

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA, HELD ON FRIDAY, MAY 24, 2013, 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 Albert J. Scott called the meeting to order at 9:38 a.m. on Friday, May 24, 2013.

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II. INVOCATION

Chairman Scott said, good morning.

Commissioner Farrell said good morning.

County Manager Russ Abolt said, good morning.

Chairman Scott said, I'm going to ask that -- that you be seated and while Reverend Dilley does his devotion and when he indicates it's time for prayer, would you please stand and remain standing for the Pledge of Allegiance. It's my pleasure to introduce to you the interim, I guess, pastor of Butler Memorial Presbyterian Church. I met Reverend Dilley a few years ago, right after he got here, and he told me a very interesting story as to how he got here. And he is a -- actually a retired Presbyterian minister who happened to be a sailor, who owns a sailboat and was sailing, and he was actually called when Butler Presbyterian was without a pastor to serve until they could come up with a permanent pastor. I've had the pleasure of worshiping at his church, and it's a real pleasure this morning to welcome the Reverend Don Dilley of Butler Presbyterian Church for our invocation and prayer.

Reverend Don Dilley said, thank you Chairman Scott. Thank you for the County Commissioners for having me be here. I thank you for all your people. I usually don't preach to anybody with my back except maybe a choir, so let me try to turn around and do a little bit of both. I was looking over the budget -- or your agenda today, and you know, I would say 90% of this has to do with money. Either money right now or money in the future, and I don't know about you, but whenever I have a meeting, I sort of look at, and I -- I try to picture who are the people behind these numbers? Who are the people behind these motions? And I -- and I want to call the Commissioners to something, not that you haven't thought about this, but that it's good from time to time to sort of call ourselves back to our roots, and I'd like to bring up the passage from Hebrews 13:17, having confidence in your -- in your leaders and submit your authority because they keep watch over you as those who must give an account. Do this so that their work will be a joy and not a burden but that would be of no benefit to you.

Reverend Dilley said, historically ruling people and faith in God are linked together, and you all have all been called by God, as well as the people to serve, and in the book of Hebrews, we are told because you are called by God, we need to listen to you. But there's one little word in this reading that I want you to remember today. You will be held accountable to God for your actions. So I urge you as you look at the numbers here and you think of the people behind there, you also ask the question what does God want for Chatham County in 1913 [sic] in this month at this time and where is God leading us because you are our leaders, and you're going to take us there. Let us bow our heads. Shall we stand.

Reverend Dilley, gave the invocation as follows:

Oh, dear Lord, we give thanks for a government that cares. For a government in which we can be active both as leaders and as followers. We pray oh Lord for all the business that's going on this day, for retirements, for budgets, for salary allocations, for budget allocations, but most of all Lord, we pray for all the people that will be touched by these decisions. Watch over and be with our Commissioners. Give them wisdom, give them strength, and give them vision. We ask in your name. Amen.

Reverend Dilley said, thank you very much.

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III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Scott said, Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Scott led all in the Pledge of Allegiance to Flag of the United States of America.

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IV. ROLL CALL

Chairman Scott said, the Clerk will call the roll.

The Clerk called the roll.

Present: Albert J. Scott, Chairman
 Dr. Priscilla D. Thomas, Vice Chairman, District Eight
 Helen L. Stone, Chairman Pro Tem, District One
 James J. Holmes, District Two
 Tony Center, District Three
 Patrick K. Farrell, District Four
 Yusef K. Shabazz, District Five
 Lori L. Brady, District Six
 Dean Kicklighter, District Seven (arrived at 9:45)

Also present: R. E. Abolt, County Manager
 R. Jonathan Hart, County Attorney
 Janice E. Bocook, County Clerk

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CHATHAM COUNTY YOUTH COMMISSION

Chairman Scott said, at this time I will recognize our Vice Chair for the purpose of introducing the members of our Youth Commission who are present today.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Ladies and Gentlemen, we have with us today -- is that Tyhira?

Youth Commissioner Tyhira Williams said, yes, ma'am.

Commissioner Thomas said, Williams, who is representing us on the Youth Commission today from Jenkins High School. We are delighted to have you and please feel free to interact any time these discussions are taking place.

Chairman Scott said, thank you.

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RECOGNITION OF GUESTS

Chairman Scott said, I will also -- and I know he's just here for good government or perhaps he's here for something else, but we have our former Mayor of the City of Savannah, Mayor Otis Johnson is in the audience. Mr. Mayor, it's a pleasant -- pleasure to have you here, and -- and I hope when -- when we celebrate a retirement that you won't just leave, that you -- you will remain for the entire proceedings. May God help you.

Commissioner Farrell said, he's sitting close to the door, I don't know if that's going to happen.

Chairman Scott said, there might be a reason why he sat by the door. Okay.

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Chairman Scott said, Madam Clerk, please note that Commissioner Kicklighter is present.

Clerk said, yes, sir.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you, sir.

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V. PROCLAMATIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

1. PROCLAMATION FOR AL LIPSEY ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM PUBLIC WORKS AND PARK SERVICES.

Chairman Scott said, on page 2, Item V, we will now -- the proclamation for someone who will soon retire, but won't really retire because now I understand he will be manning the boat ramp. Al [Lipsey] and company and any members of the Commission that care to join us. I'll even ask former Chairman Liakakis if he would join us. It's a great day, second time around. And I was joshing with the Mayor but actually the Mayor is here for this important occasion as well, but it's -- it's a great pleasure as Chairman of the Chatham County Commission that we salute you this day. I have a proclamation for you.

Chairman Scott read the proclamation as follows:



WHEREAS, Chatham County is privileged to have employees of high caliber that take great pride in their duties and responsibilities, and in that regard, we salute Albert "Al" Lipsey; and

WHEREAS, Al Lipsey began his employment with Chatham County on May 4, 1998 in the Public Works Department as an Administrative Superintendent after a long successful civilian and military service career; and

WHEREAS, upon realization by the department head that full attention must be given to the Solid Waste Program and after proving his knowledge of his department's operation and leadership ability, Al was appointed Interim Assistant Public Works Director on September 7, 2000;

WHEREAS, upon the retirement of the Parks and Recreation Director, Mr. Lipsey took over the reins as Interim Parks and Recreation Director in November 2001 where he developed specific objectives to ensure that all Chatham County's parks, sports complexes, and boat ramps were properly staffed and maintained; and

WHEREAS, upon the consolidation of Public Works and Parks and Recreation in 2003, Al became Deputy Director of Public Works and Park Services. He received several commendations for his job performances and became certified in areas that enhanced his abilities to perform various duties should the need arise. He was praised for his diligence to improve the recreation opportunities for the youth of Chatham County.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Albert J. Scott, Chairman, on behalf of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners, do hereby salute:

ALBERT "AL" LIPSEY

upon his retirement and express sincere appreciation for fifteen years of dedicated service to the citizens of Chatham County and the Department of Public Works and Park Services and extend best wishes for a long, happy, healthy retirement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of Chatham County, Georgia to be affixed this the 24th day of May 2013.

Albert J. Scott, Chairman
Chatham County Commission

ATTEST:

Gail F. Gordon, Administrative
Assistant to the Chairman

Chairman Scott said, thank you so much for your service.

Mr. Al Lipsey said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. [Applause.]

County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, members of the Board, I want to take this opportunity to amplify what the Chairman just read in the proclamation. Al Lipsey is an exceptional employee. In -- in my previous life in military service I knew the value, was taught the value and have followed that of three qualities, to improvise, to adapt, and to overcome. Those are three words that apply to Mr. Lipsey's career. You see in the evolution of it, it started in Public Works, and then there was a need over time to consolidate two departments because of budget challenges. Mr. Lipsey was not hired to run the parks and recreation program. He came in after a wonderful gentleman, Jim Golden, who did so much with nothing for so many years. Mr. Lipsey assumed that responsibility with -- with great aplomb and with great talent. He's made the transition from one department now into two departments. We have a combined department, and for he and Mr. Drewry to do that is no small feat. I do want to recognize the fact that Mr. Drewry could not be with us today. He is the president of the Georgia Public Works Association, is chairing a meeting in Blackshear, but after I said nice things about Mr. Lipsey, I want to let you know, the protocol dictates that the acting head of the department would say something nice about Mr. Lipsey, so I'll refer to the acting director of the Department of Public Works and Park Services, Mr. Al Lipsey. [Applause.]

Mr. Lipsey said, thank you, Mr. Abolt.

County Manager Abolt said, any time. Any time.

Mr. Lipsey said, as Mr. Abolt said, I'm going to say something nice about myself, and that is I'm an awesome guy. I can do basically anything. I'm great to coin the phrase that Muhammad Ali used to say. But I -- I really enjoy this position. I've really enjoyed -- excuse me a minute. Mr. -- Mr. Chairman, if I may introduce my family and friends.

Chairman Scott said, I was wondering if you were going to be able to go home.

Mr. Lipsey said, I don't know -- I don't know why this podium does that to you.

County Manager Abolt said, it's not all about you, Al [Lipsey].

Mr. Lipsey said, this is my wife, Ann, my eldest son, Jeff, and the noise you heard at the Pledge of Allegiance is my new grandson --

Commissioner Thomas said, all right.

Mr. Lipsey said, Evan Cole; my granddaughter, Isabella; my oldest brother, Jim and his wife, Fannetta, over there; and some dear friends of ours, Charlease and Robert Stevenson, and you also mentioned the Mayor earlier, the former Mayor, and I want to publicly thank him for delaying his trip, as he corrected me earlier to be with us today. I really appreciate that. The connection there is -- one of the connections there is my wife. She and the Mayor was high school classmates. So --

Mrs. Ann Lipsey said, elementary school.

Mr. Lipsey asked, hmm?

Mrs. Lipsey said, elementary school.

Mr. Lipsey said, elementary. She corrected me. But -- and also my other family with park services -- Public Works and Park Services, and I think I mentioned everybody, but -- I'm sorry? Oh, I messed up again, Shevon Carr, also. But I just wanted to say that I -- I really have enjoyed the time that I've spent with the county. It came at a good time for me after retiring from banking. So I really enjoyed it. I'd like to thank Robert [Drewry] and Mike [Kaigler] for hiring me, and I think -- I'd like to thank the County Manager for putting me in a position to be shot at every day. But we're going to miss that. And Commissioner -- former Chairman Pete Liakakis -- Liakakis used to say that he is the number one County Manager in the world -- in the nation or the world or both, depending on where the situation, but anyway, he is, and I really appreciate him, and I appreciate all the -- the cooperation that I received from all of you. You put me in a position that -- to do some things that -- that I wanted to do and I enjoyed doing, and I tried to do them to the best of my ability. So thank you. Thank you. [Applause.]

CAT Board Chairman Pete Liakakis said, well as Chairman of the County Commission, a lot of calls would come to County Commissioners or myself, and some about recreation and other things in the other department, and of course, many of those times we'd go to Robert Drewry, but a lot and a lot of times that we needed something to be straightened out, especially in the recreation department, 'cause when we came on board in 2005, the situation was that the recreation department didn't have the funds that they needed, but we were able to get funding, and, of course, we got with Robert Drewry and, of course, the main one on the recreation, Al Lipsey. And we can see a lot of things that have changed because recreation is a part of the -- the value that we have for our citizens and that's really, really important. And what he has done with the recreation department and see what the changes have been made and how our citizens really appreciate that because of his effort, his staff, and all of the others, and especially the people who paid, you know, for these things to come about. But we

have got -- as he was talking about the County Manger what I said about him being the top County Manager not only here in Georgia but around the world, but we've got right here, who is retiring, and it's going to be hard to find a person like Al Lipsey to take his place who is - has been the top recreation person not only here but in the State of Georgia, around this country, and around the world. So we thank him, and and we all want him to know we love him and the things that he has done for the people of this community with his devotion and the dedication that you've had.

Mr. Lipsey said, thank you.

Commissioner Thomas said, Mr. Lipsey?

Commissioner Holmes said, Mr. Al Lipsey would you please --

Commissioner Thomas said, Mr. Lipsey? Oh, I'm sorry. Go right ahead.

Commissioner Holmes said, Mr. Al Lipsey?

Mr. Lipsey said, yes, sir.

Commissioner Holmes said, come back to the podium, please. Got a few words to say to you. Congratulations on your retirement.

Mr. Lipsey said, thank you.

Commissioner Holmes said, but I hope you hold true to the conversation you and I had about three weeks ago. There's some plans that you had already put in place, and I'm hoping that your wife can let you stay with them plans, and if you're looking for a retirement page out of my book --

Mr. Lipsey said, uh-huh.

Commissioner Holmes said, always remember to do your own bucket list and not your wife's. Congratulations.

Mr. Lipsey said, I hope you have an extra room at your house too.

Commissioner Thomas said, Mr. Lipsey?

Mr. Lipsey said, yes, ma'am?

Commissioner Thomas said, I too would like to congratulate you, but we're greatly going to -- you are going -- going to be greatly missed. However, on behalf of the children and youth of this county, I want to say that you certainly have gone beyond the call of duty to assist us in so many, many ways with our children and youth. Believe it or not you've made a great difference, you know, in their lives. In addition to that, I would also like to thank you for helping us during our National County Government month each year because that was an added activity, and it took a lot of preparation on your part and your staff, and so, we thank you for that. I too was worried about who was going to replace Mr. Golden --

Mr. Lipsey said, right.

Commissioner Thomas said, -- when he left, but after you came on board and I got to know you, and I was very pleased, and I wish you Godspeed in your retirement.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, Mr. Chairman?

Mr. Lipsey said, and Commissioner Thomas, I could not have done it without the staff behind me.

Commissioner Thomas said, I understand that.

Mr. Lipsey said, you are correct. You are correct in that.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, Mr. Chairman, if I may?

Chairman Scott said, yes.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Al [Lipsey], I -- I didn't realize the back -- I didn't know the background that back when I first got on that you were a former banker that was pretty much thrust into that position and I -- I truly admire the work you've done over these years.

Mr. Lipsey said, thank you.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, you've been there when times were tougher. The first year I got on we were trying to cut everything on earth because we were facing a \$12 million deficit that year.

Mr. Lipsey said, right.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, and you -- you managed to run the -- you know everything great without missing a beat and that, and then you oversaw many of the -- I -- I believe best recreation projects in the history of this county, you know, since that point moving forward. You've done a great job, and although I know I over the years had to fight against budgets and stuff, I'm -- I'm a big fan, and I appreciate what you've done.

Mr. Lipsey said, thank you. Thank you very much.

Commissioner Thomas said, Mr. Chair, Ms. Williams would like to say something.

Chairman Scott said, yes.

Youth Commissioner Williams said, I would just like to say congratulations on your retirement on behalf of the Chatham -- Chatham County Youth Commission.

Mr. Lipsey said, thank you. Thank you. I appreciate that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Scott said, thank you Al [Lipsey], and we look forward to the party.

Commissioner Stone said, Mr. Chairman, may I say something real quickly?

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Stone want to say something before you leave out.

Commissioner Stone said, Mr. Lipsey, I -- I too appreciate all your years of service and combining with the Public Works department, but I spent -- I had the opportunity to spend a day out at Public Works or with Public Works, and there were things that you all were responsible for, and I'm just going to give you one example that's off the top of my head. Some of our draw bridges here you all inspect and check on, and I don't know if members of the public are aware of the fact that any time a draw bridge, the one on President's Street, is open, someone has to go down under the bridge and inspect it after it's been opened and closed to make sure that nothing went wrong in the opening and closure of the bridge to let a boat through. So I don't think anyone is aware of all the details, all the issues that you have to deal with on a daily basis. So I appreciate that.

Mr. Lipsey said, thank you. Thank you.

Commissioner Stone said, thank you.

Commissioner Holmes said, Mr. -- there's someone --

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Holmes.

Commissioner Holmes said, there's someone in the audience from the Cheetahs, Mr. Jerome Jinks, and he have something for Mr. Lipsey. Do I have to amend the budget [sic] to have him to come and present this?

Chairman Scott said, no, but if you would go down there with him to present it, I will allow it. If you will go down there with him.

Commissioner Holmes said, Mr. Jinks, would you come up and make your presentation? I'll join you.

Mr. Jerome Jinks said, good morning.

Board members collectively said, good morning.

Mr. Jinks said, Commissioner Scott and others, I'd like to present a product of Mr. Lipsey help. This person who's going to present this item to Mr. Lipsey is headed for world gold, and in seven weeks, we'll know for sure if it's true. The young lady is -- and I know you saw her in the paper, she's athlete of the year for track and field, and right now she is headed to the world games in Russia. So I present you Taylor Deloach.

Commissioner Thomas said, great.

Ms. Taylor Deloach said, good morning County Commissioners and guests.

Board members collectively said, good morning.

Ms. Deloach said, I am Taylor Deloach, and I am your 2013 girls track athlete of the year. Being a member of the Silver Cheetahs for six years has allowed me to train and develop into a champion. It is because of the support of sponsors like Mr. Al Lipsey that has afforded me my success. Mr. Lipsey, thank you for your many years of support to our team and congratulations on your retirement. [Applause.]

Commissioner Thomas said, beautiful.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Center and then Commissioner Shabazz.

Commissioner Center said, Ms. Deloach. Hi. It's Tony.

Ms. Deloach said, hi.

Commissioner Center said, I want to say that if -- I think you're going to win that -- make the Olympic team and win the gold, and if you go down to the Civic Center and look on the 1972 Greater Savannah Athletic Hall of Fame, you'll see my dad, Leo Center, and in that same class was Wyomia Tyus, who won a gold medal, who was from Savannah, Georgia. I hope you follow in her footsteps.

Ms. Deloach said, thank you. [Applause.]

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Shabazz.

Commissioner Shabazz said, good morning. What's the young lady's -- what's her name?

Commissioner Center said, Deloach.

Commissioner Brady said, Deloach.

Commissioner Shabazz said, Ms. Deloach, please come -- come back. I don't have very much to say, but good morning.

Ms. Deloach said, good morning.

Commissioner Shabazz said, also, Mr. Lipsey, congratulations on your retirement, but I am so proud of you. I'm so proud of you, and I want you to know that when you go to that competition that you have so many people behind you that's supporting you, morally, spiritually, and whatever kind of way we're supporting you, but we are behind you. And I do believe that you have within you to do and -- and be successful with this. Thank you.

Ms. Deloach said, thank you.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay. [Applause.]

Chairman Scott said, Al [Lipsey] where are you going? You leaving?

Commissioner Farrell said, the boss said he had the rest of the day off to celebrate.

Chairman Scott said, don't -- don't forget your family now.

County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, as a bit of a sidebar --

Chairman Scott said, Mr. Lipsey, thanks for being here.

Mr. Lipsey said, I'll be back.

Chairman Scott said, okay.

County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, permit me, there's a bit of a -- a sidebar going on. Over the years, William [Wright], here, has managed projects to include Memorial Stadium, and that's a project that started with Mr. Lipsey, and Mr. Lipsey would always come to me and complain about the fact that William [Wright] was spending all of his money, so I asked Mr. Lipsey before he left the Commission Chambers to give William [Wright] his wallet.

Mr. William Wright said, thank you, sir. Thank you.

Chairman Scott said, thank you all for being here.

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VI. CHAIRMAN'S ITEMS

1. SET SPLOST ELECTION.

Chairman Scott said, okay. If we would look at Item VI on the agenda. The first item is a Chairman Item, and if you will look at tab under Chairman's Items, under yellow tab, and look at the flow chart, and -- this chart was

put together by our engineer, and it outlines the decisions that have to be made in order to re-authorize SPLOST. SPLOST will expire on 9/30/14. And we need to take action today to -- to move forward, and what you will be authorizing really is authorizing me to deliver notice to the Mayors of the eight municipalities in the County, of -- so they can start putting together their project list, and it will also authorize me to call a meeting with the Mayors. And if you look at the flow chart, and you will see that if -- if all that happens, and if the Mayors and everybody decides that they want to go forth with a November 5th vote, it will require another decision on our part at our regular meeting on August the 23rd. So what we're doing today is really not setting the date, but we're putting into motion the potential for a 2013 vote. Does anybody have any -- any questions?

Commissioner Stone said, do we need to vote on it?

Chairman Scott said, yes, we'll -- we -- we will need to -- we will need a motion.

Commissioner Stone said, then I make the motion, Mr. Chairman, that we go forward.

Commissioner Shabazz said, second.

Chairman Scott said, it's been properly moved and second. Any discussion? Hearing none, all in favor indicate by voting yes, opposed no. Okay.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Stone moved to move forward by authorizing the Chairman to deliver notice to the Mayors of the eight municipalities in the County, and to call a meeting with the Mayors. Commissioner Shabazz seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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2. SET NEXT BOARD BUDGET WORKSHOP.

Chairman Scott said, the -- the other item, number 2, and that is to set the budget workshop and to serve notice that we will have a budget workshop on Tuesday, that's May 28th, at 3:00 p.m. in this room, and at this time we will hear from really members of the judiciary who want to come before us, and this will probably be our last budget workshop of -- for this particular budget, and so we will try at that time to hear from everybody who want -- all of the department heads, constitutional officers who might want to come and hear from us. And I understand that Commissioner Stone, our pro tem, may be absent for a part of the meeting because of a prior doctor's appointment, and what we did was try to poll the members of the Commission, and this was the -- the time that we could get the majority of the members here, and for that, Commissioner Stone, I apologize for setting at a time when you will not be able to participate.

Commissioner Stone said, that's all right. I will get here as quickly as I can, but it took me a month to get the appointment.

Chairman Scott said, okay. Is there any questions about the budget workshop? And we -- we need to take action to set that, don't we or not necessary?

County Manager Abolt said, just as long as you announce it, sir, unless the attorney feels differently. You've made public notice at a public meeting so you -- you met the tenants of the open meetings law.

Commissioner Brady said, Mr. Chairman, thank you for recognizing me. You made the point to say that, you know, other members, heads of departments may be here. Are they formally invited to -- to be at this budget workshop?

Chairman Scott said, what we've -- what we've done is that there were specific individuals who requested to meet before the Commission, and we scheduled it for that express purpose. But because this may be our last budget workshop, if there are other department heads who are impacted by our budget decisions, we would certainly entertain them at that time.

Commissioner Brady said, thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Scott said, okay. Hearing none, we don't need any action on that. We will -- all been noticed that the public hearing -- budget workshop will, not public hearing but budget workshop will take place on Tuesday, May 28th, at 3:00 p.m. in this room. Okay?

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

For Information only.

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VII. COMMISSIONER'S ITEMS

[NOTE: Item 2 was taken out of order and heard prior to Item 1].

1. CAT BOARD CHAIRMAN LIAKAKIS (COMMISSIONER CENTER.)

Chairman Scott said, the next item under Commissioner Items is a item that was requested by the Commissioner from the 3rd District, Commissioner Center, and it was a -- really a question to the CAT Board, and so I've asked the Manager to invite the Chair of the CAT Board here, former Commissioner Chair, Pete Liakakis.

Commissioner Center said, thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chairman for allowing me to put this on the agenda, and thank you Chairman Liakakis for coming today, accepting this, and it's a very sensitive topic for me, but I wanted -- I wanted to express this publicly. When I was on the other side and just a citizen and actions were taken that upset me, I would complain about them, and now that I'm on this side, I don't feel I should change my attitude, and that I should express the same -- same sentiments that I had when I was on that side. Two weeks ago I publicly expressed my support for public transportation. I still believe in it. I think it's important. If it costs the county and the citizens money above and beyond the revenues that CAT generates then that's something we have to pony up and pay for 'cause I believe in it. I not only expressed my support in my words, I expressed my support by my vote to increase the line of credit for CAT from 1.7 to \$7.7 million. The next thing I read in the paper was bam, four days later, after being told that we need this money to continue CAT's operations, to -- to provide services, there's a whole list, we have like 18 pages of transcript of our minutes, the first action CAT took was to increase the pay of its executive director to \$250,000 a year package. I'm in no way questioning whether he deserves that, whether that's right or wrong, I just say it's -- I had the same reaction to that announcement that I had when our federal government bailed out the Wall Street bankers and the first thing they did was pay themselves bonuses rather than provide that money down the line. What I'm suggesting is everybody who comes before us -- well everybody's asking for something. Very few people show up here and say Chatham County here's what I want to give you, other than Mr. Lipsey and stuff like services, but most people come up here and ask for something from us, and all I request is that when you do that you do it in full candor and put all the facts on the table and let us know in advance. It's embarrassing to me as a County Commissioner to not have known this in advance and to cast a vote, and I know I -- I don't have these sentiments alone, it's just one of the few times I ever share the sentiments of the editorial page of the Savannah Morning News. But I ask not just CAT, but I'm going to use this as an opportunity to tell every organization, every person who comes before this Commission and asks for my vote to expend public funds, that you be completely candid and straight forward and let me know details like this in advance. Chairman Liakakis I doubt this would have changed my vote, but it would have put me on the side of telling my constituents where I stand and that I know what's going on, and then I would have supported this move. And I'm just -- I'm unhappy with the way it happened and I wanted to express that publicly, and I thank you for coming to let me do that.

Chairman Scott said, I -- I recognize the former Chair and current chair of the CAT Board. I will also make note that we have three members of the Commission --

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, who serve on the CAT Board, and it includes our vice-Chair, Commissioner Thomas; our 1st District Commissioner and pro tem, Commissioner Stone; and our 2nd District Commissioner Holmes, and -- and I -- I allowed this item to be on here as a Commissioner item because I wanted to make sure that we have an opportunity not only to answer questions of the Commission but also to clarify it for the public as well. At this time, Chairman Liakakis.

CAT Board Chairman Liakakis said, thank you very much. Mr. Chairman and members of the Commission, I am aware that there has been considerable discussion in the media about the compensation package of our executive director, Dr. Chadwick Reese, which was approved by the CAT Board after considerable discussion by a vote 6 to 1, and that is why I as Chairman of the CAT Board am here this morning. As you know Dr. Reese is a seasoned, experienced, and well-respected transit professional with more than 20 years leadership in the public transit industry. That level of experience comes at a cost and the Board feels fortunate that Dr. Reese has agreed to stay and guide us through the challenges that we all face in providing transit services to our citizens. That is the beginning and end of our focus.

CAT Board Chairman Liakakis said, as a point of clarification, Dr. Reese's salary as set and approved by CAT Board is \$172,000 annually. That is less than that of the City Manager, the County Manager, and the Chief of Police. Dr. Reese has the potential to receive bonus compensation based upon his performance and a retention bonus based upon his continued employment. These bonuses are given by the Board's discretion and will be based upon performance against set goals and objectives. Savannah's a large and complex transit system with fixed costs, paratransit for the disabled and the marine service. We operate the second largest bus system in the State of Georgia, Atlanta being number one. We're larger than the other large cities of Macon and Albany and Columbus and also Augusta. We have approximately 130 buses operating in our system. Dr. -- Dr. Reese has brought over \$22 million of federal dollars to the transit authority and has improved the quality of the system. Prior to offering this compensation package to Dr. Reese, we did a comprehensive review of regional transit authority salaries and benefits. This review did not take into account the quality of the executive experience and education. As you know, it is difficult to quantify the intangibles that each individual brings to the table.

Jacksonville, Florida, for example, their director gets \$286,000 salary, plus a discretionary bonus plus 17 percent retirement, and that gives him a total of over \$300,000. Nashville, Tennessee the director receives \$204,000 salary, a discretionary bonus, plus his retirement. In Baton Rouge, Louisiana, the director receives \$156,000, a discretionary bonus plus retirement, and Baton Rouge, Louisiana is a smaller system than ours. In Birmingham, Alabama, the director receives \$133,000, a discretionary bonus and retirement and their system is much smaller than ours.

CAT Board Chairman Liakakis said, the CAT Board understands professional responsibility to the community and the responsibility to give good stewards -- and to be good stewards of tax payers' money. By recent actions to sever ties with Veolia resulting in significant long-term savings, let me repeat that, in significant long-term savings, and to retain Dr. Reese to guide us forward, we are taking steps to put CAT on solid financial footing. We recognize the struggles that CAT has placed in the past, and have progressively acted on the opportunity to attract and retain what we believe is the finest director in the country. Dr. Reese is a professional with a wife and three wonderful boys, and they have elected to live here in Savannah and stay here. We recently made a very difficult decision to walk away -- he made this decision to walk away from a lucrative career with the previous employer, to rebuff an attractive offer to stay with the company and accepted our Board's offer of continued employment at a marketplace competitive compensation rate. And as Chairman of the CAT Board, I can say that we are extremely pleased and fortunate that he has decided to remain with us.

CAT Board Chairman Liakakis said, I for one am very troubled about how this issue has been magnified. Now you might ask where's Dr. Reese today? He is in Atlanta meeting with the Georgia Department of Transportation on bus system items. Yesterday he met with the federal transportation people in Atlanta, and they were very pleased with him and our system and congratulated the things that he was doing here in our community. With Chad [Reese] in our system they said that they can see that if it continues to go like it is, that it will be even much better than it has been. I know that this Commission Board is facing a similar situation with the retirement of County Manager, Russ Abolt. He has been an excellent manager for the county and cannot be replaced. However, the County has embarked on the process of selecting a new County Manger, a process that will be lengthy and costly with the retention of an executive search firm to guide and assist in this process. I think that you will find once you begin this quest that in order to attract the same skill set that is needed will cost more in compensation than is currently paid. Highly skilled public managers are in demand, and the market determines compensations generally above that of individuals, who in the case of Mr. Abolt, have been in place for some 25 years. No --

Chairman Scott said, Mr. --

CAT Board Chairman Liakakis said, yes?

Chairman Scott said, we're not discussing Mr. Abolt here, nor are we discussing replacing County Managers. I would want you to keep your comments focused on CAT.

CAT Board Chairman Liakakis said, oh, okay. The -- as you know I have been in politics for a number of years, eight years as vice chairman of City Council and some eight years as County Chairman and have learned over that period of time if you want to get top people that we have to, you know, attract the best as possible for these professional, public administrators, and to have someone with experience, knowledge, skills, and willing to compensate them appropriately.

Chairman Scott said, Mr. Chairman, you've got a couple of questions. Would you entertain them now?

CAT Board Chairman Liakakis said, yes. I -- I wanted to give how the salary was broke down first --

Chairman Scott said, go ahead.

CAT Board Chairman Liakakis said, -- if I could.

Chairman Scott said, go ahead. Go ahead.

CAT Board Chairman Liakakis said, and I'll be glad to answer any questions.

Chairman Scott said, and then we have a question by Commissioner Stone and by our Vice Chair, Commissioner Thomas, in that order, and Commissioner Brady.

Commissioner Thomas said, I have some comments I want to make.

Commissioner Stone said, mine are comments.

CAT Board Chairman Liakakis said, the director's compensation is as follows: his base salary is \$172,000 a year.

Commissioner Thomas said, you said that.

CAT Board Chairman Liakakis said, his retirement is a 401 with a 15 percent that he puts in, and the bus system places 15 percent also. There is a 457 deferred compensation, which is \$17,000 and the total salary and retirement is \$214,000. And then the bonus, there is a performance bonus that is discretionary that will be paid if the Board deems that he has done his job of a 10 percent cap, and then there's a retention bonus of 10 percent cap if he completes the term of his contract. In closing I would hope that the focus of this community and this Board will be to allow CAT Board to do the job that you have entrusted to us and attract employees from the executive director to drivers, mechanics and staff with the experience and skill sets that we need to develop the Chatham Area Transit into a successful and world class transit authority. This is our goal, and that is our purpose. And I'm glad to answer questions.

