

A regular meeting of the Georgetown County Council was held on Tuesday, September 9, 2003 at 5:30 PM in County Council Chambers.

Present:	Ron Charlton Thomas Earl Drayton David Hood	Johnny Morant Jerry Oakley Helen Rudolph
Staff:	Thomas W. Edwards, Jr. Jack M. Scoville, Jr.	Theresa Floyd

Other staff members, members of the public, and representatives of the media were also present.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, a copy of the agenda was sent to newspapers, television and radio stations, citizens of the County, Department Heads, and posted on the bulletin board located in the lobby of the Courthouse.

Vice Chairman Johnny Morant called the meeting to order. Councilman Charlton gave an invocation and all joined in the pledge of allegiance. Vice Chairman Morant noted that Chairman Sel Hemingway was ill and would not be attending the meeting.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

The following additions/changes were made to the agenda: addition of Ordinance #2003-67 (first reading), a report regarding sign regulation enforcement, and a report on the bond sale. A request was made for deferral of a lease agreement with the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control for space at the Choppee facility, and a request to withdraw first reading of Ordinance #2003-62.

A motion was made by Councilman Charlton and seconded by Councilman Drayton to approve the meeting agenda as amended. Vice Chairman Morant asked for discussion. There was none.

In Favor:	Ron Charlton Thomas Earl Drayton David Hood	Johnny Morant Jerry Oakley Helen Rudolph
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PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Dwayne Vanderhorst

Elder Dwayne Vanderhorst, spoke on behalf of the Love Chapel Deliverance Center, and asked County Council to favorably consider a request from the Love Chapel to purchase the County owned property at 111 Congdon Street known as the Latoya Reed property.

Frank Murray

Mr. Murray voiced concerns regarding a "hold up" in the process of a road-paving project on Blue Ridge Drive.

Gerry Dukes

Ms. Dukes requested the County's assistance in funding the utilities at the local Clemson Extension office.

MINUTES:

A motion was made by Councilman Charlton to approve the minutes of the Special Council Session of August 5, 2003. Councilwoman Rudolph seconded the motion. Vice Chairman Morant asked for discussion. There was none.

Ordinance #2003-56 – An Ordinance to authorize the lease of property, located at the Choppee One Stop Health Center and owned by Georgetown County, to the St. James Santee Health Center – Third reading approval

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

Disabilities & Special Needs Board

Councilwoman Rudolph made a motion to nominate Ms. Dorothy McKenzie for reappointment to the Georgetown County Board of Disabilities and Special Needs. Councilman Drayton seconded the motion. Vice Chairman Morant asked for discussion. There was none.

In Favor:	Ron Charlton	Johnny Morant
	Thomas Earl Drayton	Jerry Oakley
	David Hood	Helen Rudolph

Historical Commission

Councilman Hood made a motion to appoint Mr. William “Glennie” Wilson, Sr. to the Georgetown County Historical Commission. Councilwoman Rudolph seconded the motion. Vice Chairman Morant asked for discussion. There was none.

In Favor:	Ron Charlton	Johnny Morant
	Thomas Earl Drayton	Jerry Oakley
	David Hood	Helen Rudolph

Pilotage Commission

County Council received an informational report regarding the Pilotage Commission. Applications have been solicited for this board, and a full report will be provided at the next County Council meeting.

Sheriff’s Citizen Advisory Board

Councilman Charlton made a motion to appoint Mr. James McGrath to the Sheriff’s Citizen Advisory Board. Councilwoman Rudolph seconded the motion. Vice Chairman Morant asked for discussion. There was none.

In Favor:	Ron Charlton	Johnny Morant
	Thomas Earl Drayton	Jerry Oakley
	David Hood	Helen Rudolph

RESOLUTIONS:

Support of Bill 516 Related to Targeted Tax Job Credits

A motion was made by Councilman Hood and seconded by Councilman Drayton approve a Resolution supporting Senate Bill 516 related to Targeted Tax Job Credits. Vice Chairman Morant asked for discussion. There was none.

In Favor:	Ron Charlton	Johnny Morant
	Thomas Earl Drayton	Jerry Oakley
	David Hood	Helen Rudolph

THIRD READING OF ORDINANCES:

Ordinance #2003-39

Consideration of Ordinance #2003-39, to authorize the lease of property within the Choppee One Stop Health Center to the South Carolina Department of Environmental Control was deferred.

SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES:

Ordinance #2003-50

Councilman Hood made a motion to defer action on Ordinance #2003-50, to incorporate the revised Natural Resource Element of the County Comprehensive Plan as updated by the Georgetown County Planning and Development Department. Councilman Oakley seconded the motion. Vice Chairman Morant asked for discussion.

Councilman Hood stated that Planning and Development Director, Mr. Allen Burns, has met with several environmental groups and citizens groups in an effort to work with them to incorporate changes in order to implement the Natural Resource Element in a more timely manner.

In Favor:	Ron Charlton	Johnny Morant
	Thomas Earl Drayton	Jerry Oakley
	David Hood	Helen Rudolph

Ordinance #2003-57

Councilman Charlton made a motion to grant second reading approval of Ordinance #2003-57, an amendment of the Official Zoning Map of Georgetown County to amend the Master Conceptual Plan for the Georgetown Memorial Hospital/MUSC Cancer Center Planned Development. Councilman Drayton seconded the motion. Vice Chairman Morant asked for discussion.

A motion was made by Councilman Charlton to amend the Ordinance number to #2003-65. Councilman Hood seconded the motion. Vice Chairman Morant asked for discussion. No discussion occurred.

In Favor:	Ron Charlton	Johnny Morant
	Thomas Earl Drayton	Jerry Oakley
	David Hood	Helen Rudolph

The vote on the main motion was as follows:

In Favor:	Ron Charlton	Johnny Morant
	Thomas Earl Drayton	Jerry Oakley
	David Hood	Helen Rudolph

Ordinance #2003-58

Councilman Oakley made a motion to grant second reading approval of Ordinance #2003-58, an amendment to the Georgetown County Zoning Map to rezone approximately .49 acres of property on Little Tony Avenue in Murrells Inlet from General Commercial to General Residential. Councilwoman Rudolph seconded the motion. Vice Chairman Morant asked for discussion. No discussion occurred.

In Favor:	Ron Charlton	Johnny Morant
	Thomas Earl Drayton	Jerry Oakley
	David Hood	Helen Rudolph

Ordinance #2003-59

Councilman Charlton made a motion to grant second reading approval of Ordinance #2003-59, an amendment to the Georgetown County Zoning Ordinance Article VII, Footnote Numbers 2,4,5 and 8 regarding area, yard, and height requirements. Councilman Drayton seconded the motion. Vice Chairman Morant asked for discussion. No discussion occurred.

In Favor:	Ron Charlton	Johnny Morant
	Thomas Earl Drayton	Jerry Oakley
	David Hood	Helen Rudolph

Ordinance #2003-60

A motion was made by Councilman Charlton and seconded by Councilman Morant to grant second reading approval of Ordinance #2003-60, an Ordinance to amend the Master Conceptual Plan for the Village Green Planned Development to allow for changes in Phase III and the addition of a Master Sign Plan for the Planned Development. Vice Chairman Morant asked for discussion. No discussion occurred.

In Favor:	Ron Charlton	Johnny Morant
	Thomas Earl Drayton	Jerry Oakley
	David Hood	Helen Rudolph

Ordinance #2003-63

Councilman Drayton made a motion to grant second reading approval of Ordinance #2003-63, an Ordinance to amend the Georgetown County Zoning Map to rezone 7+ acres near the intersection of US Highway 17 (Fraser Street) and Penny Royal Road from Limited Industrial to Planned Development to allow for the construction of retail shops and warehouse space. Councilwoman Rudolph seconded the motion. Vice Chairman Morant asked for discussion.

Councilman Charlton verified that the motion incorporated the following revisions as stipulated by the Planning Commission: (1) the mobile home area will be excluded from the Planned Development (2) a revised pervious/impervious plan for the site must be completed; and (3) a revised wetland mitigation plan must be completed. Councilman Drayton concurred.

In Favor:	Ron Charlton	Johnny Morant
	Thomas Earl Drayton	Jerry Oakley
	David Hood	Helen Rudolph

Ordinance #2003-64

Councilman Charlton made a motion to grant second reading approval of Ordinance #2003-64, an Ordinance to amend the Master Conceptual Plan for True Blue Planned Development to remove 32+ acres that comprises the Lowcountry Day School Campus and establish the Lowcountry Planned Development as a separate entity with an underlying zoning of Neighborhood Commercial.

