY TO THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT FOR SALARY ADJUSTMENTS, B) UTILIZE \$145,370 IN SALARY SAVINGS IN THE DETENTION CENTER BUDGET FOR MODULAR HOUSING UNITS (\$142,660), AND SALARY ADJUSTMENTS (\$2,710), AND C) TRANSFER \$59,800 FROM FACILITIES MAINTENANCE AND \$100,000 FROM ADA COMPLIANCE TO TRANSFER OUT TO CIP FOR AN ADA COMPLIANCE PROJECT, AND (3) AMENDMENTS TO THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM BUDGET TO A) TRANSFER \$84,036 BETWEEN PROJECTS FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO THE OLD COURTHOUSE, AND B) INCREASE REVENUE BY \$159,800 TRANSFER IN FROM THE GENERAL FUND M&O AND APPROPRIATE THE FUNDS FOR AN ADA COMPLIANCE PROJECT.**

Chairman Liakakis said, do we have a motion on the floor to approve this?

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

Chairman Liakakis said, we have a motion on the floor and a second to approve these requests. Let's go on the board. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Stone and Odell were not present.] Chairman Liakakis said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Gellatly moved to approve the following: (1) Amendments to the Special Service District Fund to: a) transfer \$5,478 within the Recorder's Court budget to salaries and benefits, b) transfer \$11,400 from contingency to the Metropolitan Police Department for rent, (2) amendments to the General Fund M&O to: a) transfer \$2,500 from contingency to the Sheriff's Department for salary adjustments, b) utilize \$145,370 in salary savings in the Detention Center budget for modular housing units (\$142,660), and salary adjustments (\$2,710), and c) transfer \$59,800 from Facilities Maintenance and \$100,000 from ADA Compliance to transfer out to CIP for an ADA Compliance project, and (3) amendments to the Capital Improvement Program budget to a) transfer \$84,036 between projects for improvements to the Old Courthouse, and b) increase revenue by \$159,800 transfer in from the General Fund M&O and appropriate the funds for an ADA Compliance project. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Stone and Odell were not present.]

AGENDA ITEM: IX-1

AGENDA DATE: May 11, 2007

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

ISSUE: To request approval of the following: (1) amendments to the Special Service District Fund to: a) transfer \$5,478 within the Recorder's Court budget to salaries and benefits, b) transfer \$11,400 from contingency to the Metropolitan Police Department for rent, (2) amendments to the General Fund M&O to: a) transfer \$2,500 from contingency to the Sheriff's Department for salary adjustments, b) utilize \$145,370 in salary savings in the Detention Center budget for modular housing units (\$142,660), and salary adjustments (\$2,710), and c) transfer \$59,800 from Facilities Maintenance and \$100,000 from ADA Compliance to transfer out to CIP for an ADA Compliance project, and (3) amendments to the Capital Improvement Program budget to a) transfer \$84,036 between projects for improvements to the Old Courthouse, and b) increase revenue by \$159,800 transfer in from the General Fund M&O and appropriate the funds for an ADA Compliance project.

BACKGROUND:

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

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

- 1) Salary adjustments for the Recorder's Court judges require a transfer of \$5,478 within the department's budget to salaries and benefits.

- 2) The Metropolitan Police Department rents space for the east side precinct. Funds for an additional three months are needed. A transfer \$11,400 from SSD contingency is requested.
- 3) The Sheriff has initiated salary adjustments that will require additional funding. A transfer of \$2,500 from M&O Contingency is needed to fund the adjustments in FY2007. The annual cost to be added to the FY2008 budget is \$13,000.
- 4) The Detention Center requires funds for installation of the modular housing units, and salary adjustments. Funds are available in salary savings. The amount needed for the housing units is \$142,660. The amount for the salary adjustments in FY2007 is \$2,710. The annual cost of the salary adjustments for FY2008 is \$14,080.
- 5) The second floor of the Old Courthouse is in need of repair and refurbishment. Funds are available in existing projects for transfer to the Old Courthouse project. The total to be transferred is \$84,036.
- 6) The Human Resources and Services Director has requested that funds be transferred from General Fund M&O departments to the Capital Improvement Program fund for an ADA project. The total to be transferred is \$159,800. Correspondence is attached.

FUNDING: Funds are available in the Special Service District Fund and General Fund M&O contingencies, the Recorder's Court, Sheriff's Department and Detention Center budgets and projects in the CIP Fund.

ALTERNATIVES:

- (1) That the Board approve the following:

SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT FUND

- a) transfer \$5,478 within the Recorder's Court budget to salaries and wages.
- b) transfer \$11,400 from contingency to the Metropolitan Police Department for rent.

GENERAL FUND M&O

- a) transfer \$2,500 from contingency to the Sheriff's Department for salary adjustments,
- b) transfer \$145,370 within the Detention Center budget for modular housing units (\$142,660) and salary adjustments (\$2,710),
- c) transfer \$59,800 from Facilities Maintenance and \$100,000 from ADA Compliance to transfer out to CIP for an ADA Compliance project.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FUND

- a) transfers of \$84,036 between projects for improvements to the Old Courthouse,
- b) a budget amendment to increase revenue by \$159,800 transfer in from the General Fund M&O and appropriate the funds for an ADA Compliance project.

- (2) Amend or deny the request.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

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

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board approve Alternative 1.

Prepared by: Read DeHaven

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2. THIRD QUARTER FINANCIAL REPORT.

Chairman Liakakis said, we'll call on our illustrious Financial Director, Linda Cramer, for that report.

Ms. Cramer said, good morning. I'm pleased to present our Third Quarter Financial Report to you. Everything is looking — in our main operating fund everything's looking good at the third quarter. We have some very good numbers on our property tax digest revenues, which are about 91% of budget in M&O and — I mean, 71% of budget and 73% of budget in the SSD. Overall, the interests is coming up. That's largely because you have higher reserve levels in your operating fund so you can make more money on you're available cash, so we have positive numbers there. The Local Option Sales Tax collections are very strong right now. That has really been jumping around, both our SPLOST

and our LOST that comes in. It has really been jumping around month to month, and I think we'll do fine for this year. It will be interesting to see where the economy has related to those numbers.

Ms. Cramer said, in our smaller Special Revenue Fund, kind of the trend we're seeing there overall is that anything having to do with permitting, like the LDAO fund, the business permitting fund for new construction, those revenues are really lower than budget overall across all funds. So you'll notice on LDAO we're showing that we're using net assets from that fund to cover expenditures. We also are seeing in the Building Safety and Regulatory Services Fund that we have a deficit this year, which has continued from the prior year with our revenues not keeping pace with the expenditures. So we will need especially in that last fund to come back to you, even though we're looking at a potential increase in fees for that fund. We will probably need to shore that fund up in some manner here before the end of the fiscal year. We have a negative cash position in the fund and it's just compounding every month. But overall it's very positive.

Ms. Cramer said, we also for the first time have attached at the end of your report a memorandum from the City of Savannah about the police budget expenditures and what they're seeing for the first three months of 2007 compared to the budget there. If you have any questions, I'll be glad to answer them.

Chairman Liakakis asked, any questions? Any questions? Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Shay.

Commissioner Shay said, you know, I must take this opportunity to thank you for the work that you do and the Manager. I'm not going to say to you that I sit here every time we send me one of these and read it all the way from the front to the back, but I have tremendous confidence that when I'm reading your facts and findings and your summaries that you give me a very good and accurate picture as a Commissioner of the things that I need to be concerned about and the things that I need to be not concerned about, and that's very, very helpful to us. I mean, you watch these numbers like a hawk all day long, and I very much appreciate the fact that when we're even having a problem with one of the minor funds, you bring it to our attention and say, you know, we've got a little problem over here, we're watching it, we're being careful, and that gives us so much confidence in what we're doing up here that we can be then focused on policy rather than being scared about whether or not month to month revenues are out of control or in control. So thank you both so much for the work that you do.

County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, Dr. Thomas and gentlemen, at the same time we certainly thank you for so much for those thoughts. I also want to publicly recognize this body, this board. Ms. Cramer mentioned about interest earnings increasing. That's because your financial policies are creating reserves so as opposed to living from hand to mouth, the reserves that you put in place are making money for the taxpayers of this County.

Commissioner Thomas said, Mr. Chairman, I have a comment. Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Thomas. Commissioner Thomas said, yes, I'd like to also go on record of thanking Ms. Cramer because since she came on board I have been very much at ease with the way that she handles our finances and reports to us. Prior to her coming, I tell you, we were always punching, you know, not knowing where we were going from one moment to the other, but I feel very good and you are to be commended for the outstanding work, you and your staff, for doing. It makes me feel a whole lot better.

Ms. Cramer said, well, thank you for that and my staff thanks you as well. They're very supportive of me and all very committed to Chatham County and to making sure that we give you an accurate picture. Commissioner Thomas said, it shows. Thank you.

Chairman Liakakis said, this is great for the citizens, Linda [Cramer], because of the great job you do as the Director of that department and all of your staff and all. It keeps us on the right road so that we are able to operate this County on a good financial basis and efficiently. Okay, thank you.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Financial Director Linda Cramer discussed the Third Quarter Financial Report with the Commission.

AGENDA ITEM: IX-2
AGENDA DATE: May 11, 2007

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

ISSUE: To present the Fiscal Year 2007 Third Quarter Report dated March 31, 2007 to the Board for information.