Chairman Scott said, do we have any questions of the Chairman? Commissioner Center.

Commissioner Center said, again, Chairman Liakakis, you know from great history from my family how much we respect you and what you've done personally in this community. I am in no way questioning what you pay Mr. Reese, and you made a great justification. Just in my term in public service, I want to trust the public with the facts. Let them see how I make a decision, and -- and trust their guidance. They're the ones who put me here. They're the ones who can say I don't want you stay there. The question is how we were told about it, and that great justification and all the minutes that were spent lobbying and requesting my vote for the CAT line of credit increase, not once was this mentioned. It's something -- that great justification we can trust the public with, and it's not an issue about his salary, whether he earned it. I told you two weeks ago I'd done my research on him, and he's an excellent person. I would have preferred to have been told in advance. This is an important item, it's a sensitive item, and it's something that I would trust my constituents knowing about even before I voted, and I'm questioning the procedure. I wish it had been done differently, and I'm taking this opportunity to ask anybody else who comes before the County and asks for my vote to let me know all the facts up front. I'm not questioning his pay. And to me the issue is the procedure and how it was handled not what he's paid, and I really thank you for being here today to answer these questions.

Chairman Scott said, any further questions? I have one, Mr. Chairman. Do you know or have any idea what was his current salary when he was working for Veolia?

CAT Board Chairman Liakakis said, repeat that.

Chairman Scott said, what was his salary? Do you have any understanding of his salary when he was working for Veolia?

CAT Board Chairman Liakakis said, oh, from what I understand, a much larger amount. Let me just tell you this, three weeks ago, the trouble shooter for Veolia came in town, Bill McCloud, and he came to my office, and he asked me if there any way that our bus system could let Veolia not be, you know, terminated, that they'd like to see and talk with us about doing something differently, and -- and that we would retain Chad Reese as our director. And what he mentioned also, he was talking about wonderful things that Mr. Reese had done working with the company for many, many years and how -- the wonderful things that he did. And his statement from him, the executive -- former vice -- executive vice president and trouble shooter stated that Dr. Reese could name his own salary in any location that he went because they can see, you know, what he has done in the past.

Chairman Scott said, okay. You have a question -- you have a question from Commissioner Shabazz and Commissioner Kicklighter, and then we've got some comments.

CAT Board Chairman Liakakis said, sure.

Commissioner Shabazz said, where did -- where did the Savannah Morning News come up with the figure of \$250,000 for his salary? Where did they come up with that figure?

CAT Board Chairman Liakakis said, well I think --

Commissioner Shabazz said, based on what you said, you said it was \$172,000.

Commissioner Thomas said, that's what it is.

CAT Board Chairman Liakakis said, yeah. No, that was not his salary. I think what occurred was there was a misunderstanding, you know, about the package and all, and it doesn't get to \$250,000. It's like a couple of those things are discretionary as I mentioned in my presentation just now. But I hear what the comments that are being said and especially what Commissioner Center said about, you know, about a presentation so that people would have more information. I assure you that we have learned from this, and we'll make sure that our staff, that everybody fully understands the whole situation and not, you know, -- not trying to hide anything in any way, shape or form, but that was -- it wasn't \$250,000, and I broke it down for each and every one of you today on that.

Commissioner Shabazz said, I think -- I think the public's -- yes, the public's perception is that the CAT Board is still under the Chatham County Commission, even though we have Commissioners serving on that CAT Board because people came to me and asked me how did I let that happen as well, but we're not to answer those

questions when they come to us. Those questions should be reserved to the CAT Board. And I -- I want to know -- you -- you -- what's the big deal about this because the salaries are comparable to any other administrator -- public administrator of counties, cities, school board, the sheriff office's office. You stated that. So I don't know what's the -- what is the big question about this --

CAT Board Chairman Liakakis said, well --

Commissioner Shabazz said, -- when it comes to Dr. Reese.

CAT Board Chairman Liakakis said, well, I just think was mentioned that number one -- let me explain what occurred. The State legislature last year, they put into place a new bus -- a new bus statute for having it separated. What had occurred is about eight members of the Federal Transit Authority came from Atlanta, met us in the green room and talked to us about our particular bus system, and they wanted to know about why the transit center had not been built in this long period of time, and I explained to them the reasons for that, and the first place that we wanted to go is historic Savannah, said it was in the historic district and could not be put there. But anyway, we went through that and all. In addition to that, there were three auditors that came in, and they went through our books and all. Between the federal transportation authorities out of Atlanta and the auditors, what had occurred was that they stated that they -- and most of the places in the United States that they don't have a complete body of elected officials, whether it was like a city or a county, and they made a suggestion that we should change that. And so what happened was the legislators changed it and put in the Chatham Area Transit Authority through state law, and it's a separate body from the county.

Commissioner Shabazz said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Kicklighter.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Scott said, do you have a question?

Commissioner Kicklighter said, yes, sir. I want to start out by saying that in my opinion Dr. Reese is the best thing that happened at Chatham Area Transit since I've been around for 13 years, so, you know, I'm glad that we've -- you know, y'all have been able to retain his services but listening to the examples and with all due respect for the former Chairman, stated that Mr. Reese is receiving a salary of \$172,000, cited some examples, cited that we're running 130 buses, second largest system in the State of Georgia, which population wise, I know we're not -- I know we're not the second largest population wise, cited the example of Nashville's manager at \$203,000 for the bus service, but that's a population I just pulled off of quickfacts.census.gov 2012 estimate of \$6.5 million -- 6.5 million person population compared to us within the taxing district of Chatham Area Transit, 180,000, you know, people being affected. So we're talking 6.5 million population versus 180,000, and, you know, a difference of 25,000 in salary. The other example, one of them cited was Jacksonville. Just pulled up on the phone 40th largest metro area in the United States, 2006 population is all I could find on the website was 100 -- was 1.2 million population. Again, that's -- that's a million more than the population here, and I don't -- I didn't write the salary for Jacksonville. Citing mega, mammoth, huge cities in salaries versus a small area when you're comparing is really not a great example of a salary range. That's like paying someone to run a minor league football team versus being coach of the Dallas Cowboys. It's not comparable. We're -- we're the minor league team when compared to Nashville and Jacksonville.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, very curious with this because the salary range says \$172,000. That's clear. You tack in the 15/15 401K, performance bonus, you cited two separate 10 percent cap type bonuses. My question after all of that would be what is the 10 and 10 -- what percentage -- what -- what's the percentage based on? And is there a minimum guarantee that we know the threshold has remained at X amount which will guarantee a certain amount of bonus with both of those, and what would that cap be and -- from there?

CAT Board Chairman Liakakis said, well, as I mentioned, the performance bonus is discretionary to the Board, and -- and that is one that he would receive a 10 percent or less, whatever the Board decides upon his performance and how the bus system is being operated. And then the retention bonus is 10 percent cap also.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, ten percent of what? His salary? Is that what we're talking about?

CAT Board Chairman Liakakis said, if performance of the -- of his salary.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, so basically you -- you've already then --

CAT Board Chairman Liakakis said, well, the performance bonus --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, -- given yourselves the --

CAT Board Chairman Liakakis said, let me get that because I'll have to get that from the finance department. They wrote that down, and I will get that, but also the retention bonus is a 10 percent cap on that. I know about this. That is he completes the term of his contract. If he stays there the five years on the contract, then he could receive -- he will receive that 10 percent retention bonus.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay, so the 10 percent -- what you're saying now, that 10 percent, the one we're speaking of right this second, will not be in question until he completes his fifth year?

CAT Board Chairman Liakakis said, that's correct.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, at that point, he will receive 10 percent of the total amount of salary he received during that five-year period?

CAT Board Chairman Liakakis said, now --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, -- is that --

CAT Board Chairman Liakakis said, -- those are things and I'll get it back to you --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, -- is that what you're --

CAT Board Chairman Liakakis said, -- because these figures that we had gone over in a number of ways and all is that I'll get that 10 percent, and if it is 10 percent, that means his salary \$172,000 would be \$17,000.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, but -- but we're talking over five years.

CAT Board Chairman Liakakis said, if it's on the total amount, but I would have to get that from the finance people on that, and I'll give it to whoever wants it. I'll distribute it to it to all the Commissioners.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay, Mr. Chairman, what about the other 10 percent you spoke of?

CAT Board Chairman Liakakis said, well as on that one too, as I mentioned the cap is that the performance bonus if it was on the salary, it would be the same as the retention bonus. But I will do, I will get that information from our finance people and give that to all of you or come back up here and give it in person.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, so if -- if we just took this up to -- which it's not, let's say it's \$200,000 salary over five years, so we're at \$1 million, so potentially he'd get a \$200,000 bonus, if that's the number I could run in my head that quick. So.

Chairman Scott said, no.

CAT Board Chairman Liakakis said, no. He would not receive \$200,000.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, is that not what I'm understanding?

Chairman Scott said, let me -- let me help you with the math.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, yeah, help me with the math.

Chairman Scott said, if he gets a 10 percent on an annual basis that's discretionary that would be \$17,200 more he would be getting on an annual basis, which would put him at 189,200. Now the -- the real question is that --

commissioner Kicklighter said, twice though, Mr. Chairman, is that --

Chairman Scott said, now, wait a minute. The real question is on the retention, is it retention for one year or five years, and if it's for one year it would be 17,200, if it's five years, it'll be 85 -- \$86,000 for the five years.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay. So my -- my math was correct on the upper salary, but, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, that's -- that's the way I break it down.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you. That's good. And -- and I'll just close by stating that I do find it a wee bit irresponsible on the Board's part to request this additional line extension and not present like Commissioner Center said, what was going to take place following that, and especially to not actually understand what type of salary you're -- you're paying the gentleman to run this thing. And -- and that's --

CAT Board Chairman Liakakis said, let me make a statement for that. You see, if you look at people's experience, their history, where they have worked, how successful they have been and all, he has gotten us because of his effort and putting things in place and making us a better transit system, he has gotten over \$22 million of federal transit money and then the buses and other things that we are getting --

Commissioner Thomas said, that's right.

CAT Board Chairman Liakakis said, -- the government, the federal government is paying 80 percent of those funds back.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, may I please? I don't question Dr. Reese. He's excellent. I just find it irresponsible to pass along a raise when you in all reality stand here and you don't even understand the raise that you passed. That's the end of my comment. Mr. Reese is wonderful. I'm glad we retained him, but I think that we should understand the -- pretty much what's taken place when we give a raise of that magnitude and then use comparisons of major cities against a -- a very small area, and that's -- that's it in a nutshell. You've been excellent ever since I've known you, Mr. Chairman. I don't question your character, but frankly you're wrong on this issue today in my opinion. Yes, that's my opinion.

Chairman Scott said, let's -- let's -- let's do a question because I have two Commissioners waiting to make comments, and that's the reason I only recognized folk for questions because if you want to make a comment you need to get in order.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you. I'm sorry.

Chairman Scott said, and -- and that's the only reason.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, you're correct, sir.

Chairman Scott said, no other reason.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you, sir.

Chairman Scott said, and at this time I'm going to recognize Commissioner Stone for a comment and then Commissioner Thomas for a comment and then Commissioner Brady in that order.

Commissioner Stone said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I too shared the same concerns that Commissioner Center shared, and I expressed them immediately upon receiving the information as a member of the CAT Board. I received this information regarding the new executive director, because he's not under Veolia, he would be under Chatham Area Transit. I received this notebook less than 18 hours before the vote. I immediately called the Chairman, expressed my concerns. I did some comparables, and I agree with Commissioner Kicklighter some of the -- the areas that I researched that were in the same size and population of this community, I -- I didn't get a salary with the total package of what I added up, and maybe I'm wrong, but I added it up to be close to 250,000 with everything. So my concern is the same as Commissioner Center's. I'm on this Board. I got the information 18 hours ahead and -- and a few of those hours I decided to sleep. So I did have very little time to digest this, to understand this, but I made a purpose of getting to the meeting a half an hour ahead and talking to Dr. Reese, and first of all commending him for the job that he is doing. There's no doubt about it. He's -- he's qualified for the job. He's doing a good job, and I have the confidence that he will turn this around. But turning things around means everybody sometimes has to be willing to make some sacrifices, and I voted against this raise not because of the qualifications of Dr. Reese, but because Chatham Area Transit is now under the gun to tighten their belt to turn this system around to prove to the citizens of this community not only can we operate a good transit system, but we can do it within the bounds of -- and the restrictions of the budget that we have to operate. And so I share the concerns of Commissioner Center, and I did everything that I could do to understand this in the short amount of time, and that's why I had to vote the lone vote against it. Thank you.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Thomas.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Ladies and gentlemen, I've sat here and I've heard a lot.

Chairman Scott said, is your mike on?

Commissioner Brady said, yes, it is.

Commissioner Thomas said, I've sat here and I've heard a lot. I want to ask one question before I make my comments. Are we going to address future salaries and performances of others as we are doing today? If not, I have a problem. Some of the things that have been said here today were out in the public about certain members of this Commission and members of the CAT Board were making, innuendos about certain things to certain people, newspapers incorrectly having some information. I'm not going to sit here and allow anyone to say that I would sit on this Commission or sit on the CAT Board and knowingly that something is incorrect or shouldn't be done and sit there and vote with a good conscience in that regard. I would not do that. I will never compromise myself or anything else. One thing if I don't like something, you will know. If I like it, you also will know. And finally, I want to say that this gentleman that we now have as the executive director of Chatham Area Transit does not deserve the kind of scrutiny that we are putting forth here today. And I also want to say that we all received our information that Commissioner Stone is talking about. Yes it was a lot to absorb. I -- I had eye surgery, but I really tried to read it and comprehend it. What I didn't understand, when we had our meeting, it was explained to my satisfaction. And so today I hope that we will get back on one accord, get the answers that you personally want, let us move forward, let us work with this gentleman who has worked so hard to make a difference in Chatham County with our transit system. And I can say more, but that's -- I'm going to stop there, Mr. Chairman.

CAT Board Chairman Liakakis said, Mr. Chairman?

Chairman Scott said, we have one more here.

CAT Board Chairman Liakakis said, oh, excuse me. I'm sorry.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Brady.

Commissioner Brady said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do have a question I'm going to start my comments with. Just based on some of the information I've heard today in reference to when the CAT Board members received the information. When did you or whoever with CAT start negotiating with Dr. Reese?

CAT Board Chairman Liakakis said, well what had occurred was information was given -- we have three committees there -- there. One of them the financial committee, and then a couple of members had talked to him and I spoke to him also and --

Commissioner Brady said, yeah well -- I don't mean to cut you off, but I can probably help -- help, you know, condense this answer. Did your negotiation --

Chairman Scott said, we didn't -- no. No. No. We can't ask the question and answer it too, Commissioner.

Commissioner Brady said, well, I'm not -- no, I know. No, I was going to pose it a different way.

Chairman Scott said, I want -- I want to give him a chance to answer.

Commissioner Brady said, okay. Fine. I'll -- I'll pose it a different way.

Chairman Scott said, and then -- and then see if you can get what you want.

Commissioner Brady said, okay.

Chairman Scott said, if not, then --

Commissioner Brady said, I was just trying to -- go ahead, he's -- the Chairman --

CAT Board Chairman Liakakis said, okay. What occurred, I had spoke to him also and some of the other Board members.

Chairman Scott said, but the question was when.

CAT Board Chairman Liakakis said, it was about, I guess --

Commissioner Holmes said, Mr. Chairman, about two weeks before that information came out.

CAT Board Chairman Liakakis said, yeah.

Commissioner Holmes said, I believe two weeks. I don't know the exact day.

CAT Board Chairman Liakakis said, about two weeks before this because when we were looking at Veolia, and the reason why we separated from Veolia because sometimes the management fee with the expenses and all was a \$1,200,000 a year. And with the management fee, he had come -- we had discussed that with the director, with Mr. Reese and all, and a number of the Board members had also talked about the separation of Veolia because we could use their money to operate the system. And one of the things, if we look back, the last several directors that we have had put us in a very compromising situation, and he has worked miracles. So when you have somebody of this caliber, and all of that, that's the reasons why a lot of people pay more money than, you know, for certain people to come in certain positions.

Chairman Scott said, yeah. Commissioner Brady.

Commissioner Brady said, the -- the bottom line is, did negotiations start with Dr. Reese prior to the CAT Board coming here and asking for an extension on their credit line?

CAT Board Chairman Liakakis said, yes.

Commissioner Brady said, that -- that was the answer I was looking for.

CAT Board Chairman Liakakis said, right.

Commissioner Brady said, and let me say this. The bottom line for -- for Lori Brady is this, I -- this is not for me about Dr. Reese at all. It's not about his salary. I think he does a great job. I'm -- I'm going to beat on that horse for a little while. He does a great job. He's worth every penny. The problem I have, former Mr. Chairman, is the fact that you came before the County Commission, you have -- you have acknowledged you had already started negotiating a salary with Dr. Reese, and you came before us, you didn't tell us that you were doing that,

and you asked for an extension on a credit line, which ultimately will -- will be a millage increase for CAT. Now I didn't vote for it, but I appreciate Mr. -- Commissioner Center bringing you up today because we do need that information. We -- the -- the public received additional information after the fact that we had no knowledge of until it hit the newspaper. So you see what happens to us as public, elected officials, as you have suffered from the same things all the years you've been in office. So again this for me is not about Dr. Reese. This is about the time line of the events that took place. This County Commission should have been notified that you were currently negotiating a salary compensation package with Dr. Reese when you came to ask us to extend the credit line. That's all I think.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Holmes.

Commissioner Holmes said, thank you. Commissioner Brady and -- and to the public what I want you to know is that at some point dealing with Dr. Reese, you cannot negotiate and publicly do anything with him when he's still under contract with Veolia. That's what constitutes the time line to what could go out in the public, what you can say to him, technically and legally you cannot.

Commissioner Thomas said, exactly.

Commissioner Holmes said, and that's the reason for that.

CAT Board Chairman Liakakis said, and one of the things that -- that he did, like we said the -- what was mentioned about the 18-hour thing is they were waiting on information because we were tied up with Veolia in making the separation and all of that came into play with that. In fact it was only about a day -- it was at almost the last minute before -- before we talked about Dr. Reese and all. He had gotten a \$600,000 reduction in our insurance. That shows how good he is by going out into the public and got a \$600,000 decrease in that, and looking with this situation, I have heard what everybody has said, and I'm going to make sure as Chairman that if there's something that needs to be done that I'm going to see that it's done so that everybody knows everything, and nobody was trying to hide anything to begin with.

Chairman Scott said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate you coming, and I appreciate your answers, and if you would please follow-up with the information to the Commission that representative -- that Commissioner Kicklighter raised in reference to the retention bonus. That's the only thing I think that's outstanding. And I really appreciate your time and your patience in trying to satisfy the members of the Commission. Thank you so much.

CAT Board Chairman Liakakis said, okay.

Chairman Scott said, thank you.

CAT Board Chairman Liakakis said, thank you.

Commissioner Center said, I have a comment about us.

Chairman Scott said, we're not on this any more.

Commissioner Center said, I just want to thank us for doing this.

Chairman Scott said, yeah. Okay. Commissioner Center.

Commissioner Center said, yes, Mr. Chairman. I just -- I just want to thank my fellow Commissioners and especially you, and I appreciate the fact that this had to be talked about, and I like the way it was handled with everybody questioning, and I really -- I'm proud to work on a Commission at this moment that will question a topic this sensitive and do it publicly, and I thank all of you.

Chairman Scott said, the only thing I would say about it, when -- and I'm not putting words in the Chair of the CAT Board, but my initial reaction that it was upsetting and -- but I came to the conclusion that it should have been handled differently, but at no point could the Chair of the CAT Board publicly state that he was negotiating a salary with Mr. Reese. At that time he was an employee of Veolia and it was not until May 15th that that contract was ended.

Commissioner Thomas said, right.

Chairman Scott said, and so when you think about the time line, that certainly came into play. And what should have happened is that the Chair of the CAT Board should have provided notification to the Commission of their intent to hire Mr. Reese and that he was going to have such and such a salary just out of courtesy considering we just provided the line of credit. But he -- under no condition could he have publicly stated any sort of negotiation with Dr. Reese at the time that he came here to request that. And thank you so much.

Commissioner Center said, Mr. Chairman, may I point out --

Chairman Scott said, no. No. No. No. We've heard about -- about Aldermen doing that.

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**2. STEP OUT TO STOP DIABETES WALK, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2013
(COMMISSIONER THOMAS.)**

Chairman Scott said, under Commissioner Items, I'm going to recognize our Vice Chair to talk about Step Out to Stop Diabetes.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you, Mr. Chairman, members of the Commission. Ladies and gentlemen, Tamala Fulton, who is one of our employees and she is one of the coordinators, along with myself, attended the kickoff luncheon to stop diabetes. As we all know, this is a very, very important situation in our county, our state and our nation, and I want to call to your attention also that diabetes not only affects adults but we are finding each and every day that many of our children are now coming down -- or have diabetes for many, many reasons. Therefore, I'm asking the Commissioners to join Tamala [Fulton], myself and others to support this worthy cause. They have a 5K walk and a 5K run which will culminate with the final event on October the 19th, and I have sign-up forms if you wish to participate, and anyone who's in the public these are available everywhere. Also, we are placing these little cups in various stores and other places asking people to help us raise funds, and these little red things here, it goes around your arm, and it will indicate when someone sees you with this, they know that this represents, you know, the Diabetes Foundation, and what we are trying to do. Last year the county did exceptionally well. I believe we -- we were really near at the top, so we want to supersede what we did last year, and I want to thank all of the county employees. Our sheriff department was out there in full force, and our Chatham County Youth Commission and the Summer Bonanza youth were also involved, along with the City and others. So I'm asking each and every one of us today to make yourself a committee of one and help support this worthy cause. Thank you.

Chairman Scott said, okay. Any questions? Okay.

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VIII. TABLED/RECONSIDERED ITEMS

<p>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 (*).</p>

Chairman Scott said, let's -- let's move on. We've got a pretty big agenda, and we're on VIII, page four. First item is the Montgomery Boat Ramp that we postponed at the last meeting. So we've got two items that was postponed, item one and two. We have one item that's tabled, item three. Item three requires no action. It will remain on the table since the Clerk of Court is on vacation and have not requested us to take it off unless a member of the Commission deem otherwise.

1. MONTGOMERY BOAT RAMP HOURS OF OPERATION. SEE ATTACHED STAFF REPORT. (COMMISSIONER STONE.)

Chairman Scott said, so let's move to Montgomery Boat Ramp at this time, and if there are any action to -- to further this.

County Attorney R. Jonathan Hart said, there needs to be a motion to take it off the table.

Chairman Scott said, it need -- it will require action by somebody.

Commissioner Stone said, I'll make a motion to take it off the table.

Commissioner Thomas said, second, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Scott said, properly moved and second. Any discussion?

Commissioner Shabazz said, yes. When you say take it off the table, what do you mean?

County Attorney Hart said, bring it up on the calendar.

Chairman Scott said, it means we're going to put it back on the calendar, and we're going to discuss it and vote on it.

Commissioner Shabazz said, at another time?

Chairman Scott said, at -- today.

Commissioner Stone said, no.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay. Okay. I'm in favor of that.

Chairman Scott said, okay. All in favor of the motion indicate by voting yes, opposed no.

Commissioner Farrell said, what am I voting on?

Chairman Scott said, we're just taking it off the table and then we'll have a motion to do something.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay.

Chairman Scott said, okay. It's -- it's off the table on the agenda. And now we have a new recommendation from staff on it. Mr. Manager, you want to --

County Manager Abolt said, I'll defer to my -- my expert on boat ramps, Mr. Kaigler, who has a modified recommendation based on some of the discussion at your pre-meeting plus continued evaluation by staff.

Chairman Scott said, yeah. I noticed he's been conferring with his boat ramp operator.

County Manager Abolt said, yes, he is. He's terribly qualified to run it.

Assistant County Manger Michael Kaigler said, good morning, sir. The revised recommendation from staff would be to put up a new sign at the entrance to the boat ramp that specifies the hours of operation which would be from 6:00 to -- to dusk. We also will install a gate and county staff will at 6:00 in the morning open the gate and allow people to access the boat ramp, and it will be closed at night.

Chairman Scott said, any questions of staff? Commissioner Stone.

Commissioner Stone said, when you say closed, you mean locked?

Assistant County Manager Kaigler said, locked, yes, ma'am.

Commissioner Stone said, okay. I just want to be very clear about that. And I -- I would like the sign replaced because there --

Assistant County Manager Kaigler said, yes, ma'am, completely new sign.

Commissioner Stone said, -- is an error in the wording. It would be dusk, D-U-S-K and not dust, D-U-S-T.

Assistant County Manager Kaigler said, yes, ma'am.

Commissioner Stone said, okay. I -- I would -- and the bats on the sign will be removed?

Assistant County Manager Kaigler said, yes, ma'am. Completely new signs.

Commissioner Stone said, okay. That would be great.

Chairman Scott said, any further questions of staff? Commissioner Farrell and Commissioner Shabazz in that order, please.

Commissioner Farrell said, I -- I've listened, you know, to the recommendations of staff and to the reactions from some in the Montgomery community, and to me, you know, after looking at and listening to all the -- the different issues, it appears to be more of an enforcement issue than -- than anything. If -- if there are issues with trespassing and nefarious activities, you know, I believe it's the duty of our metropolitan police department to enforce the ordinances that are on the books, and whatever complaints there -- there may be. I -- I have some concern. I -- I don't have a problem with a gate and a new sign because a gate that's closed that has a sign on it that says this area is closed and someone has to physically open it to go down in there, it certainly makes it very difficult when they're approached by an officer -- a police officer to explain why they're on the wrong side of the gate. However, there may be legitimate situations where, you know, and back when I was young and -- and had questionable water craft that sometimes left me hanging, and I'd have to paddle in or whatever, sometimes you don't make it back before dark, and then what do you do if you're counting on coming out at that ramp and the gate's locked. You know, I don't think anybody's addressed that particular question.

Commissioner Farrell said, so, although I agree with the idea of having a gate there and signage, I -- I would like to see that we -- we maybe work this a little more slowly with -- bearing in mind the sensitivity of the residents there and maybe not lock it immediately and give it a chance for enforcement and the ability of the gate to -- to -- to send a strong message to folks that are doing the wrong things at the wrong times of the day that hey, you're -- you're trespassing. You're in a place that you're not supposed to be. You got a lot of questions to answer, and -- but then again, if there's a legitimate reason why somebody's in there, a police officer could use his discretion to say, okay, you know, just get your boat out of here and go on or -- or whatever the problem may be. I know the fire department was concerned about having a key immediately because they are worried about rescue operations, and, you know, how do you find the -- the Chatham County person with the key if

there's a situation that happens after hours, and -- and get in there without running around with a pair of bolt cutters and -- and cutting the locks. So although I -- I agree that the place needs to be -- people need to use it in accordance with the ordinance, I'd like to recommend a slower approach before we padlock it and let -- see if the gate situation -- I've seen other properties that were somewhat remote had good luck with -- with putting a gate up and signage, because then it requires somebody to physically open the gate when they're reading the sign and they -- they have to know that they're in the wrong place. And once you get down that long ramp, when a police officer comes up, there's no where for you to go. You got to come right back through the police officer or else you're out in the marsh or the water. So those are just some of my thoughts on the -- on the situation.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Shabazz and Commissioner Stone.

Commissioner Shabazz said, what is the cost of operating -- operating this boat ramp?

Assistant County Manager Kaigler said, I don't have that information handy, but we can certainly get it to you. As -- as we've proceeded in -- as we've operated it in the past, we just had a sign up, and really there's no maintenance other than picking up trash and that kind of thing along that stretch of lane that leads back to the water. We don't have -- 'cause we're still in the process of exploring what type of gate we put up. We don't have the cost for that, but we certainly can get it to you.

Commissioner Shabazz said, all right, but you're talking about staffing -- putting a staff -- using staff to unlock it and to go back --

Assistant County Manager Kaigler said, we'll take exist -- we'll take existing staff that's -- we already have, and it will be on the route and go by in the morning to -- to lock -- unlock it and then at -- in the afternoon to lock it back up.

Commissioner Shabazz said, all right. Obviously, this boat ramp is a problem. I mean there's vandals. It's not being utilized.

Assistant County Manager Kaigler said, it has been an issue over the years. The previous Commission when we -- when we came to the previous Commission and we -- and suggested that we abandon it, it wasn't the desire of the previous Commission to do that. We did put the -- they did pass an ordinance a number of years ago that limits the hours but there was no gate, and there's no way for us to enforce those unless there was a gate there.

Commissioner Shabazz said, so how much saving would it be if we just did away with it?

Assistant County Manager Kaigler said, there again, sir --

Commissioner Shabazz said, would it save anything?

Assistant county Manager Kaigler said, -- I -- I don't have that information. I can certainly get it to you. I'll have to talk with the Parks and Recreation Department and we can come up with an estimate.

Commissioner Shabazz said, all right.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Stone.

Commissioner Stone said, okay. I want to address a couple of Commissioner Farrell's concerns. First of all, I did offer to the Southside Fire Department, and we discussed that they could have a key in the event that in the middle of the night they needed to get down there. The other problem is that when you say that it's a long road and they've got to come in or they've got to come out, the problem is they're going on to the side -- adjoining people's property and cutting through their yards and going down on their docks and this kind of thing. I've got police reports here over the last couple of years, at -- at least 17 incidences that were reported. I was told by some of the neighbors that they were afraid to report it for fear of retaliation. Ultimately the problem is that when a police officer is called because this is not high -- as high on the list of concerns of policing unless someone has been shot or injured, that the -- the surrounding neighbors were saying it would take 20, 30 minutes, 45 minutes, an hour to get there and by that time the people were gone. But the illegal poaching reported by the DNR, with oysters being harvested in areas at certain times of the year where they're not supposed to be, deer carcasses being dumped there from shooting deers on the islands and bringing them and knowing that they cannot take the deer in its entirety, I guess is the correct phrase. They would skin the deer, leave the carcass. Female crabs which are not supposed to be taken were dumped. All of these things presented problems to the surrounding neighbors -- neighbors and unfortunately it's -- it's the bad people that ruin it for everybody, and this situation has been a problem. I've been contacted by neighbors saying we're just tired of having to put up with this. We pay our taxes, we're good citizens. We're not trying deny people -- trying to deny people access to the water. They can come down there during the day just as -- as the hours of operation state, but unfortunately they're coming at night and some of these things are occurring. I've got police reports. Our police officers are needed when there's true violence and -- and all over this county, and so it's hard to get them out there at 3:00 in the morning. So I'm just stating that there are a lot of issues with this. I think this is -- would be a -- a solution worth trying, keeping it open during the day for the people that really do enjoy water craft recreation and that want to take the risk of using that boat ramp, and I say the risk because

if you try to use it at low tide, the concrete's broken up, it's very narrow, and you are on your own. The better time to do it is high tide. But, those are all issues that individuals will address during the daylight hours. I just want to curtail the issues that are going on there at night that are not allowed and that are causing problems to the neighbors. Thank you.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Kicklighter.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Normally both these Commissioners that are in disagreement here are my kind of go-to people when it comes to boat ramps. I was sitting here just thinking I could flip a coin 'cause I trust both of their judgments on the issue here of boat ramps. But bottom line is the boat ramp's located in Commissioner Stone's District so she's the one receiving the phone calls, and if this in her belief will curtail the problems, I think we need to do it, and if there's a huge outlash about gating it and opening it and closing it, it's going to be her that receives that huge outlash, and I would imagine that she would put it back on the agenda at a future date to resolve those issues. So I think that we need to just move forward with a vote. We could talk about this all day long, so I call for the question.