Councilman Hood offered a substitute motion to grant second reading approval of the proposed ordinance with the stipulation that the property owner must comply with the existing underlying zoning height restrictions. Councilman Charlton seconded the motion. Vice Chairman Morant asked for discussion. No discussion occurred.

In Favor:	Ron Charlton	Johnny Morant
	Thomas Earl Drayton	Jerry Oakley
	David Hood	Helen Rudolph

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES – By Title Only

Earlier in the meeting Vice Chairman Morant noted that Ordinance #2003-62, to rezone approximately 3.2 acres of property on Cedar Point Drive in Murrells Inlet from Residential 10,000 square feet to General Residential was withdrawn by the applicant.

The following ordinances were introduced for first reading approval:

Ordinance #2003-66 – An Ordinance to amend the Georgetown County Zoning Ordinance to amend Article VI, Section 613.2, Limited Industrial Conditional Uses.

Ordinance #2003-67 – An amendment to the Georgetown County Zoning Ordinance Article XVII, Section 1700.8 regarding signs.

BIDS:

Georgetown County Airport – Construction of T-Hangars Taxiways

Councilman Charlton made a motion to award a bid for construction of a T-hangar taxiway at the Georgetown County Airport to Weaver Company, Inc. in the amount of \$356,016.50.

Councilwoman Rudolph seconded the motion. Vice Chairman Morant asked for discussion. No discussion occurred.

In Favor:	Ron Charlton	Johnny Morant
	Thomas Earl Drayton	Jerry Oakley
	David Hood	Helen Rudolph

Recreation & Leisure Services – Playground Equipment

Councilman Drayton made a motion to award a bid for the purchase and installation of playground equipment to Peggs Recreation in the amount of \$29,000.13. The equipment is for the following park locations: Sampit Park, St. Luke Park, Parkersville Park, and the Howard Recreation Center. Councilman Drayton seconded the motion. Vice Chairman Morant asked for discussion. No discussion occurred.

In Favor:	Ron Charlton	Johnny Morant
	Thomas Earl Drayton	Jerry Oakley
	David Hood	Helen Rudolph

COUNCIL BRIEFING & COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Administration & Finance Committee

The Administration & Finance Committee provided an update to County Council regarding the status of the review process for Architectural & Engineering Services. It was recommended by the Committee that the County Administrator and the Council Chairman negotiate a contract with Tych & Walker Architects LLC for these services.

A motion was made by Councilman Hood and seconded by Councilman Oakley to adopt the Administration & Finance Committee's recommendation and authorize the Council Chairman and the County Administrator to negotiate this contract. Vice Chairman Morant asked for discussion. No discussion occurred.

In Favor:	Ron Charlton	Johnny Morant
	Thomas Earl Drayton	Jerry Oakley
	David Hood	Helen Rudolph

Sign Regulation Enforcement

Councilman Hood made a motion, seconded by Councilman Oakley to invoke pending ordinance doctrine to allow enforcement of Ordinance #2003-67, which will add signs to the architectural review process and to further direct the Architectural Review Board and the Planning Commission to develop a final set of guidelines to regulate signs within the Architectural Review Board's overlay zone. Vice Chairman Morant asked for discussion. There was none.

Contract for Emergency Medical Services for Murrells Inlet- Garden City Area

Councilman Charlton made a motion to approve a contract with the Murrells Inlet-Garden City Fire District for the provision of emergency medical services to the Murrells Inlet-Garden City areas of Georgetown County. Councilman Oakley seconded the motion. Vice Chairman Morant asked for discussion. There was none.

In Favor:	Ron Charlton	Johnny Morant
	Thomas Earl Drayton	Jerry Oakley
	David Hood	Helen Rudolph

Medical Control Director Agreement for Emergency Medical Services

Councilman Oakley made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Rudolph, to approve an agreement with Dr. John M. Stover and Dr. William Richmond to assume the responsibilities of a Medical Control Director for Emergency Medical Services in Georgetown County. Vice Chairman Morant asked for discussion. There was none.