BACKGROUND: Financial reporting conveys information concerning the position and activities of the County to its citizens and other interested parties. Interim financial reports generally are prepared for use by professional government managers and board members. Such reports monitor levels of year-to-date operations and determine compliance with budgetary limitations.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. Mosswood is a new single family residential subdivision located on Burton Road. Phase 2 of Mosswood consists of 53 lots on 20.66 acres. Paving and drainage improvements will be maintained by the Mosswood Homeowners' Association. Water and sewer will be maintained by Consolidated Utilities, Inc.
2. Staff approved construction plans and issued a permit. Construction of the improvements is underway.
3. The developer has submitted a letter of credit issued by Colony Bank in the amount of \$500,060.50, which is 100% of the cost of improvements.
4. The developer has requested that the Board waive the requirement for a streetlight assessment district. Georgia Power will install the streetlights and the Mosswood Homeowners' Association will maintain them. The Board approved this request for Mosswood, Phase 1.
5. An Environmental Site Assessment was previously conducted on the subdivision in accordance with the Subdivision Ordinance. No environmentally unsafe conditions were found on the site.

ALTERNATIVES:

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

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

RECOMMENDATION: That the Commissioners adopt Alternative No. 1.

District 7

PREPARED BY: Nathaniel Panther

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3. REQUEST FROM MPC CHAIRMAN TO SCHEDULE A WORKSHOP ON THE ZONING ORDINANCE REVISIONS.

Mr. Tom Thomson said, yes, Mr. Chairman. We are — excuse me. We are at the point of nearly completing our first component of the Zoning Code process. The Zoning Assessment Report is being reviewed by our Technical Committee right now and staff and we're revising it and we're going to publish it on or about June 8th, two weeks before what we proposed to be our workshop date with you all of June 22nd. So we respectfully request time on your agenda on that date for a workshop and to get comments from the Board. We're pleased to have Commissioner Stone sitting in as the Commission's representative on the Technical Committee and she's been participating.

Commissioner Shay asked, which days are you requesting? Mr. Thomson said, June 22nd.

County Manager Abolt said, your regular meeting date. We'll just schedule it at the end of your normal business.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, Tom [Thomson], tell us what Zoning Ordinance revisions will go into place or to get input on what we think should or what. I mean, is it more of an information thing to us or —?

Mr. Thomson said, at this point you'll probably view it as primarily information. It's a staff assessment of the current ordinance and the problems that exist with the current ordinance. So it's more of a conceptual level. We're beginning the detail part with the next step, which is the first — starting with all the review procedures, all the boards that are part of the Zoning Ordinance, the ZBA and the MPC and a number of other types of boards that exist in the Zoning Ordinance. We're going to review all their procedures and processes and deal with that first and then the next component starts getting into the zoning categories and uses for each zone, and that will be much more interesting. Commissioner Kicklighter said, so eventually it will work its way to us for us to change ordinances that we are —. Mr. Thomson said, right. At the end of — near the end of the process we'll be probably bringing — we'd have to discuss how you'd like to handle it. We could bring the whole thing to you in one package or we could break it into, here's the administrative procedures and tentatively approve it and then move on to the next step, but at some point we're going to have a lot of discussion about changes in actual zoning. A number of different ways we'll be looking at this and give you a preview. We're going to try to reduce the number of zones, so that will involve changing some nomenclature in some cases, so right now the City has an R-6 Zone and the County has an R-1 Zone, for example, and they're essentially the same uses and type of development, Single Family Residential. So we would rename that and so that's one type of action we might take. It's called [inaudible] other nomenclature. Another type of action would be to

perhaps keep the current name of the zone but change the uses or, as we change the name, we also change the listing uses. And our goal there is to — I think what we're trying — we've got a lot of misalignment of compatible uses in the list for a particular zoning category. We want to try to bring those back in line. Another problem has been we've gotten way too specific, you know. There's one in there about a jackhammer business or something. You know, that would be a Light Industrial thing so we don't even call it jackhammer. Industrial equipment or something broader than that. So those are the kind of things when we get to that third component that will probably generate more interest in discussion, both on the public and landowner's point and you all's points of view.

Commissioner Shay said, Tom [Thomson], I know that you are in a very critical moment in the history of Chatham County being at the helm when we're trying to make sense of the Zoning Ordinance that's had 50-years and in some cases a 60-years to get outdated, and there are going to be controversies before this is all over with. One time you made a presentation to us and you related to the fact that your board had sort of asked you, meaning the MPC Board, to try and figure out how to craft an ordinance that was going to be universally acceptable, and I for one want to express to you that I think that's an unreasonable request. I mean, to think that we're going to be able to go through all the things that we have to do by unanimous consent is unrealistic. I think it's a worthy goal, I think it's a great idea to sit down and try and say we're going to change the zoning for every parcel in Chatham County to one extent or another and we don't want anybody to stand up and say I have an objection to that, but we recognize that this is tough going and tough all the way. I think that the process that you're taking very carefully to look at procedures first and then get into some of the other things is the right procedure to take, but I don't want us to wait around for unanimous consent. None of us on this Board I think are going to live long enough to see unanimous consent on all the difficult things that lie ahead, and I just wanted you to know that.

Mr. Thomson said, well, thank you and I'd like to — you know, that respect probably needs to gain some momentum because on most of the things we've been billing so far and I think what I referred to is that the standard is that everybody has to agree, and that's a tough one. I think at some point as decision makers, you'll have to look at the big picture and say this is good for the majority of the community and some people are affected. I don't expect anyone to be overly harmed as a property owner. You know, when we're doing the mid-city rezoning I remember one kind of infamous example we had a landowner who objected to the changes and uses on his property and although he could do a lot more things, like we added 100 things and took away 60 or something, and you know we took away a helicopter port, you know, and I thought you're not going to have a helicopter port on a 60 by 100-foot lot in mid-city. So, you know, so we had those kind of levels of misunderstanding. When we get to that stage, we're going to work very hard to communicate detail to people, and I think the landowners take the time and talk to us before they perceive what is happening to them, I think they'll understand, and we're getting really good with that approach in West Savannah. We've done the West Savannah neighborhood. We're going to do Whitfield going to the City Council and in each of those we've been able to communicate effectively what's going to happen to the zoning to the owners and they've gotten on board with it. It's an area that's clammering for change in zoning, so that's also been our advantage.

Commissioner Shay said, it's just that if we set ourselves up for a process where you say unanimous consent to the standards, then special interest groups — you know, the Scott-Irish University of Pennsylvania Alumni Association steps forward — that would be me — and says, you know, we're not going to have a zoning change unless I get exactly what I want. I mean, you can game against that process in a way that says either I get exactly what I want or else we don't get to have a new Zoning Ordinance. And so we have to be on watch for that as well. I mean, we want to have something that makes sense for all the citizens, but it doesn't necessarily have to make perfect sense for each and every citizen, especially if they have sort of other hidden agendas. Mr. Thomson said, thank you.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Thomas.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you. And I understand what you're saying about the ordinance and everything. I just wanted to ask a question. I think you alluded to the fact about we're building in the West Savannah area and we have noticed that there are tremendous number of signs saying about the ordinance changes in the area and people have been asking, but I've been out of the loop so I haven't been able to, you know, really effectively communicate back to the — all of the signs that are going up, you know, talking about the changes. Mr. Thomson said, I will — and I'll send it to anybody who wants — I have a memo that I sent to the City, to the City Manager that summarizes all the Woodville changes. I'll be glad to provide you a copy of that. Commissioner Thomas said, if you will provide me a copy of that, that will be very helpful to me. Mr. Thomson said, and anybody else — should I just send it to all of the Commissioners?

Commissioner Kicklighter said, Tom [Thomson], what I would like during the process is I would like to be copied as well as I think the people that represent the Islands area, both Commissioners, would want to be cc-ed any, I won't say major, but complaints that come in from the unincorporated residents or business owners through, you know, this process. I would like to have a copy of that because we're always up here talking about how the unincorporated areas basically on the eastside and the westside, so it's going to be tough for everyone here, but it's really not going to be fun for those of us who have the huge populated areas, and I know that it's going to be rough on the Islands area and the westside just because when you start messing with people's property rights, when granddad owned it and you could do this on it back then and they were planning on selling it because, it's going to be touch, but I appreciate it. It has to happen. That's planning, you know, but please let us know the complaints and that away [sic] hopefully we can help facilitate something that's fair for all the people in the area. Mr. Thomson said, well, it's yet to be determined how big an impact it will get the thing, but I just — what you said reminded me, and I think we'll have this up and running by the time we come in to talk to you again to brief you on how to use it. They tell me it's called a blog, but what it's meant to be is a way for the public to communicate with us directly about our zoning process and to locate

our zoning minutes of meetings and products on the line. So — and, of course, we have access at our MPC offices. We have a Public Information Center for anyone who can't have access from home, they can come in and see everything and interact with us that way. Commissioner Kicklighter said, well, I'm not going to sit here and pretend like I'm going to sit and read blog after blog after blog, but —. Mr. Thomson said, we'll comply with what you're saying. Commissioner Kicklighter said, yeah. I would like to see the complaints from constituents in my district and I'm sure the others — yeah.

Chairman Liakakis said, thank you, Tom [Thomas]. Patrick [Shay], did you want to —?

Commissioner Shay said, just one more brief —. I read over the guiding principals and goals and objectives and so forth, and I don't want you to think that this is going to be like pulling teeth because it's not. But unanimous consent is a very, very high standard for us, but really all the things proposed in the Tricentennial Plan, in an intuitive level and in a practical level, they make sense and I think that the outstanding majority of people who are honest about it and don't have a hidden agenda are going to be very, very pleased with the outcome of it.