Chairman Scott said, okay.

Clerk said, no motion has been made.

Chairman Scott said, okay.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, then I will remove that call if you'd like to speak.

Commissioner Stone said, we don't have a motion.

Chairman Scott said, the only problem with calling for the question is there's not motion on the table.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, dang.

Commissioner Stone said, I'll make the motion, Mr. Chairman. I'll make the motion. I make the motion that we proceed with the gate and locking it during the hours -- as per the ordinance when it is supposed to be locked and when it is supposed to be opened, and hopefully this will keep the activities that are not supposed be going on there away, and if we need to re-address this, I believe, this was for six months?

Assistant County Manager Kaigler said, yes, ma'am.

Commissioner Stone said, and see how this is working.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, second.

Commissioner Farrell said, so what happens after six months?

Assistant County Manager Kaigler said, we'll come back to this Commission with a report and then --

Chairman Scott said, wait a minute. Wait a minute. Wait a minute. Hold on. It's been properly moved and second that we adopt the staff modified recommendation. Hearing the motion, any questions?

Commissioner Farrell said, what happens if -- if this -- if this motion passes as stated, what happens in six months?

Assistant County Manager Kaigler said, in six months we'll come back to this Commission, report that we -- whether we've had any problems or not. If we haven't, then we'll continue as stated -- continue to lock the gate as per the ordinance.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Center.

Commissioner Center said, would you please state to me exactly what the motion is? I mean motion is to adapt -- adopt staff recommendation. Please state exactly what the recommendation is.

Assistant County Manager Kaigler said, revised recommendation would be for staff to put up a gate at the entrance of the boat ramp. We would also replace the signage at the boat ramp to reflect the hours that are currently in the ordinance as approved by the Board.

Commissioner Center said, and that ordinance is already in affect?

Assistant County Manger Kaigler said, yes, sir.

Commissioner Center said, what are those hours?

Assistant County Manager Kaigler said, the hours as I can recall they are from 6:00 to dusk.

Commissioner Stone said, it says dawn to dusk. So I guess 6:00.

Assistant County Manager Kaigler said, 6:00.

Commissioner Stone said, I mean that's going to vary.

Commissioner Center said, 6:00, but dusk is not an hour.

Commissioner Farrell said, it changes every day.

Commissioner Center said, so what -- what is precisely that we'd be voting for?

Assistant County Manager Kaigler said, the ordinance as it stands now I think says -- I'm pretty sure it says dusk. We will -- some of the recommendations from -- from staff said 9:00 o'clock, and we probably will go with the 9:00 o'clock hour.

Commissioner Center said, Mr. Chairman, would it be appropriate -- could -- could I move for an amendment to make this a six-month thing so it's -- it's going to go away in six months unless we take action?

Commissioner Stone said, I don't think that's a --

County Attorney Hart said, if the amendment's accepted, or you'd make your own amendment.

Commissioner Center said, I don't know exactly how to word it, but I'd like -- I'd like it to go away automatically unless we act again rather than stay there unless we act again.

Commissioner Farrell said, the locking part or the hours?

Commissioner Center said, I'd like -- I'd like this to be a six-month program.

Commissioner Stone said, that's what it is.

Chairman Scott said, the problem is we have a motion and a second on the floor to accept the staff recommendation, and when the motion was made no one made a substitute motion, and we're in the discussion phase of it.

Commissioner Center said, but I would like to make an amendment.

County Attorney Hart said, you have the right to make an amendment. You would have to get second and then you have to vote on the amendment, and then once you vote on the amendment, you will then go back and vote on the main motion.

Chairman Scott said, yeah.

Commissioner Center said, I -- I move that we amend this so it's only in effect for six months from the day we pass it.

Commissioner Farrell said, second.

Chairman Scott said, it's been properly moved and second that we amend the motion to adopt the staff recommendation but the -- that the recommendation will only be in place for six month barring further action from this Commission.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, so --

Commissioner Stone said, but -- but it can be after six months --

Chairman Scott said, hearing the motion, any discussion?

Commissioner Kicklighter said, question.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Kicklighter.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, so is it my understanding -- is it my understanding that after six months staff is instructed to remove the gate that they purchased and install and remove the sign that they will purchase and install?

Commissioner Farrell said, yes.

Commissioner Center said, unless we vote to continue it, yes.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, that's silly.

Chairman Scott said, now we have to -- we have to adopt the amendment. That's the amendment. All in favor of the amendment to the motion, indicate by voting yes, opposed no.

County Attorney Hart said, it fails.

Chairman Scott said, the amendment fails. It's back to the original question. The original motion.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, may I call for the question?

Chairman Scott said, you may call for the question.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I call for the question, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Scott said, the question's been called. All in favor of adopting the staff recommendation indicate by voting yes, opposed no. The motion carried and the gate will be launched.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

- a. Commissioner Stone moved to remove the Item, Montgomery Boat Ramp Hours of Operation, from the table. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Brady was not present for the vote.]
- b. Commissioner Stone moved to proceed with adding a gate and signage which will be locked and unlocked according to the ordinance. Commissioner Kicklighter seconded the motion and it carried in a 6-3 vote with Chairman Scott and Commissioners Stone, Holmes, Brady, Kicklighter and Thomas voting yes and Commissioners Center, Farrell and Brady voting no.
- c. Commissioner Center moved to amend the motion to have the gate and the signage removed after six months unless further action is taken by the Commission. Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion and it failed to carry with a 3-6 vote. Commissioners Center, Farrell and Shabazz voted yes; Chairman Scott and Commissioners Stone, Holmes, Brady, Kicklighter and Thomas voted no.

Related to AGENDA ITEM: **VIII-1**
AGENDA DATE: May 24, 2013



Interoffice Memorandum

DATE: May 15, 2013
TO: Chairman and Members of the Board
FROM: R. E. Abolt, County Manager
SUBJECT: Sign at Montgomery Boat Ramp

Ladies and gentlemen, the attached (in the Clerk of Commission's original meeting file) was forwarded by Commissioner Stone with a request that it be sent to your attention. You may recall that the subject of this boat ramp will be before you for further consideration on the 24th of May. There was discussion on your choice to visit the site before that date. Helen explains that Commissioner Holmes would like a tour. By copy of this, I am asking Robert Drewry to arrange a time convenient to Commissioner Holmes for his visit.

In conclusion, I note that there is a typo on the sign. The fourth line should read "dusk" not "dust". Also, Gordon Varnedoe must be made a visit and affixed his Batman sitkcers "haha."

AGENDA ITEM: ~~VII-2~~
AGENDA DATE: ~~May 10, 2013~~
AGENDA ITEM: **VIII-1**
AGENDA DATE: May 24, 2013

TO: Board of Commissioners
THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager
FROM: Robert W. Drewry, Director of Public Works and Park Services

ISSUE:

Request Board consideration of a temporary action plan for the Montgomery Boat Ramp off Whitefield Avenue.

BACKGROUND:

At the request of the Assistant County Manager Michael Kaigler, staff addressed the Montgomery Boat Ramp and provided a report to Commissioner Stone dated March 18, 2013.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The Montgomery Boat Ramp is an unimproved boat launch into the Vernon River located between two residential lots and is shown on the tax map as platted right-of-way Chatham Street. There is no parking and boaters must back down beginning from Whitefield Avenue. Staff does not have any records on the use of the ramp.
2. The report outlined limitations of the boat ramp and cited safety concerns as follows:
 - a. The width of the ramp is limited to one vehicle which means that only one boater can use the ramp at a time. The boater must stop on Whitefield Avenue and maneuver the vehicle and trailer down the ramp. Since empty trailers cannot be parked on the ramp, it is assumed they park elsewhere and on occasion along Whitefield Avenue. It is staff's opinion that this creates an unsafe situation for both the boater and the public traveling on Whitefield Avenue.
 - b. The end of the ramp is heavily silted so at lower tides it is difficult to launch a boat. The ramp needs to be extended further into the water and sloped at a steeper angle.
 - c. Staff consulted with a representative of the Coastal Resources Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Shawn Jordan. Mr. Jordan advises that "the state boat ramp program would not advocate spending Federal Sportfish funds at the site due to the lack of parking and other long term requirements guaranteeing public access." Therefore, since the project would not be under authority of the Georgia DNR, it is unlikely a Federal Clean Water Act permit can be obtained.
 - d. Any improvements to the Montgomery Boat Ramp without purchasing additional property from the adjacent homeowners would be extremely limited due to the narrow width of the right-of-way.
3. On March 9, 2001, the Board discussed closing the ramp for public use. Instead, the Board moved to temporarily close the ramp.
4. On May 11, 2001, the Board moved to adopt a proposed amendment to the Code of Chatham County that would limit the hours the boat ramp is open for use.
5. On July 25, 2003 the Board moved to approve a permanent adoption of the "Montgomery Boat Ramp" Ordinance that closes the ramp from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.
6. The County Attorney advises that to close the boat ramp for public use will require a Public Hearing and subsequent Board action. However, based on previous Board actions, public testimony before the Commission created a reason not to close.
7. In an attempt to answer the unknowns and address the safety concerns, staff has suggested a temporary alternative for 6 months. The temporary alternative would be to include the Montgomery Boat Ramp in the departmental **Rental and Usage of County Recreational Facilities** policy. To use the ramp, a reservation must be made by a boater. The reservation system would require the following:
 - a. Installation of a gate and lock at the entrance with a prominent sign advising the public that a reservation will be required to use the ramp. The sign will post the phone number to contact during normal business hours to make a reservation.
 - b. For a reservation, staff will unlock the gate and close the gate behind the boater thus allowing the boater exclusive use to park the vehicle and trailer on the ramp.
 - c. No fee will be charged to make a reservation.

In six months, staff will report back to the Board and provide a recommendation for further action. This should give ample time to determine the volume of legitimate boating uses, limit the ramp use to posted hours, and eliminate illegal dumping and other illegal activity. If the volume of uses significantly impacts staff resources, staff may come back to the Board prior to the initial six month period.

FUNDING:

Funds are not requested.

POLICY STATEMENT:

Board action is requested to give staff direction.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board consideration of a temporary action plan for the Montgomery Boat Ramp as described in Facts and Findings #7.
2. Board to direct staff to close the boat ramp.
3. Board to take no action and leave boat ramp use as it is.
4. Board to provide staff with other direction.

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2. PURCHASING ITEMS P AND S WERE TABLES AT BOARD MEETING OF MAY 10, 2013.

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
P. Two (2) inmate transport buses	Fleet	Alliance Bus Group, Inc.	\$159,948	General Fund/M&O - Detention Center
S. State of Georgia contract purchase of 15 new vehicles for the Sheriff's Office and Detention Center	•Sheriff's Office •Detention Center	Hardy Chevrolet	\$382,427	•General Fund/M&O - Detention Center •General Fund/M&O - Sheriff

Chairman Scott said, Item 2, we need a motion to --

Commissioner Center said, I move that we accept the item 2 and purchase --

Chairman Scott said, we need to take it off the table first.

Commissioner Center said, oh. Two's off the table?

Chairman Scott said, yeah.

Commissioner Center said, I move that we take it off the table and vote on it today.

Commissioner Farrell said, second.

Chairman Scott said, it's been properly moved and second that Item 2 come off the table. All in favor of the motion indicate by voting yes, opposed no. Item 2 is off the table.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, Mr. --

Chairman Scott said, I will now entertain a motion for adoption if anybody wishes to make one.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, Mr. -- Mr. Chairman, based on your discussions with some of the municipalities and the performance of the other vehicles and -- and what was discussed in pre-agenda about the longevity of other types of vehicles, I believe it's in the best interest of the county to purchase the -- the vehicles that were selected here so it'll be in the longer run a larger savings for the citizens. So based off of that, I make a motion to approve.

Commissioner Thomas said, I second that.

Chairman Scott said, it's been properly moved and second. Any discussion? Hearing none, all in favor indicate by voting yes, opposed no. Sheriff you have the SUV's.

County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, I also want to clarify the record. It's also the transport buses too, sir.

Chairman Scott said, yes. The transport buses. Okay.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

- a. Commissioner Center moved to remove the item, purchasing items P and S from the Board meeting of May 10, 2013 from the table. Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion and it carried in an 8-1 vote. Chairman Scott and Commissioners Stone, Holmes, Center, Farrell, Brady, Kicklighter and Thomas voted yes. Commissioner Shabazz voted no.
- b. Commissioner Kicklighter voted to approve the Purchasing Items P and S. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried in an 8-1 vote. Chairman Scott and Commissioners Stone, Holmes, Center, Farrell, Brady, Kicklighter and Thomas voted yes. Commissioner Shabazz voted no.

AGENDA ITEM: VII-2

AGENDA DATE: May 24, 2013



Interoffice Memorandum

TO: Board of Commissioners
THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager
FROM: Michael Kaigler, Assistant County Manager

At the May 13th Budget Workshop, the Board raised the issue about whether or not the County included the Dodge Charger in its request for pricing for cars for the Sheriff's Department. Purchasing staff requested pricing for the Ford Interceptor (Taurus) and the Chevrolet Caprice. This was done based on testing of several vehicles to determine which would be better suited for the fleet.

As background, the Ford Crown Victoria was the standard police vehicle used by most law enforcement agencies. When it was confirmed that Ford would discontinue production of the Crown Victoria, the County's fleet management, along with representatives from the Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Police Department conducted tests of the Dodge Charger, Ford Interceptor and Chevrolet Caprice. All three vehicles were designed specifically to be used as a police vehicle. Based on the results, the Chevy Caprice was the vehicle best suited for our needs. The Ford Interceptor was second best, and the Dodge Charger came in last.

The issues staff noted with the Dodge Charger were the high maintenance cost when used in inner city operation (stop and go traffic), and a lower safety rating that may impact officers' safety in a collision. While the Chevrolet Caprice was identified as the vehicle best suited for our application, demand for this vehicle has pushed the potential delivery date to sometime after the first of the year 2014. Based on the extremely long delivery date, both the City and County staff have chosen the Chevrolet Tahoe as an alternative.

ITEM P

ISSUE: Request Board approval of a \$159,948 contract to Alliance Bus Group, Inc., to provide two (2) inmate transport buses for the Detention Center.

BACKGROUND: Currently, inmates are transported between the Detention Center and the Courthouse by the use of passenger vans and marked units (sedans). Each vehicle requires the manpower of two (2) deputies, one (1) driver and one (1) as a guard. On an average day, four (4) vans may be used along with two (2) marked units. Providing transport in this manner impacts vehicle and manpower costs. The majority of the vans being used at this time have reached, or are quickly approaching the time for replacement. With the purchase of these two (2) buses, we will be able to retire four (4) of the outdated 13 passenger vans.

Each day, the number of vehicles necessary for transport is based on the number of inmates scheduled for court, inmate gender, and various segregation orders. The inmate population must be segregated during transport for the following; male and female separation, gang affiliated inmates, separations due to essential medical obligations and special security requirements.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. These customized buses will have several important features; (1) the capacity to handle 22-23 passengers each, (2) the ability to reconfigure the space based on the segregation needs of the day, (3) the increased capacity reduces the daily vehicle costs, and (4) the reduction in the number of officers needed daily.
2. Proposals were solicited and two (2) proposals were received on April 25, 2013. Proposals were received from the following:

Alliance Bus Group, Inc. College Park, GA	
National Bus Sales Marietta, GA	Non-responsive
3. National Bus Sales was deemed non-responsive due to the fact they did not acknowledge revised specifications issued by addendum, which were critical to the usefulness of the vehicles.
4. The savings due to the reduction of vehicles will positively impact our vehicle maintenance, fuel and manpower costs. The reduction in manpower needed for transport increases the number of officers available to better serve the security of our facility.
5. Staff has negotiated a final scope of services and fee with Alliance Bus Group, Inc., Staff believes the fee proposed by Alliance Bus Group, Inc., to be fair and reasonable and within budget.

FUNDING: General Fund/M&O - Detention Center
(1003326 - 54.22001)

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of a \$159,948 contract to Alliance Bus Group, Inc., to provide two (2) inmate transport buses for the Detention Center.
2. Provide staff other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS: It is consistent with Board policy to approve vehicle purchases necessary for the operation of the Detention Center.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends the approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
RUSHEDA ADESHINA

ITEM S

ISSUE: Request Board approval of a \$382,427 purchase from the State of Georgia contract for 15 Chevrolet Tahoes for the Sheriff's Office and Detention Center.

BACKGROUND: In an effort to reduce the overall financial request for FY 2013/2014, the Sheriff has proposed using funds available within the current FY 2012/2013 budget. Due to various reasons, significant savings have been realized in the areas of health care and food costs. Additional savings have been realized within the utilities account because of the milder weather experienced for the past nine months. With these budget savings, these vehicles can be purchased now, thus reducing the need within the 13/14 budget. We will continue the trend of purchasing 2013 Chevrolet Tahoe police package vehicles.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. These vehicles will be purchased through the State contract with Hardy Chevrolet at \$25,495.16 per vehicle utilizing the 3.5% discount for payment within 20 days.
2. The local vendor was contacted and declined to match the contract price.

FUNDING: •General Fund/M&O - Detention Center
(1003326 - 54.22001) \$254,951.60 - 10 vehicles
•General Fund/M&O - Sheriff
(1003300 - 54.22001) \$127,475.80 - 5 vehicles

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of a \$382,427 purchase from the State of Georgia contract for 15 Chevrolet Tahoes for the Sheriff's Office and Detention Center.
2. Provide staff other direction.

POLICY ALTERNATIVES: It is consistent with Board policy to purchase vehicles for law enforcement activities.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
 RUSHEDA ADESHINA

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3. **AMENDMENT TO THE CHATHAM COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION BOARD ORDINANCE TO ADD MEMBERS AND ALLOW ONLY MEMBERS OF THE JUDICIAL COMMUNITY TO REMAIN AS VOTING MEMBERS OF THE CRIMINAL INFORMATION BOARD. (NOTE: Awaiting written verification from the City of Savannah on financial situation. Also, the Clerk of Superior Court requests matter be tabled in order to provide additional information.)**

Item remained on the table. No action was taken.

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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 BUDGET AMENDMENTS AND TRANSFERS: 1) IN THE GENERAL FUND M&O: a) transfer \$100,000 from fuel contingency to the CAT Teleride budget, b) transfer \$40,000 from contingency to the CAT Teleride Budget, c) transfer \$25,000 from restricted contingency to the CAT Teleride budget, 2) in the SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT FUND: a) transfer \$16,000 from contingency to Public Works, b) transfer up to \$90,000 from the County Engineer's operating budget to Transfer Out to the CIP Fund, 3) in the CIP Fund: a) increase revenues \$89,350 for commissions received from the State of Georgia, b) increase the Tax Commissioner project \$89,350, c) increase revenues Transfer in From SSD up to \$90,000, d) increase the County Engineer project up to \$90,000, e) increase the McQueen's Trail project \$30,000, d) decrease CIP Fund M&O Contingency \$30,000, and 4) in the Water and Sewer fund appropriate \$73,370 net assets for the purchase of 400 radio controlled water meters.**

Chairman Scott said, Item IX on the agenda, page 5. Under the individual action items, Item 1 is to request approval of the following budget amendments and transfers: in the General Fund M&O: transfer \$100,000 from fuel contingency to the CAT Teleride budget, transfer \$40,000 from contingency to the CAT Teleride Budget, transfer \$25,000 from restricted contingency to the CAT Teleride budget; in the Special Service District Fund: transfer \$16,000 from contingency to Public Works, b) transfer \$90,000 from the County Engineering operating budget to Transfer Out to the CIP Fund; in the CIP Fund: increase revenues by \$89,350 for the commission to receive from the State of Georgia, increase the Tax Commissioner project -- project by \$89,350, increase the revenue Transfer in Fund SSD up to \$90,000, increase the County Engineering project up to \$90,000, e) increase the McQueen's Trail project \$30,000, and decrease the CIP Fund M&O Contingency by \$30,000; and 4) in the Water and Sewer fund appropriate \$73,370 net asset -- assets for the purchase of 400 radio controlled water meters.

Commissioner Farrell said, so moved.

Commissioner Holmes said, second.

Chairman Scott said, it's been properly moved and second. Any discussion?

Commissioner Center said, yes, sir, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Scott said, yes.

Commissioner Center said, it -- it -- I just wanted to --

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Center.

Commissioner Center said, I wanted to have explained to the public as it was explained to the Commissioners earlier that the CAT Teleride budget is not in addition to giving more money to CAT, but under federal regulations, the County solely funds the Teleride portion and CAT operates for us. So we're not giving more money to CAT, we're funding something that we're required to do if we want to continue to get federal funds.

Chairman Scott said, yes. We're -- we're funding the Teleride program. You're exactly right, Commissioner Center. Any further discussion? Hearing none, all in favor indicate by voting yes, opposed no. Motion carries.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Farrell moved to approve following budget amendments and transfers: 1) in the General Fund M&O: a) transfer \$100,000 from fuel contingency to the CAT Teleride budget, b) transfer \$40,000 from contingency to the CAT Teleride Budget, c) transfer \$25,000 from restricted contingency to the CAT Teleride budget, 2) in the Special Service District Fund: a) transfer \$16,000 from contingency to Public Works, b) transfer up to \$90,000 from the County Engineer's operating budget to Transfer Out to the CIP Fund, 3) in the CIP Fund: a) increase revenues \$89,350 for commissions received from the State of Georgia, b) increase the Tax Commissioner project \$89,350, c) increase revenues Transfer in From SSD up to \$90,000, d) increase the County Engineer project up to \$90,000, e) increase the McQueen's Trail project \$30,000, d) decrease CIP Fund M&O Contingency \$30,000, and 4) in the Water and Sewer fund appropriate \$73,370 net assets for the purchase of 400 radio controlled water meters. Commissioner Holmes seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM: IX-1

AGENDA DATE: May 24, 2013

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

ISSUE:

Request to approve following budget amendments and transfers: 1) in the General Fund M&O: a) transfer \$100,000 from fuel contingency to the CAT Teleride budget, b) transfer \$40,000 from contingency to the CAT Teleride Budget, c) transfer \$25,000 from restricted contingency to the CAT Teleride budget, 2) in the Special Service District Fund: a) transfer \$16,000 from contingency to Public Works, b) transfer up to \$90,000 from the County Engineer's operating budget to Transfer Out to the CIP Fund, 3) in the CIP Fund: a) increase revenues \$89,350 for commissions received from the State of Georgia, b) increase the Tax Commissioner project \$89,350, c) increase revenues Transfer in From SSD up to \$90,000, d) increase the County Engineer project up to \$90,000, e) increase the McQueen's Trail project \$30,000, d) decrease CIP Fund M&O Contingency \$30,000, and 4) in the Water and Sewer Fund appropriate \$73,370 net assets for the purchase of 400 radio controlled water meters.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. Additional funds are needed for CAT Teleride fuel and expanded services. The fuel expenditures have exceeded budget and the expenditures for expanded services are projected to exceed the budget by year-end. The requested action uses funds from the fuel contingency, restricted contingency and general contingency accounts to offset the shortfall.
2. The fencing at Cannon Field needs to be replaced. Approximately \$16,000 is needed to replace the fencing. A \$16,000 transfer from SSD contingency is requested to cover the expense. Correspondence and a resolution are attached (to the original staff memo in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file).
3. The Tax Commissioner has received \$89,350 in commission from the State of Georgia for tax years 2009, 2010 and 2011. The Tax Commissioner is requesting the funds be used for equipment needed to improve the efficiency of the Tax Commissioner's department. Correspondence and a resolution are attached (to the original staff memo in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file).

4. The Assistant County Engineer is requesting a transfer of up to \$90,000 from the County Engineer's operating budget to the CIP Fund for the Municipal Separate Stormwater Sewer System. Correspondence and a resolution are attached (to the original staff memo in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file).
5. The Public Works and Parks Director is requesting an appropriation of \$73,370 net assets for the purchase of 400 radio controlled water meters. The item is on the purchasing agenda for this meeting. A resolution is attached (to the original staff memo in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file).
6. The Public Works and Parks Director is also requesting \$30,000 for the McQueen's Trail Project. Immediate repair needs require that these funds be advanced from the CIP Fund - M&O Contingency account. Correspondence and a resolution are attached (to the original staff memo in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file).

FUNDING:

Funds are available in the General M&O, the Special Service District and the Water and Sewer funds. The budget amendment will establish funding in the CIP Fund.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. That the Board approve the following:

GENERAL FUND M&O

- a) Transfer \$100,000 from fuel contingency to the CAT Teleride budget.
- b) Transfer \$40,000 from contingency to the CAT Teleride budget.
- c) Transfer \$25,000 from restricted contingency to the CAT Teleride budget.

SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT

Transfer \$16,000 from contingency to Public Works for fencing at Cannon Field.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND

- a) Increase revenues \$89,350 commission on tax collections.
- b) Increase the Tax Commissioner project \$89,350.
- c) Increase revenues up to \$90,000 Transfer in From Special Service District Fund.
- d) Increase expenditures up to \$90,000 County Engineer CIP.
- e) Increase the McQueen's Trail project \$30,000.
- f) Decrease CIP Fund M&O Contingency \$30,000.

WATER AND SEWER FUND

Appropriate \$73,370 net assets for the purchase of 400 Radio Controlled Water Meters for the water system.

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: Estelle Brown

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2. TO HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE CHATHAM COUNTY FISCAL YEAR 2014 BUDGET AS REQUIRED BY STATE LAW.

Chairman Scott said, Item 2, and this is to hold a public hearing which we announced at the last meeting budget as required by State Law, and at this time I'm going to invite the audience, anyone in the audience. This hearing is being held in compliance with State law relative to the Chatham County proposed 2014 budget. We will be discussing the total budget with all the various funds. Information package showing the proposed budget for all funds are available at the front entrance. A list is being passed around asking for names and addresses for those who would like to make a presentation before the Commission. If you wish to do so, please sign up. The purpose of this is to document the public input and to verify solicitation for future audit purposes. We will start at the right of the room and -- and go by row. If you wish to speak, come to the podium, state your name, address. If you're representing an organization or a group, please so state what organization and what group you're representing. If any -- we have staff available to help pass out any written materials to the Commissioners. If you have any written material that you want us to have, if you would give it to staff, staff will get it to us. We also ask that you be brief and -- and -- and when I say brief and concise, we will allow five minutes. If need be we will extend that time if -- if warrant, and -- and since we have a number of people that may want to speak, if we have fewer than anticipated then maybe we can extend more time, let everyone have an equal chance to be heard. We want to make sure that we don't miss anybody who wants to make a comment. Have anyone signed up?

Mrs. DaVena Jordan said, good morning Mr. Chairman and Commissioners. My name is DaVena Jordan, I'm with AWOL, All Walks of Life, Incorporated. With me today I have Mr. Tony Jordan, our founder. He also is my husband. We do this -- or run the organization together, and also I have our arts and education director, Ms. Lakesha Green here today. We've provided a report for you all via email, and I think it should have been passed out before hand, along with a letter requesting level funding for AWOL youth development and vocational training programs that we provide.

Chairman Scott said, for the -- for the purpose of the public, would you explain to them what AWOL --

Mrs. Jordan said, yes, sir.

Chairman Scott said, and the type of programs that you're involved in.

Mrs. Jordan said, yes. AWOL is --

Chairman Scott said, we've got -- we've got your information that you sent us, but the public didn't get it.

Mrs. Jordan said, exactly. AWOL is an arts and technology program that provides vocational training for the youth in our community ages 12 to 18, some of them below that age in our theater and arts program. We also accept referrals from the Chatham County Juvenile Court, thereby keeping those kids most at risk off the streets during the hours most relevant to them, which would be after school and during those evening hours. Since we have to be brief today, I wanted to first thank -- thank the -- thank the Commission, thank the previous Commission for its continued support of our programs. We really, really appreciate it. Our interaction with the Chatham County Juvenile Court has been wonderful this year. We have several young people that have -- that we have had in program that we've kept out of trouble. We have also -- if you turn to -- do you all have this item in front of you, the letter and the report that was provided?

Commissioner Farrell said, yes.

Mrs. Jordan said, okay. Under the report, I think I want to turn the attention to what is to me the most important part of this, which is definitely keeping our kids that are most at risk. While we did serve 93 youth in total --

Commissioner Shabazz said, I don't have the letter.

Mrs. Jordan said, okay. This is -- we're going to hand those out right now for you. While they are passing that along, we served a total of 93 youth. Each one of these bullet items is what is documented in our memorandum of understanding with the Chatham County Commission. We have met and exceeded most of those goals, with special attention on our Juvenile Court participation. We have a total of 15 youth that were -- that we were able to deter from getting into more trouble once referred to our program. Now the total cost savings for that is a total of \$952,000 because the cost to incarcerate one youth for a total of one year is about \$63,000 per year. So that we want to thank you because you were a part of making that a possibility and a reality for our organization, and especially this community's most greatest natural resource, which is our young people. So I -- I definitely wanted to explain who we are, what we did, and go over the report, and definitely put in that we were asking for level funding at \$50,000, which is what we had last -- in last year's contract but also wanted to give you an opportunity to ask us any questions, pose any comments towards us while we have all of our staff here today for you.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Center and then Commissioner Shabazz.

Commissioner Center said, good morning.

Mrs. Jordan said, good morning.

Commissioner Center said, do you also receive funding from the City of Savannah Cultural Affairs division?

Mrs. Jordan said, yes, we do. We receive -- we receive a small amount of arts presentation funding from the Cultural Affairs department totaling \$7,000 for a separate project.

Commissioner Center said, that -- that -- do you have to go year by year and ask for that?

Mrs. Jordan said, yes. Yes, sir.

Commissioner Center said, thank you.

Mrs. Jordan said, you're welcome.

Chairman Scott said, anything else Commissioner Center?

Commissioner Center said, no, sir.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Shabazz.

Commissioner Shabazz said, how -- how -- how long have you all been in existence?

Mrs. Jordan said, AWOL was founded on the campus of Savannah State University in 1997. We became incorporated as a formal non-profit here in the community in 2004 and have been operating as a non-profit providing these services to the community's young people since then.

Commissioner Shabazz said, what -- what's your mission statement?

Mrs. Jordan said, our mission is to promote and provide self-awareness through the use of poetry, hip hop, and life. So on the front while it's a lot of art going on, we are also monitoring young people's grades. We're monitoring their home life and making sure that they're on the right track to become productive citizens. For instance something that I would like to highlight is that last year we had a young man, that wasn't able to come -- he wasn't able to come today. He's working on his GED, but referrals from the Juvenile Court system don't just stay with us for the duration of their probation. Oftentimes our program has had a 50 percent success rate in retaining those young people beyond that time. So for instance, we had a young man that was referred last year. He completed the program. He is still in program with us, so we are still providing that service to him and making sure that he gets on track. As a matter of fact, he's going to be completing his GED program and going into the military this summer.