In Favor:	Ron Charlton	Johnny Morant
	Thomas Earl Drayton	Jerry Oakley
	David Hood	Helen Rudolph

Economic Development Incentives

Councilman Oakley made a motion to approve a proposed concept for local incentives for Economic Development and authorize the Council Chairman and the County Administrator to work with the Georgetown County School District to endorse the proposed plan. Councilman Drayton seconded the motion. Vice Chairman Morant asked for discussion.

In Favor:	Ron Charlton	Johnny Morant
	Thomas Earl Drayton	Jerry Oakley
	David Hood	Helen Rudolph

Sheriff's Office – Air Patrol Services

Director of Administrative Services, Greg Troutman, provided County Council with an informational report regarding contracted air patrol services for the Sheriff's Office. Worker's Compensation coverage will cost \$8,000 beyond the established contract price. The Sheriff has made provisions within his existing operational budget for these additional costs.

Sheriff's Office – Funding for School Resource Officers

Councilman Hood made a motion to approve a proposed arrangement between the Sheriff's Office and School District for School Resource Officers for 2003-2004 in which the School District will fund two positions for SRO's at \$79,268.29. Councilman Drayton seconded the motion. Vice Chairman Morant asked for discussion. There was none.

In Favor:	Ron Charlton	Johnny Morant
	Thomas Earl Drayton	Jerry Oakley
	David Hood	Helen Rudolph

Storm Debris Management in Private Communities

Prior to discussion on this issue, Councilman Hood asked the County Attorney to advise on whether it would be a conflict for him to participate and vote on this issue as he resides in a private community. County Attorney, Mr. Jack Scoville, responded "no", as this is a blanket policy that does not solely affect Mr. Hood.

Bond Sale

County Finance Director, Ms. Sabrena Posey, provided an informational report regarding the successful sale of County bonds earlier in the day.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Prior to moving into Executive Session, Vice Chairman Morant noted that Councilman Oakley had disclosed a potential conflict of interest in his participation in discussion or voting on issues related to the Murrells Inlet Dredging Project, and requested to be recused during discussion of this issue. Councilman Oakley's letter of request will be incorporated into the minutes of this meeting by reference.

Councilman Hood made a motion to move into Executive Session to discuss a contractual issue regarding the Murrells Inlet Dredging Project and an issue regarding the sale of County property. Councilman Drayton seconded the motion. Vice Chairman Morant asked for discussion. No discussion occurred.

In Favor:	Ron Charlton	Johnny Morant
	Thomas Earl Drayton	Helen Rudolph
	David Hood	

Absent: Jerry Oakley

County Council moved into Executive Session at 7:30 PM.

OPEN SESSION:

Council returned to Open Session at 8:12 PM. Vice Chairman Morant stated that while in Executive Session no votes were taken by County Council. Councilman Oakley **and Councilman Hood** were not present during discussion related to the Murrells Inlet Dredging Project.

Sale of County Property

Councilwoman Rudolph moved to authorize the sale of County property (land and building) located 111 S. Congdon Street, and known as the Latoya Reed Center to the Love Chapel of Deliverance in the amount of \$65,000. Councilman Drayton seconded the motion. Vice Chairman Morant asked for discussion. There was none.

In Favor:	Ron Charlton	Johnny Morant
	Thomas Earl Drayton	Helen Rudolph

Absent: David Hood Jerry Oakley

Murrells Inlet Dredging Project

Councilman Charlton moved to authorize the County's legal representatives to initiate the dispute resolution aspect of the Murrells Inlet Dredging Contract and take all necessary action to resolve this issue. Councilman Drayton seconded this motion. Vice Chairman Morant asked for discussion. There was none.

In Favor:	Ron Charlton	Johnny Morant
	Thomas Earl Drayton	Helen Rudolph

Absent: David Hood Jerry Oakley

Councilman Charlton made a motion, seconded by Councilman Drayton to invoice all Murrells Inlet Dredging Partners and Captain Dicks Marina (Ocean Ventures LLC) in accordance with summary of additional engineering expenditures and shared costs as provided to Council and dated September 4, 2003. Vice Chairman Morant asked for discussion. There was none.

In Favor:	Ron Charlton	Johnny Morant
	Thomas Earl Drayton	Helen Rudolph
Absent:	David Hood	Jerry Oakley

As there was no further business to discuss, Councilman Charlton moved for adjournment

Date Approved

Clerk to Council