Chairman Liakakis said, Sybil [Tillman], make a correction there. The MPC Chairman was not here, it was Tom Thomson, the Executive Director.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Mr. Tom Thomson, Executive Director of the Metropolitan Planning Commission, announced that the workshop will be presented to the Commission at its meeting on Friday, June 22, 2007.

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X. ACTION CALENDAR

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

Chairman Liakakis said, it's been distributed to all the Commissioners. We have on the Action Calendar Items 1 through 10 and under 10 for expenditures we have A through M. Do we have a motion on the floor to approve these items?

Commissioner Kicklighter said, motion to approve the Action Calendar. Commissioner Thomas said, second.

Chairman Liakakis said, we have a motion on the floor and a second to approve these items. Let's go on the board. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Stone and Holmes were not present.]

Commissioner Kicklighter said, Mr. Chairman. Chairman Liakakis said, yes. Commissioner Kicklighter said, just as a matter of public record, I spoke with the County Engineers and I'm satisfied that the drainage that we just approved in Henderson is not a part of the drainage that they had a meeting on yesterday, or it's not going to have an impact on the meeting that took place yesterday.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to approve Items 1 through 10-M, both inclusive. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Stone and Holmes were not present.]

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

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1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 27, 2007, AS MAILED.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commission Kicklighter moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of April 27, 2007. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Stone and Holmes were not present.]

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2. CLAIMS VS. CHATHAM COUNTY FOR THE PERIOD APRIL 19 THROUGH MAY 3, 2007.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to authorize the Finance Director to pay the claims against the County for the period April 19, 2007, through May 3, 2007, in the amount of \$4,772,460. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Stone and Holmes were not present.]

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**3. REQUEST FROM DAVIS ENGINEERING, ENGINEER FOR THE DEVELOPER, H&L DEVELOPERS, LLC, TO RECORD THE SUBDIVISION PLAT FOR MOSSWOOD, PHASE 2, ACCEPT THE SUBDIVISION AGREEMENT AND FINANCIAL GUARANTEE AND WAIVE THE REQUIREMENT FOR A STREETLIGHT ASSESSMENT DISTRICT.
[DISTRICT 7.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to approve the request from Davis Engineering, engineer for the developer, H&L Developers, LLC, to record the subdivision plat for Mosswood, Phase 2, accept the subdivision agreement and financial guarantee and waive the requirement for a streetlight assessment district. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Stone and Holmes were not present.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-3
AGENDA DATE: May 11, 2007

TO: Board of Commissioners
THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager
FROM: A. G. Bungard, P.E., County Engineer

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

BACKGROUND: The engineer, Davis Engineering, for the developer, H&L Developers, LLC, requests that the County approve the final plat for recording, accept the subdivision agreement and financial guarantee and waive the requirement for a streetlight assessment district.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. Mosswood is a new single family residential subdivision located on Burton Road. Phase 2 of Mosswood consists of 53 lots on 20.66 acres. Paving and drainage improvements will be maintained by the Mosswood Homeowners' Association. Water and sewer will be maintained by Consolidated Utilities, Inc.
2. Staff approved construction plans and issued a permit. Construction of the improvements is underway.
3. The developer has submitted a letter of credit issued by Colony Bank in the amount of \$500,060.50, which is 100% of the cost of improvements.
4. The developer has requested that the Board waive the requirement for a streetlight assessment district. Georgia Power will install the streetlights and the Mosswood Homeowners' Association will maintain them. The Board approved this request for Mosswood, Phase 1.
5. An Environmental Site Assessment was previously conducted on the subdivision in accordance with the Subdivision Ordinance. No environmentally unsafe conditions were found on the site.

ALTERNATIVES:

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

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

RECOMMENDATION: That the Commissioners adopt Alternative No. 1.

District 7

PREPARED BY: Nathaniel Panther

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4. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL TO ENTER INTO AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF POOLER TO PURCHASE WATER TO SERVE THE SPA INDUSTRIAL PARK.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to approve the request to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Pooler to purchase water to serve the SPA Industrial Park. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Stone and Holmes were not present.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-4
AGENDA DATE: May 11, 2007

TO: Board of Commissioners

THRU: R.E. Abolt, County Manager

FROM: Robert W. Drewry, Director of Public Works and Park Services

Issue: Request Board approval to enter into an Inter-governmental Agreement with the City of Pooler to purchase water to serve the SPA Industrial Park.

Background: Chatham County owns and operates the water and sewer system that serves the SPA Industrial Park.

Facts and Findings:

1. The water system is served by 2 groundwater wells through a distribution system. Through an Inter-governmental Agreement in 1976, the County pumps the sanitary sewer generated in the park to the City of Savannah for treatment. In addition, in 1987 the County inter-connected the SPA water system with the City of Pooler as a backup water source. These wells have limited permitted withdrawal capacity which introduces a water supply problem.
2. The County's groundwater withdrawal permit with the State Environmental Protection Division allows for 172,000 gallons per day monthly average from the Upper Floridian Aquifer. Unfortunately, the County's actual withdrawal has exceeded the permitted rate. The State of Georgia has issued the Coastal Georgia Water and Wastewater Permitting Plan for Managing Salt Water Intrusion in June 2006 that eliminates increased withdrawal from the Upper Floridian aquifer. As a result, the County has initiated discussions with the City of Pooler for an Inter-governmental Agreement to purchase water through the inter-connection and transfer the permitted capacity to the Glen of Robin water system. This will accommodate future water demands of the Industrial Park and the Glen of Robin system where the County has had capacity problems also.
3. At the December 15, 2006 County Commission meeting, the Board was presented with a proposal from the City of Savannah to assume ownership of the water and sewer system that serves SPA. The Board unanimously approved retaining ownership of the system and supported staff's pursuit of purchasing water from the City of Pooler.
4. Working with the Pooler City Administrator, staff has drafted an agreement to purchase water from Pooler. The agreement is attached and made a part of this staff report. In summary, the agreement recognizes that Pooler purchases treated surface water from the City of Savannah through an agreement dated February 17, 2000. The County will pay the current wholesale rate of \$1.44 per 1000 gallons plus \$0.12 per 1000 gallons. Staff has analyzed the County's current water fees against the proposed rates charged by Pooler and determined that the County's rate structure will have to be slightly amended for consumption greater than 2000 cubic

feet of usage by 10%. The proposed rate increase is included in staff's proposed adoption of the Revenue Ordinance during budget deliberations and subsequent hearings.

5. The City of Pooler approved the agreement on March 5, 2007.

Funding: No funds are requested but this agreement will necessitate an increase in the water rate structure.

Policy Statement: Board action is required to enter into agreements.

Alternatives:

1. Board enter into an Inter-governmental Agreement with the City of Pooler to purchase water for the SPA Industrial Park.
2. Board not approve the agreement and provide staff with other direction.

Recommendations: Board approve Alternative #1.

District 7

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5. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE AN ANNUAL RESOLUTION TO REAFFIRM THE NECESSITY OF THE "E-911" AND WIRELESS ENHANCED "E-911" CHARGES.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to approve the request for an annual resolution to reaffirm the necessity of the "E-911" and wireless enhanced "E-911" charges. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Stone and Holmes were not present.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-5
AGENDA DATE: May 11, 2007

DATE: May 3, 2007
TO: Board of Commissioners
THRU: R.E.Abolt, County Manager
FROM: Linda Cramer, Finance Director

ISSUE:

To present to the Board an annual resolution to reaffirm the necessity of the "E-911" and wireless enhanced "E-911" charges.

BACKGROUND:

The Board of Commissioners have approved resolutions establishing E-911 charges. The state code requires that the necessity of the charge be reaffirmed by resolution on an annual basis.

FACTS & FINDINGS:

- (1) As provided for in state law, the Board of Commissioners approved a resolution on November 8, 1991, to be effective 120 days thereafter on April 1, 1992, increasing E-911 rates in the unincorporated area and all municipalities with the exception of the City of Savannah from \$.16 to \$1.50. On March 12, 1999 the Board of Commissioners approved a resolution reaffirming the need for the charge of \$1.50 per month per exchange access facility.
- (2) On August 13, 1999 the Board of Commissioners adopted a resolution imposing a \$1.00 per month charge per wireless telecommunications connection. On April 21, 2006 the Board of Commissioners adopted a resolution increasing the fee to \$1.50 per month per wireless telecommunications connection to be effective September 10, 2006.
- (3) The Official Code of Georgia section 46-5-134(d)(3) requires that Chatham County reaffirm the necessity for the "911" and wireless enhanced "911" charge beginning

with the thirteenth month following the month in which the emergency "911" system service is first provided and during such month annually thereafter.

- (4) The charges provide funds to pay for the operation of the E-911 services and for purchase of equipment for such purpose. Under the intergovernmental agreement for police services between the City of Savannah and Chatham County, the County will remit E-911 fees to the City to fund the Savannah-Chatham County Metropolitan Police Department's E-911 functions.

FUNDING: Not applicable.

ALTERNATIVES:

- (1) That the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution for the Chairman's signature.
- (2) That the Board not approve the resolution.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

The Official Code of Georgia section 46-5-134(d)(3) requires that Chatham County reaffirm the necessity for the "911" and wireless enhanced "911" charge annually.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board approve Alternative 1.