Commissioner Shabazz said, how many -- how many years has the county -- Chatham County Commission funded your -- your organization?

Mrs. Jordan said, this -- this will be -- this will be our fourth year.

Commissioner Shabazz said, the fourth year.

Mrs. Jordan said, mm-hmm.

Commissioner Shabazz said, do you have a component of rehabilitation for the youth who are -- may have been incarcerated?

Mrs. Jordan said, oh yes, definitely. We have some that do come back into the community come to our program. We don't have a formal relationship set up like we have a documented referral system for those that we are trying to prevent and intervene in their life, but those returning to the community, although we don't have a formal process for that, oftentimes, because probation officers are aware of our program, they will refer them back to us to get involved. And I'll let Mr. Jordan speak to that because he has more of the juvenile background.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay. Also dealing with high school drop outs or those students that have dropped out of school?

Mr. Tony Jordan said, good -- good morning -- good afternoon to everybody. In terms of high school dropouts, one of the requirements based on our agreement with Chatham Juvenile Court is that if the kid is already in school, then, you know, they just stay the course in terms of staying in school, but if they're not, one of the requirements is that they at least enter into some type of vocational, educational setting, and lucky through a partnership that we have that's providing GED services for our -- that's assisting AWOL in providing those services for our kids.

Commissioner Shabazz said, any of the -- any of the participants in your program, any of the youth, have they gone on to become professional entertainers or athletes or whatever?

Mr. Jordan said, do you want to speak to that?

Mrs. Jordan said, I'll let Ms. Green speak to that.

Ms. Lakesha Green said, hi, I'm Lakesha Green. I serve as the theater arts director as well. I'm very excited one -- one of my students that is at one of my alma maters, Alabama State University, just received an internship at Walt Disney for the fall coming up, and she's on a full scholarship as well. We have two more students that are at Alabama State in theater arts, and without AWOL they wouldn't have known that they had these abilities and these talents, so I'm very proud to report that.

Commissioner Shabazz said, and as I understand it, you all have a -- you put on some type of production to highlight the accomplishments of the participants of your program?

Ms. Green said, correct.

Commissioner Shabazz said, how many times a year do you do it?

Ms. Green said, that production we take students in in September and the production for next year is February the 14th and 15th at the Johnny Mercer Theater.

Commissioner Shabazz said, why do you call it All Walks of Life?

Ms. Green said, because we truly deal with all walks of life.

Mrs. Jordan said, all walks of life.

Ms. Green said, not only do we deal with kids that are referred but we also deal with kids that come from two-parent homes, that come from single parent homes, all walks of life. It doesn't matter when -- the most beautiful thing of what we do is when all these kids get together who are able to share a very common ground through poetry, hip-hop, life.

Mr. Tony Jordan said, and if I could just add to that. Initially, I was inspired -- as a young kid I attended a organization -- well I actually participated in this program called City Year, and City Year is based out of Boston and it's really -- it inspired me to actually do AWOL. And basically my role in City Year was to be a community servant. I worked in a housing project with kids but my team consisted of people from all walks of life. So the inspiration really comes from my personal experience as to why it was important to actually start a organization like that. As she stated earlier, I know she touched on single parents, but we've had kids who actually from a socioeconomic status from Savannah Country Day to a kid that's actually pursuing a GED program at Savannah Technical College, and our belief is that we -- if we mix the apples together with the right adult supervision, that we can get everybody on the right track in being successful citizens.

Commissioner Shabazz said, I want to make a comment for the last thing, you know, 'cause other Commissioners may have something to say, but I would like to say I -- I really appreciate you -- the work that you're doing, and one is because oftentimes people, in terms -- in terms of our youth, they look at the -- those who are -- come from households that are both parents and they're doing well, but it seems to -- it seems as though to me you're going after the least among the youth, and -- and -- and we have to deal with the least, as well as the greatest among us.

Mr. Jordan said, oh, totally.

Commissioner Shabazz said, and I appreciate you all for doing that. Thank you.

Chairman Scott said, any further questions of AWOL?

Commissioner Center said, Mr. Chairman, if I -- what level of fundings have we done in the past three or four years? Do you know, Mr. Abolt?

County Manager Abolt said, Ms. Cramer. I think it's gone from 25,000 up. I'll defer to Ms. Cramer, please.

Assistant County Manager Linda Cramer said, good morning. I think the first two years we did a \$25,000 service contract, and then this past year it was 50,000.

Mrs. Jordan said, and also with that -- with that increase we had our numbers were also doubled in the contract to constitute the -- the raise in the funding. So we doubled the amount of kids that were being served from the previous contract.

Chairman Scott said, okay.

Mrs. Jordan said, also, the last thing, attached you will see an invitation to one of the -- I was very pleased of your -- your presentation with your parks and rec. Parks and recreation is a very important department that you serve because also the AWOL kids will be at Lake Mayer this June on the 15th, they will have an album release party -- I'm sorry, June 14th, from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m., and you're welcome to come out and enjoy that time with their families and see the work that they've worked on and created over the past year. Also you have attached is a photograph of some of the kids from the actual theater production. One of the things I wanted to close with before I take anymore questions, in terms of education and vocational training, we are definitely -- AWOL is kind of a -- in our strategic planning this year our Board has decided that we focus more on our media production programs. Those programs are probably generating the most revenue, and I'm sure you all know and you've have heard about our bustling film industry here in the -- in the Savannah area. We're doing a lot of heavy training with our kids teaching them on industry standard equipment and tools so that they can become a part of our own local arts economy. So we met with some of the folks at Madden Studios and some of the other studios that are up and coming about providing some more internships and opportunities for those kids to get involved in some of the film and media production and technical production fields here in the city.

Chairman Scott said, okay. No further questions. Thank you.

Mrs. Jordan said, than you.

Chairman Scott said, All right. Al Lipsey signed up and he left the room. Maybe he signed up by mistake. I don't know. Teinique Gadson.

Ms. Teinique Gadson said, good morning, Mr. Chairman, Commissioners. My name is Tanequa Gadson and I bring you greetings from the Neighborhood Improvement Association. We are a non-profit social service agency here where our mission is to promote positive change in individuals, families and community

circumstances by improving the physical, economic and social conditions of the community. In order -- in order to promote this mission, we have concentrated on several programs, one of them being affordable housing services and the manner -- and the manner in which we provide a free eight-hour course for interested first time home buyers to gain the knowledge for the home buying process, everything from understanding their credit to the closing process. This account -- this class allows individuals to gain awareness of what to be expected in the process and what they can look forward to once they obtain the American dream of home ownership.

Ms. Gadson said, through our partnership with the City of Savannah we have been able to produce housing units -- units in the community that are decent, affordable and high quality. Individuals and families have the opportunity to use the information from our first-time home buyer education class to apply for down payment assistance through the City of Savannah's dream maker program or through the State of Georgia, Georgia Dreams Funds. In 2012 we were able to provide 138 individuals with first time home buyer certificates which resulted in \$103,000 for down payment assistance and \$339,000 of home sales. We also built four affordable housing units selling three of them with the value of \$441,560.

Ms. Gadson said, our other concentrated program is our volunteer income tax assistance program, which is our free income tax preparation to this community. Through IRS-trained volunteers we are able to apply tax laws, rules and regulations and file an appropriate tax returns for individuals in this community free of charge. In 2012 we opened and facilitated 16 vita sites throughout the Chatham County. We assisted 4,475 individuals with tax preparation services, which resulted in a savings to the community of \$1 million -- \$1.3 million in tax preparation fees. Our services also brought back 7.3 million in federal funds and 3.4 millions in earned income tax credit, which is considered the tax credit for the low to moderate income individual which is also sometimes considered a boost for poverty. We understand that even though as county administrators you face the challenge of making sure the return on investment for non-profit services are -- not only speaks value but demonstrates its capacity to provide adequate and valuable services. Therefore, we're asking for your assistance for first-time funding and general operation support of \$10,000 to help us continue providing these free services to residents of this county as we continue to promote economic self-sufficiency for the individuals and families in this community. Any questions?

Chairman Scott said, any questions?

Commissioner Shabazz said, yes.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Shabazz.

Commissioner Shabazz said, what's the history of NIA?

Ms. Gadson said, we were incorporated in 1989. We've been here in Savannah as a community organization -- community housing development organization. We had mainly started doing affordable housing with the City of Savannah, and then we branched off providing asset development services in 2001.

Commissioner Shabazz said, is this any -- any connection to the Youth Futures?

Ms. Gadson said, no, sir.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay. Was Dr. Johnson --

Ms. Gadson said, he founded the agency, yes, sir.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay. And it -- it was intended to --

Ms. Gadson said, it was intended to -- the intention was to provide affordable housing development and economic self-sufficiency programs.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay. And you're now the?

Ms. Gadson said, executive director.

Commissioner Shabazz said, executive director.

Ms. Gadson said, yes, sir.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay. That's very good.

Commissioner Holmes said, Ms. Gadson, your request is what?

Ms. Gadson said, \$10,000.

Chairman Scott said, okay. Any further questions? If not, thank you so much.

Ms. Gadson said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, is there anyone else in the room who would like to speak that has not signed up?

Commissioner Thomas said, I didn't sign up, Mr. Chairman, but I would like to make a statement. I didn't see the paper to -- to -- I didn't get the paper to sign up.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Thomas.

Commissioner Thomas said, just very briefly. Just want to indicate that -- and I apologize --

Chairman Scott said, please --

Commissioner Thomas said, I apologize for the Chatham County Youth Commission not being able to be here today. The person that was supposed to have brought a report to this Commission, we had an emergency, and, therefore, we were unable to make amends for that in addition to the other -- Summer Bonanza program. However, if this Commission would allow us to provide that information to you at a later date, I would appreciate it.

Chairman Scott said, okay. Any one else? If not, thank -- thank you all who participated in the public hearing portion. Now item 3 --

County Attorney Hart said, we're closing the public hearing, correct? You're closing the public hearing?

Chairman Scott said, yes. Before we move to Item 3, the public hearing is now closed. Okay?

AGENDA ITEM: IX-2
AGENDA DATE: May 24, 2013

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

ISSUE:

To hold a Public Hearing on the Chatham County Fiscal Year 2014 budget as required by State Law.

BACKGROUND:

State law requires that Chatham County follow certain steps in its budget process prior to adopting an annual budget (O.C.G.A. Code Section 36-81-5). The County should provide its residents with information concerning the proposed budget and allow its citizens to be heard during a public budget hearing held at least one week prior to the adoption of a budget ordinance or resolution.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. A Public Hearing was advertised on May 10, 2013 in the *Savannah Morning News* to be held at 9:30 a.m., on Friday, May 24, 2013.
2. Copies of the proposed budget were made available to the public in the Finance Department and the main branch of the Live Oak Public Library on the date the budget was presented to the Board, which was May 10, 2013. Copies of the proposed budget are available at all branches of the library.
3. On a date at least one week before adoption, Chatham County is required to hold a public meeting. The budget adoption must be advertised at least one week in advance.
4. The budget adoption was advertised on May 15, 2013 in the *Savannah Morning News* for Friday, June 28, 2013 budget adoption.
5. The budget for fiscal year 2014 covers the period July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014.
6. Potential speakers at public hearing may include representatives of SEDA, AWOL (All Walks of Life), Neighborhood Improvement Association, and the Coastal Regional Commission, as well as Susan Myers. Each has been informed of the date and time for the public hearing.

FUNDING:

N/A

ALTERNATIVES:

- (1) Proceed with the public hearing on May 24, 2013 and adopt the FY2014 budget on June 28, 2013.

- (2) Reschedule the hearing and adoption of the FY2014 budget and re-advertise within limits established by State Law.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

State Law requires that an annual budget be adopted by the Board, after advertising the dates of a public hearing, and budget adoption and allowing persons to appear and comment on the proposed budget in accordance with the Code Sections below.

Georgia Law 36-81-5(f)

“At least one week prior to the meeting of the governing authority at which adoption of the budget ordinance or resolution will be considered, the governing authority shall conduct a public hearing, at which time any persons wishing to be heard on the budget may appear.”

Georgia Law 36-81-6.

“On a date after the conclusion of the hearing required in subsection (f) of Code Section 36-81-5, the governing authority shall adopt a budget ordinance or resolution making appropriations in such sums as the governing authority may deem sufficient, whether greater or less than the sums presented in the proposed budget. The budget ordinance or resolution shall be adopted at a public meeting which shall be advertised in accordance with the procedures set forth in subsection (e) of Code Section 36-81-5 at least one week prior to the meeting.”

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board approve Alternative 1. Prepared by Read DeHaven

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3. TO PROVIDE INFORMATION ON THE SCHEDULE FOR ADOPTION OF THE TAX YEAR 2013 MILLAGE RATE, AND THE ADVERTISEMENTS AND PUBLIC HEARINGS REQUIRED BY STATE LAW.

Chairman Scott said, Item 3, this is to provide information on the schedule for adoption of the budget for tax year 2013 millage rate and also to provide information to the public as far as advertising and public hearings required by State Law.

County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, with your permission, just to explain this, this is just for information but this is part of the various milestones leading up to your final decision on the budget. You recall when I presented this document which is just a proposed document, I identified it as the ceiling and in effect we are proceeding on pegging any decision on that ceiling or variation therefrom. What would be required would be advertisements in advance in the local press to hold two -- three public hearings, the first would be on the 20th of June. It would be at 9:30 in the morning, and then there would be one that same day in the evening at 6:00. The meeting place would be this Commission chambers. And then in conjunction with your final meeting of the fiscal year, you'd hold your third public hearing on the millage levy on the 28th day of June at 9:30. That would preserve all options for you relative to those variables you must consider before you adopt a budget. The only reason we bring it to your attention particularly for the new Commissioners is you'll be seeing these advertisements in the paper.

Chairman Scott said, yeah. Okay. And also the advertisement of the five-year history?

County Manager Abolt said, yes, sir. That's all part of it.

Chairman Scott said, yeah.

County Manager Abolt said, again some -- sometimes people look at the paper and -- and as your constituents and they may choose to call you and say what this is all about? And we -- we're giving you an advance notice on what this is all about.

Chairman Scott said, okay. Any questions or comments about the schedule that was just outlined by the County Manager? Hearing none, that's for informational purposes. No action is needed on that.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

For information only.

AGENDA ITEM: IX-3
AGENDA DATE: May 24, 2013

TO: Board of Commissioners

THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager

FROM: Linda Cramer, Assistant County Manager/Finance Director

ISSUE:

To provide information on the schedule for adoption of the tax year 2013 millage rate, and the advertisements and public hearings required by State Law.

BACKGROUND:

State law requires that Chatham County follow certain steps prior to adopting an annual millage rate (O.C.G.A. Code Sections 48-5-32 and 48-5-32.1). This includes advertisements and public hearings. The information below outlines the requirements and the schedule for the current year.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. O.C.G.A. Code Section 48-5-32 requires each levying authority to publish a report containing the digest information and the proposed millage rate for the current calendar year and the preceding five calendar years. This report shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation throughout the county. This report must appear at least two weeks prior to the establishment of the millage rates.
2. If the millage rate is not rolled back, the levying authority must notify the public that taxes are being increased. O.C.G.A. Code Section 48-5-32.1 requires three public hearings allowing public input into the proposed tax rates. One of the public hearings may coincide with the hearing required by O.C.G.A. 48-5-32 when the millage rate is finalized. One of the three public hearings must begin between 6:00 PM and 7:00 PM in the evening. The county must publish a notice in the paper and on its website one week in advance of each of the public hearings and issue a press release explaining its intent.
3. The county may adopt a millage rate below the advertised rate without additional advertisements or hearings. If a millage rate that exceeds the advertised rate is considered, the procedures and hearings must begin anew.
4. The Fiscal Year 2013/2014 Budget Adoption and Millage Levy Calendar sets the following key dates:

June 6, 2013	--	Advertisement of 5-year history and 1 st and 2 nd Public Hearings on Millage Levy to newspaper
June 13, 2013	--	Advertise 1 st and 2 nd Public Hearing on Millage Levy to be held on June 20 th at 9 ³⁰ a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Advertise year 2013 Tax Digest and 5-year history (two weeks prior to millage levy as required by State Law - House Bill 66, Act. No. 478). Board of Education adopts 2013 millage rate.
June 14, 2013	--	Year 2013 Tax Digest and 5-year history to Board as information.
June 20, 2013	--	Hold 1 st and 2 nd Public Hearing on Millage Levy -- 9:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Advertise 3 rd Public Hearing on Millage Levy to be held on June 28 th at 9:30 a.m.
June 28, 2013	--	(1) Hold 3 rd Public Hearing on Millage Levy at 9:30 a.m. (2) Adoption of year 2013 Chatham County M&O, SSD, and Chatham Area Transit Millage Levy by the County Commissioners .
July 12, 2013	--	Adoption of year 2013 Chatham County Board of Education Millage Levy by the County Commissioners.
5. Examples of the required Notice of Property Tax Increase and the accompany explanation are attached.

FUNDING:

N/A

ALTERNATIVES:

For information.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

State Law requires advertisements and public hearings on the proposed millage rates in accordance with the Code Sections below.

Georgia Law 48-5-32

(b) Each levying authority and each recommending authority shall cause a report to be published in a newspaper of general circulation throughout the county:

(2) At least two weeks prior to the establishment by each levying authority of the millage rates for ad valorem taxes for educational purposes and ad valorem taxes for purposes other than educational purposes for the current calendar year.

Such reports shall be in a prominent location in such newspaper and shall not be included with legal advertisements. The size and location of the advertisements shall not be grounds for contesting the validity of the levy.

(c) The reports required under subsection (b) of this Code section shall contain the following:

(1) For levying authorities, the assessed taxable value of all property, by class and in total, which is within the levying authority's taxing jurisdiction and the proposed millage rate for the levying authority's purposes for the current calendar year and such assessed taxable values and the millage rates for each of the immediately preceding five calendar years, as well as the proposed total dollar amount of ad valorem taxes to be levied for the levying authority's purposes for the current calendar year and the total dollar amount of ad valorem taxes levied for the levying authority's purposes for each of the immediately preceding five calendar years. The information required for each year specified in this paragraph shall also indicate the percentage increase and total dollar increase with respect to the immediately preceding calendar year. In the event the rate levied in the unincorporated area is different from the rate levied in the incorporated area, the report shall also indicate all required information with respect to the incorporated area, unincorporated area, and a combination of incorporated and unincorporated areas;

(3) The date, time, and place where by levying or recommending authority will be setting its millage rate for such authority's purposes.

Georgia Law 48-5-32.1

(c)(1) Whenever a recommending authority or levying authority shall propose to adopt a millage rate which does not exceed the roll-back rate, it shall adopt that millage rate at an advertised public meeting and at a time and place which is convenient to the taxpayers of the taxing jurisdiction, in accordance with the procedures specified under Code Section 48-5-32.

(2) In those instances in which the recommending authority or levying authority proposes to establish a general maintenance and operation millage rate which would require increases beyond the roll-back rate, the recommending authority or levying authority shall advertise its intent to do so and shall conduct at least three public hearings thereon, at least one of which shall commence between the hours of 6:00 P.M. and 7:00 P.M., inclusive, on a business weekday. The recommending authority or levying authority shall place an advertisement in a newspaper of general circulation serving the residents of the unit of local government and post such advertisement on the websites of the recommending or levying authority, which shall read as follows:

“NOTICE OF PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

The (name of recommending authority or levying authority) has tentatively adopted a millage rate which will require an increase in property taxes by (percentage increase over roll-back rate) percent.

All concerned citizens are invited to the public hearing on this tax increase to be held at (place of meeting) on (date and time).

Times and places of additional public hearings on this tax increase are at (place of meeting) on (date and time).

This tentative increase will result in a millage rate of (proposed millage rate) mills, an increase of (millage rate increase above the roll-back rate) mills. Without this tentative tax increase, the millage rate will be no more than (roll-back millage rate) mills. The proposed tax increase for a home with a fair market value of (average home value from previous year's digest rounded to the nearest \$25,000.00) is approximately \$(increase) and the proposed tax increase for nonhomestead property with a fair market value of (average nonhomestead property value from previous year's digest rounded to nearest \$25,000.00) is approximately \$ (increase).

Simultaneously with this notice the recommending authority or levying authority shall provide a press release to the local media.

(3) The advertisement shall appear at least one week prior to each hearing, be prominently displayed, be not less than 30 square inches, and not be placed in that section of the newspaper

where legal notices appear and shall be posted on the appropriate website at least one week prior to each hearing. In addition to the advertisement specified under this paragraph, the levying or recommending authority may include in the notice reasons or explanations for such tax increase.

(4) No recommending authority shall recommend and no levying authority shall levy a millage rate in excess of the proposed millage rate as established pursuant to paragraph (2) of this subsection without beginning anew the procedures and hearings required by this Code section and those required by Code Section 48-5-32.

(5) Any notice or hearing required under this Code section may be combined with any notice or hearing required under Article 1 of Chapter 81 of Title 36 or Code Section 48-5-32.

RECOMMENDATION:

For information.

Prepared by Read DeHaven

Attachment I

EXAMPLE

NOTICE OF PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

The Chatham County Board of Commissioners has tentatively adopted a millage rate which will require an increase in property taxes by 12.88 percent in General Maintenance and Operations taxes, 15.88 percent in Special Service District taxes and XXX percent in Chatham Area Transit Authority taxes.

All concerned citizens are invited to the two public hearings on this tax increase to be held at the Commission Meeting Room on the second floor of the Old Courthouse, 124 Bull Street, Savannah, Georgia, on June 20, 2013 at 9:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

A third public hearing on this tax increase will be held at the Commission Meeting Room on the second floor of the Old Courthouse, 124 Bull Street, Savannah, Georgia, on June 20, 2013 at 9:30 a.m.

This tentative increase will result in a General Maintenance and Operations millage rate of 12.54 mills, an increase of 1.43 mills. Without this tentative tax increase, the millage rate will be no more than 11.109 mills. The proposed tax increase for a home with a fair market value of \$100,000 is approximately \$40.00 and the proposed tax increase for nonhomestead property with a fair market value of \$200,000 is approximately \$98.00.*

This tentative increase will result in a Special Service District millage rate of 4.16 mills, an increase of .57 mills. Without this tentative tax increase, the millage rate will be no more than 3.59 mills. The proposed tax increase for a home with a fair market value of \$100,000 is approximately \$15.00 and the proposed tax increase for nonhomestead property with a fair market value of \$200,000 is approximately \$39.00.*

This tentative increase will result in a Chatham Area Transit Authority millage rate of XXX mills, an increase of XXX mills. Without this tentative tax increase, the millage rate will be no more than 0.859 mills. The proposed tax increase for a home with a fair market value of \$100,000 is approximately \$XXX and the proposed tax increase for nonhomestead property with a fair market value of \$200,000 is approximately \$XXX.*

Additional information concerning this advertisement is presented below.

*State law requires a calculation based on average home and property value. This information is pending from the Board of Assessors. The amounts shown above are for illustrative purposes.

Attachment II

EXAMPLE

EXPLANATION OF NOTICE OF PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

The "Notice of Property Tax Increase" must be written as presented to meet the requirements of Georgia law; however, it should be clarified that the Chatham County Board of Commissioners has not tentatively adopted a millage rate. Use of the phrase "tentatively adopted" applies only to the legal notice, since the Chatham County Board of Commissioners has not taken any action either "tentative" or otherwise on adopting a millage (tax) rate. The negative amounts shown in the ad are the result of a formula dictated by law.

The "Notice of Property Tax Increase" puts taxpayers on alert that the proposed increase cannot exceed this amount. No action will be taken until after the public hearings at the Old Courthouse, 124 Bull Street, Savannah, Georgia, on June 20, 2013 at 9:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. and June 28, 2013, at 9:30 a.m. If it is determined that these hearings are not required by state law, the Chatham County Board of

Commissioners may decide to cancel the unnecessary hearings and take action at their regularly scheduled meeting on June 28, 2013 at 9:30 a.m.

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4. BOARD CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST FOR VARIANCE FROM THE NOISE ORDINANCE TO ACCOMMODATE LIVE MUSIC AT COCOA'S DESSERT BAR, 4 WILMINGTON ISLAND ROAD, FOR JUNE 8, 2013, AND JUNE 22, 2013.

Chairman Scott said, now we're on Item 4 on -- on page 5 for Individual Action, and the Board is requested consideration of variance from the noise ordinance to accommodate live music at Cocoa's Dessert Bar, 4 Wilmington Island Road, for June 8, 2013 and June 22, 2013.

Commissioner Farrell said, so moved.

Commissioner Center said, second.

Chairman Scott said, it's been properly moved and second that we grant the variance. Hearing the motion, any discussion?

Commissioner Kicklighter said, is there anyone in the audience opposing this?

County Manager Abolt said, Ms. -- Ms. Snyder --

Chairman Scott said, is there anyone in opposition to it?

Commissioner Kicklighter said, anyone in opposition of this? Okay. Then -- then, let's vote.

Chairman Scott said, hearing the motion, any discussion? Hearing none, all in favor indicate by voting yes, opposed no.

Commissioner Thomas said, oh. Sorry.

Chairman Scott said, motion carries. It's my -- it's my understanding that this is located pretty close to Paula Deen, now, so if -- try not to wake her up.

County Manager Abolt said, or the chickens.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Farrell moved to approve the variance from the noise ordinance to accommodate live music at Cocoa's Dessert Bar, 4 Wilmington Island Road for June 8, 2013 and June 22, 2013. Commissioner Center seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM: IX-4
AGENDA DATE: May 24, 2013

TO: Board of Commissioners
THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager
FROM: Gregori S. Anderson, Director, Building Safety and Regulatory Services
SUBJECT: Cocoa's Dessert Bar, 4 Wilmington Island Road

ISSUE:

Request for variance from the noise ordinance to accommodate live music at Cocoa's Dessert Bar, 4 Wilmington Island Road for June 8, 2013 and June 22, 2013.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The subject establishment has a valid tax certificate for live entertainment, alcoholic beverage license, Sunday sales and tax certificate for a restaurant.
2. The Chatham County Noise Ordinance limits sound in business zoning districts to sixty-five (65) decibels at all times of the day or night.

3. The submitted request is to obtain a variance to allow ninety (90) decibels on June 8, 2013 and June 22, 2013 from 6:00 PM - 11:00 PM and from 5:00 PM - 11:00 PM respectively (see attached (to the original staff memo in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file).
4. The ordinance allows the issuance of a variance to create noise levels above the allowed level by the Chatham County Commission.
5. The variance is allowed for a temporary duration, for a specific date and time.
6. Applicant advised to be present.

FUNDING:

Not applicable.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve variance request for June 8, 2013 and June 22, 2013.
2. Disapprove variance request.

RECOMMENDATION:

Board consideration.

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5. CNT MONTHLY REPORT GIVEN VERBALLY BY DIRECTOR RAGAN.

Chairman Scott said, Item 5, CNT monthly report. Director Ragan.

CNT Director D. Everett Ragan said, good morning Mr. Chairman. Good morning Commissioners. The month of April -- and I do apologize for not being here last month, but I was able to watch it on television, and my deputy director did -- did carry on with -- with -- with great success. And that's part of our success at CNT is having -- having people that can step forward and we don't -- we don't lose a stride when -- when they step forward, so. During the month of April we initiated 79 drug investigations. We had some agency assists where -- certainly were worth mentioning. Tybee Orange Crush spent 118 hours down there for Orange Crush weekend -- weekend with some of our agents undercover and made 80 arrests down there. Had some -- one on the 16th we did a large quantity of crack and powder cocaine. We assisted U.S. Marshals in an arrest and there were some murder suspects, got them. We picked up almost a quarter pound of cocaine out of -- out of that deal.

Director Ragan said, so far year to date we have recovered over \$930,000 worth of drugs that we've gotten so far. The -- five firearms we recovered in the month of April. We've got 27 so far for the month [sic]. Thirty people were arrest [sic]. Month of April was a --a training month for us. Had a lot of people in training. We've had some -- some more training this month, particularly on meth investigations. Free training out of Meridian, Mississippi, meth investigations; technical training out of FLETC, and the wire tap training. So we spent a lot of training in the month of April. We assigned 24 -- excuse me 143 drug complaints so far for the year, and we've closed 139 of those. If you notice last month's -- last month's monthly report you noticed this -- these pages showing up. This is actually a -- what we prepare. We attend meetings with Metro every week there crime -- there com stat meetings we attend. We prepare a report for the precincts. I had it incorporated -- that we could -- we could incorporate this report with the Commission Districts and the City Council Districts so if your constituents had questions or brought up a house or mentioned a house to you or something that was going on in their neighborhoods, you can refer back to -- to these and indicate what CNT has done in your neighborhoods. So we prepare it every week for com stat, so we just thought we would pass the information on -- on to the Commission and to the City Council.

Director Ragan said, again you -- you always you see every month our hours that we expend in the City and the hours expended in the precincts, so -- and that really hasn't changed a whole lot. Let me see, earlier I had -- Chief Lyons was here. He was -- he's our vice chairman of the Drug Advisory Board. He apparently had to leave but he -- he wants to make an appearance every once in while but apparently he had to leave. Garden City is a very strong supporter of CNT. Any questions?

Commissioner Kicklighter said, no, sir. Thank you.

Director Ragan said, you're welcome.

Chairman Scott said, thank you Director Ragan. We appreciate that. And I like that addition to the report looking at that. That -- that's helpful.

Director Ragan said, yes, sir.

Chairman Scott said, thank you.

Director Ragan said, yes, sir.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

For information only.