Prepared by: Read DeHaven

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, E-911 service serves a life-saving link between people and emergency services by improving response times and the accuracy of automated address location; and

WHEREAS, Chatham County now provides this valuable service to promote the safety, health and well-being of residents of Chatham County and its thousands of visitors each year: and

WHEREAS, it remains in the best interests of the citizens of Chatham County to maintain this E-911 service, which Chatham County provides to the unincorporated area and all cities (except Savannah) as a Public Answering Point; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Chatham County does hereby desire to establish a method of paying for this service that would also reduce reliance upon property taxes for these funds; and

WHEREAS, the amount of \$1.50 per month per exchange access facility provided to the telephone subscriber was approved by the Chatham County Board of Commissioners on November 8, 1991 to be effective on the first day of April 1992; and

WHEREAS, the amount of \$1.50 per month per wireless connection provided to each telephone subscriber was approved by the Chatham County Board of Commissioners on April 21, 2006 to be effective on the tenth day of September 2006; and

WHEREAS, on August 13, 1999, the Chatham County Board Of Commissioners adopted an amended resolution to impose a wireless enhanced 911 charge within the geographic area that is served or would be served by Chatham County.

NOW THEREFORE, as required by the Official Code of Georgia, Title 46, Chapter 46-5-134(d)(3), the Board of Commissioners of Chatham County does hereby reaffirm the necessity for a monthly "E-911" charge of \$1.50 upon each exchange access facility subscribed to by telephone subscribers whose exchange to access lines are in areas served by Chatham County's Public Safety Answering Point, and reaffirm the necessity for a monthly charge of \$1.50 per month per wireless connection subscribed to by subscribers whose billing address is within the geographic area that is served by Chatham County or that would be served by Chatham County for the purpose of such an emergency "911" system.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these charges remain effective as reaffirmed by the enactment of this resolution.

BE IT SO RESOLVED ON THIS 11TH DAY OF MAY, 2007.

ATTEST:

Pete Liakakis, Chairman

Sybil Tillman, Clerk

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6. **REQUEST BOARD CLARIFY EARLIER APPROVAL TO GRANT A REFUND OF TAXES PAID BY UNION MISSION FOR PROPERTY AT 107 FAHM STREET (FUTURE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CENTER) TO AN ACTION OF BOARD APPROVAL TO FORGIVE OR ABATE TAXES.**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to clarify earlier approval to grant a refund of taxes paid by Union Mission for property at 107 Fahm Street (future Behavioral Health Center) to an action of Board approval to forgive or abate taxes. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Stone and Holmes were not present.]

AGENDA DATE: X-6

AGENDA DATE: May 11, 2007

TO: Board of Commissioners
THRU: R.E. Abolt, County Manager
FROM: Patrick Monahan, Asst. County Manager

ISSUE:

To clarify the Board's earlier approval from grant a refund of taxes paid by Union Mission for property at 107 Fahm Street (future Behavioral Health Center) to an action of Board approval to forgive or abate taxes.

BACKGROUND:

At the April 21, 2006 meeting, the Board granted a refund of taxes to Union Mission for property at 107 Fahm Street (future Behavioral Health Center), which Chatham County will own. The Tax Commissioner's Office points out that since Union Mission never paid the taxes, they cannot be refunded. The proper approval should be to forgive or abate taxes.

FACTS & FINDINGS:

1. The Board authorized a project on behalf of the Savannah Behavioral Health Collaborative (SABHC) and issued bonds to undertake it. Under the project, Union Mission as SABHC's managing partner, will deed the former Fox Appliance store to Chatham County; however, the property at 107 Fahm Street is not tax-exempt. The Board of Assessors considers the property taxable since as a vacant building its use does not constitute a charitable purpose (despite that Union Mission used the property for storage related to its services as a non-profit agency).
2. Outstanding taxes total \$39,385.92.
3. As part of the award of a contract for construction on this agenda, Chatham County will accept title to the property.

FUNDING:

Not applicable.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. That the Board authorize an abatement and cancellation of taxes assessed and to correct and adjust errors in the digest for the years 2005, 2006 and 2007.
2. That the Board take no action and pay the outstanding taxes from the project budget.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

Though not an error in the digest pursuant to O.C.G.A. 48-5-154, Union Mission will be paying taxes on property which should be in the name of Chatham County.

RECOMMENDATION:

For Board approval.

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7. REQUEST BOARD ADOPT A RESOLUTION TO ACKNOWLEDGE CHATHAM COUNTY'S PARTNERSHIP IN THE LOWER OGEECHEE RIVER CONSERVATION CORRIDOR.**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to adopt a resolution to acknowledge Chatham County's partnership in the Lower Ogeechee River Conservation Corridor. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Stone and Holmes were not present.]

AGENDA DATE: X-7**AGENDA DATE: May 11, 2007****TO:** Board of Commissioners**THRU:** R.E. Abolt, County Manager**FROM:** Patrick Monahan, Asst. County Manager**ISSUE:**

To adopt a resolution to acknowledge Chatham County's partnership in the Lower Ogeechee River Conservation Corridor.

BACKGROUND:

The U.S. Army has established the Army Compatible Use Buffer (ACUB) to protect military installations at Hunter Army Airfield and Fort Stewart. Part of the buffer zone includes the Lower Ogeechee River Conservation Corridor (LORCC), which follows the Ogeechee River from State Route 204 southward along Chatham and Bryan County. Because of the environmental interest as well as the military's interest, partners with Hunter and Fort Stewart on the LORCC project include the Trust for Public Land, The Nature Conservancy, Georgia Land Trust, Georgia Forestry Commission and MPC. The partners request that the county governing authorities in Chatham County and Bryan County add to the partnership.

FACTS & FINDINGS:

1. The Lower Ogeechee River Conservation Corridor protects two important assets. First, the corridor provides a buffer for the southern part of the military installations at Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield and supports the Army Compatible Use Buffer (ACUB), which helps protect the installation(s) from the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) plan. Second, the corridor helps to maintain a natural asset of vegetated, bottomland along the Ogeechee River.
2. Several environmental groups and the MPC have partnered with Hunter Army Airfield and Fort Stewart in recognizing the need to protect the corridor. The partners request that the county governing authorities of Chatham and Bryan counties add to the partnership by adoption of resolutions (see attached).
3. Chatham County has already recognized the environmental significance of this area and owns for protection more than 1,000 acres, including Kings Ferry and the Litchfield tract. In addition, the County is considering acquisition of another 600 acres. Not only will this area become a conservation corridor, but the extension of the East Coast Greenway from the Bamboo Farm to Bryan County will make it among the highlights of the national trail system.

FUNDING:

Not applicable.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. That the Board adopt the attached resolution in support of the Lower Ogeechee River Conservation Corridor and become a formal partner with Hunter Army Airfield and Fort Stewart, MPC, Trust for Public Land, The Nature Conservancy, Georgia Land Trust and Georgia Forestry Commission in recognizing the significance of this area.

2. That the Board take no action.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

Chatham County has already recognized the environmental importance of the Lower Ogeechee River Conservation Corridor by its acquisition of more than 1,000 acres in this area with a potential to almost double its holdings within the next year. Adoption of this resolution would also show the County's support for the value of the corridor as a buffer to protect Hunter Army Airfield and Fort Stewart.

RECOMMENDATION:

For Board approval.

WHEREAS, the Lower Ogeechee River Conservation Corridor provides an important asset for the Chatham County community and surrounding region; and

WHEREAS, the Lower Ogeechee River Conservation Corridor serves as a buffer for the southern part of the military installations at Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield and supports the Army Compatible Use Buffer (ACUB), which helps protect the installation(s) from the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) plan; and

WHEREAS, Lower Ogeechee River Conservation Corridor also protects a valuable environmental natural asset of vegetated, bottomland along the Ogeechee River and provides a natural habitat for abundant fishing and recreational pursuits; and

WHEREAS, Chatham County has already recognized the environmental significance of this area and already owns for protection more than 1,000 acres, including Kings Ferry and the, Litchfield tract, and is considering acquisition of additional properties for conservation and recreation; and

WHEREAS, not only will this area become a significant conservation corridor, but the extension of the East Coast Greenway from the Bamboo Farm to Bryan County will make it among the most scenic vistas along the national trail system; and

WHEREAS, Hunter Army Airfield and Fort Stewart, MPC, Trust for Public Land, The Nature Conservancy, Georgia Land Trust and Georgia Forestry Commission have partnered to recognize the importance of the corridor, and the partnership now requests the governing authority of Chatham County to join as a partner.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Commissioners of Chatham County, in open meeting this 11th day of May, 2007, joins the partnership of public and private organizations which recognize the importance of the Lower Ogeechee River Conservation Corridor and will work with them to champion other political and financial support on behalf of this valuable public asset.

Pete Liakakis, Chairman

Attest:

Sybil E. Tillman, Clerk

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8. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN CHATHAM COUNTY AND THE SOUTHEASTERN NEWSPAPERS COMPANY, LLC, FOR THE USE OF A FACILITY FOR A CRITICAL WORKFORCE SHELTER.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to approve a Memorandum of Understanding between Chatham County and The Southeastern Newspapers Company, LLC, for the use of a facility for a Critical Workforce Shelter. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Stone and Holmes were not present.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-8
AGENDA DATE: May 11, 2007

April 16, 2007

To: Chatham Board of Commissioners

Through: R.E. Abolt, County Manager

From: Phillip Webber, Director CEMA

ISSUE:

Approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Chatham County and The Southeastern Newspapers Company, LLC for the use of their facility as a Critical Workforce Shelter.