AGENDA ITEM: IX-4

AGENDA DATE: May 24, 2013

**Chatham~Savannah
Counter Narcotics Team
April, 2013**

NARCOTICS INVESTIGATIONS

Investigations Initiated During the month	79
Total Number of Investigations Cleared (Arrest, E.C., Unfounded)	45

AGENCY ASSISTS

Date	Agency	Hours
4/5/13	Port Wentworth PD—suspected indoor marijuana grow	4
4/13/13	TYBEE PD—Orange Crush	118
4/16/13	US Marshalls—drugs found, assisted with search warrant	12
4/16/13	SCMPD found large quantity of crack and powder cocaine, search warrant	14
4/25/13	SCMPD located outdoor marijuana grow	4

DRUGS SEIZED

Drug Type	Value	Approx. Weight	Approx. Total Value
Powder Cocaine	\$100 per gram*	117 Grams	\$11,700.00
Crack Cocaine	\$100 per gram*	1,124.20 Grams	\$112,420.00
Methamphetamine	\$100 per gram**	793.6 Grams	\$79,360.00
Marijuana	\$140 per ounce*	299 Ounces	\$41,860.00
Heroin	\$250 per gram*	0 Grams	\$.00
Ecstasy	\$25 Dosage Unit	106 D/U	\$2,650.00
Misc. Pills	\$30 Dosage Unit	191 D/U	\$5,730.00
Hallucinogens	\$10.00 per gram *	0 Grams	\$.00
Synthetic (Steroids)	\$10.00 per ml *	0 ml	\$.00
Synthetic Marijuana	\$25.00 per gram*	15 Grams	\$375.00

1999*Source: Office National Drug Control Policy

** Source: Established regional average price

***Source: IAW National Drug Standards – One marijuana plant equals 2 pounds of processed marijuana

DRUGS SEIZED—YEAR TO DATE

Drug Type	Approx. Weight	Approx. Total Value
Powder Cocaine	1,194.5 Grams	\$119,450.00
Crack Cocaine	1,247.5 Grams	\$124,750.00
Methamphetamine	851.3 Grams	\$85,130.00
Marijuana	2,252.19 Ounces	\$315,307.00
Heroin	1,035 Grams	\$253,250.00
Ecstasy	107 D/U	\$2,675.00
Misc. Pills	981 D/U	\$29,430.00
Hallucinogens	0 Grams	\$.00
Synthetic Marijuana	15 Grams	\$375.00
Total Value		\$930,367.00

DRUGS PURCHASED

Drug Type	Value	Approx. Weight	Approx. Total Value
Powder Cocaine	\$100 per gram*	7.90 Grams	\$790.00
Crack Cocaine	\$100 per gram*	2.30 Grams	\$230.00
Methamphetamine	\$100 per gram**	78.60 Grams	\$7,860.00
Marijuana	\$140 per ounce*	1.26 Ounces	\$176.00
Heroin	\$250 per gram*	.70 Grams	\$175.00
Ecstasy	\$25 Dosage Unit	31 D/U	\$775.00

Misc. Pills	\$30 Dosage Unit	34 D/U	\$1,020.00
Synthetic Marijuana	\$25 per gram	9 Grams	\$225.00

Source: Office National Drug Control Policy
 ** Source: Established regional average price

WEAPONS SEIZED	
Firearms (including hand guns and long guns)	5
Year To Date Totals	27

PERSONS ARRESTED	
Felony*	6
Felony Sales/Trafficking	16
Misdemeanor	5
Felony Non-Drug**	3
Total Arrests	30
Year To Date Totals	159

*Felony includes Manufacturing Methamphetamine or Marijuana
 **Non-drug related offenses include firearms violations, Obstruction, Simple Battery, etc.

ADOPTION CASES FROM OTHER AGENCIES		
DATE	AGENCY	OFFENSE
4/16/13	SCMPD	TRAFFICKING COCAINE
4/24/13	SCMPD	POSS OF MARIJUANA W/INTENT TO DIST

DRUG COMPLAINTS INVESTIGATED		
Drug Complaints	Received	Assigned
Project Log/Official Complaints	1	1
Hot Line / Call-In Complaints	5	5
Police Intel/ Outside Agencies	8	8
Crime Stopper Complaints	24	24
DRUG COMPLAINTS—YEAR TO DATE	143	13

**Weekly Activity of Search Warrants, Arrests, Drug Complaint
Noted by City and County Districts**

MARCH 31 -APRIL 06 2013						
Search Warrant / Consented Search						County District
Type	Date	Area	Location	Type/Quantity Drugs Involved	# Arrest/Type	
S.W.	6-Apr-13	PCT 3	5500 MONTGOMERY ST#B	Crack 3.0 g / Crack 0.4 g	1 Adult	5
Adoption / Agency Assist						
Type	Date	Area	Location	Type/Quantity Drugs Involved	# Arrest/Type	
Assist	5-Apr-13	P.W.	113 Aberfieldy	Possible Marijuana Grow	0 ADULT No Arrest	8
Arrest						
Area	Date		Location	Name	Charge	
PCT 2	31-Mar-13	MISD	ST. JULIAN ST / JEFFERSON ST	WOOLFORD, AL-LYN	OBSTRUCTION	3
PCT 1	1-Apr-13	FEL	HWY 204 /I-95	PETREA, WHITLEY	SALE OF MARIJUANA	5
PCT 1	2-Apr-13	MISD	145 RAYMOND ST	USSERY, ROBERT	PROBATION VIOLATION	7
PCT 3	3-Apr-13	FEL	30 W. DERENNE AVE	MOORE, CHARLES	SALE OF MARIJUANA	5
PCT 1	3-Apr-13	FEL	HWY 17 / BERWICK BLVD	SMITH, JEREMY	SALE OF MARIJUANA	7
PCT 2	3-Apr-13	FEL	302 W. BOUNDARY ST	SAMBAR, NATHAN	SALE OF MARIJUANA	3
PCT 3	3-Apr-13	MISD	W 53RD ST / BULL ST Juvenile		TERRORISTIC THREATS / POS FIREARM	1
PCT 3	6-Apr-13	FEL	5500 MONTGOMERY ST APT B	LOFTON, TERRENCE	POSS OF C/S (CRACK)	5
Drug Complaints						
Date Rec	Assigned		Location	Assigned To	Type	
2-Apr-13	2-Apr-13		W 38TH ST	NOT ASSIGNED/ NO ADDRESS	CRIMESTOPPERS	3
2-Apr-13	2-Apr-13		W 57TH ST	MERCER	CRIMESTOPPERS	5
3-Apr-13	3-Apr-13		ELLABELL	NOT ASSIGNED/ UNKNOWN ADDRESS	CRIMESTOPPERS	
5-Apr-13	8-Apr-13		FRENCH RUN	SCMPD	CRIMESTOPPERS	3
5-Apr-13	8-Apr-13		LOVE ST	NOT ASSIGNED	CRIMESTOPPERS	8
5-Apr-13	8-Apr-13		LOVE ST	TYLER	CRIMESTOPPERS	8

APRIL 07 -APRIL13 2013						
Search Warrant / Consented Search						County District
Type	Date	Area	Location	Type/Quantity Drugs Involved	# Arrest/Type	
			N/A			
Adoption / Agency Assist						
Type	Date	Area	Location	Type/Quantity Drugs Involved	# Arrest/Type	
ADOP T	12-Apr-13	PCT 1	I-16 / I-516	Cocaine 11g, Marij 25g, 1 gun	0 ADULT No Arrest	8
Arrest						
Area	Date	Fel /Misd	Location	Name	Charge	
R.H.	11-Apr-13	MISD	4005 HWY17 (RICHMOND HILL)	HEALY, RAMONIA	SALE OF C/S (OXYCODONE)	
PCT 1	12-Apr-13	FEL	I-16 / I-516	THORPE, GEORGE	POSS W/ INTENT (COCAINE)	8
PCT 3	12-Apr-13	MISD	5353 REYNOLDS ST	THOMAS, LAKESHA	OBTAIN C/S BY FRAUD	1
TYBEE IS	13-Apr-13	MISD	16TH ST / STRAND (TYBEE IS)	EVANS, RICHARD JAMES	POSS OF MARIJUANA LESS 1OZ	4
TYBEE IS	13-Apr-13	MISD	TYBRISIA / STRAND (TYBEE IS)	EPPINGER, KENYAN	POSS OF MARIJUANA LESS 1OZ	4
TYBEE IS	13-Apr-13	FEL	17TH ST / STRAND (TYBEE IS)	CLARY III, TYRONE BERNARD	POSS OF C/S (ECSTASY)	4
TYBEE IS	13-Apr-13	MISD	BUTLER AVE / STRAND (TYBEE IS)	WALSH, ROBERT	DISORDERLY CONDUCT	4
TYBEE IS	13-Apr-13	MISD	TYBRISIA / STRAND (TYBEE IS)	BROWN, ERIC SAMUEL DAVID	POSS OF MARIJUANA LESS 1OZ	4
TYBEE IS	13-Apr-13	FEL	TYBRISIA / STRAND (TYBEE IS)	HALL, STEVEN ROMELL	POSS OF C/S ECSTASY	4
TYBEE IS	13-Apr-13	MISD	TYBRISIA / STRAND (TYBEE IS)	BROOKS III, JOHN HENRY	POSS OF MARIJUANA LESS 1OZ	4
TYBEE IS	13-Apr-13	MISD	TYBRISIA / STRAND (TYBEE IS)	THOMKINS, CHRISTOPHER	POSS OF MARIJUANA LESS 1OZ	4
Drug Complaints						
Date Rec	Assigned		Location	Assigned To	Type	
12-Apr13	12-Apr13		PLANTATION APTS	(No Name or Address)	CALL-IN	8
12-Apr13	12-Apr13		WHEATHILL RD #1012	ABLE	CALL-IN	8
12-Apr13	12-Apr13		NORWOOD AVE	DAY	CRIMESTOPPERS	1
12-Apr13	12-Apr13		BONAVENTURE RD	BERGER	CRIMESTOPPERS	3
12-Apr13	12-Apr13		W 54TH ST	BURNS	CRIMESTOPPERS	5

APRIL 14 -APRIL20 2013						
Search Warrant / Consented Search						County District
Type	Date	Area	Location	Type/Quantity Drugs Involved	# Arrest/Type	
Adoption(A) / Agency Assist(AA)						
Type	Date	Area	Location	Type/Quantity Drugs Involved	# Arrest/Type	
(A)Fed Mar	16-Apr-13	PCT 4	6703 ABERCORN ST #233	1.2g Coc, 1.1.g Meth, 40X, 42Rx	1 Adult	1
(A) SCMPD	16-Apr-13	PCT 1	70 EAGLE ST #104	1.1lbs Crack, 1.6gm meth, 7.6gm Maj	1 Adult	8
Arrest						
Area	Date	Fel /Misd	Location	Name	Charge	
PCT 2	16-Apr-13	FEL	70 EAGLE ST	COPELAND, TECHINA	TRAFFICKING COCAINE	8
PCT 1	19-Apr-13	FEL	5008 OGEECHEE RD #38	LAIL, KEITH SCOTT	MANUFACTURING MARIJUANA	8
PCT 1	20-Apr-13	FEL	3411 OGEECHEE RD	BUIE, ALLYN	SALE OF C/S (CRACK)	5
Drug Complaints						
Date Rec	Assigned	PCT	Location	Assigned To	Type	
15-Apr-13	16-Apr-13	PCT 5	JOHNNY MERCER BLVD	AGENT WRIGHT	CRIMESTOPPERS	4
16-Apr-13	17-Apr-13	PCT 5	FERGUSON AVE	AGENT KROUSE	CRIMESTOPPERS	1
17-Apr-13	17-Apr-13	PCT 1	BEAUFORT RD	AGENT HALE	CRIMESTOPPERS	6

***MOST OF CNT ATTENDED TACTICAL NARCOTICS TRAINING THIS WEEK.**

APRIL 28 - MAY 03 2013						
Search Warrant / Consented Search						County District
Type	Date	Area	Location	Type/Quantity Drugs Involved	# Arrest/Type	
S.W.	5/3/2013	PCT 3	661 EAST 32ND ST	(6) MDMA/ 2.0G CRACK	1 ADULT	2
Adoption(A) / Agency Assist(AA)						
Type	Date	Area	Location	Type/Quantity Drugs Involved	# Arrest/Type	
			N/A			
Arrest						
Area	Date	Fel /Misd	Location	Name	Charge	
PCT 5	29-Apr-13		1935 E VICTORY DR	SNYDER, JIMMY	SALE OF C/S (OXYCODONE)	2
PCT 4	2-May-13		11900 WHITEBLUFF RD #1701	BIRD, GEORGE	SALE OF C/S (HEROIN)	1
PCT 4	2-May-13		11900 WHITEBLUFF RD #1701	POOLE, MELINDA	SALE OF C/S (HEROIN)	1
PCT 5	3-May-13		1944 CAUSTON BLUFF	FORDHAM, TONYA M.	POSS OC C/S (CRACK)	3

PCT 3	3-May-13		661 EAST 32ND ST	DUNBAR, SHANIKA	OBSTRUCTION BY HINDERING	2
Drug Complaints						
Date Rec	Assigned		Location	Assigned To	Type	
28-Apr-13	30-Apr-13		E 35TH ST	LNU, FNU	CRIMESTOPPERS	2
28-Apr-13	30-Apr-13		W 33RD	LNU, TILL	CRIMESTOPPERS	2
28-Apr-13	30-Apr-13		E WALDBURG ST	LNU, FNU	POLICE INTEL	2
29-Apr-13	30-Apr-13		RADICK DR	RYAN, SARA	POLICE INTEL	1
30-Apr-13	30-Apr-13		WHITFIELD AVE	THOMAS, EDWARD	CRIMESTOPPERS	1
30-Apr-13	20-Apr-13		NORTHGATE	LNU, FNU	CRIMESTOPPERS	2
1-May-13	1-May-13		ROCKDALE ST	LNU, FNU	CALL-IN	5
2-May-13	2-May-13		ABERCORN ST	BROWN, EDWARD	CALL-IN	2
2-May-13	2-May-13		HUGHES AVE	LNU, FNU	CALL-IN	3
2-May-13	2-May-13		NORTHGATE DR	LNU, FNU	CRIMESTOPPERS	2
1-May-13	3-May-13		BURNSIDE ISLAND	LNU, FNU	PROJECT LOG	1
6-May-13	6-May-13		COAKLEY ST	LNU, FNU	POLICE INTEL	3
6-May-13	6-May-13		NEW YORK AVE	LNU, FNU	POLICE INTEL	3

DRUG INVESTIGATIONS HOURS WORKED BY ZONE

SCMPD – All Precincts	1,657
Municipalities (Unincorporated Chatham County—163 hours)	578
TOTAL	2,235

Administrative Hours	640
Case Administration	772
Pharmaceutical Diversions	320
Central Intelligence	480
Out of County (Task Force Operations, etc.)	172
Training	876
Agency Assist	152
Court Hours	30
TOTAL	3,442

Total Hours Worked **5,677**

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

- On April 13, 2013, CNT agents assisted the Tybee Island Police Department with the annual Orange Crush festival. The agents worked in an undercover capacity and arrested 8 subjects for various drug offences
- During the week of April 15th, 2013, CNT provided 40 hours of training in tactical operations for 18 agents. This training is designed for Narcotics Investigators who participate in high risk operations used to apprehend violent subjects and subjects involved in the narcotics trade. The CNT has several agents who are new to Narcotics Investigations and this training was extremely beneficial to them and to the seasoned agents who also participated in the training.

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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 Scott said, action item, Item number X on your agenda, the Action Calendar. At this time is -- unless there's a -- a --

Commissioner Center said, I'd ask for further discussion on L and O of number 5.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, Mr. Chairman, I would make a motion to approve the balance of the action calendar with the exception of L and O.

Commissioner Brady said, second.

Commissioner Farrell said, second.

Chairman Scott said, it's been properly moved that we approve the Action Calendar with the exception of L and O. Hearing the motion, any discussion? Hearing none, all in favor of the motion indicate by voting yes, opposed no. Motion carries.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

- a. Commissioner Kicklighter moved to approve the Action Calendar, Items 1 through 5 and under Item 5, Items A through O with the exception of Items 5-L and 5-O. Commissioners Brady and Farrell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- b. Commissioner Farrell moved to approve item 5-L, approval of a \$92,246 Change Order No. 1 to the design contract with McCoy Grading Inc., (MGI) for the Wilmington Canal Drainage Improvements project. Commissioner Brady seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- c. Commissioner Brady moved to approve item 5-O, approval to allow assistance from Alliance One Receivables Management, Inc., to serve as a collection agency for Chatham County Recorder's Court. Commissioner Kicklighter seconded the motion and it carried in an 8-1 vote. Chairman Scott and Commissioners Stone, Holmes, Farrell, Shabazz, Brady, Kicklighter and Thomas voted yes. Commissioner Center voted no.

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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 MAY 10, 2013, AS MAILED.**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of May 10, 2013, as mailed. Commissioners Brady and Farrell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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- 2. CLAIMS VS. CHATHAM COUNTY FOR THE PERIOD MAY 2, 2013 THROUGH MAY 15, 2013.**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to authorize the Finance Director to pay the claims against the County for the period May 2, 2013 through May 15, 2013, in the amount of \$3,493,168. Commissioners Brady and Farrell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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- 3. REQUEST TO DISPENSE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES (BEER) FOR A SPECIAL EVENT AT 36 WILMINGTON ISLAND ROAD. PETITIONER: WILLIAM J. CURRY FOR FISHING FOR JAMIE, INC. THE EVENT WILL BE HELD 12:00 P.M. JULY 19 THROUGH 7 P.M. JULY 21, 2013. [DISTRICT 4.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to approve the request to dispense alcoholic beverages for a special event at 36 Wilmington Island Road. Petitioner: William J. Curry for Fishing for Jamie, Inc. The event will be held

12:00 July 19 through 7 p.m. July 21, 2013. Commissioners Brady and Farrell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM: X-3
AGENDA DATE: May 24, 2013

TO: Board of Commissioners
THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager
FROM: Gregori S. Anderson, Director of Building Safety and Regulatory Services
 Willie Lovett, Chief of Police

ISSUE:
 Permit to dispense alcoholic beverages for a special event in Chatham County.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. **Fishing for Jamie, Inc.**, a non-profit organization, through applicant **William J. Curry** has filed a Special Event Application for a fundraiser at 36 Wilmington Island Road, Savannah, GA 31410. The applicant has the intent to dispense alcoholic beverages (beer only) at the event.
2. Section 16-134(4) of the Chatham County Business/Occupational Tax Ordinance requires approval of the County Commissioners to issue a temporary permit to dispense alcoholic beverages in conjunction with a special event.
3. The ordinance grants the Board of Commissioners discretion to allow the consumption of alcoholic beverages in conjunction with a special event.
4. After seven years of this event, the Police Department has had no reports of violations. The Police Marine Patrol will be assigned to the scheduled event.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Grant permit to allow the dispensing and consumption of alcoholic beverages in conjunction with the requested special event at 36 Wilmington Island Road.
2. Deny Permit.
3. Provide direction to staff.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

The Alcoholic Beverages Code prohibits the sale, possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages during a special event without a permit and approval of the Board of Commissioners.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve Alternative #1.

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4. ADDITIONAL REQUEST FOR PROPERTY PERTAINING TO UNOPENED RIGHT OF WAY. SAVANNAH STATE UNIVERSITY AND ITALIAN CLUB.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to approve the quitclaim deed with regard to additional property pertaining to an unopened right of way between Chatham County, Georgia and Savannah State University Foundation, Inc. Commissioners Brady and Farrell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM: X-4
AGENDA DATE: May 24, 2013

TO: Board of Commissioners
THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager
FROM: R. Jonathan Hart, County Attorney

ISSUE:

To approve quitclaim deed of additional property between Chatham County, Georgia and Savannah State University Foundation, Inc.

BACKGROUND:

The quitclaim deed from the County to Savannah State University was before the Commission on April 12, 2013, and the Commission approved the deed. However, Savannah State’s request did not include additional parts of the unopen lane. This matter is to convey an additional part of the unopened lane.

Savannah State University has agreed to purchase the property of the Italian Club located at 2717 Livingston Avenue, Bonna Bella Subdivision. The Italian Club is desirous to expedite the sale of the property. Savannah State University has determined through a title examination that there is a question of ownership of the northern 10' of an unopened lane which may be owned by Chatham County. Examination of title by the County does not demonstrate any deed of said portion of the lane into Chatham County, and hence the title is unclear. Engineering has opined that the County has no need for the unopened portion of the lane. Savannah State is requesting the County issue a quitclaim deed for the portion of the lane for purposes of clarifying title to the property to be acquired by the University. This is a transfer from one state entity to another and no compensation is required.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. Savannah State University has agreed to purchase the property of the Italian Club located at 2717 Livingston Avenue, Bonna Bella Subdivision.
2. Savannah State University has determined through a title examination that there is a question of ownership of the northern 10' of an unopened lane which may be owned by Chatham County. Examination of title by the County does not demonstrate any deed of said portion of the lane into Chatham County, and hence the title is unclear.
3. Engineering has opined that the County has no need for the unopened portion of the lane.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

Savannah State University is acquiring the property from a non-profit organization for use in the educational mission of the University. Chatham County may have an ownership interest in the northern 10' of an unopened lane, which does not serve the County with any public purpose. The University requests the County to convey by quitclaim deed any interest that it may or may not have in the subject property in order to assist the school in its mission for education.

FUNDING:

N/A

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve quitclaim deed between Chatham County, Georgia and Savannah State University Foundation, Inc.
2. Do not approve quitclaim deed between Chatham County, Georgia and Savannah State University Foundation, Inc.

RECOMMENDATION:

Alternative #1.

After recording, please return to:

Chatham County, Georgia
P. O. Box 8161
Savannah, GA 31412

STATE OF GEORGIA)
)
COUNTY OF CHATHAM)

Quitclaim Deed

This instrument is made as of _____, 2013, between Chatham County, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia, by and through the Board of Commissioners of Chatham County (hereinafter called “Grantor”) and Savannah State University Foundation, Inc. (hereinafter called “Grantee”).

For and in consideration of the sum of one dollar and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, Grantor hereby forever conveys, transfers and quitclaims to Grantee all of the right, title, interest, claim, or demand which Grantor has or may have in and to the property described on Exhibit “A” which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference (hereinafter, the “Property”).

To have and to hold the Property to Grantee, together with all the rights, members, and appurtenances to the Property in anywise appertaining or belonging.

As used in this instrument, the terms "Grantor" and "Grantee" shall include their respective heirs, successors and assigns, where the context requires or permits, and shall include the singular and plural, and the masculine, feminine, and neuter, as the context requires.

In witness whereof, Grantor has signed this deed under seal as of the date first above written.

Signed, sealed and delivered in the presence of:

CHATHAM COUNTY, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia, by and through the Board of Commissions [sic] of Chatham County.

Witness

By: _____
Albert J. Scott, Chairman

Attest: _____
Janice Bocook, Clerk of Commission

SEAL

Exhibit "A"
Legal Description

All that certain lot, tract or parcel of land, situate, lying and being in Chatham County, Georgia and being more particularly described as the portions of a 20' lane within the boundaries of property belonging to Savannah Italian Club, Inc. as shown on a plat entitled "Plat of Lots 20 thru 25, Bonna Bella Point Subdivision and Lots 75-81 of the Bonna Bella Improvement Company Subdivision and Portions of a 20' lane and marsh area, known as 2717 Livingston Avenue" prepared for Savannah State University and dated August 16, 2012 and being shown as recorded in Plat Book 42S, Folio 151 in the Office of the Clerk of Superior Court, Chatham County, Georgia land records. Express reference to said plat being hereby made for the purposes of further determining the metes, bounds and dimensions described herein.

Beginning at a 1/2" rebar found at the Southeast corner of Lot 24, Bonna Bella Point Subdivision; thence North 19° 32' 27" East along the eastern boundary line of Lot 24 of said Subdivision a distance of 210.20' to a 5/8" rebar found which marks the POINT OF BEGINNING; thence South 70° 29' 51" East a distance of approximately 276.64' through a metal storage building shown on said plat to a 1/2" rebar set; thence continuing North 19° 30' 09" East a distance of 10' to a 1/2" iron rebar set; thence continuing North 70° 33' 03" West to a point which is the Southwest corner of Lot 75; thence South 19° 29' 33" West a distance of 10' to a 5/8" rebar found; thence North 70° 33' 03" West a distance of 100.45' to a 5/8" rebar found; thence South 19° 25' 43" West a distance of 10.89' to a concrete monument found; thence South 70° 35' 53" East a distance of approximately 250.01' to a 1/2" rebar in a concrete cylinder; thence North 19° 32' 27" East a distance of 9.91' to the POINT OF BEGINNING.

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5. 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).

Chairman Scott said, Item L.

Commissioner Center said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wanted to ask and -- and maybe Mr. Abolt or Mr. Kaigler on Item L -- 5-L. It's a change order, \$92,000 change order in a contract for grading, and the way I read the material there was a contract to change out culverts and the contractor found out one of the culverts was an 8-inch culvert rather than a 4-inch culvert. Why didn't they find out --

County Engineer Al Bungard said, that was one of the problems.

Commissioner Center said, yeah. Why didn't they find that out before they entered into the original contract? Was it a problem with our spec -- our plans telling them it was four-inch or did they not inspect it?

County Engineer Bungard said, we, on all underground utilities, this is sort of the nemesis of a lot of our jobs, we rely on utility companies, Comcast, Atlantic Gas Light, City of Savannah water/sewer to tell us where their utilities are underground. The City of Savannah plans didn't -- showed it as a four-inch line, and it's not uncommon for them not to know they're there. This is -- not just picking on the City of Savannah. We had a case, Truman Parkway, didn't even know the water line was there. We usually find it by digging. We've had cases where they come out and say it's over there and dig over there, and it's exactly -- we hit it by accident. Unfortunately the science is -- we rely on them to review the plans and it was -- their plans were wrong.

Commissioner Center said, right. That's what I'm asking. When the contractor bid the contract, the plans on which they based said four-inch, and when they dug down into the ground it was eight-inch?

County Engineer Bungard said, yes, sir.

Commissioner Center said, okay. That's what I wanted to know. And -- you want to vote on that one separately or?

Chairman Scott said, yes. We need -- we need a motion. Question Commissioner Shabazz.

Commissioner Shabazz said, the -- you said that they anticipated it being four-inch. They did -- they did an estimate. I'm quite sure they did some estimate.

County Engineer Bungard said, yes, sir.

Commissioner Shabazz said, that's the purpose of an estimate.

County Engineer Bungard said, okay. Our contracts, this kind, we have what's called line items.

Commissioner Shabazz said, mm-hmm.

County Engineer Bungard said, and they're unit prices. Things are priced so many dollars per -- for a four-inch line so many feet of pipe. So what we did was we had to delete -- the design was based on so many feet of four-inch pipe. We got credits of almost \$90,000 for the work that was deleted that was based on the faulty design or inaccurate design, and then you re-price it for eight-inch lines. So the total change was 180,000 less \$90 or \$90,000 with the net difference of what we have here. But they're not lump sum. Very rare -- a lot of things are simply not lump sum, maybe for de-watering and some, you know, silt fence, that sort of thing. But they're unit prices. It's either by the ton, the linear feet, the cubic yard, or whatever that case.

Chairman Scott said, okay.

County Engineer Bungard said, is that clear?

Chairman Scott said, any other --

Commissioner Shabazz said, I hear you.

County Engineer Bungard said, okay.

Chairman Scott said, -- questions?

Commissioner Farrell said, I make a motion for approval of item L.

Commissioner Brady said, second.

Chairman Scott said, it's been properly moved and second. Hearing the motion, any discussion? Hearing none, all in favor indicate by voting yes, opposed no. The motion carry.

Commissioner Center said, item O.

Chairman Scott said, Item O, the collection agency for the Chatham County Recorder's Court.

Commissioner Center said, and let -- let me explain. I need some more explanation about this. Is this basically outsourcing the collections of public -- monies owed to the public?

Clerk of Recorder's Court Timothy Shepard said, that's correct, sir.

Commissioner Center said, okay. And it's been my experience, my personal experience that when you hire a private company to collect a public debt, they get very strong-armed and go a lot further than the -- the public entity might. Can you explain to me a little bit about this contract and -- and tell me who you are.

Mr. Shepard said, first of all, my name is Tim Shepard. I am the Clerk of Court for Recorder's Court.

Commissioner Center said, thank you, Tim [Shepard]. I'm sorry.

Mr. Shepard said, let me begin by saying as you well know Recorder's Court is jointly supported by Chatham County and the City of Savannah. Our concern is that there is no --

Chairman Scott said, equally -- equally supported by.

Mr. Shepard said, pardon?

Chairman Scott said, equally supported by.

Mr. Shepard said, equally supported by?

Chairman Scott said, that'd be a better phrase.

Mr. Shepard said, well, okay. We'll -- we'll say that, sir, equally supported by Chatham County and the City of Savannah.

Chairman Scott said, thank you.

Mr. Shepard said, yes, sir. The problem is that when persons are given fines, we have to basically rely on them to pay the fine. Unfortunately over the years there have been a lot of people who have not paid fines, and this is uncollected money that both the City and the County would share as far as the revenue coming in. The problem that we have very simply is this. We don't have staff that we can pretty much assign them the task of following up with the uncollected funding. We do have what we call a Rule Nisi docket where we send subpoenas out and persons will come in and they will address the issue of why they have not paid their fine, but there is still a lot of money out there. The exact amount I cannot give you but I can tell you it is enough to where we need assistance. So to bring in a collection agency, it would assist the court and particularly the two governments in retrieving some of that money that is owed to them. This is why we've -- we've pursued this process.

Commissioner Center said, is -- is this -- where is Alliance One Receivables Management from?

Mr. Shepard said, they're in the State of Georgia.

Commissioner Center said, okay. They -- Atlanta?

Mr. Shepard said, I believe it is Atlanta, sir.

Commissioner Center said, right.

Mr. Shepard said, I don't have the actual proposal with me right now.

Commissioner Center said, is this a purely contingency contract? They get a percentage of what they collect?

Mr. Shepard said, yes, sir. Their contingency is 15.9 percent. And when we -- when we sent this out for bid, we actually got bids in from -- for I think it was a total of 10 or 11 companies, and we narrowed it down to five companies, and Alliance One was the one that came in at the best rate. 15.9 percent was the lowest rate. We had one that was upwards to 28 percent.

Commissioner Center said, and I'm going to ask you this, would Alliance One have any greater rights than a private citizen suing someone to collect a civil debt when they're trying to collect these debts?

Mr. Shepard said, that's a legal question, sir, that I am not able to answer.

County Attorney Hart said, technically they would have no additional rights as a collection agency. But one thing you must keep in mind here, they're not collecting a civil debt. They're collecting something that's an order of the Court.

Chairman Scott said, yeah.

County Attorney Hart said, and there's no dispute about whether the money's owed.

Chairman Scott said, something that's due.

County Attorney Hart said, and if it was in front of the Court, the Court could put them in jail. They can't put people in jail.

Commissioner Center said, but not every Court order can put people in jail. I think only domestic Court orders can put people in jail because that's why the State was founded so that you could not put debtors in jail.

County Attorney Hart said, I'm not talking about putting debtors in jail. I'm talking about somebody that owes a fine to the court. That's a big difference.

Commissioner Center said, I understand that. And that's -- that's what I'm concerned about the -- the -- the -- the scale between what a private citizen can do and what a government can do, and we're hiring a private company to fit somewhere in that scale, and I'm really concerned of -- of what kind of strong arm tactics they might -- they might be perfectly legitimate, but I know in my personal experience, when collection companies have some kind of government tag to them, they can be a little strong and a little more obnoxious. Would this collection company be subject to federal regulations in any way in collecting a debt?

County Attorney Hart said, yes, sir, insofar as collecting a civil debt they would be.

Commissioner Center said, okay, but not all these debts are civil debts. These are traffic fines --

County Attorney Hart said, none -- none of these are civil debts. These are all judgments of the Court.

Commissioner Center said, so they're not subject to federal regulations.

County Attorney Hart said, they -- you could probably bring a suit under that if you wanted to, but you would go no place because you're not enforcing a civil judgment, you're enforcing a Court order.