BACKGROUND:

The Chatham County Attorney and the Legal Department of The Southeastern Newspapers Company, LLC were involved and reviewed the final draft of this MOU. This document provides for the use of the Savannah Morning News Building on Police Memorial Drive as a Critical Workforce Shelter for Chatham County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Staff also referred to as the Annex EOC.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. A Critical Workforce Shelter will be needed to house Chatham County and other Staff working at the Annex EOC.
2. This site was chosen due to the structural integrity of the building (meets the 110mph wind force structural requirement), and the geographic location for access to the Annex EOC located at 295 Police Memorial Drive.

FUNDING:

In accordance with the memorandum, Chatham County will be responsible for:
Payment and reimbursement for any damages done to the facility during the period critical workforce personnel are housed in the facility. A walk thru of the facility will be conducted by representatives of both parties prior to and immediately after CWFS operations to document any pre and post-existing facility conditions. Under the provisions of O.C.G.A. title 38-3-32, 'Georgia Emergency Management Act of 1981', immunity is granted per attached citation.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the MOU
2. Do not approve and provide additional guidance to CEMA.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

By approving this MOU, CEMA will have an adequate site for Annex EOC workforce. This site meets current construction standards for the 110 MPH wind force structural requirement and has an adequate generator to supply emergency power if there is a loss of provided power.

RECOMMENDATION:

Alternate #1.

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9. REQUEST FROM THE TAX COMMISSIONER FOR THE BOARD TO APPROVE TWO QUITCLAIM DEEDS TO CORRECT A CLERICAL ERROR IN THE SPELLING OF THE OWNER'S NAME ON BOTH OF THE ORIGINAL QUITCLAIM DEEDS.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to approve the request from the Tax Commissioner for the Board to approve two Quitclaim Deeds to correct a clerical error in the spelling of the owner's name on both of the original Quitclaim Deeds. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Stone and Holmes were not present.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-9
AGENDA DATE: May 11, 2007

DATE: May 1st, 2007

TO: Pete Liakakis, Chairman
 Chatham County Commissioners

FROM: Beth R. Lewis, Assistant Delinquent Administrator
 Tax Commissioner's Office

SUBJECT: Request for the approval by the Commissioners that the attached Corrected Quitclaim Deeds be put on the agenda for the next meeting of Commissioners scheduled for May 11th, 2007.

I would like to submit these for the agenda of the County Commissioners meeting set for May 11th, 2007. The attached Quitclaim Deeds are being issued to correct a clerical error in the spelling of the owner's name on both of the original Quitclaim Deeds.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>PIN</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Emma Lonon	20050-06016	0.00
Beverly Williams	20593-14012	0.00

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10. 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. Declare items as unserviceable surplus and approve to sell at public auction or to dispose as scrap material	Fleet Operations	N/A	N/A	Revenue Producing
B. Annual contract with automatic renewal options for four (4) additional one year terms to provide various paper/ chemical supplies	Various	•Coastal Paper/ Sail Company •Paper Chemical Supply (WBE) •Georgia Correctional Industries	Varies by item	•General Fund/M&O - Various •SSD - Various
C. Repairs to excavator	Public Works	ASC Construction Equipment USA, Inc. (Sole Source)	\$13,200	General Fund/M&O - Fleet Operations
D. 2,500 tons of stone	Solid Waste	Martin Marietta Aggregate	\$43,750	Solid Waste
E. Ten (10) tasers	Sheriff	DGG Taser, Inc. (Sole Source)	\$12,149	General Fund/M&O - Sheriff
F. Change Order No. 1 to the contract for Quacco Canal Drainage Improvements for additional work	SPLOST	E & D Contracting Services, Inc. (WBE)	N/A	No additional funds required
G. Change Order No. 1 to the contract for Gateway/ Henderson Drainage Improvements for additional design, survey and acquisition plat preparation costs	SPLOST	B.P. Barber and Associates, Inc.	\$30,000	SPLOST (1998-2003) - Gateway/ Henderson Drainage Improvements
H. Change Order No. 2 to the contract to construct the Skidaway Narrows Boat Ramp parking lot and access road for additional work	SPLOST	E & D Contracting Services, Inc. (WBE)	\$54,981	SPLOST (2003-2008) - Unincorporated County Roads

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
I. Term contract to provide construction equipment and services for County projects	SPLOST	Blankenship Landscape Company	Not to Exceed \$150,000	•SPLOST (1985-1993) •SPLOST (1998-2003) •SPLOST (2003-2008) •Land Bank Authority
J. Change Order No. 2 to the contract to construct a sidewalk along Johnny Mercer Boulevard at Whitemarsh Island Road	SPLOST	Pioneer Construction, Inc.	\$106,791	•SPLOST (2003-2008) - Whitemarsh sidewalks
K. Contract for the purchasing and installation of fencing for the Wilmington Island Drop Off Center	Solid Waste	Savannah Fence and Entry Systems, Inc.	\$27,852	Solid Waste
L. Change Order No. 1 to the construction contract for the SR21/ Northport Parkway Intersection construction for additional work	Engineering	Malphrus Construction Company, Inc.	\$44,613	No County funding required - Totally funded by GDOT and SEDA
M. Contract for the paving of Palm Drive	SPLOST	Bryco, Inc.	\$135,172	SPLOST (2003-2008) - Palm Drive

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to approve Items 10-A through 10-M, both inclusive. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Stone and Holmes were not present.]

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XI. FIRST READINGS

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

- 1. THE PETITIONER PHILLIP MCCORKLE, AGENT (FOR JOE C. SIKES, OWNER) IS REQUESTING THE REZONING FROM AN I-H (HEAVY INDUSTRIAL) ZONING CLASSIFICATION TO A P-B (PLANNED BUSINESS) CLASSIFICATION. THE MPC RECOMMENDS APPROVAL.
 MPC FILE NO. Z-070329-41568-1
 [DISTRICT 7.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

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

**Petition of Phillip McCorkle
 MPC File No. Z-070329-41568-1**

MPC recommends that the following described property be rezoned from its present I-H (Heavy Industrial) to a P-B (Planned Business) zoning classification.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION

Beginning on a point located at the intersection of the centerline of Bourne Avenue and the easternmost right of way of Highway 21, thence proceeding northerly along the easternmost right of way of Highway 21 a distance of approximately 1984 feet to a point, thence easterly along a line North 57 degrees 09 minutes 21 seconds East a distance of approximately 158 feet to a point, thence continuing easterly along a line North 71 degrees 32 minutes 56 seconds East a distance of approximately 302 feet to a point, thence southerly along a line South 18 degrees 27 minutes 04 seconds East a distance of approximately 579 feet to a point, thence northeasterly along a line North 71 degrees 50 minutes 38 seconds East for a distance of approximately 388 feet to a point, thence southerly along

a line South 18 degrees 27 minutes 04 seconds East a distance of approximately 645 feet to a point, thence along a curve to the right having a curvilinear distance of 147 feet, a chord bearing North 01 degrees 34 minutes 18 seconds West, and a radius of 250 feet to a point, thence along a line South 15 degrees 18 minutes 28 seconds West to its intersection with the centerline of Bourne Avenue, thence westerly along the centerline of Bourne Avenue back to the point of beginning.

The property is further identified by the Property Identification Number:

P.I.N. 1-0817-01-001 (Portion)

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**2. TEXT AMENDMENT TO THE COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCE TO MODIFY THE DEFINITION OF "YARD" TO ACCOMMODATE THE LOCATION OF AIR-CONDITIONING COMPRESSORS.
[UNINCORPORATED AREA.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

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

AGENDA ITEM: XI-2
AGENDA DATE: May 11, 2007

DATE: May 4, 2007
TO: R. E. Abolt, County Manager
FROM: R. Jonathan Hart, County Attorney
SUBJECT: Text Amendment to Zoning Ordinance

We have a staff report on the agenda for next Friday for a text amendment to the zoning ordinance pertaining to set back issues. Upon review of the Zoning Ordinance, this probably should have technically been referred to the MPC before it is enacted upon.

Since we have already advertised first reading for this Friday, I intend to request that the first reading occur and ask for a referral from the Board of Commissioners to the MPC for their staff recommendation prior to the next Commission meeting on May 25, 2007. In this manner, we will be in technical compliance with the ordinance, and do not have to re-advertise and delay enactment.

This is a request which has been worked out between Building Safety & Regulatory Service and the Home Builders that should be a great assistance in clarification for the zoning administrator. I see this as a non-controversial item.

RJH/dc

cc: Chairman Pete Liakakis and Board of Commissioners
Gregori Anderson, Director of Building Safety & Regulatory Services

DATE: May 4, 2007
TO: Tom Tomson, Director of MPC
FROM: R. Jonathan Hart, County Attorney
SUBJECT: Text Amendment to Zoning Ordinance

Thanks to the efficiency of Jim Hansen, it has been brought to our attention that a proposed text amendment to the Zoning Ordinance, which has been placed on the Commission agenda for Friday, May 11, 2007, should have technically been referred to the MPC before it is enacted upon by the Board of Commissioners.

Accordingly, attached hereto is a copy of the proposed text amendment to the Zoning Ordinance for review.