Commissioner Center said, what would happen --

County Attorney Hart said, somebody that has got a judgment against them, was found guilty, failed to pay, failed to appear before the Court when they issued a Rule Nisi Order, and just basically thumbed their nose at the Court. So what you're really doing here is setting a precedent of collecting money that's all over the State. Recorder's Court does not have the capability, where with all or personnel to go to Suwanee, Georgia to collect an Order of the Court, and basically this money's just sitting on the table.

Commissioner Center said, what -- what other court systems are using this collection company or a collection company, do you know?

Mr. Shepard said, not off the top of my head, sir. They -- they have a history of working with other court systems throughout the country, and I -- I wish I had brought that information. But the other courts, State Court, Superior Court, they're using collection agencies. In addition to that, we have other departments within the City that are using collection agencies to assist with the retrieving of certain fines and fees that -- that are outstanding. This is something that we feel very strongly about, and we -- we really know it is necessary in order to retrieve those funds that are just out there. Otherwise, it's just money that's lost.

Commissioner Center said, I understand that. What would be the effect of maybe -- Jon [Hart] you could answer, if -- if this Commission said no to this, what would be the effect? I mean couldn't y'all still enter into the contract?

County Attorney Hart said, the money would go uncollected. The money would go uncollected.

Commissioner Center said, I mean could the Recorder's Court still enter into this contract even if we didn't vote on it?

County Attorney Hart said, probably.

Commissioner Center said, okay.

Chairman Scott said, let me -- let me also say that this is not -- this is not a -- a first for Recorder's Court, and it is my understanding that whoever was doing the probation service was -- at one point was also doing some collection.

Mr. Shepard said, that's correct.

Chairman Scott said, and I -- I think when they tried to bid this contract they had it -- probation service and collections services, and the probation firm that they hired does not do collections, so they entered into --

Mr. Shepard said, that is -- that is correct, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Scott said, -- separate bid for collection.

Mr. Shepard said, those are two separate and distinct issues because one of the things that you have to -- to understand is that probation will only deal with those persons who are on probation.

Chairman Scott said, yeah.

Mr. Shepard said, and as a part of their probation, the probation department assists by making sure that funding is collected.

Chairman Scott said, yeah.

Mr. Shepard said, we're talking about persons who are outside the purview of their time on probation, as well as those persons who have never been on probation.

Commissioner Center said, thank you.

Mr. Shepard said, yes, sir.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Farrell.

Commissioner Farrell said, Mr. Shepard.

Mr. Shepard said, I'm sorry, sir.

Commissioner Farrell said, the 15.9 percent is that just on the -- on the fines that were deemed uncollectible or is that just everything that comes out of the court system?

Mr. Shepard said, no, sir. No. That's in any account that is turned over to the collection agency.

Commissioner Farrell said, by the Court?

Mr. Shepard said, yes, sir.

Commissioner Farrell said, okay. I want to compliment you on your tie. It's an excellent choice for today.

Mr. Shepard said, thank you, sir. I -- I -- you and I got the memo.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner -- Commissioner Shabazz has a question.

Commissioner Shabazz said, what -- what -- what do you want from -- what -- what -- what do you want from the -- this Commission?

Mr. Shepard said, Commissioner Shabazz, let me very clear. As was mentioned, technically we could go forward even if the Commission said no, but we want to all work together. We are also going before City Council --

Commissioner Shabazz said, right.

Mr. Shepard said, -- to get them on board. And it's -- it's crucial and very important that as a Commission and as supporters of Recorder's Court that you all know what we're doing. So, you know, as was mentioned earlier in another issue, it's good that you're aware so that when your constituents ask you about something, for instance if they get a letter from Recorder's Court from some collection agency, then you're aware that yes, the Court is using a collection agency to assist them in retrieving funds that are outstanding to the court. And -- and again, it's not just outstanding to the court, it's outstanding to the two government entities. So we're talking about the ability to bring in some revenue that rightfully should be here but it is not at this point and time because whatever reason people have not paid.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay. Thank you.

Mr. Shepard said, yes, sir.

Commissioner Shabazz said, that's it.

Chairman Scott said, any -- any other questions. If not, I'll entertain a motion at this time.

Commissioner Brady said, Mr. Chairman, I make a motion that we approve.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, second.

Chairman Scott said, it's been properly moved and second that we approve Item O, collection agency for the Recorder's Court. All in -- hearing the motion, any further discussion? Hearing none, all in favor indicate by voting yes, opposed no. Motion carries. Mr. Clerk, would you please inform the Chief Judge that the motion carried.

Mr. Shepard said, thank you.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

- a. Commissioner Kicklighter moved for approval to award bids as follows with the exception of Items L and O: (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.) Commissioners Brady and Farrell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- b. Commissioner Farrell moved to approve item 5-L, approval of a \$92,246 Change Order No. 1 to the design contract with McCoy Grading Inc., (MGI) for the Wilmington Canal Drainage Improvements project. Commissioner Brady seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- c. Commissioner Brady moved to approve item 5-O, approval to allow assistance from Alliance One Receivables Management, Inc., to serve as a collection agency for Chatham County Recorder's

Court. Commissioner Kicklighter seconded the motion and it carried in an 8-1 vote. Chairman Scott and Commissioners Stone, Holmes, Farrell, Shabazz, Brady, Kicklighter and Thomas voted yes. Commissioner Center voted no.

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
A. Extension of a lease at 3916 Louisville Road, from May 1, 2013, through April 30, 2014, with the option to renew for an additional one (1) year for interim space for Fleet Maintenance and Operations	Fleet	Wannett Yarbrough	\$3,000 a month / \$36,000 a year	CIP - Fleet Building Relocation
B. Change Order No. 1 to the annual contract to provide uniform accessories for the Chatham County Sheriff's Department	Sheriff's Department	Smyrna Police Distributors, Inc.	Various	•General Fund/M&O - Various •SSD - Various
C. Change Order No. 2 to the annual maintenance agreement for preventative maintenance and repair services of the HVAC equipment for the Detention Center	Sheriff's Department	Boaen Mechanical Service Company, Inc.	\$5,652	General Fund/Repairs - Sheriff's Department
D. Two (2) new fingerprint machines and the update of three (3) existing machines for the Chatham County Detention Center	Detention Center	Eagle Advantage (Sole Source)	\$32,000	General Fund/M&O - Detention Center
E. State of Georgia contract purchase for nine (9) Dell Optiplex 9010 all-in-one computers and wall mounts for CEMA	I.C.S.	Dell Marketing, LP	\$13,054	CEMA
F. 400 radio controlled water meters for Public Works and Park Services	Public Works and Park Services	Delta Municipal Supply Company	\$73,200	Water and Sewer Enterprise Fund
G. Annual Memorandum of Agreement with the option to renew up to four (4) additional one (1) year terms to test mosquitoes and wild birds for the detection of West Nile virus and other mosquito-borne diseases	Mosquito Control	University of Georgia Research Foundation, Inc.	Not to exceed \$45,000	General Fund/M&O - Mosquito Control
H. Development of a Rank Assessments Program for the Detention Center and the Sheriff's Office	Detention Center	University of Georgia's Carl Vinson Institute of Government	\$38,060	General Fund/M&O - Detention Center
I. Construction contract to install irrigation, landscaping and rope fencing at Kings Ferry Boat Ramp Park	Engineering	Pioneer Construction, Inc.	\$89,880	SPLOST (2003-2008) - Kings Ferry Boat Ramp

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
J. 16 workstations for the Records Offices in Building C for the CCDC Expansion	Detention Center	McWaters, Inc., of Savannah, GA (Sole Source)	\$31,845	CIP - Detention Center Expansion SPLOST project
K. Office furniture for the CCDC Expansion	Detention Center	•VIP Office Furniture & Supply •National Office Systems	\$81,175	CIP - Detention Center Expansion SPLOST project
L. Change Order No. 1 to the design contract for the Wilmington Canal Drainage Improvements project	Engineering	McCoy Grading Inc.	\$92,246	SPLOST (1998-2003) - Wilmington Park Drainage
M. Renewal of property insurance without terrorism coverage for various Tybee Island locations	Finance	Lloyds of London	\$25,958	Risk Management Fund - Premiums Insurance and Surety Bonds
N. Key cutting machine with various required accessories, software package, and training for the CCDC Expansion	Detention Center	McCarthy, Inc. (Sole Source)	\$12,129	CIP - Detention Center Expansion SPLOST project
O. Collection agency for Chatham County Recorder's Court	Recorder's Court	Alliance One Receivables Management, Inc.	N/A	No Funding Required

AGENDA ITEM: X-5 A thru O

AGENDA DATE: May 24, 2013

TO: BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

THRU: R.E. ABOLT, COUNTY MANAGER

**FROM: MICHAEL A. KAIGLER, ASSISTANT COUNTY MANAGER/
DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES AND SERVICES**

SUBJECT: AWARD OF BIDS

ITEM A

ISSUE: Request Board approval to authorize extension of a lease with Wannett Yarbrough at 3916 Louisville Road, from May 1, 2013 through April 30, 2014, at \$3,000 a month with the option to renew for an additional one (1) year for interim space for Fleet Maintenance and Operations.

BACKGROUND: Fleet Maintenance and Operations vacated its service site at 7115 Sallie Mood Drive as part of a Flood Mitigation Project and is now leasing space. This property is a former body shop and is therefore ideally suited for Fleet Operations.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. Staff in Fleet Maintenance and Operations are developing plans and specifications for the new Fleet facility and the site has been identified. It is anticipated that it will be a minimum of one (1) year to solicit bids and construct the facility.
2. The property would be leased for \$3,000 a month, or \$36,000 for twelve months.

FUNDING: CIP - Fleet Building Relocation
(3501567 - 54.13001 - 35031357)

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval to authorize extension of a lease with Wannett Yarbrough at 3916 Louisville Road, from May 1, 2013 through April 30, 2014, at \$3,000 a month with the option to renew for an additional one (1) year for interim space for Fleet Maintenance and Operations.

2. Provide staff other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS: It is in accordance with Board policy to approve property leases necessary for the continuity of operations.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
CHRIS MORRIS

ITEM B

ISSUE: Request Board approval of a Change Order No. 1 to the annual contract with Smyrna Police Distributors, Inc., of Smyrna, Georgia, to provide uniform accessories for the Chatham County Sheriff's Department.

BACKGROUND: On February 10, 2012, the Board approved the award of an annual contract with automatic renewal options for four (4) additional one year terms, to Smyrna Police Distributors, Inc.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. Smyrna Police Distributors, Inc., has recently provided a notification of price changes associated with the manufacturer imposed price increases due to the escalating costs in energy, transportation, packaging and raw material. As a result it has raised the price of the items listed below. Smyrna Police Distributors, Inc., has provided documentation to support the manufacturer's price increase.
2. Staff believes Smyrna Police Distributors, Inc., request for the County to contractually recognize the manufacturer price increases to be fair and reasonable.
3. New pricing will be as follows:

<u>Item</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Old Price</u>	<u>New Price</u>
1.	Campaign Hat, each	\$ 68.89	\$79.50
4.	Hat Protector P900	\$ 2.25	\$ 2.65
5.	Hat Press	\$10.00	\$ 12.00
9.	Permanent nametags, KK	\$16.00	\$ 22.50
10.	Blackinton Collar Brass (C.C. & S.O)	\$16.00	\$ 17.25
19.	Whistle Chain	\$1.25	\$1.95
21.	Tie	\$2.65	\$3.65
22.	Epaulets	\$6.00	\$7.00
29.	6280 Holsters	\$99.75	\$103.75
30.	6360 Holsters	\$109.54	\$113.50
43.	HH1008 Handcuffs	\$22.99	\$26.20
46.	7030 oversize cuffs	\$34.25	\$37.75

FUNDING: •General Fund/M&O - Various
•SSD - Various

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of a Change Order No. 1 to the annual contract with Smyrna Police Distributors, Inc., of Smyrna, Georgia, to provide uniform accessories for the Chatham County Sheriff's Department.
2. Provide staff other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS: It is consistent with Board policy to approve change orders for documented material price increases.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
RUSHEDA ADESHINA

ITEM C

ISSUE: Request Board approval of a \$5,652 Change Order No. 2 to the annual maintenance agreement with Boan Mechanical Service Company, Inc., of Savannah, GA, for preventative maintenance and repair services of the HVAC equipment for the Detention Center.

BACKGROUND: December 19, 2008, the Board approved an annual contract for the maintenance agreement with Boan Mechanical Service Company, Inc.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. During a recently scheduled preventative maintenance and repair service, the contractor informed the Detention Center Staff that the water scaling within the system has become a major issue.
2. The chemical treatment system will keep the system free from a major scale buildup. The addition changes the scope of services and cost thereof.
3. Contract History is as follows:

Original Contract Amount (12-19-08)	\$ 27,800/Year
Change Order No.1 (02-11-11)	\$ 9,813/Year
Change Order No. 2 (pending)	\$ 5,652/ six months
Revised Contract Amount	\$ 43,265/Year

FUNDING: General Fund/Repairs - Sheriff's Department
(1003326 - 52.22001)

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of a \$5,652 Change Order No. 2 to the annual maintenance agreement with Boan Mechanical Service Company, Inc., of Savannah, GA, for preventative maintenance and repair services of the HVAC equipment for the Detention Center.
2. Provide staff other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS: It is consistent with Board policy to issue change orders to essential service contracts to recognize changes in the scope of services.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
RUSHEDA ADESHINA

ITEM D

ISSUE: Request Board approval of a \$32,000 sole source purchase of two (2) new fingerprint machines and the update of three (3) existing machines from Eagle Advantage of Carrollton, GA, for the Chatham County Detention Center.

BACKGROUND: The Chatham County Detention Center has a requirement to update the existing fingerprint machines due to upgrades in technology.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. Chatham County Detention Center currently has three (3) fingerprint machines with technology that is currently outdated and requires the use of a data access line at a cost of \$14,000 annually. This update would allow for internet access needed to access the GCIC web-based software.
2. As a result of the current on-going expansion, two (2) additional machines need to be added to enable efficient processing of inmates as they enter and exit the facility.
3. Eagle Advantage provided the three (3) fingerprint machines currently on hand. In order for the upgrade of the existing equipment as well as the addition of the new equipment, the manufacturer must remain the same to standardize the equipment.

FUNDING: General Fund/M&O - Detention Center
(1003326 - 54.25001)

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of a \$32,000 sole source purchase of two (2) new fingerprint machines and the update of three (3) existing machines from Eagle Advantage of Carrollton, GA, for the Chatham County Detention Center.
2. Provide staff other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS: It is consistent with Board policy to provide necessary equipment for Detention Center operations.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
RUSHEDA ADESHINA

ITEM E

ISSUE: Request Board approval of a \$13,054 purchase of nine (9) Dell Optiplex 9010 all-in-one computers and wall mounts off of the State of Georgia contract, from Dell Marketing, LP, for CEMA.

BACKGROUND: On September 9, 2012, the Board of Commissioners approved the purchase of a Mobile Emergency Operations Center for CEMA. The ICS department has determined that these systems will be suitable for being in a vehicle that will travel around the area to support an incident.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. These computers will be installed in the Mobile Emergency Operations Center (MEOC). To maximize desk space, the all-in-one unit was selected so that it can be wall mounted in front of nine (9) stations in the MEOC for staff to work on when the vehicle is deployed.
2. These computers will help support the on scene emergency staff that are working an incident by providing computer access for using the Chatham EMA Crisis Information System WebEOC, using the Internet for research, accessing weather sites for information, HAZMAT software and Microsoft Office.
3. Staff believes the State of Georgia total contract price of \$13,054 is fair and reasonable.

FUNDING: CEMA / Reimbursable Expenses
(1009957 - 57.10111)

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of a \$13,054 purchase of nine (9) Dell Optiplex 9010 all-in-one computers and wall mounts off of the State of Georgia contract, from Dell Marketing, LP, for CEMA.
2. Provide staff other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS: It is consistent with Board policy to provide the necessary equipment for using departments.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

I.C.S. APPROVAL _____
NICK BATEY

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
CHRIS MORRIS

ITEM F

ISSUE: Request Board approval of a \$73,200 purchase of 400 Neptune radio controlled water meters from Delta Municipal Supply Company for Public Works and Park Services.

BACKGROUND: The Environmental Protection Division (EPD) has a requirement that water systems owners and operators replace a percentage of their water meters every year. All old meters are now being replaced with new technology that permits reading meters with a hand-held unit. These meters are more accurate than the original mechanical meters, and using the hand-held reader unit allows meters to be read more quickly and accurately. The County Water & Sewer Department has been using this type of meter since March 2009. The Board previously approved two (2) additional purchases of 300

meters in October 2011, and 400 meters in June 2012. This purchase is a continuation of the replacement program to bring the entire water system into the new automatic reading technology.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. Replacement of a percentage of all existing meters must be done every year due to a mandate by EPD. The County originally began replacing all meters scheduled for replacement with the newer automated meter reading technology in March 2009.
2. In 2011, staff solicited quotes for radio controlled water meters and received two (2) responses. Delta Municipal Supply Company provided the low quote of \$183 per meter. Delta Municipal Supply Company is the Neptune distributor in Georgia. The Board previously approved the purchase of 300 meters in October 2011 and 400 meters in June 2012.
3. Using the automatic meters versus the old mechanical meters provides the following increased efficiencies and accuracy levels: (a.) allows meter reading by drive-by or walk-by reducing the time devoted to meter reading and increases meter reading accuracy; (b.) allows a three (3) month data logging from individual meters, which permits easy usage information retrieval, minimizing customer billing disputes; (c.) permits retrieval of information regarding either continuous or intermittent water leaks in individual systems; (d.) the meter reading information can be directly downloaded from the hand-held device(s) eliminating the need for manual data transfer into the Pentamation billing system which eliminates clerical data entry and billing errors.

FUNDING: Water and Sewer Enterprise Fund
(5054400 - 54.25001)

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of a \$73,200 purchase of 400 Neptune radio controlled water meters from Delta Municipal Supply Company for Public Works and Park Services.
2. Provide staff other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS: It is consistent with Board policy to approve purchases in order to comply with governmental requirements.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends the approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
CHRIS MORRIS

ITEM G

ISSUE: Request Board approval of a not to exceed \$45,000 annual Memorandum of Agreement with the option to renew up to four (4) additional one (1) year terms, between the University of Georgia Research Foundation, Inc., and Chatham County, to test mosquitoes and wild birds for the detection of West Nile virus and other mosquito-borne diseases.

BACKGROUND: The Board approved at their meeting of June 27, 2008, a Memorandum of Agreement with University of Georgia to provide mosquito and wild bird testing by the Southeastern Cooperative Wildlife Disease Study.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The current Memorandum of Agreement will expire on June 30, 2013. The University of Georgia has agreed to the same price, terms and conditions of the previous agreement.
2. The new agreement is annually renewable through 2017.
3. Under the terms of this agreement, staff will annually submit a minimum of 2,300 samples for testing at the rate of \$16.50 per sample, for a cost of \$37,950. In any calendar year during the terms of this agreement, if Chatham County experiences a severe mosquito-borne disease risk, additional samples may be submitted for testing at a rate of \$16.50 per sample up to a grand total limit of 2,727 samples for a maximum annual cost limit of \$45,000.
4. Staff believes the total annual cost for mosquito and wild bird testing to be fair and reasonable.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of a not to exceed \$45,000 annual Memorandum of Agreement with the option to renew up to four (4) additional one (1) year terms, between the University of Georgia Research

Foundation, Inc., and Chatham County, to test mosquitoes and wild birds for the detection of West Nile virus and other mosquito-borne diseases.

2. Provide staff other direction.

FUNDING: General Fund/M&O - Mosquito Control
(1005144 - 52.11001)

POLICY ANALYSIS: It is consistent with Board policy to extend contract and/or agreements when it is in the best interest of the County.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
RUSHEDA ADESHINA

ITEM H

ISSUE: Request Board approval of a \$38,060 contract with the University of Georgia's Carl Vinson Institute of Government for the Development of a Rank Assessments Program for the Detention Center and the Sheriff's Office.

BACKGROUND: In past years, the County's Human Resources Department has undertaken the large task of overseeing the rank assessment centers. As our facility has expanded and continues to expand, our number of personnel has grown and continues to grow. With this expansion and growth, the number of personnel eligible to participate in the assessment for rank promotions has also increased. We are at the point now that we feel it important to move to an outside source that can better handle the volume and provide a more professional product. A project manager will conduct job analysis for each targeted rank, develop officer resource/study manuals, assessor's manuals and train assessors. The project manager will also prepare, administer the assessment and score the exams along with a multitude of other tasks.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The County as a whole has used the services of the Carl Vinson Institute in many areas.
2. There are many law enforcement agencies that utilize the services of CVI for their rank assessments.

FUNDING: General Fund/M&O - Detention Center
(1003326 - 52.11001)

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of a \$38,060 contract with the University of Georgia's Carl Vinson Institute of Government for the Development of a Rank Assessments Program for the Detention Center and the Sheriff's Office.
2. Provide staff other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS: It is consistent with Board policy to approve contract and/or agreements when it is in the best interest of the County.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
RUSHEDA ADESHINA

ITEM I

ISSUE: Request Board approval of a \$89,880 construction contract to Pioneer Construction, Inc., to install irrigation, landscaping and rope fencing at Kings Ferry Boat Ramp Park.

BACKGROUND: The project involves installation of irrigation, landscaping, wooden timbers and rope fencing for Kings Ferry Boat Ramp Park. The parking area and playground at Kings Ferry underwent reconstruction in August 2010. The original contractor failed to perform and a new contractor finished the construction (excluding irrigation and landscaping) in July 2011. The landscaping, irrigation and rope fence installation will complete the park improvements.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. Bids were solicited and opened on April 24, 2013. There were four (4) responses to the solicitation.
2. Bid results are as follows:

*	Pioneer Construction, Inc. Savannah, GA	\$89,880
	Tidewater Landscape Management Garden City, GA	\$99,981
	JJ Select, LLC Richmond Hill, GA	\$100,000
**	E&D Contracting Services, Inc. Savannah, GA	\$141,648

*MBE
**WBE
3. The contractor has 30 days after the notice to proceed is issued to complete construction.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of a \$89,880 construction contract to Pioneer Construction, Inc., to install irrigation, landscaping and rope fencing at Kings Ferry Boat Ramp Park.
2. Provide staff other direction.

FUNDING: SPLOST (2003-2008) - Kings Ferry Boat Ramp
(3234981 - 52.12003 - 32370443)

POLICY ANALYSIS: It is consistent with Board policy to award contractual service contracts to the low, responsive, responsible bidder.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommend approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
CHRIS MORRIS

ITEM J

ISSUE: Request Board approval of a \$31,845 sole source purchase of 16 Compatico workstations for the Records Offices in Building C from McWaters, Inc., of Savannah, GA for the CCDC Expansion.

BACKGROUND: The CCDC needs to purchase 16 Workstations for the C138 Records Office area of Bldg. C of the new facility.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. Records personnel cannot re-use their current workstations in the existing facility.
2. Each 6' x 8' x 5'-6" workstation is to have L-shaped work surface, two (2) file cabinets, and two (2) upper shelves.
3. Staff previously issued and RFQ for the purchase of twenty-two (22) Workstations for Bldg. A and received nine (9) bids back from qualified vendors. McWaters was the low bidder on these workstations.
4. The pricing for these additional 16 workstations for Bldg. C is comparable with the unit cost of these previously awarded workstations and are able to match the existing product.

FUNDING: CIP - Detention Center Expansion SPLOST project
(3803355 - 54.23001 - 38060407)

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of a \$31,845 sole source purchase of 16 Compatico workstations for the Records Offices in Building C from McWaters, Inc., of Savannah, GA for the CCDC Expansion.

2. Provide staff other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS: It is consistent with Board policy to approve the purchase of furniture necessary to the operation of the Chatham County Detention Center.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
GLORIA SAUGH

ITEM K

ISSUE: Request Board approval of a \$81,175 purchase of furniture for Detention Center Building B from VIP Office Furniture and Supply of Savannah, GA, and National Office System of Savannah, GA, for the CCDC Expansion.

BACKGROUND: The CCDC needs to purchase office furniture for Building B of the new facility as previously indicated on the Master List.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. Bids were solicited for desks, bookcases, file cabinets, hutches and credenzas for two (2) different lines of furniture.
2. Bids were received from five (5) bidders for the Indiana Wilmington line of furniture. The bids are listed below:

Total Office Solutions Jacksonville, FL	\$ 18,957
VIP Office Furniture & Supply Savannah, GA	\$ 34,606
McWaters, Inc. Savannah, GA	\$ 35,688
Mason, Inc. Savannah, GA	\$ 36,985
National Office System Savannah, GA	\$ 39,672

3. The bid received from Total Office Solutions, Jacksonville, FL, did not meet specifications. Award is recommended to the low bidder meeting specifications VIP Office Furniture and Supply, Savannah, GA, in the amount of \$34,606.
4. Bids were received from five (5) bidders for the Lacasse line of furniture. The bids are listed below:

McWaters, Inc. Savannah, GA	\$20,835
Total Office Solutions Jacksonville, FL	\$44,661
VIP Office Furniture & Supply Savannah, GA	\$ 45,914
National Office System Savannah, GA	\$ 46,569
Mason, Inc. Savannah, GA	\$ 48,542

5. The bid received from McWaters, Inc., Savannah, GA, Total Office Solutions, Jacksonville, FL, and VIP Office Furniture & Supply, Savannah, GA, did not meet specifications. Award is recommended to the low bidder meeting specifications National Office Center in the amount of \$46,569.

FUNDING: CIP - Detention Center Expansion SPLOST project
(3803355 - 54.25001 - 38060407)

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of a \$81,175 purchase of furniture for Detention Center Building B from VIP Office Furniture and Supply of Savannah, GA, and National Office System of Savannah, GA, for the CCDC Expansion.
2. Provide staff other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS: It is consistent with Board policy to approve purchases of furniture necessary to the operation the Chatham County Detention Center.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
GLORIA SAUGH

ITEM L

ISSUE: Request Board approval of a \$92,246 Change Order No. 1 to the design contract with McCoy Grading Inc., (MGI) for the Wilmington Canal Drainage Improvements project.

BACKGROUND: On August 24, 2012, the Board awarded a construction contract to MGI for the replacement of various culverts along the Wilmington Canal.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The project, located between North Cromwell Street and Wilmington Island Road on Wilmington Island within unincorporated Chatham County, replaces four existing culverts with larger culverts and removes two undersized culverts within the canal. All work will be within existing rights-of-way.
2. During construction, the contractor noted the existing 4" sewer force main to be relocated was an existing 8" sewer force main. This change order reflects the cost increases due to the increased pipe size.
3. During construction of the Clarendon Road box culvert, the contractor field located a known existing 12" force main. The location of the force main differed from the construction plans. A field adjustment was made to the box culvert raising the height of the box twelve inches. This change order reflects the cost increases due to the adjustment.
4. Contract history:

Original Contract (8-24-12)	\$ 603,418
Change Order No. 1 (pending)	<u>92,246</u>
Revised contract amount	\$ 695,664

FUNDING: SPLOST (1998-2003) - Wilmington Park Drainage
(3224250 - 52.12003 - 32280187)

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of a \$92,246 Change Order No. 1 to the design contract with McCoy Grading Inc., (MGI) for the Wilmington Canal Drainage Improvements project.
2. Provide staff other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS: It is consistent with Board policy to approve change orders necessary for the completion of construction projects.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommend approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
ESTELLE BROWN

ITEM M

ISSUE: Request Board approval of the \$25,958 annual premium, including a 4% surplus lines tax, renewal of property insurance from Lloyds of London without terrorism coverage for various Tybee Island locations.

BACKGROUND: The Tybee Island Library, Pavilion and various communications equipment located at Fort Street are considered higher risk than other County – owned property due to their susceptibility to

wind and wave damage. Based on the higher risk exposure, these properties are not eligible for coverage under the existing property and contents policies. The Tybee Pier is not insurable.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. Mt. Hawley Insurance Company (existing carrier) and Lloyds of London were the only companies willing to provide quotations. Cincinnati, Travelers, and Harleysville Insurance Companies declined to provide a quotation due to the coastal location.
2. Lloyds quotation of \$25,958.40 was \$5,703.60 lower than Mt. Hawley (\$31,662.00) with virtually the same coverage terms and conditions except the 3% windstorm deductible which applies to all values at time of loss. Mt. Hawley's 3% windstorm deductible applies per building.
3. Considering the close geographic spread of risk (values insured) a named storm would most likely affect all insured locations.
4. Both Mt. Hawley and Lloyds are non-admitted carriers and are not subject to the State's Guaranty Fund, but both have excellent A.M. Best's Ratings. Mt. Hawley is rated A+ (Superior) with a financial rating of X – or \$500 to \$750 million surplus. Lloyds has an A rating (Excellent) with a financial surplus of XV – or above \$2 billion. Insurance company financial rating information is attached.
5. Terrorism coverage was quoted by both companies, but is not recommended. The probability of meeting all of the requirements that would 'trigger' coverage is remote.

FUNDING: Risk Management Fund - Premiums Insurance and Surety Bonds
(6259922 - 52.31021)

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of the \$25,958 annual premium, including a 4% surplus lines tax, renewal of property insurance from Lloyds of London without terrorism coverage for various Tybee Island locations.
2. Reject insurance coverage and assume risk of loss.
3. Provide staff other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS: Total insurable values of \$2,842,060 exceed the total net assets in the Catastrophic Claims Internal Service Fund as of June 30, 2012.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
ESTELLE BROWN

ITEM N

ISSUE: Request Board approval of a \$12,129 sole source purchase of a key cutting machine with various required accessories, software package, and training that allows for precise cutting per manufacturer codes from McCarthy, Inc., of Savannah, GA, for the CCDC Expansion.

BACKGROUND: The CCDC needs to have in-house commercial and security key duplication capability to avoid having to order additional keys from detention key manufacturers at a much greater cost per key.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. Duplication of keys is an on-going requirement of detention facilities.
2. Detention keys must be cut to precise specifications and are not easily duplicated without proper equipment and software.
3. Cost savings will be realized through the ability of the CCDC staff to produce additional keys in-house on an as-needed basis.
4. The purchase of this equipment, software and training is from a local company familiar with the CCDC's needs and is the local distributor for the required equipment.

FUNDING: CIP - Detention Center Expansion SPLOST project
(3803355 - 54.25001 - 38060407)

ALTERNATIVES:

- 1. Board approval of a \$12,129 sole source purchase of a key cutting machine with various required accessories, software package, and training that allows for precise cutting per manufacturer codes from McCarthy, Inc., of Savannah, GA, for the CCDDC Expansion.
- 2. Provide staff other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS: It is consistent with Board policy to approve the equipment necessary to the operation of the Chatham County Detention Center.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
GLORIA SAUGH

ITEM O

ISSUE: Request Board approval to allow assistance from Alliance One Receivables Management, Inc., to serve as a collection agency for Chatham County Recorder's Court.

BACKGROUND: Recorder's Court has a number of outstanding fines from cases that have been previously adjudicated. Some fines are in excess of three (3) years old. The Court is seeking assistance in recovering the outstanding court fines.

FACT AND FINDINGS:

- 1. The Court operates a Rule Nisi docket which requires persons to report to court to advise why they have not paid their outstanding fines.
- 2. The Court does not have the personnel necessary to pursue the outstanding fines.
- 3. This will allow the Court to actively pursue the outstanding fines which will bring in revenue for Chatham County and the City of Savannah.
- 4. This will provide for better management/collection of aged fines.

FUNDING: No funding required

ALTERNATIVES:

- 1. Board approval to allow assistance from Alliance One Receivables Management, Inc., to serve as a collection agency for Chatham County Recorder's Court.
- 2. Provide staff other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS: The City of Savannah and Chatham County governments respective in their revenue ordinances provide for the collection of taxes and fees. The fees/fines that are outstanding were assessed based on legislative authority. The collection thereof is provided for in the revenue ordinances.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
GLORIA SAUGH

PREPARED BY _____
PURCHASING AGENT

=====

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. **AMEND THE CHATHAM COUNTY REVENUE ORDINANCE TO INCREASE THE SOLID WASTE FEE FOR DRY TRASH, TO INCREASE THE WATER AND SEWER RATES AND CHANGE VARIOUS RECREATION FEES.**

Chairman Scott said, all right. We have a First Reader here. Item XI, Amend the Chatham County Revenue Ordinance to increase the solid waste fee for dry trash, to increase the water and sewer rates and change various recreation fees. First Reader. No action is needed at this time.

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XII. SECOND READINGS

1. **THE PETITIONER TERRY COLEMAN, AGENT FOR COUNTRY LIFE PROPERTIES, LLC IS REQUESTING TO REZONE THE SITE FROM AN 4-A (RESIDENTIAL-AGRICULTURE) TO AN R-M-H-1 (RESIDENTIAL/MANUFACTURED MOBILE HOME PARK) ZONING CLASSIFICATION.
THE MPC RECOMMENDS APPROVAL.
FILE NO. 130222-00008-1**

Chairman Scott said, we also have some Second Reader which is on Item XII, page 11. The Petitioner, Terry Coleman, agent for Country Life Properties, LLC is requesting to rezone a site from an R-A (residential-agriculture) to an R-M (residential/manufacturing mobile home park) zoning classification. The MPC recommends approval.

County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, we'll make a presentation only if you wish.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I -- I would love to hear a presentation. I would love to hear a presentation.

Chairman Scott said, okay.

County Manager Abolt said, Marcus [Lotson], identify yourself, please.

Mr. Marcus Lotson said, thank you, Mr. Manager. Mr. Chairman, members of the Commission, I am Marcus Lotson with the Metropolitan Planning Commission. I will give you a brief overview of what the Petitioner is requesting, and the Petitioner is also present to answer questions regarding the proposed action. The Petitioner is requesting the rezone of a property at 5792 Ogeechee Road. It's a ten-acre parcel slightly west of Quacco Road. The petitioner's requesting to change the zoning from the current R-A classification which is residential-agriculture to the R-M-H-1 classification for a residential manufactured mobile home park. Essentially in a review of the zoning request, the MPC found that the requested change was appropriate at that location and are recommending approval of both the zoning change, as well as an amendment to the Tricentennial Comprehensive Plan future land use map for the land use classification of the property.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, Mr. Chairman? May I ask a question?

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Kicklighter.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under the current zoning, how many homes would be allowed to be constructed on that property and under the current zoning how many mobile homes would be allowed to be constructed?

Mr. Lotson said, under the current R-A zoning, mobile homes are allowed at that location -- or in that zoning. It's a 12 units per acre. This property is approximately 10 acres, so it would be a -- a very small number. The petitioner --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, so under R-A zoning, 12 units per acre is already allowed?

Mr. Lotson said, yes.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay. So under -- okay, now --

Mr. Lotson said, under the mobile home -- the R-H-M-1 zoning classification, the petitioner has proposed, and they can verify this, 122 units on the -- on the 10-acre parcel.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, so that's less than is currently allowed.

Mr. Lotson said, well it's not only a density issue, it's a matter of the use as well, a mobile home park would not be allowed under the current zoning but a individual mobile home would.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, then -- but, okay, well what's our ordinance individual mobile home, does it have to be on a five-acre tract in a R-A district?

Mr. Lotson said, no.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, no?

Mr. Lotson said, no.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, so 12 per acre and locate in an R-A?

Mr. Lotson said, under -- under individual lots, yes. This is one lot.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, if it's approved as -- other words you have to change it. You can't put a mobile home park in R-A.

Mr. Lotson said, correct.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, so you can't put 12 mobile home -- what -- what constitutes a mobile home park? How many?

Mr. Lotson said, it's not the number of homes it's the fact that it's on one parcel of land versus individual lots.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay. I gotcha.

County Attorney Hart said, and -- and the advantage to that is they have to have a water system. They have to have a septic system. They have to provide electricity, and they have to apply to the roads. The other amenities for the post office and those type things. So you have a -- if you approve a work, you have much more control than if you allow people just to helter skelter individual lots.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, sell off individual lots on that. Okay. My next question would be who owns the high end apartments that's behind -- does the same person petitioning to put this mobile home park in own the high end apartment complex beside it?

Mr. Lotson said, no. It is not the same owner.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, does the same owner own either of the two mobile home parks that it abuts?

Mr. Lotson said, no.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, no. Does the petitioner intend to pick up mattresses and other items thrown out on the highway a little better than the existing mobile home parks do when their people move out and they just throw it out on Quacco Road.

Mr. Lotson said, that's probably a question for the petitioner, but I will say that my understanding of what the petitioner's proposing is a little different from a -- what we consider a traditional mobile home park. They'll actually be -- each unit will be owned by the petitioner. They'll lease the units out. They'll manage the site. There -- it will be an amenity package at this particular park. So it -- from what we've been described to by the petitioner, this will be managed very similarly to an apartment complex versus a traditional mobile home park.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay. I just want to state that this area is no longer in the 7th District but it was in there for 12 years that I was on here, and I'm familiar with the socioeconomic make up in that area -- right in that area, the congestion of mobile home parks, and I tend to agree with former secretary of public housing, Henry Cisneros, when he called for economic integration at all costs. He was the -- the one that led the charge to us having lower income citizens built in -- like the developments here in Savannah where -- because he -- he was under the firm belief that children of lower economic conditions need to experience the economic conditions of -- of, you know, things other than just the extreme lower income. This is a concentration already in that particular area of very low income.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, you have someone that went right beside it and made a major investment for high end apartments, and if this is allowed, I -- I have to differ with several of the bullet points that -- that the MPC approved here, starting with number one. The intent of an R-A district which it's currently done, this would be 5-a, under page two in our thing. The existing R-A zoning district. Intent of the R-A district. According to the Zoning Ordinance, the purpose of the R-A district is to protect those rural areas within the urban expansion areas of the county for future urban development, and to protect certain rural highway roadside areas against strip development which can lead to traffic congestion, traffic hazards, and roadside blight. Right there, it's going to increase traffic congestion when you allow that many residents on that small piece of land. If you move to page three, summary of findings, will the proposed zoning district permit use adversely affect or impact adjacent and nearby properties by rendering such properties less desirable and therefore less marketable for the type of development permitted under the current zoning? MPC marked no. If -- if you own the multi-million dollar higher end apartment complex next door, I would imagine they would think yes, that would have an impact.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, number 4. Will the proposed zoning district permit use that generate greater traffic volumes at vehicular access points and cross streets than is generate -- generated by uses permitted under the current zoning district to the detriment blah, blah, blah. MPC writes no. My God, I mean are y'all actually reading your own questions? You answered no. That's allowing hundreds of vehicles in that's not currently allowed there. If -- five under there, require greater level of public services such as drainage create a financial burden to the public? You don't have as -- as mentioned the utilities and all there, but -- I don't have a study in front of me but I -- I think you can find it throughout the country and every -- every -- no, I won't even go there, but there -- there would be. I'm not -- point not made there. But anyhow, it's not good -- it's not good for this area to concentrate more lower income people in one area and, you know, the -- the -- and it's not a reflection of the person who's trying to develop it, but current ownership of these mobile home parks along Quacco Road, which this borders with 17 there, has not been impressive as far as that once rural drive called Quacco. You ride down it now and at any given day, you'll find a couch laying in the ditch, you'll find mattresses laying in the ditch. You'll find whatever laying in the ditches there, and -- and we just -- in my opinion from representing for 12 years, we don't need any more couches in the ditches and -- and lower income developments in that particular area. So I make a motion to deny the request, and I would appreciate a second.

Commissioner Thomas said, second.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, I haven't -- I haven't recognized anyone for a motion as of yet. Any -- any further discussion?

Commissioner Center said, I --

Commissioner Shabazz said, what District is this located in?

Mr. Lotson said, this is located in District 5.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay. All right. Thank you.

Mr. Lotson said, and I'll be happy to respond to some of Commissioner Kicklighter's questions if necessary.

Commissioner Center said, well let me ask a couple of questions if I may. I was -- I was trying to follow Dean [Kicklighter] as he read it, and I followed him until you said you didn't make your point, but when you talk about generating greater traffic volumes, the way I read that is would it generate greater traffic volumes by allowing the change than it would if you didn't allow the change. As I understand it, if you didn't allow the change under the questioning, individual people could still go on there and build just as many mobile homes and increase the traffic anyway. So the question that you answered no was would this change increase traffic more than is allowed under the present condition not than is -- exist under the present condition.

Mr. Lotson said, right.

Commissioner Center said, are there any -- have -- are there any members of the public who express -- and this apartment complex owner who are here who've expressed -- who've expressed an objection to this?

Mr. Lotson said, I know that the apartment complex owner was present at the MPC meeting and met with the petitioner prior to the meeting as well. There was also a adjacent church that the petitioner has met with prior to that was also heard at the MPC meeting.

Commissioner Center said, maybe, I don't know if you want to do this, undo the motion or you want to hear from the petitioner? Maybe we should --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I - I, you know --

Commissioner Farrell said, there's no motion to undo.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, there is no motion but did they oppose it or what? Did they oppose it at the MPC meetings?

Commissioner Center said, the petitioner who spoke with them is here.

Mr. Lotson said, the representative of the church as I recall did oppose the change and the representatives from the mobile -- I'm sorry, from the apartment complex had some -- some private meetings with the petitioner which they probably explain the outcomes.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, and I'll let it be known I have not heard from the owner of anything, the mobile home park being proposed or the other, and so -- just for the record.

Chairman Scott said, any other --

County Attorney Hart said, one -- one comment that I would have about things being in the ditches and along the road there. Some of that is not the owner of the trailer park's fault. They will take a dispossessory warrant out against somebody in the trailer park, and the sheriff will remove the goods to the closest right of way and leave it on the right of way, and that's required by law. The problem is the people won't come back and pick them up, and eventually we will get called and we'll go out there and remove it. But most of the owners are not inclined to go out and move the people's goods because they don't want to be accused of tampering with the people's goods. You know there will be a mattress in the ditch, and the next thing you know they claim there's money in the ditch, I mean, in the mattress or something.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, well then we need to improve our ordinance with a very covered nice area that's mandated with mobile home parks that once this action takes place it gets moved to until the person picks it up because we've done a poor job in that area. Because it's a disaster zone up along those areas at times.

Commissioner Thomas said, Mr. -- Mr. Chairman, yeah, I -- I second it because I had the same question -- some questions whether --

Chairman Scott said, well we haven't had a motion so we haven't had a second.

Commissioner Thomas said, all right. Well, anyway, may -- may I make my statement?

Chairman Scott said, yes.

Commissioner Thomas said, I just wanted to ask and I think you answered that a minute ago, whether there were any involvement with the people, you know, that's in the area for their input?

Mr. Lotson said, yes. Under the ordinance we're required to notify adjacent property owners.

Commissioner Thomas said, yes.

Mr. Lotson said, and we did that. There were a number of people who appeared at the planning commission meeting to give their opinions on the rezoning request.

Commissioner Thomas said, okay. You -- you mentioned something about a church?

Mr. Lotson said, yeah, a representative from a -- a neighboring church, as well as a representative from the apartment complex that's next door.

Commissioner Thomas said, so they -- so they did have an opportunity --

Mr. Lotson said, yes, they did.

Commissioner Thomas said, -- to participate?

Mr. Lotson said, yes.

Commissioner Thomas said, that was my concern.

Chairman Scott said, okay. Anything else of staff?

Commissioner Brady said, I have one question.

Chairman Scott said, yes.

Commissioner Brady said, I apologize but I cannot tell from this map. I'm -- I'm only making an assumption from this map here.

Mr. Lotson said, mm-hmm.

Commissioner Brady said, are -- will they be entering the property from Ogeechee Road or are they going to be entering it from the backside?

Mr. Lotson said, the entry will be from Ogeechee Road.

Commissioner Shabazz said, the high end apartments that Commissioner Kicklighter was mentioned. What apartments are those?

Mr. Terry Coleman said, Grand Oaks.

Mr. Lotson said, Grand Oaks Apartments is the name of them.

Commissioner Shabazz said, (inaudible).

Chairman Scott said, we'll -- we'll get to that. Anything else of staff? Okay. No further questions of staff. Is there anyone else in the audience who would like to speak to this before we entertain a motion on it? Please identify yourself, what organization you're with.

Mr. Coleman said, Mr. Chairman, my name is Terry Coleman. I'm with Coleman Company. I'm here representing Country Life Properties. Country Life Properties consists of Mike Kistler, a known developer in the community. He's built very classic developments throughout the community, Crosswinds Golf Course, 17 and 9, Park of Commerce. Mike [Kistler] has -- has looked at this because of several different properties that he's looked at throughout south Florida who have come in and done a nice job with developing trailer parks. What it does, it -- it does fit into a niche in between certainly no where near the category of Mr. Kicklighter's description, which we certainly understand. But, you know, we're looking at a product that it would, you know, rent for \$800 a month. That's certainly not a -- you know the -- the situation that has existed prior on the property or adjacent to it. The situation that was prior on the property was Mama's Kitchen, mobile home park in the back back there. I mean it was certainly unsightly, garbage everywhere. All the concerns that Mr. Kicklighter has indicated, totally understand. We are trying to do a product that -- that would be a fenced in product that would provide an amenity package that would provide a resident manager for the property. It would be maintained by Mr. Kistler, his -- his landscape company would come out and cut the grass every -- every week, keep the place maintained. There would be somebody there policing, obviously all of the activities. So it's -- it's certainly not something that has been there before.

Mr. Coleman said, we spent -- we really didn't have to spend a lot of time with anybody. The -- the folks that showed at MPC from the church once they understood what they were doing, they supported the project. They were fine with it. The apartment complex folks next door, they were very interested in trying to protect their investment. They've got about a \$35 million investment next door. I'd be protecting it too. We went through several discussions with them. Based on the type of development we're going to put in, they're happy with the product. They're not here today in protest. We have agreed to -- to maintain a fence in between the two properties with a buffer, no more than what Chatham County requires in the ordinance. So there's -- there's nobody around the property in protest of this project. We have -- and -- and -- and really -- and I think Mr. Lotson will agree that the -- the folks from the church, once we presented the project they were fine. But Mr. Kistler is here with me to -- if -- if -- if y'all want to -- I'd like for him to describe the product that we're talking about, but -- but before we do that, one of the things that I do want to make sure that y'all do understand is Mr. Kistler owns approximately 29 acres. All of it but the 10 acres is zoned multi -- or R-M-H-1. We can build trailer -- we can build 120 trailers on the property now. If we -- if we, you know -- wanted to come to MPC, pack them in, we could -- we could put 120 trailers on the property --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, Mr. Chairman, I can -- I can help on this. I'm satisfied now that I know who the developer is.

Commissioner Thomas said, and I am too.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, and I know what he's done in the past. I'm satisfied. So.

Chairman Scott said, how do you know what he's going to do in the future.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, no, with that one though. That's -- that's --

Commissioner Thomas said, so am I.

Commissioner Shabazz said, I want to -- I got something to say about that.

Chairman Scott said, all right. Well, let's -- do you have anything else?

Mr. Coleman said, well, I just -- just wanted everybody to know I mean, we've -- we've already got, you know, approximately 15 acres already zoned for -- for a trailer park. We're asking for the adjacent piece which is not adjacent to the apartment complex, it's, you know, 400 feet away. We're asking for that piece to be rezoned so collectively we end up with about a total of 25 acres that we can develop into a very nice mobile home park that's going to be maintained by a quality developer, and you guys will be -- I think you'll be very pleased with it. But anyway, I don't want to continue if you guys are comfortable.

Chairman Scott said, well I didn't say we were comfortable, but I -- we appreciate it, and you're dismissed. Anybody else in the audience want to speak on this?

Mr. Mike Kistler said, good morning. My name is Mike Kistler. I'm the developer. What I'd like to do is just answer any questions that you might have. I'll give you just by way of a -- a quick summary the concept. We had looked at this site years ago when it was the old trailer park for an apartment complex, and it wasn't available, and -- and we couldn't acquire it. It became available recently, and as Terry [Coleman] said, two-thirds of it's already zoned for mobile homes. We could put -- and there was -- the MPC I think said we were planning on putting 120 units on this 10 acres. We're planning on putting 120 units on the 29 acres. We plan on having an amenity center very comparable to what Grand Oaks is. I've been in Grand Oaks. I have a friend that lives there, and it's a very nice apartment complex. Very high density because they've got 300 + units, and they had a lot of wetlands on that site which goes down to the marsh. So we'll have by far a less dense

property. The other issue that, and -- and its not with this property it's any apartment complex, you know you have people living above you, below you, you hear a lot of noise. This is going to offer what we feel young families more privacy. The units will be separated. There won't be the sound intrusion. What we plan to do is to put in the similar amenities they have next door, a pool, a workout center, a club house, laundry. All the things that, you know that the nice apartments have. We're going to be able to rent at two-thirds of what they can rent at in a lower dense situation. We plan on buying all brand new mobile homes. We intend to manage them. We'll have on-site --

Chairman Scott said, what is the elevation of that property?

Mr. Kistler said, I'm not sure. It's pretty good.

Chairman Scott said, you're the developer.

Mr. Coleman said, it's approximately 16, 17 feet. None of it's in the flood zone.

Chairman Scott said, okay.

Mr. Coleman said, and if I could just make one correction. It's 140 units.

Mr. Kistler said, 140, excuse me.

Mr. Coleman said, we have not come before MPC or the Commission with a -- with a site plan. We're here strictly for zoning, but we have a concept plan that we have discussed with the MPC staff. But that's not what we're here for today, but I just want for the record -- I didn't want to come back at 140 when we said 120.

Chairman Scott said, oh we know why you're here. Go ahead.

Mr. Kistler said, yeah the difference in the two sites elevation, our site is up on the hill a little bit whereas Grand Oaks had a high site and then it goes down into where the marsh --

Chairman Scott said, the marsh. Yeah.

Mr. Kistler said, -- and the river is on the southside. But that generally is our concept. We've owned -- developed thousands of units of apartments. We've managed them. We're going to manage it just like we'd manage an apartment complex, on-site resident manager, on-site maintenance person. So it will be well-maintained. I -- I certainly can appreciate your concerns. You know, we have people dumping on our properties all the time that are vacant, and its' not -- not a pleasant thing, but, you know, I can assure you, if we're able to go forward with this project, we will manage it in a -- in a professional manner.

Chairman Scott said, okay. Commissioner -- Commissioner Farrell has a question and then Commissioner Shabazz has a statement. Is that correct? Oh, you have a question?

Commissioner Shabazz said, question.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Shabazz has a question, and then Commissioner Farrell has a question. Go ahead since you had your hand up first.

Commissioner Shabazz said, all right. when I think of trailer parks, I think of places like Azalea Land trailer park off of 17. Do you have any pictures? Have you done this before? Trailer park?

Mr. Kistler said, no, we never have. We've probably done 80, 90 apartment complexes. This was a unique piece of property because it was -- two-thirds of it's already zoned for mobile homes, so we thought it was a unique opportunity to come in at a price point. You know the apartments next door are 100 percent occupied, and they're doing great. The rents are 12, 13, 1400 a month depending on the size of the unit. We can come in, have the units that are larger, less density, and offer them to people that can't afford to live there but can pay \$800 a month and have the quality -- same quality of amenities. But no to answer your questions, I've never done one, but I've -- I've visited a lot. We're -- we're visiting with eight different mobile home manufacturers. We got meetings next week to see the quality. We're going to -- basically they'll be different styles -- shapes -- not shapes, they'll be different sizes units. We're going to speck them all the same so they can be maintained as far as the -- the -- the components. You know, we're looking at this -- we've -- we've spent a lot of time --

Commissioner Shabazz said, will they look like trailers?

Mr. Kistler said, well, they'll be mobile homes. I mean, they will be manufactured housing. No, I mean, the new -- we're not going to allow people bring 30-year old mobile homes into this park. We're going to buy all brand new, and they will -- they will be state of the art, but yes, they'll be manufactured housing.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Farrell.

Commissioner Farrell said, yeah. On occasion I've gone to Florida, and they have a whole different concept of mobile home parks than we have in Chatham County by and large where they have landscaped yards meticulously kept up and that sort of thing, and -- and, you know, they're taken care of like a neighborhood, like a -- like a, you know, a good middle class neighborhood, rather than just something pulled up on a dirt lot and just drive to the front door and do whatever. So my question is is your -- it sort of sounds like your mobile home concept is along those lines rather than the traditional just pull up a mobile home, or -- could you elaborate on the, you know, the finished product?

Mr. Kistler said, oh, absolutely, yes. We intend to have it look like a high -- I mean if you see south Florida, a lot of these retirement communities have beautiful -- they have high amenities, some -- a lot of them have golf courses. We're not going to have a golf course, but we're going to have a high level amenity. We're going to manage it that way. We're going to take care of it. We're looking at this as an investment. We're not just trying to chop the land up and sell off pads to people and -- and walk away. This is a long-term investment for us. If we don't take care of it, a mobile home is not going to last a long time and -- if you don't maintain it. It's just like an apartment complex. It doesn't matter how nice it is when you build it, if you don't manage it correctly, it's -- it's going to show the wear and -- and go down in value. That's our concept. You know, it's very difficult as you all know to get land zoned for mobile homes. What we're hoping to do is because this land was so unique and it was zoned all but a small portion, do a prototype of a real product and -- that we can then use as an example to other communities that have demands for this and have needs where people can't pay. You know to build class A apartments now is \$100,000 a unit. That -- that makes -- the rents are always going to be up 12, 13, \$1400. That's a lot of money for a lot of people, and we're trying to -- to go into the middle of the market. We're not trying to go to the low income and provide the -- the worst product for the worst, you know, quality tenants. We're going to make sure the people that move in here are qualified to move in anywhere other than maybe they can't pay \$1500 in rent, but they're good people, check out their -- just like we do with apartments or -- or retail spaces, we check them out to make sure they haven't been problems for other people, and that, you know, we're willing to take a risk for them as our -- as tenants in our property.

Commissioner Farrell said, thank you.

Mr. Kistler said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, thank you. No further questions, I'll recognize Commissioner Kicklighter for a motion.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, well, I actually I had another question on this.

Chairman Scott said, question.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, is this legally, okay, is this kind of putting the cart before the horse? Should we have a plan -- some type of plan, I mean --

County Attorney Hart said, no. No. No. This is doing it the right way.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay.

County Attorney Hart said, you establish the use first.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, all right.

County Attorney Hart said, you should not put a developer in a position of having to spend 50, to \$100,000 coming up with a plan hoping you might let him use it.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay.

County Attorney Hart said, he either needs to have the use or not have the use.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, does the -- does the approval of this use, the change, can you have conditions in there and are they in there as stated that they would have to be upheld to before it reverts -- or it reverts back to what it is?

County Attorney Hart said, it -- it -- it does not revert back, but what does happen is once the use is established, then if they're going to use that use they have to meet all the other requirements of the zoning ordinance which requires them to have a preliminary site plan approval, engineering approval, storm water approval --

Chairman Scott said, building permits.

County Attorney Hart said, -- soil erosion sedimentation control ordinance approval, and all the other approvals that you have. Then once you get that you come back and get your final site approval, and if you ask for any type of variance from the ordinance, then the MPC may grant the variance conditioned upon some other requirement.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay. Well legally is there a term called a -- basically conditional zoning approval?

County Attorney Hart said, no. It's illegal.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay. I mean that's what I didn't know. All right.

County Attorney Hart said, it's -- it's called spot zoning, and -- and you could call it conditional zoning if you wish, but if you end up being challenged on it, nine times out of 10, a community will lose.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay. You didn't -- now I just want to know, you will maintain all of the laws?

Mr. Kistler said, yes.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, and they'll -- okay. And know -- knowing your track record, after hearing that, knowing what you've developed and listening to everything. I have no problem personally with it. So I'll make a motion to approve.

Commissioner Thomas said, second.

Chairman Scott said, it's properly moved and second. Any discussion? Hearing none, all in favor of the motion indicate by voting yes, opposed no.

Mr. Kistler said, thank you very much. We appreciate it.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank y'all. And I'm sorry to the MPC for any of my comments that were out of line on there.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved for approval of the request to rezone the site from an R-A (residential-agriculture) to an R-M-H-1 (residential/manufactured mobile home park) zoning classification. Commissioner Thomas seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM: ~~XI-1~~
AGENDA DATE: ~~May 10, 2013~~
AGENDA ITEM: XII-1
AGENDA DATE: May 24, 2013



**CHATHAM COUNTY - SAVANNAH
METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION**

"Planning the Future - Respecting the Past"

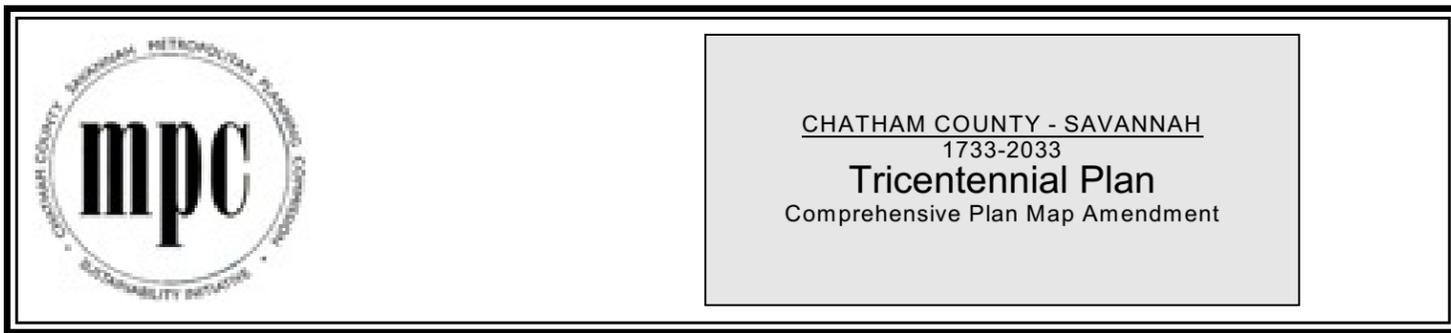
----- MEMORANDUM -----

DATE: APRIL 10, 2012
TO: R. E. ABOLT, COUNTY MANAGER
FROM: THOMAS L. THOMSON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
SUBJECT: MPC ZONING RECOMMENDATION

We are forwarding one copy of the MPC's recommendation on the following:

- 1. Chatham County-Savannah Comprehensive Plan Map Amendment
Terry Coleman, Agent
5792 & 5798 Ogeechee Road
File No. Z-130222-0008-1

In addition, we have sent a copy of this letter, four copies of the recommendation to Mr. Robert Sebek, Chatham County Zoning Administrator



SUMMARY

Date: April 3, 2013
MPC File Number: Z-130222-00008-1

Location of Property	5792 & 5798 Ogeechee Road
Size of Property	10.39 Acres
Current Land Use Classification	Single-Family Residential
Proposed Land Use Classification	General Residential
Reason for proposed Land Use Amendment	To accommodate the development of a residential mobile home park
Would the proposed change adversely impact land use goals and if so, which goals?	No, the proposed change would be consistent with Policy 5.1, Alternative Development Patterns and Diversity of Housing Types.
What economic development goal would be most positively affected by the proposed change?	Goal C - Objection 1 - To provide a range of affordable housing types within the community in order to ensure a choice for community residents.
Are the providers of utilities/transportation in favor of the proposed change?	Yes.
Recommendation	MPC staff recommends approval of an amendment to the <u>Tri-Centennial Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map</u> to change this property from the Single-Family Residential classification to the General Residential classification.

TO: BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

THRU: R. E. ABOLT, COUNTY MANAGER

FROM: THOMAS L. THOMSON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

- Describe how the amendment is consistent with the overall intent of the Comprehensive Plan.**
 The following are the policies for future development as listed in the Comprehensive Plan. With each is a statement as to how the proposed land use change does or does not comply with the policy.

Proposed Development Category (Land Use): General Residential

- Appropriate Land Uses:** Areas with a variety of residential uses including multi-family and higher density single-family dwellings.

The subject property was formerly used as a mobile home park and is adjacent to two existing mobile home parks. The proposed development of a mobile home park would be consistent with the character of the neighborhood.

- b. **Characteristics to Encourage:** Diverse residential uses should be incorporated into areas with like kind and similar developments.

The proposed use is compatible with general area and should be encouraged.

- c. **Characteristics to Discourage:** Intensive forms of commercial development that are not compatible with adjacent residential uses. Also, high density residential developments should not locate adjacent to or near less intense residential areas without adequate separation and design standards including buffering.

The development of a use which would not be in keeping with the existing character of the immediate area should be discouraged. This is not applicable to the proposed residential use.

2. **Will the amendment alter the land use pattern in the surrounding area? How?**

The proposed amendment will not alter the land use pattern in the immediate surrounding area.

3. **How does the amendment benefit the entire community?**

The amendment benefits the entire community by allowing a greater variety of residential uses that will better meet the needs of the citizens of Chatham County and Savannah.

4. **If the amendment requires a greater expenditure of public funds for improvements to roads and utilities, how will the public benefit directly from such expenditures?**

Not applicable.

5. **How will the amendment contribute to the preservation and enhancement of the environment?**

Not applicable.

6. **How will the amendment contribute to preservation and enhancement of historic and cultural resources?**

Not applicable.

7. **How will the amendment contribute to the economic development of the community?**

The amendment will enhance the economic viability of the community by eliminating a vacant non-productive parcel and creating residential housing opportunities for more citizens.

8. **How will the amendment contribute to the health and safety of the community?**

Not applicable.

RECOMMENDATION

The MPC and Director of Building Safety and Regulatory Services recommend that the request to amend the Tri-Centennial Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map for the property located at 5792 & 5798 Ogeechee Road from the Single-Family Residential classification to the General Residential classification be approved.