It should be noted that the amendment request has been worked out between Chatham County Building Safety & Regulatory Services and the Home Builders Association and; therefore, I see this as a non-controversial item. Also, since the subject has already been advertised for first reading at the May 11, 2007 Commission meeting, it is my intent to request that the Board of Commissioner's refer the matter to the MPC for recommendation by the next Commission meeting on May 25, 2007. By doing this, we will be in technical compliance with the ordinance, and will not have to re-advertise and delay enactment of the amendment.

Thank you very much for your assistance. Should you have any questions, please feel free to give me a call.

RJH/dc
enclosure

cc: R. E. Abolt, County Manager
Gregori Anderson, Director of Building Safety & Regulatory Services

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XII. SECOND READINGS

1. AMEND THE CODE OF CHATHAM COUNTY TO UPDATE DEPARTMENTS AND OFFICES UNDER THE COUNTY MANAGER.

Chairman Liakakis said, each and every one of you have received all of that information and these are things that need to be done. Mr. County Manager?

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

Chairman Liakakis said, all in favor, let's go on the board. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Stone, Holmes and Shay were not present.]

Commissioner Kicklighter said, excellent speech, Mr. Abolt.

Chairman Liakakis said, you did good. Very convincing.

County Manager Abolt said, I wanted to comment. The best Commissioner from District 5 in Chatham County, Commissioner Odell, this is an idea he came up with about a year and a half ago and the slack has been very slow for going through because of other work priorities. We're amending the Code, bringing the Code up to current. That's what we're doing.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to amend the *Code of Chatham County* to update departments and offices under the County Manager. Commissioner Gellatly seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Stone, Holmes and Shay were not present.]

AGENDA ITEM: XII-1
AGENDA DATE: May 11, 2007

AGENDA ITEM: ~~XI-1~~
AGENDA DATE: ~~April 27, 2007~~

TO: Board of Commissioners
THRU: R.E. Abolt, County Manager
FROM: Patrick Monahan, Asst. County Manager

ISSUE:
To amend the *Code of Chatham County* to update departments and offices under the County Manager.

BACKGROUND:

Chapter 4, Article 1, of the *Code of Chatham County* relates to the administrative structure of county government, and more specifically, the department and offices under the County Manager's responsibility (this does not affect any elected offices nor departments nor the authority of the County Manager). Since written in 1985 when the Enabling Act became effective, Chapter 4 has not changed despite changes in the organization because of name changes of departments, elimination of departments to provide efficiencies in streamlining administration of services, and reorganization of departments.

FACTS & FINDINGS:

1. The proposed amendment to Chapter 4, Article 1, is attached, which provides 11 departments under the County Manager's responsibility. The proposed amendment relates to structure only and does not affect the County Manager's authority, which Chapter 1 of the Enabling Act provides.

2. Since the Enabling Act became effective in 1985, Chapter 4 has not been updated despite changes within the organization. Noted below are the specific changes:

2.1 The Central Services Department became eliminated and its services and divisions became assigned to other departments as part of a reorganization to streamline departments in October 2001. The divisions and responsibilities of Central Services became assumed by other departments as noted below.

2.2 Human Resources became Human Resources and Services in October 2001 when it assumed assigned divisions and services from the deletion of the Central Services Department.

2.3 Building Safety and Regulatory Services became renamed from the Inspections Department in January 2000. The name change recognizes its expanded regulatory duties for building inspections, zoning and property maintenance, as well as responsibility for occupation and business licenses, alcoholic beverage licenses and special permits.

2.4 Information and Communications Services department became renamed in October 2001 when it assumed assigned divisions and services from the elimination of the Central Services Department. ICS has also assumed responsibility for telephone and communications services.

2.5 The Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs become deleted in July 2003 and its responsibilities merged with Public Works as part of a reorganization to streamline the organization.

2.6 The Department of Public Works and Parks Services became renamed in July 2003 when it assumed assigned divisions and services from the Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs.

2.7 The Counter Narcotics Team became a new department in March 1994 under a reorganization of the Chatham County Police Department.

2.8 The Emergency Management Department should not be reflected under Chapter 4, Article 1, since the County Manager does not assume responsibility for the department, which Georgia law and other county ordinance govern.

3. The adoption of the amendment will make consistent the structure and workings of the organization with the legal document which governs the County's organization and structure.

FUNDING:

Not applicable

ALTERNATIVES:

1. That the Board adopt the proposed amendment to Chapter IV, Article I.

2. That the Board take no action on the proposed amendment to Chapter IV, Article I.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

The Enabling Act authorizes that only the Board of Commissioners can adopt amendments to the County Code. The proposed amendment to Chapter IV, Article 1, makes consistent previous organizational changes for purposes of efficiency and streamlining the organization with the legal document which governs the organization of departments which report to the County Manager.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board adopt Alternative 1.

AN ORDINANCE

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA,
CHAPTER IV, ARTICLE I, ESTABLISHMENT OF DEPARTMENTS AND OFFICES
UNDER THE COUNTY MANAGER**

Chapter 4, Article I, is amended, as follows:

Establishment of Departments and Offices Under the County Manager

The following departments and offices are hereby established. The County Manager shall be responsible for staffing, directing, and managing each department pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 1 of this Code and applicable State law:

1. County Manager's Office
2. Building Safety and Regulatory Services Department
3. Counter Narcotics Team
4. Engineering Department
5. Finance Department
6. Human Resources and Services Department
7. Information and Communications Services Department
8. Internal Audit Department
9. Mosquito Control Department
10. Police Department
11. Public Works and Parks Services Department

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2. **AMEND SECTION 4-5.1 PROVISIONS REGARDING USE IN C DISTRICTS AND R-DISTRICTS OF THE CHATHAM COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCE TO SPECIFICALLY ALLOW HONEY PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION OF HONEY AND HONEY RELATED PRODUCTS AS A MATTER OF RIGHT WITHIN THE C-A (AGRICULTURE CONSERVATION), R-A (RESIDENTIAL AGRICULTURE), AND R-A-1 (RESIDENTIAL AGRICULTURE-LIMITED) ZONING DISTRICTS. THE MPC RECOMMENDS APPROVAL.
MPC FILE NO. Z-070315-38709-1
[UNINCORPORATED AREA-TEXT AMENDMENT.]**

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

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

Chairman Liakakis said, we have a motion on the floor to approve.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, Mr. Chairman. Chairman Liakakis said, yes. Commissioner Kicklighter said, if I may on that, I want to ask on that, does this basically allow someone to come in and keep all the bee boxes in a residential neighborhood? Mr. Jim Hansen said, Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Kicklighter, no it would not. Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay. Mr. Hansen said, this is strictly for honey production and sales. Not for the bees. Commissioner Kicklighter said, how do you produce honey? Mr. Hansen said, in this particular case the honey would be brought into the facilities. Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay. Mr. Hansen said, it's not — the honey is not produced on the site. Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay. I used to live beside someone that had the bees and it wasn't really that — it wasn't a great [inaudible], but —. Okay, thank you.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay. Let's go on the board. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Stone and Holmes were not present.] Chairman Liakakis said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Gellatly moved to amend Section 4-5.1 Provisions Regarding Use in C Districts and R-Districts of the Chatham County Zoning Ordinance to specifically allow honey production and distribution of honey and honey related

products as a matter of right within the C-A (Agriculture Conservation), R-A (Residential Agriculture), and R-A-1 (Residential Agriculture-Limited) zoning districts. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Stone and Holmes were not present.]

AGENDA ITEM: XII-2
AGENDA DATE: May 11, 2007

AGENDA ITEM: ~~XI-2~~
AGENDA DATE: ~~April 27, 2007~~

TO: BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
THRU: R. E. ABOLT, COUNTY MANAGER
FROM: THOMAS L. THOMSON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

LEGAL NOTICE/AGENDA HEADING:

Amend Section 4-5.1 Provisions Regarding Use in C Districts and R-Districts of the Chatham County Zoning Ordinance to specifically allow honey production and distribution of honey and honey related products as a matter of right within the C-A (Agriculture Conservation), R-A (Residential Agriculture), and R-A-1 (Residential Agriculture-Limited) zoning districts. The MPC recommends approval.
MPC File No. Z-070315-38709-1

Issue:

The petitioner is proposing that the Zoning Ordinance be amended to specifically allow honey production and distribution of honey and honey related products as a matter of right within the C-A (Agriculture Conservation), R-A (Residential Agriculture), and R-A-1 (Residential Agriculture-Limited) zoning districts.

Background:

Honey production and the distribution of honey and honey related products are not specifically listed as permitted uses in the existing Chatham County Zoning Ordinance. The petitioner is proposing an amendment to the Ordinance that would, subject to limitations, allow said uses in specified zoning districts.

Findings:

1. The petitioner represents the owner of certain property that has most recently been used as a greenhouse and plant nursery. As proposed, the petitioner intends to relocate his existing honey and honey products business to the greenhouse/plant nursery site. Because the distribution of honey and honey related products are not expressly listed as a permitted use in the Chatham County Zoning Ordinance, the County Zoning Administrator has advised that a text amendment should be sought to clarify the existing use provisions of the Ordinance.
2. Although honey production and distribution is not currently listed as an expressly allowed use, it can be argued that such uses are not detrimental to the health, safety, and welfare of community residents. Therefore, the challenge is to determine appropriate zoning classifications where such uses might be located. Due to the very nature of the product in question and its origins, the logical extension is to allow honey production and distribution in those zoning classifications most closely associated with agriculture and agriculturally related uses. With the existing Ordinance framework, those districts would be C-A (Agriculture-Conservation), R-A (Residential-Agriculture), and R-A-1 (Residential-Agriculture-Limited) classifications.
3. The petitioner makes reference to a specific property. However, if an amendment is granted, the change would not only impact one property, but would be applicable to all properties located within the districts approved. While it is probable that most locations would be appropriate for the type of use proposed; others may not. In recognition thereof, it is suggested that limitations of use also be added as follows:
 - a) Such uses shall only be permitted on a lot or plot of ground which abuts a collector or higher classified street.

- b) The site upon which such uses are established shall be not less than two acres in size.

Alternatives:

1. Approve the petitioner’s request to specifically allow honey production and distribution of honey and honey related products as a matter of right within the C-A (Agriculture Conservation), R-A (Residential Agriculture), and R-A-1 (Residential Agriculture-Limited) zoning districts.
2. Deny the proposed text amendment.

Policy Analysis:

Text amendments are applicable countywide. Therefore, the potential impacts of proposed amendments must be considered on a countywide basis. While the impact from a single property may not be deemed detrimental, it is imperative to consider all properties the amendment would affect.

No detrimental effects are expected to be associated with honey production and distribution. Such usage should, however, be subject to development criteria that prevent possible disturbances to adjacent and adjoining neighbors.

The amendment offered by the petitioner with the development criteria suggested will provide the necessary assurances. Additionally, because the proposed amendment requires the use to be located on a collector or higher classified street, development of such a site must adhere to the site plan requirements of Section 4-6.5 (Planned District) of the Chatham County Zoning Ordinance.

RECOMMENDATION: The MPC and Director of Building Safety and Regulatory Services recommend APPROVAL of the petitioner’s request to amend Section 4-5.1 Provisions Regarding Use in C-Districts and R-Districts to permit honey production and the distribution of honey and honey related products in the C-A, R-A, and R-A-1 districts subject to the following criteria:

- a) Such uses shall only be permitted on a lot or plot of ground which abuts a collector or higher classified street.
- b) The site upon which such uses are established shall be not less than two acres in size.

ENACT

46. Honey production and the distribution of honey and honey related products

Provided that the following criteria shall be met:

- a) **Such uses shall only be permitted on a lot or plot of ground which abuts a collector or higher classified street.**
- b) **The site upon which such uses are established shall be not less than two acres in size.**

PREPARED BY: Jim Hansen, AICP, Director
Development Services

April 3, 2007

Gregori Anderson, Director
BUILDING SAFETY AND REGULATORY
SERVICES

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XIII. INFORMATION ITEMS**1. PROGRESS REPORT ON GENERAL FUND CONTINGENCY ACCOUNT - M&O AND THE SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT (SEE ATTACHED).****ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

A status report was attached for review.

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2. LIST OF PURCHASING ITEMS BETWEEN \$2,500 AND \$9,999 (SEE ATTACHED).**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

A status report was attached for review.

AGENDA ITEM: XIII-2

DATE: May 11, 2007

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>
Annual renewal of 1,500 software licenses for McAfee anti-virus software	ICS	Entre BTG, Inc.	\$6,765	General Fund/M&O - ICS
Paint and body work to the tool body on a Recreation vehicle	Fleet	Coastal Trailer Company	\$3,536	General Fund/M&O - Fleet
Mobile file system	Magistrate Court	Mason's, Inc.	\$6,868	General Fund/M&O - Magistrate Court
Rehabilitation cross training equipment	Weightlifting Center	EMPI, Inc.	\$7,523	Multiple Grant Fund - Weightlifting Center
Demolition of 36ft of pit wall and relocate barriers on Grand Prize Avenue (Hutchinson Island)	Land Bank	The Industrial Company (TIC)	\$7,000	Land Bank Authority
Bronze plaque to honor Rodney Hall	Land Bank	Doug Bean Signs	\$2,875	Land Bank Authority
Roadside vegetation spraying	Public Works	Deangelo Brothers, Inc.	\$9,891	SSD - Public Works
Two (2) computers with monitors and next business day on site maintenance	Public Works	Dell Marketing (State Contract)	\$2,856	SSD - Public Works
GPS handheld system and software	Public Works	ESRI	\$8,195	SSD - Public Works
Various blank traffic signs and supplies	Public Works	Vulcan Sign	\$2,590	SSD - Public Works
Miscellaneous operational supplies for the grinder	Solid Waste	The Trading Company	\$3,619	Solid Waste
Engineering services for the completion of closure certificate for Thomas Avenue Landfill	Solid Waste	Harbin Engineering	\$7,500	Solid Waste
Construct concrete sidewalk and driveway at Eisenhower Drive and Truman Parkway	SPLOST	A.D. Williams Construction	\$5,516	SPLOST (1985-1993) - Truman Parkway Phase III

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
Remove and relocate power pole on Fountain Road	SPLOST	Georgia Power	\$6,111	SPLOST (1985-1993) - Fountain Road/ Hill Road
Categorical exclusion document approved by GDOT for 1340 Crossbrook	SPLOST	Thomas and Hutton Engineering	\$5,000	SPLOST (1993-1998) - Whitfield Avenue Widening
Provide professional consulting services to the County to include visiting the Pipemakers Canal Project mitigation site, preparing written documents and attending a meeting to review issues brought against the mitigation site	SPLOST	Eco-South, Inc.	\$6,000	SPLOST (1998-2003) - Pipemakers Canal
Construction observation during bridge construction	SPLOST	Thomas and Hutton Engineering	Not to Exceed \$9,950	SPLOST (2003-2008) - Old Highway 204 Bridges
Provide and install 1,000gl LP gas tank for the Islands Precinct	SPLOST	Amerigas (City of Savannah contract provider)	\$4,625	SPLOST (2003-2008) - Islands Precinct
Structural engineering services for the Islands Precinct roof	SPLOST	Stanley Lindsey, PH.D	\$8,400	SPLOST (2003-2008) - Islands Precinct

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3. ROADS AND DRAINAGE REPORTS.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Status reports were attached for review.

AGENDA ITEM: XIII-3 Roads
AGENDA DATE: May 11, 2007

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 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 by GDOT is scheduled for completion in the fall of 2007.
 - b. Phase 4. Punch list items remain. Acceptance by GDOT from R.B. Baker is pending.
 - c. Phase 5. Right of way (ROW) plans were approved by the GDOT on June 30, 2005. Property acquisitions are underway and will take until April 2008 to complete (26 parcels acquired by early acquisition; 65 parcels to acquire, closed on 1). Final design continues.

2. Diamond Causeway Widening. Because of issues regarding the environmental impacts of changed design criteria (width of median for the entire length of the causeway and design speed of high span bridge) on approval of the EA, the GDOT took over management of the project. A Draft EA was approved by the FHWA on February 25, 2005, for advancement to public hearing. A Public Information Open House on the Draft was held on June 9, 2005. Before the environmental process can proceed, a public hearing must be held. Discrepancies between the Draft EA and changes in the GDOT design guidelines need to be resolved before the public hearing.

a. Because of the environmental impacts of a second bridge and widening the causeway to four lanes, the GDOT is now considering building ONLY a two-lane high span bridge on the north side of the bascule bridge (using a Categorical Exclusion to comply with the NEPA) and NOT widening the causeway or the Moon River Bridge until after an EA is approved by the FHWA.

b. Funding: In the proposed Chatham Urban Transportation Study (CUTS) Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) for Fiscal Years 2008 - 2011, design and right of way funding is programmed for FY 2008. Construction funds are programmed in FY 2011.

c. IN THE MEANTIME

(1) Paving of the Skidaway Narrows boat ramp access road and parking lot is complete. It can serve as a staging area for emergency crossings (e.g. by float bridge or ferry).

(2) The emergency access ramp (gravel) on the Skidaway Island side is almost complete.

(3) By permit from the GDOT, the County intends to widen the roadway on the portion of Diamond Causeway that is on Skidaway Island, to include new traffic signals at State Park Road and McWhorter Drive. The County has published an Invitation to Bid on a construction contract. Bids are scheduled to be opened on June 5, 2007.

3. Whitfield Avenue Widening. The FHWA approved the EA on February 13, 2004. Preliminary design was completed in June, 2004. A Public Information Open House (PIOH) was held on February 28, 2006. Approval of a revised Concept Report and updated EA is on hold pending resolution of the median width and tree planting opportunities.

4. US 17, Ogeechee River to SR 204: The bonding company for the GDOT project awarded a new contract to complete the project. The estimated completion is May 2007.

5. Middleground Road/Montgomery Cross Road Widening. Scheduled completion is May 31, 2008.

6. 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. The public hearing was held January 18, 2007. The next milestone is completion of the EA and approval by FHWA.

7. 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 complete the design.

8. Jimmy DeLoach Parkway/US 80 Interchange. The consultant has developed seven alternatives for the interchange layout. They were presented at a PIOH in Bloomingdale on April 26, 2007 (14 day comment period). Depending on the amount and scope of comments, the consultant anticipates having a Concept Report approved by the GDOT in September 2007.

9. Stephenson Avenue. Substantially complete as of April 1, 2005. Liquidated damages totaling \$54,450 were assessed from December 1, 2004 to March 31, 2005. GDOT, County, City of Savannah and APAC performed the joint final inspection on June 14, 2005. A punch list was compiled (129 items) and given to APAC on June 21, 2005. Some punch list items remain uncorrected. Staff started the process to find them in default. In the meantime, APAC filed a law suit against the County.

10. 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 Statement was approved by GDOT on June 26, 2006. On April 27, 2007, FHWA comments were received.