PREPARED BY: Gary Plumbley, Director
Development Services

APRIL 3, 2012

Gregori Anderson, Director

TO: BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

THRU: R. E. ABOLT, COUNTY MANAGER

FROM: THOMAS L. THOMSON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

LEGAL NOTICE/AGENDA HEADING:

The petitioner Terry Coleman, agent for Country Life Properties, LLC is requesting to rezone the site from an R-A (residential-agriculture) to an R-M-H-1 (residential/manufactured mobile home park) zoning classification. The MPC recommends **approval**.
File No. 130222-00008-1

ISSUE:

Rezoning from an R-A (Residential-Agriculture) classification to an R-M-H-1 (Residential/Manufactured Mobile Home Park) classification.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. **Public Notice:** As required by the Chatham County Zoning Ordinance, all property owners located within 200 feet of the petitioned site were sent notices of the proposed rezoning and a zoning information sign was posted on the subject site.
2. **Site:** The subject property is 10.39 acres in size and is located on the west side of Ogeechee Road at its intersection with Burton Road. The site is presently vacant with sparse vegetation.
3. The petitioner requests that the site be rezoned to an R-M-H-1 zoning classification in order to develop a residential mobile home park. The adjacent land uses and zoning districts surrounding the subject property include:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Land Use</u>	<u>Zoning</u>
North	Residential/Manufactured Mobile Home Park	R-M-H-1
	Mobile Homes	R-A
	Vacant Lot	R-A
South	Vacant Land	R-M-H-1
East	Ogeechee Road	A-T [1]
	Vacant Lot	
West	Residential/Manufactured Mobile Home Park	R-M-H-1

[a] A-T -- Tourist-Agriculture

4. **Zoning History/Existing Development Pattern:** The subject site has been zoned R-A for over 25 years. There have been no zoning changes in the immediate area within the last 25 years with the exception of property located on the south side of Quacco Road approximately 3,350 feet west of Ogeechee Road which was rezoned to its current P-D-R-SM classification in 1986 (MPC File Number 86-7706-C), and the property located on the north side of Ogeechee Road approximately 185 feet southwest of the petitioned site which was rezoned to its current P-R-3-18 classification in 2007 (MPC File Number Z-070817-51764-1).
5. **Existing R-A Zoning District:**
 - a. **Intent of the R-A District:** According to the Zoning Ordinance, the purpose of the R-A district is to “protect those rural areas within the urban expansion areas of the county for future urban development, and to protect certain rural highway roadside areas against strip development which can lead to traffic congestion, traffic hazards, and roadside blight.”
 - b. **Allowed Uses:** The uses allowed within the R-A district appear in the attached chart.
 - c. **Development Standards:** The development standards for the R-A district appear in the attached table (Table 1).
6. **Proposed R-M-H-1 Zoning District:**

Intent of the R-M-H-1 District: According to the zoning ordinance, the purpose of the R-M-H-1 district is to establish a residential district in which the uses and regulations are restricted in order to permit the development of mobile home parks in a manner which protects and preserves property values of adjacent properties.

 - a. **Allowed Uses:** The uses allowed with the R-M-H-1 district appear in the attached chart.
 - b. **Development Standards:** The development standards for the R-M-H-1 district appear in the attached table (Table 1).

7. **Land Use Element:** The Tri-Centennial Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map designates the subject property as Single-Family Residential. Approval of the zoning map amendment would not be consistent with the Future Land Use Map. Because the site has been vacant for a significant period of time, the classification of the site as a Single Family Residential was considered a likely end use. Because of the downturn in the economy and housing market during the last five years, the property has remained undeveloped. The development of this site that is common to the immediate area while meeting a specific need of Savannah and Chatham County is not inappropriate. Based on these findings, a change in the Future Land Use Map to General Residential is not inappropriate.

Transportation Network: The property is accessed from Ogeechee Road, a four lane public road. According to the Street Classification Map, Ogeechee Road is classified as a major arterial roadway. The 2004 average daily traffic count for Ogeechee Road at this location was 73,1000 vehicles.

Public Transportation: The subject site is also served by the Chatham Area Transit Authority. The nearest bus stop is located at the intersection of Ogeechee Road and Quacco Road.

8. **Public Services and Facilities:** The site is served by Metropolitan police, City fire protection and by Consolidated Utilities Corporation water and sanitary sewer.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS:

1. Will the proposed zoning district permit uses that would create traffic volumes, noise level, odor, airborne particulate matter, visual blight, reduce light or increased density of development that would adversely impact the livability or quality of life in the surrounding neighborhood?
- Yes _____ No X
2. Will the proposed zoning district permit uses that would adversely impact adjacent and nearby properties by rendering such properties less desirable and therefore less marketable for the type of development permitted under the current zoning?
- Yes _____ No X
3. Will the proposed zoning district permit uses that would generate a type or mix of vehicular traffic on a street or highway that is incompatible with the type of land use development along such street or highway?
- Yes _____ No X
4. Will the proposed zoning district permit uses that would generate greater traffic volumes at vehicular access points and cross streets than is generated by uses permitted under the current zoning district to the detriment of maintaining acceptable or current volume capacity (V/C) ratio for the streets that provide vehicular access to the proposed zoning district and adjacent and nearby properties?
- Yes _____ No X
5. Will the proposed zoning district permit uses or scale of development that would require a greater level of public services such as drainage facilities, utilities, or safety services above that required for uses permitted under the current zoning district such that the provision of these services will create financial burden to the public?
- Yes _____ No X
6. Will the proposed zoning district permit uses or scale of development that would adversely impact the improvement or development of adjacent and nearby properties in accordance with existing zoning regulations and development controls deemed necessary to maintain the stability and livability of the surrounding neighborhood?
- Yes _____ No X
7. Will the proposed zoning district permit development that is inconsistent with the comprehensive land use plan?
- Yes _____ No X

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the petitioner's request to rezone the property from an R-A classification to an R-M-H-1 classification.

2. Approve and alternate classification.
3. Deny the petitioner's request.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

The proposed rezoning is not consistent with the Tri-Centennial Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map. However, amending the Future Land Use Map to General Residential would provide the opportunity to develop the site to various types of residential uses which would be compatible with the development in the general area. The requested R-M-H-1 zoning classification would be in keeping with the General Residential land use classification, would allow an alternative type of residential development that is not uncommon to existing uses within the immediate area, and would not adversely impact properties within the general area.

RECOMMENDATION:

The MPC and Director of Building Safety and Regulatory Services recommend **approval** of the petitioner's request to rezone the subject site from an R-A (Residential-Agriculture) classification to an R-M-H-1 (Residential Mobile Home Park) classification.

PREPARED BY: Gary Plumbley, Director
Development Services

APRIL 3, 2012

Gregori Anderson, Director

Table 1: Comparison of Development Standards for the Existing R-A Zoning Districts and the Proposed R-M-H-1 Zoning District

	R-A District	R-M-H-1
Minimum Lot Area	6,000 S.F.	5 Acres
Minimum Lot Width	60 feet	100 feet
Front Yard Setback	85 feet from the centerline of an arterial roadway but not less than 25 feet	85 feet from the centerline of an arterial roadway but not less than 50 feet
Minimum Side Yard Setback	5 feet	20 feet
Minimum Rear Yard Setback	25 feet	20 feet
Maximum Height	36 feet	N/A
Maximum Building Coverage	None	N/A
Maximum Density	N/A	N/A



**CHATHAM COUNTY - SAVANNAH
METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION**

"Planning the Future – Respecting the Past"

----- MEMORANDUM -----

DATE: APRIL 10, 2012
 TO: R. E. ABOLT, COUNTY MANAGER
 FROM: THOMAS L. THOMSON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
 SUBJECT: MPC ZONING RECOMMENDATION

PETITION REFERENCED:

Country Life Properties, LLC, Owner
 Terry Coleman, Agent/Petitioner
 5792 & 5798 Ogeechee Road
 File No. Z-130222-00008-1

MPC ACTION:

Approval of an amendment to the Tri-Centennial Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map to change this property

from the Single-Family Residential classification and **Approval** of the Request to rezone the subject property from an R-A (Residential Agriculture) classification to a R-M-H-Residential/Manufactured Mobile Home Park.

MPC STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Approval of an amendment to the Tri-Centennial Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map to change this property from the Single-Family Residential classification and **Approval** of the Request to rezone the subject property from an R-A (Residential Agriculture) classification to a R-M-H-Residential/Manufactured Mobile Home Park.

MEMBERS PRESENT: 10+ Chairman

Adam Ragsdale, Chairman
Ellis Cook, Secretary
James Blackburn
Ben Farmer
Lacy Manigault
Joseph Welch

Shedrick Coleman, Vice-Chairman
Tanya Milton, Treasurer
Stephanie Cutter
Stephen Lufburrow
Murray Marshall

VOTING FOR MOTION

VOTING AGAINST MOTION

***ABSENT OR **FAILING TO VOTE**

Adam Ragsdale
Shedrick Coleman
Stephanie Cutter
James Blackburn
Ellis Cook
Ben Farmer
Stephen Lufburrow
Murray Marshall
Tanya Milton
Lacy Manigault
Joseph Welch

*Russ Abolt
*Timothy Mackey
*Susan Myers

FOR APPROVAL: 11 **FOR DENIAL:** 0 **ABSTAINING:** 0

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas L. Thomson
Executive Director

[NOTE: Legal Description and maps are in the County Clerk’s Meeting File.]

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2. MPC STAFF IS REQUESTING THAT SECTION 8-3b.2. LIMITATIONS ON THE USE OF A BUILDING OR A LAND BY NON-CONFORMING USES OF THE CHATHAM COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCE BE AMENDED. MPC FILE NO. Z-120910-00045-1

Chairman Scott said, okay. Now on Item XIII on the agenda, progress report on the general fund. These are information item.

County Manager said, no, sir. You’re --

Commissioner Center said, we’ve got two and three.

County Manager Abolt said, you’ve got two more items under Second Reading, sir.

Commissioner Farrell said, we’ve got more Second Readings.

Chairman Scott said, oh, so I have some more on there?

Commissioner Shabazz said, yes.

Chairman Scott said, oh, my God. I thought we were finished.

Commissioner Center said, two and three.

Chairman Scott said, oh, my goodness.

Commissioner Brady said, I was going to say the same thing.

Chairman Scott said, all right. Terry Coleman was really earning his money today. MPC staff is requesting that Section 8-3b.2 limitation on the use of a building or a land by non-conforming uses of the Chatham County Zoning Board Ordinance be amended. And you're going to speak to that Marcus [Lotson] as well?

Mr. Lotson said, yes, sir.

County Manager Abolt said, only if you wish, sir.

Mr. Lotson said, if you would like me to.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, motion to approve.

Commissioner Thomas said, second.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, oh, if you'll allow, sir.

Commissioner Farrell said, could I get the --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I'm trying to learn you, Chairman.

Commissioner Farrell said, could I get the one minute version of what you're going from and what you're going to and why?

Mr. Lotson said, yes, sir, I'd be glad to do that. Essentially in the current zoning ordinance there's a stipulation that says if there's a non-conforming use, for example a house, that's in a -- in a zoning district that doesn't allow houses, we have these a lot across the county where a house existed and then zoning came in, so now it's in a zoning district that doesn't allow say single family residential.

Commissioner Farrell said, got it.

Mr. Lotson said, under the current ordinance if that house were destroyed or damaged to 75 percent it would not be allowed to be built back. We found over the recent years with the economic changes that have occurred, that the banking industry has frowned upon that and it's been difficult for homeowners to get refinancing, etcetera in that situation. So we found that it would be appropriate to amend the zoning ordinance to allow those -- those homes to be built back.

Commissioner Farrell said, even if they're 100 percent demolished?

Mr. Lotson said, correct.

Commissioner Farrell said, would they have to be built to the current standards?

Mr. Lotson said, built to the current standards, yes.

Commissioner Farrell said, so the elevation may have to be higher or the windows --

Mr. Lotson said, right.

Commissioner Farrell said, -- stronger.

Mr. Lotson said, they'd have to meet all the current building and development standards.

Commissioner Farrell said, but they could rebuild the structure.

Mr. Lotson said, right.

Commissioner Farrell said, and you're afraid that some of them - they -- you wouldn't be able to build them at all? They just --

Mr. Lotson said, yeah. Under the current zoning ordinance, if -- if those homes were destroyed 75 percent or more, they would not be allowed to be built back.

Commissioner Farrell said, enough said. Thank you.

Mr. Lotson said, yes, sir.

Chairman Scott said, okay.

Commissioner Center said, is there a motion?

Commissioner Brady said, Mr. Chairman, I make a motion we approve.

Commissioner Center said, second.

Chairman Scott said, properly moved and second that we approve. Hearing the motion, any discussion? Hearing none, all in favor indicate by voting yes, opposed no.

Commissioner Brady said, he's not in here.

Chairman Scott said, motion carries.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Brady moved to approve Section 8-3b.2 limitation on the use of a building or a land by non-conforming uses of the Chatham County Zoning Board Ordinance be amended. Commissioner Center seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter was not present for the vote.]

AGENDA ITEM: ~~XI-2~~

AGENDA DATE: ~~May 10, 2013~~

AGENDA ITEM: XII-2

AGENDA DATE: May 24, 2013



**CHATHAM COUNTY - SAVANNAH
METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION**

"Planning the Future – Respecting the Past"

----- MEMORANDUM -----

TO: BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

THRU: R. E. ABOLT, COUNTY MANAGER

FROM: THOMAS L. THOMSON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

LEGAL NOTICE/AGENDA HEADING:

MPC staff is requesting that Section 8-3 b.2. Limitations on the use of a building or a land by non-conforming uses of the Chatham County Zoning Ordinance be amended. MPC File No. Z-120910-00045-1.

ISSUE:

Staff is requesting an amendment to Section 8-3 b.2. of the Chatham County Zoning Ordinance to allow existing single family residential structures to continue as a non-conforming use in all zoning districts.

BACKGROUND:

Within the last three to five years, there has been an increase in the number of requests to rezone properties presently occupied by a single family residential non-conforming use. The primary reason for the increase is due to mortgage limitations.

Prior to a downturn in the real estate market, the criteria for obtaining a mortgage loan on residential properties very seldom included whether or not the site was a conforming or non-conforming use with regard to zoning. However, lenders are increasingly reluctant to create a long term mortgage with the uncertainty of whether the existing use will be allowed to continue in unforeseen circumstances.

FINDINGS:

1. The Chatham County Zoning Ordinance, Sec. 8-3 identifies the limitations place on the use of a tract of land or the use of a building by a non-conforming use. Subsection b.2 deals specifically with a building which housed or houses a non-conforming use after it has been damaged to the extent of 75 percent or more of the total value.
2. The ordinance presently provides that the damaged building (after rehabilitation) cannot be re-occupied by a non-conforming use unless authorized to do so by the Zoning Board of Appeals.
3. There are many single family structures which are non-conforming in terms of zoning throughout unincorporated Chatham County. The most prevalent areas for examples of this are in areas which were developed prior to the adoption of zoning laws.
4. Developing vacant sites with uses that are not allowed by zoning is not appropriate and should not be allowed. However, allowing the continuation of an existing non-conforming single family structure would not be detrimental to other properties within the immediate area and would eliminate an encumbrance which sometimes prevents the owner of such a property from either selling the property and/or securing a mortgage on the property.
5. Also, the portion of Section 8-3 b.2. which makes reference to damage of 75 percent or more "of the total value" needs clarification. The application of the total value in this section relates to the fair market value of the structure "only." Providing specificity to this section would eliminate unnecessary confusion in such applications.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve staff's recommendation to amend Section 8-3 b.2.
2. Deny staff's recommendation to amend Section 8-3 b.2.
3. Approve an alternative amendment to Section 8-3 b.2.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

The standards contained within the Chatham County Zoning Regulations which affect development should be analyzed for appropriateness when such standards are brought into question as to the functionality appropriateness of a particular section.



CHATHAM COUNTY - SAVANNAH
METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION

"Planning the Future – Respecting the Past"

----- MEMORANDUM -----

DATE: SEPTEMBER 19, 2012
TO: BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
FROM: METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION
SUBJECT: MPC ZONING RECOMMENDATION

PETITIONER REFERENCED:

Text Amendment to the Chatham County Zoning Ordinance
 RE: Amendment to Section 8-3 b.2. Limitations on the use of a building or land by non-conforming uses.
MPC FILE NO. Z-120910-00045-1

MPC ACTION:

Approval of the request to amend section 8-3 b.2. Limitations on the use of a building or a land by non-conforming uses.

MPC STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Approval of the request to amend section 8-3 b.2. Limitations on the use of a building or a land by non-conforming uses.

MEMBERS PRESENT: 9+ Chairman

Adam Ragsdale, Chairman
Tanya Milton, Treasurer
Stephen Lufburrow
Lacy Manigault
Susan Myers

Ellis Cook, Secretary
Shedrick Coleman
Timothy Mackey
Murray Marshall
Rochelle Small Toney

Section 8-3 b.2 is an example where an amendment would solve an ongoing problem while maintaining the intent and purpose of the Zoning Ordinance. The proposed amendment, if approved, would not be detrimental to the properties within the general area or to Chatham County.

RECOMMENDATION:

The MPC and Director of Building Safety and Regulatory Services recommend that Section 8-3 b.2. of the Chatham County Zoning Ordinance be amended as follows:

PREPARED BY: Gary Plumbley, Interim Director
Development Services

SEPTEMBER 19, 2012

Gregori Anderson, Director
BUILDING SAFETY AND REGULATORY SERVICES

Section 8-3 b.2 of the Chatham County Zoning Ordinance be amended as follows:

EXISTING

Section 8-3 Limitations on the use of a building or a land by non-conforming uses.

- b. The following limitations shall be placed on the use of a building by a non-conforming use:
 - 2. A building which housed or houses a non-conforming use shall not be re-occupied by a non-conforming use after it has been damaged to the extent of 75 percent of more of the total value unless authorized to do so by the board of appeals.

PROPOSED

Section 8-3 Limitations on use of a land or building by non-conforming uses.

The following limitations shall be placed on the use of a building by a non-conforming use:

- (d) A building which housed or houses a non-conforming use shall not be re-occupied by a non-conforming use after it has been damaged to the extent of 75 percent of more of the total fair market value of the building only unless authorized to do so by the board of appeals. Provided, however, a building which housed or houses a detached, semi-attached, or attached single family residential non-conforming use may be re-occupied by the same use after it has been damaged to the extent of 75 percent of more of the total fair market value of the building only as a matter of right in all zoning districts.

VOTING FOR MOTION

VOTING AGAINST MOTION

***ABSENT OR **FAILING TO VOTE**

Adam Ragsdale
Ellis Cook
Tanya Milton
Shedrick Coleman
Stephen Lufburrow
Timothy Mackey
Lacy Manigault
Rochelle Small-Toney
Murray Marshall
Susan Myers

None

*Jon Pannell
*Ben Farmer
*Joseph Welch
*Russ Abolt

FOR APPROVAL: 9 FOR DENIAL: 0 ABSTAINING: 0

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas L. Thomson
Executive Director

=====

3. TO ADOPT THE COMBINED SAVANNAH/CHATHAM COUNTY SPEED ZONE ORDINANCE THAT WAS UPDATED TO INCLUDE CORRECTIONS AND ADDITIONAL ROADS HAS ACCEPTED FOR OWNERSHIP AND MAINTENANCE.

Chairman Scott said, item 3 under Number XIII, this is to adopt the combined Savannah/Chatham County Speed Zone Ordinance that was updated to include corrections and addition -- additional roads the county has accepted for ownership and for maintenance.

Commissioner Center said, I move that we approve -- that we adopt.

Commissioner Brady said, I second.

Chairman Scott said, properly moved and seconded we adopt. Hearing the motion, any discussion? Hearing none, all in favor indicate by voting yes, opposed no.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Center moved to adopt the combined Savannah/Chatham County Speed Zone Ordinance that was updated to include corrections and additional roads the county has accepted for ownership and maintenance. Commissioner Brady seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM: ~~XI-3~~
AGENDA DATE: ~~May 10, 2013~~
AGENDA ITEM: XII-3
AGENDA DATE: May 24, 2013

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

ISSUE:

To adopt the combined Savannah/Chatham County Speed Zone Ordinance that was updated to include corrections and additional roads the County has accepted for ownership and maintenance.

BACKGROUND:

The City of Savannah and Chatham County maintain a combined Speed Zone Ordinance that lists the roads and their associated speed limits the Savannah Chatham Metropolitan Police Department (SCMPD) enforces with radar pursuant to Georgia Code Title 40, Chapter 6, Article 9, O.C.G.A. 40-6-183. Any change to the road system or in driving patterns of the public may require the ordinance to be revised to incorporate these changes and/or additions to the existing speed zones.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The Board approved corrections and additions to the Combined Savannah/Chatham County Speed Ordinance on February 22, 2013.
2. The updated Speed Ordinance has since been approved by the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT.) The GDOT returned two original copies of the approved Speed Ordinance to be signed by the Chairman of the Board and the Mayor of Savannah.
3. After the two original copies are executed and returned to the GDOT, new radar permits will be issued to the SCMPD. These permits allow the SCMPD to enforce speed limits on City and County roadways using radar.

ALTERNATIVE:

1. To adopt the combined Savannah/Chatham County Speed Zone Ordinance.
2. To not adopt the changes.

FUNDING:

None required.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

The SCMPD can only enforce speed limits using radar on roads listed in the combined Savannah/Chatham County Speed Zone Ordinance that is approved pursuant to Georgia code Title 40, Chapter 6, Article 9 O.C.G.A. 40-6-183.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board approve Alternative 1.

Districts: All

Prepared by: Nathaniel Panther, P.C.

=====

XIII. INFORMATION ITEMS

Chairman Scott said, now information items. Any -- any concerns or discussion of information items? If not, they're all in your packet.

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 as information.

=====

2. **LIST OF PURCHASING ITEMS BETWEEN \$2,500 AND \$9,999 (See Attached.)**

AGENDA ITEM: XIII-2

AGENDA DATE: May 24, 2013

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>
Schematic design and construction documents for new roof at the Administrative/Legislative Courthouse	Facilities Maintenance and Operations	Greenline Architecture, PC	\$3,000	General Fund/M&O - Facilities Maintenance and Operations
Wall board and insulation for the Detention Center	Special Projects	Capitol Materials of Savannah, Inc.	\$6,513	CIP-Detention Center
Two (2) laptops for Internal Audit	Internal Audit	Dell USA	\$2,791	General Fund/M&O - Internal Audit
One (1) recumbent cross trainer	Aquatic Center	Nustep, Inc.	\$7,335	General Fund/M&O - Aquatic Center
Out-of-state prisoner transport for month of June	Detention Center	U.S. Prisoner Transport	\$3,999	General Fund/M&O - Detention Center
Telephone programing, set-up and cabling for Public Works Facility	I.C.S.	Integrated Network Solutions, Inc.	\$3,936	SPLOST (2003-2008) - Public Works Facility
Tax sale advertisements for month of May	Tax Commissioner	Morris Publishing Group	\$4,600	General Fund/M&O - Tax Commissioner
Annual renewal on ArcGIS software license for Engineering	I.C.S.	ESRI	\$2,500	SSD-Engineering
Annual service agreement on dishwasher	Detention Center	Hobart Corporation	\$4,186	General Fund/M&O - Detention Center
Playground mulch	Public Works and Park Services	Southern Playgrounds, Inc.	\$6,156	General Fund/M&O - Parks and Recreation
Umpires for March 25 - April 20	Public Works and Park Services	Greater Savannah Umpires Association	\$4,228	General Fund/M&O - Parks and Recreation
Remove and replace valve on fire pump system at the Judicial Courthouse	Facilities Maintenance and Operations	Champion Fire Protection, Inc.	\$3,499	General Fund/M&O - Facilities Maintenance and Operations

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
Vehicle emergency warning devices	Detention Center	West Chatham Warning Devices, Inc.	\$4,380	General Fund/M&O - Detention Center
Property location identification software	Tax Assessor	Costar Realty Information, Inc.	\$4,200	General Fund/M&O - Tax Assessor
Signage identifying Savannah-Ogeechee Canal	Special Projects	Savannah-Ogeechee Canal Society, Inc.	\$2,850	SPLOST (2003-2008) Openspace/Greenway
5.6 tons of 15-0-5 fertilizer for Jennifer Ross Soccer Complex, Charles C. Brooks Park and L. Scott Stell Park	Public Works and Park Services	Pennington Seed, Inc.	\$3,128	General Fund/M&O - Parks and Recreation
4.7 tons of 24-2-11 fertilizer for Jennifer Ross Soccer Complex, Charles C. Brooks Park and L. Scott Stell Park	Public Works and Park Services	Pennington Seed, Inc.	\$3,263	General Fund/M&O - Parks and Recreation
Replacement engine for generator on unit #284 - Public Works truck	Fleet Operations	Cummins Power South, LLC	\$5,105	General Fund/M&O - Fleet Operations
Staking for acquisition and quit claim plat for Wahlstrom Road drainage improvement project	Engineering	Thomas & Hutton Engineering Company	\$7,500	SPLOST (2003-2008) - Wahlstrom Road
Refurbished parts for core switch upgrades to computer network	Detention Center	Centrics IT, LLC	\$2,810	General Fund/M&O - Detention Center

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3. ROADS AND DRAINAGE REPORTS.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

A status report was attached as information.

AGENDA ITEM: XIII-3 ROADS
AGENDA DATE: May 24, 2013

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: Funding priorities for projects using Federal aid are established in the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). For awarded construction contracts, this report provides the latest scheduled completion dates.

FACTS AND FINDING:

1. Truman Parkway, Phase 5. Construction underway by GDOT contract. Estimated completion March 2014.
2. Diamond Causeway. Construction ongoing. Estimated open to traffic date is June 2013.
3. Whitefield Avenue. Construction underway by GDOT contract. Estimated completion September 2013.
4. Bay Street Widening. Environmental re-evaluation approved February 28, 2013. Notice to Proceed issued by GDOT for right of way acquisition on May 9, 2013.

5. Jimmy Deloach Parkway Phase 2 and Interchange of Jimmy Deloach Parkway at U.S. 80. Design ongoing. PFPR (Preliminary Field Plan Review) for Phase 2 held on February 5, 2013. ROW authorization expected fiscal year 2014.
6. SR 307 Widening from US 17 to I-16. Construction underway. Estimated completion in December 2013. New signal at US 17/SR 307 commenced operations April 16, 2013.
7. Islands Expressway Bridge Replacement. Design is underway on a high level bridge to replace the bascule bridge over the Intercoastal Waterway on Islands Expressway. ROW plans expected by fiscal year 2014.
8. Local Roads.
 - a. Hunt Drive and Faye Road Bridge Replacements. Notice to Proceed with construction issued May 1, 2013.
 - b. Ridgewood Avenue, Beechwood Avenue and Elmhurst Avenue. Construction underway. Estimated completion June 2013.

RECOMMENDATION: For information.

Districts All

AGENDA ITEM: XIII-3 DRAINAGE

AGENDA DATE: May 24, 2013

TO: Board of Commissioners

THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager

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

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

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

FACTS AND FINDING:

1. Pipemakers Canal. The project includes canal widening, bank stabilization, sluice gates and culverts. Construction of improvements upstream of Dean Forest Road to the west side of the airport is underway with completion scheduled for August 2014.
2. Pipemakers Pump Station. The project was identified in the 2003-2008 SPLOST as a part of capital improvements to the Pipemakers Canal Drainage Basin. Preliminary design work on the pump station determined that a master pump station for the Pipemakers Canal is not warranted. According to the consultant, smaller pump stations can address localized problems. Staff is soliciting feedback from the municipalities of Garden City, Pooler and Bloomingdale.
3. Queensbury Drainage Improvements. The project will improve drainage and provide maintenance access in the area south of Montgomery Cross Road and west of Ferguson Avenue (includes Tara Manor, Ennis Mobile Home Park-Elmhurst Court, and the Forest City Gun Club.) Construction work for drainage improvements from Tara Manor to Lakeview Subdivision is underway with completion scheduled for August 2013.
4. Wilmington Park Canal. The Wilmington Park Canal extends from North Cromwell Road to the Wilmington River (about 1.4 miles). The project includes bank stabilization, culvert replacements and storm sewer upgrades. Construction work to replace four undersized culverts along the canal is underway with completion scheduled for August 2013. Clarendon Road and Winchester Road are now open to traffic.
5. Ferguson-Winterberry Outfall Drainage Improvements. The project will improve drainage and provide access for maintenance for the Remington Canal from Ferguson Road to the outfall at Moon River. The outfall passes through the Winterberry private development. Design work is underway.
6. Louis Mills/Redgate Canal. The project will correct inadequate drainage capacity and the lack of maintenance access to the canal. Design of improvements along the Marshall Branch Canal is underway and includes construction of maintenance access and culvert replacements.

7. Whippoorwill Road Drainage. The project will relocate and improve a canal tidegate structure to a location that can be accessed for maintenance. The existing structure is undersized and was damaged by previous storm events. Construction of improvements is substantially complete.
8. Norwood Drainage Outfalls. The project will improve drainage capacity and access for maintenance for two drainage outfalls from Norwood Avenue. Construction of improvements is complete at Norwood Place. Design work, permitting, and acquisitions are underway for the outfall near Skidaway Road.
9. Shipyard-Beaulieu Area. The project will improve drainage capacity and access for maintenance. A project to replace three undersized storm drain pipes and reshape the existing ditch is underway. Acquisitions of required easements are complete. Final design work and permitting are underway are underway.
10. Lehigh-Shipyard Lane Area. The project will relieve roadside drainage issues causing nuisance flooding in the Lehigh Avenue and Shipyard Lane area. Shipyard Road is now open to traffic. A portion of Lehigh Avenue remains closed. The contractor's water line relocation efforts have been delayed for two weeks due to weather and the County's repair of a water valve. Storm pipe installation has been stopped until the water main relocation is complete. Staff anticipated the construction to be completed by June 2013.
11. LaRoche Culvert. The project will replace a drainage culvert located under LaRoche Avenue north of Lansing Avenue. The culvert replacement is in response to a deteriorating brick arch culvert with several cracks. Bids opened in April 2012 exceeded project budget and all bids were rejected. The design is being modified to lower construction costs.
12. Little Hurst Canal. The project will improve drainage capacity and access for maintenance along the canal. A design scope of work is under development.
13. Wymberley Area. The project will address inadequate neighborhood drainage including roadside ditches, culverts and rear yard areas not accessible for maintenance of public systems. Conceptual plans developed in 2012 were determined to be infeasible. Other improvements are under consideration.
14. Cottonvale Road Drainage. The project will relieve drainage and maintenance access issues causing nuisance flooding in the Cottonvale Road area. Acquisition of a required easement is complete. Final design is underway.

RECOMMENDATION: For information.
Districts: All

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Scott said, and now at this time we will introduce -- entertain a motion to recess into executive session.

County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, the purpose as I understand it would be litigation and personnel if you have appointments.

Commissioner Center said, I move that we recess to executive session for the purpose of discussing litigation and personnel.

Commissioner Thomas said, second.

Commissioner Farrell said, and appointments.

Commissioner Center said, and appointments?

County Manager Abolt said, that's personnel.

Chairman Scott said, hearing the motion. Any discussion? Hearing none, all in favor indicate by voting yes. Please join me in executive session.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Center moved to recess to executive session to discuss personnel and litigation. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously

The Board recessed at approximately 12:35 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 Brady moved to authorize the Chairman to execute an Affidavit that the Executive Session was held in compliance with the Open Meetings Act. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter was not present for the vote.]

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be brought before the Commissioners, the Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

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APPROVED: THIS _____ DAY OF JUNE, 2013.

**ALBERT J. SCOTT, CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY,
GEORGIA**

JANICE E. BOCOOK, CLERK OF COMMISSION