11. 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 staffs have met to discuss further reducing the scope of the project. A revised concept with reduced right-of-way impacts is being evaluated.

12. Abercorn Widening from Truman Parkway to U.S. 17. The GDOT is managing a project for Abercorn Street from Truman Parkway (Phase 5) to U.S. 17. PIOHs were held November 14, 2006 at AASU and November 15 at the SW Middle School on U.S. 17. GDOT and consultants are evaluating comments and alternatives. A second round of PIOHs will be held On June 19 and 20, 2007.

13. 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.

14. 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 relocation estimate was received and the consultant submitted the Concept Report on August 8, 2006, to GDOT. A Concept Team Meeting was held April 26, 2007.

15. 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 County has certified the ROW for all four projects to the GDOT. In April DeRenne, Mall Boulevard and Apache intersections the GDOT solicited bids. No bids were received. Tibet Avenue will be added to the group and GDOT will re-bid the project in their July.

16. Local Roads.

a. Fountain Road. Board approved the construction contract on June 12, 2006. Scheduled completion date is May 31, 2007. Time extension is due for utility conflict. Contractor was given a punch list for corrections on April 11, 2007.

b. Mobley Street, Yucca Place, Perkins Place. The project is substantially complete. A final inspection and punch list of corrections was given to contractor on May 2, 2007.

c. Heather Street, Shore Road. Both roads are substantially complete. A final inspection and punch list of corrections remain to be done.

d. Dulany Road. The request for County Contract with GDOT was approved by the Board on October 21, 2005. Several alternative layouts and cross-section are being considered. The project is on hold because of environmental impacts and right of way issues with a property owner affected by the project.

e. Palm Drive. Bids for a construction contract were opened April 24, 2007. Award is pending Board approval.

f. Old Pine Barren Road. GDOT funding for a County Contract has been delayed due to commitments to other projects in Chatham County (i.e. Gulfstream Product Support Road and Wahlstrom Road/President Street for Georgia Pacific). Consequently, the project will have to be constructed using only County SPLOST funds. Bid opening is scheduled for May 29, 2007.

g. Stone Street. Although the GDOT authorized preparation of a County Contract on November 8, 2006, the GDOT State Aid Administrator now advises they cannot commit funds for this project. As a result, this project will also proceed using only County funds.

Final construction plans are near completion. Acquisition of a permanent drainage easement remains to be completed.

h. Chatham Health Department Roadway Connector. The Board approved award of a construction contract to A. D. Williams Contracting in the amount of \$154,991 on February 9, 2007. Scheduled completion is August 14, 2007.

RECOMMENDATION: For information.

Districts: All

SUMMARY OF ROAD PROJECT STATUS
May 2007

PROJECT	ELEMENT	MILESTONE FOR COMPLETION	AGENCY RESPONSIBLE	NOTES
Truman Parkway, Phase 5	Environmental ROW Final Design Construction	Complete April 2008 Nov 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	May 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. 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: May 11, 2007

TO: Board of Commissioners

THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager

FROM: A. G. Bungard, 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). Increase channel size, replace bridges, replace tidegate, and provide maintenance access. Construction is complete and the new sluice gates function automatically. The summary change order was approved by the Board at its meeting on April 13, 2007. Final payment to the contractor will be made in May 2007.
 - b. Phase 2 (From SR 21 to I-95). Increase 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 projects. Staff is coordinating with the Federal Aviation Administration and the USACE to achieve an agreement that will allow the project to move forward.
 - 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. Staff has requested that the engineer prepare plans to demolish the existing bridge while options concerning the cold storage warehouse are discussed with the Georgia Ports Authority.
2. Hardin Canal
 - a. Phase 1 (SR307 bridges). Widen channel and replace canal crossings. The USACE has issued a permit. Preliminary construction and right of way drawings have been reviewed by staff and returned to the consultant.
 - b. Phase 1 (Southbridge bridges). Replace bridge crossings. The owners of the Southbridge Golf Course offered to cooperate in a project to replace two bridges 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. Westlake/Springfield Canal 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. Staff expects to secure permission to enter onto HAAF property for project construction soon.
4. 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. A small project is underway to remove trees and to provide access for maintenance along the outfall canal. This will complete all planned improvements on this project.
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. Coordination with GDOT for the crossing at U.S. 80 is ongoing.
 - 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 Bloomingdale. Recommended improvements have been provided to the City of Bloomingdale.
6. Little Hurst Canal Improve undercrossings at SR 21 and railroad, and widen channel downstream of S.R. 21. A project to acquire rights of way and easements, and to acquire the required permits is underway. The preliminary engineering report is under review by staff.
7. Wilmington Park Canal Phase 2 Widen channel and improve culvert crossings under Wilmington Island Road. The USACE permit expired on September 30,

2005. The scope of the project has been reduced to avoid costs associated with relocating City owned water and sewer utilities. Project is currently on hold.

8. Kings Way Canal Phase 2 Widen channel and enlarge culverts from Kings Way Court to the Truman Parkway. Preliminary design and easement plans have been reviewed and returned to the consultant for revisions. Acquisition of 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 is complete and ROW acquisition is underway. The project will connect to the Skidaway Road Shoulder Improvement Project. Staff expects minor cost saving changes to the design might be feasible as a result of the Skidaway Road project. Staff is awaiting completion of the Skidaway Road Shoulder project in order to make this determination.
10. Village Green Canal, Phase 2 Improve the outfall and provide access for canal maintenance. Wetland delineation has been approved by the USACE. The Board approved the engineering services contract on February 23, 2007. Design work and right of way acquisition work is underway concurrently in an effort to expedite the project.
11. Port Industrial Park Improve the channel downstream from S.R. 307 to Pipemakers Canal. Design of the project 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 USACE has issued the wetlands permit. Staff is working to secure the necessary Stream Buffer Variance from the Georgia Department of Natural Resources. Staff is investigating constructing a portion of the Louis Mills Canal project with construction of the Westlake/Springfield Canal Drainage Improvement Project as a combined contract as a way to expedite drainage improvements.
13. Redgate/Rahn Dairy Provide larger undercrossings at several roads, widen the canal and provide 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. Acquisition of easements is underway.
14. 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 is being reviewed by staff.
15. 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.
16. 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. A construction contract was awarded on February 9, 2007. Estimated date of completion is March 14, 2008. A no-cost change order is pending approval by the Board.
17. Quacco/Regency Park Storm collector improvements to relieve severity and frequency of flooding within community. Preliminary plans have been reviewed and returned to the consultant. The County Attorney has been asked to provide a legal opinion regarding relocating utilities located within road right of way. Staff has directed the consultant to proceed with final design based on the understanding that the cost of utility relocations will be borne by the utility companies. The County Attorney's opinion is sought to confirm this understanding before final design is completed.
18. Halcyon Bluff Subdivision Storm collector improvements to relieve severity and frequency of flooding within community. Construction is approximately 90 percent complete. Staff is working with the design consultant on the feasibility of adding work to the contract to address poor drainage in a nearby part of the subdivision.

The work will be added to the construction contract by change order if approved by the Board.

- 19. 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.
- 20. 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. A contract for construction was approved by the Board of Commissioners at its meeting on April 13 2007. Notice to proceed will be issued upon finalization of the contract documents.
- 21. 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. Design work is underway. A change order to the design contract for additional work related to preparation of easement drawings is pending approval by the Board.
 - b. Little Neck Crossing: Replacement of the undersized culvert. Design work is underway. The preliminary design report is under review by staff.
 - 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.
- 22. 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.

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

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

A status report was attached for review.

AGENDA ITEM: XIII-4
AGENDA DATE: May 11, 2007

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
 - Contracts were awarded to replace the roof on the large pavilion at Lake Mayer, and reconstruct/resurface eighteen tennis courts
3. With remaining funds allocated for FY 07, staff established a priority project list and anticipate proceeding with the following:
- Replacement of the Large pavilion roof at Lake Mayer is completed.
 - Final work are being completed on the last four courts at Lake Mayer.
 - Wilmington Islands courts are finished and are open.
4. Priority projects identified on previous RAP reports that are still unfunded:
- Back stop fencing and dugouts replacement at L. Scott Stell

FUNDING:
Looking at CIP choices by Board in early 2007

RECOMMENDATION:
For Board Information Only

[All Districts]

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon motion being made by Commissioner Gellatly and seconded by Commissioner Kicklighter the board recessed at 12:22 p.m., to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing land acquisition and personnel.

Following adjournment of the Executive Session, the meeting of the Board of Commissioners was reconvened at 1:25 p.m.

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ITEMS FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Odell 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 Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Stone and Kicklighter were not present.]

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APPOINTMENTS

1. SOUTHEAST GEORGIA EMS COUNCIL (REGION IX)

Commissioner Odell moved to appoint Wesley A. Meadows to the Southeast Georgia EMS Council (Region IX) effective July 1, 2007, and to expire on June 30, 2010. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Stone and Kicklighter were not present.]

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2. DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND CHILDREN SERVICES

Commissioner Farrell moved to appoint the following individuals to serve on the Board of the Department of Family and Children Services: Mark Baggett, whose term will begin immediately and serve until June 30, 2011, and Dr. Roenia DeLoach, whose term will begin on July 1, 2007, and will serve until June 30, 2012.

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 1:27 p.m.

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APPROVED: THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2007

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

SYBIL E. TILLMAN, CLERK OF COMMISSION